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Omocerus (s. str.) *kabourecki*, a new species from Brazil
(Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae: Cassidinae: Omocerini)

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ABSTRACT. *Omocerus* (s. str.) *kabourecki*, a species new to science, is described and figured from Pará state, Brazil.

Key words: entomology, taxonomy, new species, Coleoptera, Chrysomelidae, Cassidinae, Omocerini, *Omocerus*, Brazil

INTRODUCTION

The genus *Omocerus* CHEVROLAT, 1835 comprises 37 species distributed from Mexico to northern Argentina (BOROWIEC & ŚWIĘTOJAŃSKA 2009) and was keyed by SPAETH (1931). Its species are divided into four subgenera based on the structure of antennae and elytra. Although, subgenera are well characterized the taxonomy of individual species is quite complicated as they are morphologically very close. Due to the misidentifications and lack of material (including some types) SPAETH's key contains some misinterpretations. The genus was never systematically revised except in Argentina species (VIANA 1964) where only three species occur. As a result DĄBROWSKA & BOROWIEC (1995) and BOROWIEC (2000) described five new species. Recently, I had an opportunity to study the collection of Vít KABOUREK (Zlín, Czech Republic) which contained a new species. Its description is given below.

Omocerus (s. str.) *kabourecki* sp. nov.

ETYMOLOGY

The species is dedicated to Vít KABOUREK, an enthusiast in entomology and publisher by profession.

DIAGNOSIS

The species belongs to the nominotypical subgenus characterized by convex elytra with humeral processes and antennae with six basal glabrous antennomeres. It belongs to the *azureicornis* group of species with gibbous elytra, distinct scutellar row of punctures, and coarsely and densely punctate dorsum. The group comprises eight species: *O. aureicornis* BLANCHARD, 1837 from Bolivia, Brazil, and Peru, *O. azureicornis* CHEVROLAT, 1835 from Costa Rica, Guatemala, Mexico, and Nicaragua, *O. caucanus* (SPAETH, 1931) from Colombia, *O. championi* (SPAETH, 1913) from Costa Rica and Panama, *O. insculptus* (KIRSCH, 1876) from Bolivia and Peru, *O. masoni* (SPAETH, 1926) from Bolivia, *O. purpureus* (SPAETH, 1912) from Peru, and *O. similis* BOROWIEC, 2000 from Brazil. *Omocerus aureicornis*, *O. caucanus* and *O. similis* differ in sides of pronotum straight and strongly converging anterad while remaining species have them obtusely angulate around midlength. *Omocerus championi*, *O. insculptus*, *O. masoni* and *O. purpureus* differ in postscutellar point with more or less elevated hump and elytra with moderate scutellar impressions while *O. azureicornis* and *O. kabourecki* have elytra gibbous and regular without any elevated hump or scutellar impressions. *Omocerus kabourecki* differs in short humeral processes, length below 2 mm (over 3 mm in *O. azureicornis*), whole pronotum densely and coarsely punctate (with smooth impunctate areas in *O. azureicornis*), elytra strongly gibbous (moderately convex in *O. azureicornis*), and short oval body (subquadratic in *O. azureicornis*).

DESCRIPTION

Measurements (n = 2): length of body: 10.94-11.31 mm (mean: 11.12 mm), width of body without humeral processes: 8.46-8.52 mm (mean: 8.59 mm), width of body with humeral processes: 11.31-12.17 mm (mean: 11.74 mm); length of pronotum: 2.75-2.76 mm (mean: 2.76 mm), width of pronotum: 7.28-7.32 mm (mean: 7.30 mm), length/width of body ratio without humeral processes: 1.29-1.30 (mean: 1.30), width/length of pronotum ratio: 2.64-2.65 (mean: 2.65). Body oval with rounded apex and short humeral process (Fig. 1).

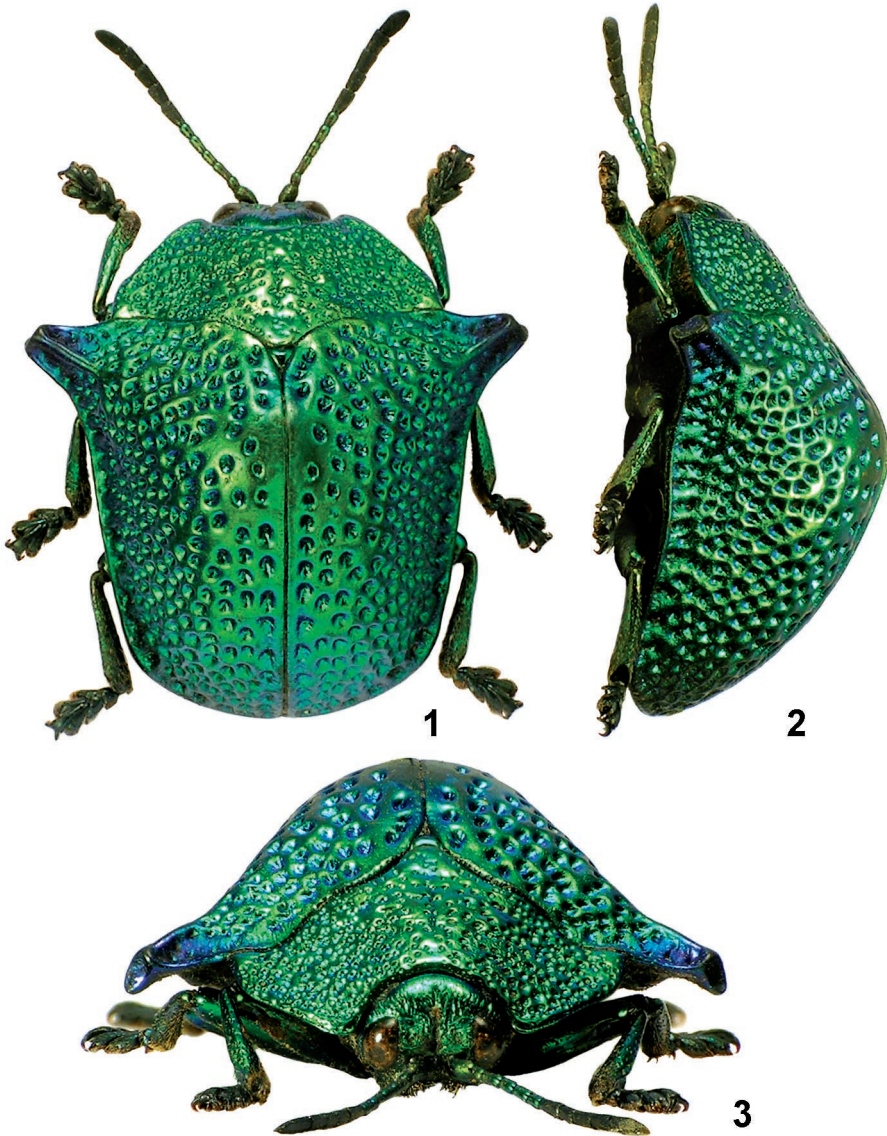
Elytra, pronotum and scutellum shiny metallic green, humeral processes bluish-green. Elytral punctures on the top of disc with slightly bluish fovea. Head, legs and underside metallic bluish-green. Antennae with basal six segments shiny green, remaining black.

Pronotum transverse, irregularly trapezoidal with obtusely angulate sides and maximum width in basal 1/4 length. Anterior margin deeply and regularly emarginate, anterior corners angulate. Disc and explanate margin not separated. Top with deep elongate sulcus. Whole surface irregularly, coarsely and densely punctate, punctures deeply impressed. Density of punctures distinctly gradually increasing from the top to sides; top with small smooth impunctate areas.

Scutellum triangular, smooth and shiny.

Base of elytra (without humeral processes) as wide as base of pronotum. Basal margin feebly sinuate and obtusely serrate. Humeral processes short (shortest among all *Omocerus* s. str.), moderately protruding upwards and not protruding anterad (Figs. 1, 3). Elytral disc gibbous and regularly convex without distinct impressions (Fig. 2).

Punctuation irregular, coarse and dense. Interspaces smooth, shiny, irregular, mostly narrower than half of puncture diameter, only on the top of disc 1-2 times wider than puncture diameter only on the top of disc. Punctuation irregular, only two sutural rows have a tendency to form more or less regular rows. Punctures irregular in size, small to large, with deep fovea. Punctuation gradually denser and finer from the top to lateral sides. Scutellar row distinct, short, formed by four punctures. Submarginal row ru-



1-3. *Omocerus* (s. str.) *kaboureki* sp. nov.: 1 – habitus dorsal, 2 – habitus lateral, 3 – habitus frontal

dimental, more or less visible in basal third length and closely attached to marginal row. Marginal row more or less distinct, intervals irregular, punctures as coarse as punctures on the top of disc. Explanate margin very narrow, impunctate smooth, and velvet-like. Elytra smooth, strongly shiny, laterally micro-reticulate, and mostly bare only lateral sides and humeral processes sparsely pubescent. Setae very small, adherent and barely visible. Apex of elytral epipleura pubescent.

Antennae long, slender, and with six basal glabrous segments. Length ratio of antennomeres: 100:54:84:68:74:57:100:76:84:80:139. Fifth antennomere 1.3 and fourth 1.2 times longer than sixth.

Ventrites without diagnostic characters.

MATERIAL EXAMINED

Holotype, pinned: 'BRASIL, Amazonas / Para Obidos / 15. viii. 1996 / leg. Joss [white, printed and cardboard label]' (in author's collection); paratype, pinned: 'BRESIL: / AMAZONAS / PARA / JURUTI / 10.10.95 / Leg. Joss [white, printed and cardboard label, bold data handwritten]' (in collection V. Kabourek, Zlín, Czech Republic); paratype, pinned: 'Brazil / Para / Juruti / 2 Jan., 03 [white, handwriting]' (in collection of Insectarium Montreal, Canada).

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