

Curatorial procedures over the RBINS collection of Scaritids
(Coleoptera: Carabidae: Scaritinae)

by Pavel Valdés

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Introduction

This paper resumes the curatorial work made by the author over the Scaritid Collection of the Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences (RBINS). These results are derivate from systematic visits to the collection with the porpoise to carry out the taxonomic revisions of several Neotropical genera grouped in the tribe Clivinini (Coleptera: Carabidae: Scaritinae). Visits, held by the Belgian Focal Point of the Global Taxonomy Initiative (GTI) had took place during 5 one month occasions in 2007, 2008, 2010, 2012 (two months) and 2013.

The Collection

The RBINS Scaritid Collection is an inclusive part of the general Carabidae/ Coleoptera/ Entomological Collection. It's an open Collection formed by material from XIX century to nowadays. It includes the historical collection of Putzeys, a Belgian entomologist considered the father of the modern studies concerning this group; then, its importance as depositary of most of the type material of Neotropical Clivinines named species.



Sections benefited by these revisions are, by genera: *Ardistomis* (61 exemplars), *Semiardistomis* (321 ex), *Aspidoglossa* (134 ex), *Climax* (2 ex), *Oxydrepanus* (7 ex), *Lachenus* (1 ex), *Ancus* (10 ex), *Pyramoides* (1 ex) and *Nyctosyles* (8 ex).

Worth to say that the author is also working in the biography of Jules Antoine Adolphe Henry Putzeys (1809- 1882).

Curatorial procedures

All the exemplars have been examined for taxonomic porpoises using standard techniques of mounting (softened in hot water and glued to a cardboard and pinned) and dissecting (mouth parts and genitalia stored in microvials with glycerin attached to exemplar). Having in mind restoration and conservation of the material, some actions were taken in account:

- Cleaning of exemplars in water with soft detergent.
- Replacement of rusted pins and reglued in new cardboards



Cleaning of exemplars



Replacement of pins and cardboards



Final disposition with microvial attached

- Layering of old labels with Japanese paper.



Rearrangement of the collection.

Some part of the collection have been already arranged according to last published taxonomic revision. In this case, the genus *Semiardistomis*, following the monograph resulted from this project (Valdés, 2012)



One drawer of genus *Semiardistomis* showing the original disposition



Drawers of genus *Semiardistomis* showing the new arrangement

Database

Data of exemplars concerning parts of the collection arranged will be included in a database list following the structure started by the RBINS department of Entomology (Database list attached in excel format)

Conclusion

As conclusion we can enumerate the benefits for the collection as a result of this taxonomic project:

- Restoration and conservation of the material housed.
- Rearrangement of the material in drawers according to published results (and designation of types) giving to the collection a strong reference value.
- Identification and inclusion in the Collection of large amount of material from Supplements sections
- Management of inclusion of new exemplars prioritizing species not represented.
- Inclusion of exemplars data in the RBINS Data Base.

In the future new genera will be arranged as their monographic revisions will be published (some under preparation/ revision now).

References:

- 2009 Seven new Neotropical species of the genus *Ardistomis* Putzeys (Coleoptera: Carabidae: Clivinini): notes about classification and a checklist of the species names of that genus. *Bulletin de l'Institut Royal des Sciences Naturelles de Belgique. Entomologie* 79: 59- 72.
2012. Notes about morphological features of the Western Hemisphere subtribe *Ardistomina*, and revision of genus *Semiardistomis* Kult (Coleoptera, Carabidae, Scaritinae, Clivinini) *ZooKeys* 210: 19-67.