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New records of Scolytinae from Nicaragua (Coleoptera,
Curculionidae) with description of male genitalia of
Taurodemus sharpi (Blandford, 1898).

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Foto de la portada: *Taurodemus sharpi* (foto Oswaldo Rodríguez-Flores).

New records of Scolytinae from Nicaragua (Coleoptera, Curculionidae) with description of male genitalia of *Taurodemus sharpi* (Blandford, 1898).

Oswaldo RODRIGUEZ-FLORES*

RESUMEN

Hylocurus disparilis Wood, 1971 y *Taurodemus sharpi* (Blandford, 1898) son reportados por primera vez de Nicaragua. El macho de *T. sharpi* y su genitalia son descritos e ilustrados.

Palabras claves: edeago, descripción de macho, escarabajo ambrosial, Xyleborini.

ABSTRACT

Hylocurus disparilis Wood, 1971 and *Taurodemus sharpi* (Blandford, 1898) are reported for first time from Nicaragua. Male of *T. sharpi* and his genitalia are described and illustrated.

Keywords: aedeagus, description of male, ambrosia beetle, Xyleborini.

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Two news record of bark and ambrosia beetles (Coleoptera, Curculionidae, Scolytinae) from Nicaragua are reported: *Hylocurus disparilis* Wood, 1971 (previously known only from the type locality in Honduras) (Wood, 1971; 1982; Wood & Bright, 1992) and *Taurodemus sharpi* (Blandford, 1898) (reported to range from southeastern Mexico to Panama (Atkinson, 2018)). Atkinson (2018) propose that the subspecies of *T. sharpi* described by Wood (1974; 1982) are based only on minute morphological differences and do not merit subspecific recognition. This species has been previously reported from Panama, Costa Rica (Wood, 1982), Guatemala (Blandford, 1895), Honduras (Atkinson, 2018), and Mexico (Blandford, 1895; Wood, 1974). This new record from Nicaragua bridges the distributional gap of *T. sharpi* between Honduras and Costa Rica.

Taurodemus sharpi is a species of Xyleborini tribe (Alonso-Zarazaga & Lyal, 2009). The males of xyleborine genera, which are cryptic and rare, most often occur within maternal galleries in very low numbers, and are unknown for most species (Hulcr et al. 2007). The morphology of *T. sharpi* males is unknown, therefore the male is described morphologically and illustrated. The male genitalia are also described and illustrated, because these organs show distinctive characters helpful for the distinction of genera and species (Seidel & Wessel, 2013), and therefore the study of genitalia plays an important role in the taxonomy of insects (Singh-Pruthi, 1925).

MATERIAL

Hylocurus disparilis Wood 1971 (fig. 2). Arboretum Alain Meyrat, Universidad Nacional Agraria, Managua (fig. 1), 12°8'52.62" N 86°9'46.30" W; 7-I-2019; coll. O. Rodríguez; det. O. Rodríguez (1 male in Museo UNA).

Taurodemus sharpi (Blandford 1898) (fig. 3). San Rafael del Norte, Jinotega (fig. 1), 13°14'39.28" N 86°4'56.47" W; 31-III-2017; on *Persea americana*; coll. C. Martínez; det. O. Rodríguez; (42 females, 1 male in Museo UNA).

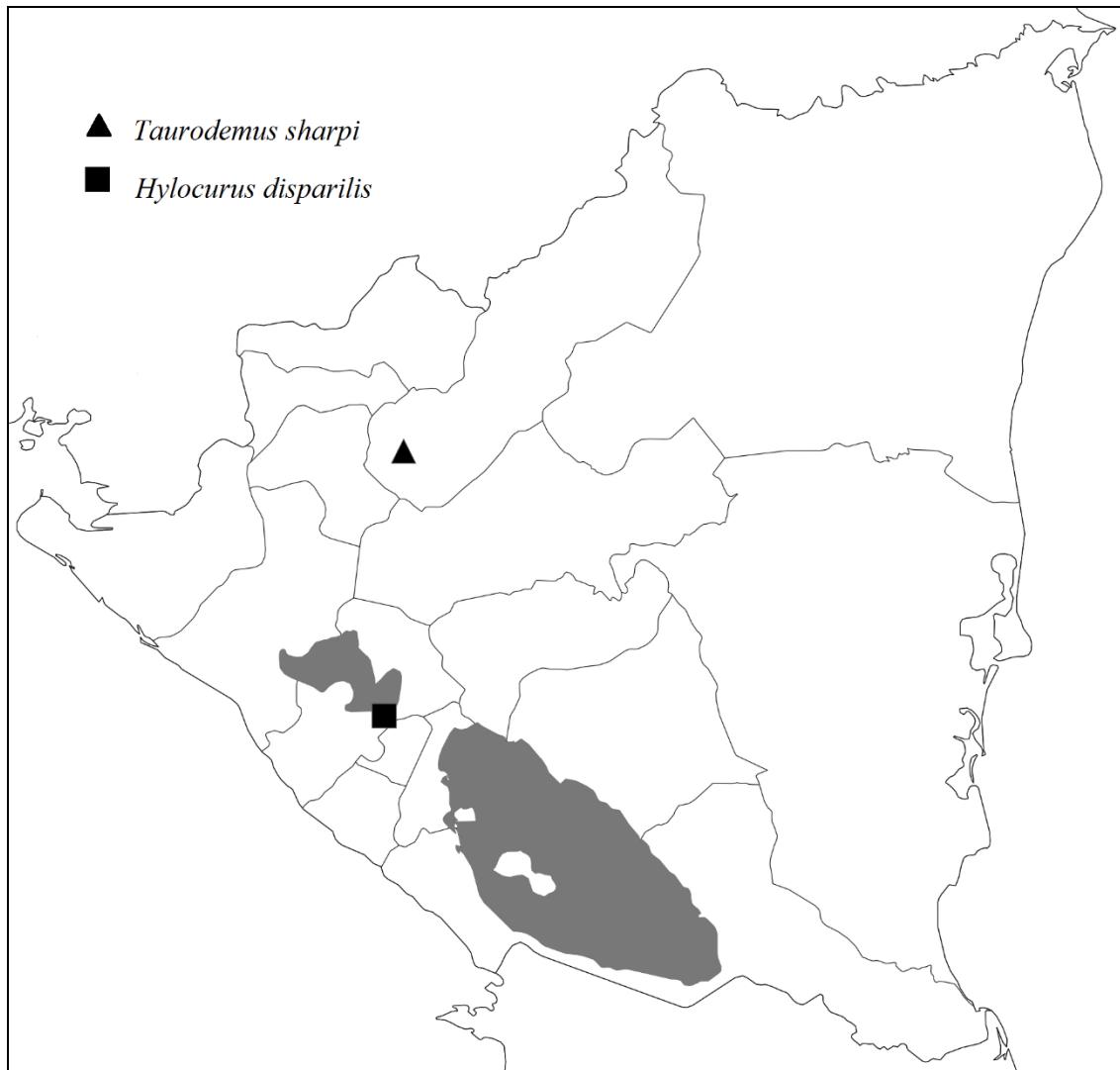


Figure 1. Map of Nicaragua showing the collecting localities of *Taurodemus sharpi* and *Hylocurus disparilis*. Illustrations by SimpleMappr (2019).



Figure 2. *Hylocurus disparilis*, male from Nicaragua. A) dorsal view; B) lateral view; C) front; D) declivity. Photographs by the author.

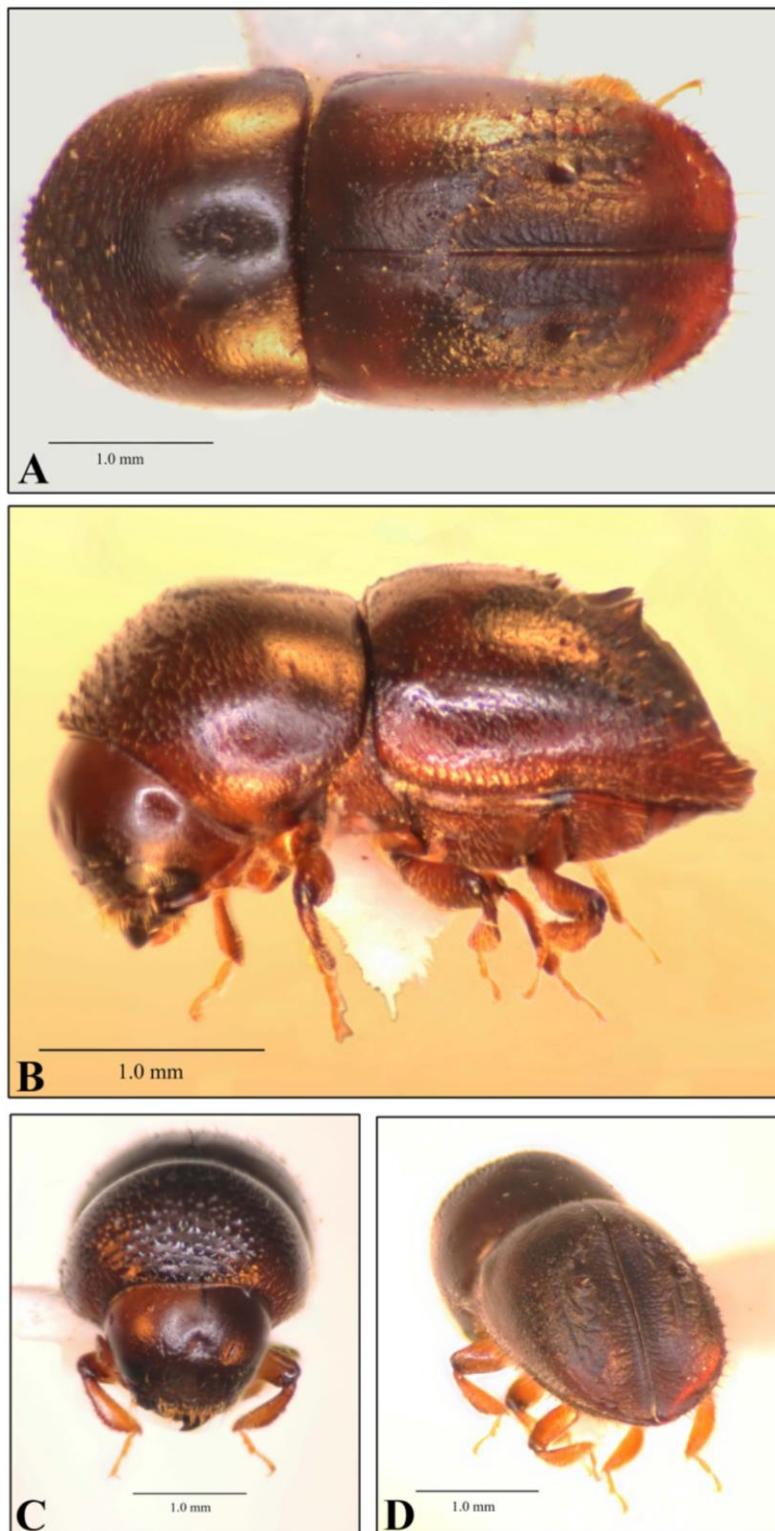


Figure 3. *Taurodemus sharpi*, female from Nicaragua. A) dorsal view; B) lateral view; C) front; D) declivity. Photographs by the author.

Male description of *Taurodemus sharpi* (Blandford, 1898)

Body (fig. 4): length: 3.2 mm; width 1.6 mm; length of elytra 2.08 mm, occupying 65% of the body length. Color reddish brown. Sparse setae clustered on legs, epistomal margin and posterior margin of declivity.

Head: frons convex, reticulate; dispersed punctures; setae more abundant towards epistoma. Antennal club type 1 (Hulcr et al. 2007).

Pronotum: longer, prolonged anteriorly, type 9 (Hulcr et al. 2007), reticulate, numerous asperities evenly distributed on anterior half; disc smooth, shining, with sparse punctures; posterior margin high with a backward projection.

Scutellum: small, triangular.

Elytra (fig. 4D): discal striae marked; few setae on interstriae; setae longer than striae punctures; rows of setae on lateral margin of elytra. Declivity concave, reticulate, beginning two-fifth-elytral length, length 1.74 mm, occupying 60% elytral length; the concave area is between striae 1-2 and interstriae 1-2 reaches two-third declivity length, later the concave area extends to stria 6; elytral suture high; on base of declivity, interstria 2 and 3 armed by row of four spines, spines of interstria 3 more long (specially spines three and four) and rise up to 58% of the declivity length. Two pit-like depressions in distal portion of declivity between interstria 3 and 6, two spines near of the posterior margin, apparently on interstria 3.

Genitalia (fig. 5): Aedeagus: length: 1.12 mm, width: 0.17 (basal part) 0.40 mm (apical part). Tegmen ring-shaped (fig. 5, tg). Apical part of aedeagus plane, in dorsal view is clearly rounded. Basal part appears cylindrical. Near two-thirds of aedeagus two symmetrical projections (fig. 5, dp) located on each side of the ejaculatory duct (fig. 5, ej). Apical part the ejaculatory duct divided into two, a duct is straight, the another is dorsal, curved and long. The apodemes (fig. 5, ap) are plane with rounded margins. Spiculum gastrale (fig. 5C): length 1.42 mm, width 0.025 mm, cylindrical, curved.

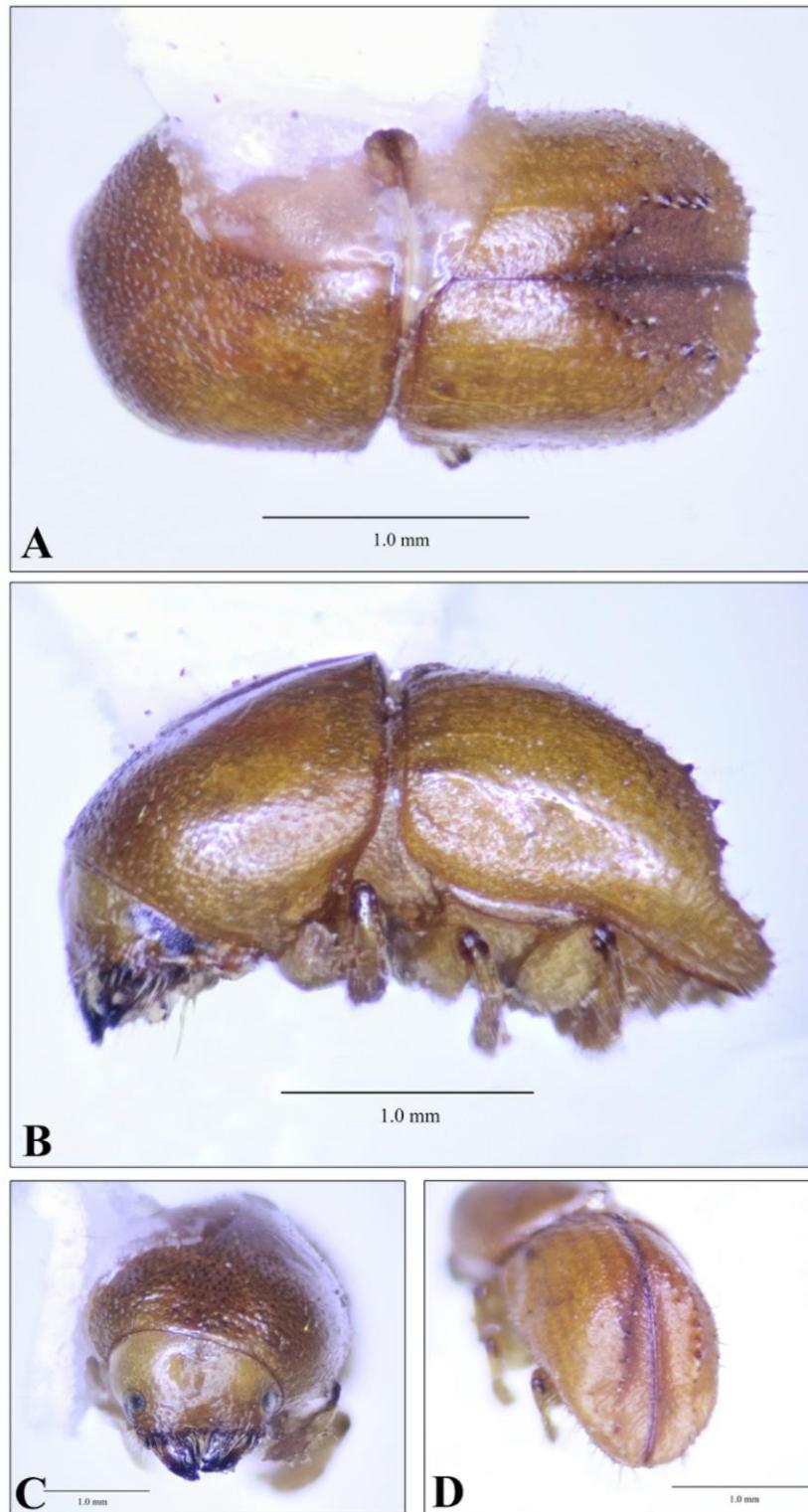


Figure 4. *Taurodemus sharpi*, male from Nicaragua. A) dorsal view; B) lateral view; C) front; D) declivity. Photographs by the author.

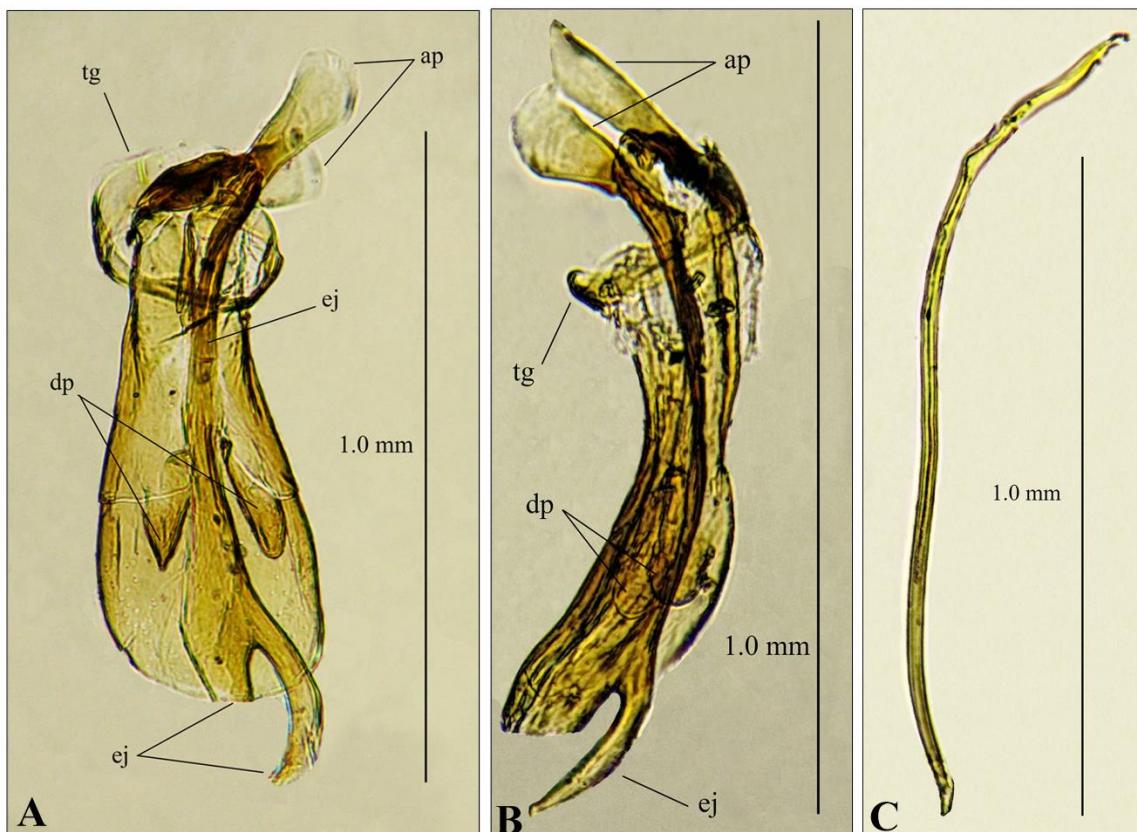


Figure 5. *Taurodemus sharpi*. male genitalia. A) dorsal view; B) lateral view; C) *Spiculum gastrale*. Legend: ap, apodeme; dp, dorsal projection; ej, ejaculatory duct; tg, tegmen. Photographs by the author.

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