

LECTOTYPE DESIGNATIONS AND REMARKS ON SOME  
SPHAERIDIINAE FROM THE SHARP COLLECTION  
(COLEOPTERA: HYDROPHILIDAE)

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ABSTRACT

The type material of *Phaenonotum laevicolle* Sharp 1882, *Pelosoma sordidum* Sharp 1882, and *Pelosoma lafertei* Mulsant 1844 was studied. Lectotypes are designated for *Phaenonotum laevicolle* and *Pelosoma sordidum*, and remarks on all 3 species are presented.

Recently, I studied the original material of some South and Central American Sphaeridiinae. None of these species was known to occur north of Mexico, but I needed to compare them with some species included in my revision of Sphaeridiinae of America north of Mexico. The results of this study, mainly lectotype designations, are presented here.

The original specimens from the Sharp collection were made available to me by Mr. P. M. Hammond, British Museum (Natural History), London. His assistance is gratefully acknowledged.

*Phaenonotum laevicolle* Sharp

*Phaenonotum laevicolle* Sharp 1882, Biol. Centr.-Amer. I, 2: 99

The original series of this species in the Sharp Collection, British Museum (Natural History), London, consists of 10 specimens. I examined 4 syntypes from this series. They are labelled as follows: *Spec. No. 1*: [male sign]/"Type H.T.". (round label with red margins)/"Phaenonotum laevicolle Type D.S. Cordova. Mex. Sallé."/"Sharp Coll. 1905.-313."/"B.C.A. I. 2. Phaenonotum laevicolle, Sharp." *Spec. No. 2*: [male sign]/"Cubili-guitz, Vera Paz. Champion."/"B.C.A. Col. I. 2 Phaenonotum laevicolle, Sharp." *Spec. No. 3*: "Phaenonotum laevicolle D.S. Zapote. Guatemala. Champion" (on plate with beetle)/"Sharp Coll. 1905.-313."/"Zapote, Guatemala. Champion."/"B.C.A. I. 2. Phaenonotum laevicolle, Sharp." *Spec. No. 4*: "Phaenonotum laevicolle D.S. Vera Cruz. Mex. Sallé" (on plate with beetle)/"Mexico Salle Coll."/"Veracruz September"/"Cyclonotum extriatum Say = minutum Cast. apud Sallé."

Specimen No. 3, from Zapote, is slightly different from the others and does probably not belong to the original series (locality not given by Sharp 1882: 99).

The first male specimen bearing the round label "Type H.T." with red margins (the aedeagus, left front leg, and abdomen are mounted separately on the plate with the beetle) is hereby designated as lectotype of *Ph. laevicolle*; the label "Lectotype Phaenonotum laevicolle Sharp Smetana des. 1974" was attached to this specimen.



*Ph. laevicolle* can rather easily be distinguished from the North American *Ph. exstriatum* (Say) by the different shape of the male copulatory organ, finer and distinctly sparser pronotal punctation, and, in most specimens, by the more sparsely and coarsely punctate elytra.

*Pelosoma sordidum* Sharp

*Pelosoma sordidum* Sharp 1882, Biol. Centr.-Amer. I: 2: 99

The original series of this species in the Sharp Collection, British Museum (Natural History), London, consists of 31 specimens. I examined 13 syntypes from this series. They are labelled as follows: *Spec. No. 1*: "*Pelosoma sordidum*. Type D.S. Cerro Zunil, 4000 ft. Guatemala. Champion" (on plate with beetle)/"Type" (round label with red margin)/"Cerro Zunil, Guatemala, Champion."/"Sharp Coll. 1905.-313."/"B.C.A. Col. I. 2. *Pelosoma sordidum*, Sharp." *Spec. No. 2 and 3* (on one plate, spec. No. 3 dissected): exactly the same labels as in No. 1, except without the label "Type". *Spec. No. 4*: "*Pelosoma sordidum* var. D.S. S. Geronimo. Guatemala Champion". (on plate with beetle)/"Sharp Coll. 1905.-313."/"San Geronimo, Vera Paz. Champion."/"B.C.A. Col. I. 2. *Pelosoma sordidum*, Sharp." *Spec. No. 5-6* (on one plate): "*Pelosoma sordidum* var. D.S. Senahu Guatemala Champion" (on plate with beetle)/"Sharp Coll. 1905.-313."/"Senahu, Vera Paz. Champion."/"B.C.A. Col. I. 2. *Pelosoma sordidum*, Sharp." *Spec. No. 7-8* (on one plate): "Zapote, Guatemala, G.C. Champion."/"B.C.A. I. 2. *Pelosoma sordidum*, Sharp." *Spec. No. 9*: "Tamahu, Vera Paz. Champion."/"B.C.A. Col. I. 2. *Pelosoma sordidum*, Sharp." *Spec. No. 10*: "Bugaba, 800-1,500 ft. Champion."/"B.C.A. Col. I. 2. *Pelosoma sordidum*, Sharp."/"*Pelosoma sordidum* var." (handwritten). *Spec. No. 11*: "Teapa"/"Mexico. Salle Coll."/"934"/"B.C.A. Col. I. 2. *Pelosoma sordidum*, Sharp." *Spec. No. 12*: "Mai"/"Cordova Mexico. Salle Coll."/"B.C.A. Col. I. 2. *Pelosoma sordidum*, Sharp."/"*Pelosoma sordidum*" (handwritten). *Spec. No. 13*: "Cordova"/"Mexico. Salle Coll."/"B.C.A. Col. I. 2. *Pelosoma sordidum*, Sharp."/"*Pelosoma sordidum*" (handwritten).

All specimens are conspecific, but specimens Nos. 8, 10, and 11 are very small.

Specimen No. 1 (with the "Type" label) is hereby designated as lectotype of *sordidum*; the label "Lectotype *Pelosoma sordidum* Shp. Smetana des. 1975" was attached to this specimen.

The genus *Pelosoma* is very widely distributed in the Neotropical Region and is also very rich in species, most of them undescribed; the similarities and relationships of these species can be determined only after a detailed revision of the whole genus.

*Pelosoma lafertei* Muls.

*Pelosoma lafertei* Mulsant 1844, Palp.: 185

*Pelosoma lafertei*; Sharp 1882, Biol. Centr.-Amer. I, 2: 109

This species was described by Mulsant (1844: 185) from a single specimen that he believed to have been taken in Europe (France). However, Sharp (1882: 109), who possessed Mulsant's holotype from the Laferté Collection, expressed the opinion that the species was actually Neotropical; the Mulsant holotype agreed, except for some "very minute and unimportant



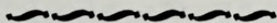
details", with his South American specimens (see Sharp, l.c., for more details). This opinion was generally accepted (e.g. Ganglbauer 1904: 284). A few specimens of this species were later recorded from Europe (as introduced) from a few spots around the Mediterranean Sea (Chiesa 1959: 111); the species is otherwise very widely distributed in South and Central America, and seems to be common.

I examined the Mulsant holotype, Sharp Collection, British Museum (Natural History), London. It is labelled as follows: "Pelosoma lafertei Type ex coll. Laferté. Chinon.-Gallia" (on plate with beetle)/"Type" (round label with red margin)/"France"/"Sharp Coll. 1905.-313."/"B.C.A. Col. I. 2 Pelosoma lafertei, Muls."

The holotype, which was originally pinned, is in rather bad condition. I was able to find one specimen, from Brazil ("Brazil, Est. Biol. Boracea Salesopolis, SP, XII-17-26-1969 J.M. & B.A. Campbell"), which matches the Mulsant holotype in every possible detail. The red label "Pelosoma lafertei Muls., compared with holotype, Smetana 1975" is attached to this specimen, which is deposited in the Canadian National Collection, Ottawa.

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