

A REVIEW OF THE SPECIES OF *ACRITISPA* UHMANN
(COLEOPTERA: CHRYSOMELIDAE, HISPINAE)

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Abstract. — The literature on *Acritispa* is reviewed. *Octotoma germaini* Pic is transferred to *Acritispa*. The two included species are redescribed and a key is presented; these species occur in Central and South America.

Key Words: Coleoptera, Chrysomelidae, Hispinae, *Acritispa*

The species of the genus *Acritispa* were examined in connection with ongoing revisionary studies on the subfamily Hispinae (Staines 1986a, b, 1987). The name *Acritispa* was first published by Uhmann (1937); in this genus he placed the species *Physocoryna dilatata* Uhmann. Under Article 13b (Internat. Code Zool. Nomen. 1985) the generic name was a *nomem nudum* because no type species was designated. Uhmann (1940) designated *Acritispa dilatata* (Uhmann) as the type species of the genus validating the name. Papp (1953) listed five species in *Acritispa*: *dilatata*, *nigritarsis* (Weise), *triquetra* (Uhmann), *viridiceps* (Pic), and *viridinotata* (Pic). Uhmann (1957) placed all but *dilatata* in the genus *Probaenia* Weise.

Acritispa is in the tribe Uroplatini (Weise 1911) which is characterized by having the last antennal segments very closely united and the antennae appearing as three to eight segmented. The tribe is represented by thirty-two genera. *Acritispa* is distinguished by the following combination of characters: antennae short, not exceeding the base of the pronotum; 8-segmented, segments I and II subequal, VII as wide as VIII and difficult to distinguish as a separate segment; VIII not longer than the four preceding segments combined. Pronotum with two

toothlike projections on lateral margins. Elytra expanded to apex; plications over entire surface.

***Acritispa* Uhmann**

Acritispa Uhmann 1940: 143 (type species: *A. dilatata* (Uhmann)). Uhmann 1937: 336, Blackwelder 1946: 729, Uhmann 1950: 267, Papp 1953: 93, Uhmann 1957: 115, 1964: 11, Gaedike & Dobler 1971: 347, Seeno & Wilcox 1982: 161.

General habitus: Size small (4.0–5.8 mm), with elytra greatly expanded at apex. Head: Vertex micropunctate; median sulcus present; antennae 8-segmented, I–II subequal, III widened apically, VII as wide as VIII and difficult to distinguish as a separate segment, VIII clavate, hirsute. Pronotum: Wider than long; tooth present on anterior margin on each side of head; two toothlike projections on lateral margins; covered with coarse punctures. Elytra: Greatly expanded at apex; translucent at exterior apical angles; plications over entire surface; lateral margins flattened, dentate; apical margins flattened, dentate. Profemur expanded apically.

Measurements were taken with an ocular micrometer. Pronotal length and width were taken along the midlines. Elytral width was measured at the humeri. Elytral length was

measured from the base to apex. Total length was measured from the base of the frontal sulcus to the apex of the elytra.

KEY TO THE DESCRIBED SPECIES OF
ACRITISPA UHMANN

1. Vertex of head with median sulcus faint; body color black *dilatata* (Uhmman)
- Vertex of head with median sulcus deep and wide; body color reddish-brown .. *germaini* (Pic)

Acritispa dilatata (Uhmman)

Physocoryna dilatata Uhmman 1932: 266 (type not seen; type locality Brazil, Bahia; holotype deposited in Deutschen Entomologischen Institutes (Gaedike & Dobler 1971)).

Acritispa dilatata (Uhmman): Uhmman 1937: 336, 1940: 143, 1950: 267, Papp 1953: 93, Uhmman 1957: 115, 1964: 11, Gaedike & Dobler 1971: 347.

Body color black. Head: Median sulcus present, faint; three punctures on inner margin of each eye; vertex rugose, micropunctate; antennae reddish; segments I–II transverse, I largest; III–VI compressed, smaller than I or II. Pronotum: Two tubercles present on disc behind midline; covered with coarse punctures; basal margin bisinuate; surface micropunctate; length 0.7–0.8 mm (avg. 0.75, $n = 4$); width 1.1–1.3 (avg. 1.2). Elytra: Covered with large plicae; lateral margins dentate, more so at base; rows of punctures visible between plicae; length 3.1–3.6 (avg. 3.3); width 1.7–1.9 (avg. 1.75). Legs: Reddish. Venter: Pro- and metasterna alutaceous; mesosternum punctate in middle; abdomen red. Total length: 4.0–4.4 (avg. 4.2).

Discussion: Life history unknown. Immature stages undescribed. This species can be distinguished from *A. germaini* by the less pronounced basal elytral plications, the faint median sulcus on the vertex of the head, and the black body color.

Larval host plant: Unknown.

Distribution: Brazil and Paraguay.

Specimens examined: BRAZIL: Lam-

bary, XI/1926 (USNM); Parahyba, IX/1884 (USNM); Sao Paulo (USNM). PARAGUAY: central, 1885 (USNM). Total: 4.

Acritispa germaini (Pic),
NEW COMBINATION

Octotoma germaini Pic 1925: 1 (Holotype: Cochabamba (Bolivia), Germain/*Octotoma* n. sp./Museum Paris, coll. M. Pic/Type/*germaini* n. sp. (MNHN)). Uhmman 1927: 136, Blackwelder 1946: 729, Papp 1953: 93, Uhmman 1957: 116, Descarpentries & Villiers 1959: 149.

Body color reddish-brown. Head: Median sulcus deep, wide; ledge over base of antennae; antennae reddish-brown, segment I–II punctate; III widened apically, longer than I or II, punctate, IV–VI transverse, punctate, VII wider, fringe of setae on apical margin, VIII hirsute, pointed apically, three whorls of setae. Pronotum: Two tubercles present on disc near midline; areas between punctures micropunctate; callous present near right tubercle; length 0.9–1.4 mm. (avg. 1.1; $n = 3$); width 1.3–1.5 (avg. 1.4). Scutellum: Light reddish-brown; rounded at apex. Elytra: Apical margin less dentate than lateral margins; puncture rows visible between plications; base explanate, expanded over base of pronotum; plications very large, especially on basal half, less raised on apex; length 3.6–4.4 (avg. 3.9); width 1.9–2.5 (avg. 2.1). Legs: Reddish-brown, except femur which is black; femur with large punctures at apex. Total length: 4.3–5.8 (avg. 4.8).

Discussion: Life history unknown. Immature stages undescribed. This species can be distinguished from *A. dilatata* by the more pronounced basal elytral plications, the deep median sulcus on the vertex of the head, and the reddish-brown body color.

Larval host plant: Unknown.

Distribution: Bolivia and Panama.

Specimens examined: PANAMA: Porto Bello, 11/VIII, 19/III/1911 (USNM); Canal Zone, Fort Kobbe, 20/VI/1976 (EGRC). BOLIVIA: Cochabamba (MNHN). Total: 4.

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