

A new genus and species of clytine cerambycid (Coleoptera) from Florida

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Abstract

The genus *Plesioclytus* is proposed and described. The species *Plesioclytus relictus* is described from south-central Florida. Figures of male habitus and antennal structures of both sexes are provided.

Introduction

A curious new species in the tribe Clytini has been collected in south-central Florida. Apparently related to members of the genus *Clytus* Laicharting, this new taxon differs in a number of significant characters of generic importance, and cannot be considered a member of that genus. A new genus is therefore proposed.

Plesioclytus, new genus

DESCRIPTION. Head with front subvertical, not carinate; antennae short, unarmed, with short, conical 12th segment cupped into apex of 11th segment, segments from fifth short, thickened, subserrate; female with distal antennal segments more robust. Pronotum rounded, wider than long; male with three moderately large discal impressions; female with disk evenly convex; prosternal process narrow, procoxal cavities closed behind; mesosternum with intercoxal process sloping, apically subtruncate; metasternum convex; metepisternum large, broadly subtriangular, wide at front, strongly tapering toward rear. Elytra elongate, without pubescent markings, apically flattened, dehiscent; apices separately rounded. Abdomen with pygidium extending beyond elytral apices. Legs moderately short, femora unarmed.

TYPE SPECIES. *Plesioclytus relictus*, n. sp.

REMARKS. This genus appears to be related to *Clytus* Laicharting, and may be separated from that genus by the strongly sexually dimorphic antennae with an abbreviated 12th segment, the broad form and discal impressions of the male pronotum, the relatively shorter legs, the flattened, dehiscent elytra

without dorsal pubescent markings, and the form of the episternum. From *Neoclytus* Thomson, some species of which it resembles in the flattened elytral form, it may be easily separated by the lack of transverse pronotal carinae, short legs, and antennal formula.

Plesioclytus relictus, new species (figs. 1, 2)

DESCRIPTION. MALE: (see fig. 1) Form moderately small, elongate, feebly tapering. Integument orange-brown with prothorax, distal segments of antennae and underside slightly darker. Head short; front and vertex longitudinally impressed in middle; coarsely, densely rugose-punctate, moderately sparsely golden pubescent, pubescence denser around eyes; antennae short, reaching to about basal 1/4 of elytra, 12-segmented, scape short, about twice as long as wide, third segment about 1 1/2 times as long as scape, fourth segment subequal to scape, remaining segments shorter, thickened, subserrate, tenth segment slightly longer than wide, eleventh segment short, twelfth segment obtusely pointed, indistinctly separated and cupped in apex of eleventh. Pronotum moderately inflated, broadly rounded, slightly wider than base of elytra; disk with longitudinal impression in middle, and larger, wider impressions on each side; entire surface densely, moderately coarsely cribrate-punctate, clothed except on discal impressions with moderately dense, subdepressed, golden pubescence, impressions with moderately sparse suberect hairs; prosternum short, moderately densely punctate, pubescence pale, suberect; metasternum shining, moderately sparsely punctate, with pale golden pubescence somewhat less dense. Scutellum subtruncate, densely clothed with longitudinally laid, pale golden

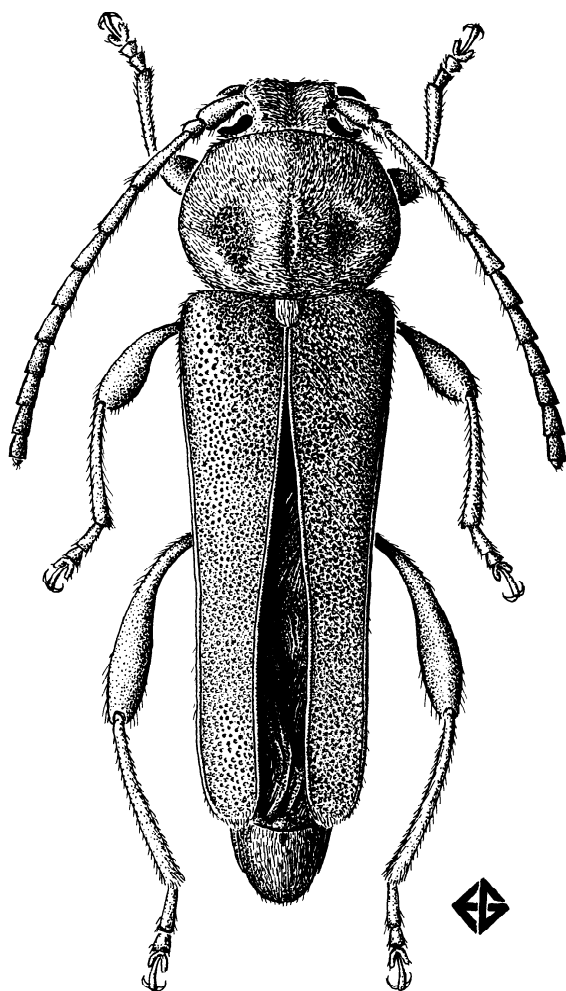


Figure 1. *Plesioclytus relictus* Giesbert, new species, male.

pubescence. Elytra slightly more than 2 1/2 times as long as width across humeri, not attaining apex of abdomen, with apical 3/5 flattened, dehiscent, epipleural and sutural margins distinctly carinate, apices separately rounded; entire surface moderately densely, irregularly cribrate-punctate, pubescence sparse, pale, subrecumbent. Abdomen moderately punctate and clothed with subdepressed golden pubescence; apex of terminal sternite emarginate-truncate. Legs moderately short, unarmed, subclavate, femoral clubs moderately stout, bases of meso- and metafemora curved. Length 9.25-10 mm.

FEMALE. - Similar to male, but form slightly more stout. Integument darker, reddish-brown, infuscated with blackish-brown as follows: underside, parts of head, most of prothorax, apical half of elytra at least

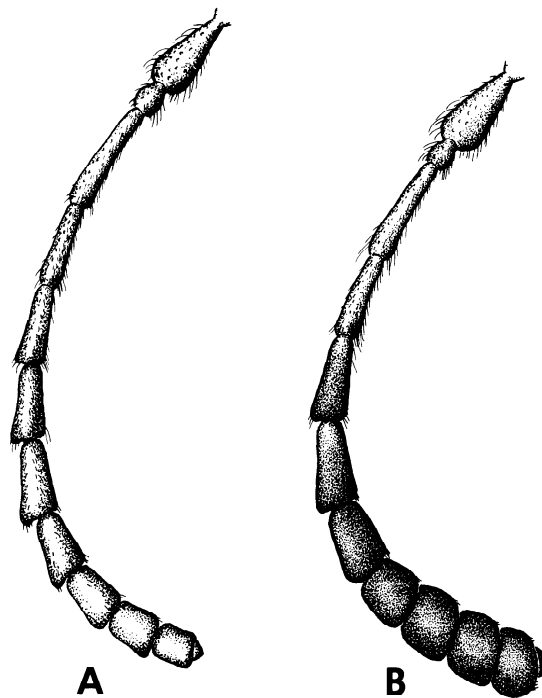


Figure 2. *Plesioclytus relictus* Giesbert, left antenna of A), male; B), female.

along margins, and distal segments (5-12) of antennae. Antennae with distal segments more strongly thickened, subquadrate, subcylindrical, tenth segment much wider than long, twelfth segment somewhat more distinctly separated from eleventh (see fig. 2). Pronotum evenly convex, not wider than elytral humeri, lacking discal impressions; pubescence sparse, erect, with an indistinct fascia of pale, recumbent pubescence across base and apex; procoxal cavities slightly open behind. Metepisternum with denser pubescence on posterior portion. Abdomen more robust, with apex of terminal sternite subtruncate. Length 10.5-11.5 mm.

TYPES. Holotype male, and allotype (Florida State Collection of Arthropods) from FLORIDA, Archbold Biol. Sta., Lk. Placid, Highlands Co., on flowers of *Asclepias curtisii*, 8-17 July, 1986 (M. Minno). 3 paratypes as follows: 1 male, 1 female, from FLORIDA, Sebring, Highlands Co., on flowers of *Polygonella myriophylla*, 3 April, 1989 (M. Deyrup); 1 female, from type locality "in flight", 29 July, 1992 (V. Golia).

REMARKS. Sexual dimorphism in this species is fairly pronounced, the female having more robustly developed antennae, a smoothly convex pronotum, and a darker, more infuscated integument.

To date, all known specimens of *P. relictus* are from a rather restricted geological area, comprising the southern end of the Lake Wales Ridge, a line of relict sand dunes which in the Pleistocene were apparently part of the western shore of the Okeechobee Sea.

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