

A new genus and species in the subfamily Lamiinae, with comments on *Laticranium mandibulare* Lane in Central America (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae)

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Abstract: A new genus, *Amplitempora*, is described, and placed provisionally in the tribe Laticraniini. A single species, *A. captiocula* is described from Panama and illustrated. Brief comments on range and variability of the only other known member of the tribe, *Laticranium mandibulare* Lane, are included.

Introduction

The purpose of this paper is to make known an unusual and noteworthy new taxon with affinities to several Lamiine tribes which has been found in Panama and is here placed in a new genus, provisionally assigned to the Laticraniini, a tribe previously represented by a single species in the genus *Laticranium* Lane.

Lane (1959), characterized the Laticraniini as having the head wider than the prothorax; the frons trapezoidal and widest above; the antennal tubercles widely separated; the antennal scape lacking a scar; the mandibles large, wide at base, with the underside concave and the apices bidentate; the eyes finely faceted; the palpi somewhat elongate and slender, with cylindrical segments; the mesocoxal cavities open to the side; the metasternum wider than long; and the tarsal claws simple and divergent.

Amplitempora Giesbert, new genus

Head wide across tempora, front convex with lateral margins nearly parallel, vertex impressed between antennal tubercles; labrum small; mentum and clypeum wide; mandibles widely separated at base; antennae slender, with 11 antennomeres, longer than body in both sexes, with 3 to 11 subcylindrical; scape somewhat elongate and pyriform; eyes deeply emarginate, finely faceted. Pronotum subquadrate, with sides sinuate, often bearing a small median tubercle; pro- and mesosternal processes narrow, pro- and mesocoxae exerted, procoxal cavities closed behind; mesocoxal cavities open at sides; elytra evenly convex with apices

unarmed; legs with femora moderately robust, not at all clavate; tarsi with first tarsomere slightly shorter than second and third together, claws semi-divergent.

Type species: *Amplitempora captiocula*, new species.

Remarks: This genus may easily be separated from *Laticranium* Lane by its smaller size, pyriform antennal scape, median impression between antennal tubercles, and less robustly convex vertex, as well as by the generally more delicate integumental structure throughout. Placement in the Laticraniini is provisional, and the genus may eventually prove to be better placed in a new tribe.

Etymology: *Amplus* = large (L.); *tempora* = temples of the head (L.)

Amplitempora captiocula Giesbert, new species (Fig. 1)

Male: Form moderate sized, moderately robust. Integument testaceous, infuscated with blackish-brown as follows: outer palpomere; apices and inner edges of mandibles; a large, rounded macula inside and behind each eye, these separated in middle but including the antennal tubercles, and extending to front edge of pronotum; antennae except underside of scape and underside of bases of antennomeres 2 to 4; sides of prothorax at base; elytral disk except along margins and with a narrow vitta of pale pubescence along suture; abdomen except for pale fifth segment; apices of femora, and apical 2/3 of tibiae. Head wider than pronotum, widest across tempora; surface moderately densely clothed with fine, recumbent, pale pubescence, which is darker brown on circumocular

infuscated maculae; mandibles, each bearing a robust, blunt tubercle on upper surface, apices bifurcate; genae dentate behind; antennae exceeding body length by about 5 antennomeres, these sparsely setose, gradually decreasing in length, with tenth shortest, scape $\frac{3}{4}$ as long as third. Pronotum with apex slightly wider than base, sides bisinuate, moderately impressed behind apex and before base, and often bearing a small tubercle at middle of each side; disk bearing three indistinct tubercles, one on each side of middle just behind subapical impression, and one on middle just before subbasal impression; surface moderately sparsely punctate, clothed with moderately dense, fine, recumbent pubescence; prosternum with intercoxal process very narrow, pro-, meso-, and metasterna clothed with fine, pale, subrecumbent pubescence. Scutellum small, rounded, clothed with subdepressed pale setae. Elytra about $2\frac{2}{3}$ times as long as width across humeri, feebly widened toward apices, which are rounded to suture; disk with surface moderately coarsely, irregularly punctate, clothed with fine, pale, subrecumbent pubescence, which is somewhat more dense and coarse along margins and suture. Abdomen with each sternum slightly convex, apex of terminal sternum subtruncate, apex of terminal tergum shallowly emarginate in middle. Legs with femora moderately shining, mesotibiae densely fringed along outer edge. Length 8-15mm.

Female: Form and color similar to male, but slightly more robust, with integumental infuscations somewhat darker, tibiae and tarsi entirely infuscated. Head somewhat less broad than males, with mandibles smaller, upper surface carinate at base but lacking tubercle, and apices not distinctly bifurcate; genae not dentate; antennae shorter, exceeding elytral apices by about two antennomeres. Abdomen more robust, with terminal sternum narrowly impressed across middle of apex. Length 14-16.5mm.

Types: Holotype male (National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution), allotype, and 11 paratypes (9 males, 2 females) from Panama, Panamá Prov., 8-10km N El Llano, 26 April-4 May, 1992 (E. Giesbert, J. Wappes). Paratypes are in the collections of E. Giesbert and J. Wappes.

Remarks: A single female specimen was seen in the ORSTOM collection (Cayenne) probably assignable to *A. captiocula*, labelled: French Guiana, Kourou, Route des Compagnons, 9 December, 1983 (G. DeMarty).

This species is easily recognized, especially in the males, by the form of the head and mandibles (fig.1).

In general color pattern and the pale terminal abdominal segment, the species appears to mimic a lampyrid beetle. The superficial appearance of very large eyes due to the circumocular dark maculae and expanded tempora gives rise to the specific name.

Etymology: *Captio* = deception (L.); *oculus* = eye (L.).

Laticranium mandibulare Lane

Laticranium mandibulare Lane, 1959:313.

Previously recorded from Panama to Argentina, recent collecting extends the known range of this species northward, with specimens collected in Costa Rica, and a single male collected by the author in late May at mercury vapor light near the Presa Rio Bobo near Quebrada, Izabal, Guatemala.

There appears to be a clinal gradation in pubescent color, with the elytra and tarsi of the Guatemalan specimen almost entirely clothed with dense, pale grayish-brown pubescence which obscures the integument. Specimens from Costa Rica and Panama also have the tarsi clothed with pale setae, and the elytra thickly irrorate with greyish spots. South American specimens, however, are darker, with the elytra much more sparsely irrorate with the brown integumental color dominant, except for a large, premedian whitish macula on each side, and the tarsi clothed with brown setae.

Acknowledgements

The author is grateful to Gerárd Luc Tavakilian of ORSTOM, Cayenne, French Guiana, and John A. Chemsak of the Essig Museum of Entomology, Berkeley, California for data and generous advice, and to James Wappes and José Monzón for their excellent and helpful comradeship in the field.

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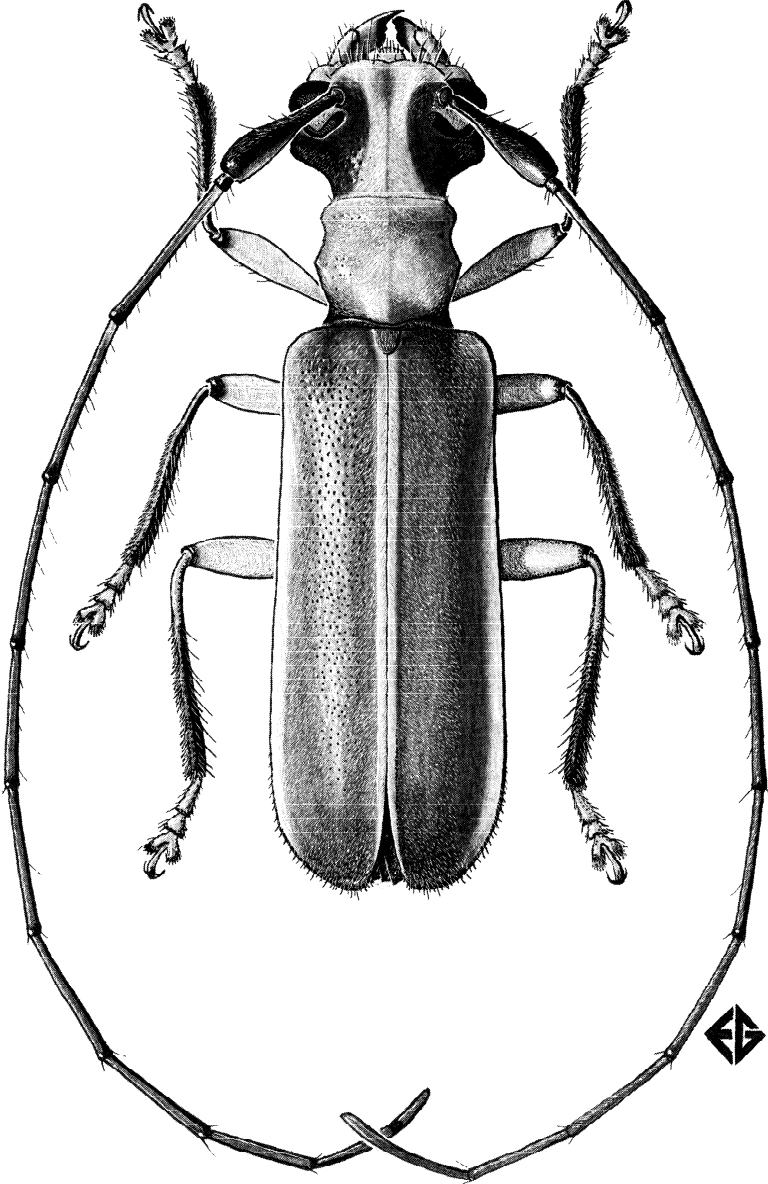


Figure 1. *Amplitempora captiocula* new species, male.