

## On the genus *Anchonus* Schönherr in Florida (Coleoptera: Curculionidae)

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**Abstract.** Four species of *Anchonus* Schönherr occur in Florida: *A. floridanus* Schwarz, *A. duryi* Blatchley, *A. blatchleyi* Sleeper, and *A. suillus* (Fabricius), which is recorded from Florida and the continental United States for the first time. The species are distinguished in a key and illustrated. A lectotype is selected for *A. floridanus*.

### Introduction

The predominantly Neotropical weevil genus *Anchonus* Schönherr is represented in Florida by three endemic species and a widespread Caribbean species that occur mostly in the coastal counties of the southern part of the state. They are frequently collected in association with driftwood, in which they are known to breed (Kovarick and O'Brien, unpublished data), and in the litter of coastal hardwood hammocks. Larvae of *Anchonus* were described from the Canal Zone attacking telephone poles and from the Bahamas in dead mulberry wood (Andersen 1952).

Jean-François Voisin has published extensively recently on the tribe Anchonini, but has not yet dealt in detail with *Anchonus* (*sens. str.*). Voisin (1992) retained the four Florida species in *Anchonus* (*sens. str.*), along with 15 Neotropical species, but assigned them to two different species groups, depending on the presence or absence of a tubercle at the apex of the elytra.

Specimens are difficult to identify. The literature pertaining to the Florida species consists of isolated species descriptions; there are no keys and the sole illustration (Blatchley and Leng 1916) is of poor quality and could apply to more than one species. Compounding the problem is the fact that adults usually are covered with a thick brownish-grey incrustation which obscures surface characters (fig.

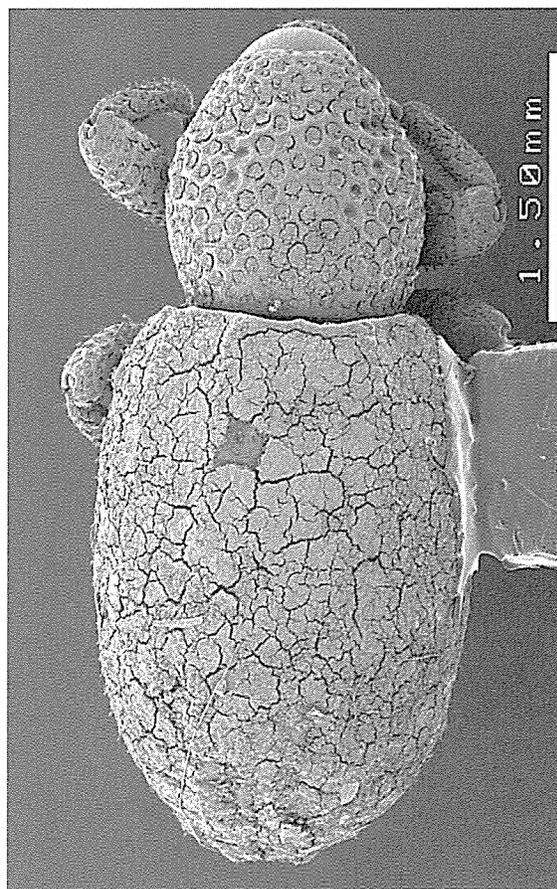


Figure 1. Incrustated specimen of *Anchonus* sp. Note how incrustation obscures virtually all surface features.