

A NEW SPECIES OF *ENOCLERUS* GAHAN  
(COLEOPTERA: CLERIDAE) FROM COLOMBIA

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**Abstract**

A new species of checkered beetle, *Enoclerus addisoni*, is described from Colombia. This new species, with its shining blue integument, and transverse antemedian and subapical eburneus fasciae, is readily separable from all other described congeners. The status of our knowledge of the Colombian *Enoclerus* species is summarized.

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The *Enoclerus* fauna of Colombia is poorly known. Corporaal's (1950) catalogue lists a dozen species from that country, among which one has since been transferred to the genus *Perilypus* Spinola (Ekis 1977a), and two assigned to the genus *Aphelocerus* Kirsch (Barr 1976). (A fourth is about to be transferred to *Aphelocerus* (Opitz pers. comm.)). Collecting in subsequent decades has turned up several other Colombian members of *Enoclerus*, although in many cases their identification is made difficult by the bewildering number of very similar, yet tauntingly different morphospecies that make up much of the *Enoclerus* fauna of northern South America. To my knowledge, no description of a Colombian *Enoclerus* species has appeared in half a century. The present paper describes and figures *Enoclerus addisoni*, a new and distinct member of the genus from Colombia.

**Abbreviations**

**IAvH:** Instituto de Investigación de Recursos Biológicos Alexander von Humboldt, Villa de Leiva, Colombia.

**LACM:** Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, Los Angeles, California, U.S.A.

**JNRC:** Collection of Jacques Rifkind, Valley Village, California, U.S.A.

**WFBC:** Collection of William F. Barr, Moscow, Idaho, U.S.A.

**WOPI:** Collection of Weston Opitz, Salina, Kansas, U.S.A.

*Enoclerus addisoni* new species  
(Fig. 1)

**Type Material.** Holotype male: COLOMBIA, Boyacá, SFF (Santuario de Fauna y Flora) Iguaque, Cabaña Mamarramos, 5°25'N, 73°27'W, 2,855 m, Malaise, 4-21-XII-2000, P. Reina, leg. Holotype deposited in the collection of the Instituto de Investigación de Recursos Biológicos Alexander von Humboldt, Villa de Leiva, Colombia (IAvH). Eleven paratypes: (1) same data as holotype, except 1-23-IX-2000; (10) Colombia, Boyacá, SFF (Santuario de Fauna y Flora) Iguaque, La Planada, 5°25' N, 73°27'W, 2,850 m, Malaise, P. Reina, leg., various collecting dates from 23-V-2000—7-II-2001. Paratypes deposited in IAvH, LACM, WFBC, WOPI, and JNRC.



**Fig. 1.** Habitus of *Enoclerus addisoni* Rifkind n. sp. (holotype male).

**Diagnosis.** Distinguishable from its congeners on the basis of a unique combination of color, elytral pattern, and pronotal vestiture.

**Description (Holotype).** *Length:* 7.30 mm. *Color:* Deep relucient blue; apices of maxillary palpi, antennomeres 1–2 (in part) testaceous; tarsi reddish brown; elytra with antemedian and subapical eburneus fasciae, the former complete to lateral margins, the latter interrupted at epipleural folds, both narrowly interrupted at suture (Fig. 1); abdomen orange testaceous. *Head:* antennae rather robust, extending to base of pronotum; club well-developed; gular process rectangulate/spatulate (not transverse); front bi-impressed; surface densely, subconfluently punctate, sparsely set with short, coarse, whitish setae. *Pronotum:* about as long as wide; distinctly narrower than elytra at base; transverse impression distinct, broadly “U” shaped; surface shining, rather finely, closely punctate and transversely rugulose; pubescence coarse, mostly whitish, absent from two transverse ovoid areas on disk at either side of middle. *Elytra:* elongate (ratio of length to maximum width 41:22), widest behind middle; basal margin bisinuate; humeri

pronounced, convexly rounded; subbasal tumescences faintly indicated; disk flattened at middle; surface shining, moderately densely punctate and dimpled throughout, indistinctly covered with short, suberect and somewhat longer erect, mostly dark setae, with a sparsely arrayed concentration of coarse, white setae across base and on apices; lateral margins broadly deflexed at middle; apical slope gradual; apices separately rounded, dehiscent. *Metasternum*: convex; surface finely punctate. *Abdomen*: shining, feebly, very sparsely punctate, negligibly pubescent; abdominal apex without setal daggers. *Genitalia*: tegmen not sagittate apically.

**Variation.** Size ranges from 7.30 mm–9.75 mm. In some specimens the pronotum reflects aquamarine tints. The eburneous elytral fasciae vary somewhat in shape; most notably, the antemedian band is rounded internally in some specimens, whereas in others it is truncated by the sutural margin.

**Discussion.** The new species shares some characteristics with members of the clerine genus *Colyphus* Spinola as defined by Ekiş (1977b). These include a lustrous, uniformly punctate and elongate elytra, and a convex pronotum. Unlike those of *Colyphus*, however, the antennae of *E. addisoni* are relatively short and robust, and do not extend beyond the pronotum. Furthermore, the male of *E. addisoni* lacks the distinctly sagittate tegmen of most *Colyphus* species. I have therefore chosen to place the new species in *Enoclerus*, though its affinities within this speciose and diverse genus are unclear.

**Note on Habitat.** All specimens were taken in Malaise traps in the Andean zone of Colombia, at an elevation of 2,855 m. The habitat at the collection site has been characterized as “fog forest.”

**Etymology.** It is with great pride and pleasure that I name this species for my son, Addison Darwin Rifkind, an observant and enthusiastic field assistant and budding naturalist in his own right.

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