

**Taxonomic revision of the New World species  
of the genus *Oosternum* Sharp  
(Coleoptera: Hydrophilidae: Sphaeridiinae)  
II. The *Oosternum convexum* species group**

Martin FIKÁČEK<sup>1,2)</sup> & Franz HEBAUER<sup>3)</sup>

<sup>1)</sup> Department of Entomology, National Museum, Kunratic 1, CZ-148 00 Praha 4, Czech Republic;  
e-mail: mfikacek@seznam.cz

<sup>2)</sup> Department of Zoology, Faculty of Science, Charles University in Prague, Viničná 7,  
CZ-128 44 Praha 2, Czech Republic

<sup>3)</sup> Johann Krümpel-Strasse 1, D-94447 Plattling, Germany

**Abstract.** The *Oosternum convexum* species group is defined on the basis of external morphological characters. Three species are recognized within the group, all of them endemic to the Cordillera de Talamanca Mts. in Central America: *O. convexum* sp. nov. (Panama, Costa Rica), *O. intermedium* sp. nov. (Costa Rica) and *O. simplex* sp. nov. (Costa Rica). A key to species is provided, along with drawings and SEM photographs of diagnostic characters.

**Resumen.** El grupo de especies de *O. convexum* es definido sobre la base de los caracteres externos. Se reconocen tres especies en este grupo, todas endémicas de la Cordillera de Talamanca en América Central: *O. convexum* sp. nov. (Panamá, Costa Rica), *O. intermedium* sp. nov. (Costa Rica) y *O. simplex* sp. nov. (Costa Rica). Se presenta una clave para las especies de este grupo y los dibujos o fotografías SEM de los caracteres diagnósticos.

**Keywords.** Coleoptera, Hydrophilidae, Sphaeridiinae, Megasternini, *Oosternum*, new species, taxonomy, endemism, Neotropical Region, Central America, Cordillera de Talamanca

### Introduction

The megasternine genus *Oosternum* Sharp, 1882 contains small to very small terrestrial beetles living mostly in moist leaf litter in tropical and subtropical areas. Based on several external morphological characters, the genus has been divided into ten species groups by FIKÁČEK et al. (2009). Representatives of nine of these species groups occur in the New World,