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RESEARCH PAPER

# Description of one new genus and two new species of Apomecynini (Cerambycidae: Lamiinae) from Mexico

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**Abstract.** The knowledge of the diversity of leaf litter cerambycid fauna is limited, particularly in the Neotropics, where several species likely remain unreported. Most of these small and apterous beetles commonly belong to the tribe Apomecynini (Cerambycidae: Lamiinae). Herein, one new genus and two new species of Apomecynini are described and illustrated from material collected in leaf litter and subcortical habitats in Mexico: *Enochlisi tlaloque* sp. nov., from Cofre de Perote mountain, Veracruz, and *Folilectia muye* gen. & sp. nov., from Xochicoatlán, Hidalgo. The new genus differs from related taxa in divided eyes, antennomere IV longer than scape, and elytra not vermiculated or tuberculated, elongate in the apical third. *Enochlisi tlaloque* differs from *E. micri* Santos-Silva 2022 mainly in size of antennae, pronotum coarsely punctate, and elytra weakly vermiculate, with distinctive pubescent color pattern.

**Resumen.** El conocimiento de la diversidad de la fauna de cerambícidos de la hojarasca es limitado, particularmente en el Neotrópico, donde es probable que varias especies sigan sin registrarse. La mayoría de estas son escarabajos pequeños y ápteros y comúnmente pertenecen a la tribu Apomecynini (Cerambycidae: Lamiinae). En esta contribución se describen e ilustran un nuevo género y dos nuevas especies de Apomecynini con base en material recolectado en hojarasca y bajo corteza en México: *Enochlisi tlaloque* sp. nov., de Cofre de Perote, Veracruz y *Folilectia muye*, gen. y sp. nov., de Xochicoatlán, Hidalgo. El nuevo género se diferencia de los taxones relacionados por los ojos divididos, el antenómero IV más largo que el escapo y los élitros no vermiculados ni tuberculados, alargados en el tercio apical. *Enochlisi tlaloque* se diferencia de *E. micri* Santos-Silva 2022 principalmente por el tamaño de las antenas, el pronoto asperamente punteado y los élitros débilmente vermiculados, con un patrón distintivo de pubescencia de color.

**Key words.** Coleoptera, Cerambycidae, Lamiinae, longhorned beetles, flightless species, new genus, new species, taxonomy, Mexico, Neotropical Region

Zoobank: http://zoobank.org/urn:lsid:zoobank.org:pub:2EDB0D52-EC85-404E-BF6F-23AAFB00A187


## Introduction

The tribe Apomecynini Thomson, 1860 includes 227 genera and about 1,900 species distributed worldwide (Tavakilian & Chevillotte 2023). In the New World, 47 genera have been recorded, with nearly 400 described species (Bezark & Santos-Silva 2022). For Mexico, only 14 genera and 57 species have been recorded (Bezark 2023, Monné 2023). The fauna of Apomecynini in Mexico and Central America includes some of the smallest longhorn beetles in the Neotropical Region. Some species

are apterous and frequently show tuberculate elytra and pronotum. They are almost exclusively collected in forest leaf litter or associated with subcortical or hypogeal environments (Breuning 1971, Linsley 1959). Although most of these small-bodied apomecynines from leaf litter belong to the genus *Phrynidius* Lacordaire, 1869, new additions to the fauna of Mexico and Central America have been made (Bezark & Santos-Silva 2022, Santos-Silva 2022). New genera presumably allied to *Phrynidius* have been described: *Capaciphrynidius* Bezark & Santos-Silva, 2022 from Honduras and *Enochlisi* Santos-Silva, 2022 from Mexico.

The genus *Enochlisi* includes only the type species, *E. micri* Santos-Silva 2022, only known from the Oaxaca State. This recently described genus is differentiated from other genera of Apomecynini by the following combination of characters: eyes almost divided, metathorax distinctly shorter than the abdominal ventrite 1, and the abdominal intercoxal process very wide and rounded apically.

During the fieldwork in mountainous areas of Mexico, we found two new species of Apomecynini in leaf litter and subcortical habitats; one of them belongs to *Enochlisi* and another one represents a new genus of this tribe. Herein, we describe these new taxa and provide illustrations to facilitate their identification.

## Materials and methods

The specimens were collected by hand and using Winkler extractor from leaf litter samples. Morphological structures were studied using a Zeiss Stemi DV-4 stereomicroscope. Measurements and pictures were taken using a Zeiss® AxioZoom V16 stereomicroscope, with a Zeiss® AxioCam MRc5, 5 megapixels camera, controlled by ZEN (Zeiss Efficient Navigation) application, and a Zeiss® Discovery V.20, Zen 2.3 (blue edition) stereomicroscope. We follow the general terminology used by Santos-Silva (2022) and Bezark & Santos-Silva (2022).

All label data are transcribed verbatim. The specimens were deposited in the following collections:

CIUM Colección de Insectos, Universidad Autónoma del Estado de Morelos, Morelos, Mexico;
CNIN Colección Nacional de Insectos, Instituto de Biología, UNAM, Mexico City, Mexico;
CZUG Colección Entomológica, Centro de Estudios en Zoología, Universidad de Guadalajara, Mexico.

## Taxonomy

Tribe Apomecynini Thomson, 1860

### *Enochlisi tlaloque* sp. nov.

(Figs 1, 3A)

Zoobank: http://zoobank.org/urn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:74FB5446-CE14-4CBF-9099-6A7321CD5B6E

**Type material.** Holotype: ♂, 'México: Veracruz, Perote, camino El Conejo – cima Cofre de Perote. 19º31'05" N, 97º09'35" W, 3562 masl. *Pinus*/*Abies* forest. Ex under bark of dead coniferous tree stump. 20.vii.2021. Col. E. Arriaga-Varela' / 'HOLOTYPE *Enochlisi tlaloque* sp. Pérez-Flores et al. [red label]' (CZUG).

**Diagnosis.** *Enochlisi tlaloque* (Fig. 1) can be distinguished from *E. micri* (see Santos-Silva 2022: figs 12–18) by the following combination of characters: general color of the integument dark brown to brown (dark chestnut brown in *E. micri*); shorter antennae, 0.9 times elytral length (1.25 times in *E. micri*); antennomere IV 0.92 times as long as III (Fig. 1C) (0.65 times in *E. micri*); pronotum wider, 1.24 times as wide as long (1.15 times in *E. micri*); punctures on the pronotum coarser (finer in *E. micri*); elytra only weakly vermiculate, without conspicuous protuberances (coarsely vermiculate in *E. micri*); elytra with rather regular and contrasting maculae formed by yellowish white pubescence (smaller, less regular and contrasting in *E. micri*).

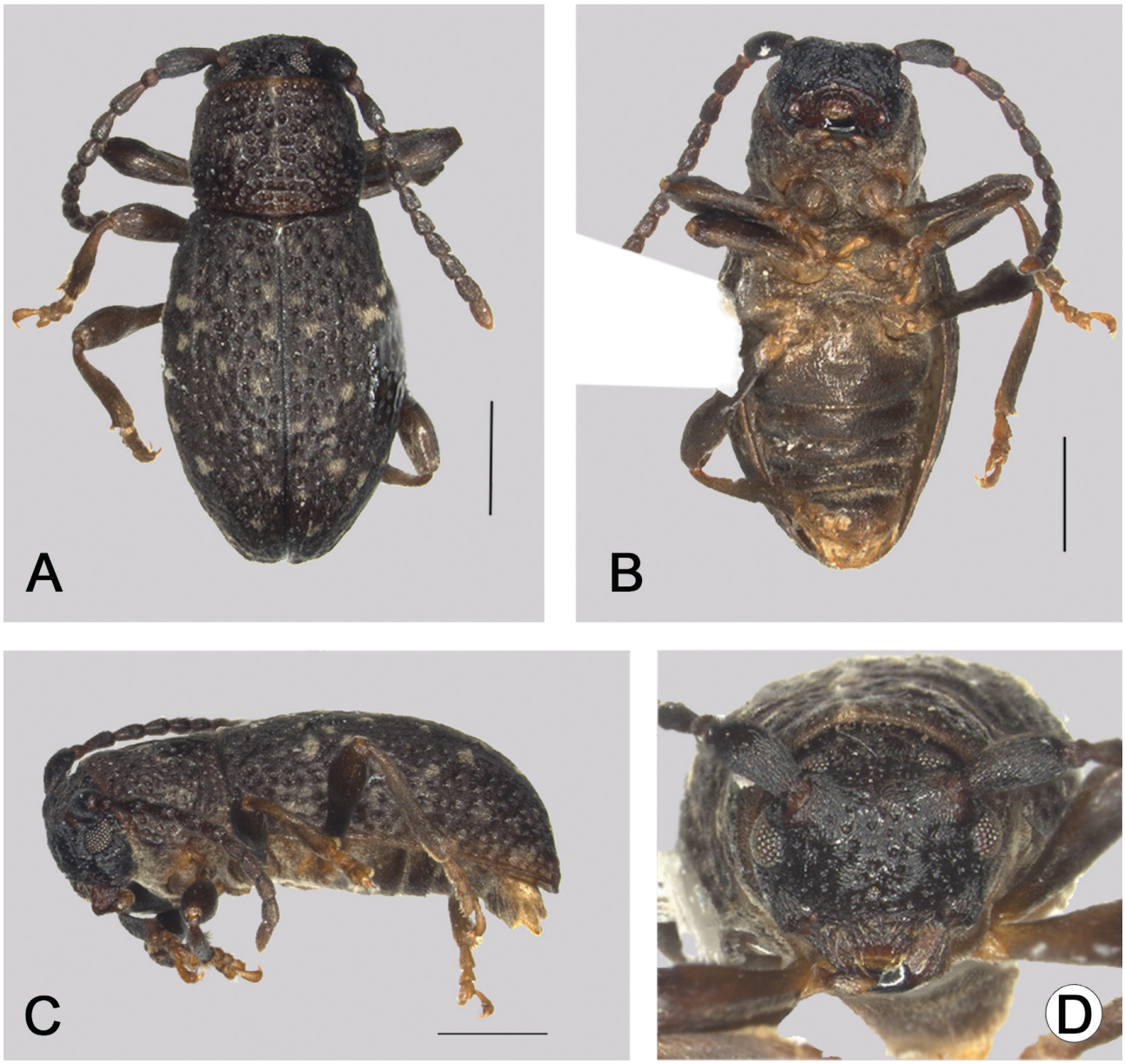
**Description of the male** (holotype). Integument dark brown to black. Ventral mouthparts, apex of antennomere XI, mesoventrite, coxae, apex of tibiae, tarsi, and tarsal claws, anterior margin of abdomen and ventrites 5–6, chestnut brown. Pedicel, basal half of antennomere XI, anterior and posterior margin of pronotum and basal half of tibiae dark brown.

***Head.*** Frons (Fig. 1D) rather sparsely punctate; with black pubescence and a few short, suberect yellowish setae interspersed, near labrum. Vertex with sculpturation as on frons; slightly depressed between antennal tubercles and upper eye lobes; with black pubescence, sparser close to prothorax, and one long, erect yellowish brown seta close to upper eye lobes. Area behind eyes and genae coarsely, rather sparsely umbilicately punctate, with black pubescence, and yellowish white pubescence interspersed, more abundant near apex of genae, except for smooth area of genae under lower eye lobe. Antennal tubercles coarsely, sparsely punctate basally, smooth apically; with pale pubescence. Wide central area of postclypeus finely, abundantly punctate; with black pubescence, and moderately long yellowish white setae interspersed. Sides of postclypeus smooth, glabrous. Labrum finely, sparsely punctate on posterior 3/4, smooth on anterior quarter; with both, short and somewhat long golden setae directed forward on posterior 3/4, glabrous on anterior quarter; anterior margin with dense fringe of golden setae. Gulamentum minutely, abundantly punctate; with golden pubescence, and a few long, erect golden setae on intermaxillary process. Outer side of mandibles finely punctate, with a few sparse golden setae on basal half, smooth, glabrous on apical half. Distance between upper eye lobes 0.38 times distance between outer margins of eyes; in frontal view, distance between lower eye lobes 0.74 times distance between outer margins of eyes. Antennae (Figs 1A–C) 0.90 times elytral length, reaching about half length of elytra. Scape very finely, abundantly punctate, with mostly black pubescence and golden setae interspersed. Pedicel and antennomeres III–IV with dark pubescence and long, decumbent golden setae on apical half of inner margin. Antennomeres V–XI with black pubescence, gradually denser toward XI. Antennal formula based on length of antennomere III: Scape = 1.42, pedicel = 0.41, IV = 0.92, V = 0.75, VI = 0.65, VII = 0.68, VIII = 0.67, IX = 0.66, X = 0.70, XI = 0.81.

***Thorax.*** Prothorax 1.24 times wider than long; widest in posterior 2/5; weakly convex dorsally; sides subangulate in about middle, gradually converging toward anterior

and posterior margins. Pronotum (Fig. 1A) very coarsely, rather abundantly punctate; punctures slightly smaller and denser near anterior and posterior margins; with black pubescence, except for two oblique pale-yellow pubescent maculae on each side in about middle, and one on each side near sides of pronotal disc in about anterior 2/5, and a feeble longitudinal yellowish mesial pubescent band on anterior 3/5; area between punctures with integument moderately shiny and vermiculate. Prosternum coarsely, confluently punctate; with pale-white pubescence, and a few long, erect yellowish setae interspersed. Prosternal process with somewhat abundant pale-white pubescence, sparser on sides of posterior region, and long, erect setae of same color interspersed; narrowest area 0.30 times procoxal width. Mesoventrite (Fig. 1B) narrow, coarsely, sparsely punctate, except for smooth sides; with sparse brownish pubescence centrally, distinctly denser laterally. Mesanepisternum and mesepimeron coarsely, somewhat abundantly punctate, punctures finer on mesepimeron; with abundant pale brown pubescence. Mesoventral process abruptly elevated basally, coarsely, sparsely punctate; with yellowish white pubescence; apex truncate, 0.40 times mesocoxal width. Metanepisternum and anterior half of metaventrite moderately coarsely, sparsely punctate, punctures coarser on metaventrite; posterior half of metaventrite distinctly more elevated than anterior half, and more elevated than abdominal intercoxal process; with brownish pubescence and paler pubescence near posterior margin. Scutellum triangular; with dense, pale yellow pubescence.

***Elytra*** (Fig. 1A) elongate oval, moderately convex dorsally; 1.83 times as long as wide; widest near posterior 3/7, 1.35 times wider in widest part than at anterior margin. Coarsely, somewhat abundantly punctate, pun-




Figs 1. *Enochlisi tlaloque* sp. nov. holotype male. A – dorsal habitus ; B – ventral habitus; C – lateral habitus; D – head, frontal view. Scale bars = 1 mm.

ctures slightly finer toward apex; with dense black pubescence and approximately 15 rather regular yellowish white pubescent maculae interspersed, less conspicuous on posterior fourth. Area between punctures rather flat, weakly vermiculate, not forming ridges or protuberances.

***Legs.*** Femora with abundant brownish pubescence, and a few short, bristly yellowish white setae interspersed ventrally on meso- and metafemora. Tibiae with brownish pubescence, except for bristly, yellowish brown pubescence on posterior half of ventral surface of protibia, fringe of pale brown setae on apex of all tibiae, dense, long, erect, abundant pale brown setae on dorsal sulcus of mesotibiae, and bristly pale yellow setae on posterior quarter of ventral surface of meso- and metatibiae. Metatarsomere I shorter than II–III together.

***Abdomen*** (Fig. 1B). Ventrite 1 with intercoxal process subtruncate, scarcely rounded; surface sparsely, moderately coarsely punctate laterally, punctures slightly more abundant on sides of intercoxal process, minutely, abundantly punctate on remaining surface, except for smooth apex; ventrites 2–3 with a few shallow punctures laterally, more abundant on 3, remaining surface very minutely punctate, except for smooth apex; ventrite 4 minutely, abundantly punctate, except for smooth apex; ventrite 5 minutely, abundantly punctate, with fine punctures interspersed. Ventrites 1–4 with abundant black pubescence, and a few yellowish golden setae interspersed; ventrite 5 with dark brown pubescence. Ventrite 5 twice as long as 4; apex truncate.

***Dimensions*** (in mm). Holotype (♂). Total length – 4.83; prothoracic length –1.22; anterior prothoracic width – 1.22; posterior prothoracic width – 1.49; maximum prothoracic width – 1.65; humeral width – 0.78; elytral length – 2.95.

**Etymology.** Noun in apposition. The name of this species, 'tlaloque' is derived from the 'tlaloques', helpers of Tlaloc, the god of rain and earthly fertility in the Nahuatl prehispanic cosmovision. The Cofre de Perote mountain (Veracruz), type locality of this species (Fig. 3A), is one of the high mountains where the tlaloques used to dwell.

### *Folilectia* gen. nov.

Zoobank: http://zoobank.org/urn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:92F55A04-7D-18-4475-A6D7-AF17CE7D41E2

**Type species.** *Folilectia muye* sp. nov., here designated.

**Description.** ***Male.*** Small size (Fig. 2A). Body strongly convex and widened, without long and erect setae. Head retractile. Frons convex (Fig. 2D). Antennal sensory depression on outer face of antennomeres V–XI; antennomere IV with sensory depression on apical third; antennal tubercles slightly elevated. Eyes completely divided. Antennae not reaching elytral apex; scape shorter than antennomere III, subfusiform, without apical cicatrix; antennomere IV longer than scape; antennomeres V–XI shortened, together, as long as III–IV together. Prothorax without lateral tubercles (Fig. 2A). Metathorax strongly reduced (Fig. 2B). Humeri without projection, almost rounded. Elytra distinctly rounded on sides and abruptly decreased apically (Fig. 2A), with elongate posterior third; anterior margin distinctly widened; elytra fused along suture, with rounded apex; base of elytra as wide as prothorax, without centro-basal crest. Coxae conical; femora clavate; tarsomeres V shorter than I–II together. Abdominal ventrite 5 longer than ventrite 4 (Fig. 2B); intercoxal process elongate, wide, with rounded apex.

**Diagnosis.** *Folilectia* gen. nov. (Fig. 2) is similar to *Enochlisi* Santos-Silva, 2022 (Santos-Silva 2022: figs 12–18), but differs as follows: antennomere IV longer than scape (shorter than scape in *Enochlisi*); eye lobes completely divided (Fig. 2C) (almost divided in *Enochlisi*); elytra abruptly decreased apically, with posterior third elongate (Fig. 2A) (uniformly decreasing in *Enochlisi*); abdominal intercoxal process approximately twice as wide as the mesoventral process (Fig. 2B) (distinctly wider in *Enochlisi*). *Folilectia* gen. nov. also resembles *Capaciphrynidius* Bezark & Santos-Silva, 2022 (Bezark & Santos-Silva 2022: fig. 3) but differs noticeably in the anterior width of elytra about equal to the maximum prothoracic width (wider than prothorax in *Capaciphrynidius*); and the elytra not tuberculate (strongly tuberculate in *Capaciphrynidius*).

**Etymology.** From Latin '*folium lectica*' (leaf litter), plus the Latin suffix *-a*; referring to the habitat where the type species was found. Feminine gender.

**Remarks.** The number of known species of Cerambycidae is noticeably large and new species have been discovered at a considerable rate in the last decades. Consequently, the number of species that cannot be included in already-known genera has also increased. In fact, there is a large number of genera or tribes that include species completely aberrant with respect to the generic or tribal features (see Nascimento et al. 2020). As the new species described here shows features that do not allow us to include it in any known genus, the only possible option was to describe a new taxon to allocate it (e.g., Bezark & Santos-Silva 2022).

Most of the genera included in Apomecynini are differentiated based on well supported characters, some of which are used to differentiate the new genus described herein. Examples of this are: the shape of the eyes, the distance between the antennal tubercles, the length of the basal antennomeres, the length of the meso- and metaventrite, and the shape of the elytra (including the humeri and if these are fused). In general, very little is known about the relationship between the morphology and the ecology of the species in this group, since no study has been aimed at investigating that issue. This is the case for most groups of Coleoptera associated with leaf litter, the type of habitat where our specimens have been found. For this reason, at this point, it is not possible to fully understand if the distinctive morphological features of this species represent particular adaptations to its lifestyle, and, consequently, its phylogenetic affinities with their closest genera within Apomecynini remain unclear. In order to have a clearer insight into the phylogenetic relations of this tribe, the generic limits and their diagnostic characters, comprehensive and integrative research needs to be conducted.

### *Folilectia muye* sp. nov.

(Figs 2, 3B)

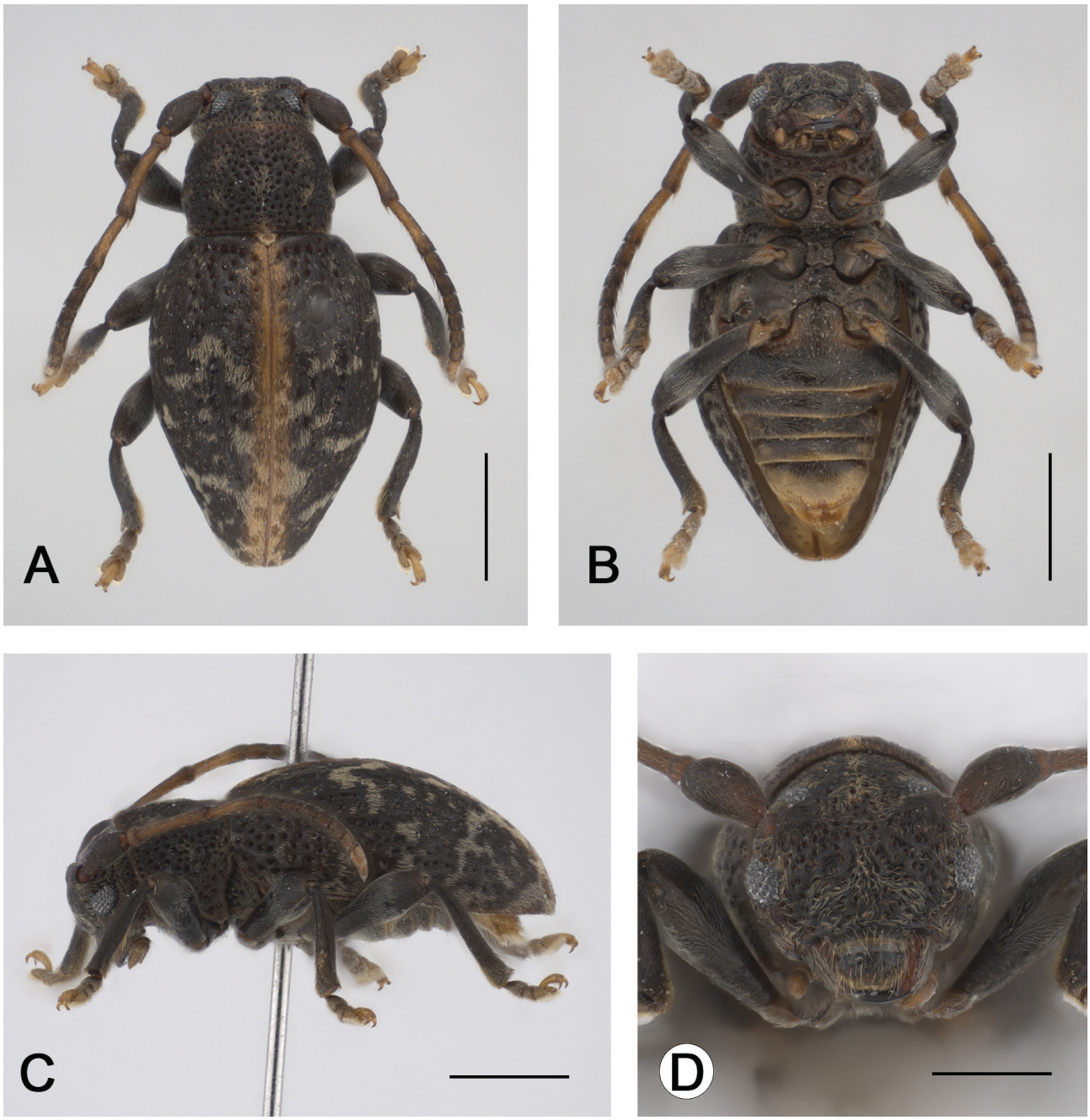
Zoobank: http://zoobank.org/ urn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:86C80E1F-F8AF--48C9-9473-F5760F6BF3F4

**Type material.** Holotype: ♂, 'México: Hidalgo, Xochicoatlán, Jalamelco. 20.792674 N, -98.701168 W, 1,781 msnm. Mesophyll forest. Winkler extractor (leaf litter sample). 21/Sep/2022, Col. O. Pérez' 'HOLOTYPE *Folilectia muye* Pérez-Flores et al. [red label]' (CNIN). Paratypes: 3 ♂♂, [Same data as holotype] / 'PARATYPE *Folilectia muye* Pérez-Flores et al. [yellow label]' (CNIN); 2 ♂♂, [same data as holotype, except: 20.794046 N, -98.692090 W] / 'PARATYPE *Folilectia muye* Pérez-Flores et al. [yellow label]' (CIUM).

**Diagnosis.** See generic diagnosis of *Folilectia*.

**Description of the male** (holotype). Integument mostly dark brown. Anterior area of labrum and palpomeres orangish brown. Pedicel and antennomeres III–IV and XI orangish brown; in V–X dark orangish brown. Elytra orangish along suture. Trochanters reddish brown; tarsomeres orangish brown. Abdominal ventrites orangish brown apically; ventrite 4 orangish laterally; ventrite 5 orangish, except for brownish basal area.

***Head.*** Frons (Fig. 2D) coarsely, deeply punctate; with yellowish pubescence. Vertex with punctures wider than on frons; depressed between antennal tubercles and upper eye lobes; with yellowish pubescence, slightly denser centrally. Area behind eyes and genae with sculpturation and pubescence as on frons. Antennal tubercles coarsely punctate basally, smooth apically; with sparse, yellowish pubescence. Wide central area of postclypeus finely, abundantly punctate; with yellowish pubescence, and long yellowish setae interspersed. Sides of postclypeus smooth,




Figs 2A–D. *Folilectia muye* gen. & sp. nov. holotype male. A – dorsal habitus; B – ventral habitus; C – lateral habitus; D – head, frontal view. Scale bars: A–C = 1 mm; D = 0.5 mm.

glabrous. Labrum coarsely, sparsely punctate basally, punctures finer on posterior quarter; with both short and long yellowish setae directed forward on posterior 3/4, glabrous on anterior quarter; anterior margin with dense fringe of orangish setae. Gulamentum minutely, abundantly punctate; with sparse, yellowish pubescence. Outer side of mandibles finely punctate, with yellowish pubescence on basal half, smooth, glabrous on apical half. Distance between upper eye lobes 0.42 times distance between outer margins of eyes; in frontal view, distance between lower eye lobes 0.75 times distance between outer margins of eyes. Antennae (Figs 2A–C) 1.15 times elytral length, surpassing middle of elytra. Scape finely, abundantly punctate, with yellowish brown pubescence. Pedicel and antennomeres with brownish pubescence, denser from antennomere V; with long, erect yellowish brown setae on ventral surface and apex. Antennal formula based on length of antennomere III: Scape = 0.78, pedicel = 0.21, IV = 0.80, V = 0.26, VI = 0.23, VII = 0.23, VIII = 0.20, IX = 0.20, X = 0.17, XI = 0.35.

***Thorax.*** Prothorax 1.42 wider than long. Pronotum (Fig. 2A) coarsely, rather abundantly punctate; with transverse gibbosity on posterior half; with yellowish pubescence, with distinct orangish pubescent band centrally, and two somewhat distinct spots of orangish pubescence on each side. Sides of prothorax with sculpturation and pubescence as on pronotum; with two slightly distinct spots of orangish pubescence in middle. Prosternum coarsely, abundantly punctate; with yellowish pubescence, paler centrally. Prosternal process with somewhat abundant yellowish white pubescence, and short, erect setae of same color interspersed; narrowest area 0.38 times procoxal width. Mesoventrite (Fig. 2B) narrow, coarsely, abundantly punctate; with yellowish white pubescence centrally, slightly denser laterally. Mesanepisternum and mesepimeron with sculpturation as on pronotum, punctures slightly finer on mesepimeron; with abundant yellowish pubescence. Mesoventral process abruptly elevated basally, coarsely, abundantly punctate; with yellowish white pubescence; apex emarginate centrally, 0.58 times mesocoxal width. Metanepisternum and anterior half of metaventrite coarsely, sparsely punctate, punctures coarser on metaventrite; posterior half of metaventrite distinctly more elevated than abdominal intercoxal process, with conspicuous, small, acute tubercle in middle; with yellowish pubescence, and short, erect setae of same color interspersed on posterior region of metaventrite. Scutellum elongate, triangular, somewhat acute at apex; with dense yellowish white pubescence.

***Elytra*** (Fig. 2A) elongate, subovate, convex; 1.45 times as long as wide; widest near apex of anterior third. Coarsely, abundantly punctate, punctures sparser and finer toward apex; with four longitudinal, slightly transverse carinae, from base to posterior quarter, one in about middle, second on humeri, third close to previous one, and fourth near epipleural margin; with abundant yellowish pubescence and irregular yellowish white pubescent maculae interspersed, some of them transverse, and other ones converging on posterior third.

***Legs.*** Coxae and trochanters with abundant yellowish white pubescence, and a few short, erect setae of same


Figs 3A–B. Type habitat of: A – *Enochlisi tlaloque* sp. nov., B – *Folilectia muye* gen. & sp. nov.

color interspersed. Femora with abundant yellowish white pubescence, except for anterior half of club that has white pubescence. Tibiae slightly thicker toward apex; with yellowish brown pubescence; with fringe of yellow setae on apex of all tibiae; with abundant, somewhat long, erect brown setae on dorsal sulcus of mesotibiae, and bristly yellow setae on posterior quarter of ventral surface of all tibiae, shorter on protibiae. Dorsal surface of tarsi with abundant orangish pubescence; metatarsomere I shorter than II–III together.

***Abdomen*** (Fig. 2B). Ventrite 1 shallowly, sparsely punctate anteriorly, and minutely, abundantly punctate on remaining surface, except for smooth apex, somewhat striate on intercoxal process; ventrite 2 with a few shallow punctures centrally, abundantly punctate on remaining surface, except for smooth apex; ventrite 3–5 minutely, abundantly punctate, except for smooth apex of 3–4. Ventrites with abundant yellowish white pubescence, and a few moderately long, erect setae of same color interspersed, distinctly more abundant on apex of ventrite 5. Ventrite 5 slightly tumid on anterocentral area, 2.5 times longer than ventrite 4; apex emarginate centrally.

***Dimensions*** (in mm). Holotype ♂ / paratypes ♂♂. Total length – 3.80 / 2.86–3.82; prothoracic length – 0.90 / 0.68–0.94; anterior prothoracic width – 0.91 / 0.72–0.94; posterior prothoracic width – 1.02 / 0. 82–1.05; maximum prothoracic width – 1.13 / 0.90–1.15; humeral width – 1.19 / 0.98–1.22; elytral length – 2.43 / 1.98–2.45.

**Variation.** In some specimens the coloration and pubescence are darker. Elytra with somewhat evident pubescent maculae.

**Etymology.** Noun in apposition. The epithet 'muye' is derived from 'Hmü'ye', god of rain in the Otomí prehispanic culture. The state of Hidalgo, where the type locality of this species is found (Fig. 3B), is one of the largest places where the Otomí people currently live.

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