NEW SPECIES OF *IGNELATER* COSTA (COLEOPTERA, ELATERIDAE, PYROPHORINI)

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ABSTRACT

*Ignelater inaguensis* sp. nov. from Bahamas, Great Inagua Island is described, illustrated and compared to other *Ignelater* species. This species is characterized mainly by its elytra, slightly widened from humerus up to the middle or posterior third and the length ratio between elytra and pronotum 2.51-2.71.

KEYWORDS: Agrypninae; Bioluminescence; Click beetles; Firefly; Neotropical region.

INTRODUCTION

The genus *Ignelater* Costa, 1975 comprises nine species of bioluminescent click beetles from the Caribbean region, Colombia and Costa Rica (Costa, 1980; García & Piña, 1998; 2002). The *Ignelater* species are characterized by long antennae, surpassing the pronotal hind angles by 2-3 antennomeres, and a pair of lateral tubercles on dorsal sclerite of the penis, which present different forms and spines depending on the species. The *Ignelater* species differ subtly from each other in antennal length, elytral shape, size of pronotal and abdominal bioluminescent organs, coloration pattern and punctuation. Frequently these characteristics are sufficiently useful only for identifying species groups, the examination of aedeagus being essential in naming species. In the present work the new species *Ignelater inaguensis* sp. nov. from Bahamas, Great Inagua Island, known only through male specimens, is described, illustrated and compared to other *Ignelater* species. Type specimens are deposited in the Florida State Collection of Arthropods, Gainesville (FSCA) and Museu de Zoologia da Universidade de São Paulo, São Paulo (MZUSP).

RESULTS

*Ignelater inaguensis* sp. nov.

Etymology: Allusive to the type locality, Great Inagua.

Diagnosis: Integument evenly dark-brown, except for the reddish humeral margin; elytra about 2.5 times longer than pronotum, slightly widened from humerus on anterior 1/2-2/3; antennae surpassing pronotal hind angles by 3 antennomeres.

Description: Male (Fig. 1). Body weakly convex (Figs. 1, 2); integument brown with humeral margin reddish; vestiture consisting of fine, short, dense and decumbent yellow setae. Total length: 17.5-21.5 mm; elytra 2.57-2.71 times longer than prothorax; humerus 1.02-1.04 wider than prothorax.

Head: Frons concave, quadrangular (1.0-1.1 times wider than long); frontal carina complete medially; frontoclipeal region steeply declivous to base of labrum. Punctuation fine, dense and umbilicate. Antennae (Fig. 2A) reaching the posterior angle of pronotum.