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A KEY TO THE DESCRIBED SPECIES OF NEW WORLD  
ANTHICIDAE OF THE GENUS *ACANTHINUS* LAFERTÉ,  
WITH NEW SYNONYMY (COLEOPTERA)

FLOYD G. WERNER

The genus *Acanthinus* is the largest of the family Anthicidae in all of the tropical and subtropical portions of the New World. A few species range into or are confined to temperate regions, but most of the known species have ranges that fall within the tropics, sometimes overlapping into subtropical regions. Only one described species is known from elsewhere in the World, *Acanthinus pallipes* (Lea), described from northern Queensland, Australia. The genus is very poorly represented in the more arid portions of the New World, few species being known from the desert regions of the west coast of South America and none at all from the deserts in the southwestern United States.

The genus is unwieldy because of the large number of species. It is for this reason that this preliminary key to species is offered at this time. There are numerous additional species to be described, but the task of handling all of the known species and new species in one revisionary work would require a considerable period of time. New species will now be described, along with the species they are most closely related to, and tied in with this preliminary key. When the work is completed, a more comprehensive key will be constructed and a general summary prepared.

An attempt has been made to include enough of a description of the species included in the key that similar undescribed species will not fit the description of the described species. In some cases identification must remain tentative until the relationship between described and undescribed species can be worked out, and in a few cases the type has either not been available or is of the wrong sex to permit sure identification at this time. Some changes of name will undoubtedly result from more intensive study.

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Department of Entomology, University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona, U.S.A.

There has never been a key to the genus as it is now defined. LaFerté (1848) and Champion (1890) provided keys to *Anthicus* in the very broad sense, and Casey (1895, 1904) made keys to some of the components of the genus as it is now defined. But these keys cover only limited geographical areas or are now so incomplete as to be hardly useful at all. The wide ranges of some of the species indicated in the present key make a general key almost a necessity for identification. The ranges indicated are based on specimens actually examined, unless an author citation is given.

The genus has been defined elsewhere (Werner, 1962) on the basis of the presence of a rasp, rather than a single to triple tooth, on the middle of the cutting edge of the right mandible, bilaterally symmetrical sclerotized armature around the primary gonopore at the end of the internal sac of the male genitalia, and the expansion of the mesosternum to form a plate that at least partly covers the mesepisterna. The last characteristic is not confined to the genus, but at least the first and possibly the second seem to be.

These characteristics are not easily seen without special preparation of the specimen. But they do provide a seemingly certain method for delimiting the genus, which is rather diverse in body form. There are some quite distinct groups within the genus, but all attempts to define them well enough that they might be useful subgenera have failed.

The following key is designed to provide a basis for the separation of the known genera found in South America. Existing keys can be used for the United States and Mexico, where several genera not found in South America occur.

1. Pronotum with an anteriorly directed horn, which extends over the head. .... 2  
Pronotum lacking a horn. .... 3
2. (1) Tarsi shorter than tibiae, with the penultimate segment slightly dilated. .... *Notoxus* Geoffroy  
Tarsi at least as long as tibiae, with the penultimate segment cylindrical. .... *Mecynotarsus* LaFerté
3. (1) Last segment of maxillary palpi in the form of a broad, roughly isosceles triangle, with the apex at the point of attachment. Most species of .....  
..... *Ischyropalpus* LaFerté  
Last segment of maxillary palpi securiform. .... 4
4. (3) Mesosternum not curving out at the sides to cover a major portion of the mesepisterna, but extending in an almost straight line from its anterior margin to the anterolateral border of the middle coxal cavities. .... 5  
Mesosternum curved out at sides and covering a large part, sometimes almost all, of the horizontal portion of the mesepisterna. .... 10
5. (4) Pubescence on elytra double, of longer setae directed backward and shorter setae directed obliquely laterally, at least in part; in addition to the nearly erect tactile

- setae. .... *Sapintus* Casey  
 Pubescence on elytra single, except for tactile setae. . . 6
6. (5) Prothorax deeply constricted across the dorsum as well as laterally. Male genitalia without a separate phallobase and usually asymmetrical. .... 7  
 Prothorax not constricted across dorsum, except at basal impressed line. Male genitalia with a separate phallobase. .... 8
7. (6) Last exposed abdominal tergum simple, not grooved. ...  
 ..... *Tomoderus* LaFerté  
 Last exposed abdominal tergum with a deep median groove. .... *Holcopyge* Champion
8. (6) Tarsal claws deeply cleft. Large species, known only from Chile. .... *Anthicoxenus* Fairm. & Germ.  
 Tarsal claws simple. .... 9
9. (8) Tibial spurs simple or with a double row of tiny spines along their posterior margin, visible only in slide preparations. Most species of. *Anthicus* Paykull, s. str.  
 Tibial spurs with a zone of tiny spines around the base but none along the main portion, visible only in slide preparations. A few species of. *Ischyropalpus* La Ferté
10. (4) Sides of prothorax not constricted, either straight or slightly convex from the rounded anterolateral angles to the basal impressed line. .... *Vacusus* Casey  
 Sides of prothorax with a constriction before the basal impressed line, at about the basal fifth or fourth. .... 11
11. (10) Pronotum with a pair of small bumps near the middle of the apical fifth. Black or brown, the bases of the elytra paler in most specimens. Pronotum not constricted across dorsal surface. Head with many fine wrinkles between the punctures. An introduced species that is widely distributed, especially near the coasts. .... *Anthicus floralis* (Linnaeus)  
 Pronotum without a pair of bumps in this location. .. 12
12. (11) Mesepisterna with a tuft of long, upcurved setae at the anterolateral corners of the horizontal portion. Margins of mesosternum with a few setae or none. Shiny, almost glabrous species, with the prothorax slender and deeply constricted laterally. .... *Formicilla* LeConte. 13  
 Mesepisterna without setae but mesosternum often with such a group of long setae in almost the same location, in addition to others further back along the sides. Form, sculpture and pubescence extremely variable. Some species are very similar to *Formicilla*. *Anthicus rigidus* LaFerté and ..... *Acanthinus* LaFerté
13. (12) Prothorax with a shallow constriction across the dorsal surface. Dark, with base of elytra rufous. ....  
 ..... *Formicilla bruchi* Pic

Prothorax not constricted across dorsal surface. Elytra dark with postbasal transverse impression and an isolated spot on each elytron behind the middle pale.  
 ..... *Formicilla garciai* Pic

There have been numerous changes in the generic assignments given by Blackwelder, 1945, most of which followed Pic's catalog in *Coleopterorum Catalogus*. The following table will help to indicate the relationship between the present classification and the one expressed in Blackwelder's list:

PRESENT PAPER	BLACKWELDER, 1945
<i>Ischyropalpus</i>	<i>Anthicus</i> (part)
<i>Anthicus</i> , s. str.	<i>Anthicus</i> (part)
<i>Sapintus</i>	<i>Anthicus</i> (part)
<i>Vacusus</i>	<i>Anthicus</i> (part)
<i>Acanthinus</i>	<i>Anthicus</i> (part)
	<i>Dilandius</i>
	<i>Leptaleus</i>
	<i>Formicilla</i> (most)
<i>Formicilla</i>	<i>Formicilla bruchi</i> , <i>evanescens</i> (plus <i>F. garciai</i> Pic, 1948, not in Blackwelder.)

The other genera are equivalent. *Apotominus* and *Heterolobus* are unknown to the author and could not be placed in the key to genera. The two species from Chile still assigned to *Formicomus* are likewise unknown to the author. There is nothing in their descriptions that would indicate placement in *Formicomus*, an otherwise Old World genus.

A few species not in *Acanthinus* are so similar to members of this genus that some explanation is necessary. *Anthicus rigidus* runs to *aequinoctialis* (LaFerté) but is distinguishable from this species by the presence of decumbent, rather than appressed, pubescence on the elytra. *Formicilla bruchi* runs to *scitulus* (LeConte) but can be distinguished by the presence of moderately long setae on the elytra in addition to the tactile setae, as well as by color pattern; *scitulus* has the elytral setae so short they are barely visible. *F. garciai* keys to couplet 29, but differs from both species in this couplet in the color pattern of the elytra given in the generic key.

#### KEY TO SPECIES OF ACANTHINUS

1. Pronotum without a transverse groove or impression, except for the basal impressed line. .... 2
- Pronotum with a transverse groove or impression, behind the middle, in addition to the basal impressed line. 42

2. (1) Mesosternum not covering most of mesepisterna, but leaving a wide area at its anterolateral edges exposed, and prothorax either finely "pebbled", strigose, strigose-punctate, or with numerous flat-bottomed punctures that almost touch each other. .... 3  
 Mesosternum nearly covering the mesepisterna, usually with some long setae along its borders, these usually not appressed to the mesepisterna, and often visible in part from above. If the mesosternum covers the mesepisterna incompletely, the prothorax is either mostly smooth, or has normal punctures, or has only its base roughened. .... 15
3. (2) Head and prothorax finely pebbled, the prothorax sometimes with flat-bottomed punctures in addition. .... 5  
 Head and prothorax not finely pebbled. .... 4
4. (3) Prothorax with numerous flat-bottomed punctures, these not coalescing into strigules. .... 7  
 Prothorax strigose-punctate or strigose. .... 12
5. (3) Dark midband of elytra curved posteriorly near suture, it and an apical dark mark enclosing a pale spot on each elytron when both well-developed. No markings in postbasal transverse impression of elytra. E. Brasil (mainly in coastal areas), Surinam, Trinidad, Venezuela, Central America, Mexico, U.S.A. (S. Texas). ....  
 .... *spinicollus* (LaFerté)  
 Midband not curved posteriorly near suture. Postbasal transverse impression with at least an indication of a posterolateral dark marking in most specimens. ... 6
6. (5) Lateral mark in postbasal transverse impression and a very oblique median band, which angles forward at the suture, dark. Suture behind middle and sometimes most of apex of elytra clouded, but not as dark. E. Brasil (Est. Espírito Santo, Pernambuco, Pará: Belém), Surinam. .... *fryi* (Heberdey)  
 Lateral mark in postbasal transverse impression, an interrupted transverse midband and apex of elytra usually dark, and of equal intensity. Elytra often inflated. Surinam, Trinidad. ... *trifasciatus* (Fabricius)
7. (4) Prothorax distinctly spinose on the sides of the widest portion, the spines being prolongations of the sockets of some of the tactile setae. (If indistinctly spinose, the general color is castaneous.) Sternum 6 of ♂ truncate or slightly emarginate. .... 8  
 Prothorax not spinose laterally. General color dark, most specimens with two interrupted pale bands on the elytra. Sternum 6 of ♂ deeply lobed. Commonest on blossoms of *Eryngium*. .... 10
8. (7) Elytra shiny between punctures. General color castaneous, sometimes with a clouding on the elytral suture behind the middle. Head punctures tending to coalesce longitudinally and form strigules. N. E. Argentina, Bolivia

- (Pr. Sta. Cruz), Brasil (widespread), Venezuela, Central America, S. E. Mexico. .... *aequinoctialis* (LaFerté).  
 ..... (cf. *Anthicus rigidus* LaFerté)  
 Elytra at least subopaque on the intervals between punctures. Head punctures not coalescing longitudinally. 9
9. (8) Elytra almost always with a diffuse dark median band, which is often interrupted at suture and sides. Tempora slightly angulate and prothorax distinctly spinose. Brasil (Est. Minas Gerais to Sta. Catarina), Argentina (Pr. Misiones and Chaco). .... *rugosus* (LaFerté)  
 Elytra not banded. Tempora narrower and head more rounded at base. Prothorax only feebly tuberculate. Argentina (Pr. Tucumán and Jujuy). ....  
 ..... *tucumanensis* (Pic)
10. (7) Elytra all dark brown, shiny, with moderately deep punctures and fairly noticeable pubescence. Lobes of ♂ sternum 6 with apical dilation short, not dorsally produced into a blunt spine. Argentina (Pr. Buenos Aires).  
 ..... *immaculifer* (Pic)  
 Elytra with a pale band in the postbasal transverse impression and another behind middle, often reduced to isolated spots. .... 11
11. (10) Elytral pubescence short, not reaching from one puncture to the next. Intervals between elytral punctures shiny and somewhat convex. Lobes of ♂ sternum 6 with apical dilation simple, lacking a dorsal angulation. Argentina (Pr. Buenos Aires), Brasil (Est. Rio Grande do Sul, São Paulo). .... *bimaculifer* (Pic)  
 Elytral pubescence long enough to reach from one puncture to next; punctures deeper and apparently denser, the intervals shiny and slightly convex. Lobes of ♂ sternum 6 with a dorsal angulation connected to apex by a slightly concave, well demarcated surface, the 2 lobes giving a goat's foot effect. Argentina (Pr. Buenos Aires). .... *carloisi* (Pic)
12. (4) Head and prothorax beautifully strigose in a fingerprint pattern, without distinct punctures. Prothorax only feebly tuberculate. Head rounded at base. Elytra with 3 dark bands, the anterior in the postbasal transverse impression. Brasil (Belém), Surinam, E. Peru, Ecuador, Panama, Costa Rica. .... *bistrinotatus* (Pic)  
 Prothorax strigose-punctate. Head variable. .... 13
13. (12) Prothorax strongly tuberculate laterally. Head smooth, with scattered simple punctures on vertex, rugulose anteriorly. Brasil (Belém), E. Peru. ....  
 ..... *occipitalis* (Heberdey)?  
 Prothorax at most feebly tuberculate laterally. .... 14
14. (13) Sternum 5 of ♂ with 2 small bumps near middle and close to hind margin. Black, contrastingly pale across deep postbasal transverse impression of elytra, or pale across transverse impression and in a postmedian band; to mostly pale with dark markings on elytra widely inter-

- rupted at suture. Tibiae contrastingly darker than femora in pale specimens. Argentina (Pr. Misiones), Brasil (Est. Sta. Catarina, Minas Gerais, Mato Grosso, Pará: Jacareacanga; Santarém: Belém), Surinam, Venezuela, Colombia, Jamaica, Cuba. ....  
*angusticollis* (LaFerté)
- Sternum 5 of ♂ with posterior bumps widely separated, the apex truncate between them. Marked like palest specimens of the previous species. Argentina (Pr. Tucumán, Chaco). .... *bicoloripes* (Pic)
15. (2) Elytra without any areas of dense, fine punctures and dense appressed or decumbent pubescence. .... 16  
 Elytra with some dense, fine punctures and dense appressed or decumbent pubescence, either over the whole surface, or confined to the postbasal transverse impression of the elytra or to pale spots on the elytra. .... 30
16. (15) Fringe of setae on mesosternum not visible from above 17  
 Fringe of setae on mesosternum partially visible from above ..... 19
17. (16) Prothorax granulose, subopaque, the head shiny. Elytra pale at base, dark in postbasal transverse impression, a median band and at apex in some specimens. Argentina (Pr. Salta, Tucumán, Corrientes), Bolivia (Pr. Sta. Cruz), Brasil (Est. Sta. Catarina, São Paulo, Rio de Janeiro), Surinam. .... *nitidiceps* (Pic)  
 Prothorax granulose only at base or shiny. .... 18
18. (17) Base of prothorax granulose, anterior portion and head smooth, finely punctured. Colombia, Panama. ....  
 .... *histris* (LaFerté)  
 Prothorax moderately densely and evenly covered with fine punctures, the head more sparsely, the punctures bearing fine pubescence. Brasil (Est. Sta. Catarina).  
 .... *clavatus* (Heberdey)
19. (16) Head longitudinally strigulose, rounded at base. Antennal club all dark. Pronotum humped anteriorly. Elytra dark, pale across postbasal transverse impression. Guatemala to E. Mexico, U.S.A. (S. Texas). ....  
 .... *clavicornis* (Champion)  
 Head simply punctured. .... 20
20. (19) Elytra dark the postbasal transverse impression pale. U.S.A. (S. E. states). .... *exilis* (LaFerté)  
 Elytra otherwise marked. .... 21
21. (20) Pronotum with some deep punctures in addition to those that bear the tactile setae. .... 22  
 Punctures on pronotum all fine, or the coarse, deep ones confined to those that bear the tactile setae. .... 25
22. (21) Elytra dark in the postbasal transverse impression and in an obscure postmedian band. Punctures on head and prothorax deep and evenly spaced. Brasil (Terr. Amapá), French Guiana. .... *charveini* (Pic)?  
 Elytra pale in the postbasal transverse impression.

- Most species have a median dark elytral band and some have the apex dark also. .... 23
23. (22) Head conspicuously darker than prothorax. Sternum 5 of ♂ with lateral apical bumps, broadly excavated and truncate between them. Brasil (Est. Sta. Catarina: Nova Teutonia — type loc., São Paulo: Itú, Pará: Belém). .... *regularis* (Heberdey)  
Head of some color as prothorax. .... 24
24. (23) Front of head with broad, flat, almost confluent punctures except on midline; vertex almost impunctate. Bolivia (Pr. Sta. Cruz), Brasil (Est. Pará: Cachimbo), Trinidad, Venezuela, Central America, E. Mexico (N. to Tampico). .... *striatopunctatus* (LaFerté)  
Punctures of head deep but not flat-bottomed, and not confluent. Costa Rica to Guatemala. ....  
..... *varicornis* (Champion)
25. (21) Elytra dark with a pale midband. Panama, Ecuador. .... *isthmicus* (Champion)
26. (25) Base of elytra with some deep punctures, which are denser in this region than behind. .... 27  
Elytra without deep punctures, even those bearing tactile setae fine. .... 28
27. (26) Elytral apices rounded. Sternum 5 of ♂ not excavated. Venezuela, Panama, Costa Rica. .... *punctatus* (Pic)  
Elytral apices pointed at suture. Sternum 5 of ♂ excavated. ♂ with antennae pilose below and tibia 3 pilose medially. Trinidad, Venezuela, Panama, Costa Rica. .... *antennatus* (Pic)?
28. (26) Midband area of elytra paler than anterior or posterior pale markings. Elytra usually with a postmedian dark band, but sometimes with base and apex dark, in which case the head is dark also. Argentina (Pr. Buenos Aires), Brasil (Est. Mato Grosso), Venezuela. ....  
..... *postmaculatus* (Pic)  
Midband area of elytra not paler than rest. .... 29
29. (28) Head distinctly darker than rest of body, which is brownish. Postbasal transverse impression of elytra obscurely paler, especially at sides. Surinam, Panama, E. Mexico. .... *festivus* (Champion)  
Head no darker than rest of body; color all castaneous. Honduras, Guatemala .... *championi* (Pic)  
(cf. *Formicilla garciai* Pic, widespread in South America.)
30. (15) Pronotum strigose, at least on sides of disc on widest part. .... 31  
Pronotum simply punctures. (There may be a small area of strigules on the sides of the constriction.) .... 36
31. (30) Elytra dark except for pale postbasal transverse impression, which has some transverse white pubescence... 32  
Elytra with some pale markings behind the transverse impression. .... 34



32. (31) Head rounded at base, simply punctured. Colombia, Venezuela. .... *vinculatus* (LaFerté)  
Head truncate at base, longitudinally strigose. .... 33
33. (32) Pubescence on black part of elytra very short, hardly visible. Lobes of ♂ sternum 6 sharply truncate. Venezuela, Colombia, Guatemala-Pic, Cuba-Pic. ....  
..... *ebeninus* (LaFerté)  
Pubescence on black part of elytra appressed, but longer and readily visible. Lobes of ♂ sternum 6 bluntly truncate. Brasil (Est. Minas Gerais-Pic, Goiás-Pic, Mato Grosso). .... *bicallosus* (Pic)
34. (31) Sternum 5 of ♂ only slightly emarginate. Pronotum not bulging. Peru. .... *troglodytes* (Boheman)  
Sternum 5 of ♂ deeply excavated. Pronotum bulging in the anterior area. .... 35
35. (34) Dark areas on elytra, especially midband, only very finely and sparsely pubescent, the pale markings much more densely. Honduras, E. Mexico, U.S.A. (S. Texas).  
..... *subtropicus* (Casey)  
Dark areas on elytra almost or quite as densely pubescent as pale areas. Colombia, Venezuela. ....  
..... *dromedarius* (LaFerté)
36. (30) Parts of elytra almost impunctate and glabrous. .... 37  
Elytra evenly, finely punctured, and with moderately dense, fine, appressed pubescence. .... 38
37. (36) Head rugose-punctate. Elytra pale across postbasal transverse impression, in a postmedian band, and at apex. Bolivia (Pr. Sta. Cruz), Brasil (Est. Mato Grosso, Pará: Jacareacanga: Santarém), E. Peru, Venezuela, Panama, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Mexico (Est. Tabasco). ....  
..... *septemnotatus* (Champion)  
Head punctures well separated. Elytra dark, pale only in the postbasal transverse impression. Brasil (Est. Mato Grosso, Goiás, Rio Grande do Norte). ....  
..... *grossoanus* (Pic)
38. (36) Elytra with 2 narrow, transverse bands. .... 39  
Pale markings on elytra not confined to 2 transverse bands. .... 40
39. (38) Antennae not particularly heavy. Guatemala, Mexico (Acapulco, Tampico). .... *foveiventris* (Champion)  
Antennae unusually heavy. Guatemala. ....  
..... *crassicornis* (Champion)
40. (38) Elytra without a pale marking behind the postmedian pale band. Brasil (Est. Pernambuco, Bahia), French Guiana-LaFerté. .... *concinus* (LaFerté)  
Elytra with a pale marking between the postmedian pale band and the apex, the two separated by an oblique dark band. .... 41
41. (40) Posterior oblique dark band on elytra very jagged, invaded from behind near suture. Surinam, Panama. ....  
..... *pulchellus* (Champion)

- Posterior dark band on elytra smooth-edged. Brasil (Est. Bahia-LaFerté, Pará: Belém: Santarém), Trinidad, Panama. .... *quinquemaculatus* (LaFerté)
42. (1) Prothorax not abnormally narrow, with the dorsal constriction sharply demarcated. General color dark, but postbasal transverse impression of elytra generally pale and bearing transverse white pubescence. .... 43  
Prothorax narrow, the dorsal constriction broad, deep in some species, shallow in a few. Color variable. ... 50
43. (42) Omoplates (raised areas on elytra flanking the scutellum) greatly amplified by a long pencil of black pubescence. Brasil (Est. Amapá), French Guiana, Surinam, British Guiana. .... *piligibbosus* (Pic)  
Omoplates at most with short black pubescence and one long tactile seta. .... 44
44. (43) Head strongly strigose to the rounded vertex. Omoplates slightly pointed but not spinose. Bolivia (Chaco), Venezuela, Colombia. .... *gibbicollis* (LaFerté)  
Head punctured, at most strigulose on front. .... 45
45. (44) Omoplates pointed. Pronotum humped anteriorly. ... 46  
Omoplates more or less prominent, but rounded. .... 47
46. (45) Elytra with a thinly pale-pubescent patch behind middle. Omoplates with unusually long spines. Colombia, S. Peru-Pic. .... *bispinosus* (Pic)?  
Elytra without pale pubescence behind middle. Omoplates merely pointed. Venezuela-LaFerté, Panama. ....  
..... *albicinctus* (LaFerté)?
47. (45) Pronotum strongly humped anteriorly, almost in a keel; dorsal constriction strigulose. Bolivia, Brasil-Pic, Venezuela. .... *camelus* (Pic)?  
Pronotum not so strongly humped, and not keeled. ... 48
48. (47) Prothorax glabrous or nearly so, slightly humped. Postbasal transverse impression of elytra narrowly pale. Colombia, Mexico (Yucatan). .... *chevrolati* (Pic)?  
Prothorax with some appressed setae, not humped at all. Eyes relatively large. .... 49
49. (48) Mesosternal fringe setae long. Venezuela, Trinidad, Colombia (Bogotá). .... *caracasensis* (Pic)  
Mesosternal fringe setae short. Argentina (Pr. Formosa, Tucumán, Santiago del Estero). .... *semirufus* (Pic)
50. (42) Dorsal surface essentially glabrous except for the tactile setae, shiny. (It may have decumbent to appressed setae, shiny. (It may have decumbent to appressed as the tactile setae in any area.) .... 51  
Dorsal surface with moderately dense appressed pubescence in addition to the tactile setae, general or confined to certain areas on the elytra. .... 56
51. (50) Constriction across pronotum shallow and feeble. Honduras, E. Mexico, U.S.A. (S. E. states), Cuba-Pic. ....  
..... *scitulus* (LeConte)

- (cf. *Formicilla bruchi* Pic from Argentina.)  
 Constriction across pronotum saddle-like, deep. . . . . 52
52. (51) Elytra with an oblique pale band in apical third, none across middle; apex dark. Elytral apices spiniform at suture in ♀. Brasil (Est. Mato Grosso, Minas Gerais, Pernambuco-Pic, Pará: Santarém, Acre), French Guiana, Colombia. . . . . *confusus* (Pic)  
 Elytra without an oblique pale band in apical third but usually with a median band; apex more or less pale, not spiniform in ♀. . . . . 53
53. (52) Head tapered to base. . . . . 54  
 Head rounded at base. . . . . 55
54. (53) Base of pronotum with a conspicuous boss. Elytra dark, paler at base, sometimes with a very obscure zone across middle, and more sharply at apex. Lobes of ♂ sternum 6 moderately broad, pointed. Argentina (Pr. Salta, Tucumán, Entre Rios, Misiones), Paraguay-Krekich, Brasil (Est. Mato Grosso, São Paulo). . . . .  
 . . . . . *argentinus* (Pic)  
 Base of pronotum without a boss. Elytra with a well-demarcated pale midband and apical area, the base often moderately pale also. The postmedian dark zone extends forward and backward along the suture. Lobes of ♂ sternum 6 slender and obliquely truncate. Brasil (Est. Mato Grosso, Minas Gerais, São Paulo, Guanabara, Espírito Santo, Bahia-LaFerté, Rio Grande do Norte, Ceará, Pará: Belém), Surinam. . . . .  
 . . . . . *leporinus* (LaFerté)
55. (53) Elytra largely pale, with 2 darker bands, one antemedian and very light, the other postmedian and much darker, extending along suture to apex. Argentina (Pr. Mendoza-Krekich, Catamarca, Salta), Bolivia (Pr. Sta. Cruz), Brasil (Est. Mato Grosso). . . . .  
 . . . . . *decoratus* (Krekich)?  
 Elytra dark, the base at most obscurely paler. Chile, Argentina (Pr. Buenos Aires). . . . *strangulatus* (Pic)
56. (50) Head gradually tapered to base. Elytra pale across postbasal transverse impression and in an oblique postmedian mark. ♀ elytra spinose at suture. Bolivia (Pr. Sta. Cruz), Argentina (Pr. Tucumán, Formosa, Misiones), Paraguay-Pic, Brasil (Est. Mato Grosso, Goiás, Guanabara, Rio Grande do Norte), Surinam, Venezuela. . . . .  
 . . . . . *longicornis* (Pic)
57. (56) Elytra mostly almost glabrous, but white-pubescent in the pale postbasal transverse impression and in a postmedian patch, which is dark in ground color. Argentina (Chaco), Bolivia, (Pr. Sta. Cruz), Brasil (Est. Mato Grosso, Minas Gerais, Pará: Jacareacanga, Belém), Surinam, Venezuela. . . . . *unituberculatus* (Pic)  
 Elytra generally fine-pubescent. . . . . 58
58. (57) Elytral pubescence uniformly dull golden. Pronotal saddle shallow. Bolivia-Heberdey, Brasil (Est. Mato

- Grosso, Goiás, Rio Grande do Norte, Pará: Belém),  
Venezuela. .... *cuyabanus* (Pic)  
Elytral pubescence in bands of different colors. .... 59
59. (58) White band in postbasal transverse impression of elytra  
notching into the golden band behind it. Costa Rica,  
Honduras. .... *ornatus* (Heberdey)  
White band in transverse impression not notching into  
the golden band behind it. .... 60
60. (59) Pronotal saddle relatively deep. U.S.A. (E. states) ....  
..... *myrmecops* (Casey)  
Pronotal saddle shallow. U.S.A. (Florida). ....  
..... *unicus* (Casey)

## LIST OF SPECIES OF ACANTHINUS INCLUDED IN KEY, WITH SYNONYMY.

All species are listed as *Anthicus* by Blackwelder (1945), except where noted.

- aequinoctialis* (LaFerté) 1848  
*albicinctus* (LaFerté) 1948. [*Leptaleus*: Blackwelder.]  
(in part) Werner, 1962.  
*angusticollis* (LaFerté) 1948. NEW COMBINATION.  
*Anthicus maculifer* Pic, 1898. NEW SYNONYMY.  
*antennatus* (Pic) 1897  
*argentinus* (Pic) 1913. [*Formicilla*: Blackwelder.]  
*Formicilla boggianii* Krekich, 1913. NEW SYNONYMY.  
*bicallosus* (Pic) 1904  
*bicoloripes* (Pic) 1913  
*Anthicus nigrotibialis* Pic, 1914. NEW SYNONYMY.  
*bimaculifer* (Pic) 1899  
(in part) Werner, 1962.  
*Anthicus bimaculifer* var. *latemaculifer* Pic, 1914. NEW  
SYNONYMY.  
*bispinosus* (Pic) 1954. [Not in Blackwelder.]  
*bistrinotatus* (Pic) 1897. NEW STATUS.  
*Anthicus (Acanthinus) trifasciatus* var. *bistrinotatus* Pic,  
1897.  
*Anthicus trifasciatus* var. *bistrinotatus*: Pic, 1911, Coleop.  
Cat.; Blackwelder, 1945.  
*Anthicus (Acanthinus?) nitidioriceps* Pic, 1962. NEW  
SYNONYMY. [Not in Blackwelder.]  
*camelus* (Pic) 1902. [*Leptaleus*: Blackwelder.]  
*caracasensis* (Pic) 1914. [*Leptaleus*: Blackwelder.]  
*cartosi* (Pic) 1904. NEW STATUS.  
*Anthicus bimaculifer* var. *Carlosi* Pic, 1904.  
*championi* (Pic) 1894  
*Anthicus concolor* Champion, 1890.  
*Anthicus championi* Pic, 1894.

- charveini* (Pic) 1942. [Not in Blackwelder.]
- chevolati* (Pic) 1915. [*Leptaleus*: Blackwelder.]
- clavatus* (Heberdey) 1938
- Clavicornis* (Champion) 1890. [*Leptaleus*: Blackwelder.]
- Liobaulius spectans* Casey, 1904. NEW SYNONYMY. [Not in Blackwelder.]
- concinus* (LaFerté) 1848  
(in part) Werner, 1962.
- confusus* (Pic) 1895. NEW STATUS.
- Formicomus leporinus* var. *confusus* Pic, 1895.
- Formicilla leporina* var. *confusa*: Pic, 1911, Coleop. Cat.; Blackwelder, 1945.
- Formicilla coniceps* Pic, 1937. NEW SYNONYMY.
- crassicornis* (Champion) 1890
- cuyabanus* (Pic) 1909
- Dilandius longiceps* Heberdey, 1938. NEW SYNONYMY.
- decoratus* (Krekich) 1913. [*Formicilla*: Blackwelder.]
- dromedarius* (LaFerté) 1848
- ebeninus* (LaFerté) 1848. NEW COMBINATION.
- Pseudoleptaleus semiplicatus* Pic, 1915. NEW SYNONYMY.  
[*Leptaleus*: Blackwelder.]
- Pseudoleptaleus cubanensis* Pic, 1917. NEW SYNONYMY.  
[*Leptaleus*: Blackwelder.]
- exilis* (LaFerté) 1848. [Not in Blackwelder.]
- festivus* (Champion) 1890
- foveiventris* (Champion) 1890
- fryi* (Heberdey) 1938
- gibbicollis* (LeFerté) 1848. [*Leptaleus*: Blackwelder.]
- grossoanus* (Pic) 1931. [*Leptaleus*: Blackwelder.]
- histrion* (LeFerté) 1848
- immaculifer* (Pic) 1908. NEW STATUS.
- Anthicus bimaculifer* var. *immaculifer* Pic, 1908.
- isthmicus* (Champion) 1890
- leporinus* (LaFerté) 1848  
(in part) Werner, 1962.
- longicornis* (Pic) 1909. [*Formicilla*: Blackwelder.]
- Formicilla gibbosa* Pic, 1912. NEW SYNONYMY.
- myrmecops* (Casey) 1895. [Not in Blackwelder.]
- Dilandius aureopilosus* Pic, 1913, Échange 29: 157. NEW SYNONYMY. [Not in Blackwelder.]
- nitidiceps* (Pic) 1897.
- occipitalis* (Heberdey) 1938
- ornatus* (Heberdey) 1938. [*Dilandius*: Blackwelder.]
- piligibbosus* (Pic) 1917. [*Leptaleus*: Blackwelder.]

- postmaculatus* (Pic) 1904. NEW COMBINATION.  
*Anthicus myrmecophilus* Pic, 1927. NEW SYNONYMY.  
*pulchellus* (Champion) 1890  
*pulchellus* (Champion) 1890  
*punctatus* (Pic) 1904. [Not in Blackwelder.]  
*Formicilla punctata* Pic, 1904, An. Mus. Zool. Acad. Imp. Sci. St. Petersburg 9: 491-2. [Described from "États-Unis" but not Nearctic.]  
*quinquemaculatus* (LaFerté) 1848  
*regularis* (Heberdey) 1938  
*rugosus* (LaFerté) 1848  
*Anthicus opacicollis* Pic, 1895. NEW SYNONYMY.  
*scitulus* (LeConte) 1852. [*Formicilla*: Blackwelder.]  
*Formicomus gracilipes* Champion, 1890. NEW SYNONYMY.  
*Formicilla gracilipes*: Pic, 1911, Coleop. Cat.; Blackwelder, 1945.  
*Formicilla cubana* Pic, 1944. NEW SYNONYMY. [Not in Blackwelder.]  
*semirufus* (Pic) 1915. NEW STATUS. [*Leptaleus*: Blackwelder.]  
*Pseudoleptaleus albicinctus* var. *semirufus* Pic, 1915.  
*septemnotatus* (Champion) 1890  
*spinicollis* (LaFerté) 1848  
*strangulatus* (Pic) 1895. [*Formicilla*: Blackwelder.]  
*striatopunctatus* (LaFerté) 1848  
*Anthicus (Acanthinus) striatopunctatus* var. *discolor* Pic, 1897. NEW SYNONYMY.  
*trifasciatus* (Fabricius) 1801  
*troglodytes* (Boheman) 1858. NEW STATUS. Werner, 1958. [Not in Blackwelder.]  
*concinus* (in part): Krekich, 1914; Werner, 1962.  
*unicus* (Casey) 1895. [Not in Blackwelder.]  
*unituberculatus* (Pic) 1913. [*Leptaleus*: Blackwelder.]  
*varicornis* (Champion) 1890  
*vinculatus* (LaFerté) 1848

## SPECIES ASSIGNABLE TO ACANTHINUS BUT NOT IN KEY:

- bituberculatus* (Champion) 1890. [*Leptaleus*: Blackwelder.]  
*breveimpressus* (Pic) 1954. [Not in Blackwelder.]  
*compressicollis* (Pic) 1914  
*frontalis* (Casey) 1904. [Not in Blackwelder.]  
*germaini* (Pic) 1909  
var. *bicruciatas* (Pic) 1909  
*groulti* (Pic) 1901  
*invalidus* (LaFerté) 1848  
*judithi* (Buck) 1960. NEW COMBINATION. [Not in Blackwelder.]

- latertuberculatus* (Buck) 1960. NEW COMBINATION. [Not in Blackwelder.]  
*minasensis* (Pic) 1904  
*plicaticeps* (Pic) 1915. [*Leptaleus*: Blackwelder.]  
*punctatissimus* (Champion) 1890  
*semibrunnescens* (Pic) 1913. [*Leptaleus*: Blackwelder.]  
*subfasciatus* (Pic) 1915. [*Leptaleus*: Blackwelder.]  
*sulcipennis* (Champion) 1896  
*temporalis* (Herberdey) 1938  
*validiceps* (Pic) 1942. [Not in Blackwelder.]

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