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COLEOPTEROUS GALLS FROM THE NEOTROPICAL REGION

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ABSTRACT

Data on Neotropical coleopterous galls were compiled from the literature, which showed that 82 galls have so far been recorded among 77 plant species. The Fabaceae and Asteraceae plant families display the greatest richness in galls. Most galls are induced on stems or buds, while leaves constitute the second most attacked plant organ. Only 16 coleopteran gallers have been identified at the species level; most records are presented at the order level. The identified species belong to four families: Apionidae, Buprestidae, Curculionidae and Eriophyidae. The galls are found in Argentina, Brazil, Belize, Chile, Colombia (probably), Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama and Venezuela. Eighteen species of Coleoptera are inquilines of galls and are associated with 18 plant species, most frequently with Asteraceae, Melastomataceae and Fabaceae. The inquilines were recorded mainly in leaf galls induced by Cecidomyiidae (Diptera). The identity of these weevils is poorly known. General data indicate a lack of taxonomic studies in the Neotropical region.

KEY-WORDS: Coleoptera; Diversity; Galler; Inquiline; Neotropics.

INTRODUCTION

From an evolutionary standpoint, galls can be seen as adaptations that allow some insect taxa to feed on high quality tissues and protect themselves from natural enemies and harsh abiotic factors (Price *et al.*, 1986; Fernandes *et al.*, 1994). Galling insects are among the most specialized herbivores. They are typically “host, organ and tissue specific” (Shorthouse & Rohfritsch, 1992). In fact, galling insects have an intimate relationship with their host plant that enables them to induce proliferation of plant cells (the gall) in a pattern characteristic of the galling species. Due to this, several authors have used gall morphotypes as a surrogate for the galling species (Fernandes & Price, 1988; Hanson & Gómez-Laurito, 2005), as well as

tools in plant systematics [Raman, 1996; Abrahamson *et al.*, 1998].

Coleopterous galls generally attack branches while cecidomyiids galls occur more frequently on leaves. This pattern was indicated by Houard in 1933, and corroborated by Maia & Oliveira, 2004. Other insect orders with galling species also show preference for some plant organs; *e.g.* Lepidoptera for bud and stem, Hemiptera and Thysanoptera for leaves (Maia, 2006).

Many coleopterous galls have been recorded in the Neotropical region, but data are scattered in the literature. Therefore, the diversity of these gallers is poorly understood. Many hypotheses have been suggested to explain insect gall diversity, considering global, regional and local patterns (Fagundes &

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Fernandes, 2011), as well as different ecological levels (intra-specific, interspecific and community) (Fleck & Fonseca 2007). Among them, the hypotheses of plant species richness (Southwood, 1960, 1961), plant architecture (Lawton, 1983), harsh environment (Fernandes & Price, 1991), and hygrothermic stress (Fernandes & Price, 1988) have been tested, but the results are still controversial.

The main objective of this study was to compile the available information on coleopterous galls in the Neotropics, and to discuss inquilines, host plant preferences and distribution patterns.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

A search of the Thompson ISI database on papers published from 1934 through 2010 was conducted in July 2011, using ‘Coleoptera (title) AND gall (topic)’ as key-words. Among these papers, those focusing on the Neotropics were verified. Data before 1934 were extracted from the gall catalog of Houard, 1933.

The available information was organized into 10 tables that comprised host plant identification (family, genus and plant species), number of gall morphotypes per plant species, galled plant organ, galling species, distribution and references.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

A total of 82 coleopterous galls have been recorded in the Neotropics. These galls were distributed among 77 species of host plants (50 genera and 28 families) (see Table 1).

Fabaceae and Asteraceae were plant families with the greatest richness of galls (15 and 10 morphotypes, respectively). The other families displayed one to five gall morphotypes. Ten families (Alismaceae, Amaranthaceae, Anacardiaceae, Apocynaceae, Araceae, Bombacaceae, Curcurbitaceae, Hippocrateaceae, Malvaceae, and Viscaceae) exhibited only one gall morphotype, while eleven families (Ebenaceae, Euphorbiaceae, Fagaceae, Gnetaceae, Malvaceae, Piperaceae, Rubiaceae, Sapindaceae, Solanaceae, Sterculiaceae and Vitaceae) showed two morphotypes. A single family (Myrtaceae) presented four morphotypes; four families (Annonaceae, Lauraceae, Malpighiaceae and Myrtaceae) presented three; and three families (Bignoniaceae, Melastomataceae and Solanaceae) showed five morphotypes (Table 1). Fabaceae and Asteraceae are among the largest families of flowering plants in

the world, as they are very diverse in the Neotropical region. Other gall-inducing insects commonly attack these plant families as well, including cecidomyiids (Diptera) and coccoids (Hemiptera) among others. The result corroborated the hypothesis that plant families with the greatest species richness display the greatest richness of galls (Southwood, 1960, 1961).

Most plant species demonstrate only one gall morphotype. Exceptions are *Baccharis concinna* Barroso (Asteraceae), *Helicteres guazumaeifolia* H.B.K. (Sterculiaceae), *Notophagus obliqua* Blume (Fagaceae), and *Tibouchina pulchra* Cogn. (Melastomataceae) (Table 1), which demonstrate two morphotypes.

The galls are found in diverse biomes, occurring at dry as well as wet sites, but the majority was collected in xeric habitats (such as steppe, cerrado, restinga, caatinga, monte and semi-arid chaco forest). This corroborates the harsh environment hypothesis, which predicts that “gall formation evolves in response to harsh environments so that galling species richness will be greater in xeric habitats than in mesic habitats” (Fernandes & Price, 1991).

Most galls (about 62%) were induced on stems or buds, while leaves were the second most attacked plant organ (about 29%), followed by roots, flowers and tendrils, each with less than 3% (Table 2). No galls have been observed to occur on fruits. The number of gall morphotypes recorded ($n = 76$) was lower than the total number of galls ($n = 82$) because the plant organ has not been recorded for some galls (Table 2). The preference for stems has already been pointed out for gall-inducing coleopteran species (Houard, 1933; Maia & Oliveira, 2004). The stem was also the most attacked organ by galling lepidopteran species (Houard, 1933; Maia, 2006), contrasting with cecidomyiids (Diptera), which induce galls mainly on leaves (Gagné, 1994).

About 96% of gall inducers attacked a specific plant organ, except three species that have been observed attacking stems and leaves (petiole and mid-vein) simultaneously, as well as buds and leaves, corroborating plant organ specificity (Shorthouse & Rohfritsch, 1992).

Only 16 coleopteran gallers (about 20%) have been identified at the species level (Table 3). The other records have been presented at genera ($n = 5$), subfamily (5), family ($n = 18$), and order level ($n = 38$ or about 46%). These data demonstrate how poorly known the taxonomy of the galling species is.

The identified species belonged to thirteen genera distributed among four families (Table 4): Apionidae – *Apion* Herbst, 1797 (2 spp.) and *Noterapion* Kissinger, 2002 (1 sp.); Buprestidae – *Hylaeogena*

TABLE 1: Distribution and richness of coleopterous galls on each host plant and phytogeography in the Neotropics. References are also given.

Host plant family (n = 28)	Host plant species (n = 76)	Number of gall morphotypes (n = 81)	Gall distribution	Biome	Reference
Alismataceae	<i>Sagittaria montevidensis</i> Cham.& Schlecht. f. <i>immaculata</i> Hickel	01	Argentina and Brazil	Monte and Atlantic forest	Houard, 1933; Costa-Lima, 1956
Amaranthaceae	<i>Agastache vittata</i> Jacoby, 1905	01	Argentina	No data	Costa-Lima, 1956
Anacardiaceae	<i>Schinus dependens</i> Ortega	01	Chile	steppé	Houard, 1933; Kieffer & Herbst, 1905
Annonaceae	<i>Portulaca oleracea</i> L.	01	Argentina	Monte	Houard, 1933
	<i>Rollinia sericea</i> R.E. Fr.	01	Brazil	Atlantic forest (restinga)	Maia <i>et al.</i> , 2008
	<i>Xilophia aromatica</i> (Lam.) Mart.	01	Brazil	Cerrado	Fernandes <i>et al.</i> , 1989
Apocynaceae	<i>Aspidosperma tomentosum</i> Mart.	01	Brazil	Cerrado	Gonçalves-Alvim & Fernandes, 2001
Araceae	<i>Philodendrum</i> sp.	01	Costa Rica	No data	Hanson & Gómez-Laurito, 2005
	<i>Agaveina</i> sp.	01	Costa Rica	No data	Hanson & Gómez-Laurito, 2005
	<i>Baccharis concinna</i> Barroso	02	Brazil	Cerrado	Fernandes <i>et al.</i> , 1996
	<i>B. paucidentata</i> DC.	01	South America	No data	Houard, 1933
	<i>Baccharis reticularia</i> DC	01	Brazil	Cerrado	Carneiro <i>et al.</i> , 1996
	<i>Chromolaena odorata</i> (L.) King & Robinson	01	Brazil, Venezuela, probably Colombia	Tropical forest	Zachariades <i>et al.</i> , 2007
	<i>Eupatorium</i> sp.	01	Brazil	Atlantic forest	Houard, 1933; Tavares, 1917
	<i>Lessertia hispida</i> (Baker) H. Rob	01	Brazil	Cerrado	Carneiro <i>et al.</i> , 1996
	<i>Parthenium hysterophorus</i> L.	01	Argentina	No data	Fiedler, 1940
Bignoniacae	<i>Vernonia</i> sp. 1	01	Brazil	Atlantic forest	Moreira <i>et al.</i> , 2007
	<i>Amphilophium paniculatum</i> (L.) H.B.K	01	Panama	Tropical forest	Medianeiro <i>et al.</i> , 2007
	<i>Jacaranda pacificfoliata</i> Mart.	01	Brazil	Cerrado	Carneiro <i>et al.</i> , 1996
	<i>Tabea tenuis</i> (L.) DC. Standl	01	Brazil	Tropical dry forest (caatinga)	Santos <i>et al.</i> , 2001
	<i>Tabenula pumila</i> A.H. Gentry	01	Brazil	Cerrado	Carneiro <i>et al.</i> , 1996
	<i>Tabenula</i> sp.	01	Costa Rica	No data	Hanson & Gómez-Laurito, 2005
Bombacaceae	<i>Eriotheca gracilipes</i> (K. Schum) A. Robyns	01	Brazil	Cerrado	Gonçalves-Alvim & Fernandes, 2001
Cercubaceae	<i>Apodanthera smilacifolia</i> Cong.	01	Brazil	No data	Costa-Lima, 1956
Ebenaceae	<i>Diospyros brasiliensis</i> Mart. ex Miq.	01	Brazil	Atlantic forest (restinga)	Maia <i>et al.</i> , 2008
	<i>Diospyros hispida</i> DC.	01	Brazil	Cerrado	Souza <i>et al.</i> , 2006
Euphorbiaceae	<i>Croton antisyphiliticus</i> Mart.	01	Brazil	Cerrado	Maia & Oliveira, 2004
	Not determined	01	Brazil	Cerrado	Fernandes <i>et al.</i> , 1997
Fabaceae	<i>Andira</i> sp.	01	Brazil	Cerrado	Maia & Fernandes, 2004
	<i>Andira fraxinifolia</i> Benth.	01	Brazil	Atlantic forest (restinga)	Maia <i>et al.</i> , 2008
	<i>Bauhinia brevipes</i> Vogel	01	Brazil	Cerrado	Fernandes <i>et al.</i> , 1997
	<i>Bauhinia cheiranthoides</i> (Bong.) Steud	01	Brazil	Tropical dry forest (caatinga)	Santos <i>et al.</i> , 2001
	<i>Bauhinia</i> sp.	01	Costa Rica	No data	Hanson & Gómez-Laurito, 2005

Continued Table 1.

Host plant family (n = 28)	Host plant species (n = 76)	Number of gall morphotypes (n = 81)	Gall distribution	Biome	Reference
Eriocoma sp.		01	Brazil	Cerrado	Gonçalves-Alvim & Fernandes, 2001
<i>Erythrina berteroana</i> Urban		01	El Salvador	No data	Whitehead, 1978
<i>Mimosa polycarpa</i>		01	Brazil	Swamp	Julião <i>et al.</i> , 2002
<i>Nissolia fruticosa</i> Jacq.		01	Costa Rica	No data	Hanson & Gómez-Laurito, 2005
<i>Prosopis alba</i> Griseb.		01	Argentina	Monte	Houard, 1933; Jørgensen, 1916
<i>P. alpataco</i> Phil.		01	Argentina	Monte	Houard, 1933; Kieffer & Jørgensen, 1916
<i>P. campestris</i> Griseb.		01	Argentina	Monte	Houard, 1933
<i>P. elata</i> (Burkart) Burkart (Mesquite)		01	Argentina	Semi-arid chaco forest	Houard, 1933
<i>P. rufifolia</i> Grisebach		01	Argentina	Semi-arid chaco Forest	Fernandes <i>et al.</i> , 2002
Not determined		01	Brazil	Cerrado	Maia & Fernandes, 2004
<i>Nathalis obliquana</i> Blume		02	Chile	Steppe	Houard, 1933; Kieffer & Herbst, 1905
<i>Ephedra tweediana</i> C.A. Mey.		01	Argentina	Monte	Houard, 1933
<i>Dahlstedtia pinnata</i> (Benth.) Malm		01	Brazil	Atlantic forest	Costa-Lima, 1956
<i>Hippocratea volubilis</i> L.		01	Brazil	Atlantic forest (restinga)	Maia & Oliveira, 2004
<i>Aiouea costaricensis</i> (Mez) Kosterm.		01	Costa Rica	No data	Hanson & Gómez-Laurito, 2005
<i>Betelkhemiedia pendula</i> (Sw.) Hemsl.		01	Costa Rica	No data	Hanson & Gómez-Laurito, 2005
<i>Cinnamomum cinnamomifolium</i> (Kunth) Kosterm.		01	Costa Rica	No data	Hanson & Gómez-Laurito, 2005
<i>Baristeriopsis malifolia</i> (Nees & Mart.) B. Gates		01	Costa Rica	No data	Hanson & Gómez-Laurito, 2005
<i>Byrsinima apicata</i> (Cav.) DC.		01	Brazil	Cerrado	Fernandes <i>et al.</i> , 1997
<i>Byrsinima arcostaphylloides</i> Nied.		01	Brazil	Cerrado	Carneiro <i>et al.</i> , 1996
<i>Luehea divaricata</i> Mart.		01	Brazil	Cerrado	Fernandes <i>et al.</i> , 1988
<i>Sida cordifolia</i> L.		01	Brazil	Cerrado	Fernandes <i>et al.</i> , 1997
<i>Blakea</i> sp.		01	Costa Rica	No data	Hanson & Gómez-Laurito, 2005
<i>Miconia prasina</i> (Sw.) DC		01	Brazil	Atlantic forest	Almeida-Cortez <i>et al.</i> , 2006
<i>Miconia</i> sp.		01	Costa Rica	No data	Hanson & Gómez-Laurito, 2005
<i>Tibouchina pulchra</i> Cogn.		02	Brazil	Atlantic forest (restinga)	Maia <i>et al.</i> , 2008
<i>Calyptranthes brasiliensis</i> Spreng		01	Brazil	Atlantic forest (restinga)	Vanin, 2008
<i>Comidendron fenzlianum</i> Berg		01	Brazil	Atlantic forest (restinga)	Monteiro <i>et al.</i> , 1993; Vanin <i>et al.</i> , 2000
<i>G. martiana</i> Berg		01	Brazil	Atlantic forest (restinga)	Monteiro <i>et al.</i> , 1993; Vanin <i>et al.</i> , 2000
Not determined		01	Brazil	Atlantic forest	Fernandes <i>et al.</i> , 2009
Myrtaceae		01	Brazil	Atlantic forest	Costa-Lima, 1956
Piperaceae		01	Costa Rica	No data	Hanson & Gómez-Laurito, 2005
Rubiaceae		01	Costa Rica	No data	Hanson & Gómez-Laurito, 2005

Continued Table 1.

Host plant family (n = 28)	Host plant species (n = 76)	Number of gall morphotypes (n = 81)	Gall distribution	Biome	Reference
Sapindaceae	<i>Psychotria</i> sp. <i>Serjania erecta</i> Radlk. <i>Serjania</i> sp. <i>Capsicum parvifolium</i> Sendtn. <i>Solanum grandiflorum</i> Ruiz & Pav. <i>Solannum</i> sp. <i>Pouteria gardneri</i> (Marr. & Miq.) Bachni Not determined <i>Helicteres guazumaefolia</i> H.B.K. <i>Phoradendron</i> sp. <i>Cissus spinosa</i> Camb. <i>Cissus verticillata</i> (L.) Nicolson & Jarvis	01 01 01 01 01 01 01 01 02 01 01 01 01 01 01 01	Brazil Brazil Brazil Brazil Brazil Brazil Brazil Brazil Brazil Brazil Costa Rica Brazil Belize, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama	Atlantic forest Swamp Swamp Dry tropical forest Cerrado Cerrado Swamp Tropical dry forest (caatinga) Swamp No data Swamp No data	Costa-Lima, 1956 Juliao <i>et al.</i> , 2002 Juliao <i>et al.</i> , 2002 Coelho <i>et al.</i> , 2009 Costa-Lima, 1956 Costa-Lima, 1956 Juliao <i>et al.</i> , 2002 Santos <i>et al.</i> , 2001 Juliao <i>et al.</i> , 2002 Hanson & Gómez-Laurito, 2005 Juliao <i>et al.</i> , 2002 Ulmer <i>et al.</i> , 2010
Solanaceae					
Sterculiaceae					
Viscaceae					
Vitaceae					

TABLE 2: Distribution of coleopterous galls per plant part in the Neotropics.

Plant organ	Gall morphotypes (n = 76)	
	Number	%
Stem or bud	47	61.8
Leaf	22	28.9
Leaf and bud	1	1.3
Leaf and stem	2	2.6
Root	2	2.6
Flower	1	1.3
Tendril	1	1.3
Fruit	0	0

TABLE 3: Distribution of galling species per taxonomic category in the Neotropics.

Taxonomic category	Gall morphotypes (n = 82)	
	Number	%
Order	38	46.3
Family	18	21.9
Subfamily	5	6.1
Genus	5	6.1
Species	16	19.5

Obenberger 1923 (1 sp.); Curculionidae – *Collabisimus* Schoenherr, 1837 (1 sp.); *Conotrachelus* Dejean, 1835 (2 spp.); *Craspedotus* Schönh., 1844 (1 sp.); *Cyrionyx* Faust 1896 (1 sp.); *Eurhinus* Illiger 1807; *Hexacolus* Hagedorn, 1909 (1 sp.); *Pacholenus* Schoenherr, 1826 (2 spp.); *Prospoliata* Hustache, 1949 (1 sp.); *Pseudomopsis* Champion, 1905 (1 sp.); and Erirhinidae – *Hypselus* Schoenherr, 1843 (1 sp.). All of them were included in the same superfamily Curculionoidea. The identified galling species were associated with only one host plant species or with two congeneric species. Five galling weevils have been identified at the genus level: *Apion* (4 spp.) and *Camptocheirus* Lacordaire 1863 (1 sp.).

Coleopterous galls from the Neotropics had been recorded in 11 countries, most of them in Brazil (n = 53), followed by Costa Rica (n = 14), Argentina (n = 10), and Panama (n = 5). The other countries had one to three records, while no information was available for the other Neotropical localities (Table 5). The number of records (n = 93) was higher than the number of gall morphotypes (n = 82) because some galls had been recorded in two or more countries.

Data from Brazil was restricted to seven states, with Minas Gerais showing the majority of records (about 45%), followed by Mato Grosso do Sul, São Paulo, Rio de Janeiro, Pernambuco, Goiás and Bahia (Table 6). Data show the greatest number of gall

TABLE 4: Distribution of coleopteran species per host plant, plant part and locality in the Neotropics.

Galling species	Host plant	Plant part	Distribution	Reference
Apionidae:				
<i>Apion angustatum</i> Philippi, 1864	<i>Nothofagus obliqua</i>	Stem	Chile	Kieffer & Herbst, 1905
<i>Apion prosoptides</i> Kieffer & Jørgensen, 1910	<i>Prosopis alba</i>	Stem	Argentina	Jørgensen, 1916
	<i>Prosopis alpataco</i>	Leaf	Argentina	Kieffer & Jørgensen, 1910
	<i>Croton antisyphiliticus</i>	Leaf	Brazil	Maia & Oliveira, 2004
<i>Apion</i> sp.1	<i>Portulaca oleracea</i>	Flower	Argentina	Houard, 1933
<i>Apion</i> sp.2	<i>Dahlstedtia pinnata</i>	Stem	Brazil	Costa-Lima, 1956
<i>Apion</i> sp.3	<i>Diasprys hispida</i>	Stem	Brazil	Souza <i>et al.</i> , 2006
<i>Apion</i> sp.4	<i>Erythrina berteroana</i>	Leaf	El Salvador	Whitehead, 1978
Buprestidae:				
<i>Hylaeogena thoracica</i> Waterhouse, 1889	<i>Amphilophium paniculatum</i>	Leaf	Panama	Medianoero <i>et al.</i> , 2007
Curculionidae:				
<i>Camptocheirus</i> sp.	<i>Cinnamomum cinnamomifolium</i>	Stem	Costa Rica	Hanson & Gómez-Laurito, 2005
<i>Craspedotus psychotiae</i> (Bondar, 1946)	<i>Psychotria</i> sp.	Leaf and bud	Brazil	Costa-Lima, 1956
<i>Collabismus diellae</i> Boheman, 1837	<i>Solanum grandiflorum</i>	Stem	Brazil	Costa-Lima, 1956
	<i>Solanum</i> sp.	Stem	Brazil	Costa-Lima, 1956
<i>Conotrachelus albolineatus</i> Fiedler 1940	<i>Parthenium hysterophorus</i>	Stem	Argentina	Fiedler, 1940
<i>Conotrachelus reticulatus</i> Champion	<i>Chronolaena odorata</i>	Stem	Brazil, Venezuela, probably Colombia	Zachariades <i>et al.</i> , 2007
<i>Cyrtonyx turbidus</i> Hustache, 1938	<i>Piper (Arthante) luschnathianum</i>	No data	Brazil	Costa-Lima, 1956
<i>Eurhinus magnificus</i> Gyllenhal 1836	<i>Cissus verticillata</i>	Stem	Belize, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama	Ulmer <i>et al.</i> , 2010
<i>Hexacolus bruchi</i> Hagedorn, 1909	<i>Agasicles vitifolia</i>	Stem	Argentina	Costa-Lima, 1956
<i>Pacholenus monteiroi</i> Vanin, 2008	<i>Chypranthes brasiliensis</i>	Stem	Brazil	Vanin, 2008
<i>Pacholenus pellicens</i> Boheman, 1836	<i>Gomidesia fenestrata</i>	Stem	Brazil	Monteiro <i>et al.</i> , 1993; Vanin <i>et al.</i> , 2000
	<i>Gomidesia martiniana</i>	Stem	Brazil	Monteiro <i>et al.</i> , 1993; Vanin <i>et al.</i> , 2000
<i>Pseudomopris peckolti</i> Costa-Lima, 1945	<i>Apodanthera smilacifolia</i>	Stem	Brazil	Costa-Lima, 1956
<i>Prospaltella bicolorata</i> Hustache, 1950	<i>Maconia prasina</i>	Leaf	Brazil	Almeida-Cortez <i>et al.</i> , 2006
Erirhinidae:				
<i>Hypselus atter</i> Bochman, 1843 (= <i>Anthonoides bonariensis</i> Brethes, 1910)	<i>Sagittaria montevidensis Immaculata</i>	Root	Argentina and Brazil	Houard, 1933; Costa-Lima, 1956
* Data on <i>Noteraption canthae</i> are controversial. This species was cited as a gall maker in El Salvador (Whitehead, 1978) and as a gall inquiline in Argentina and Chile (Kissinger & Linda, 2002).				

TABLE 5: Distribution of coleopterous galls per country in the Neotropics.

Country	Gall morphotypes	
	Number	%
Brazil	53	57.0
Costa Rica	14	15.0
Argentina	10	10.7
Chile	3	3.2
Panama	1	1.07
Belize	1	1.07
El Salvador	1	1.07
Colombia (probably)	1	1.07
Guatemala	1	1.07
Honduras	1	1.07
Nicaragua	1	1.07
Venezuela	1	1.07
South America (country not specified)	1	1.07

TABLE 6: Distribution of coleopterous galls per Brazilian state.

Brazilian state	Gall morphotypes (n = 51)	
	Number	%
Minas Gerais	23	45.1
Mato Grosso do Sul	8	15.7
São Paulo	7	13.7
Rio de Janeiro	7	13.7
Pernambuco	4	7.8
Goiás	1	1.9
Bahia	1	1.9

morphotypes in the southeastern region of this country (Minas Gerais, São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro), which could be explained by the high amount of research in this area.

Eighteen species of Coleoptera were inquilines of galls. They were associated with 14 plant species (distributed in 14 genera and 10 different families), being more frequent on Asteraceae ($n = 4$), Fabaceae ($n = 3$) and Melastomataceae ($n = 3$). Two inquilines have been recorded on Myrtaceae and only one on Bignoniaceae, Boraginaceae, Clusiaceae, Fagaceae, Lamiaceae and Solanaceae (Table 7).

Inquilines have been recorded on leaf, stem and bud galls, and the majority (about 83%) on specific organs of host plant. Most inquilines were associated with leaf galls (72%), followed by stem and bud galls (Table 8). This reveals a difference between galling weevils and inquilines: the former occur mainly on buds and the latter preferentially on leaves.

Inquilines occurred mainly on galls induced by Cecidomyiidae (Diptera) (about 78%), while only one record has been associated with hymenopterous, lepidopterous and coleopterous galls (Table 9). This

TABLE 7: Distribution of inquilines per host plant family in the Neotropics.

Host plant family	No. of records of inquilines
Asteraceae	4
Bignoniaceae	1
Boraginaceae	1
Clusiaceae	1
Fabaceae	3
Fagaceae	1
Lamiaceae	1
Melastomataceae	3
Myrtaceae	2
Solanaceae	1

TABLE 8: Distribution of gall inquilines per plant organ in the Neotropics.

Plant organ	Nº. of records of inquilines
Leaf	10
Stem	4
Bud	1
Leaf or stem	2
Leaf, stem or bud	1

TABLE 9: Distribution of gall inquilines per galling insect in the Neotropics.

Galling insect group	Nº. of records of inquilines
Cecidomyiidae (Diptera)	14
Curculionidae (Coleoptera)	1
Cynipidae	1
Momphidae (Lepidoptera)	1
Not determined	1

can be explained by the fact that the majority of insect galls in the world are induced by gall midges (Felt, 1940).

Inquiline weevils were mainly identified at the family level (about 83%). (Table 10) There are two records at the species level and one at the order level, again demonstrating poor knowledge about the taxonomy of this group.

CONCLUSION

A total of 82 coleopterous galls are known in the Neotropical region. The majority is associated with Fabaceae. Most galls are induced on stems or buds. The taxonomy of galling weevils is poorly known, as well as data on their geographical distribution. Inquiline weevils of galls have been recorded in the Neotropics, but their identification is also deficient.

TABLE 10: Distribution of inquilines per host plant, plant part, galling species and locality in the Neotropics.

Inquiline	Host plant	Plant part	Galling species	Locality
<i>Anthonomus</i> sp.	<i>Leandra aurea</i> (Cham.) Cogn. (Melastomataceae)	Stem	Momphidae (Lepidoptera)	Brazil
<i>Noterapion meorrhynchum</i> (Philippi and Philippi, 1864)	<i>Nothofagus dombeyi</i> (Mirb.) Oerst. (Fagaceae)	Leaf	<i>Paraulax</i> sp. (Cynipidae; Hymenoptera)	Argentina and Chile
<i>Philides anthonomooides</i> Champion, 1906	<i>Amphilophium paniculatum</i> (L.) H.B.K (Bignoniacae)	Leaf	Curculionidae (Coleoptera)	Panama
Curculionidae	<i>Copaifera langsdorffii</i> Desf. (Fabaceae)	Leaf	Cecidomyiidae (Diptera)	Brazil
Curculionidae	<i>Neomitrantes obscura</i> (DC) N.J.E.Silveira (Myrtaceae)	Stem	<i>Neomitrantella robusta</i> Maia, 1995 (Cecidomyiidae)	Brazil
Curculionidae	<i>Eugenia rotundifolia</i> Casar (Myrtaceae)	Stem	<i>Stephomyia rotundifoliorum</i> Maia, 1993 (Cecidomyiidae)	Brazil
Curculionidae	<i>Mikania cf. biformis</i> DC. (Asteraceae)	Leaf or stem	<i>Liodiplosis sphaerica</i> Gagné, 2001 (Cecidomyiidae)	Brazil
Curculionidae	<i>Mikania cf. biformis</i> DC. (Asteraceae)	Leaf	<i>Asphondylia glomeratae</i> Gagné, 2001 (Cecidomyiidae)	Brazil
Curculionidae	<i>Mikania cf. biformis</i> DC. (Asteraceae)	Bud	<i>Perasphondylia mikaniae</i> Gagné, 2001 (Cecidomyiidae)	Brazil
Curculionidae	<i>Piptocarpha cf. cinerea</i> Baker (Asteraceae)	Leaf, stem or bud	<i>Asphondylia</i> sp. (Cecidomyiidae)	Brazil
Curculionidae	<i>Cordia curassavica</i> (Jacq.) Roem. & Schult. (Boraginaceae)	Leaf	Lopesiini (Cecidomyiidae)	Brazil
Coleoptera	<i>Calophyllum brasiliense</i> Cambess. (Clusiaceae)	Leaf	<i>Lopesia elliptica</i> Maia, 2003 (Cecidomyiidae)	Brazil
Curculionidae	<i>Andira fraxinifolia</i> Benth. (Fabaceae)	Leaf	<i>Andirodiplosis</i> sp. (Cecidomyiidae)	Brazil
Curculionidae	<i>Andira fraxinifolia</i> Benth. (Fabaceae)	Leaf	Asphondylia (Cecidomyiidae)	Brazil
Curculionidae	<i>Hyptis fasciculata</i> Benth. subsp. <i>fasciculata</i> (Lamiaceae)	Leaf or stem	Cecidomyiidae	Brazil
Curculionidae	<i>Tibouchina trichopoda</i> (DC.) Baill. (Melastomataceae)	Leaf	Not determined	Brazil
Curculionidae	<i>Tibouchina trichopoda</i> (DC.) Baill. (Melastomataceae)	Stem	Cecidomyiidae	Brazil
Curculionidae	<i>Aureliana fasciculata</i> (Vell.) Sendtn. (Solanaceae)	Leaf	<i>Clinodiplosis</i> sp. (Cecidomyiidae)	Brazil

RESUMO

Informações sobre galhas induzidas por Coleoptera na região neotropical foram compiladas a partir da literatura. Oitenta e duas galhas foram assinaladas em 77 espécies de plantas. Fabaceae e Asteraceae foram as famílias botânicas que apresentaram maior riqueza de galhas. A maioria das galhas desenvolveu-se em caule ou gema; as folhas foram o segundo órgão vegetal mais atacado. Apesar de 16 indutores estarem identificados em nível de espécie, estando a maior parte dos registros em nível de ordem. As espécies identificadas pertencem a quatro famílias: Apionidae, Buprestidae, Curculionidae e Erirhinidae. As

galhas foram coletadas na Argentina, Brasil, Belize, Chile, Colômbia (provavelmente), Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, México, Nicarágua, Panamá e Venezuela. Dezoito espécies de Coleoptera são inquilinas de galhas e estão associadas com 18 espécies de planta, sendo mais freqüentes em Asteraceae, Melastomataceae e Fabaceae. Os inquilinos ocorreram principalmente em galhas foliares induzidas por Cecidomyiidae (Diptera). O conhecimento taxonômico desses besouros é escasso, indicando a carência de estudos na região neotropical.

PALAVRAS-CHAVE: Coleoptera; Diversidade; Galhador; Inquilino; Neotropical.

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