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Tropicus migueli n. sp. from Paraguay
(Coleoptera: Heteroceridae)

Stanislav SKALICKÝ

Abstract: A new species of Heteroceridae: *Tropicus migueli* **n. sp.** from Paraguay is described, illustrated and compared with similar species.

Keywords: Taxonomy, Coleoptera, Heteroceridae, *Tropicus*, new species, Paraguay.

Introduction

The recently published paper (SKALICKÝ 2002) based on the examination of 162 specimens collected on eleven Paraguay localities were described six new species of *Tropicus* Pacheco, 1964 and two new species of *Heteroceridae* Fabricius, 1792.

Newly I could study the second part of this collection, including 3513 specimens from three previously studied localities and further 278 specimens from an additional Paraguay locality. This part of the collection is very poor as far as the species diversity is concerned, including just 3 species of *Heterocerus* and 3 species of *Tropicus*. One of them, *Tropicus migueli* **n. sp.**, is new to science. The new species is described below together with faunistic data on other species collected. In this collection *T. boukali*, is the dominant species with 3586 specimens, i.e. 94.6 per cents of the total amount (in the first part of the collection this species was represented by 72 spec. which is 44.5 per cent). The occurrence of this highly variable species is now recorded from two Paraguay departments (Boqueron and Alto Paraguay).

The following acronyms are used in the text to indicate the depository of the material examined:

CSU Coll. S. SKALICKÝ, Ústí nad Orlicí, Czech Republic
NMW Natural History Museum, Vienna, Austria

Taxonomy

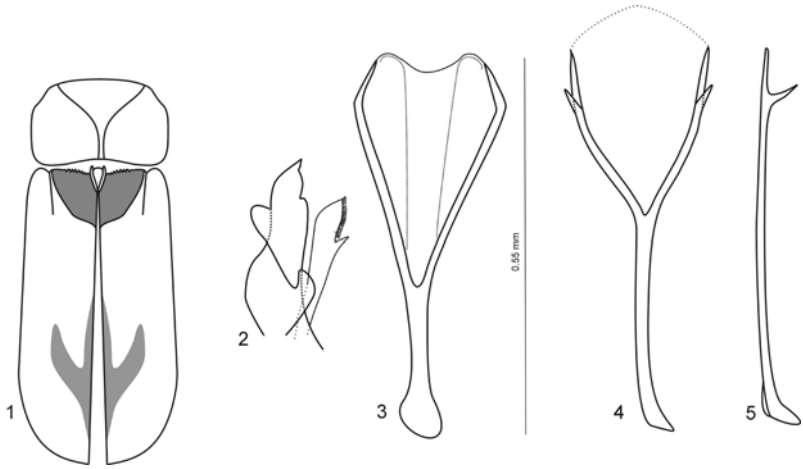
Tropicus migueli n. sp.
(Figs. 1–5)

Type locality: Paraguay, Department Boqueron, 150 km N of Filadelfia.
Type material: Holotype ♂: "Paraguay Boqueron [department] 150 km N of Filadelfia 8-v-'95 DRECHSEL leg" (NMW). Paratype (Allotype) ♀: The same data as holotype (NMW). Paratypes 2 ♀, ♂ specimens, the same data as holotype (NMW, ♂ CSU).

Description: Holotype ♂: Total length 2.65 mm (to apex of labrum); elytra 1.7 mm long, 0.8 mm wide across shoulders. Ground colour light brown; pronotum and elytra with darker brown diffuse pattern as in Fig. 1. Body including legs and antennae shiny. Labrum rounded, with acute apex; surface finely granulated, without larger intermixed punctures; setae fine, adjacent, without longer erect setae. Mandibles (Fig. 2) dentate, with acute apex, well developed dorsal subapical tooth and with short process of the dorsal ridge. Prostheca with prosthecal teeth shape as in Fig. 2. Clypeus without pair of anterior horns, subtriangular, apex truncate; surface roughly granulated; setae rare, semi-erect, yellowish (shiny). Antennae 9-segmented, with 6-segmented club. Pronotum 1.6 times wider than long, wider than base of elytra; pronotal base not rimmed; lateral margins almost parallel; surface regularly granulate with intermixed punctures approximately as large as eye facet; setae semi-erect, yellowish (golden-yellow) and quite long. Scutellum pointed, triangular, adversely deflected, lateral margins bordered. Elytra oblong; with humeral depressions extending obliquely to almost midlength of elytra; with shallow longitudinal furrows; inner part of basal margins of elytra serrate as in Fig. 1; surface finely granulate with intermixed punctures approximately as large as eye facet; epipleura without epipleural ridges. Setae of elytra rare, semi-erect, squamiform. Metasternum without post-mesocoxal ridge; abdomen without post-metacoxal ridge. Stridulatory arch marked with striae. Ventral surface finely granulated. Protibia and mesotibia with 9 spines, metatibia with uncertain number of thin spines. Aedeagus 0.5 mm

long, shape as in Fig. 3. Spiculum gastrale 0.55 mm long; Y-shaped as in Figs 4–5.

Paratype (Allotype) ♀: Dimensions as in holotype. Mandibles without dorsal process on dental lobe. Longitudinal ridges more distinct. Externally similar to male.



Figs. 1–5: *Tropicus migueli* **n. sp.**, holotype: 1: pronotum and elytra, dorsal view; 2: right mandible and prostheca, dorsal view; 3: aedeagus, dorsal view; 4: spiculum gastrale, dorsal view; 5: spiculum gastrale lateral view. Figs. 1–2 are not to scale.

Differential diagnosis: Due to the shape of the aedeagus and spiculum gastrale, the new species belongs to the *imperator* group sensu PACHECO (1964). Shape of body, squamiform setae and the morphology of aedeagus place it near *T. squamosus* Pacheco 1964 described from Bolivia and Argentina (PACHECO 1964). Contrary to the latter species, *T. migueli* **n. sp.** has a different spiculum gastrale, elytral and pronotal pattern, colour of body (head brownish red in *T. migueli* **n. sp.**, pronotum and elytra yellowish red with a black pattern in *T. squamosus*) and the shape of mandibles. (cf. Figs. 446–453 in PACHECO (1964) and Figs. 1–2, 4–6 in this paper). Spiculum gastrale in *T. migueli* **n. sp.** is similar to that

in *T. alpacinchensis* Skalický, 2002 from the Argentina (cf. Figs. 13–14 in SKALICKÝ (2002) and Figs. 4–5 in this paper).

Distribution: So far known only from the type locality.

Etymology: Dedicated to my friend Mr. Miguel ARCHANGELSKY (Laboratorio de Ecología Acuática, Chubut, Argentina).

Distributional notes

Note: If not otherwise stated, all specimens listed below are deposited in the NMW.

Heterocerus ciliaticollis Steinheil, 1869

Material examined: 31 spec. (19 ♂♂, 12 ♀♀; therefrom 5 ♂♂ CSU): "Paraguay Dep. Boqueron Mistolar 18.vii.97 in mud of rest water DRECHSEL leg".
Distribution: Argentina, Brazil (PACHECO 1964), Paraguay (SKALICKÝ 2002).

Heterocerus drechseli Skalický, 2002

Material examined: 18 spec. (6 ♂♂, 12 ♀♀; therefrom 4 ♂♂ CSU): "Paraguay Dep. Boqueron Mistolar 18.vii.97 in mud of rest water DRECHSEL leg".
Distribution: Paraguay (SKALICKÝ 2002).

Heterocerus similis Grouvelle, 1892

Material examined: 45 spec. (30 ♂♂, 14 ♀♀, 1 spec. undetected sex; therefrom 5 ♂♂ CSU): "Paraguay Boqueron [department] 150 km N of Filadelfia 8-v-'95 DRECHSEL leg"; 7 spec. (6 ♀♀, 1 spec. undetected sex): "Paraguay Boqueron [department] 160 km N of Filadelfia 10-v-'95 DRECHSEL leg".
Distribution: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Uruguay (PACHECO 1964), Paraguay (SKALICKÝ 2002).

Tropicus alcicornis Mascagni, 1989

Material examined: 47 spec. (15 ♂♂, 22 ♀♀, 10 spec. undetected sex; therefrom 4 ♂♂ CSU): "Paraguay Boqueron [department] 150 km N of Filadelfia 8-v-'95 Drechsel leg"; 13 spec. (4 ♂♂, 9 ♀♀): "Paraguay Boqueron [department] 160 km N of Filadelfia 10-v-'95 Drechsel leg"; 22 spec. (2 ♂♂, 3 ♀♀, 17 spec. undetected sex): "Paraguay Dep. Boqueron Mistolar 18.vii.97 in mud of rest water DRECHSEL leg"; 18 spec. (10 ♂♂, 7 ♀♀, 1 spec. undetected sex; therefrom 1 ♂ CSU): "Paraguay Dep. Alto Paraguay Madrejón16.v.95 DRECHSEL leg".
Distribution: Paraguay, Venezuela (MASCAGNI 1989).

Tropicus boukali Skalický, 2002

Material examined: 2734 spec. (269 ♂♂, 245 ♀♀, 2220 spec. undetected sex; therefrom 41 ♂♂ and 40 spec. undetected sex CSU): "Paraguay Boqueron [department] 150 km N of Filadelfia 8-v-'95 DRECHSEL leg"; 157 spec. (22 ♂♂, 25 ♀♀, 110 spec. undetected sex, therefrom 4 ♂♂ CSU): "Paraguay Boqueron [department] 160 km N of Filadelfia 10-v-'95 DRECHSEL leg"; 435 spec. (63 ♂♂, 32 ♀♀, 340 spec. undetected sex; therefrom 18 ♂♂ CSU): "Paraguay Dep. Boqueron Mistolar 18.vii.97 in mud of rest water DRECHSEL leg"; 260 spec. (15 ♂♂, 15 ♀♀, 230 spec. undetected sex; therefrom 1 ♂ and 1 spec. undetected sex CSU): "Paraguay Dep. Alto Paraguay Madrejón 16.v.95 DRECHSEL leg".
Distribution: Paraguay (SKALICKÝ 2002).

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Author:
Stanislav SKALICKÝ, Dukla 322, CZ-56201 Ústí nad Orlicí, Czech Republic. E-mail: s.skalicky@worldonline.cz

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