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ARTIGO / ARTÍCULO / ARTICLE

Paranovelsis venustus sp. nov., a new species from Ecuador (Coleoptera: Dermestidae: Attageninae).

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Abstract: *Paranovelsis venustus* **sp. nov.**, a new species from Ecuador is described, illustrated and compared with all known Neotropical species. New species differs by the structure of antennae and elytral colour patterns.
Key words: Coleoptera, Dermestidae, *Paranovelsis*, Taxonomy, new species, Ecuador.

Resumen: *Paranovelsis venustus* sp. nov., una nueva especie de Ecuador (Coleoptera: Dermestidae: Attageninae). *Paranovelsis venustus* **sp. nov.**, una nueva especie de Ecuador, se describe, se ilustra y compara con todas las especies neotropicales conocidas. La nueva especie se diferencia por la estructura de las antenas y los patrones de coloración elitral.
Palabras clave: Coleoptera, Dermestidae, *Paranovelsis*, Taxonomía, especie nueva, Ecuador.

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Introduction

Casey (1900) described both the genus *Novelsis* and also *Paranovelsis*, as a subgenus. Mroczkowski (1968) considered *Paranovelsis* as well as a subgenus, despite of the synonymy proposed by Beal (1954). Later, Háva (2003) also considers it as a synonymy of *Novelsis*.

Based on a study of type species and other materials, this last author removed the subgenus from the synonymy and raised it as an independent genus including 16 species known from the Nearctic, Neotropical and Palaearctic Regions (Háva 2014). From Neotropical Region are recently known 5 species (Háva, 2013; Herrmann & Háva, 2014).

Material and methods

The size of the beetles or of their body parts can be useful in the species recognition and thus, the following measurements were made:

total length (TL) - linear distance from anterior margin of pronotum to apex of elytra.
elytral width (EW) - maximum linear transverse distance.

Abbreviation:
JHAC Jiří Háva, Private Entomological Laboratory & Collection, Únětice u Prahy, Prague-west, Czech Republic.

Description

***Paranovelsis venustus* sp. nov.**
(Figs. 1-2)

Type material. Holotype (♀) labelled: "ECUADOR: Rio Napo, Misuahuala [= Puerto Misuhualli], VII-VIII.1996, legit. R. Carradori". Holotype deposited in (JHAC). Abdomen is glued on the same card. The type specimen is equipped with a red, printed label bearing the text as follows: "HOLOTYPE *Paranovelsis venustus* sp. nov. J. Háva det. 2014".

Description.

Female. Body (Fig. 1); measurements (mm): TL 4.30 EW 2.30; cuticle black and brown on dorsal surfaces, and black on ventral surfaces; in general large and elongate, covered with yellowish-grey and white recumbent pubescence. Head finely punctate, with yellowish-grey, long, recumbent pubescence. Palpi entirely brown; pubescence on mentum denser. Ocellus on frons present. Antennae with 11 antennomeres, antennal club black, with 3 antennomeres, antennomeres I-VIII light brown, IX-XI dark brown, (Fig. 2). Pronotum coarsely punctate, covered with unicolored, yellowish-grey, recumbent pubescence. Anterior pronotal angles not visible from above. Scutellum triangular, finely punctate as pronotum, with yellow pubescence. Elytra coarsely punctate, on each humerus with a small bump; cuticle black and brown (black in anterior half), covered with yellowish-grey pubescence, with white spots (Fig. 1); two transverse fasciae and near scutellum with a small, circular spot with white pubescence. Epipleura black, finely punctate, covered with yellowish-grey pubescence. Prosternal proccess, coarsely punctured, broad and long, covered with yellowish-grey pubescence. Mesosternum and metasternum covered with yellowish-grey pubescence. Abdominal ventrites finely punctate, covered with yellowish-grey, recumbent pubescence. Legs brown with white pubescence; tibiae with short, brown spines.

Male. Unknown.

Figs. 1-2.- *Paranovelsis venustus* **sp. nov.**:
1.- Habitus; **2.-** Antenna of female.

Differential diagnosis. The new species is similar to *Paranovelsis platanegrachei* Herrmann & Háva, 2014 and *P. bitaeniatus* (Steinheil, 1869), but differs from them and other known species by the colour patterns of elytra and structure of antennae:

1(2)	Elytral integument unicolorous, without reddish transverse fasciae; each elytron with small, isolated white spots……	*P. gounellei* (Pic, 1915)
2(1)	Elytral integument bicolorous.	
3(4)	Each elytron with two broad, orange-reddish, transverse bands covered with white pubescence ……	*P. venezuelae* Háva, 2013
4(3)	Each elytron with more than two reddish bands covered with white pubescence.	
5(6)	Head covered with brown pubescence only ……	*P. platanegrachei* Herrmann & Háva, 2014
6(5)	Head covered with white or yellow pubescence.	
7(8)	Head and pronotum covered with white pubescence only……	*P. adspersus* (Blanchard in Orbigny, 1843)
-	Head and pronotum covered with yellowish-grey pubescence only; elytra bicolorous: in anterior half black, posterior half brown……	*Paranovelsis venustus* **sp. nov.**
8(7)	Head covered with white pubescence; pronotum covered with intermixed white and yellow pubescence laterally and brown pubescence (discally with two large black spots covered with brown pubescence……	*P. bitaeniatus* (Steinheil, 1869)

Distribution. Ecuador.

Etymology. The specific epithet is the Latin adjective *venustus* (= charming).

Updated checklist of the Neotropical species of *Paranovelsis*

- *Paranovelsis adspersus* (Blanchard in Orbigny, 1843):
  Bolivia.
- *Paranovelsis bitaeniatus* (Steinheil, 1869):
  Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia, Chile, Paraguay, New Zealand (introduced).
- *Paranovelsis gounellei* (Pic, 1915) (=*Attagenus brasiliensis* Pic, 1923):
  Brazil.
- *Paranovelsis platanegrachei* Herrmann & Háva, 2014:
  Argentina.
- *Paranovelsis venustus* **sp. nov.**:
  Ecuador.
- *Paranovelsis venezuelae* Háva, 2013:
  Venezuela.

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