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Trilaccodea ecuadorica, a new species from Ecuador
(Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae: Cassidinae: Stolaini)

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ABSTRACT. *Trilaccodea ecuadorica* is described from Ecuador. It belongs to the group of species with prosternal collar separated from prosternal process by a deep groove. A key to species of *Trilaccodea* is given.

Key words: entomology, taxonomy, new species, Coleoptera, Chrysomelidae, Cassidinae, Mesomphaliini, *Trilaccodea*, Neotropical Region.

The genus *Trilaccodea* SPAETH, 1902 comprises only five species distributed in mountain regions of Colombia, Venezuela, Peru and Bolivia (BOROWIEC 1999, 2004; BOROWIEC and ŚWIĘTOJAŃSKA 2002).

In the material studied recently I have found a specimen of a new species from Ecuador. Its description is given below. It is the first member of the genus known to Ecuador.

Colour photos of all *Trilaccodea* species are available in BOROWIEC and ŚWIĘTOJAŃSKA (2002).

***Trilaccodea ecuadorica* n. sp.**

ETYMOLOGY

Named after its terra typica.

DIAGNOSIS

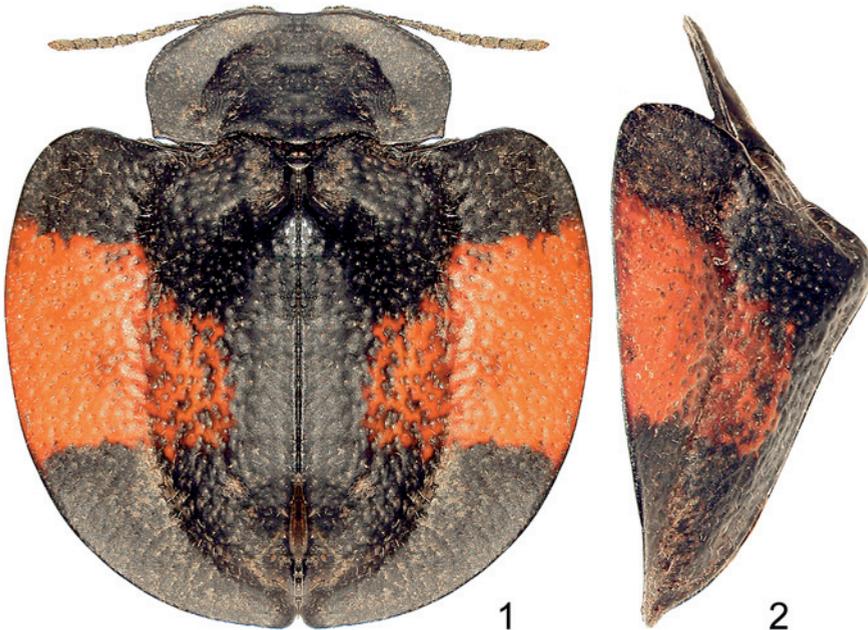
Species of the genus *Trilaccodea* form two groups distinguished by the structure of prosternum. Members of the first group, *Trilaccodea excisa* (BOH.), *T. langei* Sp., and

T. meridionalis BOR., have prosternal collar separated from prosternal process by a deep transverse groove both on sides and in the middle of basal part of the process. Species of the second group, *T. schneideri* (SP.) and *T. tomentosa* (BOH.), have prosternal collar separated from prosternal process by a groove only on sides of basal part of the process. *T. ecuadorica* belongs to the first group. *T. excisa* distinctly differs in metallic blue elytra, without yellow pattern, while in *T. ecuadorica* elytra is black with rusty yellow pattern. *T. langei* and *T. meridionalis* differ from *T. ecuadorica* in complete yellow to rusty yellow band across elytra, while in *T. ecuadorica* pale pattern forms only large spots on explanate margin of elytra and lateral parts of the disc. *T. meridionalis* differs also in the presence of pale pattern in scutellar area. *T. schneideri* of the second group has also elytral pattern but it is reddish and forms a transverse stripe in anterior fourth of explanate margin and an elongate stripe along the middle of the disc. *T. tomentosa*, like *T. excisa*, has elytral disc uniformly dark metallic green or blue and contrary to other species has a long and dense erect elytral pubescence.

DESCRIPTION

Length: 14.8 mm, width: 14.0 mm, length of pronotum: 4.2 mm, width of pronotum: 7.15 mm, length/width ratio: 1.06, width/length of pronotum ratio: 1.70. Body subquadrate (fig. 1).

Pronotum black, without metallic tint. Elytra black, without metallic tint, with rusty yellow pattern forming large spots in the middle of explanate margin and extending to



1-2. *Trilaccodea ecuadorica*: 1 - dorsal, 2 - lateral

the middle of lateral half of disc. The spot on explanate margin rectangular in shape (fig. 1). Ventrites uniformly black. Legs and antennae black.

Pronotum transversely pentagonal, sides broadly rounded, in basal half moderately converging posterad. Anterior emargination shallow. Disc moderately convex, impunctate, dull, base on each side with distinct impression. Border between disc and explanate margin moderately impressed, forms a gutter, explanate margin runs moderately upward. Whole surface of pronotum covered with sparse, short, erect setae.

Elytra extremely broad, base almost twice wider than base of pronotum, humeri regularly rounded. Anterior margin of elytra shallowly emarginate, humeri moderately protruding anterad. Disc unevenly convex, with large, blunt postscutellar tubercle (fig. 2). Profile behind the top of tubercle only slightly concave. Pale pattern of disc very coarsely punctate, punctures gradually smaller from sides of disc to lateral margin of elytra, surface of pale spot appears slightly irregular. Distance between punctures varies from as wide as to twice narrower than puncture diameter. Dark part of disc in front of spot and sutural part of disc coarsely punctate but punctures distinctly smaller and sparser than on pale spots. Anterior part and top of tubercle with only few small punctures. Dark area of disc behind spot and slope with shallow and sparse punctures. Surface of both dark and pale parts of disc dull. Explanate margin of elytra in the widest part approximately twice narrower than disc. Surface of both dark and pale parts of explanate margin dull. Whole surface of elytra with short, sparse and erect setae. Apex of elytral epipleura with very short, erect hairs.

Antennae slim, length ratio of antennal segments: 100:43:117:93:97:73:67:70:67:80:110.

Ventrites without diagnostic characters.

DISTRIBUTION

Ecuador.

MATERIAL EXAMINED

Holotype: "America meridionalis, ECUADOR, Napo, native collector lgt." (preserved at the Department of Biodiversity and Evolutionary Taxonomy, Wrocław University, Wrocław, Poland).

KEY TO *TRILACCODEA* (modified from BOROWIEC 2004)

1. Prosternal collar bordered from prosternal process by a deep groove both on sides and in the middle of basal part of the process 2.
- Prosternal collar bordered from prosternal process by a groove only on sides of the basal part of the process 5.
2. Elytral disc black with rusty yellow pattern 3.
- Elytral disc dark metallic blue, without pattern. Colombia *excisa* (BOH.)
3. Elytra, except transverse band, with two large, strongly punctate, rusty yellow spots in scutellar area. Bolivia *meridionalis* BOR.

- Elytra only with transverse band, without spots in scutellar area, or with large spots on explanate margin and sides of disc, not forming a complete transverse band 4.
- 4. Elytra with complete transverse band. Peru *langei* Sp.
- Elytra with large spots on explanate margin and sides of the disc, not forming a complete transverse band. Ecuador *ecuadorica* n. sp.
- 5. Elytra black, with reddish pattern composed with transverse stripe on anterior fourth of explanate margin and elongate stripe along the middle of the disc. Elytral pubescence short and sparse. Peru *schneideri* (Sp.)
- Elytra dark metallic green or blue, without pattern. Elytral pubescence long and dense. Colombia and Venezuela *tomentosa* (Boh.)

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