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A new species of *Bradycassis* SPAETH from Brazil (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae: Cassidinae)

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ABSTRACT. *Bradycassis matogrossoensis* n. sp. is described from Mato Grosso Province in Brazil. *Metriona succosa* SPAETH, 1926 is transferred to the genus *Bradycassis* SPAETH, n. comb.

Key words: Key words: Entomology, taxonomy, new species, *Coleoptera*, *Chrysomelidae*, *Cassidinae*, *Bradycassis*, Neotropical Region.

The genus *Bradycassis* was proposed by SPAETH in his posthumous work edited by HINCKS (1952) for *Cassida drewseni* BOHEMAN, 1855 and seven other species of small Neotropical cassids with oval body, regularly convex and punctured elytra, short antennae with five distal, dull segments and very short second and third segment, clypeus in basal part with distinct clypeal grooves, prosternum not expanded apically, elliptical pronotum, base of elytra not or only slightly wider than pronotum and tarsal claws with basal tooth. In the material studied recently we found specimens of *Bradycassis* representing a new species. Its description is given below.

Bradycassis matogrossoensis n. sp.

ETYMOLOGY

Named after Mato Grosso Province in western Brazil, where the type locality - Chapada Plateau is located.

DIAGNOSIS

Bradycassis drewseni (BOH.) differs in explanate margin of elytra partly or completely black (immaculate in *matogrossoensis*), *B. romani* (Sp.) differs in elytra

with black spots (immaculate in *matogrossoensis*), *B. immersa* (Sp.) differs in explanate margin of elytra strongly declivous and punctate (moderately declivous and impunctate in *matogrossoensis*), *B. sordescens* (Sp.) differs in pronotum in front of scutellum with brown stripe and elytra with brown spots along suture and 3rd and 4th intervals (pronotum without stripe and elytra immaculate or with only one brown spot in postscutellar point and sometimes a few small spots in other parts of elytron in *matogrossoensis*), *B. globulipennis* (Sp.), *B. piagularis* (Sp.) *B. rudis* (Sp.), *B. sandaricina* (Boh.) and *B. succosa* (Sp.) **n. comb.** differ in partly black ventrites (uniformly yellow or only infuscate in the middle of abdomen in *matogrossoensis*). *B. matogrossoensis* has the narrowest and less declivous explanate margin of elytra of all species of the genus.

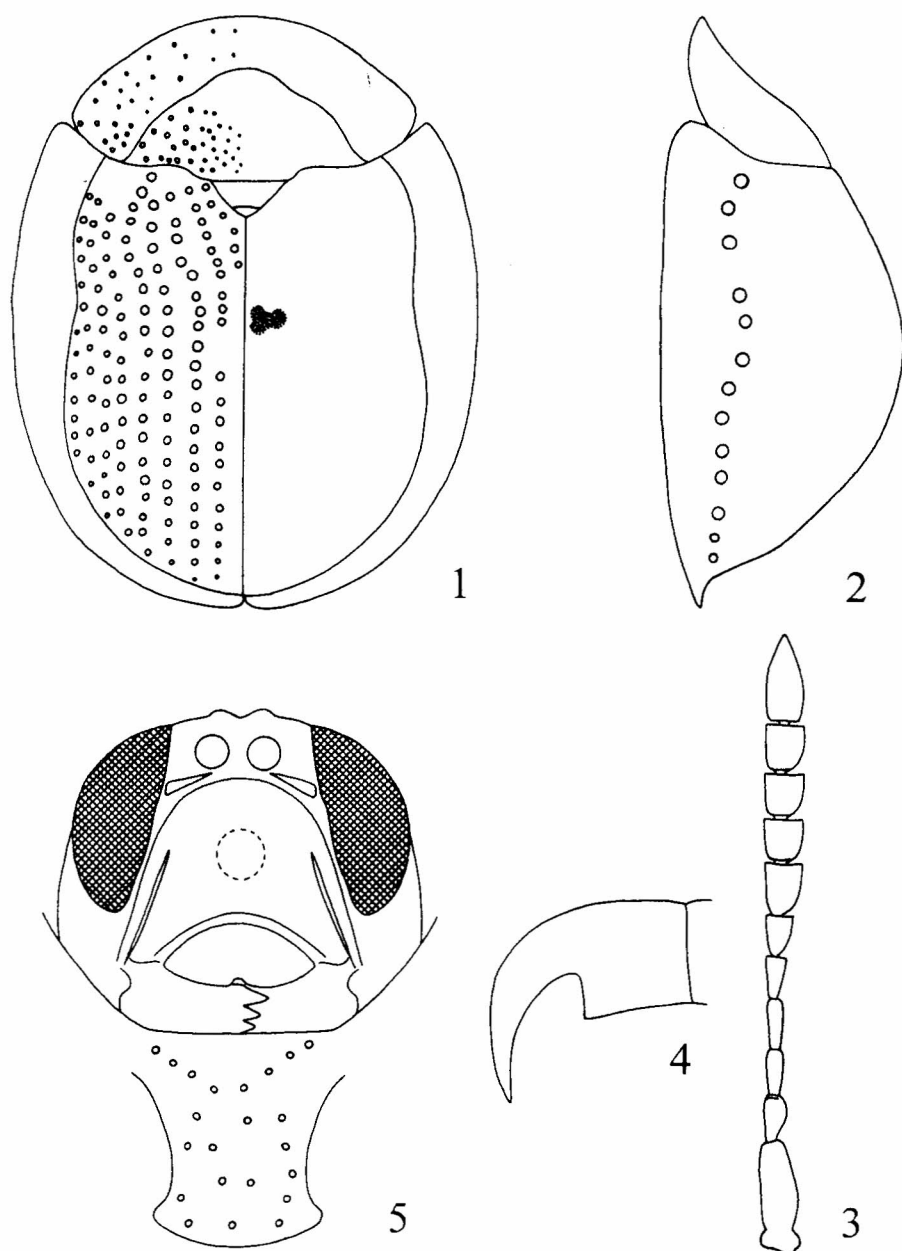
DESCRIPTION

Length: 5.0-5.9 mm, width: 3.7-4.3 mm, length of pronotum: 1.7-1.9 mm, width of pronotum: 2.9-3.3 mm, length/width ratio: 1.28-38, width of pronotum/length of pronotum ratio: 1.58-1.78. Body oval (fig. 1).

Pronotum yellow, elytra uniformly yellow or with small, irregular brown spot in 1/3 length of suture, sometimes also fourth interval in the middle with small brown spot, occasionally suture slightly behind the middle with small, brown spot. Ventrites yellow or abdominal sternites in the middle slightly infuscate. Antennae yellow with four distal segments infuscate to dark brown. Legs uniformly yellow.

Pronotum ellyptical, with maximum width in the middle, sides narrowly rounded. Disc moderately convex, almost whole surface distinctly punctate, only area above head partly without punctures. On sides of disc punctures sparser but coarser than on top of disc, distance between punctures 1.5-3.0 times larger than puncture diameter. Surface between punctures microreticulate but glabrous. Explanate margin indistinctly bordered from disc, punctate, on sides punctures as large and dense as on sides of disc, in anterior part finer and sparser than on disc. Area between punctures microreticulate but glabrous. Base of elytra only slightly wider than pronotum (fig. 1), anterior margin moderately sinuate, not crenulate. Disc regularly convex, with top of convexity in the middle (fig. 2), no postscutellar and principal impressions. Puncturation regular, coarse, punctures in rows dense, almost touching each other. Intervals in sutural half of disc as wide as rows, in lateral half of disc c. twice narrower than rows, their surface microreticulate but glabrous. Marginal row distinct with extremely large punctures, c. 3-4 times larger than in submarginal rows, marginal interval twice narrower than submarginal. Explanate margin narrow, c. 1/5 as wide as each elytron, moderately declivous, in apical part subhorizontal, its surface with transverse grooves and wrinkles but impunctate, appears irregular and slightly rugose. Apex of elytral epipleura bare.

Clypeus broad, c. 1.6 times wider than long, slightly convex, its anterior margin regularly rounded, base with deep clypeal grooves extending to 3/4 length of clypeal plate (fig. 5). Surface between clypeal grooves microreticulate, in the middle deeply



1-5. *Bradycassis matogrossoensis*: 1 - body in dorsal view, 2 - body in lateral view, 3 - antenna, 4 - tarsal claw, 5 - head and prosternum

impressed, glabrous. Frontoclypeal grooves oblique, deep. Labrum moderately broad, shallowly emarginate in the middle. Eyes small, gena distinct. Prosternal collar short, prosternal alae with external margin convex, ventral surface of pronotum forms along head and prosternum a gutter to hide antennae. Prosternal process broad, not expanded apically, its surface with several large punctures. Anterior margin of metasternum margined by a row of very large and strongly impressed punctures. Antennae short, extending to mid coxae. Length ratio of antennal segments: 100:48:48:52:48:52:52:44:44:96. Third segment as long as the second (fig. 3). Tarsi narrow, last segment extending slightly behind setae of the third segment. Claws short with large basal tooth (fig. 4).

TYPES

Holotype: "Chapada, Brazil, Acc. No. 2966" "Sept."; two paratypes: same data but "Oct."; one paratype: same data but "Aug."; three paratypes: "Brazil, Mato Grosso, Chapada Plateau, X 1990, native collector" (holotype and two paratypes at Carnegie Museum, Pittsburg, USA, four paratypes in the collection of junior author).

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REFERENCE

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