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Cyrtanota montana, a new species from Ecuador
(Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae: Cassidinae)

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ABSTRACT. *Cyrtanota montana* n. sp. is described from southern Ecuador. It belongs to *C. compulsa* group, characterized by extremely tuberculate elytral disc.

Key words: entomology, taxonomy, new species, *Coleoptera*, *Chrysomelidae*, *Cassidinae*, *Cyrtanota*, Ecuador.

The genus *Cyrtanota* CHEVROLAT, 1837, a member of the tribe *Stolaini*, comprises 59 species, distributed mostly in mountain and submountain regions of South America, especially in Colombia, Ecuador and Peru (BOROWIEC 1999). Fourteen species were known hitherto from Ecuador, 10 of them are endemics of the country (BOROWIEC 1998). In materials collected recently in southern Ecuador by Polish globe-trotters Piotr KRÓL and Krzysztof ŁOŚ I found a new species of the genus *Cyrtanota*. Its description is given below.

***Cyrtanota montana* n. sp.**

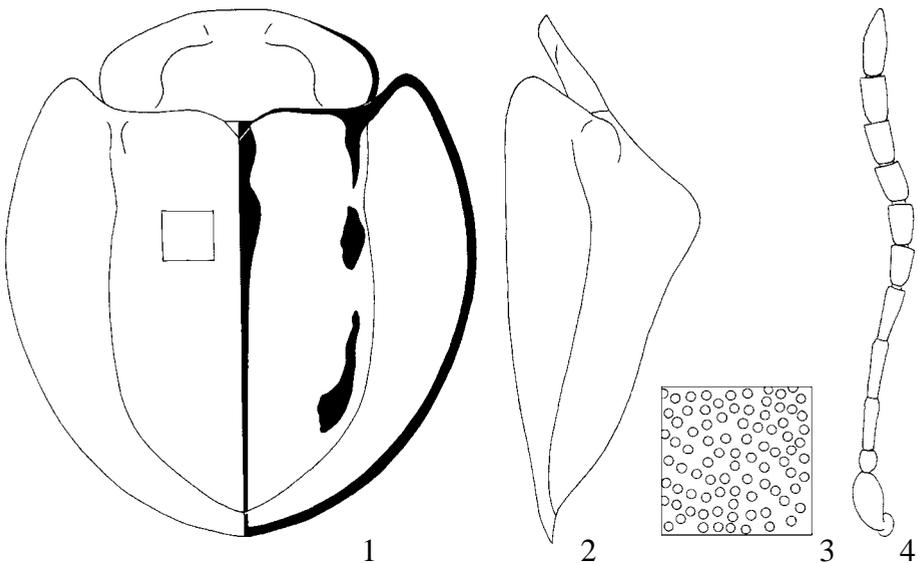
ETYMOLOGY

Named after a high altitude locality (Cordillera Lagunillas, 2000 m) where specimens of the new species were found.

DIAGNOSIS

It belongs to *C. compulsa* group, characterized by elytra without metallic tint, apex of elytra broadly rounded, not acuminate, pronotum without spots of dense

hairs and elytral disc strongly tuberculate. This group comprises: *C. banghaasi* (SP.), *C. bondari* (SP.), *C. bugaensis* (BOR. et SASSI), *C. christophori* (BOR.), *C. compulsa* (SP.), *C. gibbera* (BOR.), *C. kolbei* (SP.) and *C. punctatissima* (SP.). *C. punctatissima* differs in uniformly black elytra (mostly brown in *C. montana*); *C. compulsa* and *C. gibbera* differ in elytra with red reticulation (no reticulation in *C. montana*); *C. bondari* differs in elytra mostly black with six red, reticulate spots (no reticulate spots in *C. montana*); *C. banghaasi* differs in black pronotum and uniformly brown elytra (mostly brown pronotum and maculate elytra in *C. montana*); *C. christophori* and *C. bugaensis* differ in black pronotum and broadly black margins of elytra (mostly brown pronotum and only narrowly black margins of elytra in *C. montana*). At first glance *C. kolbei* is the most similar, especially in mostly brown elytra and extremely high elytral tubercle. In *C. kolbei* pronotum is usually black (only one examined specimen had uniformly brown pronotum) while in *C. montana* it is brown with narrowly black lateral margins. Black on suture in *C. kolbei* is limited only to sutural margin while in *C. montana* it occupies also sutural interval. Elytral disc in *C. kolbei* is immaculate or with only small, black spot on humeral callus, while in *C. montana* black elongate spots occur also in posthumeral and posterolateral area. *C. kolbei* is smaller (length below 14 mm, in *C. montana* above 16 mm) but with coarser and more dense puncturation of elytra, usually with punctures almost touching each other (well separated in *C. montana*).



1-4. *Cyrtanota montana*: 1 - body in dorsal view, 2 - body lateral, 3 - puncturation of central part of disc, 4 - antenna

DESCRIPTION

Length: 16.3-16.7 mm; width: 14.2-14.5 mm; length of pronotum: 4.0 mm; width of pronotum: 8.2-8.9 mm; length/width ratio: 1.15. Body circular in outline, apex of elytra regularly rounded.

Pronotum brownish, margins except anterior margin narrowly black. Scutellum black. Elytra mostly brown, suture and margin narrowly black, in postscutellar area suture slightly wider black than in posterior half of suture; central part of explanate margin paler than disc, yellowish. Humeral callus with elongate black spot, also posthumeral area with elongate black spot, sometimes coalescent with humeral spot; third elongate, black spot occurs in posterolateral part of disc (fig. 1). Head, ventrites and legs black, with no metallic tint, sides of abdominal sterna with small reddish spot. Antennae black, extreme apex of first segment, and ventral sides of segment 2 and 3 yellowish.

Pronotum 2.05-2.23 times wider than long, with maximum width in the middle, sides slightly converging posterad, angles rounded, anterior margin straight. Disc flat, bordered from explanate margin by shallow sulcus. Surface of disc dull, with short, linear median sulcus, very sparse, fine and shallow puncturation, and very sparse, short, adherent hairs. Explanate margin only shallowly impressed, dull, punctate and pubescent like disc.

Scutellum small, triangular, impunctate. Base of elytra much wider than pronotum, humeri distinctly protruding anterad, humeral angles rounded. Disc of elytra with very large postscutellar tubercle (fig. 2), with very shallow postscutellar impressions, bordered laterally by very low elevations. Elytral profile behind the tubercle distinctly concave. Puncturation of disc completely irregular, punctures moderately large and dense, distance between them from slightly shorter to twice longer than puncture diameter (fig. 3), disc surface does not appear irregular. Along sides of disc punctures slightly larger than in sutural half of disc. Whole surface of disc covered with sparse, short, erect setae. Space between punctures slightly glabrous, only along sides, especially on black spots slightly dull. Puncturation of yellow part of explanate margin slightly finer but as dense as on disc.

Clypeus, ventrites and legs with no diagnostic characters. Length ratio of antennal segments: 100:43:107:120:94:80:73:80:86:86:133 (fig. 4).

TYPES

Holotype: „ECUADOR, Zamora Chinchipe, , Cord. Lagunillas, 2000 m, San Andreas near Zumba, 22.05.1998, leg. K. Łoś”; paratype: „ECUADOR, Zamora Chinchipe, 2000, 5 km NW of San Andrea, 21-23.V.1998, leg. Piotr KRÓL” (holotype preserved at the Department of Systematic Zoology and Zoogeography, University of Wrocław, Wrocław, Poland; paratype in the collection of P. KRÓL, Warsaw, Poland).

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