Discomorpha (Vulpia) seckyi, a new species from Peru
(Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae: Cassidinae)

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ABSTRACT. Discomorpha (Vulpia) seckyi, new species is described from Peru. It is
the only species of the subgenus with pale pattern of elytra marked with black spots.

Key words: entomology, taxonomy, new species, Coleoptera, Chrysomelidae, Cassidinae, Discomorpha, Peru.

The subgenus Vulpia SPAETH, 1913 of the genus Discomorpha CHEVROLAT,
1837, a member of the tribe Omocerini, comprises hitherto 6 species distributed
mostly in submountain regions of South America, from Colombia to Peru
(BOROWIEC 1999). In material studied recently I found a specimen from Peru
representing a new species. Its description is given below.

Discomorpha (Vulpia) seckyi n. sp.

ETYMOLOGY
Dedicated to a Czech collector J. SECKY, who collected the holotype specimen.

DIAGNOSIS
It is well characterized by yellow pattern of elytra marked with few black
spots. D. latissima (Sp.) differs in both elytral disc and explanate margin red (disc
partly black in D. seckyi), D. onorei Bor. differs in uniformly black elytra (partly
yellow in D. seckyi), D. fryi (Sp.) and D. mandli (Sp.) differ in blood red elytral
pattern (yellow in *D. seckyi*). *D. gassneri* (Sp.) and *D. speciosa* (Baly) have yellow elytral pattern like in *D. seckyi*, but *D. gassneri* differs in elytra with short erect hairs (bare in *D. seckyi*) and yellow pattern of explanate margin not or only slightly reaching lateral parts of disc (partly yellow sides of disc in *D. seckyi*); *D. speciosa* differs in especially coarse elytral punctuation (distinctly finer in *D. seckyi*, like in *D. mandli*) and yellow spot on marginalia marked with sparse black punctuation (only with few black spots in *D. seckyi*).

**Description**

Length: 16.5 mm, width: 16.6 mm, length of pronotum: 4.5 mm, width of pronotum: 9.6 mm, length/width ratio: 1.01, width/length ratio of pronotum: 2.13. Body almost circular in outline, c. as wide as long (fig. 1).

Head, pronotum and scutellum black. Elytral disc in basal part and along sutural third black, on sides yellow; the yellow spot in the widest part extending to third row of punctures, in middle marked with three large, black spots. Explanate margin of elytra mostly yellow, with broad, black margin of regular border, in anterior half with two brown spots, smaller than spots of sides of disc. Some of large punctures of explanate margin indistinctly infuscate. Ventrites mostly black, venter of pronotum, close to sides of head with yellow spot, also lateral plates of mesosternum mostly yellow. Legs bicolours, fore black with

1-3. *Discomorpha seckyi*: 1 - dorsal, 2 - lateral, 3 - antenna
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yellow ventral half of femora and tibiae, mid black with partly yellow ventral side of femora, hind mostly black with yellow spot only in apical part of ventral side of femora. Antennae mostly black, segments 1-6 with yellow ventral side.

Pronotum typical for the subgenus, very broad, c. 2.13 times wider than long, with bisinuate anterior margin. Disc of pronotum on sides with distinct impression, and very fine median sulcus. Surface of both disc and explanate margin bare, impunctate, slightly dull. Scutellum triangular, its surface dull. Elytral disc unequally convex, elevated in postscutellar area (fig. 2). Postscutellar impressions shallow but distinct, bordered laterally by slightly elevated third interval. Puncturation on black part of disc moderately coarse and moderately dense with distance between punctures as long as or slightly longer than puncture diameter; on yellow part of disc puncturation distinctly finer and sparser than on black. Puncturation only in sutural part tends to form three rows, on other parts of disc irregular. Surface between punctures slightly dull, only on top of postscutellar elevation slightly glabrous. No marginal row. Explanate margin very broad, widest in 1/3 length, then regularly rounded posterad. In the widest part margin as wide as 3/4 width of each elytron. Surface of explanate margin slightly dull, with several coarse but very sparse punctures. Whole surface of elytra bare.


MATERIAL

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REFERENCE