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Peltoxys pilosus n. sp. from the Democratic Republic of Congo,
with a key to known species of the genus
(Hemiptera: Heteroptera: Cydnidae: Garsauriinae)

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ABSTRACT. *Peltoxys pilosus* n. sp. from the Democratic Republic of Congo is described, illustrated and compared with its congeners; a key to all known species of the genus is provided. *P. thaumastellus* LINNAVUORI, 1997 is recorded for the first time from the Central African Republic.

Key words: entomology, taxonomy, new species, key to species, new record, Afrotropics, Hemiptera, Heteroptera, Cydnidae.

The genus *Peltoxys* SIGNORET, 1880 has always been a source of problems; it was described by SIGNORET (1880) in the subfamily Cydninae ("Cydnides"), but thereafter was transferred to the subfamily Sehirinae ("Séhirides") by the same author (SIGNORET 1884).

Studies on the systematic position of the genus have been neglected since that paper, till LINNAVUORI (1977), on the contrary to SIGNORET (1884), regarded *Peltoxys* as a member of the subfamily Cydninae; the genus was considered as such also by subsequent authors (HSIAO et al. 1977, LIS 1991a, 1991b).

Afterward, LINNAVUORI (1993) in his revision of the Cydnidae of West, Central and North-East Africa removed the genus from the subfamily Cydninae, and regarded it as a taxon of uncertain systematic position. However, he gave no arguments supporting such a decision, and therefore in a revision of the Oriental Cydnidae, the genus was tentatively placed in the tribe Cydnini of the subfamily Cydninae (LIS 1994).

Recently, the systematic position of the genus has been clarified based on the studies of the abdominal trichobothrial pattern and the metathoracic wing venation (LIS & HEYNA 2001, LIS & HOHOL-KILINKIEWICZ 2001). *Peltoxys* has appeared to have nothing to do with either the subfamily Sehirinae or the Cydninae, and should be placed into the subfamily Garsauriinae.

The genus includes three species by now (LIS 1999) – two Oriental, *P. brevipennis* (FABRICIUS) and *P. typicus* (DISTANT), and one Afrotropical, *P. thaumastellus* LINNAVUORI; the present paper gives a description of the fourth species of *Peltoxys*, and provides a key to all its known species.

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***Peltoxys pilosus* n. sp.**

(Fig. 1)

TYPE MATERIAL

Holotype male: [DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO]: Lulua, Kapanga, X-1932, F. G. Overlaet, Musée du Congo; Paratypes: [DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO]: 1 female: Lulua, Kapanga, X-1932, F. G. Overlaet, Musée du Congo; 1 female: Elisabethville [=Lubumbashi], 30-iv-1939, H. J. Brédo, Fauchage sur les graminées, R. Mus. Hist. Nat. Belg. I. G. 12.548; the holotype and one paratype in the collection of the Musée Royal de L'Afrique Centrale (Tervuren, Belgium), one paratype in my collection at the Department of Biosystematics, Division of Zoology, University of Opole (Opole, Poland).

ETYMOLOGY

Named after dense and long pilosity of the body.

DIAGNOSIS

The new species differs from its Afrotropical congener, *P. thaumastellus* LV., in having two subapical peg-like setae on the clypeus (two hair-like setae are present subapically on the clypeus of *P. thaumastellus*); additionally *P. pilosus* is larger than *P. thaumastellus* (body length: 3.27-3.44 mm and 2.20-2.70 mm, respectively). Moreover, it is the only species of the genus with very long pilosity of the body (it is absent or very short in the three remaining species).

DESCRIPTION

Body length 3.27-3.44 mm, body width 1.46-1.54 mm.

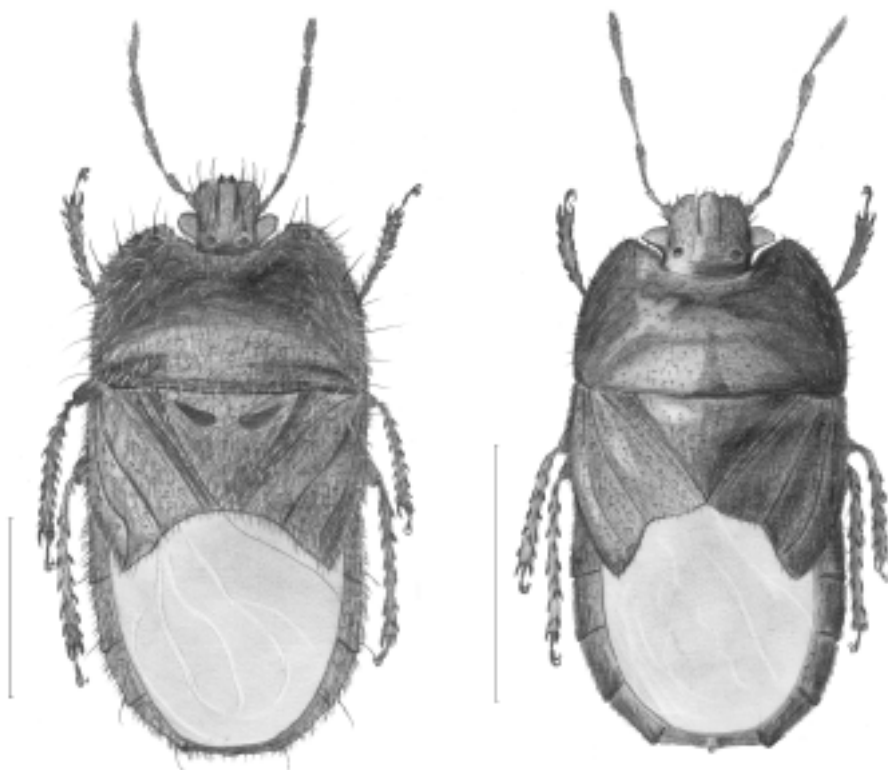
Head castaneous to almost black, its dorsal surface coarsely punctate and bearing numerous white to whitish brown long hairs; anterior half of clypeus and anterior fourth of paraclypei impunctate, slightly transversely wrinkled; clypeus

broadened in its anterior part, clearly longer than paraclypei, bearing two strong subapical peg-like setae; paraclypei with 3-4 submarginal hair-like setae; eyes and ocelli castaneous to blackish brown, ocular index 3.21-3.47; antennae pale brown to dark brown, 2nd segment minute, the 3rd segment 2.6-3.0 times longer than the 2nd segment; rostrum pale brown, reaching or almost reaching anterior margin of mid coxae.

Pronotum castaneous to blackish brown, its anterior half darker than the posterior half, pronotal disc coarsely punctate and bearing numerous white to whitish brown long hairs; anterior margin clearly concave, posterior margin almost straight, lateral margin with a row of 10-12 long submarginal hair-like setae; anterior convexity of propleuron coarsely punctate.

Scutellum castaneous to blackish brown; its disc, except anterolateral smooth spots, coarsely punctate and bearing white to whitish brown long hairs.

Corium brown to dark castaneous, evenly coarsely punctate and bearing white to whitish brown long hairs, especially numerous on the costal margin; the latter with a single long hair-like seta; membrane clearly narrower than abdomen, translucent, its anterior part pale brown.



1-2. Habitus: 1 - *Peltoxys pilosus*, 2 - *P. thaumastellus*. Scale 1.0 mm

Abdominal sterna black, blackish brown or dark castaneous, densely punctate and covered with numerous white to whitish brown long hairs; antero-lateral corners of segments with a clearly visible tubercle.

Legs brown, not specifically modified, tarsi yellowish brown to pale brown.

***Peltoxys thaumastellus* LINNAVUORI, 1997**

(Fig. 2)

MATERIAL EXAMINED

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC: Fort Crampel [=Kaga Bandoro], Ubanghi, 1 male 1 female, Sept. 54, Coll. Mus. Congo, ex. Coll. BREUNING (Musée Royal de l'Afrique Centrale, Tervuren, Belgium).

SUDAN: Equatoria, Mundri, 1 male, 24.II.63, LINNAVUORI, *Peltoxys thaumastellus*, Paratypus (Musée Royal de l'Afrique Centrale, Tervuren, Belgium).

NOTE

New to the Central African Republic; up to now known only from Burkina Faso, Ghana and Sudan (LINNAVUORI 1993, LIS 1999, 2001).

KEY TO THE SPECIES

1. Clypeus with two subapical hair-like setae *P. thaumastellus*
- Clypeus with two subapical peg-like setae 2.
2. Pilosity of the body dense, hairs very long *P. pilosus*
- Pilosity of the body absent or sparse, hairs short 3.
3. Third antennal segment 1.1-1.4 times longer than the second; body about 1.9-2.0 times longer than broad *P. brevipennis*
- Third antennal segment at least 3 times longer than the second; body about 2.1-2.2 times longer than broad *P. typicus*

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