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Hovademulus madagascariensis sp. nov. from Madagascar (*Coleoptera*: *Tenebrionidae*: *Platynotini*)

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ABSTRACT. *Hovademulus madagascariensis* sp. nov. is described from Madagascar. Key to species of the genus *Hovademulus* IWAN is provided.

Key words: entomology, taxonomy, new species, *Coleoptera*, *Tenebrionidae*, *Platynotini*, *Hovademulus*, Madagascar.

In my revision of the genera of Madagascan melanocratoid *Platynotina* (IWAN 1996) I distinguished the genus *Hovademulus*. This genus includes three species: *H. punctipennis* (FAIRMAIRE, 1902) (type species), and two newly described *H. ordinarius* and *H. tenuiculus*. The *Hovademulus* is closely related to the genera *Hovademus* ARDOIN and *Pokryszkiella* IWAN which it resembles in the shape of the genal canthus (equal to or narrower than eyes) and the border of pronotal base (widely interrupted in middle). It differs in the structure of mentum (mid part with distinct median keel) and in the narrow border of prosternal process.

***Hovademulus madagascariensis* sp. nov.**

(figs 1-14)

NAME DERIVATION

From terra typica.

LOCUS TYPICUS

Ampijoroa, Tsaramandroso (Madagascar).

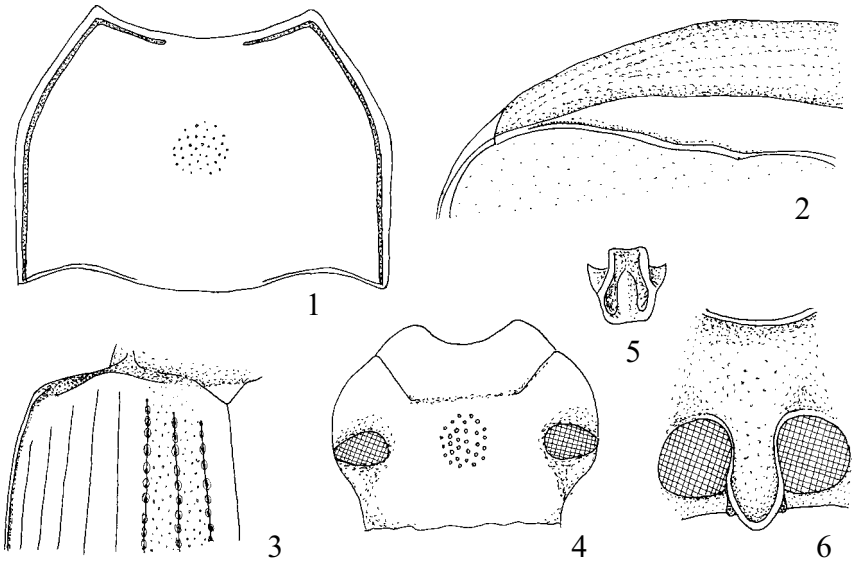
DIAGNOSIS

H. madagascariensis resembles to *punctipennis* and *tenuiculus* in completely bordered prosternal process, flat elytral intervals and distinct puncturation of elytral striae. *H. madagascariensis* and *tenuiculus* differ from *punctipennis* in the pronotal structure (narrow lateral border, upperside evenly convex in *madagascariensis* and *tenuiculus*; wide lateral border, with shallow and narrow longitudinal grooves at margins in *punctipennis*).

H. madagascariensis differs from *tenuiculus* in the structure of mentum (narrow mid part in *madagascariensis*; wide in *tenuiculus*) and male legs (fore and mid tibia simple in *madagascariensis*, fore tibia with shallow concavity and mid one with apical denticle in *tenuiculus*; mid femora with denticle on inner side in *madagascariensis*, simple in *tenuiculus*).

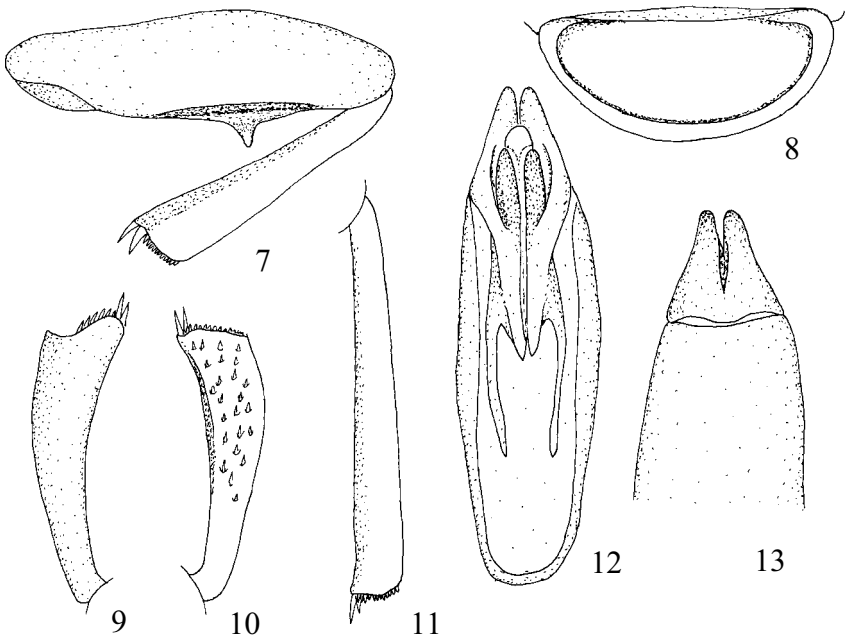
DESCRIPTION

Body length 10.5 mm, pronotum length/breadth ratio ca. 0.67, elytra length/breadth ratio ca. 1.28, length ratio elytra/pronotum ca. 2.11, breadth ratio elytra/pronotum ca. 1.10. Colour dark brown, upperside with a greasy sheen, underside slightly shiny. Head surface distinctly punctate, pronotum and elytra delicately punctate but well visible; middle of prosternum coarsely punctate, mesosternum



1-6. *Hovademulus madagascariensis*: 1 – pronotum; 2 – apical part of elytral epipleuron; 3 – anterior part of elytron; 4 – haed; 5 – mentum; 6 – prosternal process

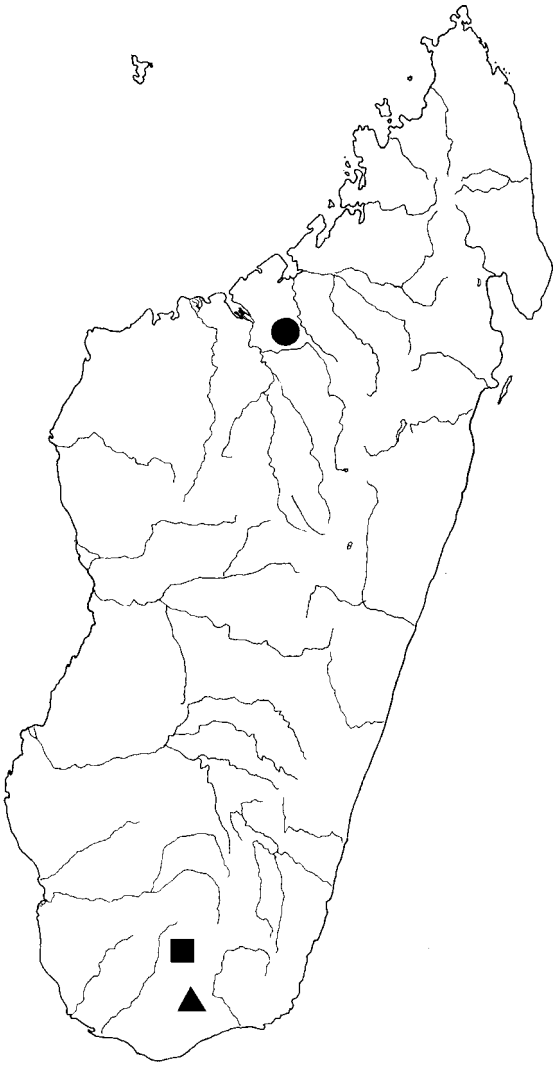
surface granulate, abdominal ventrites delicately but distinctly punctate. Head as in fig. 4, anterior margin of clypeus deeply emarginated. Antennae fairly long - length ratio pronotum/antenna ca. 1.01, moderately thick - antenna breadth (third segment) /length ratio ca. 0.06. Mid part of mentum narrowed anterad; lateral wings well visible; anterior margin slightly emarginate; middle with distinct keel (fig. 5). Pronotum as in fig. 1; anterior angles strongly produced anterad, posterior angles sharp; lateral border of pronotum of the same width as antennal segment 3; pronotum base doubly sinuately emarginate. Anterior part of elytron as in fig. 3. Elytral humeral angles distinct, rounded; scutellum relatively large - wider than the first interval, distance between humeral angle and scutellum ca. 3.6 x scutellum width; anterior margin of elytra slightly convex anteriad; elytral striae punctate-sulcate, punctures in striae relatively large; intervals practically flat. Apical part of elytron with the border disappearing just before apex (fig. 2). Prosternal process produced towards mesosternum, completely bordered (fig. 6). Mesosternum narrow, with a deep gutter in middle. Last abdominal ventrite widely bordered (fig. 8). Male tarsi narrow, with glabrous gutters ventrally (fore - segment 4, mid and hind on all segments); fore tibia slightly widened, simple on inner side (figs 9, 10), mid tibia without apical denticle, hind tibia straight (fig. 11), mid femora with denticle on inner side (fig. 7). Aedeagus as in figs 12 and 13, length ratio basal/ apical part of aedeagal tegmen ca. 3.1.



7-13. *Hovademulus madagascariensis*: 7 – male mid femur and tibia; 8 – last abdominal ventrite; 9 – dorsal and 10 – ventral view of male fore tibia; 11 – male hind tibia; 12 – aedeagus, ventral view; 13 – apical part of aedeagus, dorsal view

DISTRIBUTION (fig. 14)
N Madagascar.

TYPE
Holotype (male), TMNH: "Ampijoroa, 14 Jan 1956, Tsaramandroso; E. McC. CALLAN Collector; Institut Scientifique, Madagascar".



14. Distribution of *Hovademulus madagascariensis* (circle), *H. tenuiculus* (square) and *H. ordinarius* (triangle)

KEY TO THE SPECIES

1. Prosternal process completely bordered; elytral intervals flat; elytral rows shallow, punctures large, well visible 2
-. The border of prosternal process interrupted at apex; elytral intervals strongly convex; elytral rows deep, punctures small, barely visible ..... *ordinarius*
2. Lateral margins of pronotum widely bordered and provided with a longitudinal groove ..... *punctipennis*
-. Lateral margins of pronotum narrowly bordered, without groove 3
3. Male fore tibia with a long, shallow concavity on inner side; male mid femora simple ..... *tenuiculus*
-. Male fore tibia simple; male mid femora with denticle on inner side .... *madagascariensis*

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