

Papéis Avulsos de Zoologia

FURTHER NOTES ON AMERICAN PENTAGONICINI: ON THE VENEZUELAN SPECIES (COLEOPTERA, CARABIDAE)

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ABSTRACT

Six species of Pentagonica are recorded for Venezuela, all new to the fauna of Venezuela, and one undescribed: Pentagonica melancholica, sp. n. (type-locality, Miranda, San Antonio de los Altos). Comments on some of the species are made.

Among the Carabids I received for study from Venezuela, are six species of *Pentagonica*, a genus which has not been previously recorded there (the type-species of *Thoasia*, the other Neotropical genus of the group, is the only species of Pentagonicini known from Venezuela). I am publishing now the data on the Pentagonicini, as materials for a coming revision of the group. The remaining forms will be subject of a commented list to be published in the near future.

I have recently published a preliminary revision of the tribe in the New World (Reichardt, 1968). No changes in taxonomic concepts are proposed in the present paper, and therefore no references are given for the species treated. They are given in the earlier revision.

It is interesting to note here that all the specimens studied have been collected in the northern, coastal, states of Venezuela. This most certainly does not mean a restriction to that part of the country, but lack of material from the inland.

The following collections were studied: Instituto de Zoologia Agricola, Facultad de Agronomia, Universidad Central de Venezuela, Maracay, Aragua (under care of F. Fernandez Y., C. J. Rosales and J. Bechyné; FAUCV); Museo de Historia Natural La Salle, Sociedad de Ciencias Naturales La Salle, Caracas, D.F. (under care of L. J. Joly T.; CLS); and the private collection of Mr. C. Bordon, Caracas, D.F. (CB). I am very much indebted to these entomologists, who made the collections available for study. Special thanks are due for the permission to retain part of the material in the Museu de Zoologia (MZUSP), and one paratype of the new species for the Museum of Comparative Zoology, United States (MCZ).

***Pentagonica maculicornis* Bates, 1883**

Venezuela. *Miranda*, carretera Chuspa-Higuerote, 20.XII.1967, L. J. Joly col. (2 ex., CLS); *Carabobo*, Las Vueltas, 450 m.

8.VII.1966, Fac. Agronom. (2 ex., CB); *Aragua*, Cagua, 20.IX.1960, 20.X.1960, 20.VII.1961, C. Bordon col. (10 ex., CB, MZUSP); El Limon, 450 m, 6.V.1962, 25.V.1965, 29.V.1965, F. Fernandez Y. col. (5 ex., FAUCV, MZUSP); *idem*, 4.X.1964, 4.V.1965, J. & B. Bechyné col. (3 ex., FAUCV, MZUSP).

***Pentagonica flavipes flavipes* (Leconte, 1853)**

Venezuela. *Aragua*, Rancho Grande, 1100 m, 12.VIII.1965, A. Fernandez Y. & J. Salcedo col. (1 ex., FAUCV); *idem*, 23.IX.1964, A. Fernandez Y. & A. Perez col. (1 ex., FAUCV); *ibidem*, 17.IX.1964, J. & B. Bechyné col. (1 ex., FAUCV); El Limon, 450 m, 29.V.1965, F. Fernandez Y. col. (2 ex., FAUCV, MZUSP); Maracay, 450 m, 4.VIII.1949, H. E. Box col. (1 ex., FAUCV); *Miranda*, Alpes del Tuy (P. N. Guatopo, 400 m), 16.IV.1967, C. Bordon col. (1 ex., CB).

***Pentagonica ochracea* Reichardt, 1968**

Venezuela. *Miranda*, La Toma, Capaya, 250 m, 24.III.1967, J. L. Gracia col. (2 ex., CLS, MZUSP).

P. ochracea was originally described from neighboring, and faunistically very similar, Trinidad. In its original description it was considered as related to the species in the vicinity of *trivittata*. Having now studied specimens of *omostigma* from Venezuela, the relationships between these two species become very apparent. *P. omostigma* is, however, easily distinguished by the elytral markings, which are completely absent in *ochracea*.

***Pentagonica omostigma* Bates, 1883**

Venezuela. *Carabobo*, San Esteban (camino de los Españoles, 400 m), 21.XII.1965, L. J. Joly col. (1 ex., CLS); *Miranda*, La Toma, Capaya, 250 m, 24.III.1967, J. L. Garcia col. (1 ex., MZUSP); *idem*, 9.XII.1967, O. Chacón col. (1 ex., MZUSP); Fila de Mariche, 1000 m, 6.III.1966, C. Bordon col. (1 ex., CB); Alpes del Tuy (P. N. Guatopo, 400 m), 16.IV.1967, C. Bordon col. (1 ex., MZUSP); La Gosmanera (P. N. Guatopo), 23.VIII.1965, L. J. Joly col. (1 ex., CLS); *Aragua*, Rancho Grande, 1100 m, IX.1964, J. & B. Bechyné col. (1 ex., FAUCV).

***Pentagonica melancholica*, sp. n.**

(Fig. 1)

Venezuela. *Miranda*, San Antonio de los Altos, 1300 m, 5.V.1963, C. Bordon col. (holotype ♂, FAUCV; 2 paratypes MZUSP; 1 paratype CB); *idem*, 1.VIII.1963, C. Bordon col. (3 paratypes, CB); *ibidem*, 1400 m, 22.XI.1963, C. Bordon col. (2 paratypes, CB; 1 paratype, MZUSP); *Distrito Federal*, Hda. El Limon, 25.VI.1966, L. J. Joly & J. L. Garcia col. (1 paratype, CLS).

Testaceous; head, meso-, metathorax and abdomen, scutellum and a large elytral spot, black. Antennae, mouthparts and legs testaceous. Body finely microreticulate. Head black, normally

developed; pronotum with the normal shape, slightly wider than head, convex, with clear median sulcus; scutellum elongate-triangular, black, also finely microreticulate; elytra wider than pronotum, with weak striae (9 on each elytron, plus the short, scutellar stria); interstices normally convex; ground color testaceous, black spot extending from base to close to apex, laterally limited by the fourth stria. Ventrally black, except prothorax, which is testaceous. Measurements (in mm): total length, 4.7-5.6; maximum elytral width, 2.0-2.4; maximum pronotal width, 1.1-1.4.

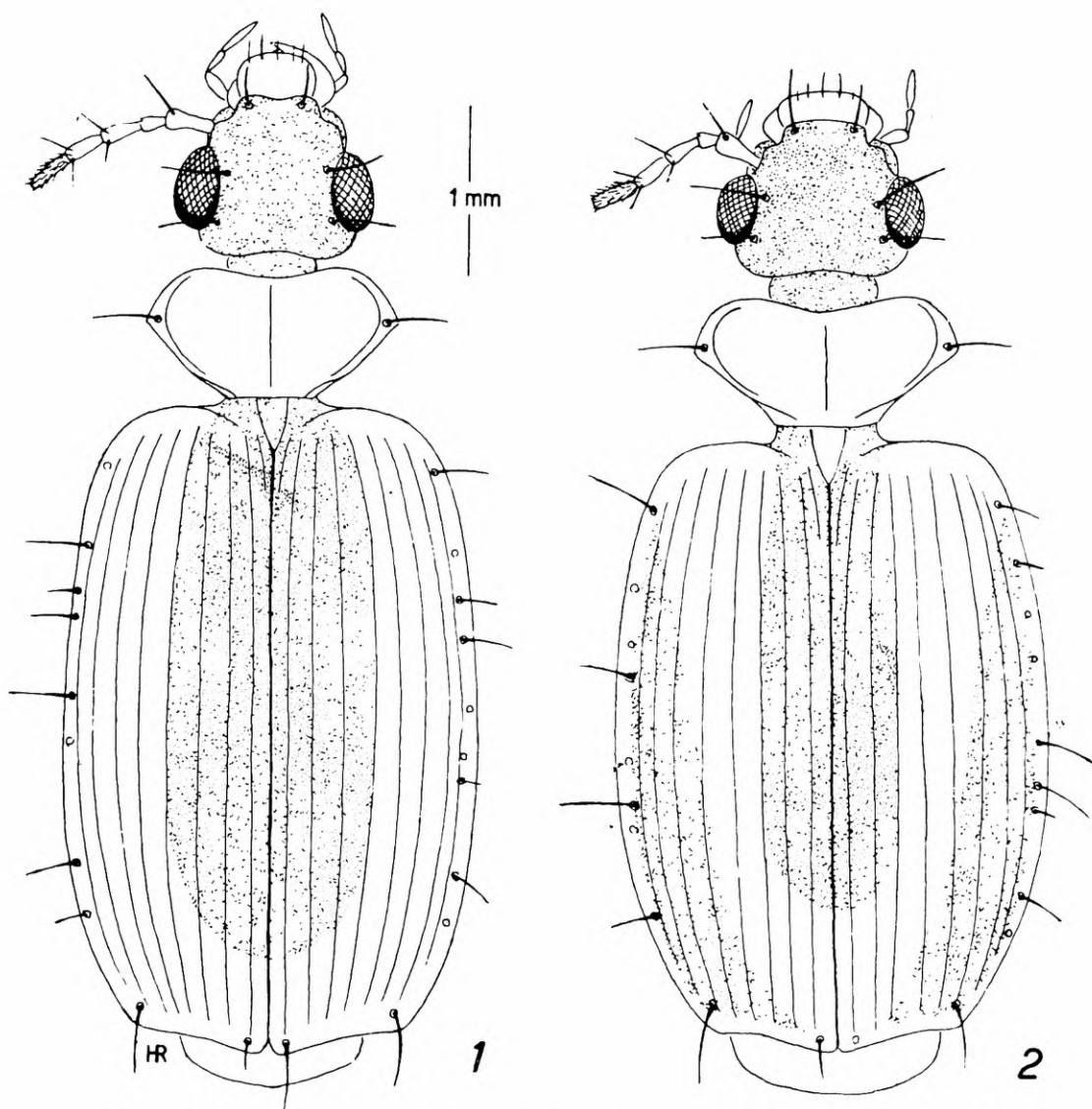


Fig. 1: *Pentagonica melancholica*, sp. n.; fig. 2: *P. trivittata*.

Pentagonica melancholica, sp. n., is well characterized by the peculiar elytral spot; it is closely related to *trivittata*, a species with wide, but disrupted distribution (see Reichardt, *l.c.*: 157), and which also occurs in Venezuela. The two species have black head, testaceous pronotum, and the elytra with testaceous ground color, but the elytra are differently marked.

Pentagonica trivittata (Dejean, 1831)

(Fig. 2)

Venezuela. *Districto Federal*, Los Caracas, Litoral, 1-7.X.1967, C. Bordon col. (2 ex., CB); *Aragua*, Cagua, 10.X.1960, C. Bordon col. (1 ex., CB); El Limon, 450 m, 29.V.1965, F. Fernandez Y. col. (8 ex., FAUCV, MZUSP); *idem*, 3.VI.1965, *idem* col. (1 ex., FAUCV); Cumbre de Choroni, 1800 m, 23.V.1948, *ibidem* col. (1 ex., FAUCV); *Miranda*, Guatopo, 400 m, 28.VIII.1964, C. J. Rosales col. (1 ex., FAUCV).

Venezuelan *trivittata* agree morphologically with the Central American specimens listed elsewhere (Reichardt, *l.c.*: 156), that means, they have completely yellow antennae and yellow scutellum; while the Brazilian samples I have seen, have segments 5-11 darkened, and black scutellum.

REFERENCE

REICHARDT, H.

1968. Revisionary notes on the American Pentagonicini (Coleoptera, Carabidae). *Papéis Avulsos Zool. S. Paulo* 21(15):143-160, 4 figs.