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A NEW *NEOCOLLYRIS* (*HETEROCOLLYRIS*) SUBSPECIES FROM MINDANAO, PHILIPPINES (COLEOPTERA, CARABIDAE, CICINDELINAE)

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Neocollyris (Heterocollyris) chaudoiri sciakyi **ssp. nov.** from Zamboanga (Mindanao) is described. The new subpecies is closely related to *N. (H.) chaudoiri* (Horn, 1892), but easily distinguishable by bicolor hind tarsa.

Key words: Coleoptera, Cicindelinae, new subspecies, new records, Philippines.

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INTRODUCTION

Twenty two species of the tiger beetle of the subgenus *Heterocollyris* Naviaux, 1995 of the genus *Neocollyris* Horn, 1901 are known to the day. Most of species (18) live in Philippines, four species known from Indonesia, and one of them is known from Borneo and Palawan (Naviaux 1995, Anichtchenko 2019). Seven species are cited for Mindanao (Cabras et al. 2016).

Recently, a new subspecies was discovered from Zamboanga Peninsula, between material acquired by DUBC, and new distributional data were obtained by authors during the expeditions 2018-2019 supported by the grant from the Erasmus+ Programme ”Higher education student and staff mobility between Programme and Partner Countries”.

The new subspecies is described herein.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The material from the following institutional and private collections has been examined: DUBC – Daugavpils University Beetles collection (Latvia); cRS – collection Riccardo Sciaky (Italy).

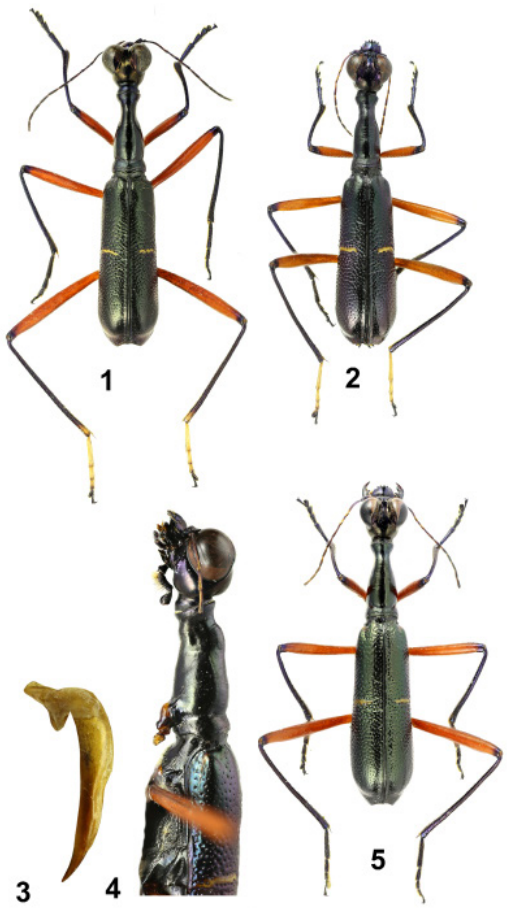
Measurements: body length, from anterior margin of clypeus to apex of elytra along suture; length of pronotum, along midline; width of pronotum, at widest point; length of elytra, from its base to apex along suture; width of elytra, at widest point. All measurements are given in these *Neocollyris* millimeters.

High-resolution habitus images of *Neocollyris* species, including type specimens and additional material, are available at Carabidae of the World web-project http://carabidae.org

***Neocollyris* (*Heterocollyris*) *chaudoiri sciakyi* ssp. nov.** (Figs. 1-4)

Holotype: male, "Philippine Mindanao / Zamboanga del N / Gutalac I.2015" (in coll. R. Sciaky).

Paratypes: 1 female: "Philippine Mindanao / Zamboanga del N / Labuan I.2018" (in coll. R. Sciaky); 2 females: "Filippine, Mindanao, Zamboanga del N., Gutalac, XII.2014" (in coll. R. Sciaky); 1 female "Philippines, Mindanao, Zamboanga del Norte, Mt. Gampoy, 1900 m, V.2015" (DUBC).



Figs. 1-5. Subpecies of *Neocollyris (Heterocollyris) chaudoiri* (Horn, 1892): 1 - *Neocollyris (Heterocollyris) chaudoiri sciakyi* ssp. nov. Holotype, male; 2 – idem, Paratype, female from Mt. Gampoy; 3 – idem, aedeagus; 4 – idem., lateral view of head and pronotum, Paratype; 5 - *Neocollyris (Heterocollyris) chaudoiri* s.str., female from Davao.

Diagnosis

N. (*H.*) *chaudoiri sciakyi* **ssp. nov.** is similar to *N.* (*H.*) *chaudoiri* sensu stricto (Fig. 5), in body size and coloration of elytra, but immediately distinguishable by bicolor hind tarsa, i.e. unicolor dark blue in *N.* (*H.*) *chaudoiri* s.str. Pronotum of new subspecies slightly longer, 2.76 times longer than wide vs 2.44 times in *N.* (*H.*) *chaudoiri* s. str., and more parallel sided in basal half.

DESCRIPTION

Body length 18 mm. Head with violaceous, pronotum with bluish, and elytra with bluish-green luster. Elytra with narrow yellow transverse band in the middle, interrupted near suture, and with small yellow stripe under humeral hump; 1-5th antennomeres violaceous, 6-11th black, 3-11th antennomere yellow ventrally and basally. Mouth parts violaceous. Femora red, with narrowly dark blue knees; pro- and mesotibiae, and pro- and mesotarsa dark blue. Apices of metatibiae, and three basal segments of metatarsa yellow. Ventral side dark blue.

Head. Mandibles with two teeth. Labrum semicircular, with seven blunt teeth and eight lateral setae. Antennae long, reaching the base of pronotum. Vertex barely dilated in lateral view (Fig. 3), interocular excavation nearly parallel sided in females, and barely widened towards to behind in male.

Pronotum. 2.76 times longer than wide, with some wrinkles in anterior half, lateral and ventral sides densely setose. In anterior half sides constricted, in male more than in females.

Elytra. 3.07 times longer than wide (measured in the band area), parallel-sided, very slightly dilated in apical third. Punctures from the base and apice towards to the middle gradually larger, more confluent, and there forming transversal wrinkles on the elytral band. Elytral apex with external angle obtuse and widely rounded; concave before small and almost right sutural angle.

Ventral segments almost smooth. Lateral sides of metasternum densely pubescente.

Aedeagus (Fig. 4). Strongly curved in basal part, ventral side of median lobe straight, slightly downturned in apical forth, apice long and narrow.

Etymology. This new subspecies named after famous Italian carabidologist and my friend, Riccardo Sciaky.

Comments. Due to the insufficient amount of material, we chose to describe the new taxon as a subspecies, however it is possible that it deserves a species rank. So far, two subspecies of *N. (H.) chaudoiri* (Horn, 1892) were known. In addition to the nominative subspecies, also the subspecies *rariussculpta* from Samar Island is known (Horn, 1929). The single specimen we studied from Samar Island does not show the features indicated by Horn, and is similar to the nominative subspecies. To determine the status of this subspecies, a study of types is necessary.

The Philippine islands are geologically active, particularly the island of Mindanao. Due to the partitioned nature of its origin the southern part of the archipelago harbors high level of endemic species. One of the relatively unexplored regions of Mindanao is the province of Zamboanga, belonging to an independent zoogeographical region. Biogeographic studies suggest that the western part of Mindanao that includes the Zamboanga peninsula emerged as a separate island together with the eastern part of Mindanao during the Sulu Archipelago-Mindanao Arc formation (Yumul et al., 2003). This confirms to the uniqueness of the species found in Zamboanga as compared to the rest of the mainland Mindanao and its nearby islands.

Additional material examined: "Filippine Samar, E. Visayas, Lope de Vega, II.2016" (1 female, cRS); "Philippines, Mindanao, Davao, The Philippine Eagle Foundation, 29.3.2018, 7.185259, 125.415154, Anichtchenko A. leg." (1 female, DUBC).

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