

***Paranovelsis venezuelae* sp. nov., a new species from Venezuela
(Coleoptera: Dermestidae)**

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Abstract. *Paranovelsis venezuelae* sp. nov., a new species from Venezuela is described, illustrated and compared with similar species.

INTRODUCTION

The *Paranovelsis* was described as a subgenus of the genus *Novelsis* by Casey (1900). Beal (1954) synonymized the subgenus with the genus *Novelsis* Casey, 1900. Mroczkowski (1968) mentioned it as a subgenus of the genus *Novelsis* and Háva (2003) mentioned it as a synonym of *Novelsis*. Based on a study of type species and other material, the author removed the subgenus from the synonymy and raised it to an independent genus including 13 species known from the Neotropical, Nearctic and Palaearctic Regions (Háva 2013).

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The size of the beetles or of their body parts can be useful in the species recognition and thus, the following measurements were made:

total length (TL) - linear distance from anterior margin of pronotum to apex of elytra.

elytral width (EW) - maximum linear transverse distance.

Abbreviation:

JHAC Jiří Háva, Private Entomological Laboratory & Collection, Únětice u Prahy, Prague-west, Czech Republic.

DESCRIPTION

***Paranovelsis venezuelae* sp. nov.**
(Figs 1-2)

Type locality. Venezuela - Cojedes prov., El Baúl, 80 km SSE from San Carlos.

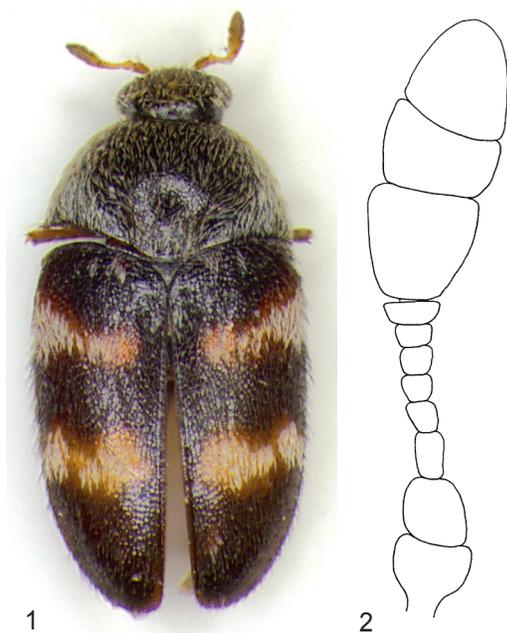
Type material. Holotype (♀) labelled: „Venezuela - Cojedes prov., El Baúl, 80 km SSE from San Carlos, 20-30.

xi.1999, O. Šafránek lgt.“. Holotype deposited in (JHAC). Abdomen is glued on the same card. The type specimen is equipped with a red, printed label bearing the text as follows: “HOLOTYPE *Paranovelsis venezuelae* sp. nov. J. Háva det. 2012“.

Description. Female. Body (Fig. 1); measurements (mm): TL 3.30 EW 1.60; cuticle black and orange-reddish on dorsal surfaces, and black on ventral surfaces; in general large and elongate, covered with black and white recumbent pubescence. Head finely punctate, with white, recumbent pubescence. Palpi entirely brown; pubescence on mentum denser. Ocellus on frons present. Antennae, brown, 11-segmented, antennal club black, 3-segmented (Fig. 2). Pronotum finely punctate like head, covered with unicolored, white, recumbent pubescence. Scutellum triangular, finely punctate as pronotum, with black pubescence. Elytra finely punctate, on each humerus with a large bump; cuticle black, covered with black pubescence, with two broad, orange-reddish fasciae covered with white pubescence; near scutellum with a very small, circular spot with white pubescence. Epipleura black, finely punctate, covered with white pubescence. Prosternal process, coarsely punctured, broad and long, covered with white pubescence. Mesosternum and metasternum covered with white pubescence. Abdominal ventrites finely punctate, covered with white, recumbent pubescence. Legs brown with white pubescence; tibiae with short, brown spines.

Male unknown.

Differential diagnosis. The new species is similar to *Paranovelsis bitaeniatus* (Steinheil, 1869), but differs from it and other known species by the colour of elytra and structure of antennae.



Figs 1-2. *Paranovelsis venezuelae* sp. nov.: 1- habitus; 2- antenna of female.

- 1(2) Elytral integument unicolorous, without reddish transverse fasciae; each elytron with small, isolated white spots..... *Paranovelsis gounellei* (Pic, 1915)
- 2(1) Elytral integument bicolorous
- 3(4) Each elytron with two broad, orange-reddish, transverse bands covered with white pubescence.....
.....*Paranovelsis venezuelae* sp. nov.
- 4(3) Each elytron with more than two reddish bands covered with white pubescence
- 5(6) Head and pronotum covered with white pubescence only
.....*Paranovelsis adpersus* (Blanchard in Orbigny, 1843)
- 6(5) Head covered with white pubescence; pronotum covered with intermixed white and yellow pubescence laterally and brown pubescence (discally with two large black spots covered with brown pubescence)
.....*Paranovelsis bitaeniatus* (Steinheil, 1869)

Distribution. Venezuela.

Etymology. Named after the name of the country, where the type material was collected.

CHECK LIST OF NEOTROPICAL SPECIES OF *PARANOVELSIS*

<i>Paranovelsis adpersus</i> (Blanchard in Orbigny, 1843)	Bolivia
<i>Paranovelsis bitaeniatus</i> (Steinheil, 1869)	Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia, Chile, Paraguay, New Zealand (introduced)
<i>Paranovelsis gounellei</i> (Pic, 1915)	Brazil
= <i>Attagenus brasiliensis</i> Pic, 1923	
<i>Paranovelsis venezuelae</i> sp. nov.	Venezuela

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