

**A new species of the genus *Ranolus* (Blair, 1929) from Thailand
(Coleoptera: Dermestidae: Orphilinae: Ranolini)**

Jiří HÁVA

Department of Forest Protection and Entomology, Faculty of Forestry and Wood Sciences,
Czech University of Life Sciences,
Kamýcká 1176, CZ-165 21 Prague 6, Czech Republic
e-mail: jh.dermestidae@volny.cz

Taxonomy, new species, Coleoptera, Dermestidae, Orphilinae, Ranolini, *Ranolus*, Thailand, Oriental Region

Abstract. A new species *Ranolus tenebricola* sp. nov. from Thailand is described, illustrated and compared with still one known species *Ranolus cavernicola* (Blair, 1929). The new species differs by the colour, structure of antennal cavity and structure of antennae.

INTRODUCTION

The genus *Ranolus* (Blair, 1929) was originally described as a monotypical subgenus of the genus *Attagenus* from Malaysia: the subgenus Selangor with its type species *Ranolus cavernicola* (Blair, 1929). Háva & Kalík (2005) redescribed, illustrated and compared this subgenus with all the known genera belonging to the tribe Attagenini and newly stated it as a separate genus. Háva in Zahradník & Háva (2014) transferred the genus, together with the genus *Orphiloides* Lawrence et Slipinski, 2005, to a new tribe Ranolini of the subfamily Orphilinae. In the present article, a second species of the genus *Ranolus* (Blair, 1929) is described from Thailand

MATERIAL AND METHODS

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

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

pronotal length (PL) - maximum length measured from anterior margin to posterior margin.

pronotal width (PW) - maximum linear transverse distance.

elytral length (EL) - linear distance from shoulder to apex of elytron.

elytral width (EW) - maximum linear transverse distance.

Moreover, following abbreviation refer to the collections, in which the examined material is deposited:

BMNH British Museum of Natural History, London, United Kingdom;

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

DESCRIPTION

Subfamily Orphilinae LeConte, 1861

Tribe Ranolini Háva, 2014

Genus *Ranolus* (Blair, 1929)

Type species: *Attagenus* (*Ranolus*) *cavernicola* Blair, 1929.

Ranolus tenebricola sp. nov.

(Figs 1-5)

Type material. Holotype (♀): Thailand, NE, Loei prov., Phu Rua NP, 17°30'N, 101°21'E, 6-9.iv.1999, D. Hauck lgt., (JHAC). Paratype (1 ♀): the same data as with holotype, (JHAC). Specimens of the presently described species are provided with red, printed labels with text as follows: „HOLOTYPE (or PARATYPE) *Ranolus tenebricola* sp. nov. Jiří Háva det. 2014”.

Description. Body short oval, very convex, brown to dark brown, covered by a moderately long, dense, recumbent yellow and black pubescence (Figs 1-3). Measurements (mm): TL 3.4 PL 0.7 PW 1.6 EL 2.8 EW 2.2.

Head finely punctate with recumbent yellow pubescence; labial palpi brown; pubescence on mentum denser; antennae brown, consisting of 11 antennomeres with a rather distinct 4-antennomered club. Eyes very large, with brown microsetae. Median frontal ocellus present (Fig. 5).

Pronotum punctate as head, covered by entirely yellow pubescence. Prosternal process short, broad and coarsely punctate. Hypomeron finely punctate, with distinct antennal and legs cavity (Fig. 4).

Scutellum brown, triangular with short, recumbent yellow pubescence.

Elytra. Humeri of each elytron coarsely punctate, with one large bump, other parts finely punctate; each elytron with two transverse fasciae of yellow pubescence and apical spot of yellowish pubescence; anterior and median yellow, transverse fasciae associated on the suture. Epipleuron unicolorous, brown, with short yellow pubescence.

Mesosternum short and broad with longitudinal groove; metasternum discally finely punctate, laterally coarsely punctate, covered by recumbent yellow pubescence. Metepisternum coarsely punctate, covered by recumbent yellow pubescence.

Abdominal visible sternites brown, finely punctate, covered by recumbent yellow pubescence.

Legs brown with yellow setation; tibiae slightly dentate.

Differential diagnosis. The new species belongs to the tribe Ranolini according to characteristic distinct antennal cavity on hypomeron and differs from the still one known species *Ranolus cavernicola* (Blair, 1929) by the following characters:

Ranolus tenebricola sp. nov.: elytra with two transverse fasciae and one spot of yellow pubescence in their apical part (Figs 1-2).



Figs 1-6. *Ranolus tenebricola* sp. nov., holotype: 1- habitus dorsal aspect; 2- habitus lateral aspect; 3- habitus ventral aspect; 4- antennae and pronotum ventral aspect (ac - antennal cavity, lc - legs cavity); 5- head dorsal aspect (oc - ocellus). *Ranolus cavernicola* (Blair, 1929): 6- holotype.

Ranolus cavernicola (Blair, 1929): elytra without transverse fasciae of yellowish pubescence; each elytron dark castaneous brown with reddish-brown pubescence.

Remarks. The specimens were collected together with more other species belonging to the family Tenebrionidae (Coleoptera) and the author selected them from other visually very similar tenebrionids.

Name derivation. Named based on considerable visual similarity to some other tenebrionids.

LIST OF *RANOLUS* SPECIES

Subfamily Orphilinae LeConte, 1861

Tribe Ranolini Háva, 2014

Genus *Ranolus* (Blair, 1929)

Type species: *Attagenus (Ranolus) cavernicola* Blair, 1929.

Ranolus cavernicola (Blair, 1929)

Attagenus (Ranolus) cavernicola Blair, 1929: 382 (original description).

Attagenus (Ranolus) cavernicola: Mroczkowski, 1968: 83; Háva, 2003: 55 (catalogues).

Ranolus cavernicola: Háva & Kalík, 2005: 210 (redescription).

Sex of the type: female.

Type depository: BMNH.

Distribution: Malaysia: Selangor.

Ranolus tenebricola sp. nov.

Sex of the type: female.

Type depository: JHAC.

Distribution: Thailand.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS. I am obliged very much to S. Shute (BMNH) for loaning me the holotype of *Ranolus cavernicola*, and to M. Rakovič (Czech Republic) for reading the manuscript. This research was supported by the Internal Grant Agency (IGA n.20124364), Faculty of Forestry and Wood Sciences, Czech University of Life Sciences Prague.

REFERENCES

- BLAIR K. G. 1929: Fauna of the Batu Caves, Selangor. xvii. Coleoptera. *The Journal of Federal Malay Museum*, Singapore 14: 381-387.
- HÁVA J. 2003: World Catalogue of the Dermestidae (Coleoptera). *Studie a Zprávy Oblastního Muzea Praha-východ v Brandýse nad Labem a Staré Boleslavi* Supplementum 1: 1-196.

- HÁVA J. 2014: Derodontoidea, Jacobsoniidae, Nosodendridae, Dermestidae. In: ZAHRADNÍK P. & HÁVA J.: Catalogue of the world genera and subgenera of the superfamilies Derodontoidea and Bostrichoidea (Coleoptera: Derodontiformia, Bostrichiformia). *Zootaxa* 3754: 301-352.
- HÁVA J. & KALÍK V. 2005: A contribution to knowledge of the tribe Attagenini (Coleoptera: Dermestidae: Megatominae) from the Malayan subregion. *Acta Musei Moraviae, Scientiae Biologicae*, Brno 90: 209-214.
- MROCKOWSKI M. 1968: Distribution of the Dermestidae (Coleoptera) of the world with a catalogue of all known species. *Annales Zoologici* 26: 15-191.

Received: 30.1.2013

Accepted: 1.3.2014

