

**Contribution to the tribe Brachinini (Coleoptera: Carabidae) - VI.  
A new species of genus *Brachinus* from the Afrotropical Region**

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**Taxonomy, new species, Coleoptera, Carabidae, Brachinini, *Brachinus*, Afrotropical Region, Benin**

**Abstract.** A new species, *Brachinus havai* sp. nov. from Benin, is described and illustrated. Male genitalia of holotype are illustrated.

INTRODUCTION

The last complete revision of the tribe Brachinini was published by Chaudoir (1876). A work aimed at the genus *Brachinus* from the Afrotropical Region was published later by Liebke (1934). From Benin, the genus *Brachinus* Weber, 1801 has not yet been reported.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The type material was taken from the author's collection. Photos of specimens used for redescriptions were provided. Exact label data are cited for the type material, separate lines on labels are indicated by „/“, separate labels by „//“. Autor's remarks and comments are found in brackets. [p] - the preceding data were printed; [hw] - the same was hand-written.

Measurements of body parts and corresponding abbreviations used in the text are as follows:

- TL total length - measured from the apex of the left mandible (mandibles opened) to the apex of the left elytron;
- DVH dorso-ventral height - maximum dorso-ventral height of the body;
- HL length of head - measured from the clypeus apex to the neck constriction;
- HW width of head - maximum width of the head (including eyes);
- AL antennae length;
- PL pronotal length - length of the pronotum measured along the mid-line;
- PW1 pronotal width 1 - width of the anterior margin of the pronotum;
- PW2 pronotal width 2 - maximum width of the pronotum;
- PW3 pronotal width 3 - minimum width of the pronotum;
- PW4 pronotal width 4 - width of the posterior margin of the pronotum;
- EL elytral length - measured from the anterior margin of the scutellum to the posterior margin of the elytra;
- EW elytral width - maximum width of both elytra combined.

## TAXONOMY

### *Brachinus havai* sp. nov.

(Figs. 1-2, 5)

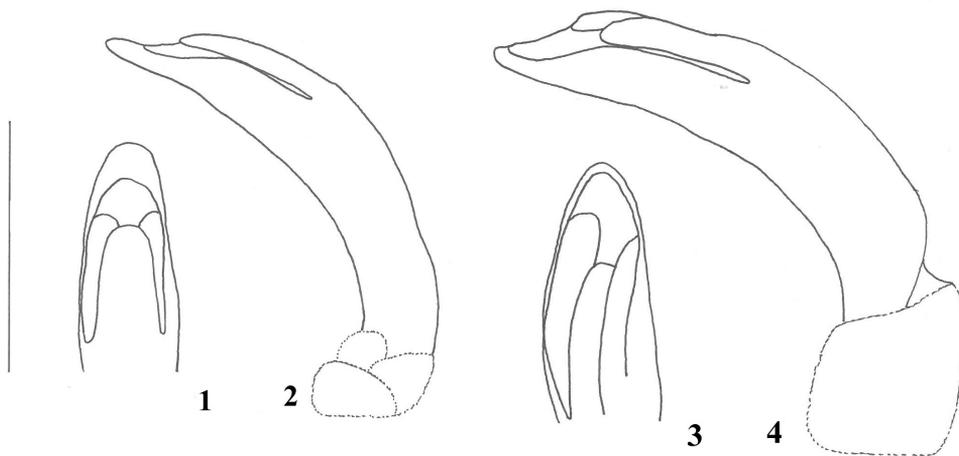
**Type material.** Holotype (♂) labelled: „NE BENIN / E of KANDI / 4 km W of BENSEKOU / 24. – 25.06.2001 / A. KUDRNA JR. LGT. [p, white label] // HOLOTYPE / *Brachinus havai* / sp. n. / det. Jan Hrdlička, 2016 [p, red label]. Holotype is deposited in the author's collection.

**Description of the male holotype.** Habitus (Fig. 5). A small size *Brachinus* (TL 8.70 mm); 2.26 times longer than wide (TL/EW). Body flat (TL/DVH 3.87), largely rusty red. Mandibles, abdominal ventrites, antennomere 2 and tarsi brown. Antennomere 3-11 black. Elytra black with green metallic shine; humeral and apical spots, lateral margins and epipleura rusty red.

Head longer than wide (HL/HW 1.22), wider than pronotum (HW/PW2 1.07). Eyes large. Head shiny, frontal furrows and neck finely and sparsely irregularly punctate and pubescent by short setae. Mandibles in side-view with plurisetose scrobe. Antennae long, narrow (TL/AL 1.47).

Pronotum longer than wide (PL/PW2 1.07). PL 1.60 mm, PW1 1.45 mm, PW2 (at the end of first fifth of pronotum) 1.50 mm, PW3 (at the end of fourth fifth of pronotum) 1.05 mm, PW4 1.15 mm. Sides of pronotum cordiform. Disc convex with dense punctuation and yellow pubescence. Posterior angles of pronotum acute. Episterna of prothorax smooth and shiny.

Elytra 1.34 times longer than wide (EL/EW). Maximum width slightly under half. Elytral disc strongly flat, with uniform dense punctuation and yellow pubescence. Humeri distinct.



Figs. 1-4. aedeagus. Figs. 1-2: *Brachinus havai* sp. nov., Figs. 3-4: *Brachinus tetraspilotus* Chaudoir, 1876. 1,3- lateral view; 2,4- dorsal view. Scale bar 1 mm.



Fig. 5. *Brachinus havai* sp. nov., holotype, dorsal aspect.

Fig. 6. *Brachinus tetraspilotus* Chaudoir, 1876, dorsal aspect.

Each elytron with 8 imperceptible costae. Posterior margin of elytra concave. Epipleura and lateral margins of the elytra rusty red. Humeral spots elongate (reaching slightly over half of the elytra) and connected with rusty red lateral margins. Apical spots isolated from rusty red lateral margins.

Male genitalia (Figs. 1-2). Aedeagus long and narrow. Apical half flattish dorso-ventrally. The tip is obliquely truncate, with round corners.

**Differential diagnosis.** *Brachinus havai* sp. nov. is similar to *Brachinus tetraspilotus* Chaudour, 1876 from Ethiopia. *Brachinus havai* sp. nov. differs in sizes (*B. tetraspilotus* TL 11.00 mm), colour of elytra, shape of aedeagus and shape of pronotum (*B. tetraspilotus* PL/PW2 1.00).

**Distribution.** N.E. Benin.

**Biology.** Unknown.

**Name derivation.** This species is dedicated to Jiří Háva (Czech Republic), a well-known specialist in Dermestidae.

#### REFERENCES

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- LIEBKE M. 1934: Die Brachyninae des Afrikanischen Festlandes. *Mémoires de la Société Entomologique de Belgique* 24: 5-94.
- WEBER F. 1801: *Observationes entomologicae, continentes novorum quae condidit generum characteres, et nuper detectarum specierum descriptiones*. Kiliae: Impensis Bibliopolii Academici Novi, xii + 116 pp.

Received: 5.6.2016  
Accepted: 20.6.2016