

New *Oracula* Novák species (Tenebrionidae: Alleculinae: Alleculini: Alleculina) from Myanmar

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Abstract. Three new species of Alleculini Laporte, 1840 - *Oracula* (*Duocula*) *shanica* sp. nov., *Oracula* (*Oracula*) *flava* sp. nov. and *Oracula* (*Oracula*) *peguica* sp. nov. all from Myanmar are described, illustrated and compared with similar species.

INTRODUCTION

The genus *Oracula* Novák, 2019 (including subgenera *Duocula* Novák, 2019 and *Oracula* s.str.) with the type species *Oracula bicolor* Novák, 2019 was established by Novák (2019). Novák (2020) listed three species from the Palaearctic Region, further six species living in the Palaearctic Region (China and Nepal) were described by Novák (2023a and 2024). Twenty nine species were described by Novák (2019, 2022a, b, 2023 b, c) from the Oriental Region (Laos, Malaysia, Thailand and Vietnam). No species is known from the area of Myanmar so far.

The new species *Oracula* (*Duocula*) *shanica* sp. nov., *Oracula* (*Oracula*) *flava* sp. nov. and *Oracula* (*Oracula*) *peguica* sp. nov. are described, illustrated (including male genitalia) and compared with similar species.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Two important morphometric characteristics used for the descriptions of species of the subfamily Alleculinae, the ‘ocular index’ dorsally (Campbell & Marshall 1964) and ‘pronotal index’ (Campbell 1965), are used in this paper as well. The ocular index equals $(100 \times \text{minimum dorsal distance between eyes}) / (\text{maximum width of head across eyes})$. The pronotal index is calculated as $(100 \times \text{length of pronotum along midline}) / (\text{width across basal angles of pronotum})$.

‘Type material’ information is taken from recent locality labels.

In the list of type material, a slash (/) separates data in separate rows.

The following collection code is used:

VNPC private collection of Vladimír Novák, Praha, Czech Republic.

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

AL - total antennae length, BL - maximum body length, EL - maximum elytral length, EW -

maximum elytral width, HL - maximum length of head (visible part), HW - maximum width of head, OI - ocular index dorsally, PI - pronotal index dorsally, PL - maximum pronotal length, PW - pronotal width at base, RLA - ratios of relative lengths of antennomeres 1-11 from base to apex (3=1.00), RL/WA - ratios of length / maximum width of antennomeres 1-11 from base to apex, RLT - ratios of relative lengths of tarsomeres 1-5 respectively 1-4 from base to apex (1=1.00).

Measurements were made with an Olympus SZ 40 stereoscopic microscope with continuous magnification and with the Soft Imaging System AnalySIS. Snapshots were taken and processed by using a Canon EOS 550 D camera and Canon Macro Photo Lens MP-E and Helicon Focus 7.7.5 software.

TAXONOMY

Genus *Oracula* Novák, 2019

Type species: *Oracula bicolor* Novák, 2019: 72.

Subgenus *Duocula* Novák, 2019

Type species: *Oracula (Duocula) clara* Novák, 2019: 60.

Oracula (Duocula) shanica sp. nov.

(Figs. 1-4)

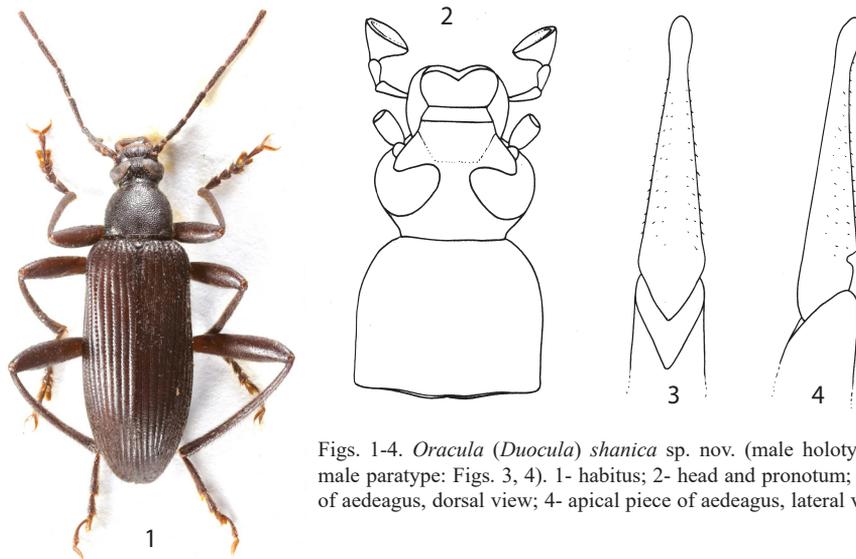
Type locality. Myanmar, Southwestern Shan State, Taunggyi.

Type material. Holotype (♂): BURMA (Myanmar) / SW Shan state / TAUNGGYI / J. Rejsek 1.-18.6.1997, (VNPC). Paratype: (1 ♂): same data as holotype, (VNPC). The types are provided with a printed red label: 'Oracula (*Duocula*) / shanica sp. nov. / HOLOTYPUS or PARATYPUS / V. Novák det. 2025'.

Description of holotype. Habitus as in Fig. 1, medium-sized, narrow, elongate, *Leptura*-shaped, shiny, from dark brown to blackish brown, dorsal surface with setae, punctures and fine microgranulation, BL 9.23 mm. Widest near middle of elytra length; BL/EW 3.39.

Head (Fig. 2) blackish brown, slightly longer than wide through the eyes, distinctly wider than anterior margin and slightly narrower than base of pronotum. Dorsal surface shiny with coarse punctures, sparse, short, pale setae and microgranulation. Posterior part with U-shaped place without punctures. Anterior part and clypeus dark brown, clypeus transverse, half-heart shaped, surface with pale setae, punctures and microgranulation, apex pale reddish brown, slightly excised in middle. HW 1.40 mm; HW/PW 0.81; HL (visible part) 1.47 mm. Eyes large, transverse, excised, space between eyes distinctly narrower than diameter of one eye, approximately as wide as length of antennomere 1; OI equal to 20.37.

Antenna long, (AL(1-7) 4.52 mm, AL(1-7)/BL 0.49), antennomeres narrow, 8-11 are missing. Dorsal surface with dark setae, microgranulation and punctures. Antennomeres 1-3 semi-matte, antennomeres 4-7 matte distinctly longer than antennomere 3. Antennomere 2 shortest.



Figs. 1-4. *Oracula (Duocula) shanica* sp. nov. (male holotype: Figs. 1, 2; male paratype: Figs. 3, 4). 1- habitus; 2- head and pronotum; 3- apical piece of aedeagus, dorsal view; 4- apical piece of aedeagus, lateral view.

RLA(1-7): 0.34 : 0.19 : 1.00 : 1.13 : 1.15 : 1.18 : 1.22.

RL/WA(1-7): 1.42 : 1.17 : 5.68 : 6.10 : 6.55 : 6.35 : 6.29.

Maxillary palpus blackish brown, shiny, with pale setae, punctures and microgranulation. Palpomeres 2 and 3 distinctly narrowest at base and widest at apex, ultimate palpomere widely triangular.

Pronotum (Fig. 2) blackish brown, shiny, convex, widest in basal half of lateral margins, slightly wider than long, slightly narrower than elytra at humeri. Dorsal surface with dark setae near margins and pale setae on disc, dense punctures and fine microgranulation. PL 1.53 mm; PW 1.74 mm; PI equal to 87.93. Border lines narrow, margins conspicuous from dorsal view, only in the middle of anterior margin not clearly distinct. Base very finely bisinuate, anterior margin straight, lateral margins arcuate in apical part, anterior angles obtuse, posterior angles roundly rectangular.

Elytra. Blackish brown, narrow, elongate, slightly convex, shiny, widest near middle elytra length. Dorsal surface with dark setae. EL 6.13 mm; EW 2.72 mm; EL/EW 2.05. Elytral striae with rows of coarse punctures, elytral intervals slightly convex, with sparse, shallow punctures, and microgranulation.

Scutellum. Blackish brown, semi-elliptical, raised up to level of elytra, with microgranulation and punctures.

Elytral epipleura well-developed, blackish brown, with long, pale setae and punctures, narrowing to ventrite 1, then narrow becoming parallel on apical part.

Legs. Long, narrow, dark reddish brown, metatibiae black. Dorsal surface with dark setae, microgranulation and small punctures. Pro- and mesotarsomeres 3 and 4 and penultimate metatarsomeres widened and lobed. RLT: 1.00 : 0.58 : 0.61 : 0.94 : 1.44 (protarsus); 1.00 : 0.42 : 0.36 : 0.43 : 1.04 (mesotarsus); 1.00 : 0.46 : 0.36 : 0.67 (metatarsus).

Protarsal claws pale reddish brown, upper claw with more than 30 teeth, lower claw with more than 20 teeth.

Ventral side of body dark brown with sparse punctures and short, pale setae. Abdomen blackish brown, shiny with sparse, pale setae, dense, small punctures and fine microgranulation.

Aedeagus (Figs. 3, 4) ochre yellow, shiny. Basal piece rounded laterally and narrowing in dorsal view. Apical piece very narrow, elongate triangular with drop-shaped apex in both views. Ratio of length of apical piece to length of basal piece in dorsal view 1: 2.33.

Female unknown.

Variability. The type specimens somewhat vary in size; each character is given as its mean value, with full range in parentheses. Males (n=2). BL 9.62 mm (9.23-10.00 mm); HL 1.53 mm (1.47-1.59 mm); HW 1.46 mm (1.40-1.51 mm); OI 20.05 (19.73-20.37); PL 1.62 mm (1.53-1.70 mm); PW 1.84 mm (1.74-1.93 mm); PI 88.01 (87.93-88.08); EL 6.42 mm (6.13-6.71 mm); EW 2.87 mm (2.72-3.02 mm).

Differential diagnosis. A similar species with black dorsal surface is *Oracula (Duocula) flebila* Novák, 2023 from Thailand (Fang Doi Ang Khang).

Oracula (Duocula) shanica sp. nov. clearly differs from the similar species *O. (D.) flebila* mainly by the shape of the pronotum, with lateral margins parallel in basal half, by the posterior angles almost rectangular, by the metatibiae black and by the shape of the aedeagus as in Figs. 3 and 4; while *O. (D.) flebila* has the lateral margins in basal half of pronotum slightly rounded, the posterior angles are obtuse as in Novák 2023: 105: fig. 10, the metatibiae are pale brown and the apical piece of the aedeagus is shorter with shape as in Novák 2023: 105: figs. 11 and 12.

Etymology. Toponymic, named after the type locality - Shan State (Myanmar).

Distribution. Myanmar (Shan State).

Subgenus *Oracula* Novák, 2019

Type species: *Oracula (Oracula) bicolor* Novák, 2019: 72.

***Oracula (Oracula) flava* sp. nov.**

(Figs. 5-8)

Type locality. Myanmar, Mon State, Kyaukto - Pauktaw.

Type material. Holotype (♂): 3 - 6. VI. 2003 / BURMA MON STATE / KYAIKTO - PAUKTAW / KLÍCHA M. Lgt., (VNPC). Paratype: (1 ♂): same data as holotype, (VNPC). The types are provided with a printed red label: 'Oracula (Oracula) / flava sp. nov. / HOLOTYPUS or PARATYPUS / V. Novák det. 2025'.

Description of holotype. Habitus as in Fig. 5, medium-sized, narrow, elongate, *Leptura*-shaped, shiny, from ochre yellow to reddish brown, dorsal surface with pale setae, punctures

and fine microgranulation, BL 9.46 mm. Widest near middle of elytra length; BL/EW 3.68.

Head (Fig. 6) slightly longer than wide through the eyes, slightly wider than anterior margin and distinctly narrower than base of pronotum. Dorsal surface shiny with coarse punctures, long, erect, pale setae and microgranulation. Posterior part reddish brown, anterior half and clypeus pale reddish brown. Clypeus transverse, half-heart shaped, surface with long, pale setae, and microgranulation, apex dark brown, slightly excised in middle. Mandibles pale reddish brown, shiny, glabrous. HW 1.42 mm; HW/PW 0.79; HL (visible part) 1.53 mm. Eyes large, transverse, excised, space between eyes distinctly narrower than diameter of one eye, approximately as wide as length of antennomere 1; OI equal to 15.74.

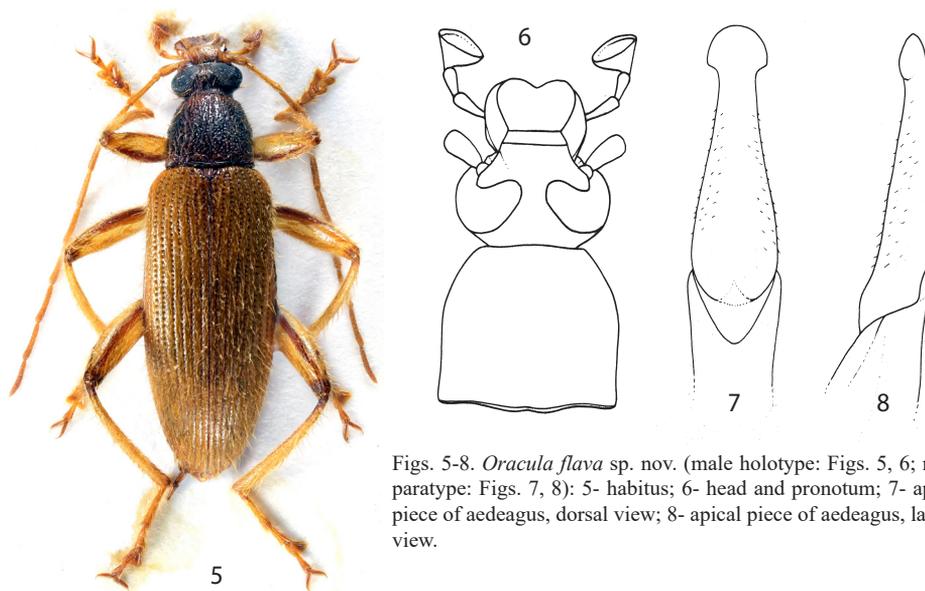
Antenna long, ochre yellow (AL 7.80 mm, distinctly exceeding three quarters body length - AL/BL 0.81), antennomeres narrow. Dorsal surface with long, pale setae, microgranulation and shallow punctures. Antennomere 2 shortest, antennomeres 4-11 longer than antennomere 3.

RLA(1-11): 0.58 : 0.22 : 1.00 : 1.18 : 1.10 : 1.13 : 1.17 : 1.21 : 1.17 : 1.12 : 1.16.

RL/WA(1-11): 2.44 : 1.10 : 5.25 : 6.53 : 6.39 : 6.81 : 6.83 : 7.06 : 6.83 : 6.56 : 7.18.

Maxillary palpus ochre yellow, semi-matte, with long pale setae and microgranulation. Palpomeres 2 and 3 distinctly narrowest at base and widest at apex, ultimate palpomere slightly darker - pale reddish brown, widely triangular.

Pronotum (Fig. 6) reddish brown, semi-matte, convex, widest at base, slightly wider than long, distinctly narrower than elytra at humeri. Dorsal surface with long, semi-erect, pale setae, large, coarse punctures and microgranulation. PL 1.71 mm; PW 1.80 mm; PI equal to 94.85. Border lines very narrow, margins conspicuous from dorsal view, only in the middle of anterior margin not clearly distinct. Base bisinuate, anterior margin arcuate in middle, lateral margins distinctly excised before rectangular posterior angles, in apical half arcuate, anterior angles distinct, obtuse.



Figs. 5-8. *Oracula flava* sp. nov. (male holotype: Figs. 5, 6; male paratype: Figs. 7, 8): 5- habitus; 6- head and pronotum; 7- apical piece of aedeagus, dorsal view; 8- apical piece of aedeagus, lateral view.

Elytra. Ochre yellow, narrow, elongate, slightly convex, shiny, widest near middle. Dorsal surface with long, semi-erect, pale setae. EL 6.40 mm; EW 2.62 mm; EL/EW 2.60. Elytral striae with rows of coarse punctures, elytral intervals slightly convex, with fine microgranulation and small, sparse, shallow punctures.

Scutellum. Pale reddish brown, with sides dark brown, roundly triangular, with microgranulation.

Elytral epipleura well-developed, ochre yellow, with long, pale setae and punctures, narrowing to ventrite 1, then becoming parallel on apical part.

Legs. Long and narrow, ochre yellow. Dorsal surface with long, erect, pale setae, very small punctures and fine microgranulation. Pro- and mesotarsomeres 3 and 4 and penultimate metatarsomeres widened and lobed. RLT: 1.00 : 0.72 : 0.72 : 0.87 : 1.54 (protarsus); ---- : ---- : ---- : ---- (mesotarsus); 1.00 : 0.42 : 0.38 : 0.67 (metatarsus).

Protarsal claws pale reddish brown, both with more than 30 teeth.

Ventral side of body reddish brown with large punctures and pale setae. Abdomen brown, shiny with pale setae, punctures and fine microgranulation. Ultimate and penultimate ventrites dark brown.

Aedeagus (Figs. 7, 8) ochre yellow, shiny. Basal piece rounded laterally and narrowing in dorsal view. Apical piece very short, elongate triangular with rounded top, beak-shaped dorsally and laterally. Ratio of length of apical piece to length of basal piece in dorsal view 1: 6.98.

Female unknown.

Variability. The type specimens somewhat vary in size; each character is given as its mean value, with full range in parentheses. Males (n=2). BL 9.75 mm (9.64-9.86 mm); HL 1.56 mm (1.53-1.59 mm); HW 1.60 mm (1.47-1.72 mm); OI 15.66 (14.35-16.97); PL 1.69 mm (1.67-1.71 mm); PW 1.79 mm (1.78-1.80 mm); PI 94.41 (93.82-95.00); EL 6.50 mm (6.40-6.60 mm); EW 2.69 mm (2.62-2.75 mm).

Differential diagnosis. A similar species with pale (yellow) dorsal surface belonging to the subgenus *Oracula* is *Oracula (Oracula) attapuica* Novák, 2022 from Laos (Attapu Province).

The new species *Oracula (Oracula) flava* sp. nov. clearly differs from the similar species *O. (O.) attapuica* mainly by the pronotum and head reddish brown, by the legs completely yellow, by the large, sparse punctures of the pronotum and by the shape of the aedeagus as in Figs. 7 and 8; while *O. (O.) attapuica* has the pronotum shiny and pale reddish brown, the head is blackish brown, the apex of the tibiae and base of the femora are dark, the pronotum has dense, smaller punctures and the shape of the aedeagus is as in Novák 2022: 401: figs. 19 and 20.

Etymology. Named after its unusual colour of the dorsal surface of elytra, from Latin -*flavus* (yellow).

Distribution. Myanmar (Mon State).

***Oracula (Oracula) peguica* sp. nov.**
(Figs. 9-12)

Type locality: Myanmar, Pegu-Chanthakwin.

Type material. Holotype (♂): 19 – 31. V. 2001 / BURMA (MYANMAR) / PEGU-CHANTHAKWIN / KLÍCHA M. Lgt., (VNPC). Paratypes: (3 ♀♀): same data as holotype, (VNPC). The types are provided with a printed red label: 'Oracula (*Oracula*) / peguica sp. nov. / HOLOTYPUS or PARATYPUS / V. Novák det. 2025'.

Description of holotype. Habitus as in Fig. 9, large-sized, narrow, elongate, *Leptura*-shaped, shiny, from yellow to blackish brown, dorsal surface with pale setae, punctures and fine microgranulation, BL 11.96 mm. Widest near middle of elytra length; BL/EW 3.41.

Head (Fig. 10) approximately as wide as long, through the eyes slightly wider than anterior margin and distinctly narrower than base of pronotum. Dorsal surface shiny with dense, coarse punctures, pale setae and microgranulation. Posterior part dark reddish brown, anterior part reddish brown with pale reddish brown apex. Clypeus pale reddish brown, transverse, half-heart shaped, surface with long, pale setae, shallow punctures and fine microgranulation, apex excised in middle. HW 1.77 mm; HW/PW 0.75; HL (visible part) 1.78 mm. Eyes large, transverse, excised, space between eyes distinctly narrower than diameter of one eye, a little wider than length of antennomere 1; OI equal to 16.48.

Antenna long and narrow (AL(1-9) 7.36 mm, distinctly exceeding two thirds body length - AL(1-9)/BL 0.68), antennomeres 10 and 11 missing. Dorsal surface with short and dense, pale setae, microgranulation and small, shallow punctures. Antennomeres 1-3, 8, 9 and basal half of antennomere 4 ochre yellow, remainder brown. Antennomere 2 shortest, antennomeres 4-9 longer than antennomere 3.

RLA(1-9): 0.60 : 0.20 : 1.00 : 1.23 : 1.29 : 1.18 : 1.14 : 1.12 : 1.06.

RL/WA(1-9): 3.22 : 1.00 : 6.15 : 6.57 : 8.16 : 8.06 : 7.78 : 7.64 : 7.22.

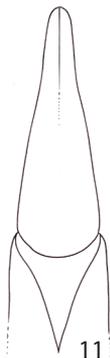
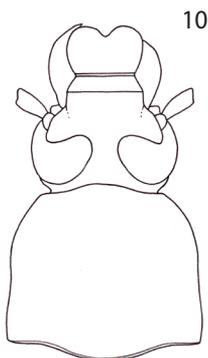
Maxillary palpus ochre yellow, semi-matte, with pale setae, small punctures and microgranulation. Palpomeres 2 and 3 distinctly narrowest at base and widest at apex, ultimate palpomere widely triangular.

Pronotum (Fig. 10) Reddish brown, shiny, convex, widest at base, slightly wider than long, distinctly narrower than elytra at humeri. Dorsal surface with pale setae, small, dense punctures and fine microgranulation inside punctures. PL 2.13 mm; PW 2.35 mm; PI equal to 90.64. Border lines very narrow, margins conspicuous from dorsal view. Base bisinuate, anterior margin arcuate in middle, lateral margins excised before rectangular posterior angles, arcuate in apical half, anterior angles distinct, obtuse.

Elytra. Reddish brown, suture paler, narrow, elongate, slightly convex, shiny, widest in basal half of elytra length. Dorsal surface with short pale setae. EL 8.05 mm; EW 3.51 mm; EL/EW 2.29. Elytral striae with rows of coarse punctures, elytral intervals slightly convex, with microgranulation and small, shallow punctures.

Scutellum. Reddish brown, with sides darker, rectangular, with long, pale setae, microgranulation and small, shallow punctures.

Elytral epipleura well-developed, reddish brown, with pale setae and punctures, narrowing to ventrite 1, then becoming parallel on apical part.



Figs. 9-12. *Oracula peguica* sp. nov. (holotype): 9- habitus; 10- head and pronotum; 11- apical piece of aedeagus, dorsal view; 12- apical piece of aedeagus, lateral view.

Legs. Long, yellow or ochre yellow, femora with blackish brown apical part. Metatibiae narrowly blackish brown in basal part. Dorsal surface with short, pale setae, very small punctures and fine microgranulation. Protarsomeres 2-4, mesotarsomeres 3 and 4 and penultimate metatarsomeres widened and lobed. RLT: 1.00 : 0.59 : 0.89 : 1.22 : 1.72 (protarsus); ---- : ---- : ---- : ---- : ---- (mesotarsus); 1.00 : 0.47 : 0.54 : 0.69 (metatarsus).

Protarsal claws pale reddish brown, both with more than 40 teeth.

Ventral side of body reddish brown with punctures and pale setae. Abdomen dark reddish brown, semi-matte with short, pale setae, small punctures and fine microgranulation. Ultimate and penultimate ventrites blackish brown.

Aedeagus (Figs. 11, 12) ochre yellow, shiny. Basal piece rounded laterally and narrowing in dorsal view. Apical piece elongate triangular in dorsal view, beak-shaped dorsally and laterally. Ratio of length of apical piece to length of basal piece in dorsal view 1: 4.20.

Female has the space between the eyes wider than in male (OI approximately 26). Protarsal claws are short with only 11 teeth.

Measurements of female body. BL 11.61 mm; HL 1.64 mm; HW 1.67 mm; OI 27.35; PL 1.85 mm; PW 2.18 mm; PI 84.86; EL 8.12 mm; EW 3.59 mm; AL 9.14 mm; AL/BL 0.79; HW/PW 0.77; BL/EW 3.23; EL/EW 2.26.

RLA: 0.60 : 0.26 : 1.00 : 1.80 : 1.69 : 1.64 : 1.80 : 1.73 : 1.66 : 1.55 : 1.35.

RL/WA: 2.30 : 1.35 : 4.05 : 7.27 : 6.25 : 6.64 : 7.62 : 7.00 : 7.05 : 6.27 : 5.10.

RLT: 1.00 : 0.94 : 1.22 : 1.35 : 2.16 (protarsus); 1.00 : 0.64 : 0.45 : 0.55 : 1.05 (mesotarsus); 1.00 : 0.45 : 0.50 : 0.68 (metatarsus).

Variability. The type specimens somewhat vary in size; each character is given as its mean value, with full range in parentheses. Females (n=3). BL 11.52 mm (10.53-12.41 mm); HL

1.63 mm (1.63-1.71 mm); HW 1.68 mm (1.60-1.77 mm); OI 26.00 (25.00-27.35); PL 1.92 mm (1.85-1.98 mm); PW 2.26 mm (2.18-2.35 mm); PI 85.09 (84.26-86.16); EL 7.97 mm (7.07-8.72 mm); EW 3.68 mm (3.28-3.86 mm).

Differential diagnosis. The most similar species is *Oracula (Duocula) nuntius* Novák, 2023 from Doi Ang Khang (Thailand) near the border with Myanmar. This species belongs to the subgenus *Duocula*.

Etymology. Toponymic, named after the first name of the type locality of its origin - Pegu (Myanmar).

Distribution. Myanmar.

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