

Description of *Dermeanthrenus pretiosus* gen. n., sp. n. (Coleoptera: Dermestidae: Anthrenini) from Sultanate of Oman

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Taxonomy, new genus, new species, Coleoptera, Dermestidae, Anthrenini, Sultanate of Oman

Abstract. The a new genus *Dermeanthrenus pretiosus* gen. n., sp. n. from Sultanate of Oman are described, illustrated and compared with very similar genus *Anthrenus* Geoffroy, 1762.

INTRODUCTION

The dermestid genus *Anthrenus* Geoffroy, 1762 recently contained 10 subgenera and 220 species and subspecies (Háva 2003, 2008) and belonged to the subfamily Megatominae, tribe Anthrenini (Háva 2004, 2008, Lawrence & Slipinski 2005, Kiselyova & McHugh 2006). The presently new described genus and species is probably an endemic element from Arabian peninsula, recently collected in Sultanate of Oman.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Explanation of abbreviations:

- BL body length (measured from the pronotum anterior margin to the apex of the elytra).
- BW body width (measured between two anterolateral humeral calli).
- PL pronotum length (measured from the top of the anterior margin to scutellum).
- PW pronotum width (measured between the two posterior angles of pronotum).
- SL sternites length (measured from the anterior margin to the apex of posterior margin).
- SW sternites width (measured between two lateral margins in the anterior part of sternites).
- AFL antennal fossa length (measured along the antennal fossa).

All measurements are given in millimeters. Photos were taken with the camera Nikon Coolpix 4500.

Locality labels of the mentioned material are cited in the original version. Remarks of the author are found in brackets []. The shades of colours used in the descriptions are classified according to Paclt (1958).

TAXONOMY

Dermeanthrenus gen. n.

Type species: *Dermeanthrenus pretiosus* sp. n., masculine gender.

Description. Body covered by scales. Frontal median ocellus presented. Pronotum very flat, lateral margins very raised. Antennae 11- segmented, antennal club 3- segmented, terminal antennal segment tipped. Male genitalia: parameres very long and narrow and on tip with long setae; parameres without connecting medial bridge; median lobe broad and long, reached to the parameres.

Differential diagnosis. New genus differs by the characters mentioned in the following key:

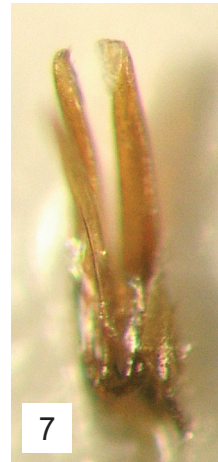
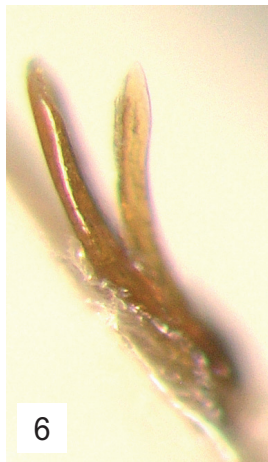
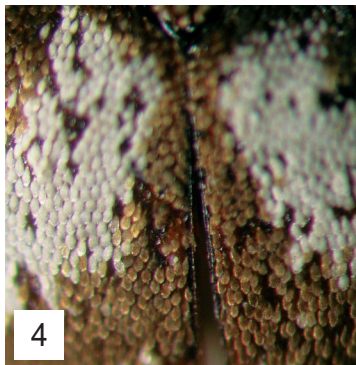
- 1(2) pronotum very flat, lateral margins very raised; antennal club 3- segmented, terminal antennal segment tipped, parameres very long and narrow and on tip with long setae; parameres without connecting medial bridge; median lobe broad and long, reached to the parameres *Dermeanthrenus* gen. n.
- 2(1) pronotum convex, lateral margins bent downward; antennal club 3- segmented, terminal antennal segment circular or rounded without tip; parameres with connecting ridge *Anthrenus* Geoffroy, 1762
- 3(6) antennae 11- segmented
- 4(5) eyes with median margin broadly and deeply emarginate at about anterior 1/3 *Anthrenus* s.str.
- 5(4) eyes with median margin completely *Nathrenus* Casey, 1900
- 6(3) antennae less than 11 segments
 - antennae 10- segmented *Anthrenodes* Chobaut, 1898
 - antennae 9- segmented *Anthrenops* Reitter, 1881
 - antennae 8- segmented *Florilinus* Mulsant & Rey, 1868
 - antennae 7- segmented *Solskinus* Mroczkowski, 1962
 - antennae 6- segmented
 - females: all visible abdominal sternites covered by scales; body large 5-7 mm
..... *Peacockia* Menier & Villemant, 1993
 - females: only V visible abdominal sternite covered by setation; body small 2.3-2.7 mm
..... *Setapeacockia* Háva, 2008
 - antennae 5- segmented (sometimes 6 of females) *Helocerus* Mulsant & Rey, 1868
 - antennae 4- segmented *Ranthenus* Mroczkowski, 1962

Etymology. Name of genus composed of generic names *Dermestes* and *Anthrenus*.

Dermeanthrenus pretiosus sp. n.

(Figs 1-7)

Type material. Holotype (♂) labelled: „Oman, Al Hajar Al Gharbi, Mahdah [30 km NE of Al Ayn (United Arab Emirates), 24°24'N 55°58'E], 6.8.1978, A. V. Cholminykh leg.” Specimen of the presently described species are provided with a red, printed label with text as follows: „HOLOTYPE *Dermeanthrenus* gen. n. *pretiosus* sp. n. Jirí Háva det. 2007”. Holotype deposited in the author’s collection.



Figs 1-7. *Dermeanthrenus pretiosus* sp. n.: 1- habitus dorsal aspect; 2- head and pronotum lateral aspect; 3- antennae; 4- individual scales on elytra; 5- abdominal sternites; 6- aedeagus lateral aspect; 7- aedeagus dorsal aspect.

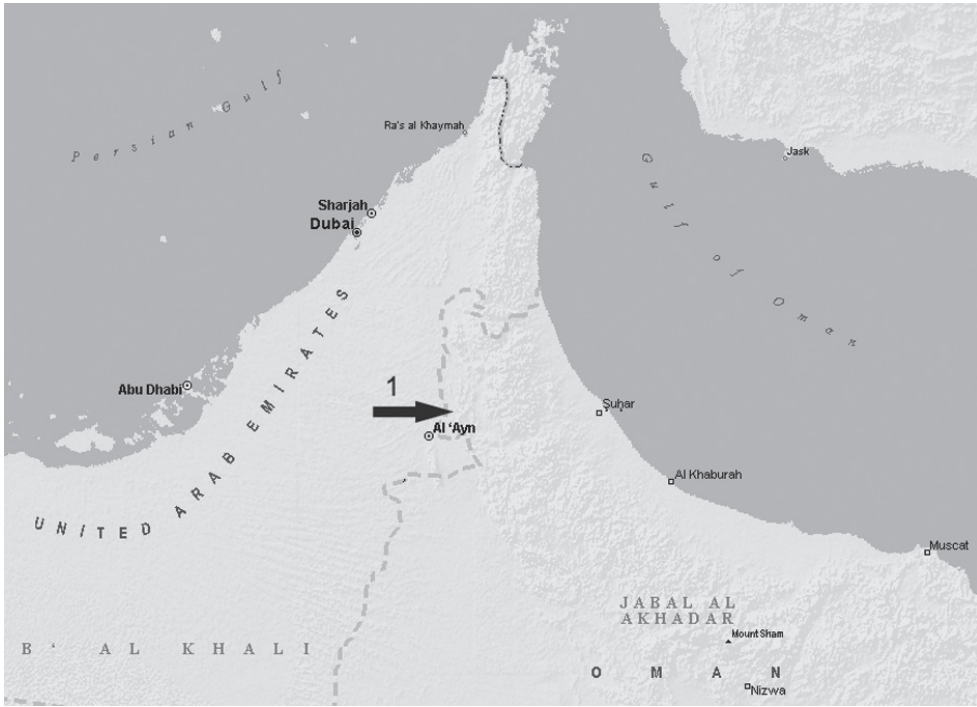


Fig. 8. Map of distribution of *Dermeanthrenus pretiosus* sp. n. 1 = Mahdah city.

Description. Male body measurements: BL 2.5 BW 1.6 PL 0.6 PW 1.2 SL 1.4 SW 1.4 AFL 0.3; body oval, brown. Dorsal and ventral surfaces covered by white and brown scales.

Head covered only white scales. Antennae 11- segmented, brown, antennal club 3- segmented, compact and tipped (Fig. 3). Eyes with median margin broadly and deeply emarginate at about anterior 1/3. Frontal median ocellus presented. Labial palpi short, entirely brown. Antennal fossa very deep (Fig. 2).

Pronotum very flat, lateral margins very raised, covered by white scales.

Scutellum small, triangular, with brown scales.

Elytra with brown and white scales; white scales forming spots on each elytron (Fig. 1). Individual scales generally widest at about proximal 1/3 or middle with margins tapering gradually toward apex. Epipleuron brown, short, broad, with white scales.

Prosternum with only white scales; prosternal process narrow and long. Mesosternum with only white scales. Metepisternum with only white scales. Metasternum with only white scales, without a large patch at lateral margins. Abdominal sternites covered by white scales. Particular abdominal sternites bearing large spots of brown scales at antero-lateral margins (Fig. 5). Sternites I-IV without spots in the middle. Sternite V with one median, longitudinal bump.

Legs brown with white scales and white setae. Tibiae very narrow and long with white scales, femora narrow and long with white setation.

Male genitalia (Figs 6-7), parameres very long (0.47 mm) and narrow and on tip with long setae; parameres without connecting medial bridge; median lobe broad and long, reached to the parameres.

Female unknown.

Differential diagnosis. New species differs from all known taxa by the characters mentioned in the preceding key.

Etymology. Latin Word pretiosus (valuable).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS. I would like to express my thanks to M. Rakovič (Department of Biophysics, Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic) for his critical comments and linguistic revision of the text.

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