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Hesperus havai sp. nov., a new species of the genus *Hesperus* (Staphylininae) from Tanzania (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae: Philonthina)

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Abstract. *Hesperus havai* sp. nov. from Tanzania is described, illustrated and compared with a similar species *Hesperus depressus* Bernhauer, 1908.

INTRODUCTION

The philonthine genus *Hesperus* was described by Fauvel (1874); typus generis *Hesperus rufipennis* (Gravenhorst, 1802), originally described as *Staphylinus rufipennis,* designated by Lucas (1920), by subsequent designation. The genus includes more than two hundred species from all the zoogeographical regions. From the Afrotropical Region, 26 species have been described. A new species is described below.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The following acronyms are used to refer to the collections mentioned:

BMNH The British Natural History Museum, London, United Kingdom (Max Barclay and Roger Booth);

LHPC private collection of Lubomír Hromádka, Prague, Czech Republic.

A double slash (//) is used to divide labels of type specimen. All measurements were taken in beetle with stretched abdomen. All ratios mentioned in the descriptions are dimensionless but can be converted to length in mm: 20 units = 1 mm.

DESCRIPTION

Hesperus havai sp. nov.

(Figs 1-3)

Type locality. Tanzania, Tegetero, Uluguru Mountains 1100 m.

Type material. Holotype (♂): "Tanzania, Tegetero, Uluguru Mountains 1100 m, S06°55´03", E37°43´16", 30.iv.-1.v.11, Dung Tanzania, Tegetero, Uluguru Mountains 1100 m, S06°55´03", E37°43´16", 30.iv.-1.v.11, Dung Pitfall, leg. Smith, R. & Takano, H. // Holotypus *Hesperus havai* sp. nov. Hromádka det., 2012, [red oblong label printed]' (BMNH). Paratypes (2 ♀♀): same label data as holotype (BMNH, LHPC).

Description. Body length 11.2 mm, length of fore body 6.0 mm.

Colouration. Head, pronotum and scutellum black, elytra and abdomen yellow-brown, maxillary and labial palpi and legs yellow, antennomeres 1-3 yellow, antennomere 11 brown-yellow, remaining antennomeres black, mandibles brown-yellow. Head and pronotum slightly golden iridescent.

Head transverse, distinctly wider than long (ratio 52 : 36), distinctly narrowed posteriad. Posterior angles obtusely rounded, bearing one long and several short black bristles. Eyes slightly convex, longer than temples (17 : 14), posterior margin with three coarse punctures arranged in a horizontal row. Anterior half of temples impunctate, posterior half with several coarse punctures. Surface with very fine microsculpture consisting of transverse waves.

Antennae reaching posterior fifth of pronotum when reclined, antennomeres 1-3 distinctly longer than wide, antennomeres 4-5 and 11 slightly longer than wide, antennomeres 6-10 as long as wide, antennomere 1 longer than antennomeres 2-3 combined, antennomere 3 slightly longer than antennomere 2.

Pronotum longer than wide (ratio 35 : 32), narrowed posteriad, anterior angles almost rectangular, posterior angles markedly rounded. Each dorsal row with eleven approximately equidistant punctures, with wide impunctate line, numerous irregular punctures on each side. Anterior angles and sides with several black bristles of variable lengths. Surface with microsculpture finer and less distinct than that on head.

Middle of scutellum densely and coarsely punctured, sides and base narrowly impunctate. Diameter of punctures twice larger than eye-facets, separated by less than puncture diameter.

Elytra almost as long as wide, slightly widened posteriad. Punctation slightly finer, distinctly sparser than that on scutellum. Punctures slightly smaller than that on scutellum, separated by one or one and half puncture diameter. Surface without microsculpture; setation ginger-haired.

Legs. Metatibia longer than metatarsus (ratio 35 : 30), metatarsomere 1 as long as metatarsomere 5, slightly shorter than metatarsomeres 2-4 combined.

Abdomen wide, from visible tergite III distinctly narrowed posteriad. First three visible tergites with two basal lines, elevated area between lines punctate. Punctation at base of all tergites finer and denser than that on elytra, becoming sparser towards posterior margin of each tergite. Surface without microsculpture; setation similar to that on elytra.

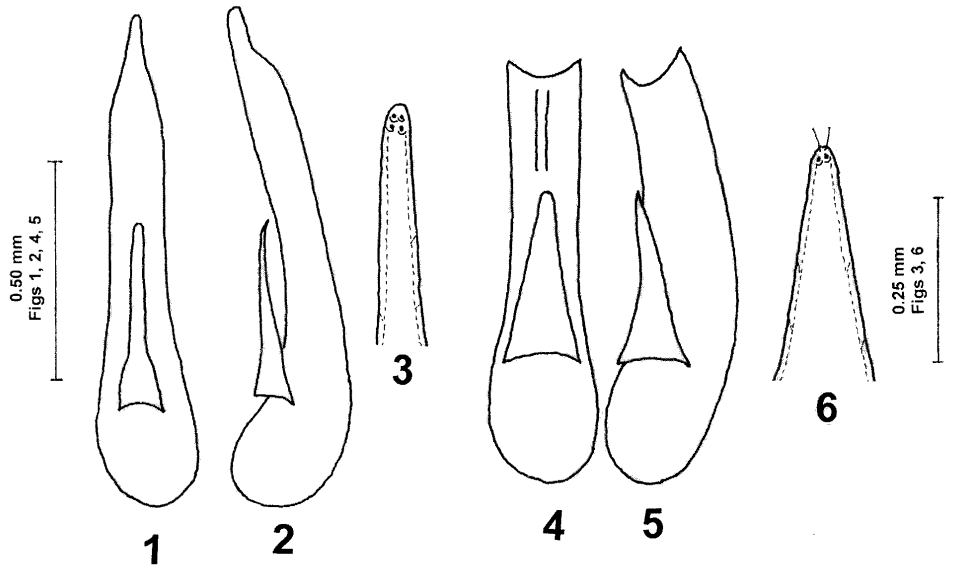
Male. Protarsomeres 1-3 slightly dilated and sub-bilobed, each covered with modified pale setae ventrally, protarsomere 4 slightly narrower than preceding ones. Aedeagus (Figs 1-3).

Female. Protarsomeres 1-3 less dilated than those in male, protarsomere 4 small.

Differential diagnosis. *Hesperus havai* sp. nov. may be distinguished from a similar species *H. depressus* Bernhauer, 1908 (Figs 4-6), by the shorter and different punctation of head, longer eyes, darker scutellum, wider head and by different shape of the aedeagus.

Distribution. Tanzania.

Etymology. It is my pleasure to dedicate this new species to my friend and Czech entomologist Jiří Háva (Prague), specialist in Dermestidae (Coleoptera).



Figs 1-6: *Hesperus havai* sp. nov.: 1- aedeagus, ventral view; 2- aedeagus, lateral view; 3- apex of paramere with sensory peg setae, ventral view.; *Hesperus depressus* Bernhauer, 1908: 4- aedeagus, ventral view; 5- aedeagus, lateral view; 6- apex of paramere with sensory peg setae, ventral view.

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