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A new species of the genus *Striganoviella* (Coleoptera: Carabidae: Scaritinae: Dyschiriini) from the Republic of South Africa

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Abstract. *Striganoviella janaki* sp. nov. from the Republic of South Africa: Western Cape is described and illustrated including its aedeagus, and compared with a single hitherto known African species of the genus.

INTRODUCTION

The genus *Striganoviella* was established by Fedorenko (2012) for a single Vietnamese species, *S. subopaca* Fedorenko, 2012. Bulirsch & Fedorenko (2013) assigned to this genus the second species, *S. vanhillei* (Basilewsky, 1962), originally described by Basilewsky (1962) as *Dyschirius vanhillei* from the Republic of South Africa (The Eastern Cape Province). The first author recently collected six specimens of a third *Striganoviella* species on the Cape Peninsula in the Western Cape Province, which is described below.

MATERIAL AND METODS

The specimens were dry-mounted and studied, including measurements and examination of the microsculpture, at a magnification of 56×. All specimens of new taxa and the second known African *Striganoviella* were studied and measured. Length of body is given with 0.05 mm accuracy; other measurements including ratios and means are down to two decimal places. Aedeagi were slide-mounted in Euparal. All photographs of new species were prepared with a Nikon D1 digital camera mounted on a Nikon Labophot II binocular microscope equipped with lenses containing diaphragms. Label locality data of all specimens are quoted verbatim except standardized dates.

We have used for comparison following specimens of *S. vanhillei* (Basilewsky, 1962): HT from Eastern Cape, Boknes, (MRAC) and 20 non-type specimens from Eastern Cape: Mkhambathi and Cwebe Nature Reserves, (PBPC).

The following abbreviations are used to indicate the depository of specimens:
MRAC Royal Museum of Central Africa, Tervuren, Belgium;
PBPC private collection of Petr Bulirsch, Praha, Czech Republic;
TMSA Ditsong (= former Transvaal) Museum, Pretoria, South Africa.

Other abbreviations:
HT: Holotype; PT: Paratype(s); BSP: basal (prescutellar) setiferous puncture(s); DSP: dorsal setiferous puncture(s); SP: setiferous puncture(s); /, // by locality labels: end of line, label.

RESULTS

Genus *Striganoviella* Fedorenko, 2012

Type species: *Dyschirius vanhillei* Basilewsky, 1962: 152.

The genus is well characterized by Fedorenko (2012) and its diagnosis is refined by Bulirsch & Fedorenko (2013). Its species are easily distinguishable from the other dyschiriins genera by the combination of following characters: the mentum and the submentum are fused without distinct suture in between and without lateral setae; the abdominal sternite III between and behind the slightly separated metacoxae has a median depression (instead of a flat and wide median area limited laterally by the divergent borders, being typical for the other dyschiriines); the elytral base is bordered; the head is rugose dorsally; the dorsal microsculpture is more or less developed and the anterior transverse impression on the pronotum is shallow and conspicuously cross-striate.

Striganoviella janaki sp. nov.
(Figs. 1, 1a-c)

Type material. Holotype (♂): South Africa, Western Cape / Cape Peninsula; Kommetjie / banks of stream near mouth / 34°7.8' S, 18°20.6' E / 24.x.2017, P. Bulirsch lgt., (TMSA). Paratypes: (1 ♂, 4 ♀♀): with the same data as HT, (PBPC).

Description. Habitus as in Fig. 1. Body length 3.85-4.10 mm (mean 3.96 mm, HT 4.05 mm, n=6); brownish, elytra darker, with bronze luster, legs rusty brown, antennae and palpi with rusty brown base; tarsi, outer antennomeres and especially both ultimate palpomeres darkened. Basal slope of pronotum and base of elytra with traces of granulate microsculpture.

Head. Anterior margin of clypeus with distinctly protruding lateral lobes, between them straight to barely bisinuate; whole surface of frons and vertex irregularly, roughly rugose behind broad and blunt transverse ridge on clypeus; frontal sulci irregular, superficial and broad, slightly divergent posteriorly; distance between them almost twice longer than eye length. Eyes strongly convex and fairly small. Antennae short, antennomeres 5-10 distinctly transverse.

Pronotum. Strongly convex, almost parallel-sided in middle third, barely attenuated anteriorly, 0.88-0.93 (mean 0.90; HT 0.90) times as wide as long, 1.27-1.35 (mean 1.29, HT 1.35) times as wide as head, broadest behind middle. Anterior margin convex, anterior

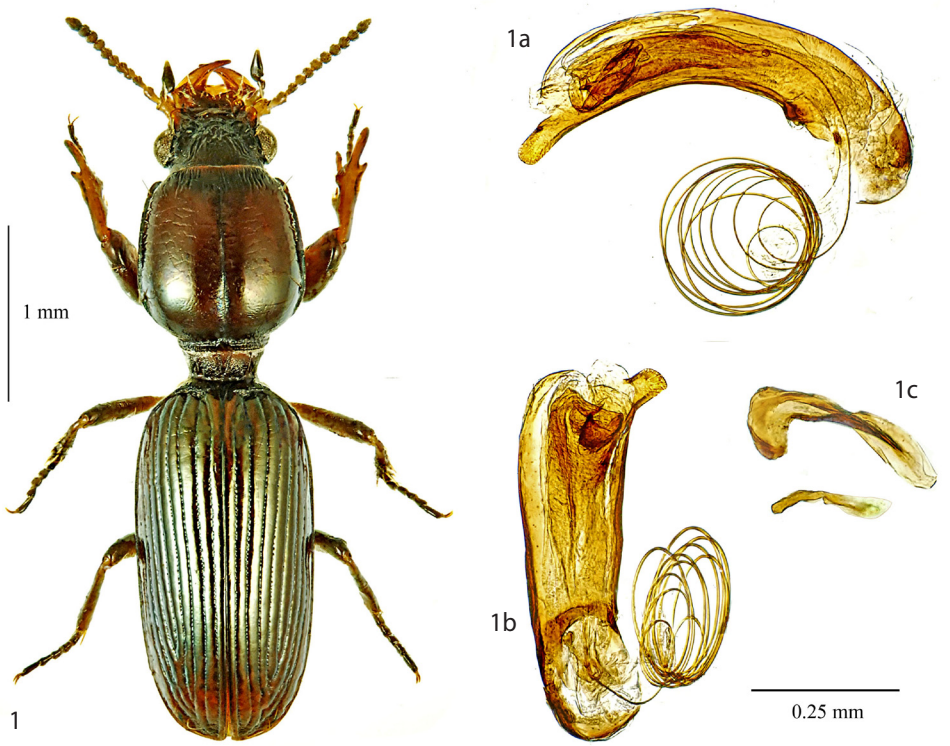

Fig. 1. Habitus. *S. janaki* sp. nov. (HT).

Figs. 1a-c. *S. janaki* sp. nov. (HT): 1a- aedeagus in left lateral view; 1b- aedeagus in ventral view; 1c- parameres.

angles obtuse and very slightly protruding, posterior ones widely rounded. Front transverse impression very broad, superficial, with conspicuous and dense cross striae, median line moderately deep, barely shallower medially, deepened and broadened apically; lateral channel moderately broad, broadened before antero-lateral SP, reflexed lateral margin distinctly surpassing postero-lateral SP. Disc glossy, minutely punctate, densely transversely wrinkled, especially over basal slope.

Elytra. Long oblong-oval; 2.04-2.09 (mean 2.07, HT 2.06) times as long as wide, 1.04-1.10 (mean 1.07, HT 1.06) times as wide as pronotum, very slightly broadened on sides, slightly more strongly attenuated backwards than forwards. Base strongly oblique towards strongly rounded humeri, each elytron with indistinct, very blunt humeral tooth; base with conspicuous border adjoining 2-3 blunt, close or fused, basal tubercles and barely depressed suture; BSP adjoining and very deep at stria 1 and sometimes also 2, latter either obsolete just before or adjoining stria 1 before BSP. Striae entire, narrow and deep, very finely and densely punctuate all along, striae 7-8 obliterated basally; intervals regularly, rather strongly convex. One very fine, just recognizable PHSP; one, posterior DSP (in/near stria 3), in one PT none DSP; two ASP in deep apical stria.

Wings. Rudimentary.

Legs. Protibial apical spine long, blunt, moderately curved backwards and very slightly inwards, distinctly shorter than moderately curved apical spur; distal marginal tooth large and rather blunt, proximal one small and blunt. Metatarsomere 1 much shorter than 2+3 combined.

Aedeagus (Figs. 1a-c). Apical lamella of penis large and narrow, with distinct internal channels. Flagellum thin, strongly sclerotized, at base with several close coils. Parameres without setae.

Underside. Mentum and submentum fused with indistinct rests of suture in between, each with one, median, pair of setae, lateral setae absent, ringed pores very small. Proepisterna rather dull, with distinct meshed microsculpture and very fine, dense transverse wrinkles. Metacoxae slightly separated, abdominal sternite III with lengthwise, rather shallow median depression, angulate between and subparallel-sided behind metacoxae, flattened at bottom.

Differential diagnosis. *Striganoviella janaki* sp. nov. is closely allied to *S. vanhillei* (Basilewsky, 1962), the only African representative of the genus, known from the Eastern Cape Province. The new species could be differentiated by the darker colour of the legs and the mouth parts, especially of both pairs of the terminal palpomeres (in *S. vanhillei* are entire antennae and palpi yellowish); by the head having the surface roughly rugose including the neck (*S. vanhillei* has this rugosity much finer, especially on the neck); by the elytra being slightly longer, having the intervals much more vaulted (especially apically) and having only (0)-1 DSP (*S. vanhillei* has two, exceptionally unilaterally one DSP) and finally by the different shape of the median lobe of the aedeagus (those of. *S. vanhillei* is figured in Bulirsch & Fedorenko (2013): figs. 5a-c).

Habitat. All specimens of the new species were collected on sandy banks in the mouth of a small river into the ocean.

Name derivation. Patronymic, in honour of our friend Jiří Janák (Rtyně nad Bílinou, Czech Republic), well known specialist in Staphylinidae.

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