

A NEW SPECIES OF *TANYMECUS* GERMAR (COLEOPTERA: CURCULIONIDAE: TANYMECINI) FROM PAKISTAN

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ABSTRACT

Tanymecus Germar is one of the well known genus of Indian sub-continent, in which 47 species redescribed from India and adjacent countries (Supare *et al* 1990). The present taxa compares with its close allies by their superficial and male genitalia characters.

Keywords: Curculionidae, Brachyderinae, *Tanymecus parkiensis* n.sp., male genitalia.

INTRODUCTION

Curculionidae is the largest family of coleopterist families, in which more than sixty thousands species have been confined. Some genera of this family particulate in specific regions of the world. *Tanymecus* Germar is particularly well known genus of Oriental and Ethiopian regions which include large number of species. Hashmi and Tashfeen (1992) listed out fourteen species from Pakistan. Supare *et al* (1990) revised the genus *Tanymecus* Germar from India and adjacent countries and described 47 species throughout Oriental and Ethiopian regions. They described extensive study in which geographical distribution, superficial characters, male and female genitalia characters and key identification have been discussed. The present taxa compares to other species by their morphological and genitalia characters are also discussed.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The present taxon was collected from Park Malir; Karachi by insect net and hand picking method. The measurements and illustrations were made by using ocular grid microscope. For the study of male genitalia, the abdomen was excised at the base and boiled in 10 % KOH solution for about 10 minutes. It was then washed in tap water. The aedeagus was dissected out and examined under glycerin. After studying the male genitalia, these were placed in microvials with a drop of glycerin and pinned with the specimens for Natural History Museum, University of Karachi (NHMUK).

RESULTS

Tanymecus parkiensis n.sp.

Body Shape: (Fig. 1)

Elongate, medially wide.

Coloration:

Body black with cover of full oval and suberrect, grey to brown scales; sternum also cover grayish to yellow hairs and scales.

Head:

Longer than wider including rostrum, covered with oval shape scales and suberrect hairs, vertex flat, depressed anteriorly, surface of frons plane, slightly shorter than base of rostrum, rostrum broader (2.6 mm) than longer (2.0 mm), apical emargination shallow, in which central carina runs upto base of head, two short lateral carinae disappear just start of eyes, scrobes deep laterally, eyes lateral, oval shape, convex, faceted; antenniae inserted from scrobes laterally, geniculate, scape abruptly elongate, apically thickened, funicle 7 segmented, 1st segment longer than 2nd, 7th broader than rest segments, club 4 segmented, elongate, acuminate

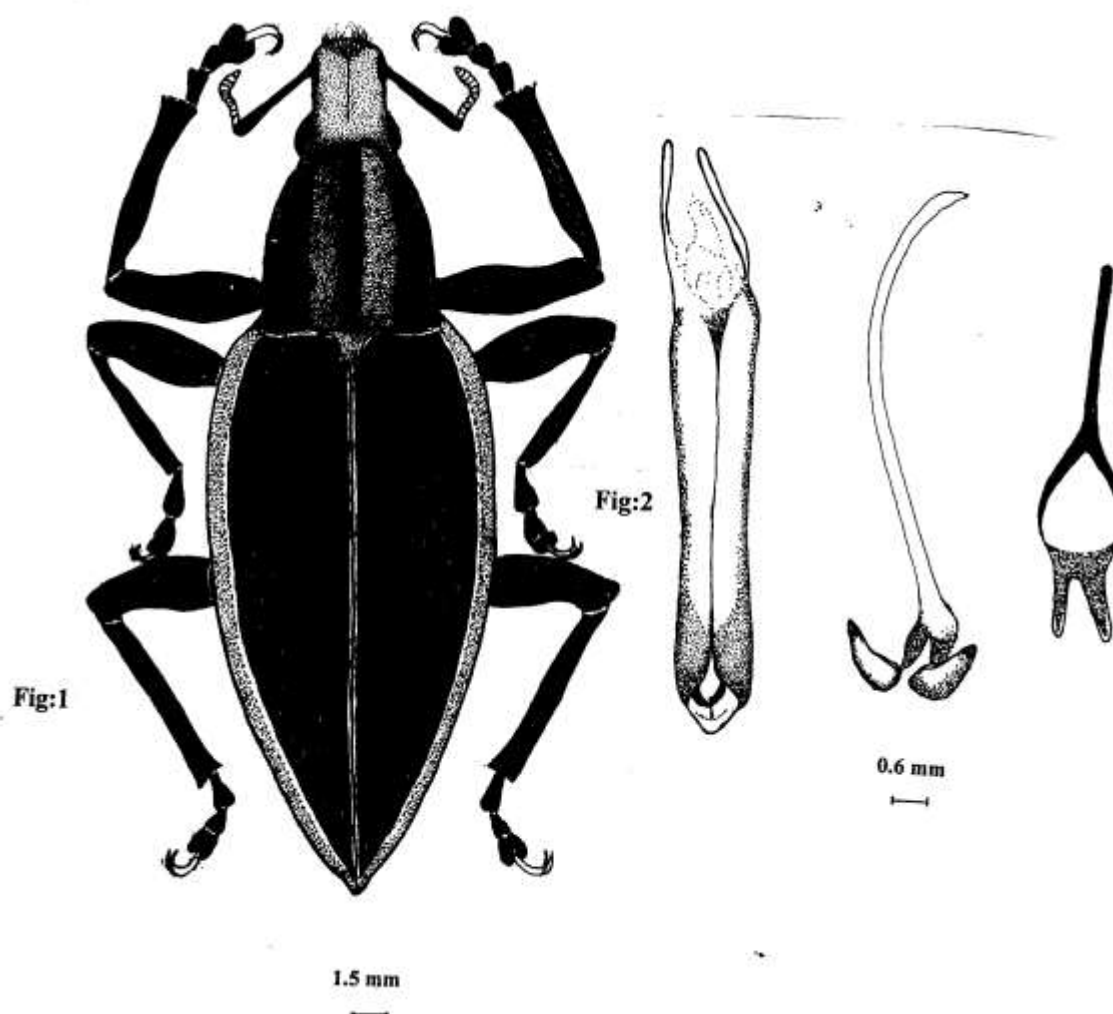


Fig.1-2. *Tanymecus parkiensis* sp. nov., Male: 1, adult; 2. aedeagus with tegmen and speculum gastrade.

Prothorax:

Subrectangular, longer (6.0 mm) than broader (5.5 mm), anterior margin rounded, convex, basal margin subtruncate, sides rounded, two lateral rows with sparsely hair, medially scattered oval scale and recumbent hairs; for femur medially broad, tibiae with rows of long hairs internally, apex with fringe of small bristles, tarsi 4 segmented, 1st segment longer and wider than 2nd and 3rd, first three segment with bunch of lateral hairs, claws free; scutellum Suboblong, covered with scales, elytra elongated, shoulders prominent, broad apically, gradually narrower at end before apices turned, pointed, lateral margin with whitish yellow line from base to apex, remain elytra with full of oval scales and suberrect scale.

Abdomen:

Elongate, convex beneath, concealed with elytra.

Measurement:

Male, (Ht), 16mm.

Material Examined:

Holotype ♂ Pakistan: Sindh, Karachi, 2.VII.2005, M.A.Akhter, Z.Ahmed leg., on associate plant. (NHMUK). 1 Paratype ♂ -same data as Ht. (CZA).

Etymology: The species is named for the type locality.

Associated habitats:

Calotropis sp., lucerne, grass.

Male genitalia: (Fig. 2)

Aedeagus with penis tubular, gently arcuate, longer than apophyses, dorsally apical opening elongate, apical process conical, apophyses cylindrical, tegmen with manubrium long, apex bluntly rounded, parameres triangular, their apices pointed, speculum gastrale thick, basal prongs subequal, their apices deflected and folded inwards.

Comparative note:

This new taxon compares with nine species, *T.albomarginalis*, *T.circumdatus*, *T. lacordairei*, *T. lefroyi*, *T. longulus*, *T. marginalis*, *T. propinguus*, *T. pseudomarginalis*, *T. versicolor*, by their morphological and male genitalial characteristics. The new taxon very closely related with above species by having pale lateral stripe on elytra but different by having aedeagus with apical process divided into two parts, elongate, slightly overlap, apical opening rounded, apex round dilated and other characters noted in the description.

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