A new species of *Colyphus* Spinola
(Coleoptera: Cleridae: Clerinae) from Veracruz, Mexico

Jacques Rifkind
Research Associate, California State Collection of Arthropods, 3294 Meadowview Road, Sacramento, CA 95832 U.S.A

Published on December 1, 2023 by
**Center for Systematic Entomology, Inc.**
P.O. Box 141874
Gainesville, FL 32614-1874 USA
http://centerforsystematicentomology.org/

**Insecta Mundi** is a journal primarily devoted to insect systematics, but articles can be published on any non-marine arthropod. Topics considered for publication include systematics, taxonomy, nomenclature, checklists, faunal works, and natural history. Insecta Mundi will not consider works in the applied sciences (i.e. medical entomology, pest control research, etc.), and no longer publishes book reviews or editorials. Insecta Mundi publishes original research or discoveries in an inexpensive and timely manner, distributing them free via open access on the internet on the date of publication.

Insecta Mundi is referenced or abstracted by several sources, including the Zoological Record and CAB Abstracts. Insecta Mundi is published irregularly throughout the year, with completed manuscripts assigned an individual number. Manuscripts must be peer reviewed prior to submission, after which they are reviewed by the editorial board to ensure quality. One author of each submitted manuscript must be a current member of the Center for Systematic Entomology.

Guidelines and requirements for the preparation of manuscripts are available on the Insecta Mundi website at http://centerforsystematicentomology.org/insectamundi/

**Chief Editor:** David Plotkin, insectamundi@gmail.com  
**Assistant Editor:** Paul E. Skelley, insectamundi@gmail.com  
**Layout Editor:** Robert G. Forsyth  
**Editorial Board:** Davide Dal Pos, M. J. Paulsen, Felipe Soto-Adames  
**Founding Editors:** Ross H. Arnett, Jr., J. H. Frank, Virendra Gupta, John B. Heppner, Lionel A. Stange, Michael C. Thomas, Robert E. Woodruff  
**Review Editors:** Listed on the Insecta Mundi webpage

Printed copies (ISSN 0749-6737) annually deposited in libraries  
Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Gainesville, FL, USA  
The Natural History Museum, London, UK  
National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC, USA  
Zoological Institute of Russian Academy of Sciences, Saint-Petersburg, Russia

Electronic copies (online ISSN 1942-1354) in PDF format  
Archived digitally by Portico.  
Florida Virtual Campus: http://purl.fcla.edu/fcla/insectamundi  
University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Digital Commons: http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/insectamundi/  
Goethe-Universität, Frankfurt am Main: http://nbn-resolving.de/urn/resolver.pl?urn:nbn:de:hebis:30-3-135240

This is an open access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons, Attribution Non-Commercial License, which permits unrestricted non-commercial use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author(s) and source are credited.  
https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/3.0/
A new species of *Colyphus* Spinola
(Coleoptera: Cleridae: Clerinae) from Veracruz, Mexico

Jacques Rifkind
Research Associate, California State Collection of Arthropods, 3294 Meadowview Road, Sacramento, CA 95832 U.S.A
clerid@aol.com

Abstract. *Colyphus lostuxtlas* new species (Coleoptera: Cleridae: Clerinae) is described from Veracruz, Mexico.

Key words. Checkered beetles, Veracruz, cloud forest, endemism.

ZooBank registration. urn:lsid:zoobank.org:pub:9B1E3462-9612-4140-8B23-3A3F78B4366A

Introduction

With the addition of the new species described herein, the genus *Colyphus* Spinola now comprises 27 species, distributed from Mexico to Panama (Ekis 1977; Rifkind 1997, 2014, 2020, 2023; Rifkind and Barr 2011). The species described herein is known only from a cloud forest reserve (part of La Reserva Biosfera Los Tuxtlas) on the lower slopes of Volcán San Martín in Veracruz, Mexico. Other *Colyphus* species with distributions in cloud forests include the Costa Rican species *C. hansoni* Rifkind, *C. irazu* Ekis, and *C. ska* Rifkind and Barr, the Honduran species *C. lamed* Rifkind, and *C. artus* Ekis from Chiapas, Mexico, although only the first of these appears to be restricted to that habitat.

Materials and Methods

Specimens were photographed through the eyepiece of a Zeiss stereo dissecting microscope using the camera in an Apple iPhone 11, and with an Olympus TG-5 fitted with an Olympus LED light guide (LG–1), using the onboard photo stacking software. Measurements were established using the ocular grid in a Zeiss stereomicroscope and a millimeter scale.

Specimens examined for this paper are deposited in the following collections: Collection of Jacques Rifkind, Valley Village, California, USA (JNRC), and California State Collection of Arthropods, Sacramento, California, USA (CSCA).

Results

*Colyphus lostuxtlas* Rifkind, new species
(Fig. 1–3)


Paratype. 1 female (JNRC), same data as holotype.

Description. Holotype length: 10.0 mm. Form: elongate; elytra subparallel (Fig. 1–3). Color: black; elytra with two pairs of yellow maculae arranged as in Fig. 1–2 (maculae pinkish-orange in preserved specimen); antennomeres 1–3 (in part), labial palpi, and maxillary palpi (except basal ⅔ of terminal palpomere) testaceous. Head: surface shining, densely, shallowly punctulate; moderately densely clothed with adpressed and suberect whitish setae. Antennae: nearly reaching base of pronotum, antennomeres 9–11 forming a gradually enlarged, loose club. Pronotum: subflattened above, slightly longer than broad; transverse impression distinct, broadly V-shaped;
surface shining, moderately densely, finely and shallowly punctate and finely transversely rugulose, anterior with an inverted triangular patch of reclinate and suberect, anteriorly oriented, whitish setae, posterior similarly vested with a triangular patch, disk inconspicuously clothed with black suberect setae. Scutellum rather densely clothed with white setae. Elytra: elongate (more than 2× as long as wide); somewhat compressed dorsoventrally; disk slightly concave anterior to middle; humeri subquadrate; umbones prominent; subbasal tumescences nearly obsolete; sides subparallel, very slightly and gradually inflected at anterior ½; apices dehiscent. Surface shining, transversely rugose–punctate, sculpturing finer, more shallow on posterior ⅓. Vestiture complex: moderately densely but inconspicuously arranged at middle, composed of rather short, mostly fine, suberect and erect whitish and black setae; anterior margin with a sparse but distinctive array of rather stout whitish, anteriorly oriented setae of medium length; apical ½ densely covered with posteriorly directed, medium length, recumbent silvery setae. Metasternum: surface granulate laterally, densely clothed with whitish setae. Abdomen: surface shining, coarsely, shallowly punctate, sparsely clothed with fine, whitish setae. Ventrite V with posterior margin rather broadly subtruncated; ventrite VI with hind margin broadly arcuate. Genitalia: not examined.

Variation. The paratype, also a female, measures 8.5 mm in length, but is otherwise similar to the holotype.

Etymology. The specific epithet refers to the new species’ type locality, Los Tuxtlas, Veracruz, an important reservoir of tropical fauna and flora.

Distribution. Known from the Reserva Los Tuxtlas on the flanks of Volcán San Martín in Veracruz, Mexico (Fig. 4–5).

Diagnosis. Separable from the similarly colored species Colyphus artus Ekis and Colyphus zacki Rifkind by the presence of only two rather than three pairs of yellow elytral maculae. Additionally, the new species bears an apical elytral patch of densely arrayed silvery setae, absent in those congeners.
Acknowledgments

I thank Jesús Romero Nápoles (Colegio de Postgraduados, Entomología y Acarología, Estado de México, México) for providing collecting permits and for his continued friendship and encouragement for my Mexican clerid studies. I also thank John M. Leavengood, Jr. and Rafael Calderon, co-collectors of the specimens treated above. Patty Gum prepared the figures for publication. Larry Bezark and John Leavengood Jr. made helpful corrections to the manuscript.

Literature Cited


Received October 5, 2023; accepted October 22, 2023.
Review editor Michael L. Ferro.