

A new species of the genus *Acronia* Westwood, 1863 (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae) from the Philippines

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Acronia paulsi sp. nov. from Luzon (Philippines) is described, illustrated and compared with similar species. The genus *Acronia* Westwood, 1863 in the world fauna is now represented by 17 species.

Key words: *Acronia*, Lamiinae, Cerambycidae, new species, Philippines.

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INTRODUCTION

The Philippine fauna of the long-horned beetles (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae) is being actively studied. Many new species are discovered and described every year (Barševskis 2021; Barševskis, Cabras 2021; Botero, Vives 2021; Medina et al. 2021, 2022; Barševska, Barševskis 2020; Barševskis, Saulīte 2020; Vives 2017, 2020, 2022; etc.). Currently, there are 38 583 species of Cerambycidae known in the world, most of which (21 735 species) belong to the subfamily Lamiinae. The tribe Pteropliini is represented in the world by 2204 species (Tavakilian, Chevillotte 2022, Roguet 2004–2021).

The genus *Acronia* Westwood, 1863 (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae) belongs to the subfamily Lamiinae Latreille, 1825 and tribe Pteropliini Thomson, 1861. All species are endemics of Philippines.

In recent years, members of this genus has been mentioned in several publications. Vives (2013) changed the taxonomic status of *A. strasseni* var. *roseolata* Breuning, 1947 to the species level, and two years later the same author published a faunistic data for *A. luzonica* Schultze 1934 (Vives 2015). Barševskis (2016a, 2016b, 2017) described four new species from Mindanao and Luzon islands: *A. marifelipeae* Barševskis, 2016, *A. teterevi* Barševskis, 2016, *A. streicsi* Barševskis, 2016, *A. layroni* Barševskis, 2017. Most species are extremely rare presented in collections. In biogeographical aspect, the largest diversity of species of *Acronia* are known from Luzon (10 species), Mindanao (4 species), Samar (2 species) and Siargao (1 species) (Barševskis 2017, corrected).

In this paper, a new species of the genus *Acronia* is described and illustrated from Luzon Island.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The type specimens of a *new* species are deposited in the collection of the Daugavpils University, Coleopterological Research Centre, Ilgas, Daugavpils District, Latvia (DUBC). All specimens have been collected in the Philippines by local collectors.

The laboratory research and measurements have been performed using Nikon AZ100, Nikon SMZ745T and Zeiss Stereo Lumar V12 digital stereomicroscopes, NIS-Elements 6D software. The habitus photograph was obtained with a digital camera Canon EOS6D with Canon MP-E 65 mm macro lens, using Helicon Focus auto montage and subsequently was edited with Photoshop. All measurements are given in millimeters.

RESULTS

Acronia paulsi sp. nov.
(Fig. 1)

Type material

Holotype: male. Philippines, Luzon Isl. / Aurora, Ditumabo / 04.2018, local collector leg. <handwritten> // HOLOTYPE: / *Acronia paulsi* sp.nov. / A. Barševskis det. 2022. <red label, handwritten>. Deposited in DUBC.

Paratypes: 4 specimens (2 males and 2 females). Philippines, Luzon Isl. / Ditumabo, Aurora / 04.2018, local collector leg. <handwritten label>. Philippines, Luzon Isl. / Ditumabo, Aurora / 09.2017, local collector leg. <handwritten label>. Philippines, Luzon Isl. / Ditumabo, Aurora / 09.2017, local collector leg. <handwritten label>. Philippines / Eastern Luzon, Aurora, Ditumabo, / 10.2018, local collector leg. <handwritten label>. All paratypes with red handwritten label: PARATYPE: *Acronia paulsi* sp. nov. A.Barševskis det. 2022. Deposited in DUBC.

General distribution: Philippines: Luzon Island.

Description. Body elongate, black, lustrous, surface with black pubescence, with additional

bands and spots of white pubescence (Fig. 1). Body length: 15.1-20.0 mm, maximal width of elytra: 4.3-6.2 mm.

Head flat, wide, with almost parallel sides, with slightly convex eyes. Cheeks not extended, covered with dark sparse pubescence and transverse, narrow, slightly interrupted band of white pubescence in frontal and basal portions. Surface of head shiny, with sparse and coarse punctation. Middle portion of head with longitudinal thin line, slightly impressed in the middle part, stretching from clypeus to basal portion of head. Head between eyes with two white elongated spots, with two shaped small white spots behind eyes. Ventral surface of head between eyes with two white spots. Frontal portion of head with transverse white line.



Fig. 1. *Acronia paulsi* sp. nov.

Labrum pubescent, punctated, covered with dark short and long hairs. Clypeus dark-brown or black, narrow, transverse, shiny, with fine and elongate wrinkles in frontal portion. Mandibles shiny, massive, relatively wide and with acute apices, with very fine, sparse wrinkles and punctures in basal part, covered with very sparse dark pubescence. Antennae black, relatively short, covered with dense dark pubescence; basal antennomere thickened, with sparse fine punctures and pubescence, antennomeres 3 and 4 with white pubescence in basal portions.

Pronotum almost cylindrical, very convex and glossy, black, some specimens with greenish metallic lustre. Frontal portion of pronotum with sparse punctures, basal portion of pronotum with acute, extended angles. Basal portion of prono-

tum slightly neck-shaped. Dorsal disc of pronotum without middle line, very smooth and shiny, bothfrontal and basal portions with two oblique white lines.

Scutellum small, rounded apically, with elongate wide impression in middle part. Pars stridens with reticulate, slightly transverse, fine microsculpture and punctures.

Elytra black or greenish, glossy, with relatively coarse punctures and reticulate microsculpture. Each elytron with well-developed and distinct humps behind shoulders. Dorsal part of elytra behind shoulders with wide impression. Elytra mostly covered with black pubescence and white irregular bands and spots (Fig. 1). Shoulders with elongated and slightly curved white lines almost



Fig. 2. *Acronia ysmaeli* Huedepohl 1989. Fig. 3. *Acronia pretiosa* Schultz, 1917.

extending almost wide depression posteriorly. White line encircle scutellum and extending suture. Middle portions of each elytron with white transverse line stretching from lateral margin and broadly curved near suture, and curved on lateral margin and stretching to about apex of elytra. Surface between these transverse lines partially covered with fine and white pubescence. Apical portions of elytra with two to four longitudinal lines, curved or merging together. Apical part of elytra near suture with narrow flat keel-shaped elevation. Apical part of elytra slightly concaved, without distinct projections.

Ventral surface of body black, with greenish or bronze lustre, with white spots and lines. Legs relatively short, slightly shiny, covered with dark pubescence. Lateral sides of tibia with fine wrinkles and punctures, covered with dark pubescence. Lateral sides of femora with white spot. Tarsomeres greenish, with metallic lustre, covered by dark pubescence.

Differential diagnosis. Based by the shape of drawing of the surface of the body, the new species is similar to *Acronia ysmaeli* Huedepohl 1989 (Fig. 2), from which it can be distinguished by the different coloration. The surface of of the body of *A. ysmaeli* is green, with additional many irregularly shaped spots and lines that not forming a regular transverse line in the middle. Another related species is *A. pretiosa* Schultze, 1917 (Fig. 3). Elytra of this species has transverse lines, but the surface pattern is different: lines at the base of the elytra are more curved, almost converging, with two-three broader and merging white and yellow lines at the apex of the elytra. The white or yellow lines on the prothorax and head are also have different shapes.

Etymology. Patronym. This species is named after the famous contemporary Latvian composer Raimonds Pauls, in gratitude for his invaluable contribution to Latvian culture and to the development of popular music in Latvia.

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