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Anthrenus (Anthrenodes) sarahae sp. nov., a new species from Benin (Coleoptera: Dermestidae)

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Keywords:

Coleoptera; new record;
Dermestidae; description;
Anthrenus; Benin;
sarahae; Afrotropical
taxonomy; Region.
new species;

Abstract. – A new species, *Anthrenus (Anthrenodes) sarahae* sp. nov. from Benin is described, illustrated and compared with similar species. The species *Dermestes (Dermestes) wittei* Kalik, 1955 and *Attagenus robustior* (Pic, 1951) are recorded from Benin.

Háva J. & Coache A., 2023. – *Anthrenus (Anthrenodes) sarahae* sp. nov., a new species from Benin (Coleoptera: Dermestidae). *Faunitaxys*, 11(38): 1 – 3.

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Introduction

The subgenus *Anthrenodes* Chobaut, 1898 of the genus *Anthrenus* Geoffroy, 1762 recently contains 33 species worldwide (Háva, 2023a,b) with four species known from the Afrotropical Region (Háva, 2023b). The subgenus is characterized by the antennae consisting of 10 antennomeres. Males differ from females by the shape of the antennal club. In males, the terminal antennomere is larger or longer than the penultimate one; in females it is as long as the penultimate one. Adults can be found on plants, but also in households, where the larvae are harmful to different commodities of natural origin. They are feared pests in museum collections (Peacock, 1993; Háva 2023a). A new species is described below, and two species belonging to the genera *Attagenus* and *Dermestes* are recorded from Benin, and a list of the known Dermestidae from Benin is provided.

Material and methods

The size of the beetles or of their body parts can be useful in species recognition and thus, the following measurements were made:

TL: Total length = linear distance from anterior margin of head to apex of elytra.

EW: Elytral width = maximum linear transverse distance.

Mentioned material deposited in following collections:

ACPC: Alain Coache private collection, La Brillanne, France.

MHNL: Musée d'Histoire Naturelle de Lyon, Lyon, France.

JHAC: Jiří Háva, Private Entomological Laboratory & Collection, Únětice u Prahy, Prague-west, Czech Republic.

Specimens of the presently described species are provided with red, printed label with text as follows:

« HOLOTYPE *Anthrenus (Anthrenodes) sarahae* sp. nov. J. Háva & A. Coache det. 2023.»

Description

Anthrenus (Anthrenodes) sarahae sp. nov.

(Fig. 1-2)

ZooBank: <http://zoobank.org/D802EBB9-797D-4494-AD7B-B4668B435C35>

Holotype. ♀, Afrique de l'Ouest, Bénin, Cové, Forêt de Cové (Fig. 3 & 4), Fauchage, 29 Avril 2018, legit Alain Coache, (MHNL).

Description of the holotype

Body. – Body TL 2.4 mm, EW 1.7 mm; body brownish-black, small, oval. Dorsal surface covered by brown and yellow scales. Individual scales small, broad, subtriangular.

Head. – Covered by intermixed brown and yellow scales. Antennae with 10 antennomeres, antennomeres brown, antennal club 2 with two segments, compact (Fig. 2). Frons with median ocellus. Eyes with entire median margin. Palpomeres dark brown.

Pronotum. – Covered by yellow scales and with brown scales forming spots (Fig. 1).

Scutellum. – Small, triangular without scales.

Elytra. – With brown and yellow scales; yellow scales forming spots on each elytron, other parts covered by brown scales (Fig. 1).

Epipleuron. – With yellow scales.

Ventral surface. – Covered with yellow and brown scales. Prosternum only with yellow scales. Metasternum with yellow scales, with a small patch of brown scales at lateral margins. Abdominal

Reviewer :

Andreas Herrmann (Germany) - <http://zoobank.org/64D7C64F-F16C-4BAB-9BE3-B8B65D1FACDB>



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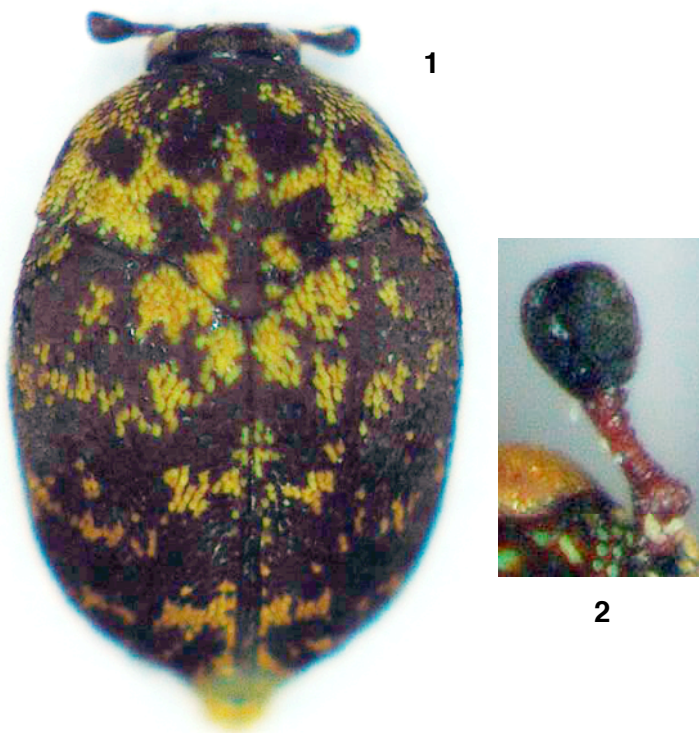


Fig. 1-2. *Anthrenus (Anthrenodes) sarahae* sp. nov.
1. Habitus, dorsal aspect. 2. Antenna.

ventrite I with only yellow scales, ventrites II-V with yellow scales and lateral spots of brown scales, ventrite V with median brown spot.

Legs. – Brown with yellow scales and white setae.

Male. – Unknown.

Differential diagnosis. – The new species is visually very similar to *Anthrenus (Anthrenops) aristophanousi* Háva & Matsumoto, 2022 and *A. (A.) endroedyi* Háva, 2004, but the new species differs from them by the structure of the antennae with 10 antennomeres, both of the other species have antennae with nine antennomeres.

Etymology. – Patronymic, dedicated to Alain Coache daughter Sarah Déguénon.

Faunistic

Attagenus robustior (Pic, 1951)

« Afrique de l'Ouest, Benin, Pobé, Forêt de Pobé, fauchage graminées, 2-3.xii.2022, legit Alain Coache », 7 spec., J. Háva det., (ACPC, JHAC).

The species has been previously recorded from Burkina Faso, Congo, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Guinea, Ivory Coast, Senegal and Sierra Leone; from Benin the species was recorded by (Háva & Coache 2023); the data above represent a new locality for Benin.

Dermestes (Dermestes) wittei Kalík, 1955

« Afrique de l'Ouest, Benin Pobé, Forêt de Pobé, fauchage graminées, 3.xii.2022, legit Alain Coache », 1 ♂, J. Háva det., (ACPC).

The species has been still recorded from Congo, Gambia, Ghana, Madagascar, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Rwanda, Somalia [with Somaliland], South Africa, Tanzania and Zimbabwe (Háva 2023b); new to Benin.

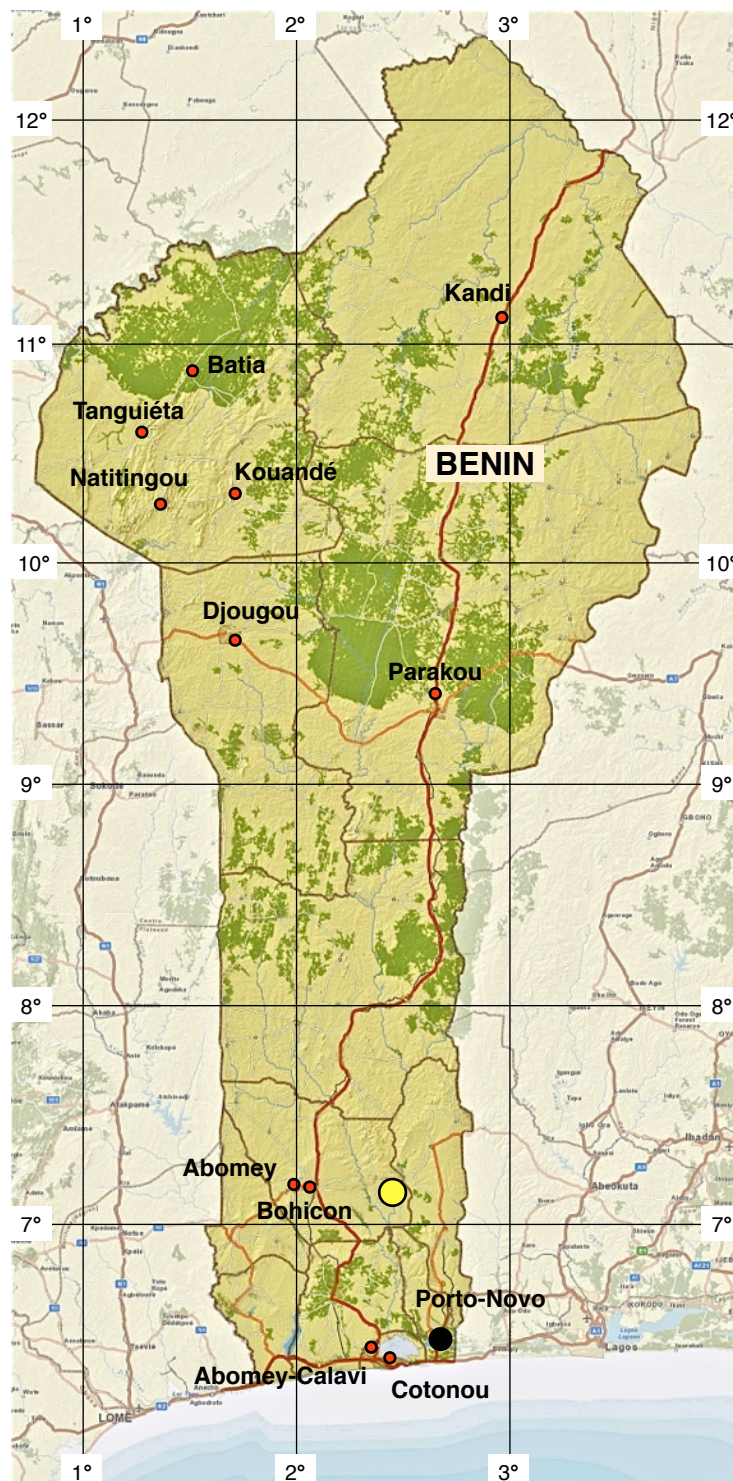


Fig. 3. Map of the Benin, distribution of *Anthrenus sarahae* n. sp.

List of species recorded from Benin

Subfamily Dermestinae

- Dermalius maximus* (Pic, 1915)
- Dermestes (Dermestes) ater* DeGeer, 1774
- Dermestes (Dermestes) semistriatus* Boheman, 1851
- Dermestes (Dermestes) wittei* Kalík, 1955
- Dermestes (Dermestinus) maculatus* DeGeer, 1774

Subfamily Thorictinae

- Thorictus beninensis* Háva & Lackner, 2005

Subfamily **Attageninae**

Attagenus fasciatus (Thunberg, 1795)
Attagenus robustior (Pic, 1951)

Subfamily **Megatominae**

Anthrenus (Anthrenodes) sarahae **sp. nov.**
Anthrenus (Anthrenus) senegalensis Pic, 1927
Thaumaglossa rufiventris Pic, 1927
Trogoderma granarium Everts, 1898

Subfamily **Trogoparvinae**

Volvicornis rufescens (Pic, 1927)

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Our thanks go to the Faculty of Agronomic Sciences of the University of Abomey-Calavi with whom we have signed a memorandum of understanding relating to entomological research in Benin, in collaboration with the Ministry of the Environment and the Protection of Nature, the General Directorate of Forests and Natural Resources (DGFRN) and the National Center for the Management of Wildlife Reserves (CENAGREF). We thank the Dean of the University of Abomey Calavi, Mr. Brice Sinsin for his unconditional support for our research. We also thank the managers of the National Parks, for obtaining the necessary authorizations and the managers of the classified forests who facilitated our access to the various sites; the Department of Plant Protection and Phytosanitary Control, for obtaining phytosanitary certificates, customary chiefs, village chiefs and leaders of rural communities for facilitating access to the various sites surveyed. We would also like to thank the people who contributed to the

Authors contribution¹

Publisher correspondence. – JH & AC

Writing the article. – JH & AC

Descriptor. – JH

Article proofreading. – JH & AC

Bibliographic work. – JH

Material study. – JH & AC

Authors of the figures. – JH & AC

Collector. – AC

¹ AC = Alain Coache - JH = Jiří Háva

realization of the expeditions: Lionel Delaunay and Pascal Deschamps and to Larry G. Bezark (California, USA) for the comments and english revision to the manuscript. And finally, a special thank you to our friend Bernard Rainon, field companion in Benin for more than 12 years.

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Fig. 4. Forêt de Cové, Cové, Bénin, locality of the holotype.

Résumé

Háva J. & Coache A., 2023. – *Anthrenus (Anthrenodes) sarahae* **sp. nov.**, une nouvelle espèce du Bénin (Coleoptera: Dermestidae). *Faunitaxys*, 11(38): 1 – 3.

Une nouvelle espèce est décrite du Bénin : *Anthrenus (Anthrenodes) sarahae* **sp. nov.** Elle est illustrée et comparée aux espèces les plus proches. *Dermestes (Dermestes) wittei* Kalík, 1955 et *Attagenus robustior* (Pic, 1951) sont observées pour la première fois au Bénin.

Mots-clés. – Coleoptera, Dermestidae, *Anthrenus, sarahae*, taxonomie, espèce nouvelle, nouvelles occurrences, description, Bénin, région afrotropicale.

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Illustration de la couverture :

Sa majesté GANYE ZEHE ROI D'AGONLIN, Hommage spécial à l'ancêtre ADIKOUN, entrée de Cové.

Crédits:

Jiří Háva : Fig. 1-2.

Alain Coache : Fig. 4 & couverture.