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*Hagiotata hofmanni* (Saussure & Zehntner, 1894)

foto: U. Drechsel

# New records of *Tetracha* Westwood, 1838 from Paraguay (Carabidae: Cicindelinae: Megacephalini)

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**Abstract:** *Tetracha (Microtetracha) germaini* (Chaudoir, 1865) a species with subandean distribution from Rio Negro and Mendoza in Argentina to Santa Cruz in Bolivia (Naviaux, 2007) was found in the central Chaco of Paraguay. *Tetracha (Neotetracha) martii* (Perty, 1830) with a distribution from Brazil (Mato Grosso) to Bolivia (Santa Cruz) (Naviaux, 2007) was found in a Cerrado patch in the middle eastern Paraguay.

**Resumen:** *Tetracha (Microtetracha) germaini* (CHAUDOIR, 1865) una especie con distribución subandina desde Río Negro y Mendoza en Argentina hasta Santa Cruz en Bolivia (Naviaux, 2007) se encontró en el Chaco central del Paraguay. *Tetracha (Neotetracha) martii* (Perty, 1830) con una distribución desde Brasil (Mato Grosso) hasta Bolivia (Santa Cruz) se encontró en el Cerrado en el centro del este de Paraguay.

**Zusammenfassung:** *Tetracha (Microtetracha) germaini* (Chaudoir, 1865) eine Art mit subandiner Verbreitung von Rio Negro und Mendoza in Argentinien bis nach Santa Cruz in Bolivien (Naviaux, 2007) wurde im zentralen Chaco von Paraguay gefunden. *Tetracha (Neotetracha) martii* (Perty, 1830) mit einer Verbreitung von Brasilien (Mato Grosso) bis Bolivien (Santa Cruz) wurde im Cerrado im mittleren Ostparaguay gefunden.

**Key words:** Paraguay, Cicindelinae, *Tetracha*.

### Introduction

Several new species of the genus have been lately discovered in Paraguay: *T. chacoensis* Sawada and Wiesner, 2000; *T. wiesneri* Naviaux, 2007 and *T. orbigny* Naviaux, 2007), the latter two appear to be endemic. "The Tiger Beetles of Paraguay" by Sawada and Wiesner (2000) brought a summary of all known data. Nevertheless, species are being discovered that were previously not known from Paraguay. Climatic shifts may be the cause of such extensions in the distribution of some species. The appearance of alien species in an intensively studied site is easy to prove, but the disappearance turns out only after decades. Images of our specimens are already published in [www.pybio.org](http://www.pybio.org) and <http://carabidae.org/>.

#### ***Tetracha (Microtetracha) germaini* (Chaudoir, 1865)**

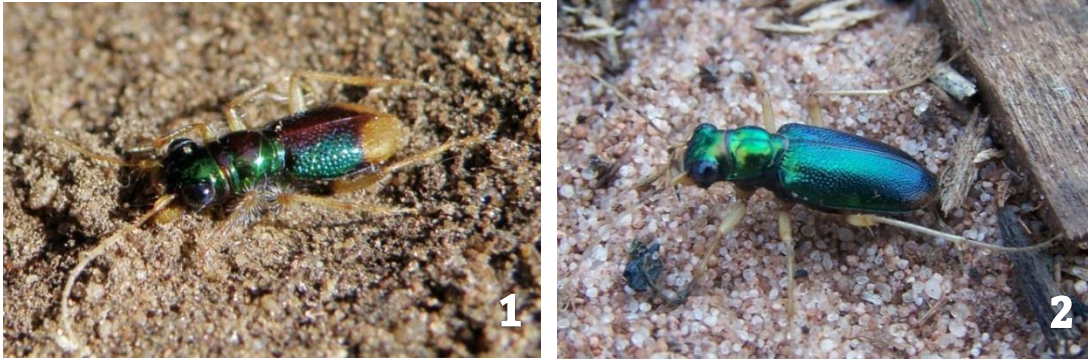
PRESIDENTE HAYES: Laguna Capitan, 22° 32' S 59° 40' W, 8. XI. 2009, 1 male, 1 female; 2. I. 2010, 1 male and 22. XII. 2012, 1 male.

The smallest species in the genus, length from labrum to apex of the elytra 8 – 9 mm. This species is a frequent appearance on the eastern edge of the Andes in the Argentine provinces of Mendoza, La Rioja, Santiago del Estero and Rio Negro (Naviaux, 2007) and in the Bolivian department of Santa Cruz (Pearson et al., 1999). Surprising is its sudden appearance in the central Chaco on a well-studied site "Laguna Capitan". During annual visits over the last 20 years, with particular attention to the composition of the tiger beetle fauna we found 5 *Tetracha* species (*T. brasiliensis* (Kirby, 1818), *T. brevisulcata* (Horn, 1907), *T. distinguenda* (Dejean, 1831), *T. fulgida* (Klug, 1834) and *T. orbigny* Naviaux, 2007), more or less frequently, but present in each year. Surprising was the discovery of *T. germaini* in November 2009 which could be confirmed again in January 2010 and December 2012. The species appears to be extremely rare in the Chaco, because there were always seen only single specimens after intensive search, while the other *Tetracha* species were frequently found.

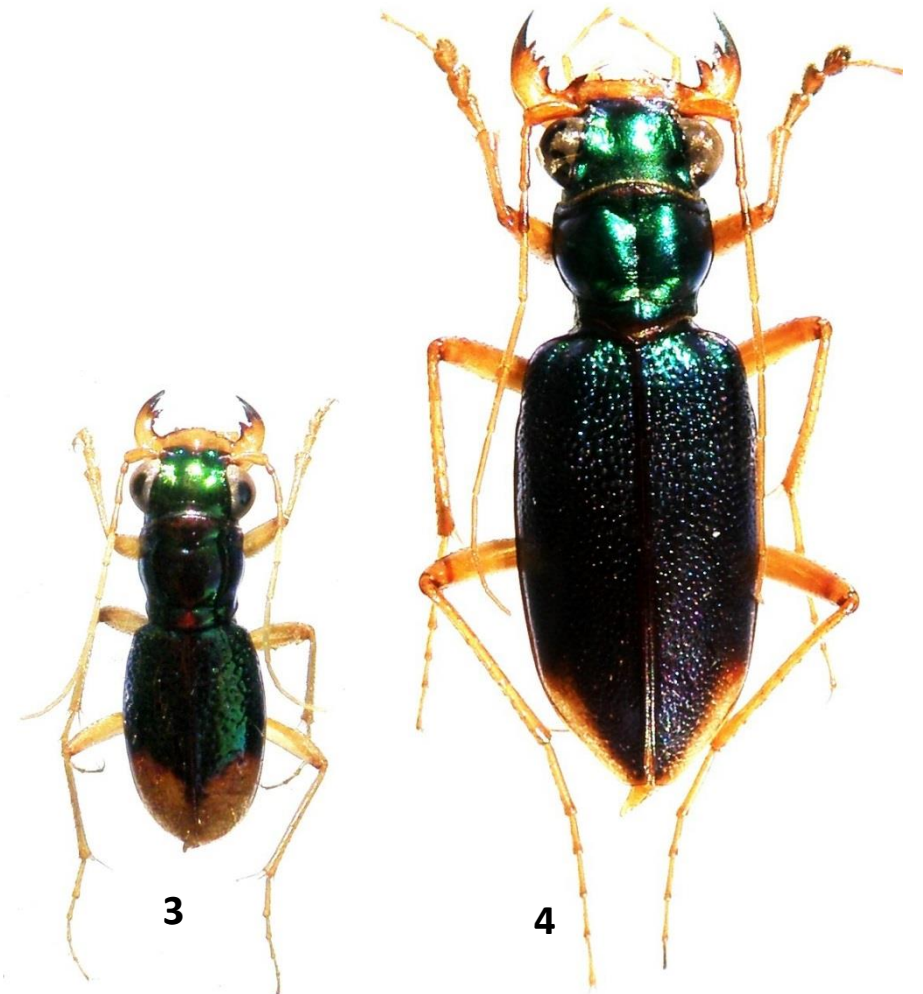
#### ***Tetracha (Neotetracha) martii* (Perty, 1830)**

KANINDEYU: Tava Yopoi, 24° 22' S 55° 53' W, 27. X. 2007, 2 males, 3 females.

Large species, length from labrum to apex of the elytra 16 – 18 mm. Previously known distribution data ranging from Brazil (Sao Paulo, Goias, Mato Grosso) to Santa Cruz in Bolivia (Naviaux, 2007). We now can add one new record from Paraguay. Behavior data published by T. Erwin in <http://canopy.lifedesks.org/> "in moist grasslands. Microhabitat: Adults are ground-dwelling on bare patches of substrate in grassy fields" we cannot confirm. Our specimens were all found on patches with sparse vegetation from dry Cerrado type surrounded by high forest far away from moist or grassy ground.



Figs. 1-2: 1) *Tetracha germaini*, Laguna Capitan, 2. I. 2010; 2) *T. martii*, Tava Yopoi, 27. X. 2007



Figs. 3 - 4: habitus of 3) *T. germaini* male; 4) *T. martii* male, scale 5 mm

### Acknowledgements

Thanks are due to Jorge Escobar Argaña for his help with field work and to the administration of “Laguna Capitan” for the permit to set up our tents and investigate biodiversity. Special thanks to J. Wiesner for help with identification of *T. martii*.

### References

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