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***Ozotocerus bezoarctius* (Linnaeus, 1758)** foto: U. Drechsel

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Paramadarus complexus Casey, 1922 in Paraguay (Coleoptera: Curculionidae: Baridinae)

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Abstract: *Paramadarus complexus* Casey, 1922 is reported on *Cissus verticillata* (L.) Nicolson & C.E. Jarvis in Paraguay.

Resumen: *Paramadarus complexus* Casey, 1922 se reporta de *Cissus verticillata* (L.) Nicolson & C.E. Jarvis en Paraguay.

Zusammenfassung: *Paramadarus complexus* Casey, 1922 wird an *Cissus verticillata* (L.) Nicolson & C.E. Jarvis in Paraguay gemeldet.

Key words: Curculionidae, Baridinae, *Paramadarus, Cissus*, Paraguay

The genus *Paramadarus* includes two species, *P. complexus* Casey, 1922 and *P. bruchi* Hustache, 1926. While *P. bruchi* is known only from Argentina, Barriga-Tuñon (2014) and Alonso-Zarazaga & Lyal (1999) report *P. complexus* from Argentina, Bolivia and Brazil. Hostplant reports are known from Brazil, where *P. complexus* occurs as pest on *Vitis vinifera* L. in the wine region of the San Francisco river valley in the state of Bahia (Haji et al., 2001).

Material and methods

Since 2007 and the following years up to May 2014, adult beetles of *Paramadarus complexus* were found all year round in a garden in Asunción, the capital of Paraguay, on *Cissus verticillata* (L.) Nicolson & C.E. Jarvis, a species of the Vitaceae family. On opening the stem of the liana, larvae of all developmental stages and pupae were found. Only stems of over 10 mm diameter were infested with larvae. No adult feeding could be observed. Measurements were made on dead animals with head and rostrum in natural position (see figs. 6 and 7) and obtained by ocular micrometer.

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Figs. 1 – 2: *Paramadarus complexus* larvae of various stages of development boring in the stem of *Cissus verticillata*

Figs. 3 - 4: *P. complexus* pupa inside the half opened cocoon, which is located in the dead tissue of the stem of *C. verticillata ;* 3) pupa ventral; 4) pupa lateral

Figs. 5 -6: *P. complexus;* 5) adult beetles in thanatosis after opening of the stem and a few third instar larvae on the right side; 6) adult female on the bark of a stem of *C. verticillata*

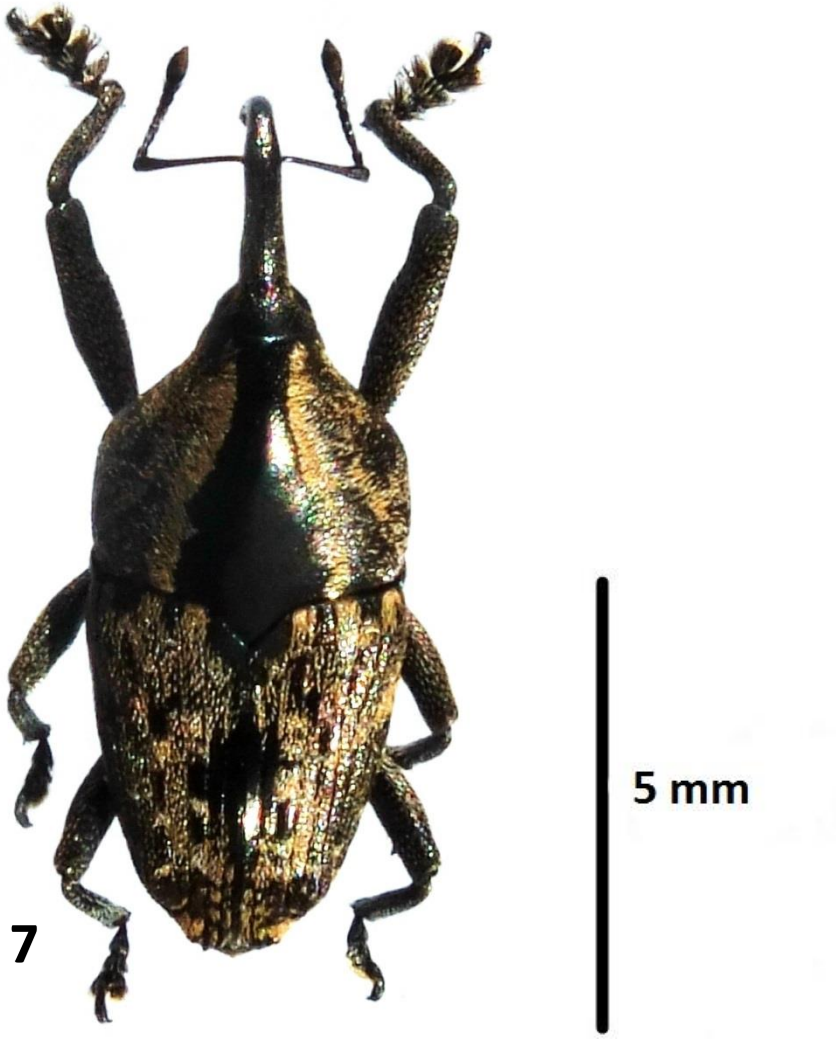

Fig. 7: *P. complexus*

Discussion

Casey (1922) noted in his original description a length of 7,2 – 9,2 mm. The Paraguayan specimens are larger than Casey's, measuring 7,8 – 10,2 mm, with an average length of 8,4 mm (*n* = 12). Since the adult beetles are found throughout the year, several generations per year can be assumed. They are active during the day, have fully developed wings and are able to fly although their preferred locomotion is running. When disturbed they fall in a short lasting thanatosis and flee thereafter fast running. The larvae produce a loose cocoon of dead plant tissue inside the stem of the host plant in which they pupate.

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FRONT COVER PHOTO: *Ozotocerus bezoarctius* (Linnaeus, 1758) (Cervidae), Paraguay, Dep. Concepción, Estancia La Estrella, 27. II. 2014