



A new dichromatic species of *Oaxacanthaxia* Bellamy 1991 (Coleoptera: Buprestidae) from Quintana Roo, México

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Twenty years ago, a new buprestid genus and species, *Oaxacanthaxia viridis* Bellamy 1991 was described for specimens collected by Jim Cope during the summer of 1989 in the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, Oaxaca, México (Bellamy 1991). The summer following that publication (1992), a group of 10 buprestiphiles from Australia, Czech Republic, Germany, the United States and Russia combined forces to collect in southern México (Guerrero and Oaxaca), hoping to find, among many other taxa, *O. viridis*. That quest was partly successful (only one female specimen collected by Dave Verity), but completely unexpectedly Ted MacRae, Gayle Nelson and Dave Verity collected a second species of *Oaxacanthaxia*, which was described as *O. nigroaenea* by Nelson & MacRae (1994). Twelve years later, Niehuis & Gottwald (2006) described a new species from Nicaragua: *O. vandenberghiei*, named for Manfred Niehuis' nephew Eric van den Berghe, who had lived and collected for several years in Nicaragua. Most recently Hornburg & Gottwald (2008) described *O. aenea* from Venezuela, greatly expanding the range of the genus.

And now, as though to commemorate the 20th anniversary, Jim Cope has again returned from México with *Oaxacanthaxia*, but this time a new species from the Yucatán peninsula, several hundred miles northeast of southern Oaxaca.

Descriptive terms for surface sculpturing are those defined and illustrated by Harris (1979). Abbreviations used in the text includes the codens for specimen repositories: CNIN, Colección Nacional de Insectos, Instituto de Biología, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, México City, México (= IBUNAM = UNAM); CLBC, my research collection; SMNS, Staatliches Museum für Naturkunde, Stuttgart, Baden-Württemberg, Germany; USNM, United States National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C., U.S.A. and;

ZMHB, Museum für Naturkunde der Humboldt Universität zu Berlin, Germany. The abbreviation 'L/W' is a simple length/width proportion value.

One note about some of the images presented herein. The specimens were examined using a Nikon SMZ 1500 stereo dissecting scope with a Spot Insight video camera and Spot software version 4.5. Most of the images (except Figs. 7 & 8) have been montaged using the CombineZM image stacking software available via public domain by Alan Hadley (26 April 2008). Adobe Photoshop 5 was used to adjust the captured images. In addition, the lighting for image capture was from a small portable dome with a bank of LED lights and a small round aperture on top. With the lights in three rings around the base reflecting up and off a white hemispherical cover, the aperture just below the objective lens creates a dark spot or stripe to the specimen images, particularly noticeable in Figs. 1–3, 5 & 6.

Oaxacanthaxia bicolorata, sp. nov.

(Figs. 1, 4)

Description of male holotype. Small, 6.07 mm in length from midpoint of frontovertex to elytral apices, 2.83 mm across elytra at approximately anterior 1/4; slightly elongate ovoid; transversely convex; dorsal surface mostly red-cupreous with greenish reflections on frontovertex, pronotum, scutellum, near anterior margin of elytra and just at elytral apices; when viewed directly head appears mostly shining green; ventral surface black with blue-green reflections; coarsely shallowly punctate on dorsal surface; head with narrow transverse portion of frontoclypeus just dorsad antennal cavities areolate; most of ventral surface, especially prosternal disc, process and thoracic ventrites foveolate; head, pronotum and elytra with one very short recumbent white seta from each puncture; ventral setae each longer, finer, especially on abdominal ventrites. **Head:** frontovertex convex between eyes; inner margins of eyes slightly sinuate, subparallel;