A new *Anthrenus* species from Armenia (Coleoptera: Dermestidae: Megatominae: Anthrenini)

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Abstract. A new species, *Anthrenus* (*Anthrenodes*) *araraticus* sp. nov., is described, illustrated and compared with similar species *Anthrenus* (*Anthrenodes*) *amoenulus* Reitter, 1896 and *Anthrenus* (*Anthrenops*) *zebra* Reitter, 1889.

INTRODUCTION

The genus *Anthrenus* Geoffroy, 1762 consists of 10 subgenera: *Anthrenodes* Chobaut, *Anthrenops* Reitter, *Anthrenus* s. str., *Helocerus* Mulsant & Rey, *Florilinus* Mulsant & Rey, *Anthrenodes* Casey, *Peacockia* Menier & Villemant, *Rathenus* Mroczkowski, *Setapeacockia* Háva, and *Solskinus* Mroczkowski (Háva 2015). In general, this division has been established with regard to the total number of the antennomeres in antenna and antennal club, as well as the morphology of the scales and eyes (Kadej & Háva 2015, Háva 2017). A new species collected in Armenia is described here with which so far has been a nomen nudum. It was listed by Zhantiev as a subspecies of *Anthrenus amoenulus* (Zhantiev 1976) from "Caucasus, Araxesthal", but without a description. That subspecies was subsequently discussed (Zhantiev 2002, 2009), but never described.

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:

Total length (TL) - linear distance from anterior margin of pronotum to apex of elytra.

Elytral width (EW) - maximum linear transverse distance.

Deposition of type material:

AHEC Andreas Herrmann, Private collection, Stade, Germany;

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

Specimens of the species described here are provided with a red, printed label with text as follows: „HOLOTYPE [or PARATYPE] *Anthrenus* (*Anthrenodes*) *araraticus* sp. nov., A. Herrmann & J. Háva det. 2022".

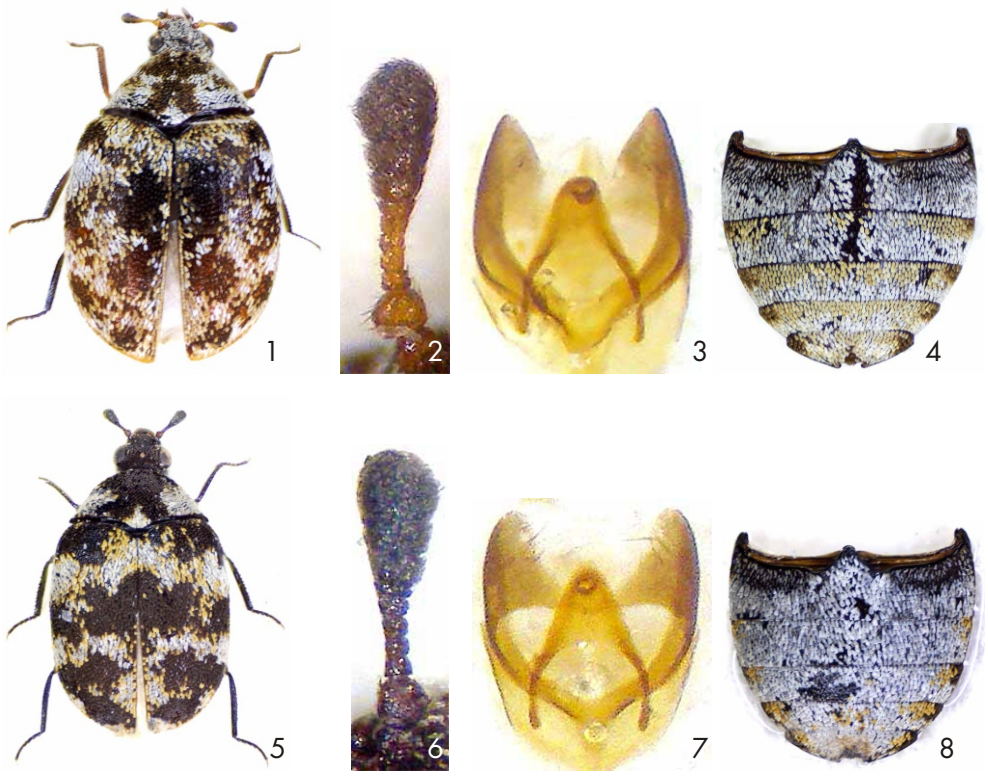
TAXONOMY

Anthrenus (*Anthrenodes*) *araraticus* sp. nov.

(Figs. 1-4)

Anthrenus amoenulus araraticus Zhantiev, 1976: 161 (nomen nudum).
Anthrenus amoenulus araraticus: Zhantiev, 2002: 2 (nomen nudum; as synonym of *amoenulus*).
Anthrenus amoenulus araraticus: Zhantiev, 2009: 4 (nomen nudum; as valid subspecies).

Type material. Holotype (♂): „Armenia, Erevan, Zoopark, 14.08.1962 leg. V. Richter" / „Anthrenus amoenulus ssp. araraticus Zh., Zhantiev det.", (AHEC). Paratypes (1 ♂): same data as in the holotype, (AHEC) [the specimens are labelled in Russian language and Cyrillic letters]; 1 (♀): „Caucasus, Araxesthal, Leder, Reitter" / „Anthrenus (Anthrenodes) amoenulus araraticus Zh., Jiří Háva det.", (JHAC).



Figs. 1-8. *Anthrenus* (*Anthrenodes*) *araraticus* sp. nov.: 1- habitus, dorsal aspect; 2- antenna; 3- genitalia; 4- abdomen; *Anthrenus* (*Anthrenodes*) *amoenulus* Reitter, 1896: 5- habitus, dorsal aspect; 6- antenna; 7- genitalia; 8- abdomen. (All photos were taken from male specimens).

Description. Male body measurements of the holotype (mm): TL 2.2, EW 1.6; colour of the body black to deep brown, oval, surface covered more or less densely with scales, the scales are somewhat longish, the cuticle is slightly visible between them; eyes big with hardly visible microsetae and entire median margin. Ocellus distinctly present on frons. Pronotum broadest at its hind edges, narrowed to the front, middle of the hind margin proceeded towards the scutellum, lateral margins not visible from above. Scutellum small, nearly triangular; elytra as well as head and pronotum quite densely and roughly punctated, punctation hardly visible beyond the scales. The scales on the body surface build very indistinct blur red spots and fasciae of different colour, mostly black, brown, yellow and white. Antennae consist of 10 antennomeres; antennal shaft light

brown with a brown basal segment; antennal club 3-antennomered, blackened towards its end (Fig. 2). Abdominal ventrites I-V with similar punctation as in the elytra, also covered by scales (Fig. 4). Legs long, narrow and brown, the tarsi distinctly shorter than the tibiae. Aedeagus as in Fig. 3.

Sexual dimorphism. Female externally similar to male.

Variation. Body size: TL 2.2 to 2.3 mm.

Differential diagnosis. Because of the morphological characters the new species belongs to the subgenus *Anthrenodes* Casey, 1900. It resembles very much *Anthrenus* (*Anthrenodes*) *amoenulus* Reitter, 1896 and *Anthrenus* (*Anthrenops*) *zebra* Reitter, 1889, but differs from *A. zebra* in the number of antennal segments, from *A. amoenulus* in the form and colour of the antenna, the elytral fasciae and the genitalia (see Figs. 1-8).

Etymology. The species name refers to the mountain Ararat and repeats in this way the name of an unpublished subspecies of *Anthrenus amoenulus*.

Distribution. So far known only from Armenia.

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