

***Anthrenus (Nathrenus) franki* sp. nov., a new species from Iran (Coleoptera: Dermestidae: Megatominae)**

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Abstract. The new species *Anthrenus (Nathrenus) franki* sp. nov. from Iran is described, illustrated and compared with related species.

INTRODUCTION

The genus *Anthrenus* Geoffroy, 1762 consists of 10 subgenera: *Anthrenodes* Chobaut, 1898, *Anthrenops* Reitter, 1881, *Anthrenus* s. str., *Helocerus* Mulsant & Rey, 1868, *Florilinus* Mulsant & Rey, 1868, *Nathrenus* Casey, 1900, *Peacockia* Menier & Villemant, 1993, *Ranthenus* Mroczkowski, 1962, *Setapeacockia* Háva, 2008, and *Solskinus* Mroczkowski, 1962 (Háva 2015, 2023a). 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, 2023b). A new species recently collected in Iran is described herewith which belongs to the subgenus *Nathrenus*.

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.

The specimens of the species described here are provided with a red label, printed text as follows: „HOLOTYPE [respectively PARATYPE], *Anthrenus (Nathrenus) franki* n. sp., Herrmann & Háva det. 2023”.

TAXONOMY

***Anthrenus (Nathrenus) franki* sp. nov.**

(Figs. 1-4)

Type material. Holotype (♂): IRAN, Fars prov. S, 8 km SW Dasht Arjan, 2000 mnm, 29°38'28"N, 51°54'27"E, 6.V.2016, leg. David Frank. Paratypes (4 spec., not sexed): same record data as holotype. All specimens are deposited in the collection of the first author.

Description. Body measurements of the holotype (mm): TL 2.3, EW 1.5; 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 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, each lateral margin distinctly bulged, middle of the hind margin proceeded towards the scutellum. Scutellum small, nearly triangular; elytra as well as head and pronotum quite densely and distinctly punctated. The scales on the body surface are dark brown and sparsely present, ribbed with intermixed white and yellow scales. The white ones form a spot each on the hind edges of the pronotum and the middle of its hind border as well as three blurred transverse elytral fasciae, the yellow ones cover the region around the scutellum and the apical part of the elytral suture (Fig. 1). Antennae consist of 11 antennomeres each, antennal shaft brown, its elongated club 3-segmented and black, all three segments are nearly of the same size (Fig. 2). Abdominal ventrites I-V with similar punctation as in the elytra, covered by brown and greyish scales (Fig. 4). Legs thin and light brown, the tarsi distinctly shorter than the tibiae. Aedeagus as in Fig. 3.



Figs. 1-4. *Anthrenus (Nathrenus) franki* sp. nov.: 1-habitus, dorsal aspect; 2-antenna; 3-genitalia; 4-abdomen. All photos were taken from the holotype.

Sexual dimorphism. Female externally similar to male.

Variation. Body size: TL 2.3 to 2.5 mm.

Differential diagnosis. Because of the morphological characters the new species belongs to the subgenus *Nathrenus* Casey, 1900. Habitually it resembles *A. (N.) transcaspicus* Mroczkowski, 1960 and *A. (N.) pubifer* Reitter, 1899, but differs from both by the structure of antennae, male genitalia, elytral scales, elytral and abdominal patterns.

Etymology. The species name is dedicated in honour to the coleopterist David Frank from Prague (Czech Republic). He is specialised on the beetle family Buprestidae and has been the collector of the type specimens.

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