

A New Trechine Beetle of the Genus *Trechicomimus*¹⁾

By

Shun-Ichi UÉNO

Department of Zoology, National Science Museum, Tokyo

The genus *Trechicomimus* was erected by MATEU and NÈGRE (1972, pp. 54, 63, 70) for a homaloderoid trechine of peculiar habitus from central Chile, which was known on a single male specimen. Its affinity is not certain, as the species is much isolated from all the other trechines known from South America. Through the courtesy of Dr. P. J. SPANGLER, I was recently given an opportunity to examine two specimens of a Chilean trechine preserved in the Smithsonian Institution and found it to be the second species of *Trechicomimus*. Unfortunately, the specimens are not satisfactory; besides, both of them are females which are less important taxonomically. However, this new species is less peculiar in facies than *T. aphaenops*, and at least in this respect, seems to span the gap between *Trechicomimus* and *Trechisibus*. Since the genus is so poorly known, I dare to name the new species on the material now at hand and am going to give its full description in the present paper.

I wish herewith to express my deep appreciation to Dr. Paul J. SPANGLER for his kindness to give me the privilege of studying the very interesting material.

Trechicomimus suturalis S. UÉNO, sp. nov.

(Fig. 1)

Length: 4.6–4.7 mm (from apical margin of clypeus to apices of elytra).

Readily discriminated from the type-species, *T. aphaenops* MATEU et NÈGRE (1972, pp. 63, 70, figs. 9, 16) from Mehuín, by the following features: The body is smaller in size, the fore-body is smaller mainly due to less ample pronotum, the head is larger and has larger eyes, the prothorax is wider at apex and narrower at base, and the elytra have distinct sutural stria.

Body rather elongate and completely glabrous on the dorsal side; apterous. Colour dark reddish brown, shiny and weakly iridescent, especially on elytra; palpi and apical segments of antennae lighter than the other parts.

Head fairly large, about as long as wide and depressed above; frons gently convex and smooth; anterior half of supraorbital areas more or less depressed, uneven, and obtusely carinate along frontal furrows; supraorbital pores situated on lines divergent posteriorly, the anterior one being foveolate; frontal furrows deep, wide and only

1) This study is supported in part by the Grant-in-aid for Scientific Research from the Ministry of Education, No. 154258.

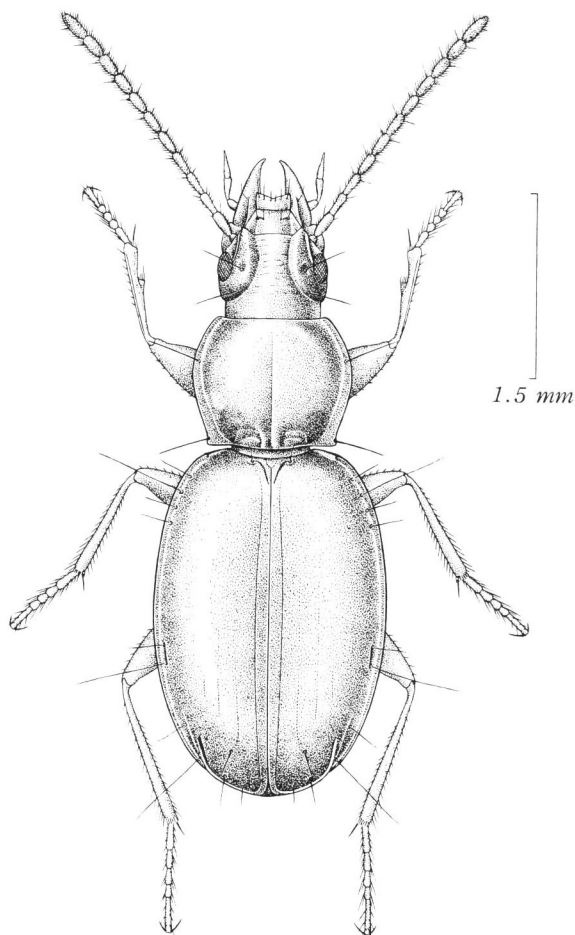


Fig. 1. *Trechicomimus suturalis* S. UENO, sp. nov., ♀, of San Alfonso in central Chile.

lightly curved before the level of the posterior margin of eyes, not angulate, only gently divergent towards clypeus, and becoming much shallower behind towards neck constriction though entire; microsculpture fine, variable in shape according to spots and partially obsolete, though largely consisting of wide polygonal meshes except on the neck constriction where it is formed by fine transverse lines; eyes fairly large though flat, perfectly glabrous; genae glabrous, about three-fifths as long as eyes, flat at the anterior part but gently convex near neck constriction, which is not very sharp but distinct at the sides; labrum transverse, with simply emarginate apex; mandibles slender, rather straight though hooked at apices; mentum free, with a simple broad tooth in apical emargination; submentum sexsetose; palpi short and fairly thick, penultimate segments widely dilated towards apices, apical segments subconical; antennae short

but fairly slender, subfiliform, reaching basal one-fifth of elytra, with segment 2 about as long as segment 4 and slightly shorter than segment 3; antennal segments 7–10 each oblong subovoid, about twice as long as wide, terminal segment slightly longer than scape though about as wide as the latter.

Pronotum relatively small, evidently wider than head, wider than long, widest a little before the middle, and more strongly contracted in front than behind; PW/HW 1.44–1.48, PW/PL 1.20–1.24, PW/PA 1.55–1.56, PW/PB 1.24–1.26;²⁾ surface convex though more or less depressed on the disk; microsculpture composed of fine transverse lines, which are rather irregular, partially obliterated and partially forming transverse meshes; sides moderately arcuate in front, less so behind middle, and slightly and very briefly sinuate just before hind angles, which are nearly rectangular though blunt at the tips; side borders sharply reflexed throughout, narrow near front angles but becoming much wider behind middle, with both lateral and postangular setae, the latter of which is almost on the angle; front angles blunt and hardly advanced, though distinct; base wider than apex, PB/PA 1.23–1.26, its lateral parts being nearly perpendicular to the mid-line but the median part being gently arcuate and produced backwards; median line distinctly impressed on the disk, widening and deepening near base; apical transverse impression almost vanished, somewhat wrinkled longitudinally; basal transverse impression interrupted at middle, laterally merging into basal foveae which are not large but deep and smooth at the bottom; no postangular carinae; basal area very narrow and smooth.

Elytra oval, widest at about middle, and depressed above though moderately convex at sides and in apical part; EW/PW 1.43–1.45, EL/EW 1.45–1.46; microsculpture composed of very fine transverse or oblique lines, though partially disappearing; shoulders effaced, with the prehumeral border not curving round inwards; sides narrowly reflexed, feebly arcuate at middle, and hardly emarginate before apices, which are almost conjointly rounded though leaving a small re-entrant angle at suture; striae almost vanished on the disk with the exception of stria 1 which is deeply impressed except for a small basal portion, stria 2 also visible though much shallower than the sutural one and fragmentary, trace of 3–4 discernible only near apex, 8 impressed near the middle and apical groups of marginal umbilicate pores; scutellar striole distinct though short; apical striole distinctly impressed, fairly long, and nearly straight at the anterior part, being directed to the site of stria 5; apical carina prominent, sharply keeled at the posterior part; setiferous dorsal pores absent; preapical pore situated at the apical anastomosis of striae 2 and 3, almost equally distant from apex and from suture, and closer to apical striole than to suture; both internal and external apical pores present; marginal umbilicate series aggregated, four pores of the humeral set being equidistant.

Ventral surface glabrous and smooth; anal sternite provided with two pair of sexual setae in ♀. Legs fairly stout though not particularly short; protibiae gently dilated towards apices and only slightly bowed, each with a groove on the external face and

2) For abbreviations, refer to other papers of mine.

almost glabrous on the anterior face though bearing a few microscopic hairs near apex; tarsi fairly thick, segment 4 with a hyaline ventral apophysis in pro- and mesotarsi.

Male unknown.

Type-series. Holotype: ♀, paratype: 1 ♀, 16~17-X-1969, O. S. FLINT, JR. and G. BARRIA leg.

The holotype is preserved in the collection of the Entomology Department, National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D. C. The paratype is retained in the collection of the National Science Museum (Nat. Hist.), Tokyo.

Type-locality. San Alfonso, above Caramávida, Arauco, central Chile.

Notes. In the illustration (fig. 9) of *T. aphaenops* inserted in its original description, an extra pore is shown on both sides between the fourth and fifth pores of the marginal series. Such a supernumerary of umbilicate pores is very exceptional in the subfamily Trechinae, and has been known only in a very few aberrant species (e.g., *Trechus raffrayanus* JEANNEL from Ethiopia and *Italaphaenops dimaioi* GHIDINI from northern Italy). However, nothing is said on this point in the original account, and the present species is perfectly normal in the constitution of marginal umbilicate pores. Therefore, I feel it better to disregard the extra pore in the habitus drawing of the type-species.

Reference

- MATEU, J., & J. NÈGRE, 1972. Révision du genre *Trechisibus* MOTSCH. et genres voisins. *Nouv. Rev. Ent.*, 2: 53-71.