

A new subspecies of *Pseudoxychila* of Ecuador

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Pseudoxychila bipustulata subsp. nova *oxychiloides*

Differt a ceteris huius speciei varietatibus statura angustiore; corporis superficie nigro-subnitente (nec violacea nec subopaca); elytrorum disco opaco (nec velutino, epipleuris plus minusve brunneo-testaceis; dimidia postica elytrorum parte apicem versus gradatim clarius brunneo-testaceo-flavescenter decolorato; corpore subtus, tibiis, tarsis piceo-brunneis; femoribus (apice nigro), trochantibus, 4 coxis anticis brunnescentibus; antennis nigris, pedibus gracilioribus.—Long 13½-15 mm. (sine labro).

3 ♀ ♀ from Nanegal and Pilaton, 2 little places situated at a height of 3,000 feet in the western range of the Andes of Ecuador, Collected by Dr. *Spillmann*. 1 ♀ with the doubtful locality «Napo» (eastern range!).

At the first view this new race resembles by its missing metallic coloration of the body some species of the genus *Oxychyla*. The decoloration of the black colours of the body is very remarkable, but as Dr. *Spillmann* has collected himself the specimen coming from Nanegal and Pilaton (they have been killed simply by cyanide of potash), there is no doubt, that this decoloration is not an artificial one. My first idea was that the ground, on what the specimens had lived, might have been a salty one in any way, and I got from Dr. *Spillmann* the information, that I was quite right in this supposition, as there is a volcanic ground, rich of sulphur and saltpeter. These circumstances would fully explain, I think, the local decoloration, but this last one is not at all a plain feature resulting from *missing pigment*, as that would never explain

the change of duff metallic colouration of head, pronotum and base of elytra into a half-*shining* black one. Thus I think we have to do here with a really fully localized form.

The legs of the new form are very thin, especially the hind tarsus, but I only know the ♀, and cannot say, thus, anything about the tarsus of the ♂, which have generally in this genus the legs much stouter etc. than the ♀. But outside of this sexual character the legs, especially the tarsus, of *Pseudoxypbila* are very variable in an individual way, e. g. the tip of the single articles of the hind tarsus is sometimes very little, sometimes in a remarkable way delated.

The discovery of this new race was a great surprise to me, as it is standing in the genus outside of the variability as known till now.

