

**ADDITIONAL RECORDS OF NEW CALEDONIAN
STENOTARSINAE (COLEOPTERA: ENDOMYCHIDAE),
WITH DESCRIPTIONS OF TWO NEW
SPECIES OF *PANIEGENA*¹**

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Abstract. Recent collections of the little known *Stenotarsus flavipes*, *S. lombardeai* and *Paniegena suturalis* are noted. New species described are *Paniegena baloghi* and *P. atricollis*.

After my synopsis of New Guinea and Melanesian stenotarsines had gone to press (Strohecker 1978), I received small lots of New Caledonian material from Dr Zoltan Kaszab of the Hungarian Natural History Museum (MNM) and Dr G. A. Samuelson of the Bishop Museum (BISHOP). While few in number, the specimens are of unusual interest and require recognition of 2 additional species of the endemic genus *Paniegena*.

Genus *Stenotarsus*

The 2 species known from New Caledonia are endemic and flightless.

***Stenotarsus lombardeai* Perroud**

Stenotarsus lombardeai Perroud, 1864: 219.

The 13 specimens recently examined show a range of coloration from entirely yellow (callow) to dark brown, with elytral apex and pronotal front angles vaguely paler. A few show the pattern of the lectotype: black below and above with legs, antenna, front angles of pronotum, base and apex of elytra yellow. The darker specimens may represent the mature coloration but I suspect that they have suffered some change after collection.

Material examined. NEW CALEDONIA: 6♂, 2♀, Nouméa, Mt Koghi, 500-800 m, 25-27.X.1967, J. & M. Sedlacek (BISHOP, author); 1♂, 3(sex?), Mt Koghi, 12-13.II.1977, J. Balogh; 1♀, Col de Roussettes, 26-27.I.1977, Balogh (MNM, author).

***Stenotarsus flavipes* Heller**

Stenotarsus flavipes Heller, 1916: 283.

Material examined. NEW CALEDONIA: 1(sex?), Bourail, Col de Roussettes, J. Balogh (MNM).

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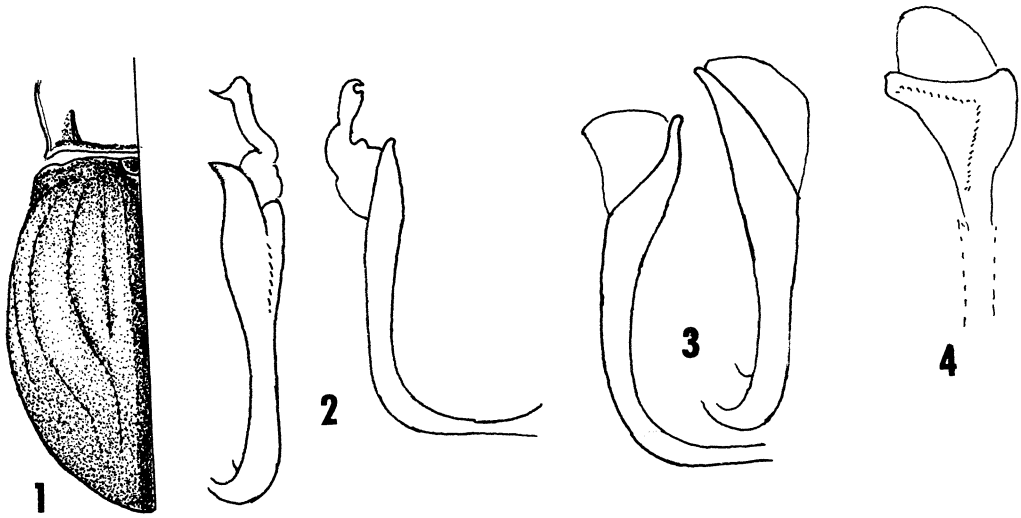


FIG. 1-4. 1, *Paniegena baloghi*, elytron. 2-4, aedeagi: 2, *P. baloghi*; 3, *P. suturalis*; 4, *P. atricollis*.

Genus *Paniegena*

Paniegena was proposed by Heller for a single species which resembles somewhat a *Stenotarsus* but has relatively narrow pronotum and deeply punctate-striate elytra. In the 3 species here recognized the legs are long, slender and black, including tarsi and coxae. Antenna long, 2 mm or more, black with last 1 or 2 articles yellow. Pronotum not or hardly 1.5× as wide as long, disc roundly convex, margin narrow to moderately wide, front angles short and obtuse, hind angles short spiniform, base almost straight, lateral sulci long and linear, transverse sulcus close to hind margin. Elytra deeply striate, hardly broader at base than pronotum, evenly and strongly widened to or beyond middle, then evenly or rather abruptly rounded to apex, somewhat flattened above and subcostate at sides with lateral area inflexed, epipleura incomplete distad. Upper surface with moderately long, erect tawny pubescence. These are flightless insects with inner wings aborted.

Paniegena suturalis Heller

FIG. 3

Paniegena suturalis Heller, 1916: 282.

Undersurface dark brown, mesosternum and elytral epipleura black. Antenna slender, all stalk articles longer than wide, club distinct but not large, article 9 bell-shaped, 10 quadrate, 11 oval and almost as long as 9-10 combined, articles 10-11 dark yellow. Head reddish black. Pronotum reddish yellow, base narrowly black, sides narrowly margined, little rounded to front angles, weakly sinuate to the outwardly turned, acute hind angles. Elytra reddish yellow with black stripe along suture, each with 6 dorsal striae, of which the innermost 2 lie in the black sutural stripe. There is an incomplete stria (7) on the inflexed side and punctures which Heller designated striae 8 and 9. The elytra of ♂ taper caudad with apex rather sharp; those of ♀ are very abruptly rounded to apex. Length 3.5-4 mm.

Material examined. NEW CALEDONIA: 3 ♂, 1 ♀, Mt Panié, 1360–1450 m, 7.X.1977, J. Balogh (MNM, author).

Paniegena baloghi Strohecker, new species

FIG. 1, 2

Similar in habitus to *P. suturalis*. Venter mostly reddish yellow, spinasternum, mesosternum, epipleura and inflexed marginal area of elytra black. Last antennomere yellow. Head shining black. Dorsum reddish yellow, pronotal base narrowly black, base and a sutural stripe of elytron black. Length 3.6–4 mm.

Antenna slender, articles 2–7 each longer than wide, 8 much shorter than 7, article 9 narrowly campaniform, 10 subquadrate, 11 oval, broader than and almost equal in length to 9–10 combined. Pronotum with front margin almost straight, its angles not at all produced, sides evenly and rather strongly rounded to near middle, slightly convergent basad and feebly sinuate at hind angles, which are briefly and sharply directed outward. Elytra little wider at base than pronotum, evenly and rather strongly widened to near middle, then evenly and rapidly narrowed to apex, base with deep transverse impression, disc rather flat dorsally, subcarinate at sides. Each elytron with 5 deep dorsal striae. The 1st stria lies in the black sutural stripe, the 2nd is straight and ends just distad of midlength, the 3rd and 4th are strongly curved mesad beyond midlength, the 5th only partially visible from above. There is a 6th stria on the inflexed side.

The black head and strongly curved 3rd and 4th elytral striae make this species easy to differentiate from *P. suturalis*.

Holotype ♂, NEW CALEDONIA: Mt Panié, 1360–1450 m, 7.X.1977, J. Balogh (MNM). Allotype ♀, Mt Panié, 500–1000 m, 11.X.1967, J. & M. Sedlacek (BISHOP). Paratypes: 1 ♂, same data as allotype (BISHOP); 1 ♂, same data as holotype except 250–800 m, 6.X.1977 (author).

Paniegena atricollis Strohecker, new species

FIG. 4

Legs, mesosternum, prothorax, head and scutellum black. Antenna black, last article yellow. Metasternum, abdominal sternites and elytra red. Length 3.2–3.5 mm.

Antenna stouter than in the preceding 2 species but with articles 2–8 each longer than wide, 9 conical, 10 subquadrate, 11 oval and as long as 9–10 combined. Pronotum 1.5× as wide as long, sides broadly margined, little rounded to front angles, weakly sinuate at the acutely produced hind angles. Elytra about 2.5× as long as pronotum, cordiform (♂), more rounded caudad (♀), each with 9 punctured striae, of which 6 are visible from above. Striae regular in arrangement, 3 and 4 confluent at base but all end separately near apex.

The wholly black prothorax contrasts with the coloration of *P. suturalis* and *P. baloghi*. The broad pronotal margins and rather stout antenna of *P. atricollis* suggest the genus *Stenotarsus*.

Holotype ♂, NEW CALEDONIA: 25 km from Col de Roussettes, 6.II.1963, N.L.H. Krauss (BISHOP 11,542). Allotype ♀, same data as holotype (BISHOP). Paratypes: 1 ♀, same data as holotype (author), 2 ♀, Mt Panié, 9.II.1977, J. Balogh (MNM).

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