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A new species of *Colyphus* Spinola  
(Coleoptera: Cleridae: Clerinae) from Veracruz, Mexico

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# A new species of *Colyphus* Spinola (Coleoptera: Cleridae: Clerinae) from Veracruz, Mexico

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**Abstract.** *Colyphus lostuxtlas* new species (Coleoptera: Cleridae: Clerinae) is described from Veracruz, Mexico.

**Key words.** Checkered beetles, Veracruz, cloud forest, endemism.

**ZooBank registration.** urn:lsid:zoobank.org:pub:9B1E3462-9612-4140-8B23-3A3F78B4366A

## Introduction

With the addition of the new species described herein, the genus *Colyphus* Spinola now comprises 27 species, distributed from Mexico to Panama (Ekis 1977; Rifkind 1997, 2014, 2020, 2023; Rifkind and Barr 2011). The species described herein is known only from a cloud forest reserve (part of La Reserva Biosfera Los Tuxtlas) on the lower slopes of Volcán San Martín in Veracruz, Mexico. Other *Colyphus* species with distributions in cloud forests include the Costa Rican species *C. hansonii* Rifkind, *C. irazu* Ekis, and *C. ska* Rifkind and Barr, the Honduran species *C. lamed* Rifkind, and *C. artus* Ekis from Chiapas, Mexico, although only the first of these appears to be restricted to that habitat.

## Materials and Methods

Specimens were photographed through the eyepiece of a Zeiss stereo dissecting microscope using the camera in an Apple iPhone 11, and with an Olympus TG-5 fitted with an Olympus LED light guide (LG-1), using the onboard photo stacking software. Measurements were established using the ocular grid in a Zeiss stereomicroscope and a millimeter scale.

Specimens examined for this paper are deposited in the following collections: Collection of Jacques Rifkind, Valley Village, California, USA (JNRC), and California State Collection of Arthropods, Sacramento, California, USA (CSCA).

## Results

### *Colyphus lostuxtlas* Rifkind, new species

(Fig. 1–3)

**Type specimens. Holotype female.** Mexico, Veracruz, Reserva Los Tuxtlas, vic. Ruiz Cortines, 3810', 18.3125° N, 95.828° W, cloud forest, vi-8-2023, J. Rifkind, J. M. Leavengood, Jr., R. Calderon, colls. The holotype is deposited in CSCA.

**Paratype.** 1 female (JNRC), same data as holotype.

**Description. Holotype length:** 10.0 mm. Form: elongate; elytra subparallel (Fig. 1–3). Color: black; elytra with two pairs of yellow maculae arranged as in Fig. 1–2 (maculae pinkish-orange in preserved specimen); antennomeres 1–3 (in part), labial palpi, and maxillary palpi (except basal 2/3 of terminal palpomere) testaceous. **Head:** surface shining, densely, shallowly punctulate; moderately densely clothed with adpressed and suberect whitish setae. **Antennae:** nearly reaching base of pronotum, antennomeres 9–11 forming a gradually enlarged, loose club. **Pronotum:** subflattened above, slightly longer than broad; transverse impression distinct, broadly V-shaped;



Figures 1–3. *Colyphus lostuxtlas*. 1) Habitus of holotype. 2–3) Paratype: living specimen.



Figures 4–5. Habitat at type locality.

surface shining, moderately densely, finely and shallowly punctate and finely transversely rugulose, anterior with an inverted triangular patch of reclinate and suberect, anteriorly oriented, whitish setae, posterior similarly vested with a triangular patch, disk inconspicuously clothed with black suberect setae. Scutellum rather densely clothed with white setae. **Elytra:** elongate (more than  $2\times$  as long as wide); somewhat compressed dorsoventrally; disk slightly concave anterior to middle; humeri subquadrate; umbones prominent; subbasal tumescences nearly obsolete; sides subparallel, very slightly and gradually inflected at anterior  $\frac{1}{3}$ ; apices dehiscent. Surface shining, transversely rugose–punctate, sculpturing finer, more shallow on posterior  $\frac{1}{3}$ . Vestiture complex: moderately densely but inconspicuously arranged at middle, composed of rather short, mostly fine, suberect and erect whitish and black setae; anterior margin with a sparse but distinctive array of rather stout whitish, anteriorly oriented setae of medium length; apical  $\frac{1}{3}$  densely covered with posteriorly directed, medium length, recumbent silvery setae. **Metasternum:** surface granulate laterally, densely clothed with whitish setae. **Abdomen:** surface shining, coarsely, shallowly punctate, sparsely clothed with fine, whitish setae. Ventricle V with posterior margin rather broadly subtruncate; ventricle VI with hind margin broadly arcuate. **Genitalia:** not examined.

**Variation.** The paratype, also a female, measures 8.5 mm in length, but is otherwise similar to the holotype.

**Etymology.** The specific epithet refers to the new species' type locality, Los Tuxtlas, Veracruz, an important reservoir of tropical fauna and flora.

**Distribution.** Known from the Reserva Los Tuxtlas on the flanks of Volcán San Martín in Veracruz, Mexico (Fig. 4–5).

**Diagnosis.** Separable from the similarly colored species *Colyphus artus* Ekiş and *Colyphus zacki* Rifkind by the presence of only two rather than three pairs of yellow elytral maculae. Additionally, the new species bears an apical elytral patch of densely arrayed silvery setae, absent in those congeners.

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