ART. 5. SPHOENOGNATHUS CURVIPES (COLEOPTERA; LUCANIDAE), A NEW SPECIES FROM BOLIVIA.

By Bernard Benesh
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During a visit to the Carnegie Museum, a small series of a Lucanid of doubtful status attracted my attention. After further study, I am convinced that the insect is new to science, which I propose to describe in the subjoined short diagnosis, under the specific name

**Sphoenognathus curipes**, sp. nov.

*Male:* subparallel, depressed, golden-brown, aeneous; head, pronotum, and venter, with dense, fulvous pubescence.

Head transverse-quadrate, broader than long, produced in front and truncate, rugose, antero-laterad angles oblique, subacute, sides emarginate and narrowing gently to base; anteocular area elevated; from base of the mandibles to vertex of the head, a broad V-shaped depression; eyes large, convex, completely divided by the canthus. Mandibles longer than the head, porrect, trigonate, incurved in apical third, acute, inner margin with several unequal ill-defined teeth; upper ridge bending outward in basal third, thence diagonally to exterior margin; inner margin and the ridge darker (nearly black); inner area rugose, lateral granulate; basal half (dorsad and ventrad) covered with long fulvous pubescence. Antennae slender, piceous; scape club-shaped, slightly bent, nitid, posteral pubescent, distinctly shorter than the clava and twice as long as the funicle; funicle of three segments, first segment subglobose (pear-shaped), second similar and one quarter longer than the first, third regularly dilated from base to apex and one-eighth shorter than the second; clava of six segments, rufous, subopaque, first five segments of equal length, anterad lobate, terminal of irregular shape and twice as long as the preceding, with anterior margin feebly lobed by a longitudinal impression; funicle and bases of first three segments of clava nitid, sparsely setose.

Pronotum twice as broad as long, anterad sinuate, antero-laterad angles obtuse, sides diverging diagonally to center, center rounded to posterior, basal angles oblique-truncate, base nearly straight, margin elevated; disc with a median longitudinal canaliculation, subrugose, glabrous, antero-laterad area irregularly depressed and densely clothed with whorls of fulvous pubescence; sides with a deep marginal pit.

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Scutellum broad, rounded. Elytra nearly parallel, broadest beyond the middle, posterior regularly rounded, alutaceous, strongly aeneous, minutely punctured with remote punctures (not discernible by naked eye), humeri rounded, suture and declivity with sparse, short, grayish pubescence.

The space between the thorax and elytra covered by dense pubescence, partially hiding the scutellum, which is destitute of clothing (in lindeni pubescent.)

Beneath, rufous, with head, pro-, meso-, and meta-sternum covered with long fulvous pubescence; abdominal segments granulose, with short prostrate grayish pubescence.

Legs: femora stout, remotely punctured, posterior and lower areas pubescent; tibiae strongly curved, anterior nude, intermediate and posterior pubescent; anterior tibiae distad with broad furcation and an ill-defined denticle near the center; intermediate with one small spine near the apical fourth, posterior spineless; tarsi piceous, setose beneath; claws large, simple.

Female: robust, convex, broader than the male, darker (chestnut-brown to piceous), nitid, without the aeneous luster typical to the male; antennæ stouter, clava more compact than in the male, and as long as the funicle and scape combined; elytra covered throughout with sparse grayish pile; tibiae less arcuate and more massive, anteriors with a broad furcation and two lateral subequal spines, intermediate with a single spine in apical third (more pronounced than in the male), posterior unarmed.

Beneath, darker (nearly black), with pro-, meta-, and mesosternum strongly tinted with green, aureous, femora purplish; pubescence less dense and shorter.

**Principal Dimensions**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Length (In millimeters)</th>
<th>Width (In millimeters)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Head</td>
<td>3 x 5.9</td>
<td>2.0 x 5.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mandibles</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>2.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prothorax</td>
<td>5 x 10.0</td>
<td>5.25 x 11.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elytra</td>
<td>16 x 12.0</td>
<td>17.0 x 13.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Types: ♂ and ♀, Incachaca, Bolivia, alt. 2,500 M., Collector Jose Steinbach, Acc. 6373, Collection of the Carnegie Museum.

Paratopotypes: ♂ and ♀, in the writers collection and that of the Carnegie Museum.
Allied to *S. lindeni* Murray¹, from which it may be readily separated by the peculiar antennae, arcuate tibiae (in *lindeni* apparently doubly bent, e.g., in-, ex-, and incurved), uniformly rounded elytra (in *lindeni* each elytron is rounded) and other characters.

My thanks are due to Dr. A. Avinoff, and to Dr. George Wallace of the Carnegie Museum, for the privilege of examining and reporting on these insects, as well for the generous contribution to my reference collection of the paratopotypes, which greatly enhance my meager series of neotropical Lucanidae.

¹ Murray, Andrew: New Coleoptera from the Andes (Edinburgh New Philosophical Journal), 1857, 5: 221-226, pl. 3, figs. 1, σ⁴; 2, ⁹.
EXPLANATION OF PLATE 1

*Sphoenognathus curvipes*, sp. nov.

**Fig. 1.** Male. Head. 1. a antenna, 1. b anterior tibia, 1. c intermediate tibia, 1. d posterior tibia.

**Fig. 2.** Female. Head. 2. a antenna, 2. b anterior tibia, 2. c intermediate tibia, 2. d posterior tibia.

**Fig. 3.** *Sphoenognathus lindeni* Murray. Tracing of Murray’s original figure, enlarged 2 X. Anterior tibia (3), and intermediate tibia (3. a). ♀.

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