Entomologica Basiliensia et Collectionis Frey	28	49–58	2006	ISSN 0253–24834

Four new species of the Neotropical genus *Theraneis* Spinola, 1837 (Heteroptera: Largidae, Larginae)

by **Jaroslav L. Stehlík**

Abstract. Four new species of the genus *Theraneis* Spinola, 1837 are described: *T. longula* (Santa Catharina, Brazil), *T. schuhi* (Peru), *T. petri* (Bolivia), and *T. brancuccii* spp.nov. (Espirito Sancto, Brazil).

Key words. Heteroptera – Largidae – *Theraneis* – new species – Neotropical Region

Introduction

Altogether 15 species have been described in the genus *Theraneis* Spinola, 1837, distributed in the more southern part of Central America and in South America except for its more southerly parts. Recently BRAILOVSKY (1991) studied this genus, described four new species and presented a key for species identification.

I would like to offer the minor grammatical comment that the genus *Theraneis* is of female gender, as shown by the typus generis *T. vittata* Spinola, 1837. Therefore the names *T. multicoloratus* Brailovsky, 1991 and *T. elongatus* Brailovsky, 1991 have to be corrected, changing the male ending of the word to the female. In this contribution another four species are described and figured by the author.

Taxonomy

Theraneis longula sp.nov. (Fig. 1)

Material examined. Holotype female: "Brasil, S. Cath. (Hansa Humbolt), Nov. 1948, A. Maler, Coll. Frank Johnson Donor". Paratype female: the same data. (Deposited in the American Museum of Natural History, New York.)

Description. Head, antennae, pronotum (except posterior angles), scutellum, clavus (except base), inner side of corium, membrane (except margins), legs and entire ventral surface black. Longitudinal band of intense black coloration on clavus and corium. Posterior angles of pronotum (somewhat extended in its posterior margin), claval base (close to its outer margin) and corium approximately up to medial vein, light yellow. Narrow margin of membrane grey.

Silvery pubescence on head on paraclypei, clypeus, bucculae, with distinct band separating callar lobe from pronotal lobe on pronotum; less distinct band on posterior margin, in the paratype very narrow and slightly marked longitudinal band connecting the transverse bands of pubescence. On sternum pubescence on posterior margins of pleura I and II, also lining the dorsal margins of epicoxal lobes I and II; these lobes themselves with only indistinct pubescence. Pubescence also covers basisternum I-III and coxae. On ventrites III-VI pubescence lines posterior margins of the ventrites and

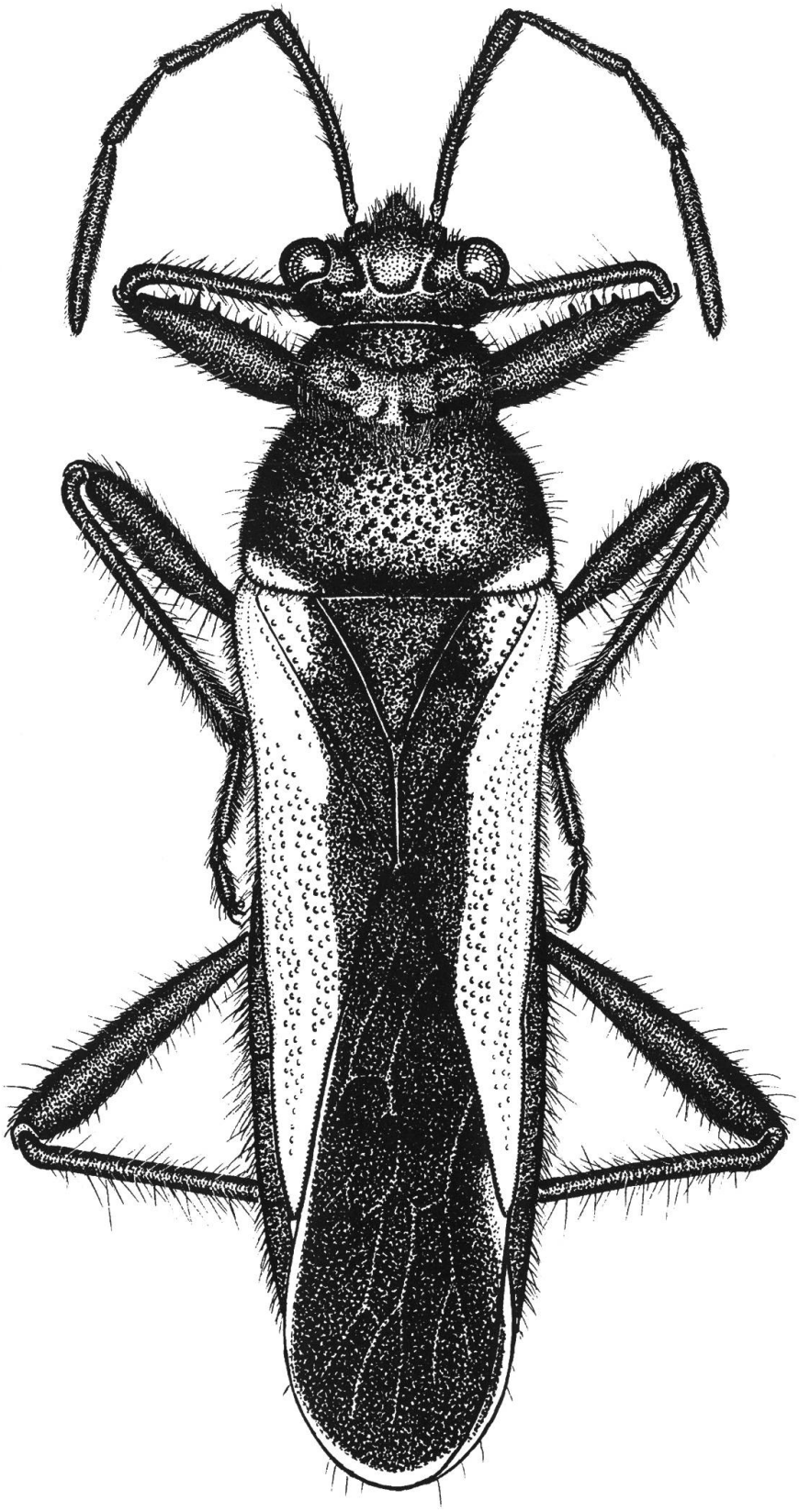

Fig. 1. *Theraneis longula* sp.nov., female.

fully covers their ventral leterotergites; on ventrite III pubescence covers its entire middle part and also the medial trichobothria areas in patches.

Head, first labial segment, pronotum and scutellum with pale hairs (occasionally also darker ones). Clavus and corium with short, pale hairs, sternum and ventrites with pale, perpendicular hairs. Legs covered in short, pale hairs standing away only a little, and by long, pale hairs standing away almost perpendicularly. Body narrow, elongate, sides parallel. Head small, rather narrow, pronotal collar rather long, almost equal to callar lobe. Posterior angles not protruding into points. Profemora with 4 or 3 denticles. Pronotal lobe, posterior pleural flange I and scutellum with conspicuous punctures. Clavus and corium with only fine punctures.

Measurements (mm). First holotype female, second female (paratype) in parentheses. Head: width (including eyes) 1.84 (1.84), interocular width 1.03 (1.03); antenna: I 1.89 (1.84), II 0.92 (0.97), III 0.70 (0.81), IV 1.62 (1.73); pronotum: collar length 0.43 (0.38), callar lobe length 0.49 (0.49), width 1.67 (1.67), pronotal lobe 1.19 (1.19), width 2.54 (2.59), total length 2.11 (2.05); scutellum: length 1.51 (1.40), width 1.51 (1.57); corium: length 5.29 (5.56), width 1.19 (1.19); total length 10.29 (10.80).

Derivatio nominis. The specific is the Latin adjective *longulus*, *-a*, *-um* (fairly long).

Differential diagnosis. This new species is related to *T. vittata* Spinola, 1837 and *T. vaga* Schmidt, 1931 but is larger and more robust. Its head is wider than in the two species compared, more sinuate than in *T. vittata* and less so than in *T. vaga*; the antennae are longer, the clavus and corium have larger punctures (in contrast to both compared species which have almost no punctures on these body parts) and are light yellow, without a reddish touch; the black colouration on the inner side of the corium is intense and with a sharp border whereas it is only blackish with a fuzzy border in the two species compared. In *T. vaga* half of the second antennal segment, as well as the third and fourth antennal segments, are pale. In *T. montivaga* Schmidt, 1931 there is a yellow spot in the shape of an upside-down drop medially on the pronotum; antennal segment II is yellow (segment III and IV are missing in the holotype. It seems very probable that these are yellow as well).

***Theraneis schuhi* sp.nov.** (Fig. 2)

Material examined. Holotype female: "Peru, Huan., Tingo Maria, Alt. 2.200 ft., Nov.23, 1946, J. C. Pallister Coll., Donor Frank Johnson". (Deposited in American Museum of Natural History, New York.)

Description. Head intensely black including antennae, labium and legs. Clavus with longitudinal creamy-yellow band, running medially and becoming narrower towards each of its ends: more abruptly on base, more gradually distally. Costal margin in basal two-fifths creamy yellow, then the creamy-yellow band widens slightly and bends across corium to claval apex. Outline of this distal part of band somewhat irregular. Another band runs along distal margin of corium, widening evenly from claval apex towards apex of corium. Ventrally also posterior pleural flange I white.

Silvery pubescence mediodistally on frons (at base of clypeus), further on anterior margin of eye socket up to antennifer, on paraclypei and buculae. Antennae and

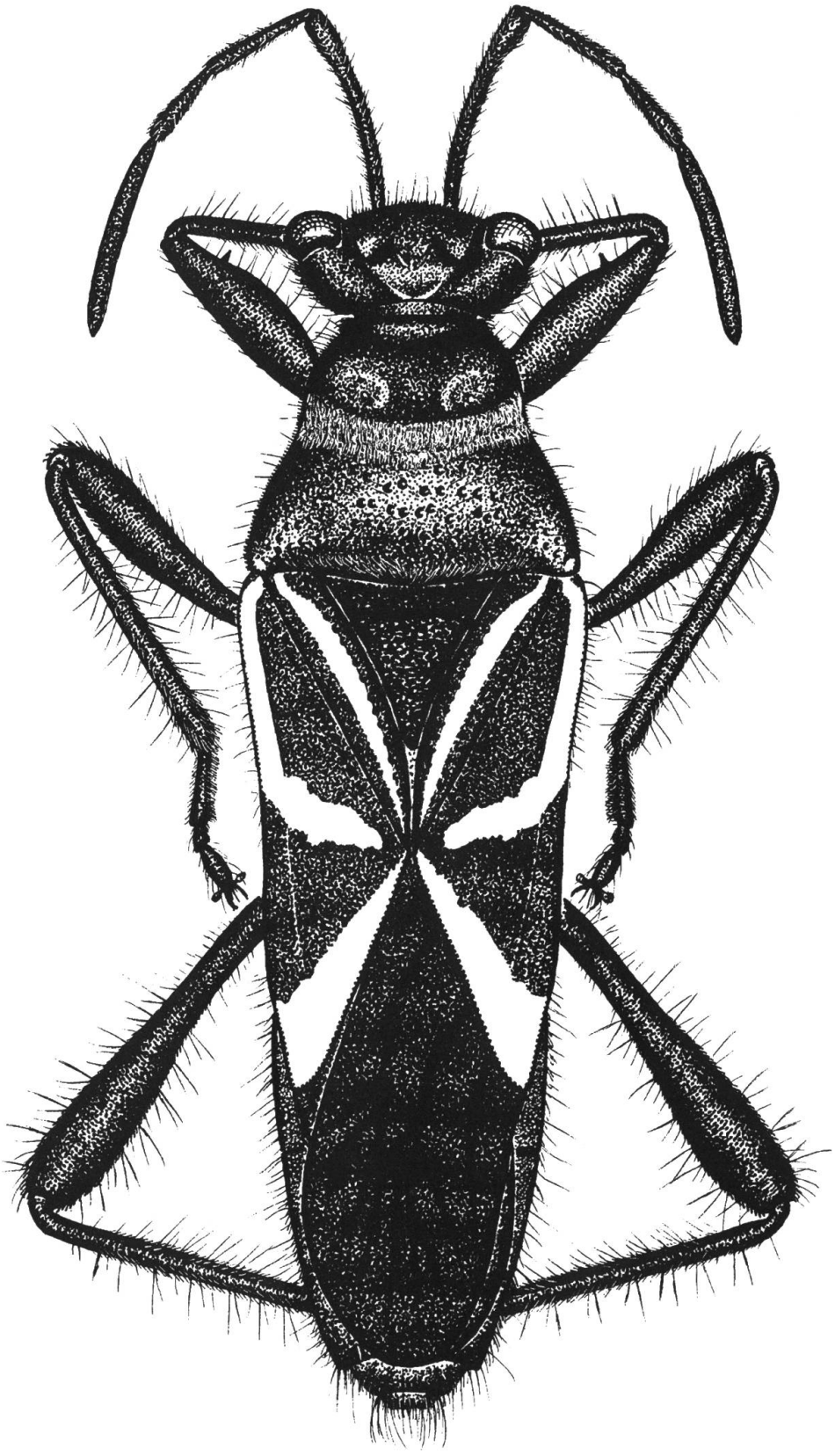

Fig. 2. *Theraneis schuhi* sp.nov., female.

profemora only with sporadic pubescence; pubescence somewhat more distinct on first segment. Distinct pubescence on thorax forming a transverse band on interface between callar and pronotal lobes, extending very slightly medially on pronotal lobe. Posterior margin only with scarcer, less conspicuous pubescence. Ventrally distinct pubescence on prosternal collar, on pleuron I wider, horseshoe-shaped band on its margins, reaching also onto epicoxal lobe I. Centre of pleuron without pubescence. Pubescence on pleuron II forming band at posterior pleural flange I. Pubescence also present on bases of epicoxal lobes III and coxae II and III; basisternum only with less conspicuous pubescence. Ventrite III covered by pubescence only medially, IV, V, VI covered entirely, VII only in basal half. Head, pronotum and femora with long, pale, perpendicular hairs (also some black hairs, on tibiae only pale ones). Corium with short, perpendicular hairs. Head and pronotum also densely covered in tiny black spines, these somewhat longer on sides of head.

Body rather large, wide, not distinctly elongate. Head rather wide, eyes less convex, in frontal view eye socket rather strongly bent upwards and frons markedly depressed. Callar lobe evenly and smoothly rounded, in lateral view more so near base. Pronotal lobe evenly rounded, posterior angles with small, blunt point. Profemora apically with single denticle. Metafemora becoming much thicker towards apex, club-shaped.

Base of pronotal collar, pronotal lobe and posterior pleural flange I with dense and conspicuous puncturation. On clavus finer punctures in bands along anal and postcubitus vein, on corium along cubitus and on surface between bent yellow band and band on distal margin between median and outer margin of corium.

Measurements (mm). Holotype female. Head: width (including eyes) 2.05, interocular width 1.19; antenna: I 1.84, II 0.97, III 0,70, IV 1.78; pronotum: collar 0.27, callar lobe length 0.81, width 1.75, pronotal lobe length 1.13, width 2.83, total length 2.21; scutellum: length 1.57, width 1.62; corium: length 4.59, width 1.30; body length 10.42.

Derivatio nominis. I would like to take this opportunity of naming this new species in honour of R. T. Schuh of the American Museum of Natural History, New York, for his substantial contribution to our knowledge of the family Miridae, in consideration of my admiration for the extent of his work, and in thanks for the loan of materials.

Differential diagnosis. The species resembles *T. neotropicalis* Brailovsky, 1991, the latter also being entirely inky black and having almost identical creamy yellow bands on the clavus and base of corium. However, the distal part of the corium is coloured differently in the latter, in which. the corial apex bears a wide (almost to halfway along the distal margin) transverse orange band and a creamy yellow area at the rear end. In the new species, the entire distal margin bears a creamy yellow band that widens evenly from the apex of the clavus towards the apex of the corium (reaching its outer margin). In *T. neotropicalis* the posterior margin of the corium is covered in conspicuous pubescence, which is not the case in *T. schuhi* sp.nov., in which this pubescence is connected to a band of pubescence in the furrow separating the callar and pronotal lobes by a distinct medial band of pubescence.

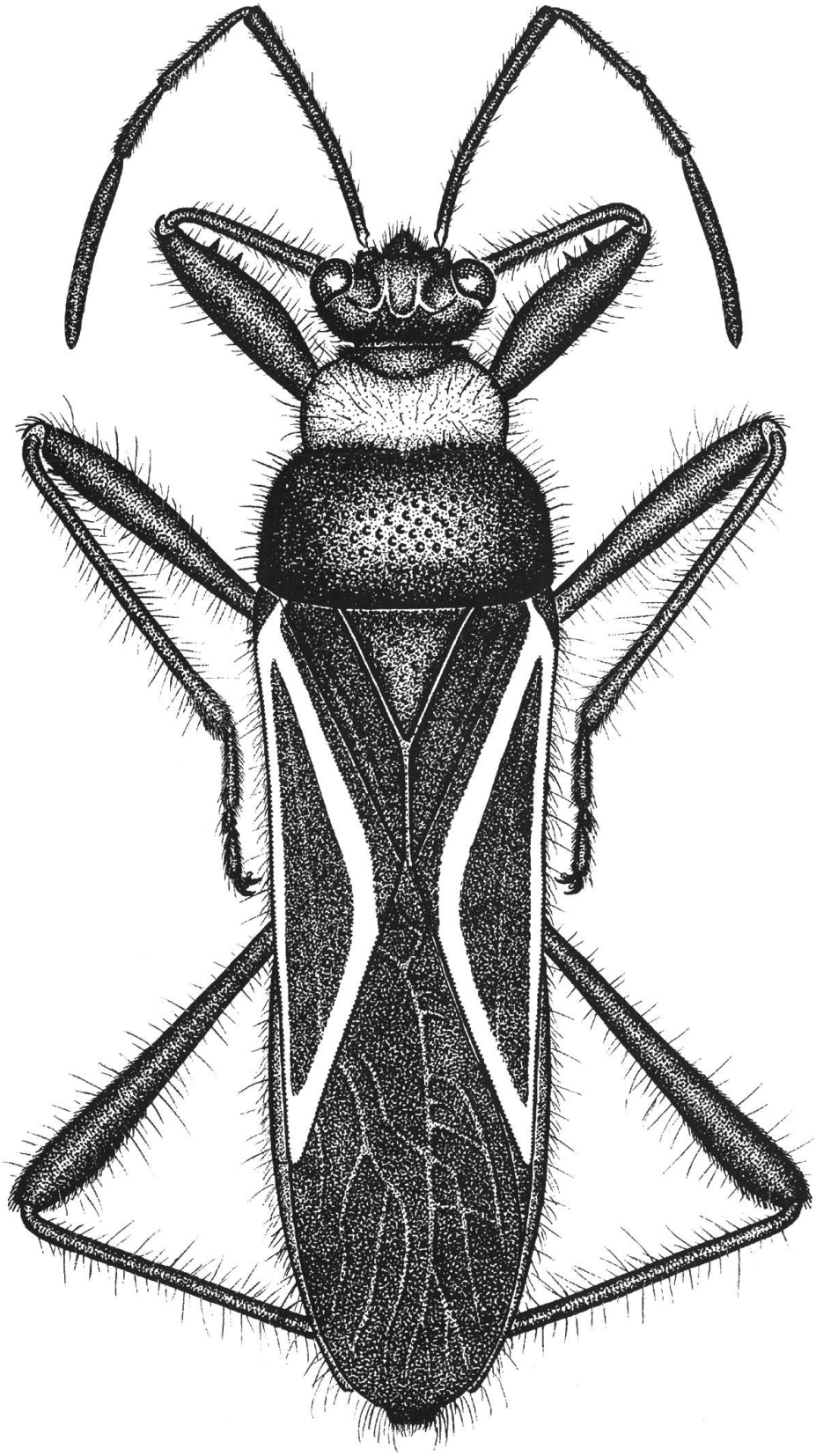

Fig. 3. *Theraneis petri* sp.nov., female.

***Theraneis petri* sp.nov.** (Fig. 3)

Material examined. Holotype female: "Chaparé (Yungas) [Bolivia] [1)], I.1949 ex coll. N. A. Kormilev". (Deposited in Moravian Museum, Brno.)

Description. Body intensely black, including antennae, labium, legs and entire ventral surface. Callar lobe and pleuron I red, red costal margin and arch-shaped band (of almost equal width) reaching from base of corium along its inner margin to its apex, feebly thinner towards base of corium.

Head (except front part) and pronotum with long, black, perpendicular hairs. Anterior part of head with pale hairs and on callar lobe some pale hairs also interspersed among the black hairs. Antennal segments II-IV with fine, pale hairs, whereas segment I bears somewhat longer, pale hairs that stand away and are less dense. Similar hairs also present on labium and sternum. Scutellum, clavus and corium with shorter, pale hairs, almost perpendicular. Pronotal lobe, posterior pleural flange I-III, in places also pleura II-III, basisternum II-III with less dense, silvery pubescence. Ventrites II-VI on base with distinct silvery band. Head and pronotum in places covered in tiny, black, densely aggregated spines (brush).

Pronotal lobe and scutellum with even, dense and conspicuous punctures, clavus and corium with only very fine punctures.

Head slightly inclined, rather elongate, eyes markedly elevated above depressed frons. Antennae rather long, particularly segment I. Pronotal collar well separated from callar lobe, which is big, strongly and evenly convex, medially with a barely noticeable longitudinal keel. Pronotal lobe regularly, evenly and strongly convex towards base. Posterior angles with small protuberance. Body parallel. Profemora in distal part with two perpendicular teeth close to one another. Metafemora conspicuously widening from base towards apex.

Measurements (mm). Holotype female. Head: width (including eyes) 2.04, interocular width 1.13; antenna: I 2.43, II 0.97, III 0.81, IV 2.00; pronotum: collar length 0.27, callar lobe length 0.78, callar lobe width 2.13, pronotal lobe length 1.37, total length 1.57, width, base 2.92; scutellum: length 1.54, width 1.35; corium: length 6.05, width 1.30; body length 12.31.

Derivatio nominis. This new species is named after my son Petr Stehlík, in appreciation of his technical assistance with my publishing activities.

Differential diagnosis. The new species has a similarly coloured corium to that of *Theraneis elongata* (with longitudinal cream yellow bands). However, the shape of its callar lobe is different. In *T. elongata* Brailovsky, 1991 this is strongly and evenly convex, well separated of *T. petri* sp.nov. from the pronotal lobe and bright red, as in the related species *T. amabilis* Breddin, 1903 and *T. brancuccii* sp.nov.

[1)] **Note:** In the type material, the supplementary information is given in square brackets.

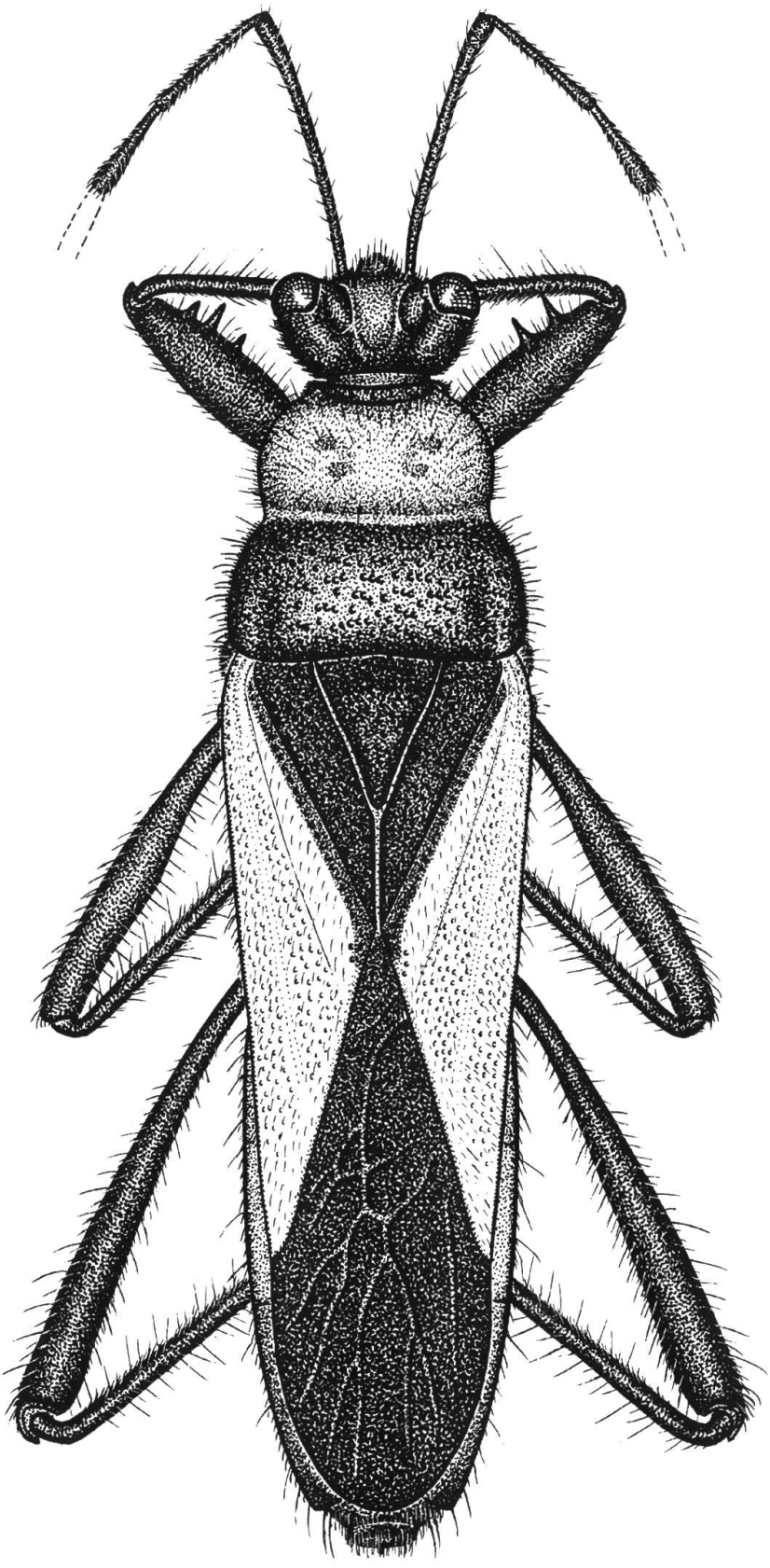

Fig. 4. *Theraneis brancuccii* sp.nov., female.

***Theraneis brancuccii* sp.nov.** (Fig. 4)

Material examined. Holotype female: "Espirito Sancto, Brasilia, ex coll. Fruhstorfer [firm]" . (Deposited in Naturhistorisches Museum, Basel.)

Description. Body black including antennae, labium and legs, only callar lobe and pleuron I intensely red and corium entirely pale yellowish except for thin red stripe lining clavus (along the cubitus vein). Species with several types of pubescence. Head, pronotum and scutellum with long, black, hairs standing away. Anterior part of head with pale hairs of medium length. Callar lobe also with short, pale hairs. Pronotal lobe and posterior pleural flange also with very fine, densely aggregated black spines. Corium with very fine, pale, perpendicular pubescence. Scattered silvery pubescence on callar lobe and pleuron I, denser and more conspicuous pubescence on posterior part of pleuron II and entire surface of pleuron III as well as on posterior pleural flanges II-III, on epicoxal lobes II-III, further on prosternal collar, basisternum I-III, medially on base of ventrite III, on entire bases of ventrites IV-V (?VI), and on distal part of ventrite VII. Legs with long, pale hairs standing away. Femora additionally with scattered silvery pubescence, tibiae also densely covered in short, more decumbent hairs.

Body large, body sides parallel. Head wide, anterior part rather strongly inclined anteriorly; eye socket massive, wide, on inner side with furrow, positioned rather anteriorly, tempus massive, outer margin distinctly rounded, frons strongly depressed. Antennal segment I long. Pronotal collar markedly separated from callar lobe, the latter being well developed and much elevated (evenly) towards posterior margin; posterior angles rounded. Legs long, metafemora gradually widening from base towards apex. Profemora with marked, perpendicular denticles (2 plus 1 smaller one on the left side, only 2 bigger ones on the right).

Pronotal lobe and scutellum with dense, pronounced punctures on entire surface; clavus and corium only with very fine punctures.

Measurements (mm). Holotype female. Head: width (including eyes) 2.19, interocular width 1.89; antenna: I 2.70, II 1.30, III 0.97, IV-; pronotum: collar 0.22, callar lobe length 1.19, callar lobe width 2.38, pronotal lobe length 1.35, total length 2.75, width at base 2.94; scutellum: length 1.35, width 1.24; corium: length 5.45, width 1.30; body length 12.20.

Derivatio nominis. Named in honour of Michel Brancucci, Natural History Museum Basel.

Differential diagnosis. This species belongs to a group of species with a red callar lobe. It can easily be distinguished from *T. petri* sp.nov., the latter having a black corium with white bands. The somewhat similar *T. amabilis* Breddin, 1903 also has a creamy yellow corium, but this applies only to the outer half, while the inner half (approximately) of the corium is black.

Reference

BRAILOVSKY H. (1991): *Four new species of the Neotropical genus Theraneis Spinola (Hemiptera: Heteroptera: Largidae).* J. New York Entomol. Soc. **99(4):** 630-636.

Author's address:

Dr. Jaroslav L. Stehlík
Moravian Museum
Department of Entomology
Hviezdoslavova 29a
CZ-627 00 Brno
CZECH REPUBLIC