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A NEW SOUTH AMERICAN SPECIES OF
NYSSICOSTYLUS MELZER (COLEOPTERA
CERAMBYCIDAE)

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The sphaerionine genus *Nyssicostylus* was originally proposed by Melzer (1923) to accommodate a single new species, *N. aurivilli*. Subsequently Melzer (1927) redescribed the genus and species. Thus far the genus has been monotypic and known only from the State of Minas Gerais in Brasil. A new species from Venezuela fits well into the definition of *Nyssicostylus*.

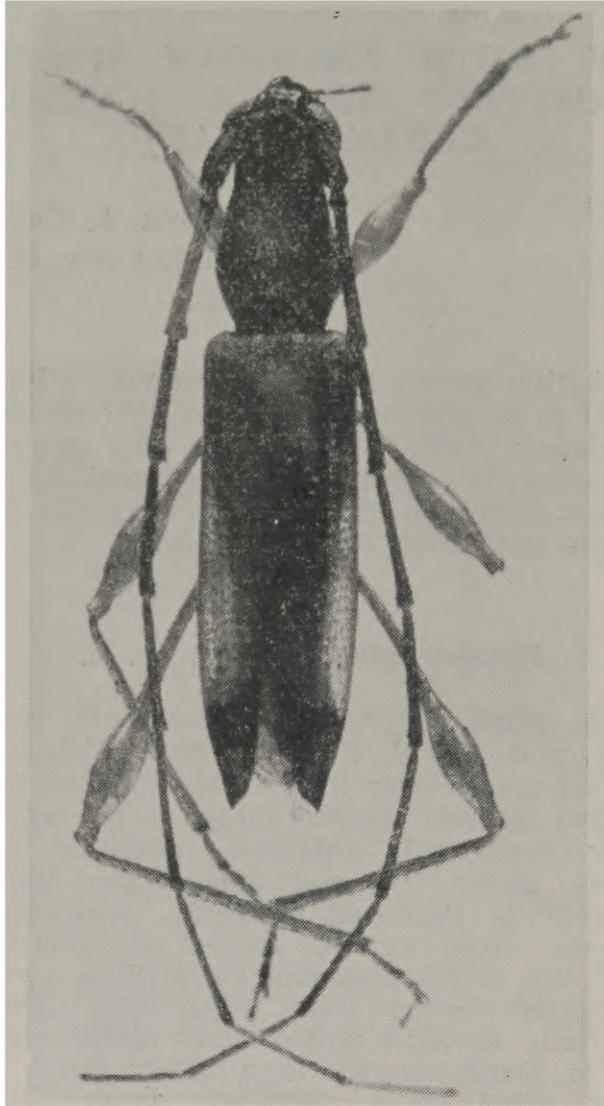
***Nyssicostylus melzeri*, sp. n.**

Male: Form small, depressed; color pale testaceous, head, antennal scape, and apical fifth of elytra black. Head short, slightly less broad across eyes than widest part of pronotum; palpi very unequal; eyes coarsely faceted, large, deeply emarginate; vertex deeply, broadly excavated, antennal tubercles not prominent; antennae slender, about five segments longer than body, scape subcylindrical, slightly flattened ventrally, segments three to six distinctly carinate, three to five spined at apices, sixth with a minute apical spine, third segment more than twice as long as scape, fourth slightly shorter than third, fifth subequal to third, sixth equal to fifth, seventh longer than sixth, eighth and ninth subequal to sixth, tenth shorter than ninth; basal segments with numerous, long, erect setae, segments from fifth with short suberect hairs along outside margin and long erect setae internally, all segments moderately densely clothed with very short, appressed, golden pubescence. Pronotum longer than broad, sides subangulate, widest across middle; base very shallowly impressed, apex not

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impressed; disk almost plane, subopaque, impunctate, densely clothed with very fine, short, appressed, pale pubescence, sides with several long erect setae; prosternum concave, shining, transversely rugulose, sparsely pubescent; front coxal cavities slightly angulate externally, wide open behind; meso- and metasternum very finely pubescent, minutely, densely, shallowly punctate, middle coxal cavities open externally; scutellum rounded behind, densely finely pubescent. Elytra about three times as long as broad, sides subparallel, tapering at apical one-fifth; apical



Nyssicostylus melzeri, sp. n. Holotype ♂

one-fifth dark colored, band slightly oblique toward suture; disk shining, coarsely, separately punctate, punctures becoming obsolete toward apex; pubescence very fine, dense, appressed, golden with long setiferous hairs sparsely interspersed; apices obliquely truncate, spined at outer margin. Legs elongate; femora strongly, abruptly

clavate, hind pair extending beyond apices of elytra; hind tibiae carinate over basal one-half; pubescence very fine, dense with long setae arising from punctures; hind tarsi slender, first segment longer than following two together. Abdomen finely densely pubescent with few setiferous punctures; apex of last sternite emarginate. Length 9 mm.

Holotype male (Cornell University) from Suapure, Caura River, Venezuela, May 9, 1900 (E. A. Klages).

This species differs from *N. aurivilli* by the dark head, antennal scape, and apices of the elytra, the cylindrically shaped antennal scape, almost smooth pronotal disk, less angulate sides of the pronotum, and by having the hind femora of the male extending beyond the apices of the elytra.

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