

ENZO COLONNELLI

ON SOME REMARKABLE
NEW TAXA OF CEUTORHYNCHINAE
(Coleoptera Curculionidae)

ABSTRACT - COLONNELLI E., 2007 - On some remarkable new taxa of Ceutorhynchinae (Coleoptera Curculionidae).

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Two new genera, *Scobinoides* n. gen. and *Afroliodes* n. gen. are described. Are also described and illustrated four new species: *Scobinoides dentatus* n. sp. from Southern Africa, *Afroliodes crassus* n. sp. from South Africa, *Megabypurus insularis* n. sp. from the Andaman Islands and *Megabypurus longirostris* from Sri Lanka.

KEY WORDS - Coleoptera, Curculionidae, New genera, New species.

RIASSUNTO - COLONNELLI E., 2007 - Su alcuni notevoli nuovi taxa di Ceutorhynchinae (Coleoptera Curculionidae).

Sono descritti due nuovi generi, *Scobinoides* n. gen. e *Afroliodes* n. gen. Vengono altresì descritte e illustrate quattro nuove specie: *Scobinoides dentatus* n. sp. dell'Africa meridionale, *Afroliodes crassus* n. sp. del Sudafrica, *Megabypurus insularis* n. sp. delle isole Andamane e *Megabypurus longirostris* dello Sri Lanka.

PAROLE CHIAVE - Coleoptera, Curculionidae, Nuovi generi, Nuove specie.

INTRODUCTION

In this paper are described some new taxa of Curculionidae Ceutorhynchinae which are remarkable for their unusual shape or because they belong to poorly known genera.

Measures are taken as explained in Colonnelli (2005), and photos were made by using a JVC GC-X1 camera associated to a Wild M5 microscope and partly elaborated with the free program Combine Z5 by Alan Hadley.

Labels borne by specimens are reported as written between quotation marks. Semicolons indicate a change of line on the same label.

Abbreviations are as follows: BMNH = The Natural History Museum, London, England; COL = Enzo Colonnelli collection, Rome, Italy; MZUR = Museo di Zoologia dell'Università di Roma «La Sapienza», Rome, Italy; NHMB = Natuhistorisches Museum Basel, Switzerland; SANC = South African National Collection of Insects, Pretoria, South Africa; TMSA = Transvaal Museum, Pretoria, South Africa.

Scobinoides nov. gen.

Type species

Scobinoides dentatus n. sp.

Diagnosis

Hoc genus a reliquis subfamiliae Ceutorhynchinarum subito distinguitur corpore parvo latere compresso, rostro longissimo uniforme et fortiter curvato, interstitiis elytrarum baseos scobinatis.

Description

General colour black. Rostrum about twice as long as pronotum, uniformly and strongly curved, similar in both sexes. Antennae inserted in the basal third of rostrum, scape thin, clubbed and shorter than the 6-jointed funicle, club fusiform elongate. Pronotum bell-shaped, convex, constricted at apex and lacking lateral tubercles. Elytra strongly convex, somewhat compressed at sides, widest at humeri, preapical tubercles wanting. Intervals with minute rasp-like granules becoming very strong at base of interspaces 1 to 3, being on interval 2 in the form of large tooth-like processes. Femora clubbed, edentate. Tarsal joint 3 strongly bilobe, claws appendiculate at base. Rostral channel noticeable only on prosternum in front of anterior coxae. Mesepimera barely visible from above. Abdomen convex, urosternites 1 and 2 about the same length and clearly longer than others, all sutures between them straight toward sides.

Etymology

The masculine name of the new genus makes reference to the horn-like granules on elytra, from the Latin «scobina», meaning rasp.

Remarks

A genus not closely related to other Ceutorhynchinae thus far described. Traits which readily isolate its single species are horn-like processes of the elytral intervals, compressed body, long curved rostrum, mesepimera barely visible from above. These characters make difficult to place *Scobinoides* in one of the 11 tribes of Ceutorhynchinae recognized so far (Colonnelli 2004). At the moment it seems advisable to regard the new genus as belonging in Ceutorhynchini Gistel, 1848 until a taxonomic revision of tribes will be made.

Scobinoides dentatus n. sp.*Diagnosis*

Parvus, convexus, niger, antennarum scapo et tribus primis articulis rufescentibus, rostro arcuato duplo thoracis longiore, thorace apice strangulato et base bisinuato, elytris elongatis baseos denticulis armatis.

Type series

SOUTH AFRICA. «South Africa - C. P.; Ocean View - m 150; 34°08'S 18°25'E; 27.X.1988 - Colonnelli» [printed], «*Erica* cfr.; *pulchella*» [green, printed], 1 male holotype (BMNH) and 37 exx. paratypes (35 COL, 2 MZUR). «ZA: W Cape - between Ocean; View and Scarborough; 34°10'27"S 18°21'01"E; 3.XI.2005 - E. Colonnelli» [printed], «*Erica*; sp.» [green, printed], 2 exx. paratypes (COL). «South Africa - C. P.; Wemmerschoek Dam; 33°48'S 18°32'E - m 200; 28.X.1988 - Colonnelli» [printed], «*Erica*; sp.» [green, printed], 2 exx. paratypes (COL). «S. Africa, R. E. Turner, 1920-392; Camps Bay; Cape Peninsula, Sept. 1920» [printed], 3 exx. paratypes (BMNH). «S. Africa, R. E. Turner, 1920-423; Camps Bay; Cape Peninsula, 1-20.X.1920» [printed], 12 exx. paratypes (BMNH). «S. Africa, R. E. Turner, Brit. Mus. 1924-424; Cape Province, Mossel Bay, Aug. 1924» [printed], 1 ex. paratype (BMNH). «Cape Province, Mossel Bay, VI-VII.1930; S. Africa, R. E. Turner, Brit. Mus 1930-402» [printed], 2 exx. paratypes (BMNH). «S. Africa, R. E. Turner, Brit. Mus. 1921-412; Mossel Bay, Sept. 1921» [printed], 3 exx. paratypes (BMNH). «S. Africa, R. E. Turner, Brit. Mus 1921-450; Mossel Bay, Oct. 192» [printed], 1 ex. paratype (BMNH). «Cape Province, Mossel Bay, VIII.1930; S. Africa, R. E. Turner, Brit. Mus 1930-416» [printed], 3 exx. paratypes (BMNH). «S. Africa, R. E. Turner, Brit. Mus. 1924; Montagu, 23-30.IX.1924» [printed],

1 ex. paratype (BMNH). «Cape Province, Albertinia, 15.VIII.1930; S. Africa, R. E. Turner, Brit. Mus 1930-416» [printed], 5 exx. paratypes (BMNH). «S. Africa, R. E. Turner, Brit. Mus 1924; Little Karoo, 38 m E of Ceres, 17-25.XI.1924» [printed], 1 ex. paratype (BMNH). «S. Africa, R. E. Turner, 1920-424; Rapenburg, Cape Flats., 1-14.X.1920» [printed], 1 ex. paratype (BMNH). «Cape Town, Nov. 1927; S. Africa, R. E. Turner; Brit. Mus. 1927-509» [printed], 3 exx. paratypes (BMNH). «E Cape Province, Katberg, 4000 ft., 1-13.XI.1932; S. Africa, R. E. Turner; Brit. Mus. 1932-551» [printed], 1 ex. paratype (BMNH). «E Cape Province, Katberg, 4000 ft., XII.1932; S. Africa, R. E. Turner, Brit. Mus. 1933-69» [printed], 1 ex. paratype (BMNH). «ZA - Cape Peninsula - rd. M65; 3 Km NW main gate - m 200; 34°14'52"S 18°25'44"E; 4.X.2005 - E. Colonnelli» [printed], «*Erica*; sp.» [green, printed], «collezione; Enzo Colonnelli» [printed], 19 exx. (COL). «South Africa, CP; Stellenbosch; 30.56S 18.52E; 10.x.1979; S. Nesar» [printed], «AcSN 168(d)» [printed], «from container; with twigs of; *Passerina* prob.; *vulgaris*» [printed], «National coll.; of insects; Pretoria, S. Afr.» [printed], 1 ex. paratype (SANC). «S. Afr.: S. W. Cape; Bainskloof, Bree R.; 33.30 S - 19.10 E» [printed], «8.11.1973 - E-Y: 221; grassnetting; leg. Endrödy-Younga» [printed], 1 ex. paratype (TMSA). «S. Afr.: S. W. Cape; Nuweberg, 10 Km NE; 34.00 S - 19.06 E» [printed], «13.11.1973 - E-Y: 242; grassnetting nr dam; leg. Endrödy-Younga» [printed], 1 ex. paratype (TMSA). «ZA: E Cape - m 350 - road; N2 10 Km SW of Grahamstown; 33°22'18"S 28°29'58"E; 10/11-XI.2005 - E. Colonnelli» [printed], «*Erica*: sp.» [green, printed], 3 exx. (COL).

ZIMBABWE. «Zimbabwe; October 18, 1990; Des Plaines IL» [handwritten], «# 311, *Erica* sp.» [handwritten], 1 ex. paratype (COL).

Holotype

Length: mm 1.80. Piceous, rather dull, coarsely punctured, scape and first 3 funicular joints reddish-brown, tarsal segments 3 and 4 brown. Dorsal vestiture on head, pronotum and elytra consisting of sparse recumbent comma-like whitish scales, on elytral intervals of a series of whitish recumbent hairlike scales, and of recumbent adjoined lanceolate whitish scales at the base of prothorax, on scutellum and on basal fifth of sutural interspace. Under side clothed by not so dense recumbent whitish lanceolate condensed on epimera and episterna of mesothorax, pygidium with similar rather dense scales. Legs with rather sparse whitish comma-like scales. Rostrum 1.95 as long as as pronotum, very

thin, uniformly and rather strongly curved, shining, very finely strigosely punctured on basal half, then smooth and bare, with some thin recumbent scales toward base. Antennae inserted at basal 1/3 of rostrum, scape thin, abruptly clubbed, funicular joints 1 and 2 elongate being the first thicker than the slightly shorter second one, 3 to 5 longer than wide and diminishing in length, 6 not transverse, club fusiform elongate, slightly shorter than the 4 preceding segments together. Frons a trifle narrower than rostrum, flat, densely punctured, vertex slightly convex. Eyes large, barely protruding from head convexity. Pronotum 1.25 as long as wide, convex on basal 2/3, bell-shaped, somewhat tubulate toward apex. Apical margin straight and not elevated over head level, base clearly bisinuose. Disc convex, with large coarse punctures, dorsal sulcus very shallow but entire, no lateral tubercles. Elytra 1.18 as long as wide, strongly convex and somewhat compressed laterally, widest at humeri, sides almost straight up to middle then rounded together toward apex, humeral tubercles rather strong and granulate, preapical ones lacking. Strial furrows deep, punctured. Intervals slightly wider than striae, rather convex and with a series of rasp-like granules, minute toward sides and apex, and in the form of teeth on intervals 1-3, being those on interval 2 very large and sharp. All these teeth bear a comma-like half lifted white scale. Legs rather thin. Femora clubbed and without tooth. Tibiae almost straight and barely widening toward apex, internal margin very faintly bisinuose, apical comb of setae ascending for just a very short distance, meso and metatibiae with a quite strong apical mucro. Tarsi short, third joint strongly bilobe, wider than the first two ones, claws small and appendiculate. Abdomen convex. First two urosternites with a large shallow common impression. Aedeagus: figure III: 6. See also figures I: 1, 2.

Paratypes

Very similar to the holotype. Females have rostrum twice longer than pronotum and antennae inserted 0.26-0.27 times the length of rostrum from its base, and differ from males also by their convex abdomen and the lack of tibial mucros. Length: mm 1.74-1.95.

Etymology

The Latin name, meaning toothed, remarks the shape of granules on basal fifth of some elytral intervals.

Remarks

The new species is set apart from all other Ceutorhynchinae by its unusual shape, small size and blackish colour. Small size and feeding on Ericaceae are shared with the two Palaearctic species of *Micrelus* C. G. Thomson, 1859, and with the single central African *Ericomicrelus* Colonnelli, 1984, both genera of Ceutorhynchini completely different from *Scobinoides* and also quite unrelated each other. Some species of the Oriental *Mecysmoderes* Schoenherr, 1837 are known to occur on Ericaceae, but members of this genus of Mecysmoderini are much larger and definitely dissimilar from the new species already by the presence of a spine at the base of pronotum.

Ecology

Many of the examples were collected on flowers of some species of the *Erica pulchella* Houtt. group (Ericaceae). It is almost sure that the insects use these plants as hosts, also because the weevils were found in a number of localities across the rather wide range of the species and at different times always on the same genus of Ericaceae. Only one paratype was obtained from a container with twigs of *Passerina* cfr. *vulgaris* Thoday (Thymeleaceae), which is certainly occasional. It can be noted that in Southern Africa there are several often unrelated Ceutorhynchinae of small size, which are to be found on bushes or small trees with minute flowers (pers. rec.).

Afroliodes n. gen.*Type species*

Afroliodes crassus n. sp.

Diagnosis

Generi Neocoeliodi ex Africa australe in multo similis, sed rima pectorali pro rostri receptione haud abrupte postice delineata, corbulis tibi-arum modice extus ascendens, tribus articulis basalis antennarum elongatis facile distinctus.

Description

Body plump, rather convex. Integument brown to reddish-brown. Rostrum thick and rather short. Antenna comparatively elongate, fu-

niculus 7-jointed. Pronotum strongly transverse, without lateral tubercles but with faint dorsal prominences separated by very shallow transverse depressions. Elytra not longer than wide, with basal depression and preapical tubercles arranged to form a feeble transversal keel. Femora toothed, apical comb of setae of protibiae ascending much less than one third of tibial length. Claws rather divergent and edentate. Rostral channel gently sloping on metasternum. Sutures of urosternites angulated on sides

Etymology

The masculine name of the new African genus alludes to its resemblance to some genera near *Coeliodes* Schoenherr, 1837.

Remarks

The single species of the new genus is similar to members of *Neocoeliodes* Colonnelli, 1984. However, apart the much larger size, *Afroliodes* is immediately distinguished by the sternal channel not abruptly limited posteriorly but gradually sloping toward the apex of mesosternum, by the antennae slender with the two basal joints thin and much longer than wide instead of rather thick and not more than 1.5 times longer than wide, by the structure of the apical comb of protibiae ascending for about the tibial width instead of one third of tibial length as in *Neocoeliodes*.

Afroliodes crassus n. sp.

Diagnosis

Aliquo modo similis Neocoelioidis celastri ex Africa meridionale, sed subito diversus structura rimae pectoralis et statura multo majore.

Type series

South Africa: «Umgeni; Natal 7.97; 8298» [handwritten], «G.A.K. Marshall; Coll.; B.M. 1959-255» [printed], 1 female holotype (BMHN). «Natal» [handwritten on a yellow oval label], «Pascoe Coll.; B. M. 1893-60» [white, printed], 3 pinned females paratypes (2 BMNH, 1 COL).

Holotype

Length: mm 4.13. Brown, rather dull, very coarsely punctured, rostrum and legs reddish-brown, antennae and tarsi honey-reddish, abdomen dark brown. Dorsal vestiture on head, pronotum and elytra consisting of recumbent hairlike brownish and whitish scales, the latter condensed on head, base of rostrum, along pronotal sides and on impressions of prothorax where they are intermingled with some recumbent lanceolate whitish scales, and forming the nebulose pattern on elytra shown in figure I: 4. Brownish scales are condensed in the form of vague tufts on pronotal and elytral elevations. Under side clothed by recumbent whitish lanceolate scales condensed on epimera and along the middle and sides of sternal segments. Legs with rather dense hairlike scales. Rostrum about as long as as pronotum, thick, 3.5 times longer than wide, curved, dull, finely and coarsely punctured, the punctures more spaced toward apex apicad of antennal insertion, clothed by yellowish hairlike slanted scales on both sides of the faint median keel, and with some half-lifted longer hairs laterally near apex. Antennae inserted at apical third of rostrum, scape thin, gradually clubbed, funicular joints 1 and 2 very elongate being the second a trifle longer than the first, 3 to 6 longer than wide and diminishing in length, 7 not transverse, club fusiform, about as long as the 3 preceding segments together. Frons slightly impressed and with a small fovea, finely and densely punctured, vertex convex. Eyes protruding from head convexity but rather flattened antero-laterally. Pronotum 0.52 as long as wide, sides converging in almost straight line from the wide bisinuose base toward the slightly indented apex. Disc uniformly convex, coarsely and finely punctured, antero-lateral depressions slight, dorsal sulcus deep only in front of scutellum, dorsal prominences and lateral tubercles feeble. Elytra 0.91 as long as wide, quite flattened near the slightly impressed base, widest about in the middle, sides quite strongly and uniformly curved, preapical and humeral tubercles rather weak and granulate. Strial furrows not so deep, punctured, bare. Intervals quite flat, minutely granulate, the odd-numbered wider and much more convex than the even-numbered ones, all not much wider than striae. Legs robust and quite short. Femora clubbed and with a strong tooth, metafemora slightly thicker than meso and chiefly profemora. Tibiae curved at base, apical comb of ferrous-brown setae ascending for slightly less than 1/3 of tibial length and delimited proximally by a strong toothlike indentation. Tarsi short, third joint wider than the first two ones, claws rather divergent and edentate. Abdomen convex. Pygidium concave and with a feeble longitudinal keel at base. See figure I: 4.



Fig. I. Habitus of: 1) *Scobinoides dentatus* n. sp., holotype in dorsal view. 2) *Scobinoides dentatus* n. sp., holotype in lateral view. 3) *Afroliodes crassus* n. sp., paratype in lateral view. 4) *Afroliodes crassus* n. sp., holotype in dorsal view. 5) *Neocoeliodes celastri* (Rosen Schoeld) from South Africa, Somerset East, male compared with the type in dorsal view. Scale bars = 1 mm: vertical: figs. 1, 2; horizontal: figs. 3, 4, 5.

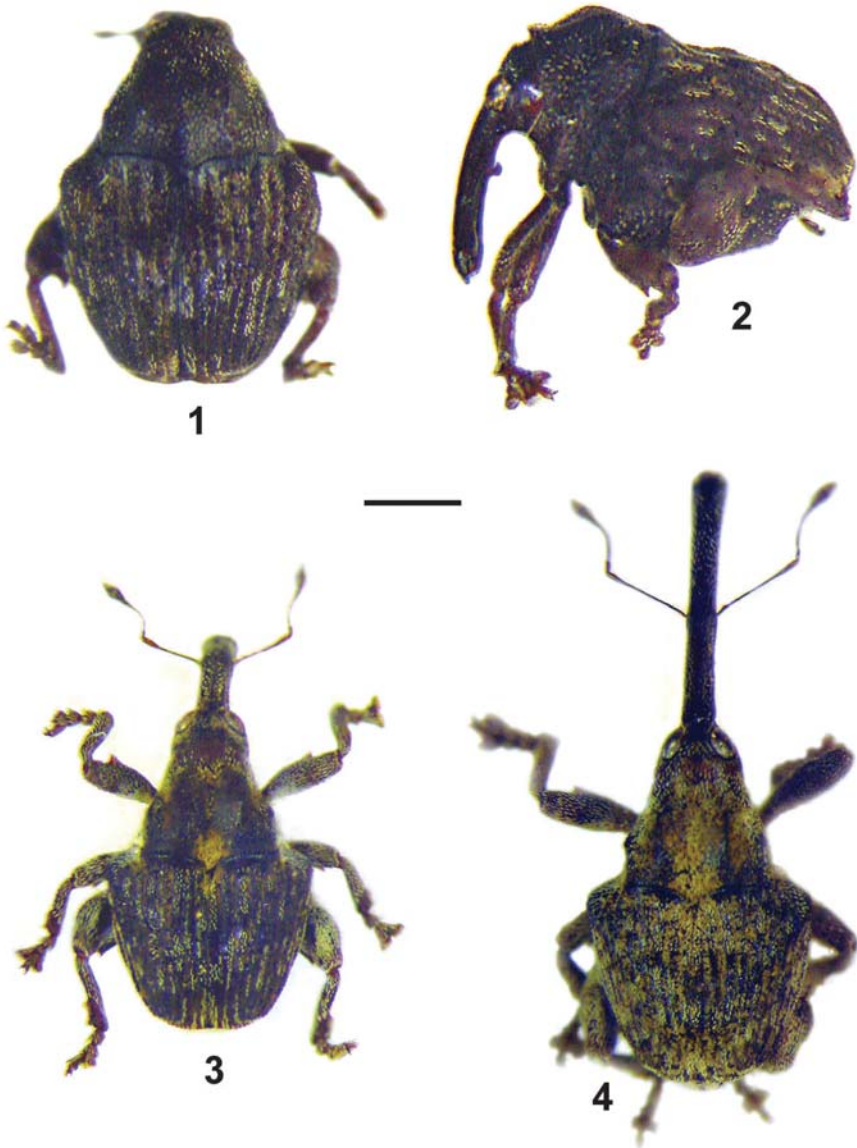


Fig. II. Habitus of: 1) *Megabyrus insularis* n. sp., holotype in dorsal view. 2) *Megabyrus insularis* n. sp., holotype in lateral view. 3) *Megabyrus longirostris* n. sp., male holotype in lateral view. 4) *Megabyrus longirostris* n. sp., female paratype in dorsal view. Scale bar = 1 mm.

Paratypes

Very similar to the holotype, only the integumental colour is more or less dark brown. Length: mm 4.03-4.13. See also figure I: 3.

Etymology

The Latin name «crassus» (= fat) was chosen to remark the plump body shape of the new species.

Remarks

The new species is astonishing similar to *Neocoeliodes celastri* (Rosen Schoeld, 1837) also from South Africa (figures I: 4, 5), being however immediately distinguished, apart for the structure of the rostral channel which is deeply concave at the level of metasternum in *Neocoeliodes*, by the much larger size, the thin antennae and the shortly ascending apical comb of setae of protibiae. The type locality of Umgeni is near Pietermaritzburg (AA.VV. 1908).

Ecology

Nothing is known about the host plant of the new species. However, considering the similarity of *Afroliodes crassus* with species of *Neocoeliodes*, it seems not unlike that they may share the host plant. *Neocoeliodes celastri* and a species of this genus still awaiting description have been found exclusively on *Maytenus* (Celastraceae).

Megahypurus insularis n. sp.*Diagnosis*

In multo Megahypuro kozhevini *e Vietnam similis, sed tuberculis retrorsum capitis paullulo elevatis, disco prothoracis haud abrupte gibbosus, statura majore aedeagisque apice fere regulariter convexo satis differens.*

Type series

India: «INDIA S Andaman; Port Blair; 1.vi.1989; Prashant Coll» [partly printed and partly handwritten], «SI No 316; *Melastoma* sp.» [handwritten], «INDIA; C. I. E.; A 20588» [printed], «Ceutorhynchinae; ? Egrüini, Genus & sp. indet.; det. M.L. Cox, 1990» [partly printed and partly handwritten], «Pres by; Comm Inst Ent; B.M. 1990-1» [print-

ed], 1 female holotype (BMHN) missing the right antenna and the right mesotarsus beyond joint 1, dissected and glued on a pointed label. «INDIA; Port Blair; South Andaman; 25.xi.1989; B. S. Bhumannavar Coll.» [partly printed and partly handwritten], «SI No 613; *Melastoma* sp.; flower bud feeder» [handwritten], «INDIA; C. I. E.; A 20828» [printed], «Ceutorhynchinae; ? Egriini; Genus & sp. indet.; det. M.L. Cox, 1990» [partly printed and partly handwritten], «Pres by; Comm Inst Ent; B.M. 1990-1» [printed], 1 male paratype (COL) partly damaged having been pinned through the intervals 1 to 3 of the left elytron, and missing the joints 6,7 and the club of the right antenna, dissected and glued on a pointed label.

Holotype

Length: mm 4.20. Dark brown, rather shining, coarsely punctured, rostrum, antennae and legs reddish-brown. Dorsal vestiture on head, pronotum and elytra consisting of recumbent comma-like brownish and whitish scales, the latter forming extremely vague longitudinal bands on pronotal sides and on dorsal sulcus, and ill-definite transverse stripes on elytra. In addition there is some evidence of the brownish pruinosity which covers the living insect. Under side and legs clothed by sparse comma-like white scales, which become lanceolate and more condensed on urosternites 4 and 5. Rostrum 1.26 as pronotum, rather thick, 4.4 times longer than wide, slightly curved, shining and glabrous, punctured and somewhat strigose up to just before antennal insertion, then with fine and quite sparse punctures up to apex. The middle of rostrum has a weak keel flanked by two sulci from base to antennal insertion, the lateral of which is deeper. Antennae inserted at apical third of rostrum, scape thin, progressively clubbed and with sharp apex, funicular joints 1 and 2 very elongate and having about the same length, 3 and 4 also elongate, 5-6 still longer than wide, 7 not transverse, club fusiform, about as long as the four preceding segments together. Frons very slightly impressed, finely and densely punctured, vertex with two rather weak lateral prominences. Eyes convex. Pronotum 0.79 as long as wide, faintly constricted at slightly indented apex, base strongly bisinuose. Disc convex, coarsely punctured, antero-lateral depressions evident; dorsal sulcus wide and deep, dorsal prominences quite strong and keeled, lateral tubercles rather acute. Scutellum elongate. Elytra 0.86 as long as wide, quite flattened with the base impressed, widest immediately behind humeri, sides slightly curved and converging toward preapical tubercles; humeral calli strong, preapical ones rather weak. Strial furrows deep, catenulate, bare. Intervals quite convex, shin-

ing, punctured, the odd-numbered wider than the even-numbered ones, these latter not wider than striae. Legs robust and short. Femora clubbed and with a strong tooth, metafemora about twice wider than pro and mesofemora. Tibiae straight, curved at base, apical comb of honey-yellow setae ascending for about 1/3 of tibial length. Tarsi short, third joint much wider than the first two ones, claws rather divergent and with a minute basal tooth. First visible urosternite a little flattened in the middle, the remaining convex. Pygidium longitudinally keeled in the middle. Spiculum: figure III: 3. See also figures II: 1, 2.

Paratype

The male is very similar to the female holotype, only differing by its rostrum 4 times as long as wide, and first visible urosternite slightly impressed in the middle. This specimen has more evident residue of the pruinose covering, and the base of rostrum with sparse elongate white hairlike scales. Aedeagus: figure III: 4. Length: mm 4.00.

Etymology

The name of the new species, found on a relatively small island, calls attention to this circumstance.

Remarks

The new species is similar to *Megahypurus kozhevini* Korotyaev, 1989 from Vietnam, but can quite easily be recognized by the weak tubercles on posterior half of the head, the also rather feeble pronotal prominences, the larger size, and the sides of aedeagus uniformly convex. *Megahypurus kozhevini* is smaller (mm 3.6), the tubercles on head and pronotum are much more pronounced, and the sides of the rather sharply pointed aedeagus are somewhat angulated toward apex at the level of apical third (Korotyaev 1989). The general shape of *Megahypurus insularis* is much that of the only remaining species of the genus, *M. alexandri* Korotyaev, 1989 also from Vietnam, which is however much smaller (mm 2.80-2.85) and has thicker and shorter rostrum, only 3.7 times longer than wide in the female (Korotyaev 1989). It can be worthy to remind that the genus *Megahypurus* Korotyaev, 1989 was moved from Hypurini to Egrini by Colonnelli (2004), albeit its thick rostrum makes even this placement unsatisfactory. As pointed out above, a careful revision of the world Ceutorhynchinae is still to be made, so that the true relationships among the several described genera from the tropics are at the moment quite obscure.

Ecology

Both examples of the new species were collected while feeding on *Melastoma* sp. (Melastomataceae). This is the first record of a probable host plant for a member of *Megahypurus*.

Megahypurus longirostris n. sp.*Diagnosis*

Praecedenti similis, sed capite retrorsum sine tuberculis, disco prothoracis quadrilineatus, foeminae rostro longissimo aedeagisque apice lanceolato facile distinguitur.

Type series

SRI LANKA. «Sri Lanka; 200 m; Dambulla env. 19.4.-9.5 1991; Jirí Kolibéc leg.» [printed], 1 male holotype (NHMB) and 2 males 10 females paratypes (8 NHMB, 4 COL). «Sri Lanka; 600 m; Kandy 1-18.4.1991; Jirí Kolibéc leg.» [printed], 1 female paratype (NHMB).

Holotype

Length: mm 3.67. Dark brown, pretty shining, quite coarsely punctured, fore margin of prothorax, and legs reddish-brown, antennae and tarsi ferrous-red. Dorsal vestiture similar to that of the preceding species, only the transverse stripes on elytra more evident. There are some remainders of the brownish pruinosity which covers the living insect. Under side and legs clothed by rather dense comma-like white scales, which become lanceolate and much more condensed on urosternites 4 and 5, whereas on sides of meso and metasternum and on mesepimera they are so thick to appear crust-like, sternum and metasternum and appear like a whitish encrustation. Rostrum thick, 3.6 times longer than wide, 1.02 times longer than pronotum, slightly curved, coarsely punctured and somewhat strigose up to just before antennal insertion, then punctures up to extreme apex finer and rather dense. Middle of rostrum with a weak keel flanked by two sulci limited by more evident lateral carinae from base to antennal insertion, all the surface of rostrum with slanted hairs. Antennae inserted at basal third and like those of the preceding species. Frons by about one fourth narrower than rostral base, very slightly impressed, finely and densely punctured, vertex with lateral prominences wanting. Eyes large and quite convex. Pronotum 1.14 as long as wide, constricted at clearly indented apex, base

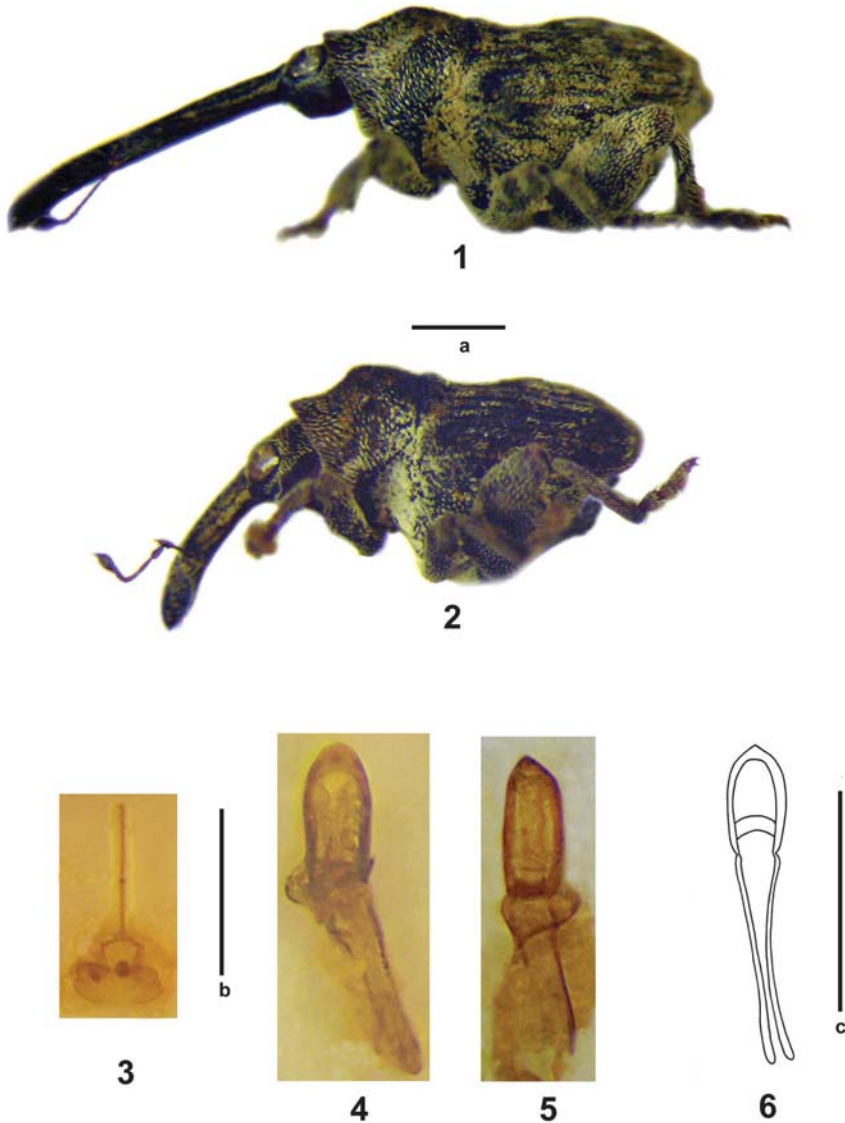


Fig. III. Habitus of: 1) *Megahypurus longirostris* n. sp., female paratype from Dambulla in lateral view. 2) *Megahypurus longirostris* n. sp., male holotype in lateral view. Spiculum gastrale of: 3) *Megahypurus insularis* n. sp., holotype. Dorsal view of aedeagus of: 4) *Megahypurus insularis* n. sp., paratype. 5) *Megahypurus longirostris* n. sp., male holotype. Schematic drawing of aedeagus of: 6) *Scobinoides dentatus* n. sp., paratype. Scale bars a, b = 1 mm; a: figs. 1, 2; b: figs. 3, 4, 5; c = 0.3 mm: fig. 6.

strongly bisinuose and obviously crenulate. Disc convex, coarsely punctured, antero-lateral depressions evident; dorsal sulcus wide and deep, dorsal prominences strong and with a long carina, lateral tubercles also carinate and rather acute. Scutellum elongate. Elytra 0.87 as long as wide, quite flattened with the base impressed, widest at humeri, sides slightly curved and converging toward preapical tubercles; humeral calli strongly prominent and preapical ones rather weak. Strial furrows deep, catenulate, bare. Intervals quite flat, shining, finely punctured, the odd-numbered wider than the even-numbered ones, these latter not wider than striae. Legs robust and short. Femora clubbed and with a strong tooth, metafemora about twice wider than pro and mesofemora. Tibiae straight, curved at base, apical comb of honey-yellow setae ascending for about 1/3 of tibial length. Tarsi short, third joint much wider than the first two ones, claws rather divergent and with a minute basal tooth. First visible urosternite a little flattened in the middle, the remaining convex. Pygidium with a longitudinal thin carina at base, ending in a shallow depression towards apex. Aedeagus: figure III: 5. See also figures II: 3 and III: 2.

Paratypes

Other males are very alike the holotype. Females differs by the rostrum almost straight and very long, 2.60 times the pronotal length, with the apical part beyond antennal insertion, which is situated 0.42 times the rostral length from base (figures II: 4, III: 1), bearing half-lifted minute golden hairs. All specimens are in good shape, and most of them have residue of the pruinose covering. Length: mm 3.4-4.33.

Etymology

The new species takes its name from the very long straight rostrum of the female.

Remarks

Also this species is similar to *Megahypurus kozhevini* Korotyaev, and can be differentiated from it without difficulty by shorter male rostrum, 3.6 instead of 4.0 times longer than wide, lack of tubercles on posterior half of head, frons clearly narrower than rostral width, elytra only 1.14 instead of 1.16 times longer than wide, more acute humeral tubercles, and sides of aedeagus uniformly converging toward the sharper apex. The female of *M. kozhevini* is unknown. The new species differs from *M. insularis* n. sp., besides the sharp aedeagus and the very

long rostrum of the females, by the same characters which distinguish it from *M. kozhevini*. This exceptional feature, in addition to the larger size, readily allows to separate *M. longirostris* from *M. alexandri*.

Ecology

No information available.

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