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Two new species of the genus *Philonthus* from Afrotropical region with two nomenclatural changes in the genus (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae: Staphylininae: Philonthina)

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A b s t r a c t : Two new species of the Staphylinid genus *Philonthus* STEPHENS 1829 (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae) are described from Tanzania: *Philonthus euplectes* nov.sp. (Tanzania) and *Philonthus mandrillus* nov.sp. (Tanzania). Both species belong to the species group *Philonthus bicoloripennis* characterised in HROMÁDKA (2010) and are described, illustrated and compared with related species. New names are provided for two junior primary homonyms: *Philonthus manis* nom.nov. for *Philonthus haliaeetus* HROMÁDKA 2011, nec *Philonthus haliaeetus* HROMÁDKA 2010 and *Philonthus pelomedusa* nom.nov. for *Philonthus centropyge* HROMÁDKA 2012, nec *Philonthus centropyge* HROMÁDKA 2011.

K e y w o r d s : Coleoptera, Staphylinidae, Philonthina, *Philonthus*, Afrotropical region, taxonomy, new species.

Introduction

Two new species belong to the *P. bicoloripennis* species group characterized in HROMÁDKA (2010) with the most important character: the outline of temples (Fig. 1). Species of this species-group live only in the Afrotropical region (including Madagascar). Two species of *Philonthus* STEPHENS 1829 for which were used by the mistake identical names are renamed.

Material, methods and measurements

The following acronyms are used to refer to the collections mentioned:

BMNH ..... Natural History Museum, London, United Kingdom (Max Barclay, Roger Booth)

cHro ..... Lubomír Hromádka, private collection, Praha (Czech Republic)

Separate labels are dividend in the text by a double slash //. All measurements were taken from the beetles with their abdomen stretched. Ratios mentioned in the descriptions can be converted to lengths as 20 units = 1 mm.

Species descriptions

***Philonthus euplectes* nov.sp. (Figs 1-5)**

Type material: Holotype ♂: "TANZANIA: Mwanza, 11.x.1969, Ardö leg." (c.Hro).

Description: Body length 7.6 mm, length of fore body (to end of elytra) 3.7 mm. Coloration: head black, pronotum, scutellum, elytra and abdomen orange-brown, maxillary and labial palpi and antennomeres 1-3 orange-brown, remaining antennomeres brown, mandibles brown-yellow, legs yellow.

Head wider than long (ratio 28: 23), very slightly narrowed posteriad. Posterior angles obtusely rounded, bearing two long and several short black bristles. Six fine punctures between eyes arranged in straight line. Eyes slightly convex, longer than temples (ratio 11: 8), temporal area with many varying large, coarse punctures. Surface with very fine microsculpture consisting of transverse waves and with many microscopic dots.

Antennae stout and short, gradually but not strongly widened distally, reaching posterior third of pronotum when reclined. Antennomeres 1-3 and 11 longer than wide, antennomeres 4-5 as long as wide, antennomere 6 slightly wider than long, antennomeres 7-10 distinctly wider than long. Antennomere 1 longer than antennomere 11, antennomere 2 as long as antennomere 3.

Pronotum highly convex, wider than long (ratio 34: 30), distinctly narrowed anteriad. Anterior angles rectagular, bearing several varying long black bristles, posterior angles markedly rounded. Left dorsal row with seven punctures, right row with six punctures, each sublateral row with three punctures, puncture two slightly shifted to the lateral margin. Surface with very fine microsculpture consisting of transverse waves and with many microscopic dots.

Scutellum very finely and densely punctured, diameter of punctures slightly larger than eye-facets, separated by one puncture diameter or larger here and there. Surface with very fine microsculpture.

Elytra slightly widened posteriad, punctation coarser and denser than that on scutellum, transverse interstices between punctures as large as diameter of one puncture. Surface without microsculpture; setation ginger-haired.

Legs. Metatibia longer than metatarsus (ratio 27: 24), metatarsomere 1 as long as metatarsomere 5, metatarsomere 1 as long as metatarsomere 5, as long as metatarsomeres 2-3 combined.

Abdomen wide, from visible tergite III very slightly narrowed posteriad, first three visible tergites with two basal lines, elevated area between lines with scattered punctures. Punctation of whole tergites very fine and dense, diameter of punctures as large as eye-facets, separated by mostly smaller distance than one puncture diameter. Surface without microsculpture; setation similar to that on elytra.

Male. Protarsomeres 1-3 dilated and sub-bilobed, each covered with modified pale setae ventrally, protarsomere 4 narrower than preceding ones, heart-shaped. Sternite IX (Fig. 5), aedeagus (Figs 2-4).

Female. Unknown.

Comparative notes: *Philonthus euplectes* nov.sp. is similar to *P. naja*

HROMÁDKA 2010, but differs in having shorter antennae, more punctures in sublateral rows, denser and finer punctation of elytra, denser punctation of abdomen and by the different shape of the aedeagus.

E t y m o l o g y : The name of this species, a noun in apposition, is the Latin generic name of the African Jackson´s widowbird *Euplectes jacksoni* (SHARP 1891).

D i s t r i b u t i o n : Tanzania.

***Philonthus mandrillus* nov.sp. (Figs 6-7)**

T y p e m a t e r i a l : Holotype ♂: "TANZANIA, Sali Forest, Mahenge Mts. 1137 m, S08°56´99.7"; E36°40´24.8", 25-27.iv.2011, Dung Pifall, leg. Smith, R. & Takano, H. //Holotype *Philonthus mandrillus* nov.sp. Hromádka, det., 2012, [orange oblong label printed]" (BMNH). Paratypes: 2♀♀ same label data as holotype (BMNH), 1♂, NjiaPanda Mwanihana, Udzungawa Mountains N.P. 970 m, S07°47´27,7",E36°49´33,7", 12-14.iv.2011, Dung Pitfall Trup, leg. Smith, R. & Nakano, H. (cHro).

D e s c r i p t i o n : Body length 9.2 mm, length of fore body (to end of elytra)) 4.3 mm. Coloration: Head, pronotum and scutellum black, elytra orange-brown, first four visible tergites brown, posterior margin narrowly and whole tergite 5 red-yellow, tergite 6 yellow, maxillary and labial palpi yellow-brown, mandibles brown, antennomeres 1-2 and base of antennomere 3 brown-yellow, remaining antennomeres brown, legs yellow.

Head wider than long (ratio 38: 29), distinctly narrowed posteriad, posterior angles obtusely rounded, bearing two long and several short black bristles. Four coarse punctures between eyes, medial punctures distinctly shifted anteriad, distance between medial punctures six times as large as distance between medial and lateral puncture. Eyes large and slightly convex, distinctly longer than temples (ratio 18: 8), inner margin with four coarse punctures. Temporal area with several varying large punctures. Surface with traces of fine microsculpture.

Antennae slender and long, reaching posterior margin of pronotum when reclined. Antennomeres 1-3 and 11 distinctly longer than wide, antennomeres 4-5 slightly longer than wide, antennomeres 6-8 as long as wide, antennomeres 9-10 slightly wider than long.

Pronotum almost as long as wide, parallell-sided, anterior angles rectangular, bearing four long and three short black bristles, posterior margin markedly rounded, sides bearing several varying long bristles. Each dorsal row with six approximately equidistant coarse punctures, each sublateral row with three coarse punctures, punctures two shifted to the lateral margin. Surface with microsculpture similar to that on head.

Scutellum very densely and coarsely punctured, diameter of punctures larger than eye-facets, mostly of punctures contiguous.

Elytra wider than long (ratio 52: 47), widened posteriad. Punctation coarse and dense, diameter of punctures larger than that on scutellum, separated by one puncture diameter or slightly smaller. Surface without microsculpture; setation ginger-haired.

Legs. Metatibia longer than metatarsus (ratio 29: 27), metatarsomere 1 slightly longer than metatarsomere 5 and longer than metatarsomeres 2-3 combined.

Abdomen wide, from visible tergite III slightly narrowed anteriad and distinctly narrowed posteriad. First three visible tergites with two basal lines, elevated area between lines with scattered punctures. Punctures at base of tergites finer and denser than that on

elytra, becoming sparser and finer to the posterior margin of each tergite. Surface without microsculpture; setation similar to that on elytra.

Male. Protarsomeres 1-3 dilated and sub-bilobed, each covered with modified pale setae ventrally, protarsomere 4 smaller than preceding ones. Sternite IX (Fig.) aedeagus (Figs).

Female. Protarsomeres 1-3 less dilated than in male, protarsomere 4 small, all protarsomeres covered with modified pale setae ventrally.

C o m p a r a t i v e n o t e s : *Philonthus mandrillus* is similar to *P. pelecanus* HROMÁDKA 2010, may be distiguished by the wider head, denser and coarser punctation of elytra and by the differnt shape of the aedeagus.

E t y m o l o g y : The name of this species, a noun in apposition, is the Latin generic name of the African Mandrill *Mandrillus sphinx* (LINNAEUS 1578).

D i s t r i b u t i o n : Tanzania.

New names

***Philonthus manis* nom.nov.**

Philonthus manis nom. nov., is proposed for *Philonthus haliaeetus* HROMÁDKA 2011 (*Philonthus* incertae sedis – cf. HROMÁDKA 2011a: 194), which is a junior primary homonym of *Philonthus haliaeetus* HROMÁDKA 2010 (*P. bicoloripennis* group – cf. HROMÁDKA 2010: 28). The replacement name is based on African Ground pangolin *Manis temminckii* SMUTS 1832.

***Philonthus pelomedusa* nom.nov.**

Philonthus pelomedusa nom.nov., is proposed for *Philonthus centropyge* HROMÁDKA 2012 (*P. interocularis* group – cf. HROMÁDKA 2012: 144), which is a junior primary homonym of *Philonthus centropyge* HROMÁDKA 2011 (*P. cupreonitens* group – cf. HROMÁDKA 2011b: 45). The replacement name is based on African Helmeted turfle *Pelomedusa subrufa* (LACÉPÉDE 1788).

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Zusammenfassung

Philonthus euplectes (Vereinigte Republik Tansania) nov.sp. und *Philonthus mandrillus* (Vereinigte Republik Tansania) nov.sp. werden beschrieben und von den ähnlichen *P. naja* HROMÁDKA 2010 und *P. pelecanus* HROMÁDKA 2010 unterschieden. Die äuβeren sowie die männlichen Geschlechtsmerkmale der zwei Arten werden abgebildet. Neue Namen für jüngere primäre Homonyme werden vergeben: *Philonthus manis* nom.nov. für *Philonthus haliaeetus* HROMÁDKA 2011, nec *Philonthus haliaeetus* HROMÁDKA 2010 und *Philonthus pelomedusa* nom.nov. für *Philonthus centropyge* HROMÁDKA 2012, nec *Philonthus centropyge* HROMÁDKA 2011.

Reference

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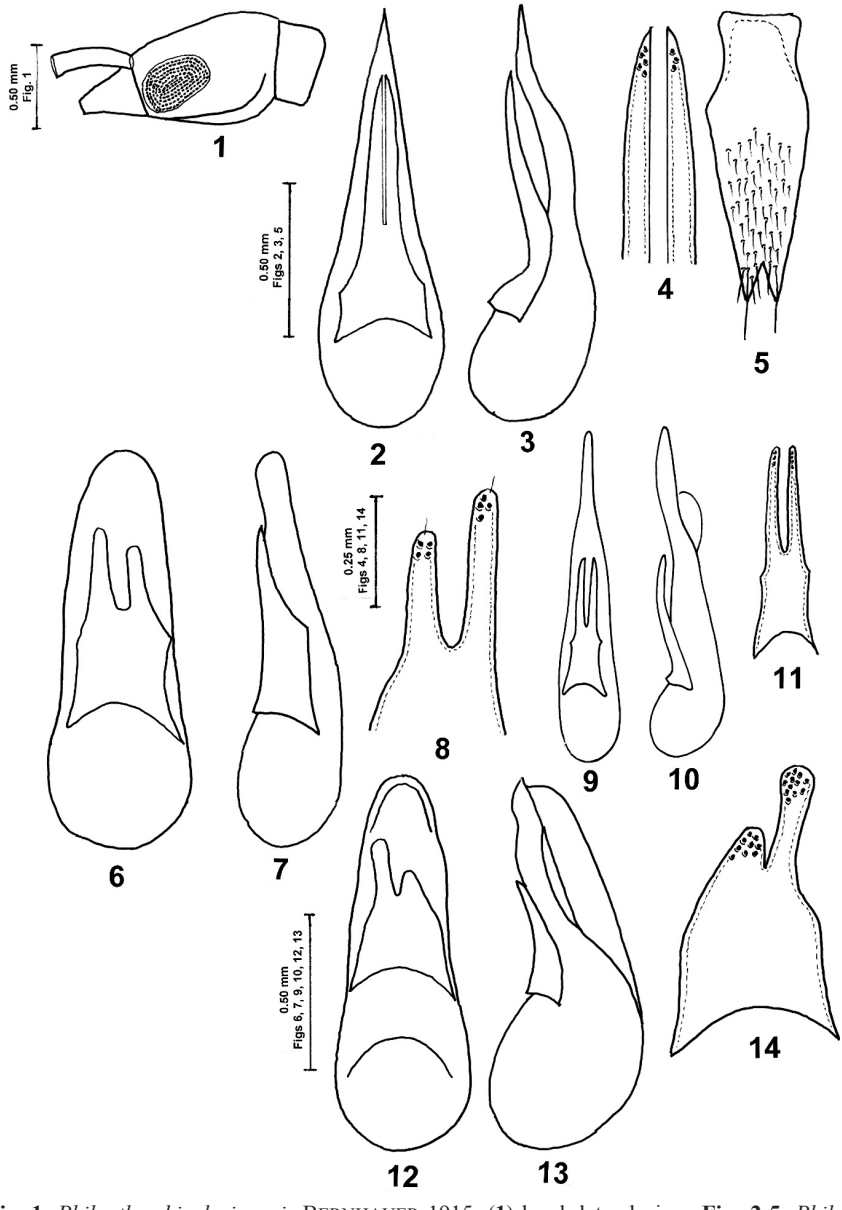

Fig. 1: *Philonthus bicoloripennis* BERNHAUER 1915: (**1**) head, lateral view. **Figs 2-5**: *Philonthus euplectes* nov.sp.: (**2**) aedeagus, ventral view; (**3**) aedeagus, lateral view; (**4**) apex of paramere with sensory peg setae, ventral view; (**5**) male sternite IX, ventral view. **Figs 6-8**: *Philonthus mandrillus* nov.sp.: (**6**) aedeagus, ventral view; (**7**) aedeagus, lateral view; (**8**) apex of paramere with sensory peg setae, ventral view. **Figs 9-11**: *Philonthus naja* HROMÁDKA 2010: (**9**) aedeagus, ventral view; (**10**) aedeagus, lateral view; (**11**) paramere with sensory peg setae, ventral view. **Figs 12-14**: *Philonthus pelecanus* HROMÁDKA 2010: (**12**) aedeagus, ventral view; (**13**) aedeagus, lateral view; (**14**) paramere with sensory peg setae, ventral view.