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Annotations on the tribe Rhysopaussini and on some genera assigned to this tribe

(Coleoptera: Tenebrionidae; Rhysopaussini: Amarygmini)

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Summary

The tribe Rhysopaussini (Tenebrionidae) is redefined. According to this investigation only the genera *Rhysopaussus* Wasmann, 1896, *Xenotermes* Wasmann, 1896 and *Mimoxenotermes* Pic, 1931 remain in this tribe. Annotations on these genera are provided. *Barlacus* Fairmaire, 1900 (formerly assigned to Rhysopaussini) is a junior synonym of *Asyleptus* Péringuey, 1896 (Amarygmini) [**syn. n.**], and *Asyleptus fumosus* Péringuey, 1896 (described from South Africa) = *Barlacus costulatus* Fairmaire, 1900 (described from Borneo) [**syn. n.**]. The generic placement of „*Barlacus*“ *corporali* Wasmann, 1912 has to be re-settled.

Introduction

Initially Wasmann (1896) devised a family Rhysopaussidae for the termitophilous genera *Rhysopaussus* Wasmann, 1896, *Xenotermes* Wasmann, 1896, and *Azarelius* Fairmaire, 1892 and placed it near Paussidae (presently Carabidae, Paussinae) and Rhysodidae. *Rhysopaussus dohertyi* became the type species of family and genus. Later-on a second species of *Rhysopaussus* was described: *Rhysopaussus septemcarinatus* Kaszab, 1965 (pp.293-296, fig. 2, no 10). Wasmann (1912) transferred Rhysopaussidae to Tenebrionidae as subfamily Rhysopaussinae, and placed it near Amarygminae (at that time Amarygmini had been considered a subfamily).

In his Catalogue of Tenebrionidae (1943) Gebien regarded the Rhysopaussinae as a tribe of Tenebrionidae near Amarygmini. He added to Rhysopaussini several, obviously heterogeneous genera (Würmli 1978). All of them show, more or less, an adaptation to cohabitation with termites, at least during special periods of metamorphosis. According to Gebien (1943) the tribe Rhysopaussini contains the following genera: *Stemmoderus* Spinola, 1842, *Synopticus* Thomson, 1858, *Gonocnemis* Thomson, 1858, *Rhyzodina* Chevrolat, 1873, *Azarelius* Fairmaire, 1892, *Ziaelas* Fairmaire, 1892, *Rhysopaussus* Wasmann, 1896, *Xenotermes* Wasmann, 1896, *Euglyptonotus* Gestro, 1899, *Paragonocnemis* Kraatz, 1899, *Barlacus* Fairmaire, 1900, *Ubangia* Gebien, 1914, *Lemoultia* Chatanay, 1915, *Falsocossyphus* Pic, 1916, *Reichenspergeria* Wasmann, 1921, *Macrosynopticus* Pic, 1922, *Mimosynopticus* Pic, 1922, *Singapura* Gebien, 1925, *Termitonebria* Wasmann, 1925, *Lycoscelis* Blair, 1929, *Mimoxenotermes* Pic, 1931, *Gonocnemocistela* Pic, 1935, *Borneogonocnemis* Pic, 1936, *Microgonocnemis* Pic, 1936, *Falsosynopticus* Pic, 1936, and *Overlaetia* Pic, 1937.

Other similarly looking genera with a proven or suspected termitophilous habit, however, have been placed to Amarygmini by Gebien (1944), e. g. *Crypsinous* Fairmaire, 1891, *Plinthochrous* Fairmaire, 1891, and *Asyleptus* Péringuey, 1896. Obviously, unambiguous characters for placing a taxon to one or the other of these tribes were not used. For instance, *Termitonebria* Wasmann, 1925, described as belonging to Rhysopaussini, is a synonym of *Asyleptus* Péringuey (Schawaller & Bremer, 2013), described as belonging to Amarygmini, and accordingly listed in Gebien's catalogue.

A more precise definition of the tribe Amarygmini published by Ardoin (1962) (with essential additions by Tschinkel & Doyan, 1980), and a better knowledge of other tribes of Tenebrionidae permitted to

regroupe several of these genera. ARDOIN (1962) transferred the following genera from Rhysopaussini to Amarygmini: *Borneogonocnemis* PIC, 1936 (now *Paragonocnemis* s. g. *Borneogonocnemis*), *Euglyptonotus* GESTRO, 1901, *Falsosynopticus* PIC, 1956, *Gonocnemis* THOMSON, 1858, *Gonocnemocistela* PIC, 1935, *Lemoultia* CHATANAY, 1913, *Microgonocnemis* PIC, 1936, *Microsynopticus* PIC, 1922, *Overlaetia* PIC, 1937, *Paragonocnemis* KRAATZ, 1899 and *Ubangia* GEBIEN, 1914 (syn. to *Crypsinous* FAIRMAIRE, 1891). *Synopticus* THOMSON, 1858 does not belong to Tenebrionidae at all (ARDOIN 1962, 957). Moreover, the genus *Microamarygmus* PIC, 1915 which GEBIEN (1944) assigned to Amarygmini does neither belong to Rhysopaussini nor to Amarygmini but to the subfamily Alleculinae of Tenebrionidae (BREMER 2001, 67). Furthermore, *Azarelius* FAIRMAIRE, 1892 was transferred from Rhysopaussini to Amarygmini (BREMER 1991). Not all species described as *Azarelius* belong to this genus.

A tribe Falsocossyphini was erected by FERRER 2006 (pp.75-82). He separated three genera from Rhysopaussini and placed them to Falsocossyphini. These genera are *Falsocossyphus* PIC, 1916 from India (*Falsocossyphis pilosus* PIC, 1916 by monotypy), *Blatticephalus* HELLER, 1917 from tropical Africa (*Blatticephalus adelotopus* HELLER, 1917 by monotypy), and *Microblattellus* FERRER, 2006 from Vietnam (*Microblattellus leongmani* FERRER, 2006 by monotypy). Common to these genera is a head which is shifted to the ventral side of prothorax. In my opinion these genera belong to phylogenetically different taxa, but this query will be resumed in a later paper.

ARDOIN (1962) himself transferred only genera from Rhysopaussini to Amarygmini when he was able to study the type species of the respective genus. However, the types of several genera were unavailable to him. Because the number of specimens of several termitophilous species is very limited in nearly all collections and, concerning some genera the type species was either lost or not found yet, it is not easy to investigate the still open question about a correct placement of these genera. For instance, neither ARDOIN nor I had been able to trace the whereabouts of the holotype of *Rhysopaussus dohertyi* WASMANN, the type species of genus and tribe. Fortunately the description of WASMANN (1896) is rather good, and he published a very small but detailed figure of this species. In the present paper I am providing a redrawing of WASMANN's (1896) picture after magnification and slightly modifying the original woodcut illustration (Fig. 1). If one makes use of WASMANN's (1896) description and his figure of *Rhysopaussus dohertyi* one can be sufficiently certain in my opinion about the identity of *Rhysopaussus dohertyi* WASMANN (see below at *Rhysopaussus* WASMANN, 1896).

In contrast to most other genera of the former Rhysopaussini *Rhysopaussus* WASMANN presents 10 antennomeres, likewise *Xenotermes* WASMANN, 1896, with *Xenotermes feai* WASMANN, 1896 by monotypy, and *Mimoxenotermes* PIC, 1931, with *Mimoxenotermes duporti* PIC, 1931 by monotypy. All other genera which formerly had been classified as Rhysopaussini present 11 antennomeres as it is true for species of all genera of Amarygmini.

Gnathidiini GEBIEN, 1921 is the only tribe of Tenebrionidae which also possesses 10 antennomeres (two genera of its subtribe Anopidiina possess less than 10 antennomeres). The presence of 10 antennomeres in Tenebrionidae seems to be an apomorphic character is probably phylogenetically irreversible.

With the exception of the holotype of *Rhysopaussus dohertyi* WASMANN I could trace one specimen of *Xenotermes feai* WASMANN and the holotype and two specimens of *Mimoxenotermes duporti* PIC. The only male specimen of Rhysopaussini with 10 antennomeres which I found was a male of *Mimoxenotermes duporti* PIC. It showed a position of the aedeagus inside abdomen in ventro-dorsum position, meaning the ventral side of aedeagus is directed to the dorsum of body. All other genera of Amarygmini present a dorso-dorsum position of aedeagus. A ventro-dorsum position of aedeagus is also found in the genus *Strongylium* KIRBY, 1819 (*Stenochiini* KIRBY, 1819) according to ARDOIN, 1962 (pp.959-960). I can confirm ARDOIN's finding of the position of aedeagus in abdomen in *Strongylium* by dissecting a few Neotropical species. This is an additional hint that the Rhysopaussini genera with 10 antennomeres form a special group. However, the position of aedeagus in one specimen of *Mimoxenotermes duporti* should be confirmed by genitalia preparations in other species and more specimens of Rhysopaussini with 10 antennomeres, when they become available.

In my opinion one should retain a tribe Rhysopaussini, but only for the genera *Rhysopaussus* WASMANN, *Xenotermes* WASMANN and *Mimoxenotermes* PIC. Genera with 11 antennomeres have to be transferred to other tribes, mainly to Amarygmini. I shall provide further annotations and partially redescriptions of the genera and species with eleven antennomeres in a forthcoming paper.

In the present paper I only want to present additional remarks on *Barlacus* FAIRMAIRE, 1900 (type species *Barlacus costulatus* FAIRMAIRE, 1900 described from Borneo), which also belongs to the residual genera of *Rhysopaussini* with 11 antennomeres. The study of the holotype of *Barlacus costulatus* showed

that this species is a junior synonym of a species described from South Africa, *Asyleptus fumosus* PÉRINGUEY, 1896 (see below), and *Barlacus corporaali* WASMANN, 1912, a second species which had been placed to *Barlacus*, has to be transferred to another genus.

Acronyms

HMNH = Hungarian Museum of Natural History, Budapest, Hungary
 NHMB = Naturhistorisches Museum, Basel, Switzerland
 MNHN = Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris, France
 SMNS = Staatliches Museum für Naturkunde, Stuttgart, Germany.

Annotations on the genera

Rhysopaussus WASMANN, *Xenotermes* WASMANN, and *Mimoxenotermes* PIC

Rhysopaussus WASMANN, 1896: 616 (Fig. 1)

WASMANN's description of genus: "Antennae 10-articulatae, compressae, articulo ultimo praecedentibus multo angustiore. Vertex inter oculos carinatus, oculos perfecte separans. Labrum convexum, prominens. Elytra thorace latiora. Antennae ab articulo 4° (inclusive) dilatatae. Scutellum triangulare. Elytra lateribus parallelis, elytrorum costa una (quarta) abbreviate. Tarsi apicem versus valde angustati, articulis subcylindricis; tarsi postici art. 1° haud elongate. Prosternum post coxas anteriores in dentem magnum acute productum."

Rhysopaussus dohertyi WASMANN, 1896: 617.

WASMANN's description: *Rhysopaussus Dohertyi*, n. sp. (Taf. II, Fig. 1). – Nigropiceus, glaber. Caput thorace angustius, processu frontali antice truncate, antennarum articulis 4-10 compresses, 4-9 late triangularibus. Thorax oblongoquadratus, elytris multo angustior, lateribus parallelis, angulis omnibus rectis, posticis acutioribus sed haud productis, quadricostatus, costis lateralibus pone medium interruptis, lateribus alte marginatis, costarum interstitiis impunctatis. Elytra parallela, utrinque costis septem (quarta prope basin abbreviata) instructa; costarum interstitiis obsolete punctatis. Long. 9 mm, lat. elytr. 2.5 mm. – Malacca (Perak) W. Doherty! Exempl. unicum in collect. R. Oberthür vidi – Ich benenne die Art zu Ehren des Entdeckers."

A redrawing of the original woodcut picture of WASMANN (1896) is given (Fig. 1).

KASZAB (1965) added a second species to this genus which has a quite different shape of tibiae and also of antennae, but also with 10 antennomeres:

Rhysopaussus septemcarinatus KASZAB, 1965 (pp. 293-296, fig. 2, no 10).

KASZAB's (1965) original description is in German. A diagnosis is given here: Uniformly dark red, lustrous. Elytra narrow, with parallel sides; length/width ratio >2.0; wider than pronotum; surface with deeply impressed rows of punctures and sharply keel-like intervals, but these intervals are more and more flattened

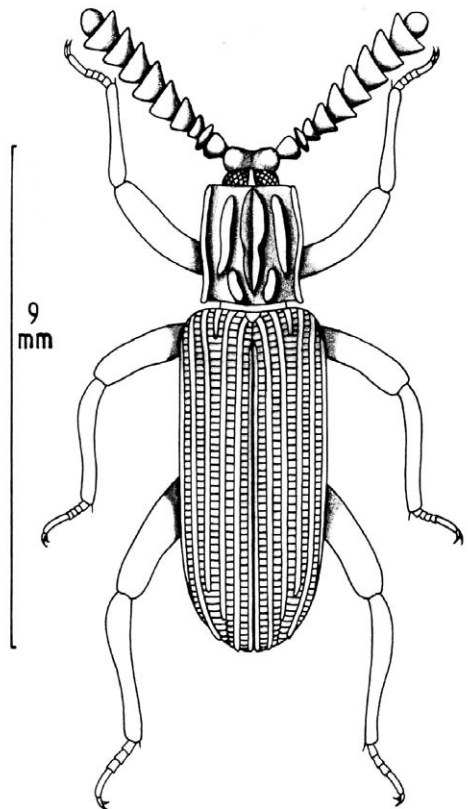


Fig. 1: *Rhysopaussus dohertyi* WASMANN, 1896: Habitus.

anteriorly in the frontal third; they are somewhat shortened near apex and become thicker; the interval 4 is not shortened. Pronotum rectangular and as long as wide at base; anteriorly only slightly narrowed in front of the acutely angled hind corners and somewhat more concave than behind the rectangular front corners; anterior margin straight, broadly bordered; posterior margin without a border; surface with longitudinal elevations, the inner ones parallel, they terminate in front of posterior margin but terminate at the anterior margin, more laterally a second one on each side which fall off posteriorly. Head widest at the longitudinally narrow eyes; genae in front of eyes, towered like a crown, in the middle with a longitudinal depression; on the frontal side of genae the head is vertically descending, and the also vertically descending clypeus forms rectangular front corners; between anterior margin and labrum there is a steep drop but no broadly visible membrane. Antennae thick, pearl-like, with 10 antennomeres; antennomere 1 like a reverse pear, antennomere 2 disk-shaped (3-times thicker than long), the antennomeres 3-9 reversely trapezoidal; antennomere 10 more cylindrical. Femora straight and without a tooth on their front, tibiae flattened, inner sides of all tibiae somewhat bent and broadened, tarsi simple and terminal tarsomeres scarcely shorter than the other tarsomeres jointly. Body length: 7.5 mm; body width: 2.4 mm.

Holotype, ♀, HMNH: Vietnam, Prov. Ha-Tinh, Forstwirtschaft Hüông-sôn, 150 m, tropischer Regenwald, Lichtfang, 14.VIII.1963, leg. Dr. T. POCS.

KASZAB's (1965) figure of this species is very detailed.

Xenotermes WASMANN, 1896: 616 (Fig. 2A-F).

WASMANN's description of genus: "Antennae 10-articulatae, compressae, articulo ultimo praecedentibus multo angustiore. Vertex inter oculos carinatus, oculos perfecte separans. Labrum convexum, prominens. Elytra thorace latiora. Antennae ab articulo 3^o compressae, articulo ultimo praecedentibus multo angustiore. Vertex inter oculos carinatus, oculos perfecte separans. Labrum convexum, prominens. Elytra thorace latiora. (inclusive) dilatatae. Scutellum orbiculare. Elytra lateribus subrotundatis, elytrorum costa nulla abbreviate. Tarsi lateribus apicem versus vix angustati, articulis (praeter ultimum) subcordiformibus; tarsi postici art. 1^o elongate. Prosternum post coxas anteriores haud productum; longitudinaliter sulcatum, sulca absque carina media et absque denticulo intercoxas.

Xenotermes feae, n. sp. (Taf. II, Fig. 2) – Rufocastaneus, glaber. Caput thorace angustius, processu frontali antice rotundata, antennarum 3-10 compressis, 4-10 semilunaribus. Thorax transversim quadratus, lateribus basin versus dilatatis et sinuatis, basi elytris paullo angustior, angulis anticis dentiformibus, productis; quadricostatus, costis lateralibus pone medium interruptis, lateribus alte marginatis, costarum interstitiis absolute punctatis. Elytra lateribus subrotundatis, utrimque costis sex (nulla prope basin abbreviate) intructa, costarum interstitiis seriato-punctatis. Long. 7 mm, lat. elytr. 2 mm.

Pegu (Palon) in Birmania cl. L. Fea in nidis termitum (*Termes xenotermitis*, Wasm., n. sp. 8^oSeptembrid 1887 inventus. Duo exemplaria vidi, alterum ex collect. Musei Civici Genuensis, alterum ex colectet. R. Oberthür. Ich benenne die Art zu Ehren des Entdeckers. Derselbe hat, wie R. Gestro mir mittheilt, in seinem Buche „Quattro anni in Birmania“ p.443^o, fig. 146 auch schon eine Abbildung des interessanten Thieres gegeben.“

Annotations on *Xenotermes feai* WASMANN: Up to now I could not trace the whereabouts of WASMANN's syntypes. In NHMB, however, there is a specimen which completely agrees with the Fig. in WASMANN's (1896) publication and its description. Its labels: Thailand '91, "Thanon Thong Chai", D. KRÁL & V. KUBÁČ, [Second label:] Thai, 26/4-65.91, 16°04'N 98°53'E, Umphang, 500 m, DAVID KRÁL lgt.

Body length: 6.37 mm. Body width 2.26 mm. Ratios. Pronotum: width/length 1.13. Elytra: length/width 2.10; length elytra/length pronotum 3.21; maximum width elytra/maximum width pronotum 1.35.

The Fig. 2 is taken from this specimen.

On the anterior margin of labrum there is a transverse row of short hairs. Between clypeus and labrum there is no vacantly visible membrane as it is seen in nearly all genera and species of Amarygmini.

Mimoxenotermes PIC, 1931: 106 (Fig. 3A-J).

PIC's description: „*Mimoxenotermes* n. gen.; Capite antice et supra oculos valde elevato et medio inciso, oculis approximatis; antennis 10 articulatis, articulis 2^o et sequentibus particularibus, apice plus minusve transverse prolongatis, articulo ultimo simplice, elongate, apice subtruncato; thorace multi et diverse plicato, angulis anticis paulo prominutis, elytris multi et longe costatis, costis apice pro parte tuberculato-dentatis;

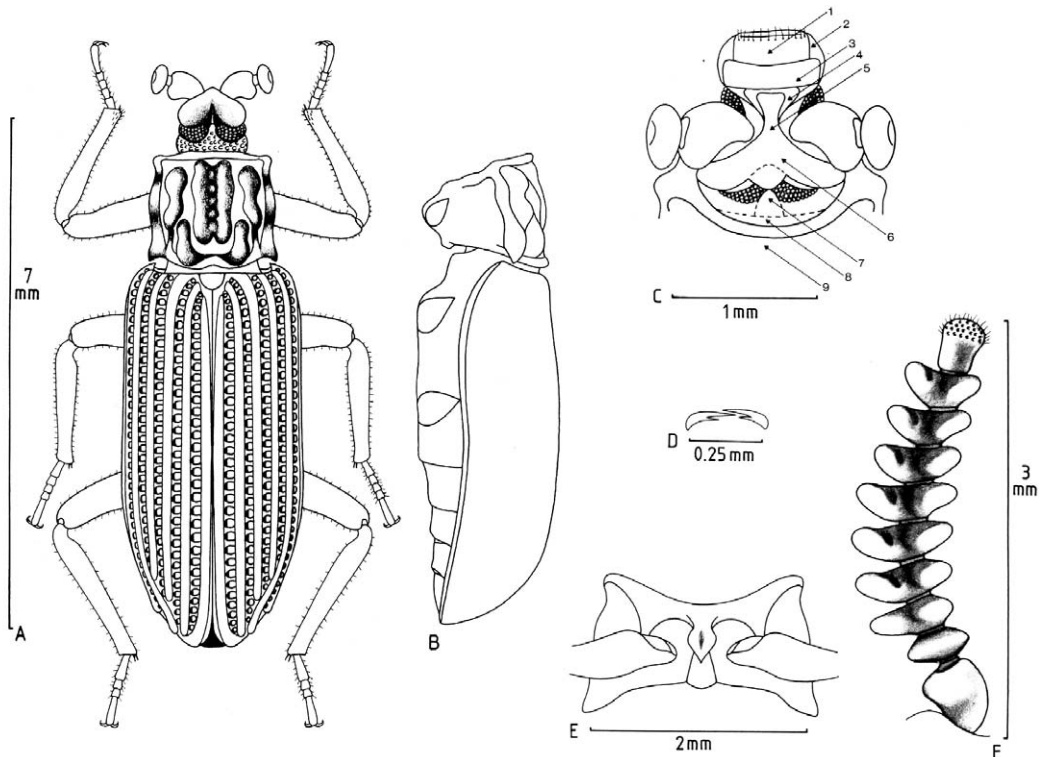


Fig. 2: *Xenoterмес feai* WASSMANN, 1896: **A** Habitus; **B** Body, lateral view; **C** Head, view from the front: 1 = labrum, 2 = mandible, 3 = clypeus; 4 = frons, 5 = vertically descending part of genae, 6 = genae, 7 = vertex, 8 = neck, 9 = pronotum; **D** Mandibles; **E** Prosternum; **F** = Antenna.

pedibus elongatis. Groupe des Rhysopaussidae. – Ce genre voisin de *Xenoterмес* Wasm., s'en distingue par le structure des antennes dont les articles 2 et suivants sont en forme d'hélice avec les extrémités transverses au forme de bouton et les côtes 2, 4, 5 saillantes en dent émoussés pres de l'apex des élytres. Il est établi pour l'espèce suivante communiqués par notre collègue E. Fleutiaux.

Mimoxenoterмес Duporti n. sp. – Elongatus, nitidus, rufus; capite parum elongato, antice multi intercalato; thorace non transverse, lateraliter sinuato, antice paulo attenuato, marginato, supra minute bicarinato et lateraliter diverse trituberculato, elytris thorace paulo latioribus, elongatis, apice attenuates, in singulo costatis 7 munitis, intervallis fenestratis et multiplicatis. Long. 12 mill. – Tonkin: Cho Ganh (L. DUPORT)". I could examine PIC's type from MNHN. It bears the following labels: (printed) Tonkin, Cho-Ganh, L. DUPORT; (printed) Coll. E. FLEUTIAUX; (red paper, printed) TYPE; (white paper, printed) Mimoxenoterмес Duporti n. sp.; (white paper, printed) Mimoxenoterмес n. g., Duporti n. sp.; M. Pic det. – The holotype is in a good condition, but its body length is not "12 mill." but 6.29 mm.

Redescription. Of medium size; elongate; antennae helical and twisted, from antennomere 3 onwards the antennomeres are broader than long but not symmetrical, antennomeres 3-5 present an approximately boat-like form, the antennomeres 6-9 present an asymmetrical broadening as the broadening to one side is not congruently found on the other side; antennomere 10 markedly narrower than the preceding antennomeres. The vertex of head is separating the eyes; the vertex is not divided by a median carina into two lateral parts; genae are markedly elevated alike a highly towerded ridge and united in the middle; anteriorly the head is formed by the frontal side of genae, there it is descending in an angle of nearly 90° in form of a narrow, median plank, its anterior part of frons is positioned behind and nearly concealed: Fronto-clypeal suture deeply incised; clypeus short, clearly convex transversely, impunctate; labrum short, convex transversely and impunctate; mentum small, apically widened, with bent lateral margin and a rounded transition between lateral margins and base, lateral and anterior margins flat, lustrous, space in between opaque, not really con-

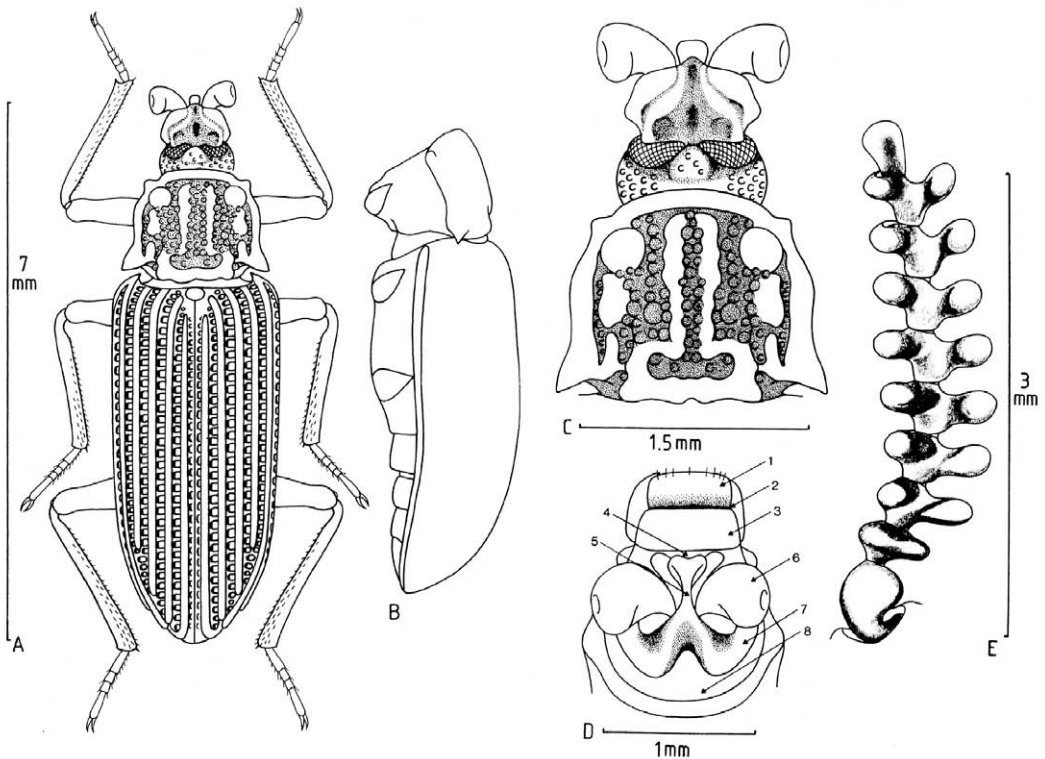


Fig. 3 A-E: *Mimoxenotermes duporti* Pic, 1931: **A** Habitus; **B** Body, lateral view; **C** Head and pronotum, dorsal view; **D** Head, view from the front: 1 = labrum, 2 = border between clypeus and labrum, 3 = clypeus; 4 = frons, 5 = vertically descending part of genae, 6 = antennomere 1, 7 = genae, 8 = vertex and neck; **E** Antenna;

vex transversely; ultimate segment of maxillary palpi not triangularly widened but of the same narrow, fili-form, cylindric shape as the preceding two segments; mandibles apically bifid, but with a thin, long upper part and a short, retro-positioned lower part (Fig. 3 I). A membrane between anterior margin of clypeus and labrum is not discernable. Pronotum wider than long, with hind corners laterally projecting and pointed; front corners not pointed, nearly rectangular; pronotum with a longitudinal and lustrous elevation aside median on each side, an interrupted elevation laterally of it; the lateral and anterior margins broad and impunctate; between the ridges with large punctures. – Scutellum oval and transverse. – Elytra with 7 elevated intervals which become prominent towards apex where they are terminating sharply and elevated; intervals 5 and 6 are anteriorly uniting and protruding sharply beyond the anterior margin; rows between intervals impressed and with large, closely set, nearly rectangular punctures. – Anterior margin of prosternum inconspicuously bordered; prosternal apophysis very narrow, the prosternal apophysis is markedly ascending between anterior margin which is not clearly bordered and the level along procoxae and markedly descending between level along procoxae and the pointed apex; there is some space between anterior margin of prosternum and anterior margin of procoxae. – Hind part of mesosternum very narrow, with wide lateral margins which scarcely leave space for a centre; longitudinally it is roundedly ascending from the depressed anterior part of mesosternum. – Metasternum with very large, relatively distantly set punctures on the frontal 70 percent; anterior margin between mesocoxae narrow, faintly bordered; median line widely incised in the middle. – Sternites. Anterior margin of sternite 1 between metacoxae ogive, bordered; sternites 1 and 2 with large, not very closely set punctures; these punctures are also present on anterior part of sternite 3; sternites 4 and 5 impunctate. – Elytral pseudopleura reaching the elytral apex. – Legs thin; femora broadened on their ventral side with maximum of width at 40 percent from base, tibiae on their outer sides somewhat concave, tarsi thin, short, metatarsomere 1 as long as metatarsomeres 2+3 jointly; protarsomeres 1-3 not widened in males and

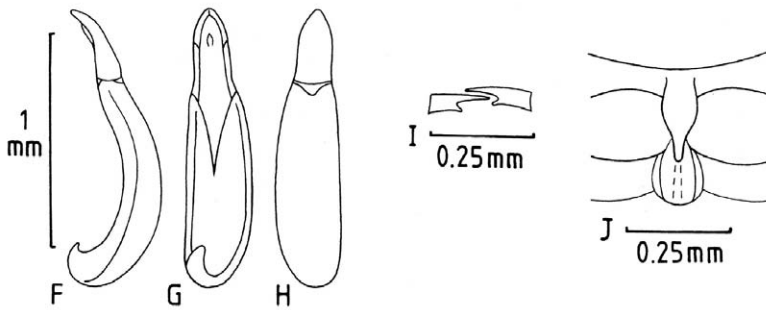


Fig. 3 F-J: *Mimoxenotermes duporti* PIC, 1931:
F Aedeagus, lateral view;
G Aedeagus, ventral view;
H Aedeagus, dorsal view;
I Mandibles; **J** Prosternal apophysis.

without a brush-like pilosity on soles. Aedeagus in an inverse position in abdomen, i. e. in ventro-dorsum position; base of aedeagus asymmetric (Fig. 3F-H).

Material: Tonkin, Cho Ganh (holotype, sex not determined, MNHN) – Thai., 26.-28.V.1991, Palong, 750 m, 19°55'N-99°06'E, Vít KUBÁŇ leg. (1 ♂ NHMB) – With the same collection data (1 ♀ SMNS).

Body length: 6.29-6.61 mm. **Body width:** 2.10-2.14 mm. **Ratios.** Pronotum: width/length 1.30-1.35; width hind corners/width front corners 1.26-1.35. Elytra: length/width 2.04-2.09; length elytra/length pronotum 3.29-3.50; maximum length elytra/maximum length pronotum 1.17-1.27.

Colouration. Upperside reddish brown, elevated parts of pronotum and elytra lustrous, depressed parts opaque.

Annotations on the genus *Barlacus* FAIRMAIRE

Barlacus FAIRMAIRE, 1900: 45.

Type species: *Barlacus costulatus* FAIRMAIRE, 1900: 45 (Fig. 4).

Barlacus corporaali WASMANN, 1912: 261-262.

Barlacus costulatus FAIRMAIRE has been described from Borneo and

Barlacus corporaali WASMANN from Sumatra.

In the introduction of his monography on African Amarygmini ARDOIN (1962, 957) mentioned that *Barlacus costulatus* FAIRMAIRE might be a synonym of *Asyleptus fumosus* PÉRINGUEY, 1896 (also a termitophilic genus, but from South Africa), but he did not formally establish it. Because the descriptions and the distribution did not really point to a synonymy (SCHAWALLER & BREMER, 2013) I studied the holotype of *Barlacus costulatus* FAIRMAIRE which is deposited in MNHN. The holotype of *Asyleptus fumosus* from the South African Museum, Cape Town, had previously been studied by SCHAWALLER & BREMER (2013).

The holotype of *Barlacus costulatus* FAIRMAIRE is labelled: (1st label, handwritten) Ft. Braut (the letters in Italics barely illegible); (2nd label, handwritten) *Barlacus costulatus*, xxxx (illegible) Bornée; (red label, printed) TYPE; (yellow label, printed): Muséum Paris, Coll. L. Fairmaire.

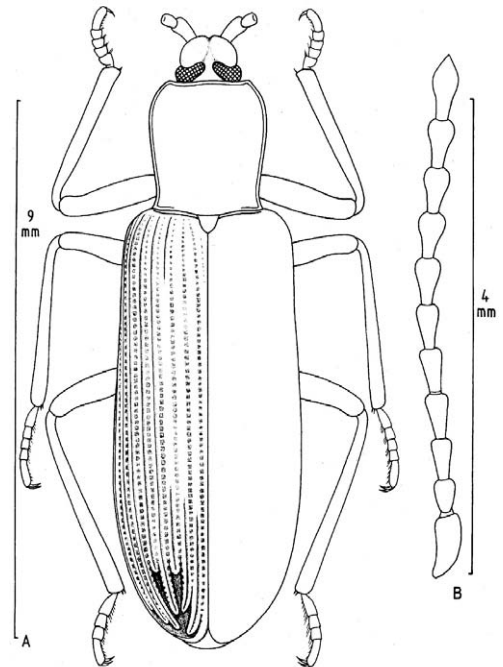


Fig. 4: *Barlacus costulatus* FAIRMAIRE, 1900 (= *Asyleptus fumosus* PÉRINGUEY, 1896) (drawing based on holotype of *Barlacus costulatus* FAIRMAIRE): **A** Habitus; **B** Antenna.

According to the study of the type specimens of *Barlacus* FAIRMAIRE, 1900 and *Asyleptus* PÉRINGUEY, 1896 I am formally able to establish the synonymy of both species, and also of both genera: *Asyleptus* PÉRINGUEY, 1896 = *Barlacus* FAIRMAIRE, 1900 [syn. n.]. I guess that the label indicating “Bornée” as collecting site is erroneous:

Asyleptus PÉRINGUEY, 1896.

Termitonebria WASMANN, 1925; [syn.]: SCHAWALLER & BREMER 2013, 82.

Falsozialeus PIC, 1951; [syn.]: SCHAWALLER & BREMER, 2013, 82.

Barlacus FAIRMAIRE, 1900 [syn. n.].

Barlacus corporaali WASMANN, 1912 (pp.201-202), collected on Sumatra, possesses longitudinal elevations on pronotum according to WASMANN’s (1912) description. The surface of pronotum of *Asyleptus*, however, is flat and closely punctured. Longitudinal elevations or ridges on pronotum are only found in the genera *Azarelius* FAIRMAIRE, 1892, *Ziaelas* FAIRMAIRE, 1892, *Singapura* GEBIEN, 1925, and in *Paragonocnemis* KRAATZ, 1899. The first three genera occur in the Oriental region, *Paragonocnemis* as well in the Oriental as in the Afrotropical area. The antennomeres 4-10 of *Barlacus corporaali* are “longitudine duplo latiores” according to WASMANN’s (1912) description.

Certainly, WASMANN (1912) erroneously classified this taxon as belonging to *Barlacus* (= *Asyleptus*). According to WASMANN (1912) the two syntypes of *Barlacus corporaali* are deposited in the collection of Dr. J. VETH. I could not clarify the fate of this collection, but it could be in the Museum Leiden. In two letters to this Museum I requested information about the fate of Dr. VETH’s collection and of *Barlacus corporaali*, but I did not receive a reply. The generic assignment of “*Barlacus*” *corporaali* WASMANN is currently unknown.

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Zusammenfassung

Die Tribus Rhysopaussini (Tenebrionidae) wird neu definiert. Nach der neuen Definition gehören nur die Gattungen *Rhysopaussus* WASMANN, 1896, *Xenotermes* WASMANN, 1896 und *Mimoxenotermes* PIC, 1931 in diese Tribus. Es werden Anmerkungen zu diesen Gattungen mitgeteilt.

Barlacus FAIRMAIRE, 1900 (bisher zu den Rhysopaussini gerechnet) ist ein Synonym von *Asyleptus* PÉRINGUEY, 1896 (Amarygmini) [syn. n.], und *Asyleptus fumosus* PÉRINGUEY, 1896 (aus Südafrika beschrieben) = *Barlacus costulatus* FAIRMAIRE, 1900 (aus Borneo beschrieben) [syn. n.].

In welches Genus *Barlacus corporaali* WASMANN, 1912 gehört, ist zur Zeit unklar.

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