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New species and records of *Scaphobaeocera* CSIKI from New Guinea (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae: Scaphidiinae)

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Abstract

Currently, four species of *Scaphobaeocera* CSIKI, 1909 are known from New Guinea. Eight additional New Guinean species are reported in the present paper, the following described as new to science: *S. balkei* **sp. n.**, *S. gemina* **sp. n.**, *S. lycocorax* **sp. n.**, *S. notata* **sp. n.** and *S. punctata* **sp. n.**. *Scaphobaeocera remota* LÖBL is a new record for New Guinea, and data on *S. papuana* (PIC) and two probably undescribed species are given. A key to the New Guinean *Scaphobaeocera* is provided.

Introduction

The genus *Scaphobaeocera* CSIKI, 1909 was based on a single New Guinean species, *S. papuana* CSIKI, 1909. It was collected by the Hungarian naturalist Lajos BIRÓ who explored the former German New Guinea in the late 19th and the first two years of the 20th centuries. Subsequently, PIC (1956) described from New Guinea several new species, among them *Toxidium ornatum*, based also on L. BÍRÓ's collections. LÖBL (1975) redescribed *S. papuana*, transferred *T. ornatum* to *Scaphobaeocera* and described two additional Papuan congeners, *S. antennalis* and *S. ptiliformis*. A fifth Papuan species, *S. schouteni* LÖBL, 1980, was described from New Ireland and is unknown from New Guinea. While the number of recognized *Scaphobaeocera* increased to 96 species, the published information on its New Guinean members remained restricted to that given in LÖBL (1975) and based on five available specimens only, all coming from Papua New Guinea. The genus *Scaphobaeocera* is wide-spread, known from most of tropical and subtropical Asia, and with several species represented in Melanesia, Micronesia, Australia, and tropical Africa (LÖBL 1997, LESCHEN & LÖBL 2005). *Scaphobaeocera* are in Southeast Asia commonly found in decaying forest floor litter (personal observation) and have been observed feeding on slime mold (HAMMOND & LAWRENCE 1989, NEWTON 1984; NEWTON & STEPHENSON 1990). The present study shows that at least some species of *Scaphobaeocera* are common in New Guinea, and increases the number of New Guinean species to twelve.

Material and methods

The body length is measured from the anterior pronotal margin to the inner apical angle of the elytra. The maximal length and width ratios of the antennomeres are given, measured on antennae mounted on slides, at identical magnification. The width of metanepisterna refers to their exposed parts. The abdominal sternites are counted from the first visible one (i.e., the third morphological sternite). The sides of the aedeagi refer to their morphological sides, with the ostium situated dorsally while it is in the resting position rotated 90°. The extruded parts of the internal sacs of the aedeagi are not considered in length measurements. Though the colour pattern is often useful for identification, it is of limited use in teneral specimens.

The labels under the primary types are reproduced verbatim, different labels under specimens are separated by a slash. The names of localities are given as on the respective labels or as previously published, even if currently changed. The numbers preceded by # refer to additional information from unpublished locality lists given in square brackets.

The examined specimens and other material mentioned in the present study are housed in the following institutions:

FMNH Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago, USA
HNMB Hungarian Natural History Museum, Budapest, Hungary
MHNG Muséum d'histoire naturelle, Geneva, Switzerland
NMEC Naturkundemuseum, Erfurt, Germany

Taxonomy

Scaphobaeocera CSIKI, 1909 is a member of the Scaphisomatini *Baeocera* group (LESCHEN & LÖBL 2005). It may be distinguished from other genera included in the group by the strongly approximate mesocoxae and metacoxae, in combination with aciculate apical segment of the maxillary palpi. Many species of *Scaphobaeocera* have elytra iridescent and with parasutural striae, the latter feature absent from other Scaphidiinae. These two characters are, however, absent from some of the New Guinean species.

Key to the New Guinean species of *Scaphobaeocera*

1 Antennomere VII more than 5 times as long as wide and longer than antennomeres III to VI combined 2

– Antennomere VII about 2 or 4 times as long as wide and much shorter than antennomeres V and VI combined 3

2 Metaventrite with median stria ..... *S. balkei* sp. n.

– Metaventrite lacking median stria ..... species A

3 Antennomere XI conspicuously long, about as long as or longer than antennomeres IX and X combined 4

– Antennomere XI not conspicuously long, much shorter than antennomeres IX and X combined 6

4 Elytra bearing strigulate microsculpture and iridescent 5

– Elytra not microsculptured and not iridescent ..... *S. gemina* sp. n.

5 Lateral parts of metaventrite bearing microsculpture ..... *S. antennalis* LÖBL

– Lateral parts of metaventrite lacking microsculpture ..... *S. remota* LÖBL

6 Elytra with distinct bicolorous pattern 7

– Elytra uniformly reddish-brown to blackish, or somewhat darkened, or becoming lighter near apical margins 8

7 Elytra light brown, darkened along suture, lateral margins and near apical margins. Metaventrite microsculptured ..... *S. ornata* (PIC)

– Elytra light reddish-brown, each with dark spot in centre and darkened near apices ..... *S. notata* sp. n.

8 Lateral parts of metaventrite conspicuously punctate, with punctures as large as punctures margining submesocoxal lines and much larger than pronotal punctures. Elytral punctation notably coarser than pronotal punctation ..... *S. punctata* sp. n.

– Lateral parts of metaventrite very finely punctate, with punctures smaller that punctures margining submesocoxal and about as minute as pronotal punctures 9

9 Minute species, body length 0.80 mm. Basolateral punctures on sternite 1 elongate ..... *S. ptiliformis* LÖBL

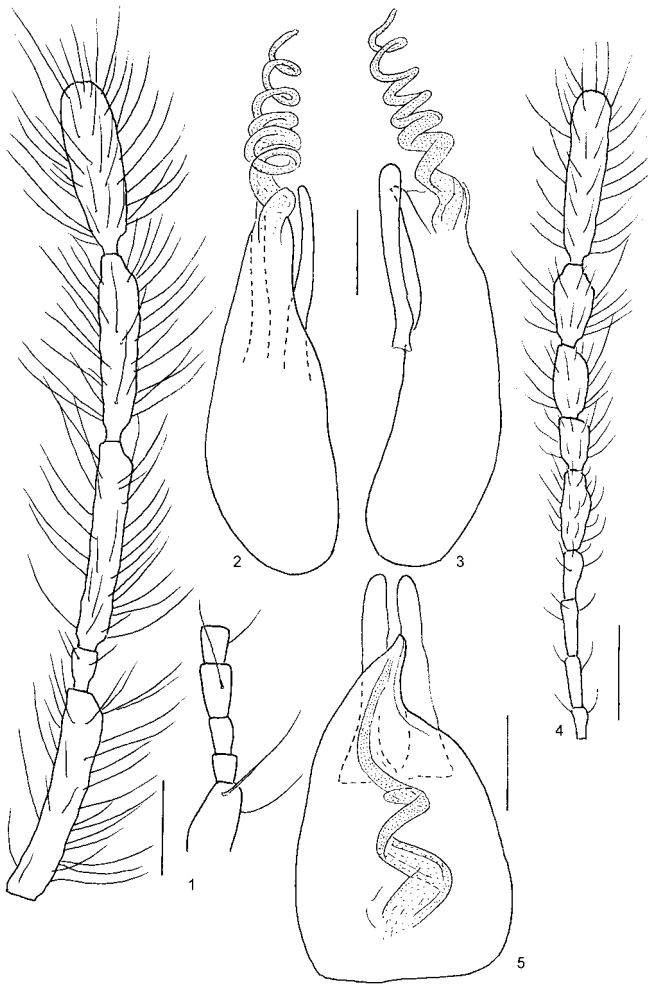
– Species 0.95-1.35 mm long. Basolateral puncture on sternite 1 not elongate 10

10 Antennomere VIII conspicuously small, about as long as third of antennomere VII, antennomere VII about as long as XI ..... species B

– Antennomere VIII not conspicuously small, longer than half of antennomere VII, antennomeres VII much shorter than XI 11

11 Body 0.95-1.35 mm long. Antennomeres V slightly longer than VI. Parameres not sinuate .... *S. papuana* CSIKI

– Body 1.40-1.45 mm long. Antennomeres V much longer than VI. Parameres sinuate .... *S. lycocorax* sp. n.



Figs 1-3.
Scaphobaeocera balkei sp. n., holotype; **1.** – Antennomeres 2 to 11; **2, 3.** – Aedeagus, internal sac extruded, in dorsal and lateral views.

Figs 4, 5.
Scaphobaeocera gemina sp. n.; **4.** – Holotype, antennomeres 3 to 11; **5.** – Paratype, aedeagus in dorsal view.

Scale = 0.1 mm.

Scaphobaeocera balkei sp. n.

(Figs 1-3)

Type material. Holotype ♂: INDONESIA, Irian Jaya Nabire area, road Nabire-Ilaga,03°29'517''S 135°43'913''E, 750m NN X.1997, LEK, leg.M. BALKE (NMEC). Paratypes: 2 ♀♀, same data as the holotype (NMEC, MHNG).

Description. Length 1.54-1.62 mm, width 0.88-0.98 mm, dorsoventral diameter 0.96 mm. Head, pronotum and elytra dark brown or blackish. Elytra barely lighter near apices. Ventral side of thorax und abdomen dark reddish-brown. Femora fairly light reddish-brown, tibiae, tarsi and antennae almost yellowish. Length/width ratios of antennomeres as: III 11/10: IV 15/9: V 22/12: VI 15/12: VII 90/16: VIII 17/11: IX 85/14: X 77/16: XI 70/22 (Fig. 1). Pronotum very finely punctate, not microsculptured. Minute tip of scutellum exposed. Elytra iridescent, with parasutural striae, sutural striae deep, curved near base, discal punctation much coarser than pronotal punctation, microsculpture barely visible. Hypomera not microsculptured, smooth, lacking longitudinal stria. Middle area of metaventrite weakly convex, between mesocoxae with short, very fine median stria, smooth in middle, with dense and rather coarse punctation around smooth centre, many punctures larger than puncture intervals, pubescence very short. Lateral parts of metaventrite very finely punctate, not microsculptured. Submesocoxal areas about 0.02 mm, submesocoxal lines appearing impunctate. Metanepisterna about 0.07 mm wide, flat, not narrowed anteriad, impunctate, with straight suture reaching metepimera. Protibiae straight, mesotibiae and metatibiae slightly curved. Sternite 1 not microsculptured, very finely punctate, basal punctures coarse. Following sternites with strigulate microsculpture.
Male: Protarsomeres 1 to 3 slightly widened, narrower than apices of protibiae. Aedeagus as in Figs 2, 3, 0.48 mm long.
Etymology. The species is dedicated to its collector, Dr Michael BALKE, München.

Differential diagnosis. This species possesses conspicuous antennae, with antennomeres VII and IX to XI strongly elongate and bearing unusually long pubescence. Similar antennae are in two species only, *S. zdenae* LÖBL, 1992 from Nepal und *S. escensa* LÖBL, 2011 from the Philippines. The new species may be easily distinguished from *S. zdenae* by the pronotum and lateral parts of metaventrite lacking microsculpture, the pronotum not iridescent, the elytral punctation as on pronotum very fine, the narrower metanepisterna (0.10 mm wide in *S. zdenae*) and narrower submesocoxal areas. *Scaphobaeocera balkei* may be readily distinguished from *S. escensa* by the antennomere VIII longer than wide (it is as long as wide in *S. escensa*), the profemora lacking combs, the flagellum convolved and the internal sac of the aedeagus lacking basal sclerotized complex.

Scaphobaeocera sp. A

Material examined. 1 ♀, PAPUA NG Morobe, Biaru Rd, Mt. Kolorong, 2200m, 08.VI.1992, G. CUCCODORO #19A [moss on ground and vegetational debris]; 1 ♀, same data but 2250m, 02.VI.1992 #14B [summit, moss in *Notophagus* forest]; 1 ♀, same data but 2200m, 04.VI.1992 #16C [on basidiomycetes] (all MHNG).

Comments. These specimens are likely members of an undescribed species. They share with *S. balkei* most of the diagnostic characters, may be distinguished by the abdominal sternites bearing punctulate microsculpture, the finer elytral punctation and the metaventrite lacking a median stria. A formal description is not given because the diagnostic male characters are unknown.

Scaphobaeocera gemina sp. n.

(Figs 4-7)

Type material. Holotype ♂: PAPUA NG: Morobe Biaru Rd, Mt Kolorong 2200m, 04.VI.1992 G. CUCCODORO #16A (MHNG).

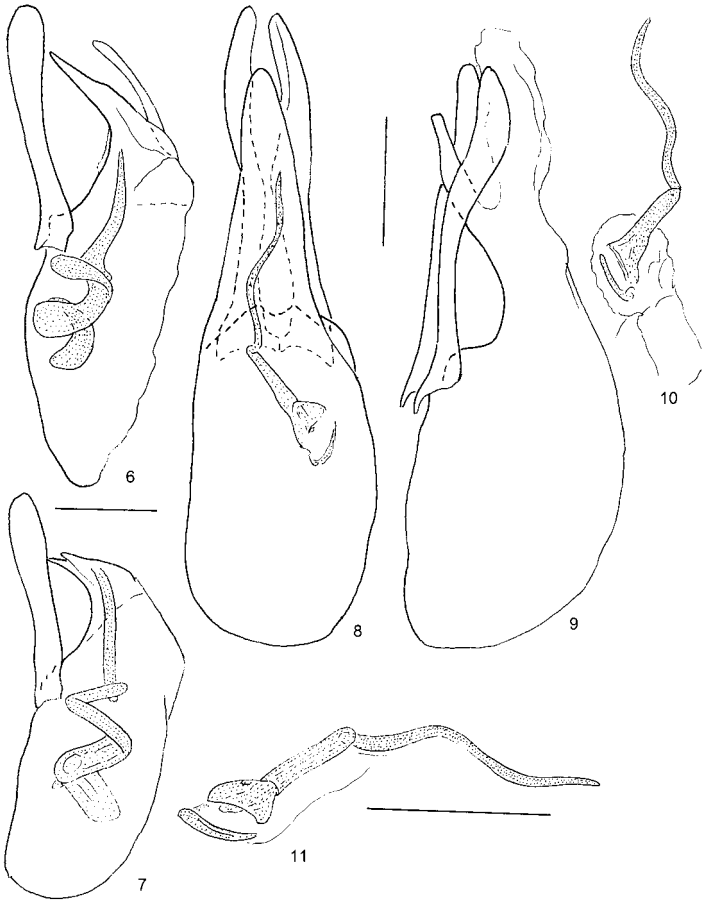
Paratypes: 2 ♂♂, 2 ♀♀, 6 specimens sex not examined, same data as the holotype; 1 ♀, same data but #16B [vegetational debris, 50% bamboo leaves], 1 ♂, 1 ♀, same data but 2000m, 03.VI.1992 #15C [old wet rotting trunk]; 1 ♀, same data as the holotype but 01.VI.1992, #13C [singled]; 1 ♂, 4 ♀♀, same data but 2250 m, 02.VI.1992, #14F [moss on bark and vegetational debris]; 1 ♂, same data but 2200m, 07.VI.1002, #18C [moss on trees]; 2 ♂♂, 2 ♀♀, same data but 08.VI. 1992, #19A [moss on ground and vegetational debris] (all MHNG); 2 ♀♀, NEW GUINEA /NE/ Mt. Wilhelm Keglsugl, 10.-14.VIII.1969 /No.NG Mt-B.53/ leg. Dr. J. Balogh (HNMB); 1 ♂, NEW GUINEA /NE/ Wau Eddy Creek,2050 m 30.VIII.1968 /No. NG-W-B.50. leg. Dr. J. Balogh (HNMB); 1 ♂, PAPUA NG: Morobe Bulldog Rd, Mt. Naiko 2750m, 28.VI.1992, G. Cuccodoro #25C [vegetational debris on moss, in Ericaceae/bamboo forest] (MHNG).

Description. Length 1.10-1.25 mm, width 0.67-0.78 mm, dorsoventral diameter 0.72-0.85 mm. Head, pronotum, elytra and ventral side of thorax dark reddish-brown, hypomera usually somewhat lighter than pronotum, abdomen and femora light reddish-brown, tibiae, tarsi and antennae lighter than femora. Length/width ratios of antennomeres as: III 14/7: IV 19/7: V 24/6: VI 16/7: VII 27/12: VIII 18/11: IX 25/12: X 27/13: XI 64/18 (Fig. 4). Pronotum very finely punctate, not microsculptured. Tip of scutellum barely visible. Elytra not iridescent, without parasutural striae, sutural striae deep, curved near base, discal punctation about as fine as pronotal punctation, microsculpture absent. Hypomera not microsculptured, smooth, lacking longitudinal stria. Middle area of metaventrite weakly convex, lacking median stria, smooth on small central area, with dense and fairly coarse punctation around smooth centre, many punctures larger than puncture intervals, pubescence short. Lateral parts of metaventrite very finely punctate, not microsculptured. Submesocoxal areas about 0.02 mm, submesocoxal lines impunctate. Metanepisterna about 0.09-0.10 mm wide, flat, impunctate, not or weakly narrowed anteriad, with suture usually somewhat curved, reaching metepimera. Tibiae straight. Sternite 1 not microsculptured, very finely punctate, basal punctures coarse. Following sternites with punctulate microsculpture.

Male: Protarsomeres 1 to 3 slightly widened, narrower than apices of protibiae. Aedeagus as in Figs 5-7, 0.38-0.48 mm long.

Etymology. The species epithet is a Latin adjective, meaning coupled.

Differential diagnosis. This species is very similar with *S. remota* LÖBL, 1981. It may be distinguished from the latter by the absence of elytral microsculpture and iridescent body, the shorter antennae, and the significantly wider aedeagal flagellum. The aedeagal characters of *S. gemina* suggest relationships with *S. japonica* (REITTER, 1880) and *S. stephensoni* LÖBL, 1988. These two species differ drastically in having distinct hypomeral striae, microsculptured pronotum and elytra, and elytra with parasutural striae.



Figs 6, 7.
Scaphobaeocera gemina sp. n.; **6.** – Holotype, aedeagus in lateral view; **7.** – Ditto, paratype.

Figs 8-11.
Scaphobaeocera lycocorax sp. n.; **8.** – Holotype, aedeagus in dorsal view; **9.** – Paratype, aedeagus in lateral view, without internal sac; **10.** – Paratype, internal sac in lateral view; **11.** – Holotype, internal sac in dorsal view.

Scale = 0.1 mm.

***Scaphobaeocera lycocorax* sp. n.**
(Figs 8-12)

Type material. Holotype ♂: PAPUA NG Morobe Bulldog Rd, MtNaiko 2750m, 29.VI.1992 G. CUCCODORO #25B (MHNG). Paratype: 1 ♂, with the same data as the holotype (MHNG).

Description. Length 1.40-1.45 mm, width 0.78-0.80 mm, dorsoventral diameter 0.85-0.87 mm. Head, most of body, femora and tibiae dark reddish-brown or blackish. Apical abdominal segments light brow or yellowish. Tarsi slightly lighter than tibiae. Antennae light brown or yellowish. Length/width ratios of antennomeres as: III 25/8: IV 35/9: V 45/10: VI 33/10: VII 50/14: VIII 32/12: IX 50/18: X 48/22: XI 65/25. Pronotum very finely punctate, with hardly visible trigulate microsculpture. Visible tip of scutellum minute. Elytra with traces of parasutural striae, sutural striae shallow, barely curved near base, discal punctation as fine or almost as fine as pronotal punctation, strigulate microsculpture distinct, not iridescent. Hypomera not microsculptured, appearing smooth, lacking longitudinal stria. Middle area of metaventrite flattened, without median stria or impression, smooth in middle, punctation dense and coarse laterally smooth middle with punctures larger than puncture intervals, punctures posterior smooth middle smaller than puncture intervals, pubescence short. Lateral parts of metaventrite very finely punctate, with strigulate microsculpture. Submesocoxal areas about 0.03 mm, submesocoxal lines distinctly punctate. Metanepisterna about 0.05-0.07 mm wide, flat, not or slightly narrowed anteriad, impunctate, with straight suture reaching metepimera. Tibiae straight. Abdomen with strigulate microsculpture, not iridescent; sternite 1 very finely punctate, with basal punctures coarse.

Male: Protarsomeres slightly 1 to 3 widened, narrower than apices of protibiae. Aedeagus as in Figs 8-11, 0.48 mm long.

Etymology. The species epithet is a noun, the scientific generic name of the paradise crow.
Differential diagnosis. This species is similar with *S. papuana*. It differs in external characters by the by the larger body, larger submesocoxal areas and longer antennae, in particular by the antennomere V much longer than VI. Both species may be easily distinguished by their aedeagal characters: S. *lycocorax* differs notably from *S. papuana* by the long apical process of the median lobe, the long and sinuate parameres and the shape of the flagellum.

Scaphobaeocera notata sp. n.

(Figs 13-15)

Type material. Holotype ♂: PAPUA NG: Morobe Mt. Mission, Bitoi Rd 1350m, 22.V.1992 G. CUCCODORO # 6A [rotting trunk and vegetational debris in pine-oak plantation] (MHNG).
Paratypes: 2 ♂♂, 2 ♀♀, 5 specimens sex not examined, same data as the holotype (MHNG); 5 ♂♂, 1 ♀, 6 specimens sex not examined, same data but #6B [under rotting trunk, lower montane rain forest] (MHNG); 1 ♀, NEW GUINEA /NE/ Wau, Mt. Missim 1200 m 20.VIII.1068 / No. NG-"-B.35 leg. Dr. J. BALOGH (HNMB).

Description. Length 0.96-1.20 mm, width 0.56-067 mm, dorsoventral diameter 0.57-0.65 mm. Head and body light reddish-brown. Elytra each with a dark spot centred anterior mid-length, and darkened in apical seventh or sixth. Appendages somewhat lighter than most of body. Length/width ratios of antennomeres as: III 13/5: IV 18/5: V 27/5: VI 25/6: VII 28/12: VIII 23/8: IX 31/12: X 32/12: XI 45/13 (Fig. 15). Pronotum very finely punctate, not microsculptured. Visible tip of scutellum minute. Elytra with parasutural striae, sutural striae shallow, somewhat curved near base, usually with distinct strigulate microsculpture, discal punctation almost as fine as pronotal punctation, sometimes weakly iridescent. Hypomera not microsculptured, appearing smooth, lacking longitudinal stria. Middle area of metaventrite flattened, without median stria or impression, with dense and rather coarse punctation surrounding smooth centre, some punctures larger than puncture intervals, pubescence short. Lateral parts of metaventrite very finely punctate, not microsculptured. Submesocoxal areas about 0.02 mm, submesocoxal lines punctate. Metanepisterna about 0.05-0.07 mm wide, flat, not narrowed anteriad, impunctate, with straight suture reaching metepimera. Tibiae straight. Sternite 1 without obvious microsculpture, not iridescent, very finely punctate, with rather coarse basal punctures; apical sternites with strigulate microsculpture.
Male: Protarsomeres 1 to 3 widened, narrower than apices of protibiae. Aedeagus as in Figs 13, 14, 0.25-0.29 mm long.
Etymology. The species epithet is a Latin adjective, meaning spotted.
Differential diagnosis. This species may be readily distinguished by the elytra, each bearing a dark spot. The aedeagal characters suggest relationships with *S. nuda* LÖBL, 1979 from India (see LÖBL 1984). These two species may be distinguished, in addition to the colour pattern, by the elytra lacking microsculpture and the strigulate microsculpture on apical abdominal segments *S. nuda*.

Scaphobaeocera papuana CSIKI, 1909

Scaphobaeocera papuana CSIKI, 1909: 342. Type locality: Papua New Guinea, Astrolabe Bai, Friedrich-Wilhelms Hafen [= Madang]. Lectotype male, HNMB.
Scaphobaeocera papuana; LÖBL, 1975: 414-416, figs 71, 72. LÖBL (1975) designated as holotype the single original specimen preserved in HNMB. It is deemed to be a lectotype, according to the ICZN, Art. 74.6.

Material examined. 16, PAPUA NG Morobe, Biaru Rd, Mt. Kolorong, 2250m, 02.VI.1992, G. Cuccodoro #14F [moss *Nothophagus* forest]; 6, same data but 2200 m, 31.V., #12 [montane forest, vegetational debris]; 5, same data but 01.VI., #13A [moss on trunks, *Nothophagus* forest]; 1, same data but #13B and 1, same data but #13C [under bark or on fungi]; 3, same data but 02.VI., #14C [vegetational debris]; 5, same data but 04.VI., #16C [on basidiomycetes]; 1, same data but 06.VI., #17B [old moist rotting trunk and debris]; 6, same data but 07.VI., #18C [moss on tree]; 14, same data but 2000m, 03.VI.1992, #15C [old moist rotting trunk]; 3, same data but 08.VI.,#19A [montane rain forest, moss on ground and vegetational debris] [dry debris and rotting trunk] and 1, #19C [debris on moss]; 2, same data but 01.VI.-11.VI, #BRFS; 2, same data but 2250 m, 10.VI., #21 [moss on trees and on ground]; 3, same data but Biaru Rd, Kaisenic 1050m, 28.V., #11 [gallery forest] and 3, 11A [basidiomycetes and bark]; 1, same data but #11D [vegetational debris]; 1, Morobe, Mt. Mission, Bitoi Rd, 1350 m, 22.V.1992, G. Cuccodoro #6B [lower montane rain forest, under rotting trunk]; 3 ex, same data but 6A [oak pine plantation]; 1, same data but #5B [rotting trunk and debris]; 2, Morobe, Bulldog Rd. 2000-2400 m, 16.VI.1992, G. Cuccodoro #23E [basidiomycetes]; 19, Papua NG Morobe Mt. Kaindi 1350m, 24.VI.1992, G. Cuccodoro #7 [garden bordering lower montane rain forest, debris and rotten trunk]; 1, same data but 2350m, 18.V.1992 #3C [moss forest, debris]; 1, Morobe, Wau, 1150m, 27.V.1992, G. Cuccodoro #10B [degraded forest, rotting trunk] (all MHNG); 2; NEW GUINEA /NE/ Wau, Golden Ridge 3.II.1968 / No.NG-W-B.68 leg. Dr. J. Balogh (HNMB); 1, NEW GUINEA /NE/ Wau, Mt. Kaindi, 19.-24.VIII.1969 / No. NGW-U.15. leg. J. Balogh (HNHM), 1, same data but 24.VIII.1968 / No.NG-W.C.8. (HNMB).

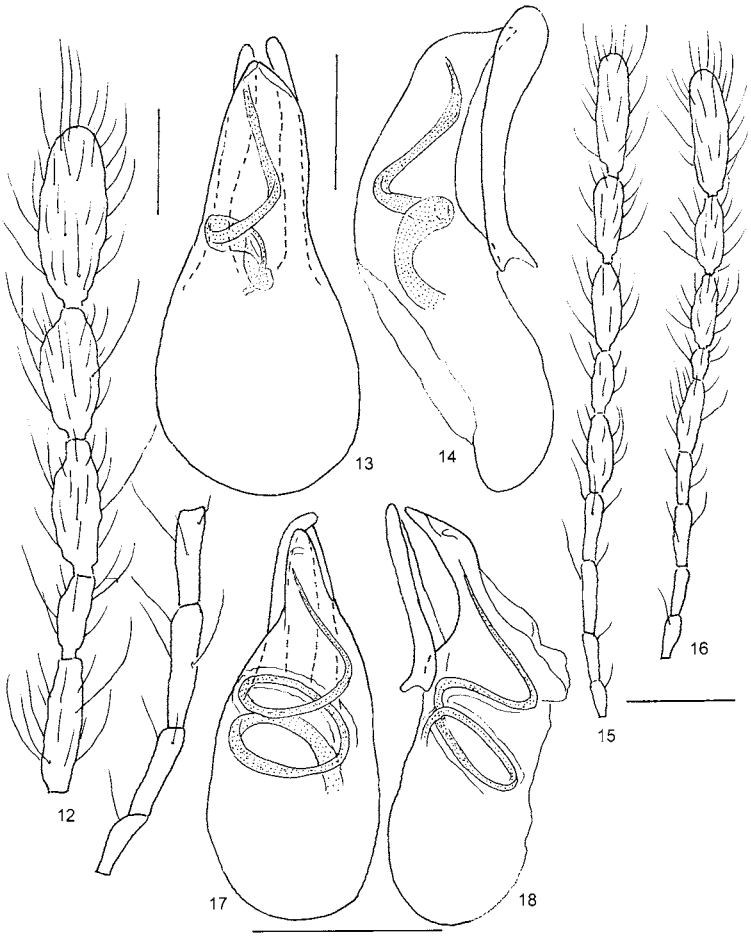


Fig. 12.
Scaphobaeocera lycocorax sp. n., paratype, antennomeres 3 to 11.

Figs 13-15.
Scaphobaeocera notata sp. n., holotype; **13.** – Antennomeres 3 to 11; **14, 15.** – Aedeagus in dorsal and lateral views.

Figs 16-18.
Scaphobaeocera punctata sp. n., holotype; **16.** – Antennomeres 3 to 11.; **17, 18.** – Aedeagus in dorsal and lateral views.

Scale = 0.1 mm.

Comments. The species is quite variable in size and colour. The body-length varies from 1.0 to 1.35 mm, the width from 0.54 to 0.78 mm, and the dorsoventral diameter from 0.58 to 0.85 mm. The head, pronotum and elytra are usually uniformly reddish dark brown or black, the apical margins of the elytra may be lightened, the abdomen and the legs are lighter than the thorax and most of the elytra, the apical abdominal segments usually light brown, the tibiae and tarsi as light or lighter than the femora, and the antennae distinctly lighter than the legs. The length/width ratios of the antennomeres are about as: III 25/10: IV 30/10: V 35/10: VI 33/10: VII 42/13: VIII 27/12: IX 40/18: X 40/20: XI 55/21. The scutellum is in some specimens almost completely concealed, the elytra may be not or weakly iridescent, the metanepisterna are 0.05-0.07 mm wide. The aedeagus is as in Figs XY, 0.26-0.40 mm long.

Scaphobaeocera punctata sp. n.

(Figs 16-18)

Type material. Holotype ♂: NEW GUINEA /NE/ LAE 4-6.IX.1968 /No. NG-L-B. 75. leg. Dr. J. BALOGH (HNMB).

Description. Length 0.92 mm, width 0.50, dorsoventral diameter 0.52 mm. Head, pronotum, elytra and hypomera uniformly reddish-brown. Mesoventrite, metaventrite and abdomen darker, brown. Appendages light, almost yellowish. The length/width ratios of the antennomeres are as: III 16/5: IV 18/5: V 23/6: VI 19/5: VII 26/8: VIII 12/6: IX 27/10: X 29/12: XI 46/13 (Fig. 16). Pronotum very finely punctate, with distinct microsculpture. Exposed tip of scutellum minute. Elytra with parasutural striae, sutural striae shallow, somewhat curved near base, discal punctation distinctly coarser than pronotal punctation, with conspicuous strigulate microsculpture covering sutural areas, not iridescent. Hypomera not microsculptured, appearing smooth, lacking longitudinal stria. Middle area of metaventrite flat, without median stria or impression, enti-

rely very densely and rather coarsely punctate, punctures mostly larger than puncture intervals, bearing short setae. Lateral parts of metaventrite not microsculptured, with conspicuous, comparatively coarse and dense punctation, punctures somewhat elongate, smaller than puncture intervals. Submesocoxal areas about 0.03 mm, submesocoxal lines with punctures as large as those on lateral parts of metaventrite. Metanepisterna about 0.05 mm wide, flat, not narrowed anteriad, with straight suture, each bearing puncture row. Tibiae straight. Abdomen with strigulate microsculpture. Sternite 1 very finely and sparsely punctate, basal punctures rather coarse.

Male: Protarsomeres 1 to 3 weakly widened, narrower than apices of protibiae. Aedeagus as in Figs 17, 18, 0.25 mm long.

Differential diagnosis. This species may be readily distinguished by the lateral parts of the metaventrite conspicuously punctate and by the punctate metanepisterna. In addition, it may be readily distinguished from most of its congeners the small body size. The aedeagus resembles that in *S. piceoapicalis* LÖBL, 1977 and *S. variabilis* LÖBL, 1981. These species share a long flagellum forming two complete circles and a short apical process of the median lobe. The Australian *S. piceoapicalis* has the middle part of metaventrite impressed and ventrally lobed parameres, *S. variabilis* from Japan differs by the microsculptured lateral parts of the metaventrite and the antennomeres VI about as long as the antennomeres VII.

Scaphobaeocera remota LÖBL, 1981

Scaphobaeocera remota LÖBL, 1981a: 78. Type locality: Caroline Islands, Palau, Peleliu, near coast. Holotype ♂, FMNH.

Material examined. 5, INDONESIA, Irian Jaya Nabire area, road Nabire-Ilaga, 03°29'517''S 135°43'913''E, 750m NN X.1997, LEK, leg. M.BALKE (NMEC, MHNG).

Comments. This species was described, and until present reported only from the Island Palau, Caroline Archipelago in Micronesia.

Scaphobaeocera sp. B

Material examined. 1 ♂, PAPUA NG Morobe, Biaru Rd, Mt. Kolorong, 2200m, 08.VI.1992, G. CUCCODORO #19A [montane rain forest, moss on ground and vegetational debris] (MHNG).

Comments. This species is characterized by its long antennae with the antennomeres VII, IX, X and XI similar in length and the antennomere VII conspicuously short, about as long as third of the antennomere VII. The species may be readily distinguished from its New Guinean congeners by the elytra and pronotum extremely finely punctate in combination with the lack of microsculpture and parasutural striae, and by the metaventrite notably darker than the dorsal side of the body. The aedeagus is strongly damaged and its diagnostic characters cannot be appropriately shown. Therefore, I renounce from establishing a new species based on this single available specimen.

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Zusammenfassung

Von New Guinea waren bisher nur vier Arten der Gattung *Scaphobaeocera* CSIKI bekannt. Acht zusätzliche Arten werden in diesem Beitrag besprochen, davon folgende als neu beschrieben: *S. balkei* **sp. n.**, *S. gemina* **sp. n.**, *S. lycocorax* **sp. n.**, *S. notata* **sp. n.** und *S. punctate* **sp. n.**. *S. remota* LÖBL wird von Neuguinea neu gemeldet und zwei weitere, wahrscheinlich unbeschriebene Arten werden besprochen. Eine Bestimmungstabelle der neuguinesischen *Scaphobaeocera* wird gegeben.

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