

***Helophorus angusi*, a new species from Nepal**  
**(Coleoptera: Hydrophiloidea)**  
**by FRANZ HEBAUER**

**ABSTRACT**

A new species of hydrophiloid beetles, *Helophorus (Atracthelophorus) angusi* sp. n. is described from Nepal.

**KEY WORDS**

Insecta, Coleoptera, Helophoridae; new species, Nepal.

**INTRODUCTION**

Within the Asian *Helophorus* fauna north of the Himalayan mounts especially the Siberian and Chinese fauna is relatively well known (ANGUS 1970, 1995). In contrast the fauna of the southern Himalayan area seems to hide a few undescribed species (besides *H. mervensis* SEMENOV and *H. inexpectatus* ANGUS proved up to now). Olaf Jaeger from the Museum für Tierkunde Dresden asked me to look at a large series of a unknown *Helophorus* from Nepal in his museum, collected in 1995 out of a lake at an altitude of 3000 m in Nepal. Dr. R. B. Angus London, the world specialist of that genus confirmed my presumption that this must be an undescribed species close to *H. altaicus* GANGLBAUER.

Describing this species here and dedicating it to R. B. Angus I thank him for giving valuable suggestions to me, also Olaf Jaeger for giving me the opportunity to study his material and for leaving of paratypes.

***Helophorus (Atracthelophorus) angusi* sp. n.**

**LOCUS TYPICUS**

Nepal (Kamali zone).

**Holotype:** (male): 'Nepal Kamali zone Rara-Lake 3000 m, 27.-29.6.1995, leg. Ahrens & Pommeranz.' (Museum für Tierkunde Dresden).

**Paratypes:** 748 ex. (same data; same museum).

**DIAGNOSIS:**

This species is one of the somewhat borderline *Atracthelophorus/Rhopalhelophorus*, near either *Helophorus altaicus* GANGLBAUER, which has longer aedeagal struts, or the Japanese *H. matsumurai* NAKANE (after Angus in litt., possibly a *Rhopalhelophorus*), but the aedeagophore is more robust and the beetle is a bit different. From *H. frater* D'ORCHYMONT (in which the apical segment of the maxillary palpi is not fully symmetrical too) it differs by the shorter aedeagal struts and the less acute tips of parameres, beside the smaller size.

**DESCRIPTION:**

Length: 2.5 – 3.5; breadth: 1.1 – 1.5 mm.- Aedeagophore: fig. 1.

**H e a d :** shining black with bronze reflections, laterally irregularly granulate, medially areolate. Y-groove with stem shallow and wide, coarsely punctate, expanded anteriorly. Maxillary palpi yellowish, the apical segment not quite symmetrical, apically darkened. Antennae nine-segmented, yellowish brown, the clubs distinctly darker.

**P r o n o t u m :** moderately and evenly arched, widest in the anterior third, the sides weakly curved to the hind angles. Ground colour shining black with yellowish ante-

rior and lateral margins. Internal and middle intervals with obsolete granulation, the externals strongly so. Mid groove straight and shallow, tapering to ends, submedians curving outwards over middle third and sinuate only to the hind end. Submarginals widened anteriorly, rugosely punctate, with deep gap posteriorly. Marginals narrow but distinct.

**Elytra** : distinctly elongate, widest behind mid, tapered apically. Flanks rather narrowly visible from below, strongly striate, all the interstices rather even. Pitchy brown, no sutural mark.

**Legs** : yellow, tarsi with feebly developed swimming hairs.

**Aedeagophore** : distinctly elongate and parallel-sided, the parameres slightly concave at inner side, median lobe with short struts.

**Ecology** : Though little is known about the way of life and habits of this species one can suppose that it takes the same place in the Himalayan mountains as *H. glacialis* VILLA in the European high mountain region.

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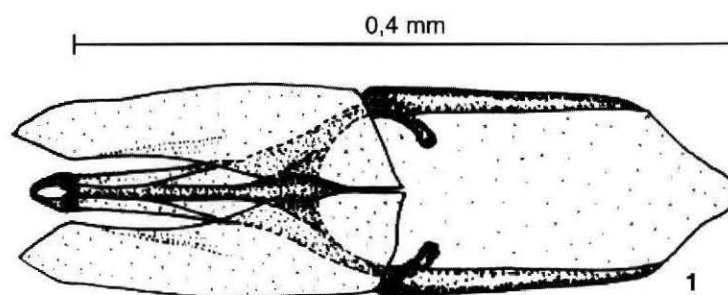


Fig. 1. Aedeagophore of *Helophorus (Atracthelophorus) angusi* sp.n., holotype. (length 0.43 mm)

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