

***Coelostoma (s.str.) togoense* sp.n. from Togo**
(Coleoptera: Hydrophilidae)
by FRANZ HEBAUER

ABSTRACT

Coelostoma (s.str.) togoense sp.n. from Togo (West Africa) is described and illustrated. The new species resembles most *C. jeanneli* MOUCHAMPS, 1958, also *C. injuratum* BALFOUR-BROWNE, 1952, *C. rhodesiense* BALFOUR-BROWNE, 1950 and *C. centrale* MOUCHAMPS, 1958 mainly in the shape of the aedeagus.

KEY WORDS

Coleoptera, Hydrophilidae, Sphaeridiinae, *Coelostoma togoense* sp.n., Togo, Afrotropical region.

INTRODUCTION

The genus *Coelostoma* BRULLÉ, 1835 is distributed almost in the whole world, except the Neotropical region. At present there are known 100 species, 71 of them from Africa. Two revisions are published on the African species by D'ORCHYMONT (1936) and MOUCHAMPS (1958). Several additional descriptions followed by BALFOUR-BROWNE (1939, 1950, 1952, 1958, 1959), by D'ORCHYMONT (1937, 1941) and other authors.

After identification of thousands of *Coelostoma* from all over Africa by the author a larger number of undescribed species is not to be expected. The discovery of the species described here is quite surprising for two reasons, on the one hand that it is extremely close to the East-african *C. jeanneli* BALFOUR-BROWNE, on the other for its evident endemism.

C. togoense resembles furthermore *C. injuratum* BALFOUR-BROWNE, *C. centrale* MOUCHAMPS and *C. rhodesiense* BALFOUR-BROWNE as well as in the surface sculpture as in the shape of the male genitalia.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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***Coelostoma (s.str.) togoense* sp.n.**

Holotypus (male): "TOGO: Umg. Pantala, Tümpel, 17.11.1984, K. ERBER" (Senckenberg Museum Frankfurt).- Paratypes: 1 male: "Togo 93 [handwritten] \ Togo, Bismarckburg, L. Conradt S." [blue, printed label] (coll. mea).

DIAGNOSIS

This species comes next to the East-african *C. jeanneli* MOUCHAMPS in the shape of the aedeagus. Apart from the smaller size and the widely disjunct distribution it can be clearly separated from the former by the basal portion of the median lobe, which have the lateral expansions distinctly wing-shaped (not only shoulder like as in the compared species); furthermore the apical portion with a triangular excavation is more widened.

In *C. rhodesiense* (from Mozambique) with comparable parameres and median lobe the wing-shaped expansions are rather long and point, the apical portion is not widened. In the (much larger, 5.1 mm) West-african *C. injuratum* with comparable parameres the median lobe is not at all widened apically and the 'wing-expansions' are small and less produced, more shoulder like. *C. centrale* has the median lobe parallel-sided, without an apical excavation and with the 'wing-expansions' narrow and point, but it has the same type of parameres.

DESCRIPTION

Total length: 4.5 mm; total width: 2.4 mm.- Oval, widest at shoulders, strongly convex, black, sides of pronotum and elytra narrowly reddish; mouthparts and tarsi yellow; femora, tibiae and underside piceous.

Head, pronotum and elytra moderately finely, evenly densely punctate; punctural interstices c. as wide as punctural diameter; without microsculpture, shining. Pronotum relatively long, c. 2.2 x as wide as long, seen from above; strongly convex, sides strongly narrowed before. Elytra strongly convex, sides not visible from above, c. 1.1 x as long as their combined width at shoulders. Prosternum simply tectiform, without an apical tooth. Profemora glabrous, sparsely punctate and setiferous. Abdomen heavily shagreened; first segment not carinate medially, last segment without an apical excision. Median lobe of aedeagus with a triangular excavation at its tip as in *C. jeanneli* Mouchamps, but the basal portion with lateral expansions distinctly separated and rounded wing-shaped; parameres strongly arcuate and pointed apically as in the compared species, with the tips converging, widely exceeding the median lobe; gonopore situated in apical third (Fig. 1).

DISTRIBUTION:

This species seems to be an endemic of Togo.

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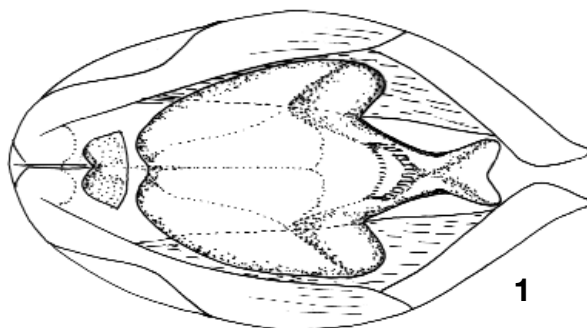


Fig. 1
Coelosoma (s.str.) togoense sp.n.,
male genitalia.

0,5 mm

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