A new species of *Heterotarsus* LATREILLE and other records of arboreal Tenebrionidae (Coleoptera) from Yemen

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**Abstract**

*Heterotarsus yemeniticus* n. sp. (Tenebrionidae: Opatrini) from Yemen is described, additional mostly arboreal tenebrionids of the genera *Cryphaeus*, *Tribolium*, *Gonocnemis* and *Corticeus* are firstly recorded from Yemen.

**Depositories and methods**

**SMNS** Staatliches Museum für Naturkunde, Stuttgart

**SMNK** Staatliches Museum für Naturkunde, Karlsruhe

Photographs were made using a Leica DFC320 digital camera on a Leica MZ16 APO microscope. The digital photographs were subsequently processed with Auto-Montage (Syncroscopy) software.

**The species**

*Cryphaeus taurus* FABRICIUS, 1801

New material: N Yemen, Jebel Burra, 25 km SE Bajil, 1000 m, primary forest, 16.IV.1997, leg. F. BRECHTEL, R. EHRMANN & C. WURST, 3 ex. SMNK, 1 ex. SMNS.

Remarks: The separation in different subspecies should be studied in more detail and is not considered herein.

Distribution: Widespread in Africa south of the Sahara, Madagascar, Comores, Seychelles (GRIMM 2002); Yemen (new record).

*Peltoides longulus* FAIRMAIRE, 1897

New material: N Yemen, wadi 23 km E Mena’scha, 1800 m, 7.V.1998, leg. F. BRECHTEL, R. EHRMANN & C. WURST, 1 ex. SMNK, 1 ex. SMNS.

Remarks: The genus needs a taxonomic revision and probably the described subspecies of *Peltoides capensis* FÅHRAEUS, 1870 (GRIMM 2002) must be raised to species level. The specimens from Saudi Arabia recorded by SCHAWALLER (1993) under *P. longulus*, unfortunately all females, probably represent a new species (GRIMM in litt.).


*Lyphia abyssinica* FAIRMAIRE, 1893

New material: N Yemen, wadi 23 km E Mena’scha, 1800 m, 8.V.1998, leg. F. BRECHTEL, R. EHRMANN & C. WURST, 1 ex. SMNK.

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* Contributions to Tenebrionidae no. 63. – For no. 62 see: Spixiana 30, 2007.
Distribution: Ethiopia, Yemen (KASZAB 1982); Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania (coll. GRIMM).

_Tribolium indicum_ BLAIR, 1931 (Plate 1 a)
New material: N Yemen, wadi 23 km E Manakha, 1800 m, 7.-8.V.1998, leg. F. BRECHTEL, R. EHRMANN & C. WURST, 1 ex. SMNK.
Distribution: India, Senegal, Gambia, Sudan, Niger, Somalia (GRIMM 2002); Saudi Arabia (SCHAWALLER 1993); Yemen (new record); South Africa (material SMNS).

_Gonocnemis senegalensis_ FAIRMAIRE, 1894 (Plate 1 b)
Distribution: Senegal (type locality); Gambia (GRIMM 2002); Ivory Coast, Liberia (material SMNS, ZSM); Congo, Kenya; Yemen (new record).

_Gonocnemis surcoufi_ PIC, 1928 (Plate 1 c)
New material: N Yemen, Sana’a 23 km E Mena’scha, 1800 m, 8.V.1998, leg. F. BRECHTEL, R. EHRMANN & C. WURST, 2 ex. SMNK. – N Yemen, 27 km E Menaakah, 1800 m, 15.V.1998, leg. F. BRECHTEL, R. EHRMANN & C. WURST, 1 ex. SMNK, 1 ex. SMNS.
Distribution: South Africa, Namibia, Zimbabwe, Kenya, Ethiopia (material SMNS, ZSM); Yemen (new record).

_Heterotarsus yemeniticus_ n. sp. (Plate 1 e), Figs. 1–3)
Holotype (3): N Yemen, Jebel Burra, 25 km SE Bajil, 1000 m, 16.IV.1997, leg. F. BRECHTEL, R. EHRMANN & C. WURST, SMNK.
Paratypes: Same data as holotype, 4 ex. SMNK, 3 ex. SMNS.
Etymology: The name refers to the country’s name Yemen where the types have been collected.
Description: Body length 8.5–10.0 mm, body blackish without any metallic shine. Body shape as in Plate 1 e), pronotum (Fig. 1) narrower than elytra, joint elytra oval and widest at apical third, not parallel. Head with similar dense and partly confluent punctation as on pronotum; antenna (Fig. 2) long, medial antennomeres 4-6 distinctly longer than wide. Pronotum widest slightly behind the middle, posterior angles somewhat marked but not rectangular, lateral margin not excavated before the posterior angles, anterior angles completely rounded. Elytra with 9 striae, punctures

![Figure 1-3. Heterotarsus yemeniticus n.sp. – 1. shape of the pronotum; 2. antenna; 3. tip of aedeagus.](https://example.com/image.png)
in striae small and indistinct; all elytral intervals slightly convex, surface of intervals coriaceous and with a few indistinct fine punctures. Last visible ventrite completely bordered. Legs without specific peculiarities, tarsal setae light yellow. Aedeagus see Fig. 3.

Diagnosis: The species can be recognized by the shape of the aedeagus, by the shape of pronotum without rectangular posterior angles, by the oval shape of the elytra, by the antennae with long medial antennomeres, by slightly convex elytral intervals also on the disc, and by a completely bordered last ventrite.

KASZAB (1979) revised the genus containing about 30 species, distributed in the Oriental and African regions, and recognized the above listed characters in the diagnosis as species-specific. In the species-key compiled in the cited revision, \textit{H. yemeniticus} n.sp. runs to the 2-3 species around \textit{yemeniticus} n.sp. runs to the 2-3 species around \textit{yemeniticus} the widespread African \textit{H. bogosicus} MARSEUL, 1876, but these species possess a completely different aedeagus with modified parameres. The widespread African species \textit{H. tenebrioides} GUÉRIN, 1838 has, besides a different aedeagus, a different pronotum with rectangular posterior corners. \textit{H. abessinicus} KASZAB, 1976 from Ethiopia has a long and parallel body size, and also a different aedeagus. FERRER (2005) compared \textit{H. bottegoi} FERRER, 2005 from Somalia with the latter, but the shape of the pronotum and the aedeagus are again different.

Remarks: KASZAB (1982) recorded already a single female of \textit{Heterotarsus} from Yemen, but could not identify the species because of the lack of males. Further records of this genus for the Arabian Peninsula are unknown.

\textit{Corticeus longicollis} (WOLLASTON, 1867) (Plate 1d)

New material: N Yemen, Taizz, wadi Al Dhabab, 18.IV.1997, leg. F. BRECHTEL, R. EHRMANN & C. WURST, 3 ex. SMNK, 2 ex. SMNS.

Distribution: Cape Verde Islands, tropical Africa, Tanzania (GRIMM 2002); Yemen (new record).

\textit{Miltoprepes erythraeus} GRIDELLI, 1939

New material: N Yemen, wadi 23 km E Mena‘scha, 1800 m, 7.-6.V.1998, leg. F. BRECHTEL, R. EHRMANN & C. WURST, 2 ex. SMNK, 1 ex. SMNS. – N Yemen, wadi 27 km E Menaakhah, 1800 m, 15.V.1998, leg. F. BRECHTEL, R. EHRMANN & C. WURST, 1 ex. SMNK.

Distribution: Erythrea, Yemen (KASZAB 1982).

Acknowledgements

Thanks are due to Dr. ALEXANDER RIEDEL (Karlsruhe) for the loan of material under his care and for the possibility to keep some duplicates for the museum in Stuttgart. JOHANNES REIBNITZ (Stuttgart) prepared and arranged the photographs. Dr. ROLAND GRIMM (Tübingen) improved the manuscript by valuable comments.

References


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Tafel 1

Plate 1 a)-e). Dorsal view. – a) *Tribolium indicum*; b) *Gonocnemis senegalensis*; c) *Gonocnemis surcoufii*; d) *Corticeus longicollis*; e) *Heterotarsus yemeniticus* n.sp., holotype.
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