

Redescription of the genus *Teliusa* CASEY (Coleoptera, Staphylinidae: Aleocharinae)

G. PAŚNIK

Abstract: The subgenus *Teliusa* CASEY is redefined. Four valid species are recognized in the genus. The following new synonymies of specific names are proposed: *Teliusa alutacea* CASEY 1906 = *Teliusa malaca* CASEY 1911 syn.n. and *Teliusa sanctaeluciae* (CAMERON 1923) = *Gnypeta basalis* CAMERON 1923 syn.n. Three species are given in new combination: *Teliusa sanctaeluciae* (CAM.) comb.n. (= *Gnypeta sanctaeluciae*), *Teliusa mexicana* (BERNHAEUER 1929) comb.n. (= *Tachyusa mexicana*), *Teliusa gnypetiformis* (BERNHAEUER 1934) comb.n. (= *Tachyusa gnypetiformis*). Lectotypes are designated for *Teliusa alutacea* CASEY, *Teliusa malaca* CASEY and *Gnypeta basalis* CAMERON. The taxa are diagnosed, keyed and illustrated.

Key words: Coleoptera, Staphylinidae, Aleocharinae, *Teliusa*, genus redefinition, new synonyms, new combination, taxonomy, Neotropic.

Introduction

The genus *Teliusa* was established by CASEY (1906) to accommodate the single species *Teliusa alutacea*. CASEY erected the new genus emphasizing as distinguishing character the body and legs covered with dense pubescence, the very slender antennae with all antennomeres longer than wide, the very long legs with metatarsi nearly as long as metatibiae and by the shape of meso- and metasternal processes. Till now, only one other species - *T. malaca* CASEY 1911, from United States (Texas) - has been assigned to *Teliusa*.

In connection with a revision of the World species of Tachyusini genera and in order to clarify the status of *Teliusa*, the types of *T. alutacea* have been reexamined. The results of this study show that *Teliusa* is a valid genus, to which several species previously placed in the genera *Tachyusa* and *Gnypeta* can be added.

The current study aims to provide a redefinition of the scope of the genus, descriptions and illustrations of known species, and a key to all species.

Materials and Methods

Types and additional material from the following institutions were examined. The abbreviations cited below for each institution and private collections are used in all text citations:

- BMNH The Natural History Museum, London (M.J.B. Brendell)
 FMNH..... Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago (P.P. Parrillo, A.F. Newton)
 IRSNB..... Institut Royal des Sciences Naturelles de Belgique, Bruxelles (D. Drugmand)
 ISEA Institute of Systematics and Evolution of Animals PAS, Kraków
 MNHN Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris (N. Berti)
 USNM..... United States National Museum of Natural History, Washington (G. House; via S. Ashe, Kansas)

Dissection of male and female genitalia, mouthparts and terminalia follow the technique of UHLIG & WATANABE (1992). Strongly sclerotized parts of body was bleached in a few drops of lactic acid, rinsed in distilled water and dehydrated in propyl alcohol until all air bubbles disappeared. The dissected parts were mounted on a small plastic slides using Marc Andre No 2 medium (MASSOUD 1967) and placed together with the specimen.

All illustrations were made using a drawing tube on a Leica MZ 12.5 stereomicroscope. Illustrations were scanned into a computer file as bitmap images and modified.

Genus *Teliusa* CASEY 1906 (Figs 1-7)

Teliusa CASEY 1906: 203

Type species: *Teliusa alutacea* CASEY 1906: 203 (by monotypy)

D i a g n o s i s : Body: Small sized, length 2.1-2.4 mm. Body slender, parallel-sided, moderately convex, shiny.

Head circular in outline; eyes large, strongly protruding from lateral contours of head, length of each seen from above longer than postocular region; temples broadly rounded; genae not margined. Antennae long, weakly to moderately increase in width apically, extending to 1/2-3/4 of elytra. Maxillary palpi 4-segmented (Fig. 1), palpomere 1 very short, palpomere 2 elongate, slightly widened apically, palpomere 3 slightly longer than 2, palpomere 4 short, subuliform. Labial palpi 3-segmented (Fig. 2), palpomere 1 elongate, palpomere 2 shorter and narrower than 1, palpomere 3 narrower and much longer than 2. Ligula (Fig. 2) narrow, bifid to about middle, lobes divergent apically. Mandibles (Fig. 4) curved towards apex, right mandible with distinct molar tooth at middle of inner margin. Labrum (Fig. 3) transverse, deeply arcuately emarginate and with characteristic arrangement of setae.

Thorax: Pronotum slightly to distinctly transverse, moderately convex, shiny, widest in apical 1/4, lateral sides sinuately narrowed to hind angles. Hypomera fully visible in lateral view. Mesocoxae moderately narrowly (Fig. 5) to widely (Fig. 6) separated. Mesosternal process varies from narrowly triangular, rounded at apex, extending to 1/2 of mesocoxae and nearly reaching apex of metasternal process (Fig. 5) to wide, broadly rounded at apex, extending to about 1/3 of mesocoxae and separated from wide and truncate apically metasternal process by short, transverse isthmus (Fig. 6).

Elytra: Slightly wider than pronotum, lateral sides moderately arcuate, widest at posterior half, postero-lateral angles weakly sinuate (Fig. 7).

Abdomen: Slightly constricted at base, widest at level of tergites 4 and 5, bases of tergites 3-5 each with shallow transverse impression, impressions smooth, impunctate, sternites 3-5 weakly transversely impressed at base, impressions smooth, impunctate, pubescence on tergites 3-5 directed obliquely outward from middle to postero-lateral

parts. Legs elongate, metatarsus very long, exceeding to 3/4 of metatibia; basal segment of metatarsus subequal in length to following two tarsal segments combined, segments 2 and 3 subequal in length, segment 4 shorter than 3, segment 5 very short; tarsal formula 4-5-5.

Key to the species of *Teliusa*

- 1 Pronotal pubescence at midline directed posteriorly in apical half and anteriorly in basal half..... 2
- Pronotal pubescence at midline directed anteriorly..... 3
- 2 Body brightly coloured, pronotum red, elytra yellow; antennomere 3 shorter than 2; head with fine isodiametric mesh microsculpture..... *T. alutacea* CASEY
- Body obscurely coloured, pronotum and elytra brown; antennomeres 2 and 3 subequal in length, surface of head without microsculpture..... *T. mexicana* (BERNHAEUER)
- 3 Pronotum red; antennomeres 2 and 3 subequal in length; antennomeres 10 and 11 yellowish-white, paler than preceding antennomeres; head and pronotal surface without microsculpture..... *T. gnypetiformis* (BERNHAEUER)
- Pronotum brown; antennomere 3 shorter than 2; antennomeres 10 and 11 brown, coloured as preceding antennomeres; head and pronotal surface with fine isodiametric mesh microsculpture..... *T. sanctaeluciae* (CAMERON)

Teliusa alutacea CASEY 1906 (Fig. 8)

Teliusa alutacea CASEY 1906: 203

Teliusa malaca CASEY 1911: 172 syn.nov.

Redescription: Body: Length 2.2-2.3 mm; convex, parallel-sided, shiny; head brown, pronotum red, elytra yellow, abdomen red with tergite 6 blacken, legs yellow, antennae brown with antennomeres 1-2 red.

Head circular in outline, moderately convex; eyes large, strongly protruding from lateral contours of head, length of each seen from above longer than postocular region; surface of head with fine isodiametric mesh microsculpture; punctuation fine and dense. Antennae very long, extending to 1/2 of elytra, moderately increase in width apically, antennomere 3 shorter than 2, antennomeres 4-8 longer than wide, decrease in length, antennomeres 9-10 as long as wide, antennomere 11 nearly coniform.

Pronotum slightly transverse; convex, widest at anterior 1/3, lateral sides sinuately narrowed to obtuse hind angles; before base with small and shallow transverse impression; surface lacking microsculpture; punctuation fine, dense and slightly asperate; pubescence at midline directed posteriorly in apical half and anteriorly in basal half.

Elytra transverse, at suture as long as pronotal length at midline; surface lacking microsculpture; punctuation fine, dense and weakly asperate.

Abdomen very weakly constricted at base, parallel-sided, bases of tergites 3-5 each with shallow transverse impression, impressions smooth without punctuation, tergal punctuation fine and very dense, surface without microsculpture.

Female: Spermatheca as in Fig. 8. Male unknown.

Remarks: *Teliusa alutacea* is similar to *T. sanctaeluciae* (CAMERON), from which it

can be distinguished by the paler body colour, the antennomere 10 as long as wide, the pronotum lacking microsculpture and by the pronotal pubescence at midline directed posteriorly in apical half and anteriorly in basal half.

Material examined: *Teliusa alutacea* CASEY. Lectotype: ♀: Texas, Brownsville, H.F. Wickham, Casey bequest 1925, type 38900 (USNM). Paralectotype: ♀: same data as lectotype (USNM).

Teliusa malaca CASEY. Lectotype: ♀: Texas, Del Rio, 22-27 June, 955 ft., Casey bequest 1925, type 38901 (USNM).

***Teliusa sanctaeluciae* (CAMERON 1923) comb.nov. (Figs 9-11)**

Gnypeta sanctaeluciae CAMERON 1923: 368

Gnypeta basalis CAMERON 1923: 368 syn.nov.

Redescription: Body: Length 2.2-2.4 mm; convex, parallel-sided, shiny; ground colour dark brown, elytra reddish-brown, abdomen brown with two basal tergites red, legs red, antennae brown with antennomeres 1-2 red.

Head circular in outline, moderately convex; eyes large, strongly protruding from lateral contours of head, length of each seen from above longer than postocular region; surface of head with fine isodiametric mesh microsculpture; punctuation fine and dense. Antennae very long, extending to 1/2 of elytra, moderately increase in width apically, antennomere 3 shorter than 2, antennomeres 4-10 longer than wide, decrease in length, antennomere 11 nearly coniform.

Pronotum transverse; strongly convex, widest at anterior 1/3, lateral sides sinuately narrowed to obtuse hind angles; before base with small and shallow transverse impression; narrowly and shallowly impressed medially; surface with fine isodiametric mesh microsculpture; punctuation fine, dense and slightly asperate; pubescence at midline directed anteriorly.

Elytra transverse, at suture shorter than pronotal length at midline; surface lacking microsculpture; punctuation fine and dense.

Abdomen very weakly constricted at base, subparallel-sided, bases of tergites 3-5 each with shallow transverse impression, impressions with minute punctuation, tergal punctuation fine and very dense; surface without microsculpture.

Male: Aedeagus as in Figs 9-10. Female: Spermatheca as in Fig. 11.

Remarks: See remarks under *T. alutacea*.

Material examined: *Gnypeta sanctaeluciae* CAMERON. Holotype: ♀: St. Lucia, Dr. Cameron (BMNH).

Gnypeta basalis CAMERON. Lectotype: ♂: St. Lucia, Dr. Cameron (BMNH). Paralectotype: ♂: Jamaica, Dr. Cameron (BMNH).

***Teliusa mexicana* (BERNHAEUER 1929) comb.nov. (Figs 12-14)**

Tachyusa mexicana BERNHAEUER 1929: 198

Redescription: Body: Length 2.1-2.3 mm; convex, parallel-sided, shiny; ground colour dark brown, abdomen brown with two basal tergites red, legs red, antennae brown with antennomeres 1-2 red.

Head circular in outline, moderately convex; eyes large, strongly protruding from lateral

contours of head, length of each seen from above longer than postocular region; surface of head without microsculpture; punctuation fine and dense. Antennae very long, moderately increase in width apically, extending to 1/2 of elytra, antennomeres 2 and 3 subequal in length, antennomeres 4-7 longer than wide, decrease in length, antennomeres 8-10 as long as wide, antennomere 11 nearly coniform.

Pronotum slightly transverse; strongly convex, widest at anterior 1/3, lateral sides sinuately narrowed to obtuse hind angles; before base with small and shallow transverse impression; surface lacking microsculpture; punctuation fine, dense and slightly asperate; pubescence at midline directed posteriorly in apical half and anteriorly in basal half.

Elytra transverse, widest at posterior 1/4, at suture as long as pronotal length at midline; surface lacking microsculpture; punctuation fine and dense.

Abdomen very weakly constricted at base, subparallel-sided, bases of tergites 3-5 each with shallow transverse impression, impressions smooth without punctuation, tergal punctuation fine and very dense; surface without microsculpture.

Male: Aedeagus as in Figs 12-13. Female. Spermatheca as in Fig. 14.

Remarks: *Teliusa mexicana* resembles *Teliusa sanctaeluciae* (CAM.), from which it can be easily distinguished by the pronotal pubescence at midline directed posteriorly in apical half and anteriorly in basal half, the antennomeres 8-10 as long as wide, the surface of head and pronotum without microsculpture and by the longer elytra.

Material examined: Holotype: ♂: Mexico, Veracruz, 3.XII.1926, Dampf, Luftkeschung, *Tachyusa mexicana* BRH. Typus (FMNH).

Additional material: Cuba: Prov. Hab., Rio Chmendaras, 4.XII.1932, A. Bierig, 1ex (FMNH). Grenada: Grenada, H.H. Smith, 1ex (IRSNB). Mexico: Veracruz, 29.XII.1926, Dampf, *Tachyusa mexicana* BRH., 1ex (FMNH); Champoton, Campeche, 15.XI.1974, J. Mateu, 2ex (MNHN); Lago Chiapala, 29.V.1972, Palo Alto, 6ex (MNHN); Lago Chiapala, 29.V.1972, Palo Alto, 2ex (ISEA).

***Teliusa gnypetiformis* (BERNHAEUER 1934) comb.nov. (Fig. 15)**

Tachyusa gnypetiformis BERNHAEUER 1934: 410

Description: Body: Length 2.2-2.3 mm; convex, parallel-sided, shiny; head brown, pronotum red, elytra reddish-brown, abdomen red with tergites 5 and 6 black, legs red, antennae brown with antennomeres 1-2 red and 10-11 yellowish-white.

Head circular in outline, moderately convex; eyes large, strongly protruding from lateral contours of head, length of each seen from above longer than postocular region; surface of head without microsculpture; punctuation fine and moderately dense. Antennae very long, moderately increase in width apically, extending to 3/4 of elytra, antennomeres 2 and 3 subequal in length, antennomeres 4-7 longer than wide, decrease in length, antennomeres 8-10 as long as wide, antennomere 11 nearly coniform.

Pronotum slightly transverse; convex, widest at anterior 1/3, lateral sides sinuately narrowed to obtuse hind angles; before base with small and shallow transverse impression; surface lacking microsculpture; punctuation fine, dense and slightly asperate; pubescence at midline directed anteriorly.

Elytra transverse, widest at posterior 1/4, at suture shorter than pronotal length at midline; surface lacking microsculpture; punctuation fine, moderately dense and weakly asperate.

Abdomen very weakly constricted at base, subparallel-sided, bases of tergites 3-5 each

with shallow transverse impression, impressions smooth without punctuation; tergal punctuation fine and very dense; surface without microsculpture.

Female: Spermatheca as in Fig. 15. Male unknown.

R e m a r k s : *Teliusa gnyptiformis* is similar to *Teliusa alutacea* CASEY and *T. sanctaeluciae* (CAM.), but it can be distinguished from both by the antennomeres 10 and 11 yellowish-white, distinctly paler than preceding antennomeres, the antennomeres 2 and 3 subequal in length and by the pronotal punctuation coarser and denser than that on elytra (pronotal punctuation similar in coarseness and density in *T. alutacea* and *T. sanctaeluciae*).

M a t e r i a l e x a m i n e d : Holotype: ♀: Argentinien, Girardet, Santiago del Estero, E. Bruch (FMNH).

Zusammenfassung

Die Untergattung *Teliusa* CASEY wurde neu definiert. Vier valide Arten wurden für die Untergattung anerkannt. Es ergaben sich daraus folgende Synonymisierungen: *Teliusa alutacea* CASEY 1906 = *Teliusa malaca* CASEY 1911 syn.n. und *Teliusa sanctaeluciae* (CAMERON 1923) = *Gnypta basalis* CAMERON 1923 syn.n. Drei Arten wurden neu kombiniert: *Teliusa sanctaeluciae* (CAM.) comb.n. (= *Gnypta sanctaeluciae*), *Teliusa mexicana* (BERNHAUER 1929) comb.n. (= *Tachyusa mexicana*), *Teliusa gnyptiformis* (BERNHAUER 1934) comb.n. (= *Tachyusa gnyptiformis*). Lectotypen wurden für folgende Taxa festgelegt: *Teliusa alutacea* CASEY, *Teliusa malaca* CASEY und *Gnypta basalis* CAMERON. Die Arten wurden besprochen, illustriert und in einen Schlüssel eingebunden.

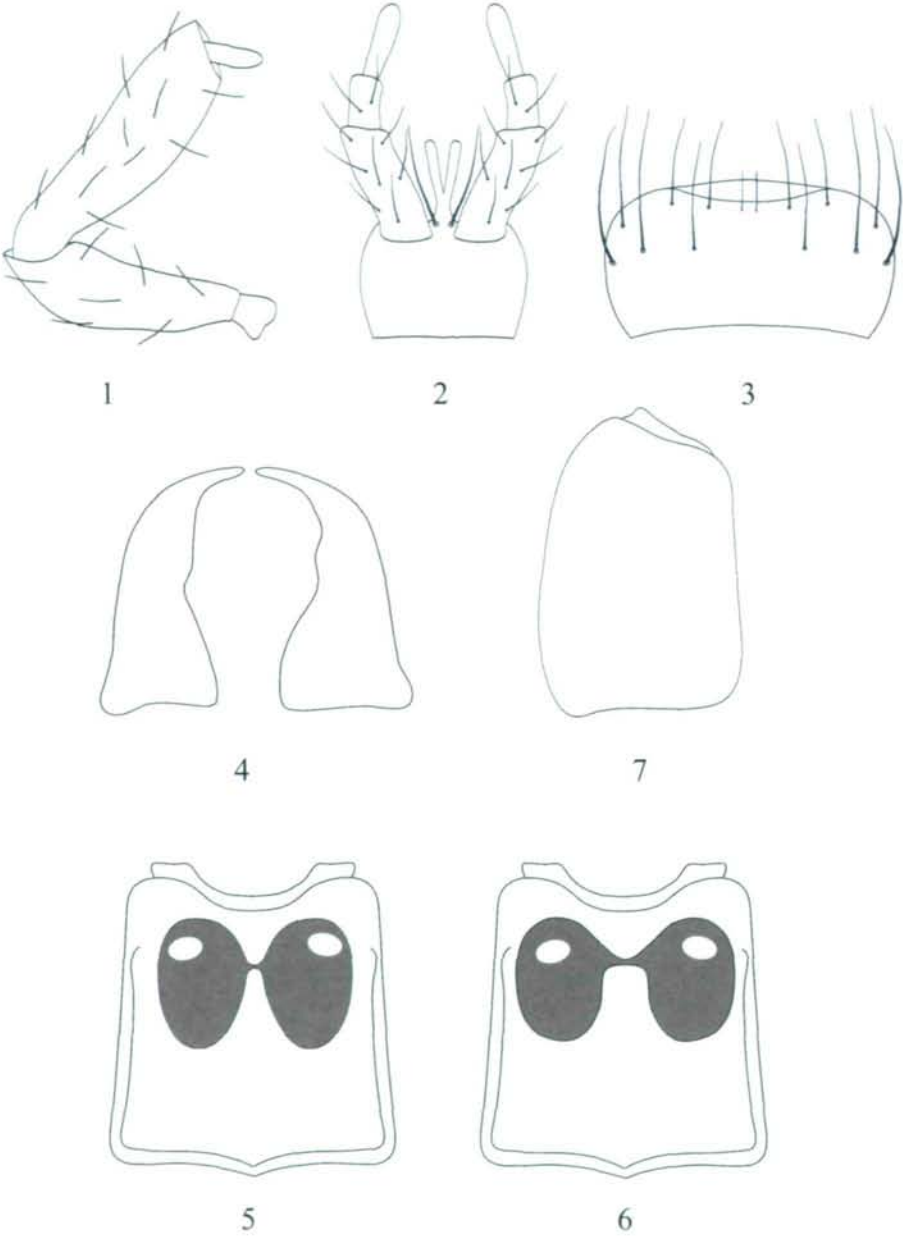
References

- BERNHAUER M. (1929): Neue Staphyliniden aus Mittelamerika. — Wien. Ent. Ztg. **46**: 186-208.
- BERNHAUER M. (1934): Neue Staphyliniden aus Argentinien (Coleoptera). — Rev. Ent. **4**: 407-411.
- CAMERON M. (1923): Descriptions of new species of Staphylinidae from the West Indies. Part II. — Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist. **9** (11): 363-400.
- CASEY T.L. (1906): Observations on the staphylinid groups Aleocharinae and Xantholinini, chiefly of America. — Trans. Acad. Sci. St. Louis **16**: 125-356.
- CASEY T.L. (1911): New American species of Aleocharinae and Myllaeninae. — Memoirs on the Coleoptera **2**: 1-245.
- MASSOUD Z. (1967): Monographie des Neanuridae, Collemboles Poduromorphes à pièces buccales modifiées. — Biol. Am. Austr. CNRS **3**: 1-399.
- UHLIG M. & Y. WATANABE (1992): Revision of the Japanese species of the genus *Erichsonius* FAUVEL (Coleoptera, Staphylinidae, Philonthini). — Mitt. Zool. Mus. Berl. **68**: 3-92.

Author's address:

Dr. Grzegorz PAŚNIK
Institute of Systematics and Evolution of Animals
Polish Academy of Sciences
Sławkowska 17, PL-31 016 Kraków, Poland
E-Mail: pasnik@isez.pan.krakow.pl

739



Figs 1-7: *Teliusa* sp.: maxillary palpus (1), labium (2), labrum (3), mandibles (4), mesosternum and metasternum (5-6), shape of elytron (7).

740

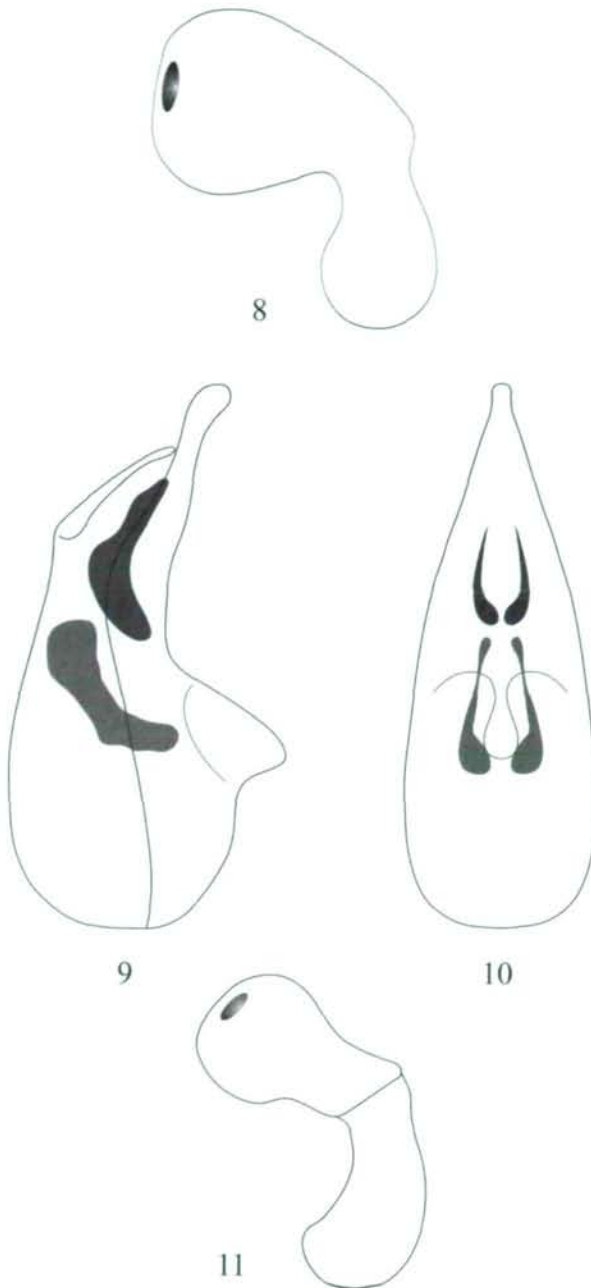
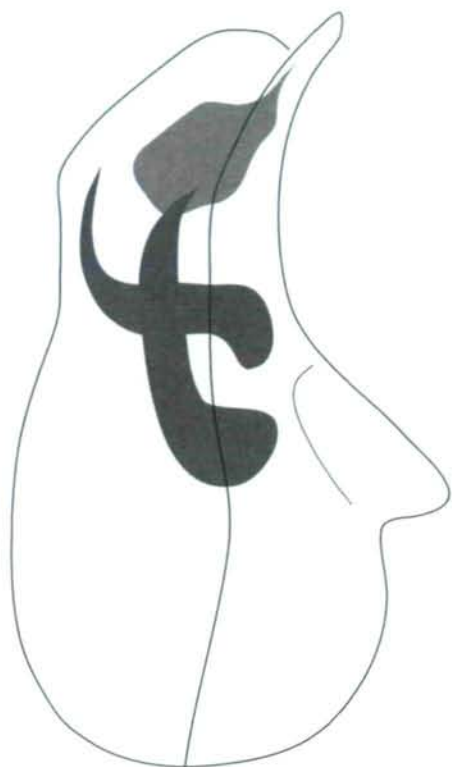
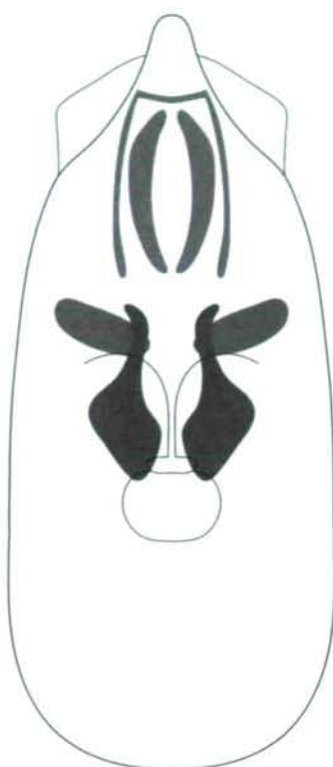


Fig. 8: *Teliusa alutacea* CASEY: spermatheca. **Figs 9-11:** *Teliusa sanctaeluciae* (CAMERON): aedeagus in lateral view (9), aedeagus in ventral view (10), spermatheca (11).



12



13



14



15

Figs 12-14: *Teliusa mexicana* (BERNHAEUER): aedeagus in lateral view (12), aedeagus in ventral view (13), spermatheca (14). **Fig. 15:** *Teliusa gnypetiformis* (BERNHAEUER): spermatheca.

ZOBODAT - www.zobodat.at

Zoologisch-Botanische Datenbank/Zoological-Botanical Database

Digitale Literatur/Digital Literature

Zeitschrift/Journal: [Linzer biologische Beiträge](#)

Jahr/Year: 2005

Band/Volume: [0037_1](#)

Autor(en)/Author(s): Pasnik Grzegorz

Artikel/Article: [Redescription of the genus *Teliusa* CASEY \(Coleoptera, Staphylinidae: Aleocharinae\) 733-741](#)