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A new species of *Corticeus* PILLER & MITTERPACHER from Ethiopia

(Coleoptera: Tenebrionidae: Diaperinae: Hypophlaeini)

Roland GRIMM

Abstract

Corticeus (*C.*) *wachteli* sp. n. from Ethiopia is described, illustrated, and compared with *C. (C.) riparius* (BREMER, 1995) from Somalia.

Introduction

The species of the genus *Corticeus* PILLER & MITTERPACHER, 1783, (Tenebrionidae: Diaperinae: Hypophlaeini) of the Ethiopian region were revised by BREMER (1985, 1987, 1995, 1999). Additional species from Madagascar and South Africa were described by BREMER (1995, 1999, 2015) and DAJOZ (1994). The state of the knowledge about the genus in South Africa at that time, with additional records from Botswana, Mozambique, Namibia, and Zimbabwe was given by SCHAWALLER (2010). Newly collected material in Ethiopia yielded a new species which is described below.

Acronyms of depositories

CRG Collection Dr. Roland GRIMM, Neuenbürg, Germany
ZSM Zoologische Staatssammlung München, Munich, Germany

Corticeus (C.) wachteli sp. n. (Figs 1, 2)

Holotype: ♂, Ethiopia, Oromia, S of Omar, 1220 m, 06°54.346'N/40°51.004'E, 10.V.2012, leg. F. WACHTEL (CRG).

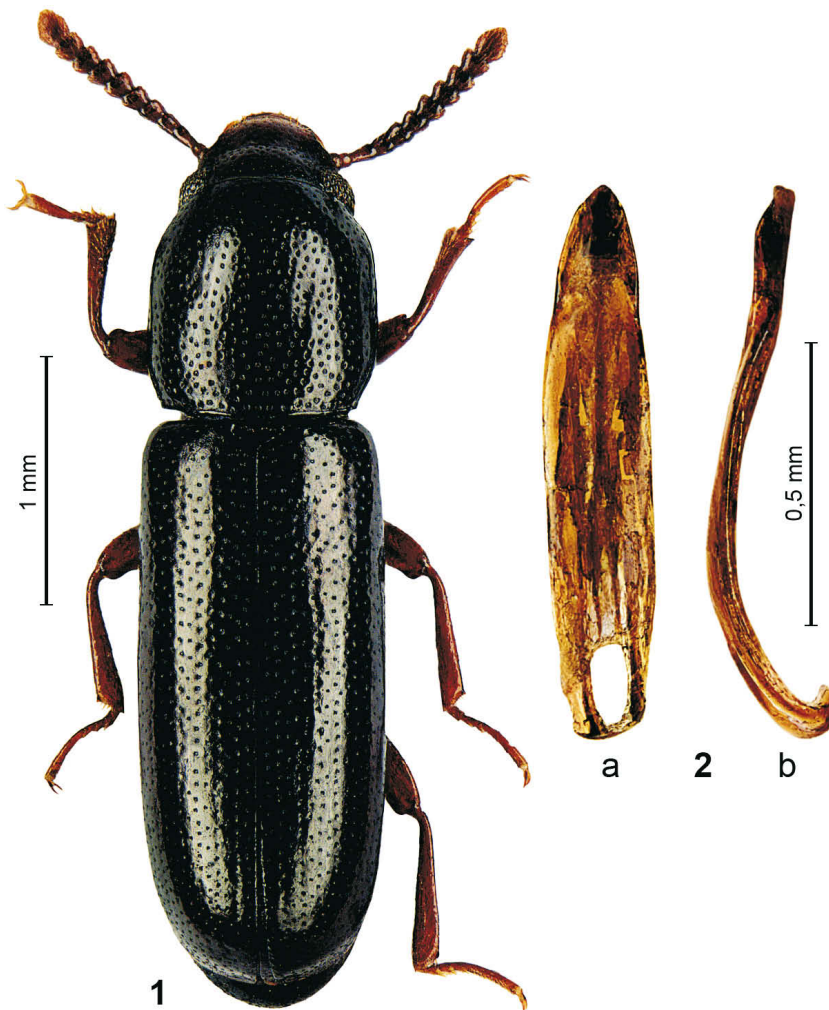
Paratypes: Same data as holotype, 1 ♀ (CRG), 1 ♀ (ZSM).

Derevatio nominis: This species is named in honour of Franz WACHTEL (Egling, Germany), the collector of the type specimens.

Description: Black, appendages paler, blackish brown to brown; body length 3.7–4.0 mm, body width 0.9–1.0 mm; subcylindrical.

Head widest across middle of eyes, nearly uniformly, coarsely punctured; punctures on frons somewhat denser than on clypeus. Frons convex transversely. Fronto-clypeal suture faintly incised. Clypeus subtrapezoidal and well separated from genae. Genae nearly straight converging towards clypeus. Frons between eyes as wide as anterior border of clypeus. Eyes small, on underside not reaching base of maxillar palpes, the distance between eyes surpassing distinctly the width of mentum. Antennae short, antennomeres 5–11 combined club-like widened, widest at their apices, except antennomere 11 which is ovate and longer than precedent antennomeres of club.

Pronotum about as long as wide, length/width ratio 1.04–1.07; strongly convex transversely; uniformly punctured as on head, but somewhat finer and less dense. Surface weakly shagreened. Apical and basal borders broadly arcuate, basal border not emarginate before basal angles. Lateral borders nearly straight, apically slightly arcuate towards anterior angles, basally feebly, nearly straight converging towards basal



Figs 1–2: *Corticeus (C.) wachteli* sp. n. **Fig. 1.** Dorsal view. **Fig. 2.** Aedeagus, **a** dorsal, **b** lateral.

angles. Basal and lateral borders distinctly margined, apical border only finely margined. Apical angles obtusely rounded, basal angles obtuse. Prosternum very coarsely punctured. Prosternal apophysis convex longitudinally, declivous behind procoxae; very narrow between procoxae, widened towards apex and here twice as wide as between coxae.

Elytra convex transversely, somewhat flattened dorsally; subparallel sided, length/width ratio 2.3–2.4; ratio length elytra/length pronotum 2.4–2.5; punctured as on pronotum, with somewhat irregularly primary and secondary rows. Surface shagreened as on pronotum. Pygidium half-elliptic, uniformly convex, punctured as on head, but somewhat denser. Mesoventrite densely, coarsely punctured. Metaventricle with apical border between mesocoxae margined; coarsely, but only scattered punctured. Abdominal ventrite 1 apically coarsely, densely punctured, remaining part and ventrites 2–3 only scattered punctured, ventrites 4–5 densely punctured.

Legs short. Pro- and mesotibiae on their outside terminating in a tooth. Femora elongated, length/height ratio of metafemora 4.0–4.4. Tarsal formula 5–5–4.

Aedeagus see Fig. 2.

Differential diagnosis: In the determination keys of BREMER (1995) *Corticeus* (*C.*) *wachteli* **sp. n.** would run to *C. (C.) riparius* BREMER, 1995 from Somalia. However, the latter is somewhat more elongate, with elytra continuously convex transversely. *C. riparius* distinguish distinctly in the shape of pronotum, with markedly apical and nearly acute basal angles, because as well lateral borders as basal border are emarginate before basal angles. The prosternal apophysis between procoxae is distinctly wider and only faintly widened towards apex. The femora are stouter, length/height ratio of metafemora is 3.0, and the punctuation on underside is predominantly coarser and denser. The apicale of aedeagus of *C. wachteli* **sp. n.** is stouter and less converging towards apex than in *C. riparius*, and the basale has an asymmetric base with a small drawout on the right side which seems to lack in *C. riparius* (compare Fig. 2 with BREMER 1995: Abb. 48 C; D).

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Zusammenfassung

Corticeus (*C.*) *wachteli* **sp. n.** aus Äthiopien wird beschrieben, abgebildet und mit *C. (C.) riparius* (BREMER, 1995) aus Somalia verglichen.

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