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A new species of *Wollastoniella* REUTER from Kenya, with a brief note on *W. gatti* GHAURI

(Insecta, Heteroptera, Anthocoridae)

With 6 Figures

M. S. K. GHAURI [1])

London

Abstract. Amongst a small collection of Anthocoridae submitted for identification by the Commonwealth Institute of Biological Control, Kenya, was found a single male belonging to the genus *Wollastoniella* REUTER and representing a hitherto undescribed species. The members of this genus are predators and although so far only seven species are known, its distribution is very wide from Madeira Island in the west through west and east Africa to Java (Indonesia) in the east. The species of *Wollastoniella* are easily identifiable mainly on the basis of kind of setae on corium, size of cuneus in relation to corium and especially the shape of male paramere. The new species *Wollastoniella azizi* is described in the following pages. A key to the know species of *Wollastoniella* is provided and a brief note on *W gatti* GHAURI is also given.

Introduction

Wollastoniella REUTER (1884) is a small genus of Anthocoridae, a family of predator bugs which are considered useful in integrated control of pests. This genus remained monotypic for a long time, almost 74 years, until in 1958 CARAYON added four new species. In 1980 (GHAURI, 1980) a sixth species was described. These were all from Africa or African "off shore" islands of Madeira and Madagascar. In 1982 (CARAYON, 1982) a seventh species was added to *Wollastoniella*, but this time it was from Asia, Java, Indonesia to be more precise. Now, one more new species, i. e. the eighth member of this genus is being described.

Wollastoniella are small bugs of 2 – 2.55 mm length and therefore not easily collected. This seems to be the most probable reason of short series of individuals for species varying from single to 4 specimens each. Four out of eight species are represented by single specimens. Fortunately the kind of hairs on corium, the size of cuneus in relation to length of remaining corium and male genitalia are good constant characters for species identification and therefore the meagre material has not been a problem for describing new taxa.

In addition to the description of the new species *Wollastoniella azizi* sp. n., a key based on an earlier one by CARAYON (1958) is provided to separate the eight species of this genus so far known and a brief note on *W gatti* GHAURI is also added.

Genus **Wollastoniella** REUTER

REUTER, 1884 122. Type species *Capsus? obesulus* WOLLASTON, 1858: 124, by monotypy

[1]) C.A.B. International Institute of Entomology, c/o British Museum (Natural History), Cromwell Road, London SW7 5BD (UK)

Wollastoniella azizi sp. n. (Figs. 1–5)

Colour Body black, hair (setae) golden and semi-curved (Fig. 2), eyes and ocelli probably reddish but in the preserved specimen, almost colourless and so are the antennae and legs.

Size In mm, in table 1.

Table 1. Size of male of *Wollastoniella azizi* sp. n. (in mm).

Width of head across eyes	0.42	Length of antennal segment IV	0.22
Width of head between eyes	0.22	Length of pronotum in middle	0.34
Width of eye	0.10	Width of pronotum at base	1.09
Distance between ocelli	0.20	Width of pronotum at apex	0.57
Width of ocellus	0.04	Width of sctutellum at base	0.57
Space between eye and ocellus	0.03	Length of scutellum	0.34
Length of head	0.30	Length of costal margin	0.74
Length of antennal segment I	0.06	Length of cuneus	0.20
Length of antennal segment II	0.26	Maximum body width at apex of clavus	1.09
Length of antennal segment III	0.20	Length of body	2.00

Structure Body oblong, anterior margin of pronotum and most of lateral laminate; scutellum an equilateral triangle; clavus equal to corium (minus cuneus); cuneus as long as 1/5th length of corium; membrane normal, not especially ovate (Fig. 1); ratio of antennal segments I, II, III, IV as 1 4.5 3.5 3.7 Male paramere with first process in form of a flagellum long and thin, second process reduced to, if at all, a small tooth and the third like a sharp tooth (Fig. 4), bulbus ejaculatris moderately long (Fig. 5); pygophore with long setae (Fig. 3).

Material examined Holotype ♂, Siaya, Kenya, 7 II. 1985 (C.I.B.C., Kenya), 173; No. 14, C.I.E.A. 17512; on *Cassava*; deposited in B.M. (N.H.), London.

Remarks The new species *W azizi* sp. n. is closely related to *W obesula* by possessing semi-curved hairs (setae) on corium and general similarity in the shape of its paramere. However, it differs from the latter by its shorter cuneus and its flagellate and thin first process of paramere; this process in *W obesula* is thicker and shorter (cf. Fig. 4 with fig. 15 by CARAYON, 1958.

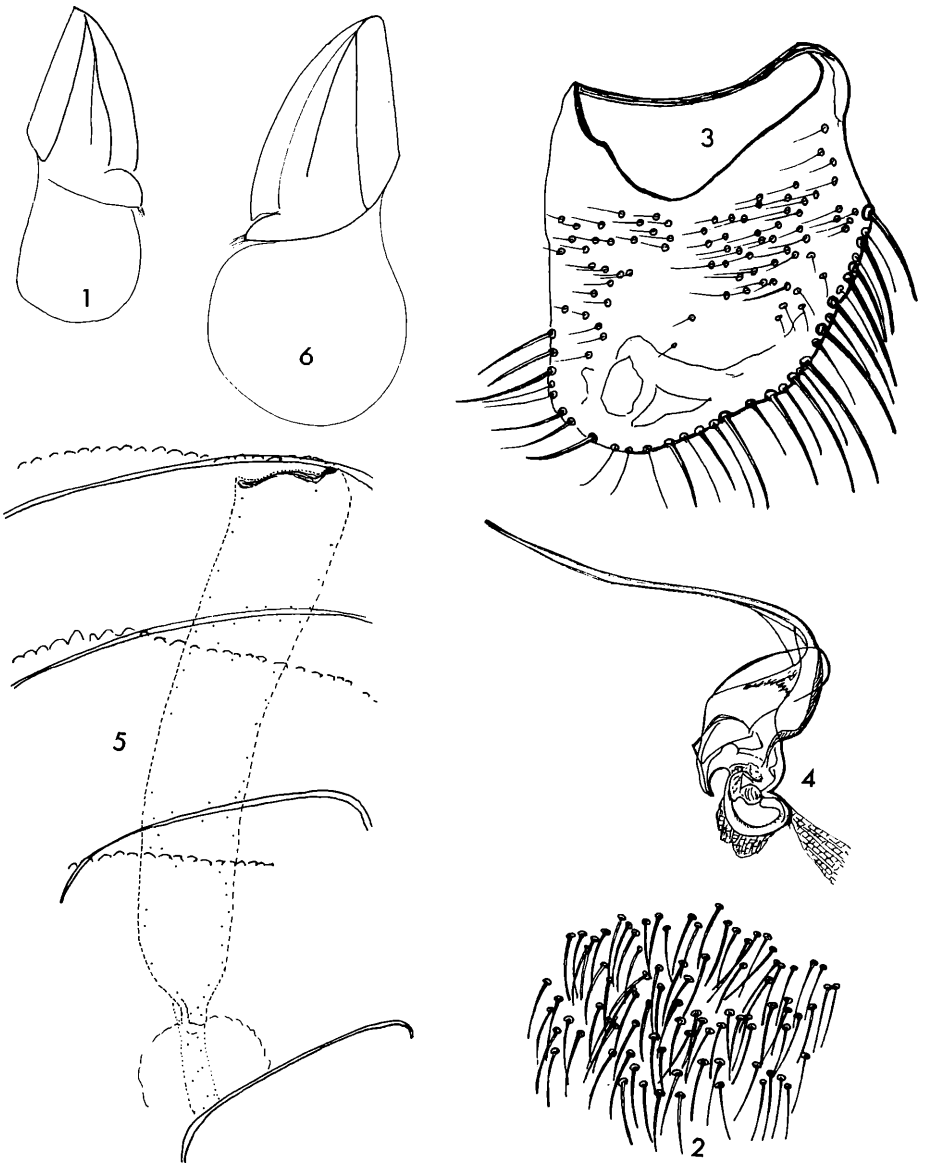
The new species is named in honour of my friend Mr. AZIZUDDIN AHMED, who is connected with Banking in London. But, like his illustrious father, AHMED ABDUL AZIZ, AZIZ JUNG WILLA, author of several encyclopaedic books such as "HAYATUL HAMAM" a voluminous scientific treaty on domestic pigeons, his hobbies include Calligraphy and Rubber-engraving, which combine study of Science and Art.

W. gatti GHAURI (1980) (Fig. 6)

Description of some parts of this species were omitted to save space. Now these are given. The cuneus is very small compared to the rest of the corium, it is equal to $^1/_8$th length of the latter; their actual size being: Length of corium alone 1.30 mm; Length of cuneus 0.16 mm.

Key to species of *Wollastoniella*

1. Hairs on surface of hemelytra curved. 2
— Hairs on surface of hemelytra straight.
2. Cuneus minute, its length less than $^1/_{12}$th total length of corium. (Java, Indonesia) **W. testudo** CARAYON
— Cuneus not very small, its length not less than $^1/_8$th total length of corium. (Africa) 3
Length of cuneus equal to about $^1/_8$th of total length of corium; paramere with all three processes fully developed. (Nigeria) **W. gatti** GHAURI
— Length of cuneus $^1/_5$th to $^1/_3$rd total length of corium; paramere with 2nd process poorly developed. 4



Figs. 1–5. *Wollastoniella azizi* sp. n. 1, tegmen; 2, setae (hairs) on corium; 3, pygophore; 4, paramere; 5, bulbus ejaculatris. – Fig. 6. *Wollastoniella gatti* GHAURI, tegmen.

4. Length of cuneus equal to $^1/_3$rd length of corium; paramere with 2nd and 3rd processes poorly developed; hairs on corium clearly curved. (Madeira Island)
W. obesula (WOLLASTON)

— Length of cuneus equal $^1/_5$th total length of corium; paramere with 3rd process pointed, 2nd process if at all identified, shaped like a small tooth; hairs on corium half curved (Fig. 2). (Kenya) **W. azizi sp. n.**

5. Body colour uniformly black; hairs on corium short and very dense. (Cote d'Ivoire)
W. nigra CARAYON

— Body not uniformly black; hairs on corium of medium length and well spaced. 6

6. Fovea of scutellum well developed; head and scutellum light-brown; remaining parts of body dark-brown. (Arusha, Tanzania) **W. bifoveata** CARAYON
— Fovea of scutellum absent or hardly visible; colour uniformly brown. 7
7 Pronotum crudely punctate (12–15 µm); a clear cross at apex of membrane. (Madagascar) **W. punctata** CARAYON
— Pronotum finely punctate (5–7 µm); membrane uniformly smoky. (Chari, Tchad) **W. ferruginea** CARAYON

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