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On Genus *Cyphonoxia* REITTER, with Description of a New Species from India (Insecta, Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae)

With 9 Figures

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Abstract. Description of *Cyphonoxia delhiensis* sp. n. from Delhi, India. The diagnostic characters of the genus and the differences from the other known Indian species are evaluated.

Genus *Cyphonoxia* REITTER

Cyphonoxia RTT.: REITTER, 1889, Ent. Zeit. 8: 776; BRENSKE, 1894, Mem. Soc. Ent. Belg. 2: 26; DALLA TORRE, 1912, JUNKS Col. Cat. Pars 45: 254.

Cyphonotus FISCH.: FISCHER, 1823–24, Entom. Russ. 2: 215; SHARP, 1876, Col. Hefte 15: 85; KRAATZ, 1888, Dtsch. Ent. Zeit. 32: 205; REITTER, 1889, Ent. Zeit. 8: 776; SEMENOV, 1903, Rev. Russe Ent. 3: 15.

Diagnosis Uniform dull obscure reddish colour; clypeus rectangular, projected forward, anterior angles very sharp, margins strongly reflexed, sides somewhat elevated before eyes; antennae 10-segmented, short, club 5-segmented; segment III shorter than IV, antennal lamellae of male somewhat shorter than all other segments together; pronotum scaly, hairy, with a denuded patch on either side; scutellum triangular, rounded at apex; elytra with two indistinct longitudinal striae and weakly projecting shoulders; fore tibiae tridentate, middle and hind tibia with two thorn-like teeth on outer side; claws equal, inner one with a small tooth at base, outer one with doubly large tooth.

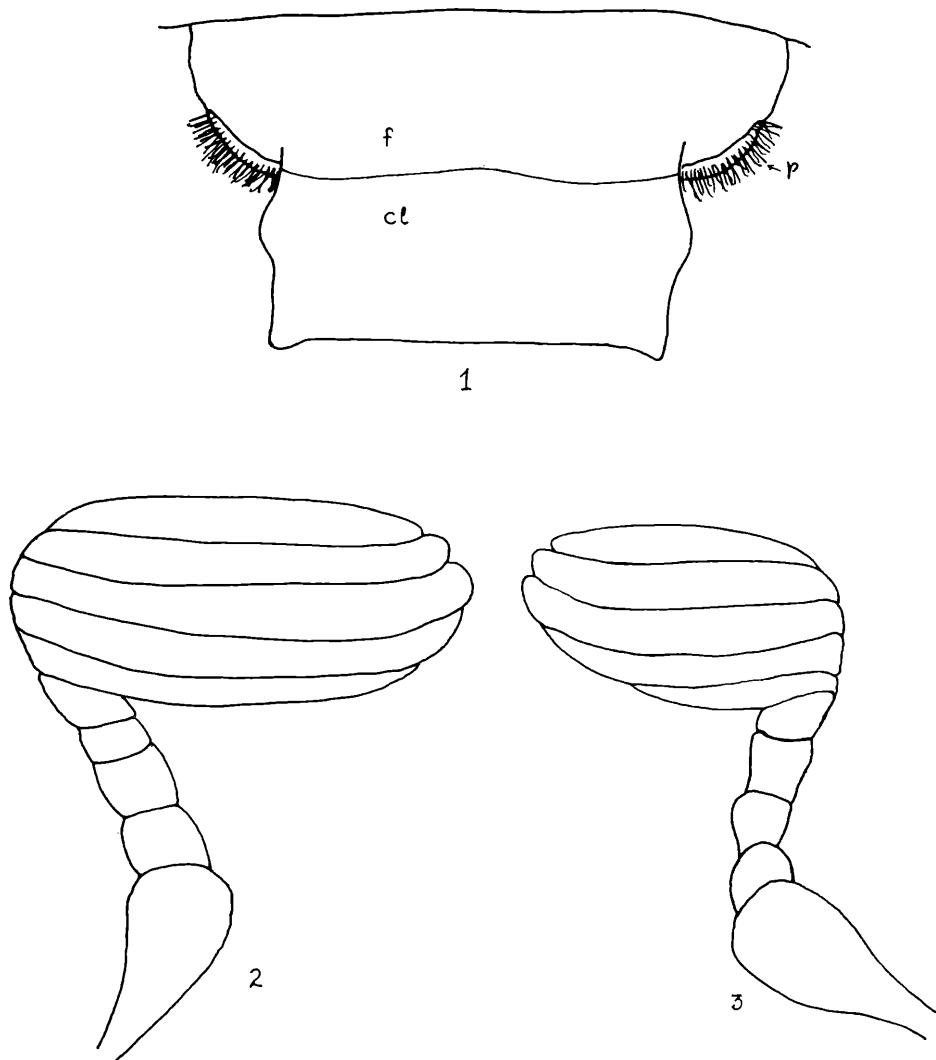
Distribution India, Pakistan, Iraq, USSR.

The genus *Cyphonoxia* (= *Cyphonotus*) has been much discussed and is still apparently very little known. It seems, however, to be very distinct genus, not only on account of the structure of the male but also by reason of more atrophied trophi, the labial palps and tibia; also the mandibles and maxillae are much reduced in size. So far, only one species *C. zemindar* SHARP (= *indiana* BLANCHARD, *?nivea* HAMPE) is known from India (DALLA TORRE, 1912). The present studies include description of a second species from Delhi, India.

Cyphonoxia delhiensis sp. n. (Figs. 1–9)

Male Body elongate, convex, compact, reddish brown with extremities of all tibiae and tarsi dark brown; upper surface, abdomen and pygidium scaly, lower surface clothed with long, pale-yellowish hairs anteriorly and short hairs posteriorly.

Clypeus rectangular, margins very strongly reflexed, front margin almost straight, laterally very strongly sinuate anteriorly, elevated posteriorly, anterior angle very acute; forehead divided by curvilinear suture, frons strongly rugose, sides strongly punctate, vertex almost smooth, very finely punctate, with a slight depression in middle, short yellowish hairs on the sides; eyes large; antennal club 5-segmented, segment I largest, broadened posteriorly, segment II almost equal to III, segment IV shortest, about half of preceding two segments; pronotum convex, unevenly, strongly deeply punctate, with two small, denuded spots on either side, front angles obtuse, hind angles more than right angles, broadly lobed at base;

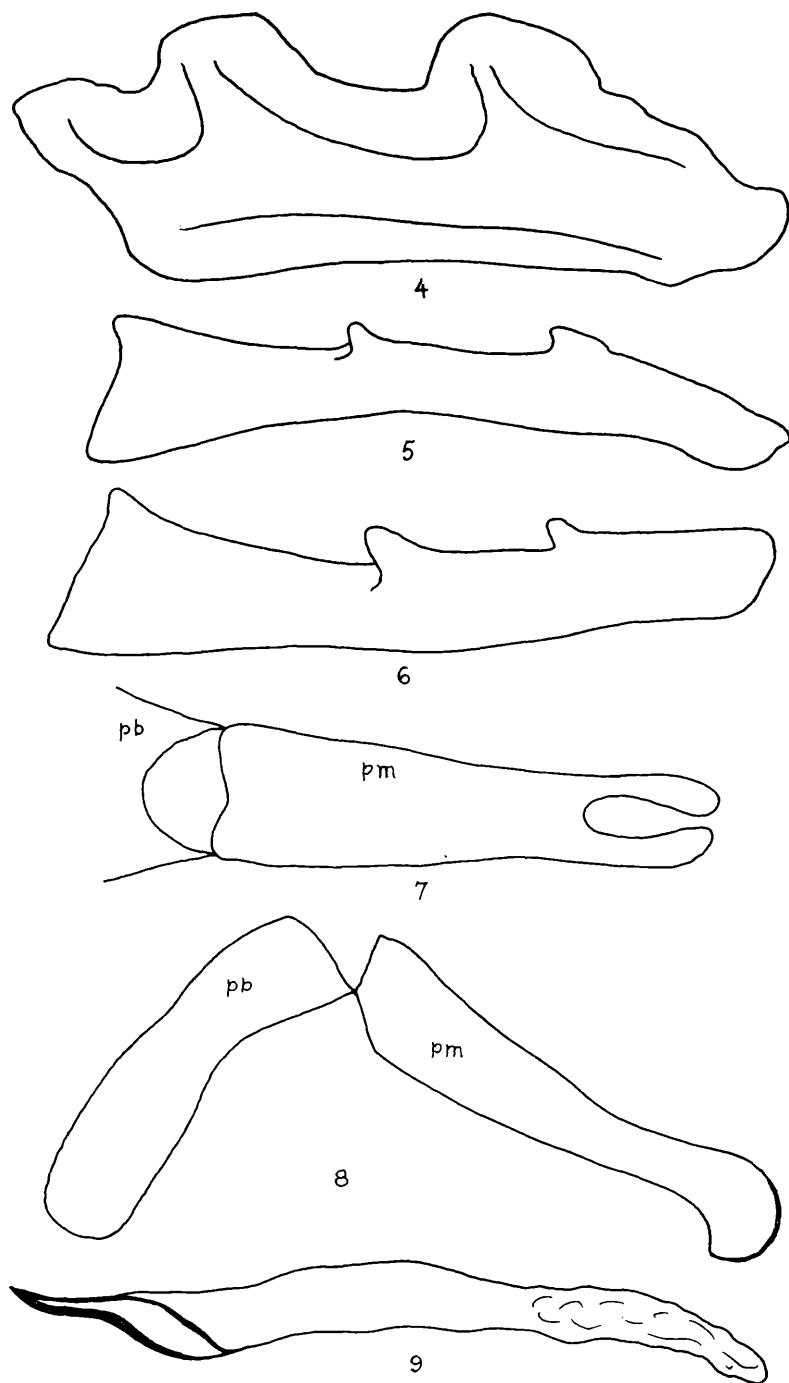


Figs. 1–3: *Cyphonoxia delhiensis* sp. n. 1: Head showing clypeus and frons – 2: antenna, male – 3: antenna, female.
p: paraocular lobe, cl: clypeus, f: frons, pm: paramere, ph: phallobase.

scutellum rounded at apex, densely punctate, with a median longitudinal smooth line; elytra coarsely, rugosely punctate, with short, few scattered scales on disc, rather densely at apex; sternum very finely, densely punctate, covered with scales and dense pale yellowish hairs; fore tibiae very strongly tridentate, with blunt teeth, almost covering whole length, tarsi rather small, claws toothed; pygidium almost triangular, lateral margins reflexed, densely covered with pale decumbent hairs.

Genitalia Male genitalia very long, slender; phallobase at an angle with parameres, uncovered on ventral side, parameres longer than phallobase, consolidated three-fourth of length on dorsal side, apex almost rounded, endophallus membranous and very long.

Size Length 19.0–20.5 mm; breadth 8.5 mm.



Figs. 4-9: *Cyphonoxia delhiensis* sp. n. 4: Fore tibiae — 5: middle tibiae — 6: hind tibiae — 7: male genitalia, dorsal — 8: male genitalia, lateral — 9: endophallus.

Female Similar to male, except fifth segment of antennal club small, ramus rather blunt and sharp, pygidium somewhat longer.

Material examined Holotype: ♂, Delhi, 23. VII. 1984, Coll. R. K. ANAND. Paratype: ♀, Delhi, 3. V 1979, at light, Coll. R. K. ANAND. Both holotype and paratype deposited in National Pusa Collection, IARI, New Delhi.

Remarks Very little is known about this genus. The new species described differs from the only known Indian species *C. zemindar* SHARP by reduced mandibles and maxillae, labial palpi exceedingly abbreviated and extremely small ligula in *C. zemindar*, punctuation on pronotum and elytra and the shape of tibiae.

Cyphonoxia zemindar (SHARP)

Cyphonoxia zemindar (SHARP): SHARP, 1876, Col. Hefte 15: 85 (*Cyphonotus*); REITTER, 1889, Ent. Zeit. 8: 776; BRENSKE, 1894, Mem. Soc. ent. Belg. 2: 26.

= *indiana* BLANCHARD, 1850, Cat. Coll. Ent. 1: 162 (*Cyphonotus*).

= ? *nivea* HAMPE, 1852, in WAGNER, Reise: 311 (*Anoxia*).

Diagnosis Uniform dull, obscure reddish colour; clypeus hollow, lateral and front margins raised, blackish in colour, little emarginate in front, lateral margins sinuate on each side, quite acute; head closely punctate, with fine white setae; pronotum rather long, sides curved and narrowed in front, front angles quite obtuse, hind ones rectangular, surface evenly convex, densely, coarsely punctate, sprinkled with white setae, more distinct on sides; scutellum densely, finely punctate; elytra densely, rugosely punctate, bearing extremely fine, short inconspicuous white setae; pygidium closely clothed with white setae; under surface clothed with pale dense pubescence except hind body which bears white setae.

Distribution India.

Remarks There are three male specimens of this species in Laferte's collection, labelled *Cyphonotus zemindar* REICHE, India.

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References

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ZOBODAT - www.zobodat.at

Zoologisch-Botanische Datenbank/Zoological-Botanical Database

Digitale Literatur/Digital Literature

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