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A new *Henoticus* Thomson, 1868 from South Africa (Coleoptera: Cryptophagidae)

Jens Esser

Abstract

One new species of *Henoticus* Thomson, 1868, *H. acutioculis* **n. sp.**, from South Africa is described.

Keywords: Coleoptera, Cryptophagidae, *Henoticus*, Afrotropical Region, South Africa, new species.

Zusammenfassung

Anhand von Material des Staatlichen Museums für Naturkunde Stuttgart wird eine neue Art der Gattung *Henoticus* Thomson, 1868 (Cryptophagidae) beschrieben. Sie stellt den bislang einzig bekannten Vertreter der Gattung aus Südafrika dar, sieht man mal von dem nahezu kosmopolitisch verbreiteten *Henoticus californicus* (Mannerheim, 1843) ab, der auch nach Südafrika verschleppt wurde (Bruce 1956). Von den übrigen 18 Henoticus-Arten der Afrotropis unterscheidet sich die neue Art besonders durch den Bau der Augen.

Contents

1 Introduction 59
2 Material and Methods 59
3 Systematic account 59
3.1 *Henoticus acutioculis* **n. sp.** 59
3.2 Catalog of afrotropical *Henoticus* Thomson, 1868 60
4 References 60

1 Introduction

Currently, species of *Henoticus* Thomson, 1868 are known from the most zoogeographical regions like the Holarctic, Neotropical and Afrotropical Region and and few species from the Oriental Region. About 34 valid species are described, 18 species from the Afrotropical Region (without Madagascar). The most afrotropical species are distributed in East Africa, where they were found in higher altitudes restiricted to more or less small areas. One species is described from Cameroon. No species was described or recorded from South Africa except *H. californicus* (Mannerheim, 1843), a cosmopolitan species. *H. minor* Bruce, 1965 and *H. rhodesiensis* Bruce, 1965 occur in Zimbabwe and are recorded relatively close to the locus typicus of the new species described below.

Acknowledgements

I am grateful to Wolfgang Schawaller for the loan of series of *Henoticus acutioculis* **n. sp**.

2 Material and methods

The material examined is deposited in the following collections:

SMNS: Staatliches Museum für Naturkunde, Stuttgart
cES: Author´s private collection, Berlin

Morphological studies were conducted using a Euromex DZ 1605 and Euromex BB.1153.PLI microcope. Photographs were created with a ToupCam 14MP (ToupTek).

Body length was measured from the head to the apex of the elytra, length of pronotum in the middle, broadness on the broadest part

3 Systematic account

3.1 *Henoticus acutioculis* **n. sp.** (Fig. 1)

Type material

Holotype: "RSA: Mpumalanga Prov., Marieskop Forest Reserve, 1300–1600 m, 21.–26.XI.2008, leg. W. Schawaller" (SMNS). Paratypes: 3 ♂♂, 6 ♀♀ with the same data as holotype (SMNS, cES).

Etymology

The specific epithet is composed of the Latin adjective acutus (acute) and the noun oculus (eye) due to the acute eyes.

Description

Male, 1,7 mm, reddish-brown, slightly convex. Legs and antennae pale and slender, tarsi five-segmented except hind tarsi in male (four-segmented). Fore tarsi (segment 1

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to 4) are widened in male. Antennae slender, club three-segmented and well defined. Segments 3 to 8 are more or less elongate, segments 9 and 10 moderately transverse, segment 11 conical. Head with eyes strongly acute. Pronotum large, convex, sides moderately rounded, widest behind the middle, margin denticulate. Pronotum strongly and densely punctated, with deep impression at base. Elytra less strongly and densely punctated, widest at the end of the basal third, backward more straight, rounded in the basal third. Hind wings absent. Body covered with yellow pubescence composed of shorter decumbent hairs and (only on elytra) longer hairs forming rows and more erected.

Comparative notes

The new species is similar to many afrotropical species from mountain ranges that are also wingless or have reduced wings. *Henoticus acutioculis* **n. sp.** is easily distinguishable by its strong, acute eyes. Other species have rounded or strongly hemispherical eyes.

3.2 Catalog of afrotropical *Henoticus* Thomson, 1868

***Henoticus* species**	Described from
acutioculis n.sp.	South Africa
basilewskyi Bruce, 1960	Tanzania
bimaculosus Bruce, 1960	Tanzania
burgeoni Bruce, 1952	D. R. Congo
californicus (Mannerheim, 1843)	South Africa (introduced)
convexus Bruce, 1952	D. R. Congo
elgoensis Bruce, 1963	Kenya
incertus Bruce, 1960	Tanzania
meruensis Bruce, 1960	Tanzania
minor Bruce, 1965	Zimbabwe
montanus Bruce, 1960	Tanzania
productus Bruce, 1963	D. R. Congo
pumilus Bruce, 1953	Cameroon
rotundatus Bruce, 1959	D. R. Congo
rhodesiensis Bruce, 1965	Zimbabwe
ruthae Bruce, 1960	Tanzania
scotti Bruce, 1960	Tanzania
splendidus Bruce, 1963	Kenya
vagus Bruce, 1963	D. R. Congo
variabilis Bruce, 1960	Tanzania

Figure 1. *Henoticus acutioculis* **n. sp.,** paratype, male.

4 References

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