

New Records of Jewel Beetles (Coleoptera: Buprestidae) from Kenya

Vladimir Sakalian¹, Hans Mühle² & Georgi Georgiev³

¹Institute of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Research, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, 1 Tsar Osvoboditel Blvd., 1000 Sofia, Bulgaria; E-mail: vladimir.sakalian@gmail.com

²Hofangerstr. 22a, 81735 München, Germany; E-mail: muehle@t-online.de

³Forest Research Institute, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, 132 St. Kliment Ohridski Blvd., 1756 Sofia, Bulgaria; E-mail: ggeorgiev.fri@gmail.com

Abstract: One new genus (*Nickerleola*) and 32 species and subspecies of jewel beetles (Coleoptera: Buprestidae) are reported for the first time for the fauna of Kenya. The new records have increased the number of known buprestid genera in Kenya up to 55, and the total number of known species and subspecies up to 531.

Key words: Coleoptera, Buprestidae, new records, East Africa, Kenya.

Introduction

After the summarising paper by SAKALIAN & GEORGIEV (2013), there are nine publications (CURLLETTI 2012, 2016, 2017, 2018; BÍLÝ 2014; BELLAMY 2014; BÍLÝ & SAKALIAN 2014; KRAJCIK 2015; PREPSL 2016) containing information about descriptions of new species and subspecies, new species status of one subspecies as well as new country records for 22 buprestid taxa from Kenya. This work reports data about the records of one genus (*Nickerleola* Obenberger, 1923) and 32 species and subspecies of jewel beetles (Coleoptera: Buprestidae) new for the fauna of Kenya.

Materials and Methods

The present paper is based mainly on the large collection of Hans Mühle (currently deposited in the Zoologische Staatssammlung München). We also use data from some other collections mentioned in the text below. The faunistic list includes recent nomenclature, localities of the specimens in Kenya and general distribution of the recorded taxa.

Results

Subfamily Julodinae Lacordaire, 1857

Tribe Julodini Lacordaire, 1857

Neojulodis (*Protojulodis*) *myrmido myrmido* (Fairmaire, 1882)

Kabarnet (Baringo Distr.), 26 April 1997, 1 specimen, leg. S. Hovorka, det. Mühle (coll. Barries). General distribution: Ethiopia, Somalia, Tanzania and Uganda.

Subfamily Polycestinae Lacordaire, 1857

Tribe Acmaeoderini Kerremans, 1893

Acmaeodera (*Paracmaeodera*) *punctatissima* Thomson, 1878

Makueni County: Kibwezi, 930 m, 02°25'S – 037°57'E, April 1978, 2 specimens, leg. V. Allard, det. Mühle (coll. Puchner). General distribution: Democratic Republic of Congo, Namibia, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Acmaeodera (*Ptychomus*) *foudrasi foudrasi* Solier, 1833

Meru: Gatunga, 5 April 1987, 5 specimens, leg. M. Snizek, det. Holm; Isiolo, 800 m a.s.l., 15 October 1982, 2 specimens; Taita-Taveta: Voi (Tsavo), 22 November – 2 December 1996, 3 specimens, leg. M. Snizek; Amboseli National Park, Kilimanjaro Safari Lodge, ex. larva, April

1987, 1 specimen, leg. R. Mourglia, det. Mühle (coll. Mühle). General distribution: Chad, Djibouti, Egypt, Ethiopia, Niger, Nigeria, Somalia and Sudan.

***Acmaeodera (Rugacmaeodera) vicina pusilla* Kerremans, 1907**

Meru: Gatunga, 5 April 1987, 2 specimens, leg. R. Mourglia, det. Holm; Mwingi, 14 May 2007, 1 specimen, leg. M. Halada, det. Mühle (coll. Mühle). General distribution: Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Senegal, South Africa, Sudan, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Subfamily Galbellinae Reitter, 1911

Tribe Galbellini Reitter, 1911

***Galbella (Galbella) auberti* Théry, 1930**

Nguni E, Ngomeni, 11 May 2007, 1 specimen, leg. M. Snizek, det. Mühle (coll. Mühle). General distribution: Sudan.

***Galbella (Galbella) postuma* Bellamy, 1986**

Nguni E, Ngomeni, 11 May 2007, 1 specimen, leg. M. Snizek, det. Mühle (coll. Mühle). General distribution: Somalia.

Subfamily Chrysochroinae Laporte, 1835

Tribe Chrysochroini Laporte, 1835

***Steraspis piliventris* Kerremans, 1914**

Kilifi, 3 January 1914, 1 specimen, det. Curletti (coll. Mühle). General distribution: Eritrea and Tanzania.

Tribe Evidini Tôyama, 1987

***Evides gambiensis* (Laporte & Gory, 1835)**

Materi (Mitunguu), 800 m a.s.l., 18 October 1982, 2 specimens; 8 April 1987, 3 specimens, leg. R. Mourglia, det. Mühle (coll. Mühle). General distribution: Democratic Republic of Congo, Mozambique, South Africa and Tanzania.

Tribe Sphenopterini Lacordaire, 1857

***Sphenoptera (Hoplistura) cyanipes* Quedenfeldt, 1886**

Diani Beach, 9-19 April 1990, 1 specimen, leg. U. Schmidt, det. Niehuis (coll. Mühle). General distribution: Angola, Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo and Gabon.

***Sphenoptera (Tropaeopeltis) cylindrica cylindrica* Kerremans, 1898**

Nkubu, 1500 m a.s.l., 12-25 October 1982, 1 specimen, leg. R. Mourglia; Kitale: Kapenguria, 2300 m a.s.l., 22-27 December 1995, 1 specimen, leg. M. Snizek, det. Niehuis (coll. Mühle). General distribution: Angola, Somalia, South Africa and Tanzania.

***Sphenoptera (Tropaeopeltis) piscis* Kerremans, 1898**

Ikutha, date unknown, 1 specimen, det. Mühle (coll. Mühle). General distribution: Guinea and Tanzania.

Tribe Dicercini Gistel, 1848

***Lampetis (Spinthoptera) bottegoi* (Kerremans, 1910)**

Lokichohio, 5 January 1985, 1 specimen, leg. T.

Romig, det. Mühle (coll. Mühle). General distribution: Ethiopia.

***Lampetis (Lampetis) limbalis limbalis* (Laporte & Gory, 1837)**

Mombasa, February 1973, 1 specimen, leg. Daniel, det. Mühle (coll. Mühle). General distribution: Angola, Congo, Guinea, Tanzania and Democratic Republic of Congo.

***Lampetis (Lampetis) lomii* (Obenberger, 1940)**

Voi (Tsavo), 24-28 January 1996, 1 specimen, leg. M. Snizek, det. Mühle (coll. Mühle). General distribution: Somalia.

Subfamily Buprestinae Leach, 1815

Tribe Anthaxiini Gory & Laporte, 1839

***Anthaxia (Cratomerus) crassa* Obenberger, 1922**

Nairobi National Park, ex. larva from *Acacia* sp., November 1984, 1 specimen, leg. R. Mourglia, det. Bílý (coll. Mühle); Materi (Mitunguu), 800 m, 18 October 1982, 1 specimen, leg. R. Mourglia, det. Bílý (coll. Mühle). General distribution: Congo and Namibia.

***Anthaxia (Anthaxia) hyperlasia* Obenberger, 1928**

Kuku Plain, Kimana, Amboseli – Tsava, ex. larvae from *Acacia* sp., July 1986, 4 specimens, leg. R. Mourglia, det. Bílý (coll. Mühle). General distribution: South Africa.

***Anthaxia (Haplanthaxia) cobosi* Descarpentries & Mateu, 1965**

Samburu National Park, ex. larvae from *Acacia* sp., 2 specimens, leg. R. Mourglia, det. Bílý (coll. Mühle). General distribution: Niger.

***Anthaxia (Haplanthaxia) katangae* Obenberger, 1924**

Nairobi National Park, ex. larva from *Acacia* sp., November 1984, 1 specimen, leg. R. Mourglia, det. Bílý (coll. Mühle). General distribution: Congo, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

***Anthaxia (Haplanthaxia) uzeli* Obenberger, 1931**

Tsavo, ex. larvae from *Acacia* sp., 3 specimens, date unknown, leg. R. Mourglia, det. Bílý (coll. Mühle). General distribution: South Africa.

***Chalcogenia argodi* Kerremans, 1909**

Nairobi National Park, ex. larva from *Acacia* sp., November 1984, 1 specimen, leg. R. Mourglia, det. Bílý (coll. Mühle). General distribution: Ethiopia, Somalia.

***Chalcogenia embrikiella* Obenberger, 1936**

Nkubu, 1500 m a.s.l., 12-25 October 1982, 1 specimen, leg. R. Mourglia, det. Bílý (coll. Mühle). General distribution: South Africa.

Tribe Actenodini Kerremans, 1890

***Megactenodes capitosa* Théry, 1934**

Loitokitok, 16 December 1903, 1 specimen, leg. Hovoika, det. Mühle (coll. ?); Kakamega forest, 1600 m a.s.l., March 2008, 1 specimen, leg. A. Puchner, det. Barries (coll. Mühle). General distribution: Congo.

***Megactenodes chrysifrons* (Quedenfeldt, 1886)**

Kakamega Forest, 1600 m a.s.l., March 2008, 1

specimen, leg. A. Puchner, det. Barries (coll. Mühle). General distribution: Angola, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of Congo and Guinea.

Tribe Chrysobothrini Gory & Laporte, 1838

Chrysobothris (Chrysobothris) empyrea Gerstäcker, 1871

Marsabit, 10 km N, 14 April 1992, 2 specimens, leg. T. Romig; Malindi, Wateru beach, ex. larva from *Acacia* sp., April 1985, 1 specimen; Tsavo park, Ngulia Lodge, ex. larva from *Ficus* sp., October 1985, 2 specimens, leg. R. Mourglia, det. Barries (coll. Mühle). General distribution: Somalia and Tanzania.

Subfamily Agrilinae Laporte, 1835

Tribe Agrilini Laporte, 1835

Agrilus (Diplolophotus) nubeculosus nubeculosus Fairmaire, 1890

Lodwar, 20 December 1995, 2 specimens, leg. M. Snizek, det. Curletti (coll. Mühle). General distribution: Djibouti, Egypt, Ethiopia, Israel, Libya and Sudan.

Agrilus (Duttus) exoletus exoletus Obenberger, 1935

Road Lbisil to Namanga, 1200-1550 m a.s.l., 18 June 2003, 5 specimens, leg. V. Sakalian, det. Sakalian (coll. Sakalian); Wuzndanyi, 6-8 June 1997, 1 specimen, leg. Kudrna, det. Curletti (coll. Mühle). General distribution: Ethiopia.

Agrilus (Duttus) lukuledianus lukuledianus Kerremans, 1907

Isiolo Mts., 800 m a.s.l., 5 December 1983, 3 specimens, leg. R. Mourglia, det. Mühle (coll. Mühle). General distribution: Democratic Republic of Congo, Mozambique, Somalia and Tanzania.

Agrilus (Lilliput) argyrothrix Obenberger, 1935

Kakamega Forest, Yala, 1600 m, 00.10°N – 034.52°E, January-February 2002, 1 specimen, leg. W. Freund, det. Curletti (coll. Mühle). General distribution: Cameroon.

Agrilus (Melagrilus) tessmanni Curletti, 1994

Kakamega Forest, Busumbuli, 1600 m a.s.l., 00.27°N – 034.88°E, January 2003, 1 specimen, leg. W. Freund & C. Schmidt; Kakamega Forest, Yala 1600 m a.s.l., 00.10°N – 034.52°E, January 2003, 2 specimens, leg. W. Freund & C. Schmidt; Kakamega Forest, Yala 1600 m a.s.l., 00.10°N – 034.52°E, January-February 2002; September-October 2001, 1 specimen, leg. W. Freund, det. Curletti (coll. Mühle). General distribution: Equatorial Guinea.

Agrilus (Personatus) ukerewensis Obenberger, 1941

Kajiado, 1900 m a.s.l., Namanga – Mackakos, 5 January 2008, 3 specimens, leg. Puchner, det. Mühle (coll. Puchner). General distribution: Tanzania.

Agrilus (Robertius) delenitor delenitor Obenberger, 1935

Kakamega Forest, Isiukhu 1600 m a.s.l., 00.27°N – 034.88°E, January 2003, 1 specimen; Kakamega Forest, Yala, 1600 m a.s.l., 00.10°N – 034.52°E, January 2003, 1 specimen, leg. W. Freund & C. Schmidt;

Kakamega Forest, Busumbuli, 1600 m a.s.l., 00.27°N – 034.88°E, September-October 2001, 1 specimen, leg. W. Freund; Kakamega Forest, Kisere, 1600 m a.s.l., 00.40°N – 034.90°E, September-October 2001, 1 specimen; Kakamega Forest, Yala, 1600 m a.s.l., 00.10°N – 034.52°E, September-October 2001, 1 specimen, leg. W. Freund & Th. Wagner, det. Curletti (coll. Mühle). General distribution: Cameroon and Ivory Coast.

Agrilus (Robertius) pacatus Kerremans, 1913

Kakamega Forest, Busumbuli 1600 m a.s.l., 00.27°N – 034.88°E, January-February 2002, 1 specimen; September-October 2002, 1 specimen, leg. W. Freund, det. Curletti (coll. Mühle). General distribution: Democratic Republic of Congo and Ivory Coast.

Nickerleola raffrayi (Théry, 1930)

Nkubu, 1500 m a.s.l., 12-25 October 1982, 1 specimen, leg. R. Mourglia, det. Bellamy (coll. Mühle). General distribution: Tanzania.

Sjoestedtius semotus (Péringuey, 1908)

Malindi, 10.05.1977, 1 specimen, leg. Haas, det. Kubáň (coll. Mühle). General distribution: Zimbabwe.

Discussion

The new records in this study have increased the total number of reported jewel beetles species and subspecies in Kenya up to 531. The genus *Nickerleola*, represented by seven species distributed in Africa, is new for the fauna of Kenya. This record has increased the total number of known buprestid genera in this country up to 55.

The species richness and distribution of jewel beetles of Kenya is still not studied in details. We can expect descriptions of new taxa as well as new country records in the future. The presented high diversity level of known genera, species and subspecies mirrors the favourable conditions for distribution of buprestids in Kenya.

Acknowledgments: We are very grateful to Dr. W. Barries (Germany), Dr. C. Bellamy (USA), Dr. S. Bílý (Czech Republic), Dr. G. Curletti (Italy), Dr. E. Holm (South Africa), Dr. V. Kubáň (Czech Republic), Dr. M. Niehuis (Germany) for identification of part of the reported species and subspecies.

References

- BELLAMY C. L. 2014. A new genus *Billbarrellus*, for *Eulasiodora singularis* Obenberger, 1931 (Coleoptera: Buprestidae: Agrilinae: Coraebini). *Giornale italiano di Entomologia* 13 (59): 429-434.
- BÍLÝ S. 2014. A supplement to the revision of the *Anthaxia* (Haplantaxia) *kheiliana* Species-group (Coleoptera: Buprestidae: Buprestinae: Anthaxiini). – *The Coleopterist Bulletin*, 68 (1): 41-43.
- BÍLÝ S. & SAKALIAN V. P. 2014. A revision of the *Anthaxia* (Hap-

- lanthaxia*) *mashuna* species-group (Coleoptera: Buprestidae: Buprestinae). Acta entomologica musei nationalis Pragae 54 (2): 605-621.
- CURLETTI G. 2012. La foresta di Kakamega in Kenya: nuove specie del Genere *Agrilus* CURTIS, 1825 (Coleoptera, Buprestidae). Giornale italiano di Entomologia 13 (57): 17-24.
- CURLETTI G. 2016. Taxonomic notes on the African genus *Pseudagrilus* (Coleoptera, Buprestidae). Giornale italiano di Entomologia 14 (61): 263-284.
- CURLETTI G. 2017. Genere *Agrilus* Curtis, 1825: nuove descrizioni e conferme (Coleoptera, Buprestidae). Rivista piemontese di Storia naturale 38: 281-293.
- CURLETTI G. 2018. Nuove specie afrotropicali di *Agrilus* (Coleoptera, Buprestidae). – Giornale italiano di Entomologia, 15 (63): 15-36.
- KRAJCIK M. 2015. New taxa of Lepidoptera and Coleoptera from Palaearctic and Afrotropical regions. Animma.x 67: 1-17.
- PREPSL S. 2016. New taxa of African Acmaeoderinae (Coleoptera: Buprestidae). Giornale Italiano di Entomologia 14 (61): 463-480.
- SAKALIAN V. & GEORGIEV G. 2013. New data about the diversity of jewel beetles (Coleoptera: Buprestidae) in Kenya. Acta Zoologica Bulgarica 65 (4): 457-460.

Received: 09.10.2017

Accepted: 07.11.2017