Bubastoides kadleci sp. nov. from Yemen (Coleoptera: Buprestidae: Bubastini)

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Kerremans (1909) described the strange buprestid genus Bubastoides Kerremans, 1909 (type species: B. argodi Kerremans, 1909, by monotypy) from Somalia, which was later (Obenberger, 1920a) attributed to the Australian tribe Bubastini Obenberger, 1920 together with the genera Bubastes Laporte & Gory, 1836, Eububastes Obenberger, 1930, Euryspilus Lacordaire, 1857, Neobubastes Blackburn, 1892, Neurybia Théry, 1910, Notobubastes Carter, 1924, Paratassa Marseul, 1882, Schoutedenia Obenberger, 1924 and Strandiola Obenberger, 1920. Some of these genera were later synonymised with other taxa or transferred to different tribes so that the tribe Bubastini comprises at present (Bellamy, 2003) only the genera Bubastes, Bubastoides, Euryspilus, Microcastalia Heller, 1891, Notobubastes and Strandiola.

In 2005, another specimen of Bubastoides was collected by Czech entomologists in Yemen and after having studied the female holotype of B. argodi (Muséum national d’ Histoire Naturelle, Paris), I found that the specimen from Yemen belongs to a new species which is described below.

Bubastoides kadleci sp. nov.

(Figs. 1, 3, 5)

Type specimen. Holotype (female): “W Yemen, Jabal Bura, NEE of Al Hudaydah [52 km NNE of Al Hudaydah], 14°52”N 43°24E, 225-600 m, 30.x.–1.xi.2005, lgt. S. Kadlec”; holotype deposited in the National Museum, Prague.

Diagnosis. Medium-sized, cylindrical, convex, dark bronze; dorsal surface glabrose, head with several short, white setae above antennal cavities and along inner margins of eyes; ventral surface with sparse, rather long, white pubescence (erect on sternal portion, recumbent on ventrites); laterosternites, metepisterna, outer margin of prosternum and ventrites and apical portion of anal ventrite with cream-white tomentum; labrum and legs with short, dense, white pubescence; dorsal surface dark metallic bronze, ventral surface bronze with red reflections, tarsi and antennae black with green lustre.

Description of the holotype. Head relatively large, as wide as anterior pronotal margin, frons slightly convex, vertex convex, about 5 times as wide as width of eye; eyes small, widely elliptical, not projecting beyond outline of head; frontoclypeus deeply, triangularly emarginate; vertex with fine, lustrous, medial line; antennae very short, reaching anterior third of lateral pronotal margins; scape curved, pear-shaped, 2.5 times as long as wide; pedicel slightly triangular, 1.2 times as long as wide; third antennomere conical, 1.5 times as long as wide, antennomeres 4-10 sharply triangular, slightly wider than long; terminal antennomere ovoid; sculpture of frons consisting of rough, deep, dense, somewhat longitudinally prolonged punctures with tiny central grains; sculpture of vertex finer consisting of simple, deep punctures. Pronotum slightly wider than elytra, very convex, 1.13 times as wide as long without any laterobasal depressions; anterior margin widely lobate, posterior margin deeply bisinuate; lateral margins regularly rounded, posterior fifth straight, posterior angles sharp; posterior margin opposite to scutellum with small, deep, elongate fovea; pronotal sculpture consisting of deep, rounded punctures which are larger, deeper on lateral portion than on disc; pronotum with indistinct, smooth medial line reaching from basal pit as far as to anterior margin. Scutellum very small, poorly visible, convex, slightly longer than wide.

Elytra evenly convex, 2.35 times as long as wide across humeri, subparallel at anterior two thirds, regularly acuminate at apical third; each elytron with slightly projecting sutural spine, apical sixth of lateral margins finely, sharply serrate; humeral convexities very small, nearly indistinct, epipleura well-developed, narrow, reaching apical sixth of elytral margins; sculpture rugose, nearly homogenous, consisting of dense, rough, sometimes transversely fused punctures; suture slightly depressed at anterior fourth, somewhat elevated at posterior fourth.

Accepted by C. Bellamy: 21 Mar. 2008; published: 16 Apr. 2008