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Description of a new species of *Bothinodroctonus* Schedl, 1969 (Coleoptera: Curculionidae, Scolytinae) from Africa

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Abstract

A new species of *Bothinodroctonus* in the tribe Polygraphini is described from Gambia and Kenya. This is the first representative of the genus in Afrotropical region. A holotype based description contains also the intraspecific variety of the newly described species based on available specimens and differential diagnoses to species within the genus.

Key words: Bark beetles, Polygraphini, *Bothinodroctonus bicinctus* taxonomy, Afrotropical region, Gambia, Kenya

Introduction

The tribe Polygraphini Chapuis consisted of eight genera according the last revision given by Wood (1986), but recently one more genus, *Dolurgocleptes* Schedl was added (Jordal 2009). Some genera, e.g. *Polygraphus* Erichson and *Carphoborus* Eichhoff consist of numerous species; *Polygraphus* is distributed nearly world-wide, but *Carphoborus* is restricted to Holarctic region. Other genera contain few species, 1 to 7 depending on the genus (Wood & Bright 1992; Bright & Skidmore 1997, 2002). These genera are not frequently collected and specimens are not widely available.

We acquired four bark beetle specimens in Polygraphini which seem to be the same species though with rather curious geographical distribution, one locality in western and the other one in eastern tropical Africa. They are morphologically distinct from all species within the tribe, but have a majority of morphological characters fitting the genus *Bothinodroctonus*, described by Schedl (1969).

Bothinodroctonus consists of three all Oriental species: *B. bicinctus* Schedl, 1969, the type species of the genus, from Indonesia (Borneo) (Schedl 1969); the subsequently described *B. indicus* Wood, 1988, occurring in India and Sri Lanka and *B. setosus* Wood, 1988, from the Andaman Islands (Wood 1988, Maiti & Saha 2009). Wood (1986) mentioned existence of four species within the genus, with distribution from India to Borneo and China, but only three species have been placed in the genus. The newly described species here is the first representative of the genus in Afrotropical region.

Methods

Specimens of the newly discovered species were compared to representatives of all known genera within the tribe Polygraphini (Wood 1986; Alonso-Zarazaga & Lyal 2009). Basic information about the particular species were taken from Wood and Bright (1992), Bright and Skidmore (1997, 2002) and Bright (2014). Terminology of morphology corresponds with different taxonomical studies of Polygraphini (e.g. Bright 1976; Wood 1982, 1986).