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Rediscovery of the enigmatic *Stenosternus costatus* Karsch (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae: Orphninae) from São Tomé Island

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Stenosternus Karsch, 1881 is one of the least-known genera of the Orphninae scarab beetles. It was described from a single specimen of the odd-looking *S. costatus* Karsch, 1881, from the island of São Tomé, Gulf of Guinea, West Africa. Karsch (1881) originally placed *Stenosternus* in the “Copridae” but later moved it to the Orphninae (Karsch, 1887). Since then, no more findings of *S. costatus* have been reported. The genus was redescribed by Frolov (2013) from the holotype of *S. costatus* and provisionally placed in the tribe Aegidiini Paulian based on a number of putative synapomorphies (Frolov, 2012). However, the material limited to only one male specimen did not allow the author to clarify which of its unique characters might be malformations or be sex dependent.

We discovered additional specimens of both sexes of *S. costatus* housed in the Museo Civico di Genova, Genova, Italy (MCGI) and California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, California, United States of America (CASC). In this note we describe a female of *S. costatus* and discuss the species distribution and the taxonomic position of the genus. Material used in this work is housed in the above-mentioned institutions. Photographs were taken with a Leica MZ9.5 stereo-microscope and a Leica DFC290 digital camera from dry specimens. Partially focused serial images were combined in Helicon Focus software (Helicon Soft Ltd.) to produce completely focused images. Photographs were not altered except for digital enhancing with Adobe Photoshop (Adobe Inc.): levels and tone correction, background elimination.

Stenosternus costatus Karsch, 1881

Additional material examined. SÃO TOMÉ AND PRÍNCIPE: São Tomé Island: Vista Alegre, 200–300 m, 0°19'00"N 6°40'59"E, X.1900, 3 males, 1 female, XI–X.1900, 3 males, 2 females, L. Fea leg. (MCGI); Agua Ize, 400–700 m, XII.1900, L. Fea leg, 1 female (MCGI); Parque Nacional Obo, forest between Lagoa Amelia and Bom Sucesso, 0°16'48"N 6°35'29"E, 5–14.V.2001, J.M. Ledford leg., 1 female (CASC).

Description of female. Body (Fig. 1) uniformly blackish brown to brick-red with bronze and green tint. Surface densely punctate, almost rugose. Head and most of pronotum punctate with oval, deep punctures separated by 0.5–0.2 puncture diameters, sometimes almost touching. Each puncture has shagreened microsculpture with 1 short seta (only slightly protruding above surface of pronotum). Intervals between punctures smooth. Clypeus emarginate anteriorly, with crenate margin, without tubercles. Genal and frontoclypeal sutures absent. Genae not protruding past eyes, indistinct. Frons feebly convex medially. Labrum feebly protruding past clypeus. Eyes relatively small, eye width 1.5 times smaller than distance between eye margin and gula (in ventral view). Antenna with 10 antennomeres, with 3-antennomere club. Mandibles similar to those of *Aegidium* (see Frolov 2013: fig. 11): rather long, with 2 distinct outer teeth (tooth 2 and 3) and a small angulate tubercle on the outer margin basad of the tooth II; this angulate tubercle apparently correspond to the tooth 1 in the other orphnines. Similar to the New World orphnines, mandible of *Stenosternus* has a long, bristled incisor comb reaching the mandibular tooth 3.

Pronotum with lateral margins broadly arcuate in dorsal view, elongate (1.27 times wider than long), with distinct longitudinal middle depression from base and almost reaching anterior margin. Lateral margin crenulate, base not bordered. Punctuation of pronotum is similar to that of head.

Scutellum 1/24 length of elytra, narrow, angulate apically.