

<http://dx.doi.org/10.11646/zootaxa.4033.3.10>
<http://zoobank.org/urn:lsid:zoobank.org:pub:9183A8D0-C65F-4F88-9B4F-ED315BCF4F25>

Notes on the systematic placement of *Sciacharis (Anthicimimus)* (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae: Scydmaeninae)

PAWEŁ JAŁOSZYŃSKI

Museum of Natural History, University of Wrocław, Sienkiewicza 21, 50-335 Wrocław, Poland. E-mail: scydmaenus@yahoo.com

The entangled history of *Sciacharis* Broun, 1983, a genus in which nearly 240 species were placed by Herbert Franz who has apparently never studied its type species, was recently summarized by Jałoszyński (2014a, b). A synonymy of *Chatchamaenus* Franz with *Sciacharis* s. str. was demonstrated, and *Maorinus* Franz, 1980 was placed as a subgenus of *Sciacharis* (Jałoszyński 2014a). Still, the systematics of *Sciacharis*, a genus currently comprising nearly 300 species and distributed in the Southern Hemisphere, is far from clarity.

The smallest subgenus of *Sciacharis* is *Anthicimimus* Franz, 1993. It includes only one peculiar species from Chile, *Sciacharis anthiciformis* (Franz, 1967). This species was originally described as *Euconnus anthiciformis* Franz, 1967, and later transferred to a newly established subgenus of *Sciacharis* (Franz 1993). The diagnosis of *Anthicimimus* was based on a strongly elongate and slender body, strongly convex and round head with small eyes, pronotum strongly narrowing posteriorly with two antebasal pits connected by a transverse groove and very long and slender legs (Franz 1993). All these characters have very little taxonomic value, as they are variable within many genera and subgenera of Cyrtoscydmini. Important ventral characters, broadly used to define genera or subgenera, were not even mentioned by Franz, and the reason for transferring this particular species from *Euconnus* Thomson, 1859 to *Sciacharis* was not explained.

Sciacharis anthiciformis is known from a holotype female only. This unique specimen is here studied in detail and its morphological structures are compared with those of *Sciacharis* s. str., to verify the taxonomic placement of *Anthicimimus*.

Material and methods

Depositories

NHMW—Naturhistorisches Museum Wien, Vienna, Austria (H. Schillhammer)

The holotype female of *Sciacharis anthiciformis* was relaxed in warm water and observed as a whole body mount in glycerol under a compound light microscope. Habitus image was taken by a Nikon Coolpix 4500 camera mounted on a Nikon Eclipse 1500 stereoscopic microscope; image stacks were processed using COMBINE ZP (Hadley 2010). Morphological structures were illustrated by freehand drawing, with exact proportions and general shapes sketched from photographs. Descriptive terms used follow those of Jałoszyński (2014a). The measurements and abbreviations are as follows:

AeL—length of aedeagus

AnL—length of antennae

BL—body length, a sum of lengths of head, pronotum and elytra measured separately

EI—elytral index, length of elytra divided by their combined width

EL—length of elytra measured along suture

EW—maximum width of elytra, combined

HW—width of head, including eyes

HL—length of head measured from anterior margin of clypeus to the narrowest place of occipital constriction

PL—length of pronotum measured along midline

PW—width of pronotum