

The discovery of a second species of *Cryptophilharmostes* Ballerio from Tanzania (Coleoptera: Scarabaeoidea: Ceratocanthidae)

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Abstract

Cryptophilharmostes merkli n. sp. is described from the Uluguru Mountains in eastern Tanzania. This is the second known species of this genus, which is only known for the Eastern Arc / Coastal lowland forests of Tanzania. The generic level characters of *Cryptophilharmostes* are revised and observations of the sexual dimorphism and male genitalia of this genus are included.

Key words: *Cryptophilharmostes merkli*, new species, taxonomy, male genitalia, sexual dimorphism, leaf litter, Uluguru

Introduction

The genus *Cryptophilharmostes* Ballerio, 2000 was erected to accommodate a very distinctive, flightless ceratocanthid species found in the Eastern Usambara Mountains in Tanzania (*C. mahunkai* Ballerio, 2000). *Cryptophilharmostes* was placed in the “*Philharmostes*” group of genera, as defined by Ballerio (2000a; 2001). The overall appearance of the two species in this genus is remarkable (Fig. 1), they have apparently evolved a cryptic appearance to blend in to their habitat in forest leaf litter. The aim of this paper is to describe a second species belonging to this genus, found in the foothills of the Uluguru Mountains, whose characters slightly change the generic diagnosis of *Cryptophilharmostes*. For methods and terminological conventions see Ballerio (2000a; 2000b; 2004).