



A new species group of the genus *Trechosia* from the Cape region of South Africa (Coleoptera, Carabidae, Trechinae)

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Abstract

Trechodes intermedia **sp. nov.** and *T. kogelbergensis* **sp. nov.** are described from South Africa. A third species, *T. humeralis* (Jeannel, 1930) **comb.nov.** is transferred to *Trechosia* Jeannel from the genus *Cothresia* Jeannel. All three species are macropterous, endemic to the South African Cape region, and together represent a new species group of the genus *Trechosia*. Keys to the species groups of the genus *Trechosia* and to the species of the new *T. intermedia* group are provided.

Key words: Trechitae, Trechinae, Trechodinae, Plocamotrechini, South Africa, Cape region, new species

Introduction

Following the catalogue by Casale and Laneyrie (1982), the tribe Plocamotrechini Jeannel, 1964 comprises the genera *Pachydesus* Motschulsky, *Amblystogenium* Enderlein, *Trechosia* Jeannel, *Trechosiella* Jeannel, and *Cothresia* Jeannel. The tribe is strictly endemic to continental Africa with the exception of the genus *Amblystogenium* from the Crozet Islands and three *Pachydesus* species known from Madagascar. Most species of the tribe are humicolous or riparian. In east and central Africa plocamotrechines inhabit preferentially high altitude mountain ranges as the Ruwenzori, Mt. Kilimajaro, Mt. Kenya, and the Aberdares (Jeannel 1960). The distribution of the Plocamotrechini is less scattered and not restricted to mountain ranges in the more temperate climate of southern Africa (Jeannel 1964).

The Belgian entomologist N. Leleup systematically explored the humicolous fauna of South Africa between August 1959 and January 1960. His ample material was reviewed by R. Jeannel and was the basis of Jeannel's revision of the Plocamotrechini of South Africa. In this revision Jeannel established the genus *Cothresia* and also described a number of new species of the Plocamotrechini (Jeannel 1964). Since this report no new taxa from the tribe Plocamotrechini became known from southern Africa.

Here two new *Trechosia* species from the South African Cape region are described which together with an additional species transferred from the genus *Cothresia* represent a new species group of the genus.

The genera *Trechosia* Jeannel, 1926 and *Cothresia* Jeannel, 1964

The genus *Trechosia* was primarily erected for *Trechus solutilis* Péringuey. The genus currently comprises nine species from southern Africa and a single species, *T. aberdarensis* Jeannel, from the Kenyan Abardares Highlands. The genus *Trechosia* is well characterized by the particular elytral striation pattern as well as by the formation of the aedeagus. The three inner elytral striae are deeply impressed while the outer elytral striae