



Revision of the genus *Myrmecobrenthus* Kleine with a description of a new species from Gabon (Coleoptera: Brentidae: Eremoxenini)

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Abstract

The genus *Myrmecobrenthus* Kleine, 1920 is revised and a key for the species of this genus is provided. *Myrmecobrenthus susinii* sp. nov. is described from Gabon, and compared with the closely related *M. ater* Damoiseau, 1961 and *M. wasmanni* Kleine, 1920, from which it mainly differs in the shape of the male head and rostrum. *Myrmecobrenthus wasmanni* is recorded for the first time from Gabon.

Key words: Brentidae, *Myrmecobrenthus*, new species, new record, Gabon

Introduction

The follow up of the Memorandum of Understanding signed in 2008 between the Museo Civico di Storia Naturale of Milano and the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique et Technologique du Gabon (CENAREST) consisted of five expeditions to Gabon from 2004 to 2009, conducted by Mr. Antonio Susini in collaboration with local researchers. The expeditions were mainly focused on the beetle family Brentidae (Insecta, Coleoptera), given that many species of this family can be found in the Gabonese tropical forest.

In the past, a few papers have been specifically dedicated to the brentid fauna of Gabon (Thomson 1858; Bartolozzi & Sforzi 1997; Sforzi 1998; Bartolozzi *et al.* 2010), but many records for the country can be found in monographs on the African (De Muizon 1960; Damoiseau 1967) or World Brentidae (Sforzi & Bartolozzi 2004). In this contribution we describe a new species of the genus *Myrmecobrenthus* Kleine, 1920 and we provide a key for the identification of the known species.

Material and methods

We examined the types of all known species of *Myrmecobrenthus*, as well as additional material present in other museums and collected by Mr. Antonio Susini in Gabon. The identifications were based on the study of the external morphological characteristics and on comparison with the type specimens.

The following abbreviations are used in the text:

CENAREST	Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique et Technologique du Gabon
IRAF	Institut de Recherches Agronomiques et Forestières, Libreville, Gabon
IRSNB	Institut Royal des Sciences Naturelles de Belgique, Brussels, Belgium
MRAC	Muséum Royal de l'Afrique centrale, Tervuren, Belgium
MZUF	Museo di Storia Naturale, Sezione di Zoologia, Università di Firenze, Florence, Italy