



Stenomastigus pseudofranzi sp. n., from South Africa (Staphylinidae, Scydmaeninae)

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Abstract

A new species of the endemic South African genus *Stenomastigus* Leleup (Staphylinidae, Scydmaeninae, Mastigini), *S. pseudofranzi* sp. n. is described. Because some morphological structures of the new species highly resemble those of *S. franzi* Leleup, description of the latter species is supplemented with previously unknown details of the aedeagus (including the copulatory piece). Habitus, aedeagi, modified fore legs of males and other diagnostic characters of both species are illustrated.

Key words: Coleoptera, Mastigini, new species, Afrotropical, South Africa

Introduction

The endemic South African genus *Stenomastigus* Leleup, 1968 was studied recently resulting in a synonymization of the subgeneric name *Acanthostigus* Leleup, 1968 with *Stenomastigus* s. str. and a revision of species characterized by elongated male protrochanters (Jałoszyński, 2012). Examination of additional material preserved at the Ditsong National Museum of National History, Pretoria, RSA, revealed three males of *Stenomastigus* from Zululand with aedeagi highly resembling the copulatory organ illustrated in the original description of *S. franzi* Leleup, 1968 (Leleup, 1968, Figs. 48, 49), but externally dissimilar to that species. A comparative study confirmed similarity of the aedeagi and remarkable differences in the general body pigmentation and proportions of body parts between the type series of *S. franzi* and the males from Zululand. This new species is described below and thoroughly compared with *S. franzi*. Since *S. franzi* is the type species of *Stenomastigus* and potentially important for further study of Mastigini, details of its aedeagus (previously inadequately illustrated) are also described.

Materials and methods

Depositories

cPJ—collection of the author, Wrocław, Poland

RMCA—Musée Royal de l'Afrique Centrale, Tervuren, Belgium

TMSA—Ditsong National Museum of National History, Pretoria, RSA

Specimen handling and imaging. Dry-mounted specimens were relaxed in warm water and dissected; aedeagi and fore legs were dehydrated in isopropanol and xylene and mounted in Canada balsam. Habitus images were taken with a Nikon Coolpix 4500 camera mounted to a Nikon Eclipse 1500 stereoscopic microscope (Nikon, Tokyo, Japan) and processed using Combine ZP (Hadley, 2010); slide preparations were photographed with a KY-F75U digital camera (JVC, Yokohama, Japan) mounted to a Leica M205C stereoscopic microscope (Leica Microsystems, Wetzlar, Germany); image stacks were processed using Auto-Montage Pro (Synoptics Ltd., Cambridge, UK).