

A new species of the genus *Clastopus* Fairmaire, 1898 (Coleoptera: Tenebrionidae: Pedinini) from Madagascar

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Abstract

A new species of the genus *Clastopus* Fairmaire, 1898 is described and illustrated. At present this genus consists of five species distributed on the island of Madagascar: *C. aberlenci* Iwan, 2005, *C. eurynotoides* Fairmaire, 1898, *C. ordinarius* (Iwan, 1996), *C. tenuiculus* (Iwan, 1996) and *C. griswoldi* sp. nov. The material studied was acquired from California Academy of Sciences expeditions conducted between 2000 and 2002. A key is proposed to the species of *Clastopus*.

Key words: Taxonomy, darkling beetles, Platynotina, *Clastopus griswoldi* sp. nov., Toliara Province

Introduction

The genus *Clastopus* was erected by Fairmaire in 1898 to include the newly described species *C. eurynotoides*. Iwan (2001) established the current taxonomic concept of this genus and proposed the synonymy between *Clastopus* and *Hovademulus* Iwan, 1996. Since then, one additional species of *Clastopus* was described—*C. aberlenci* Iwan, 2005.

Clastopus is the third genus of the melanocratoid Platynotina lineage in which ovoviparity was discovered (Iwan 2000, 2005). This mode of reproduction seems to be restricted to a group of genera of the related subtribes Platynotina Koch, 1953 and Eurynotina Mulsant et Rey, 1854, inhabiting South Africa and Madagascar (Tschinkel 1978, Iwan 2000, Iwan and Ferrer 2000, Kamiński 2011).

During a recent study of the material, collected during expeditions organized by the California Academy of Sciences in Madagascar, one new species of the genus *Clastopus* was found and is described here.

Material and methods

The measurements taken using a filar micrometer, were as follows: width of anterior elytral edge—from humeral angle to scutellum; body length—from anterior margin of labrum to elytral apex; body width—maximum elytral width; pronotal length—in the middle of pronotum (pl), from tip of anterior pronotal angle to tip of posterior pronotal angle (apl).

This study was based on the material from the California Academy of Sciences (CASC). The type specimens were deposited in CASC (holotype and two paratypes) and the Museum and Institute of Zoology, Polish Academy of Sciences (MIIZ) (one paratype).

For examination of internal structures insects were dissected and whole abdomens were cleared in 10% cold potassium hydroxide overnight.

Photographs were taken by Canon 1000D body with accordion bellows and Indistar 61L/3 MC 50 mm f/2.8 lens and by using the Hitachi S-3400N SEM in MIIZ. Chosen SEM photographs were colored using Photoshop CS5.