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A taxonomic revision of the *Quadrideres simplicipes* species-group (Coleoptera: Tenebrionidae: Pedinini), including description of a new species from Tanzania

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Abstract

The taxonomic and distributional data concerning the representatives of the *Quadrideres simplicipes* species-group is revised. *Selinus parallelus* Ancey, 1877, considered by some previous authors as *incertae sedis* Platynotina species, is transferred to the genus *Quadrideres*. *Q. ruandanus* Koch, 1956 is proposed as a synonym of *S. parallelus*. Lectotypes for *Selinus parallelus*, *S. simplicipes* Gebien, 1910, *Q. robynsi* Koch, 1956 and *Q. ruandanus* are designated to fix the taxonomic status of these species. *Q. kazimierzi* **sp. nov.** is described as a new species. An identification key is provided to all known species of the *Q. simplicipes* species-group. This paper brings the total species number within the genus *Quadrideres* to 20.

Key words: taxonomy, new species, new synonyms, darkling beetles, Platynotina, *Ectateus* generic group, type material, Carlo Koch

Introduction

The genus *Quadrideres* was erected by Koch in 1956 to include fifteen East African species of the tribe Platynotini Mulsant et Rey, 1853 (currently treated as subtribe Platynotina; cf. Iwan 2004b). According to the initial description, this genus mostly resembles *Anchophthalmops* Koch, 1956 and *Monodius* Koch, 1956 by sharing the following characters: subparallel sides of pronotum and elytra, and conspicuous submarginal depressions on pronotal disc.

The results of a cladistic analysis of Platynotina performed by Iwan (2002a) did not entirely supported Koch's (1956) interpretation. *Quadrideres* was found in a polytomy with *Anchophthalmops*, *Microselinus* Koch, 1956 and *Platykochius* Iwan, 2002. This node was supported by a single homoplasy—7th to 11th antennomeres transverse (Iwan 2002a). However, according to Iwan (2002a) all of the above mentioned genera shares a similar structure of elytra—upper edge of base fused with humerus (cf. Kamiński 2013c).

While formulating the character hypotheses for his cladistic analysis, Iwan (2002a) revised the status of the features used by Koch (1956) to link *Anchophthalmops*, *Monodius* and *Quadrideres* together. Pursuant to his interpretation, subparallel sides of pronotum and elytra should not be used to described *Anchophthalmops* and *Monodius*. This hypothesis was adopted in subsequent papers (eg. Banaszekiewicz 2007, Kamiński 2013a, Iwan 2014).

The most recent speculations about the phylogenetic position of *Quadrideres* were made by Iwan in 2004a after incorporating *Nesopatrum* Gebien, 1920 and *Synquadrideres* Iwan, 2003 to Platynotina. Based on the newly available data he considered *Synquadrideres* to be the most closely related genus to *Quadrideres* within the whole subtribe—both genera having subparallel sides of pronotum and elytra, and differing only in the structure of pronotal disc (cf. Iwan 2003, 2004a, Raś & Kamiński 2013). *Nesopatrum* was treated as the potential sister genus to the *Quadrideres*-*Synquadrideres* clade (Iwan 2004a), due to similar structure of ovipositor (first plate of coxite short) and 5th abdominal ventrite (unbordered in most cases).

Several papers concerning the alpha-taxonomy of Afrotropical Platynotina were recently published (eg. Kamiński & Raś 2011; Kamiński 2013b, 2013c, 2014; Kamiński & Iwan 2013a). However, despite being one of