

COLEOPTERA: STAPHYLINIDAE OF SOUTH GEORGIA¹By W. O. Steel²

Abstract: Two species from South Georgia are treated here. A key to species of adults and larvae is included.

Two species of Staphylinidae have previously been recorded from South Georgia, *Halmaeus atriceps* (Waterhouse) and *Crymus antarcticus* Fauvel, and these are the only ones represented amongst the material studied. The type of *C. antarcticus* could not be found in the Fauvel collection but there is no doubt, from the description, that this is conspecific with *Arpediomimus falklandicus* Cameron.

Full descriptions and figures of the genera *Crymus* (as *Arpediomimus*) and *Halmaeus* and also of *C. antarcticus* (as *A. falklandicus*) were given in my paper on Campbell I. Staphylinidae (1964, *Pacif. Ins. Monogr.* 7: 340-75, cf p. 348, 366), and are not repeated here. The larvae of the South Georgia species appear to be indistinguishable from those of *Crymus kroni* (Kiesenwetter) and *Halmaeus antarctica* Kiesenwetter respectively which were also described and figured in the same paper.

KEY TO STAPHYLINIDAE OF SOUTH GEORGIA

Adults

1. Antennae inserted under sides of front of head, the insertions not visible from above.....**Crymus antarcticus**
**Halmaeus atriceps**
 Antennae inserted on vertex, the insertions clearly visible from above.....

Larvae

1. Cercus 1-segmented; head with 5 ocelli on each side; segment 8 of abdomen not modified
**Crymus antarcticus**
 Cercus short, 2-segmented; head with 1 ocellus on each side; segment 8 of abdomen strongly
 sclerotized and produced backwards in middle.....**Halmaeus atriceps**

Subfamily OMALIINAE

Genus **Crymus** Fauvel

Crymus Fauvel, 1904, *Rev. Ent.* 23: 92.

Arpediopsis Cameron, 1917, *Ent. Mon. Mag.* 53: 124 (*nec* Ganglbauer, 1895). **New Synonymy.**

Arpediomimus Cam., 1917, *op. cit.* 277. **New Synonymy**

Crymus antarcticus Fauvel Fig. 1.

Crymus antarcticus Fauvel, 1904, *Rev. Ent.* 23: 93.

Arpediopsis falklandicus Cameron, 1917, *Ent. Mon. Mag.* 53: 124. **New Synonymy.**

Widely distributed on the sea-shore, under seaweed, rocks etc. Adults were collected in the months of January, March-May, July, November and December,—larvae in March, April, November and December.—

SOUTH GEORGIA: Barff Peninsula, Ocean Harbor Beach; Royal Bay, Moltke Harbor; Grytviken Peninsula, Cumberland East Bay.

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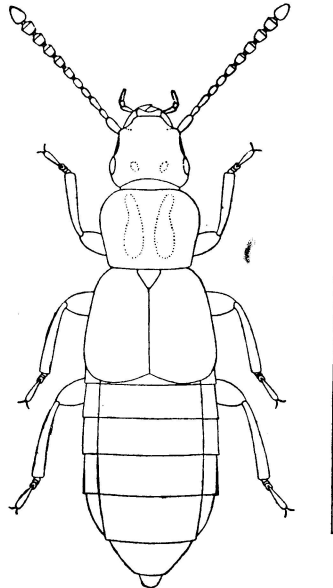


Fig. 1. *Crymus antarcticus* Fauvel.

BIRD I.: Landing beach; Stinker Cape; Iceberg Point; Freshwater Bay; Main Bay.
Also known from the Falkland Is.

Subfamily ALEOCHARINAE

Genus **Halmaeusa** Kiesenwetter

Halmaeusa Ksnw. 1877, *Deut. Ent. Zs.* **21**: 161.

Antarctophytosus Enderlein, 1909, *Deut. Sudpol.-Exped.* **10**: 377.

Paraphytosus Cameron, 1917, *Ent. Mon. Mag.* **53**: 125

Austromalota Brethes, 1925, *Comun. Mus. Nac. Hist. Nat. Bernadino Rivadavia* **2**: 170.

Halmaeusa atriceps (C. O. Waterhouse) Fig. 2a-d.

Phytosus atriceps C. O. Waterhouse, 1875, *Ent. Mon. Mag.* **12**: 54.

Phytosus darwini F. H. Waterhouse, 1879, *J. Linn. Soc. Zool.* **14**: 531.

Austromalota rufomixta Brethes, 1925, *Comun. Mus. Nac. Hist. Nat. Bernadino Rivadavia* **2**: 171.

Antarctophytosus atriceps bougainvillei Jeannel, 1940, *Mem. Mus. Nat. Hist. Nat. Paris*, **14**: 111.

Rather dull. Head and abdomen, except apex, dark brown, pronotum, elytra and apex of abdomen light reddish brown. Antennae reddish brown, legs lighter. Length: about 4 mm, without abdomen 1.9–2.2 mm. General shape as fig. 2a; in the specimens examined, the pronotum varied from 1.08 to 1.15 × as broad as long.

Head with close, superficial punctures which are about as large as facets of eyes and separated, except in front, by about 2 × their diameter; ground sculpture strong, in the form of an isodiametric polygonal network, the meshes of which are about 1/2 × width of punctures; antenna with segment 6 less than 1.5 × as broad as long, 10 about 2 × as broad as long. Pronotum with punctures and ground sculpture as on head; the sides varying from rounded to distinctly emarginate on posterior 1/2. Elytron with ground sculpture as on head and pronotum, with close granules which are about 1.5 × the width of the meshes and separated, on the average, by about 2 × their diameter. Tergites of abdomen with ground sculpture as on front parts but variable in strength, with granules similar to those on elytra.

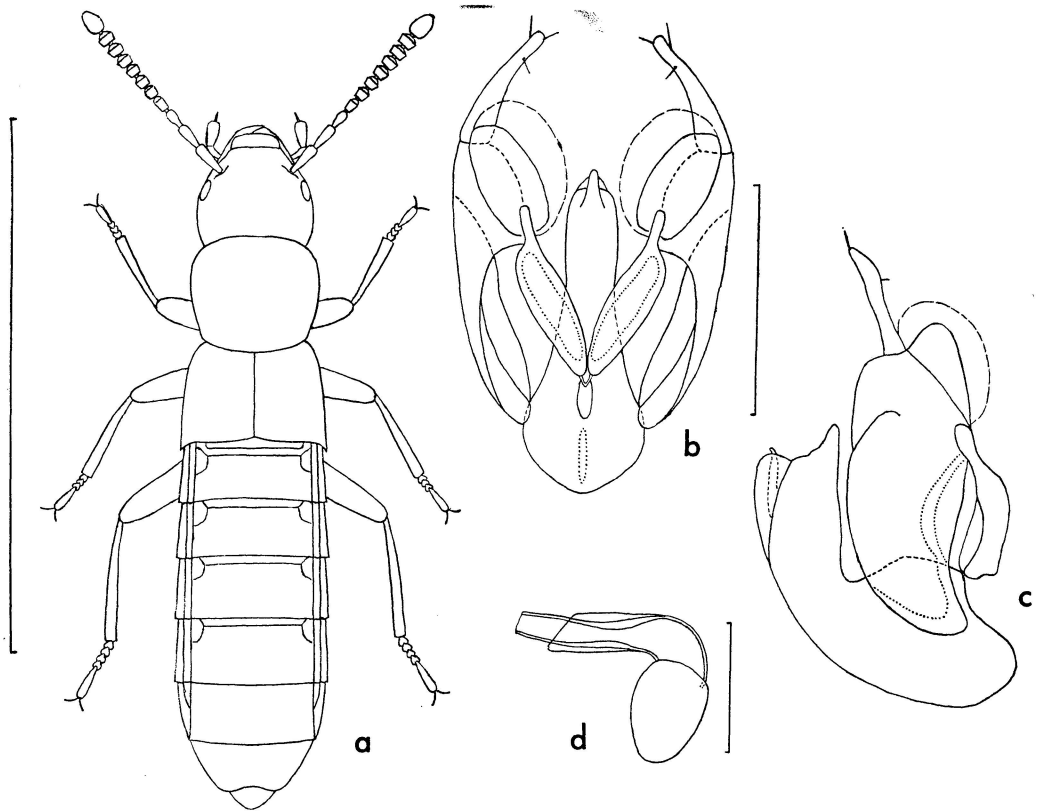


Fig. 2. *Halmaeus atriceps* (C. O. Waterhouse). a, dorsal view; b, tergite; c, lateral view of tergite; d, spermatheca.

Tergite of abdominal segment 8 emarginate apically in middle. Aedeagus as fig. 2, b c.

♀. Tergite of abdominal segment 8 rounded apically. Spermatheca as fig 2d.

This species was collected in similar situations to *C. antarcticus* but also away from the shore, in moss, grass tussocks, albatross nests and penguin rookeries. Adults were found from October to May and in July, larvae in February to May, July and September to November.

SOUTH GEORGIA: Bay of Isles, Paul Beach; Royal Bay, Ruppen Point, Moltke Harbor; Busen Peninsula, Allen Bay, Enten Bay, Busen Harbor; Barff Peninsula, Ocean Harbor Beach; Grytviken Peninsula, King Edward Cove, Cumberland East Bay; Fortuna Bay; Doris Bay; Hestesletten; Stromness Peninsula, Alert Cove, Stromness Valley.

BIRD I.: Landing beach; Stinker Cape; Iceberg Point; Main Bay; Gentoo Point; Ocean Harbor.

Also known from the Falkland Is., Kerguelen and Marion I.

Jeannel (1940) recognised 3 subspecies, *atriceps* s. str. from Kerguelen, *darwini* from the Falklands and *bougainvillei* from Marion I. which he separated on the relative size of the head and the shape of the pronotum. The differences noted however came within the range of variation of the S. Georgia examples and the subspecies cannot be maintained.