

New data, new species, two new genera of Aleocharinae from tropical Africa (Insecta: Coleoptera: Staphylinidae)¹

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Abstract

Eleven tribes (Pronomaeini, Gyrophaenini, Bolitocharini, Falagriini, Dorylophilini, Athetini, Lomechusini, Pygostenini, Thamiaraeini, Hoplandriini, Aleocharini), 17 genera (*Myllaena*, *Nopramaea*, *Gyrophaena*, *Symmachara*, *Falagria*, *Lokomera*, *Pachorhopala*, *Atheta*, *Alomacrotona*, *Brachysipalia*, *Oncodethorax*, *Drusilla*, *Aenictonia*, *Typhloponemys*, *Schistogenia*, *Tinotus*, *Aleochara*) and 38 species are recognized. Sixteen species, two genera, *Symmachara* n. gen. of the tribe Bolitocharini and *Oncodethorax* n. gen. of the tribe Lomechusini, are described as new to science: *Gyrophaena semicircularis* n. sp., *Symmachara dhilinzensis* n. sp., *Symmachara natalensis* n. sp., *Falagria (Falagria) burundensis* n. sp., *Atheta (Acrotona) basipennoides* n. sp., *Atheta (Acrotona) promissionoides* n. sp., *Atheta (Acrotona) patefactor* n. sp., *Atheta (Oxypodera) kenyarobusta* n. sp., *Atheta (Oxypodera) kenyaminor* n. sp., *Atheta (Tropatheta) shimbaoides* n. sp., *Atheta (Tropatheta) cristakenyensis* n. sp., *Oncodethorax zimbabwensis* n. sp., *Zyras (Trachydonia) ofcolacoensis* n. sp., *Typhloponemys maliensis* n. sp., *Typhloponemys barbertonensis* n. sp., *Typhloponemys hazyviewensis* n. sp.. All new species and the new genera are illustrated and compared with similar species or genera. *Symmachara nigrotestacea* (Bernhauer, 1915), is the new combination for *Atheta nigrotestacea* Bernhauer, 1915.

Key words: Insecta, Coleoptera, Staphylinidae, Aleocharinae, taxonomy, new genera, new species, Kenya, Tanzania, Zimbabwe, Burundi, Cameroon, Mali, South Africa

Introduction

In the Staphylinidae, the subfamily Aleocharinae is largest and taxonomically most complex lineage. Many thousands of species and numerous higher taxa, remain to be described from throughout the world, especially in

tropical regions. This is particularly the case for inter-tropical Africa and for the species represented by specimens of small size. Many specimens of superior sizes to 7 mm in the tribe Lomechusini have been studied and described in the past, but without the examination of the aedeagus and of the spermatheca, therefore they demand a modern revision (LAST 1956, 1958, 1965, 1981). The few Aleocharinae of redoubtable size have been described, sometimes incompletely because of the omission by authors of the examination, in microscopic slide preparations, of anatomical parts useful in the recognition of tribe and genus as well as phylogenetic relationships, (FAUVEL 1898, 1899, 1900, 1907; WASMANN 1904, 1912; EICHELBAUM 1913; BERNHAUER 1915a, 1915b, 1927a, 1927b, 1927c, 1927d, 1928, 1931, 1932, 1934a, 1934b, 1938; CAMERON 1930, 1932, 1938a, 1938b, 1950; JEANNEL & PAULIAN 1945; TOTTENHAM 1957). More recent authors have described species with clear illustrations of habitus, aedeagus, spermatheca and other organs (WILLIAMS 1979; KISTNER 1958, 1963, 1968; JACOBSON & KISTNER 1975; PACE 1984a, 1985, 1986, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1999, 2004, 2005, 2008). Therefore the recognition of the species described by these authors is much less difficult. I have been fortunate to have recourse to personally examine typical material of earlier authors that is otherwise not identifiable with incompletely or unillustrated, often only short verbal descriptions and lack of using significant characters such as aedeagus and spermatheca that were not treated as significant at that earlier time.

Material and Methods

The specimens examined were submitted to me for study by Dipl.-Biol. Matthias Hartmann of the Naturkundemuseum Erfurt, Michael Schülke of Berlin and Dr. James F. Cornell of Charlotte, N.C., U.S.A. The

¹ 273th „Contribution to the knowledge of Aleocharinae“.

methods of studies are published in my precedent paper to which is referred (PACE, in press). The habitus of the new species were photographed using a digital Canon Power Shot A610, 5.0 mega pixel camera. All the figures were modified and arranged in plates using Adobe Photoshop software.

Acronyms

Acronyms for Museum and private collections are used as follows:

- NME: Naturkundemuseum Erfurt, Erfurt (Germany)
NHML: Natural History Museum in London (United Kingdom)
MNHUB: Museum für Naturkunde der Humboldt-Universität, Berlin (Germany)
IRSNB: Institut Royal des Sciences Naturelles de Belgique, Bruxelles (Belgium)
FMNHC: Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago (U.S.A.)
CSCH: private collection Michael Schülke, Berlin (Germany)
CCOR: private collection Dr. James F. Cornell of Charlotte, N.C., (U.S.A.)

List of the species, grouped in tribes, with descriptions

PRONOMAEINI Mulsant & Rey, 1873

Myllaena kenyensis Pace, 1985

Myllaena kenyensis Pace, 1985: 117

1 ♀, Kenya, nr. Metereological Station, 11.000', 13.VII.190, 6°10'S 37°25'E, J.F. Cornell leg. (CCOR).

Distribution: Mt. Kenya.

Nopramaesa batwa Pace, 1996

Nopramaesa batwa Pace, 1996: 234

1 ♀, Simbabwe, Kariba Umg., Mopani-Bay Camp., 480 m, 16°31'S 28°49'E, 20–21.III.2000, Lichtfang, V. Heinig leg. (CSCH).

Distribution: Burundi.

GYROPHAENINI Kraatz, 1856

Gyrophaena mahnerti Pace, 1994

Gyrophaena mahnerti Pace, 1994: 136

1 ♀, Simbabwe, Great Zimbabwe Ruins, Camp, 20°16'S 30°56'E, 1220 m, 9.III.2000, Lichtfang, V. Heinig leg. (CSCH).

Distribution: Kenya.

Gyrophaena semicircularis n. sp. (Figs 1 and 17)

Holotype ♂, Südafrika, Natal, nr. Eshowe Dhilinzha Forest, VIII.1985, E. Heiss leg. (MNHUB).

Description. Length 1.6 mm. Body shiny and reddish-brown, fourth free urotergite brown, antennae reddish-brown with the four basal antennomeres yellow, legs yellowish-red. Eyes longer than the post-ocular region, in dorsal view. Second antennomere as long as the first, third shorter than the second, fourth and fifth longer than broad, sixth to tenth transverse. Reticulation of head, pronotum and abdomen very superficial, that of the elytrae evident. Puncturation of the head very superficial, that of the pronotum evident. Granularity of the elytrae close and fine, that of the abdomen fine and salient. Aedeagus fig. 17.

Comparative notes. The new species is separate from *G. rudebecki* Scheerpeltz, 1974 also from South Africa, for the antennae short, while those of *G. rudebecki* are long. The sixth free urotergite of the male of the new species presents a median semicircular hollow to the posterior border, absent in *G. rudebecki*.

Etymology. The new species derives its name from the semicircular hollow of the sixth free urotergite of the male.

BOLITOCARINI Mannerheim, 1830

The new genus *Symmachara* for *Atheta* (*Microdota nigrotestacea* Bernhauer, 1915

Symmachara n. gen.

(Figs 18–24)

Diagnosis. I have examined the typical series of *Atheta* (*Microdota nigrotestacea* Bernhauer, 1915 from Cameroon whose holotype is labeled "Kamerun, Kraatz, *Homalota* n. sp., *nigrotestacea* Bernh., Typus" (FMNHC). Because of its tarsal formula 4–4–5, this species cannot be attributed to *Atheta* with tarsal formula 4–5–5. Because the labial palpi have three articles the species is placed in a new genus of the tribe Bolitocharini. For the habitus and for the shape of the aedeagus it surely belongs to a genus of taxonomically very close

to the oriental genus *Pseudatheta* Cameron, 1920 of which I have examined six specimens of the typical series of the type genus *P. elegans* Cameron, 1920, whose holotype ♂ is labeled “Singapore, Mandai, Fungus, Dr. Cameron, *Pseudatheta elegans* Cam., Type” (NHML). Years ago, I have determined this typical series as *Pseudatheta nigrotestacea* (Bernhauer, 1915) even if I had observed the presence of two bristles on the ligula and the less hollow mentum than that of *P. elegans*. I believe they were characters to specific level. The recovery in Africa of two other species similar to *nigrotestacea* Bernhauer, 1915, here described, with them with two bristles on the ligula and the mentum in front a little hollow, has allowed me to discover that the bristles are indeed generic characters as is the different shape of the mentum. The spermatheca of the new genus is clearly

different from that of the oriental *Pseudatheta*. None of them presents the proximal part wound in coils as in the *P. elegans* (Fig. 21). The aedeagus of the African species has instead of a structure very similar to that of the aedeagus of the oriental species. This confirms that in taxonomy the spermatheca may possess more important indicative differential and relational characters than the aedeagus. This should clearly show to certain taxonomists that reproach that people that describe new species or taxa based on females. This example strongly points out that trying to classify beetles by aedeagus alone is misguided and no reproach should be given to the describer of new species or genera in many groups, based on females or their genitalia. It should help avoid beetle classification becoming a classification of aedeagi rather than whole species.

Description. The new genus, very similar to *Pseudatheta* Cameron, 1920, is distinguished from it for the characters of the following key:

1. Proximal portion of the spermatheca not wound in coils; ligula without lateral setae; mentum deeply hollow to the anterior border. Asia ***Pseudatheta* Cameron, 1920**
- Proximal portion of the spermatheca wound in coils; to every side of the ligula a subapical seta; a little hollow mentum to the anterior border. Africa ***Symmachara* n. gen.**

Type of the genus. *Symmachara nigrotestacea* (Bernhauer, 1915).

Etymology. The female name of the new genus mean “Allied that is found well” from the ancient Greek συμμαχος = allied and χαίρειν = that it is found well. It derives from the being the new genus allied or very similar to *Pseudatheta*.

***Symmachara nigrotestacea* (Bernhauer, 1915),
comb. n.** (Figs 18–24)
Atheta (*Microdota*) *nigrotestacea* Bernhauer, 1915: 319

***Symmachara dhilinzensis* n. sp.** (Figs 2 and 25–27)
Holotype ♂, Südafrika, Natal, nr. Eshowe, Dhilinsa Forest, VIII. 1985, E. Heiss leg (MNHUB).

Description. Length 1.9 mm. Body shiny and yellowish-red, three posterior quarters of the elytrae and posterior half of the fourth free urotergite and fifth brown, antennae yellowish-brown with the three basal antennomeres and eleventh apex yellowish-red, legs yellowish-red.

Eyes longer than the post-ocular region, in dorsal view. Second antennomere shorter than the first, third shorter than the second, fourth as long as broad, fifth to tenth transverse. Reticulation of the fore-body evident, that of the abdomen superficial. Puncturation of the head close and well visible. Granularity of pronotum and elytrae dense and salient, that of the abdomen close and superficial. Every elytra of the male with a sutural short plica distant from posterior internal angle. Frees urotergites fifth and sixth of the male with median carina. Aedeagus figs 25–26, sixth free urotergite of the male fig. 27.

Comparative notes. The new species is similar to *S. nigrotestacea* (Bernhauer, 1915), from Cameroon. It is distinguished for the ventral laminar appendix of the aedeagus not curved as in *S. nigrotestacea*. The sutural plica of the elytrae of the male of the new species is longer than that of *S. nigrotestacea* and almost parallel to the suture, while that of *S. nigrotestacea* is short, arched and slightly oblique.

Etymology. The new species is named after the Dhilinsa Forest.

Symmachara natalensis n. sp. (Figs 3 and 28–29)

Holotype ♂, Südafrika, Natal, nr. Eshowe, Dhilinz Forest, VIII. 1985, E. Heiss leg (MNHUB).

Description. Length 2.4 mm. Body shiny and reddish, antennae reddish with the three basal antennomeres yellow, legs yellowish-red. Eyes as long as the post-ocular region, in dorsal view. Second antennomere as long as the first, third shorter than the second, fourth to tenth transverse. Reticulation of head and pronotum very superficial, that of elytrae and abdomen evident. Puncturation of the head very evanescent. Granularity of the pronotum evanescent, that of elytrae and abdomen close and salient. Sutural plica of the male elytrae curved and long. Fifth free urotergite of the male with median granularity stronger and salient than that lateral. Sixth free urotergite of the male with a median tubercle. Aedeagus figs 28–29.

Comparative notes. The new species for the shape of the ventral laminar appendix of the aedeagus is separate either from *Symmachara natalensis* n. sp. or from *Symmachara nigrotestacea* (Bernhauer, 1915). From both it is also separate for the sutural plica of the elytrae of the male long and arched, while it is arched and short in *S. nigrotestacea*, rectilinear in *S. natalensis* n. sp.

Etymology. The new species derives its name from the Natal.

FALAGRIINI Mulsant & Rey, 1873

Falagria (Falagria) coarcticollis Fauvel, 1898

Falagria coarcticollis Fauvel, 1898: 121

Falagria (s. str.) *coarcticollis*; Bernhauer & Scheerpeltz, 1926: 575; Pace, 1984b: 251

2 ♂♂, Kenya, Mt. Kenya, 8000', podocarp litter, 13.VII.1990, J.F. Cornell leg. (CCOR).

Distribution: Afrique Orientale, Rwanda, Gabon, Madagascar, Mascareignes and Seychelles.

Falagria (Falagria) burundensis n. sp.

(Figs 4 and 30–32)

Holotype ♂, Burundi, 4 km S Banga, 9.III.1992, fc. Arndt leg. (NME)

Paratype: 1 ♀, same origin.

Description. Length 2.5 mm. Wingless species. Body shiny and brown, antennae brown with the three basal antennomeres, the eleventh and legs yellowish-red.

Eyes shorter than the post-ocular region, in dorsal view. Second antennomere as long as the first, third shorter than the second, fourth to sixth longer than broad, seventh and eighth as long as broad, ninth and tenth transverse. Reticulation of the body absent. Puncturation of head and pronotum fine and few evident. Granularity of elytrae and abdomen fine and sparse. Deep median sulcus of the pronotum that is narrow posteriorly. Three basal transverse sulci of the abdomen without puncturation in the bottom. Aedeagus figs 30–31, spermatheca figs. 32.

Comparative notes. For the apterism, the habitus and the shape of the aedeagus, the new species is similar to *F. kaszabi* Pace, 1986 from Tanzania and Sudan. The new species is separated for the presence of a ventral angle of the aedeagus, absent in the aedeagus of *F. kaszabi*. The internal flagellum of the aedeagus of the new species is less developed than that of *F. kaszabi*. The spermatheca of the new species is curved up to C and it is deprived of distal umbilicus, that of *F. kaszabi* is not curved to C and presents a deep distal umbilicus.

Etymology. Patronym, from the country of origin.

DORYLOPHILINI Fenyes, 1921

Lokomera sulcicollis Jacobson & Kistner, 1979

Lokomera sulcicollis Jacobson & Kistner, 1979: 284

1 ♀, Cameroon N.W.P., Bali Nyonga, 7.X.2004, at lite, J.L. Volomia leg (CCOR).

Distribution: Zaire.

ATHETINI Casey, 1910

Pachorhopala africana Bernhauer

Ocalea (Pachorhopala) africana Bernhauer, 1915: 186

Pachorhopala africana; Scheerpeltz, 1934: 1677

3 ♀♀, Kenya, Kakamega, 17.VII.1990, ex logs, J.F. Cornell leg.; 1 ♀, Kenya, Mt. Kenya, 8000', Podocarp, litter, 13.VII.1990, J.F. Cornell leg. (CCOR).

Distribution: Usambara, Kenya,

NOTE. Typical series from me examined.

Atheta (Acrotona) basipennis n. sp.

(Figs 5 and 33–34)

Holotype ♂, Kenya, Kakamega, Kakamega Forest, 17.VII.1990, ex logs, J.F. Cornell leg. (FMNHC).

Paratype: 1 ♂, same origin (FMNHC).

Description. Length 2.2 mm. Body shiny and brown, pronotum and abdominal base reddish-brown, antennae brown with the two basal antennomeres, base of the third and legs yellowish-red. Eyes a little longer than the post-ocular region, in dorsal view. Second antennomere shorter than the first, third longer than the second, fourth and eighth to tenth as long as broad, fifth to seven longer than broad. Reticulation of head and pronotum very superficial, that of the elytrae evident, that of the abdomen very transverse and well visible. Puncturation of the head close and superficial. Granularity of the pronotum fine, close and evanescent, that of the elytrae close and evident, that of the abdomen fine and close, but less close on the free urotergites of the male fourth and fifth. Pronotum with a posterior median little fossa. Aedeagus figs 33–34.

Comparative notes. The aedeagus of the new species is similar to that of *A. basipennis* Fauvel, 1907 from Oriental Africa, of which I have examined the male holotype so labeled “Afrique Or. Allemande, *Atheta basipennis* FvI, Type” (IRSNB). The new species is distinguished for the different shape of the internal copulatory pieces of the aedeagus. A bundle of internal spines of the aedeagus of the new species is not present in the aedeagus of *A. basipennis*. The antennomeres fifth to seventh of the new species are longer than broad, in *A. basipennis* the same ones are transverse. The pronotum of the new species presents a posterior median little fossa, absent on the pronotum of *A. basipennis*.

Etymology. The name of the new species means “Similar to *basipennis*”.

***Atheta (Acrotona) promissionoides* n. sp.**

(Figs 6 and 35)

Holotype ♀, Kenya, Mt. Kenya, nr. Meteorological Station, 11000', 13.VII. 1990, 0°10'S 37°25'E, J.F. Cornell leg. (FMNHC).

Description. Length 2.1 mm. Body shiny and brown, antennae brown with the two basal antennomeres reddish-brown, legs reddish. Eyes a little longer than the post-ocular region, in dorsal view. Second antennomere longer than the first, third shorter than the second, fourth to sixth as long as broad, seventh to tenth transverse. Reticulation of the head very superficial, that of the pronotum absent, that of the elytrae and abdomen evident, on the abdomen irregular polygonal. Granularity of the body close and evident. Spermatheca fig. 35.

Comparative notes. The shape of the spermatheca of the new species is similar to that of *A. promissionum* Pace, 1995 also from Kenya but the umbilicus of the distal bulb of the spermatheca of the new species is less developed than that of *A. promissionum*. The proximal portion of the spermatheca of the new species is wound in a coil and a half, in *A. promissionum* in a coil. The antennomeres fourth to sixth are as long as broad in the new species, longer than broad in *A. promissionum*.

Etymology. The name of the new species means “Near to *A. promissionum*.”

***Atheta (Acrotona) patefactor* n. sp.** (Figs 7 and 36)

Holotype ♀, Kenya, Mt. Kenya, nr. Meteorological Station, 11000', 13.VII.1990, 0°10'S 37°25'E, J.F. Cornell leg. (FMNHC).

Description. Length 2.5 mm. Body shiny and brown, antennae brown with the two basal antennomeres yellowish-brown, legs yellowish-red. Eyes shorter than the post-ocular region, in dorsal view. Second antennomere longer than the first, third as long as the second, fourth to tenth transverse. Reticulation of head and pronotum absent, that of the elytrae very superficial, that of the abdomen irregular polygonal evident. Puncturation of the head fine, close and superficial. Granularity of the pronotum very fine, close and evanescent, that of the elytrae close and evident, that of the abdomen close and fine. Spermatheca fig. 36.

Comparative notes. The spermatheca of the new species is similar to that of *A. parasita* Bernhauer, 1945 (in Jeannel & Paulian, 1945) from Tanzania, of which I have examined 13 specimens of the typical series whose holotype is labeled “Kenya, Elgon, Saw Mile, Mt. Elgon, vers est, camp II, 2370 m, Mission de l'Omo, Jeannel leg., Type” (FMHNC). The new species is distinguished from the umbilicus of the distal bulb of the spermatheca short, deep in *A. parasita*. The antennomeres fourth to sixth are transverse in the new species, longer than broad in *A. parasita*.

Etymology. The name of the new species means “more differentiating factors”. It is clear that the subgenus *Acrotona* must not be considered separately as a genus solely because of the shape of the ligula of *Acrotona* which is found here and in other subgenera of *Atheta*. The posteriorly narrow abdomen cannot be invoked for raising *Acrotona* to genus, as SEEVERS (1978) has

provisionally suggested, without the examination of the ligula, since exceptions exist as is the case of the present species that shows the spermatheca of *Acrotona* but without having abdomen posteriorly strongly narrow. Therefore *Acrotona* is subgenus of *Atheta*.

***Atheta (Oxypodera) densiventris* Fauvel, 1907**

Atheta densiventris Fauvel, 1907: 54

Atheta (s. str.) *densiventris*; Bernhauer & Scheerpeltz, 1926: 641

Atheta (Oxypodera) densiventris; Pace, 1995: 821

2 ♂♂, Kenya, Mt. Kenya, 8000'. Podocarp, litter, 13.VII.1990, J.F. Cornell leg. (CCOR).

Distribution: Kenya, Oriental Africa.

Note. From me examined the male holotype (IRSNB).

***Atheta (Oxypodera) kenyarobusta* n. sp.**

(Figs 8 and 37–39)

Holotype ♂, Kenya, Mt. Kenya, 13.VII.1990, J.F. Cornell leg. (FMNHC).

Description. Length 3.9 mm. Body shiny and brown, elytrae and posterior border of the two basal free urotergites and pygidium reddish, antennae brown with the two basal antennomeres yellow, legs yellowish-red. Eyes as long as the post-ocular region, in dorsal view. Second antennomere shorter than the first, third longer than the second, fourth to tenth longer than broad. Reticulation of the fore-body strong, that of the abdomen very transverse and evident. Granularity of head and pronotum dense and salient, that of the elytrae superficial, that of the abdomen fine and close. Aedeagus figs 37–38, sixth free urotergite fig. 39.

Comparative notes. The habitus, the shape of the antennae and the aedeagus are similar to those of *A burgeoniana* Bernhauer, 1934 from Ruwenzori, of which I have examined the male holotype labeled “Ruwenzori, 4200 m, VII.1932, Burgeon, Mesakya, *Burgeoniana* Brnh., Typus, *altivagans* Brnh. emend., *Burgeoniana* Brnh, Typus, *Oxypoda* Typus” (FMNHC). The new species is distinguished for the smaller aedeagus, 0.53 mm long, while in *A. burgeoniana* is 0.73 mm long. The apex of the aedeagus of the new species is narrow in the distal portion, in ventral view, that of *A. burgeoniana* broad. The elytrae of *A. burgeoniana*, measured by the humerus to the external posterior angle, are shorter than the pronotum, those of the new species notably longer.

Etymology. The name of the new species means “Strong of the Kenya” to refer to the great size.

***Atheta (Oxypodera) kenyaminor* n. sp.**

(Figs 9 and 40–41)

Holotype ♂, Kenya, My. Kenya, Metsa, 11000', 13.VII.1990, J.F. Cornell leg. (FMNHC).

Description. Length 3.4 mm. Body shiny and black, elytrae brown, antennae black, legs reddish. Eyes as long as the post-ocular region, in dorsal view. Second antennomere shorter than the first, third longer than the second, fourth to tenth transverse. Reticulation of the fore-body strong, that of the abdomen transverse and on the free urotergites fourth and fifth very transverse, evident. Granularity of the fore-body close and salient, that of the abdomen dense, thin and evident. Aedeagus figs 40–41.

Comparative notes. The aedeagus and the habitus of the new species are similar to those of *A. mombasana* Bernhauer, 1934 from Mombasa, of which I have examined the male holotype so labeled “Mombasa, 36 km sud, Lubero, fin.VIII. 1932, L. Burgeon, *mombasana* Brnh. Typus” (FMNHC). The aedeagus of the new species is long 0.38 mm, that of *A. mombasana* 0.6 mm long. The evident “crista apicalis” of the aedeagus of *A. mombasana* misses in the aedeagus of the new species. The pronotum of the new species is black, that of *A. mombasana* yellowish-red. The fourth antennomere of the new species is transverse, that of *A. mombasana* is longer than broad.

Etymology. The name of the new species means “Smaller of the Kenya” to relate to the smaller size in respect that of the species above described.

***Atheta (Tropatheta) nanyukensis* Pace, 1995**

Atheta (Tropatheta) nanyukensis Pace, 1995: 803

9 specimens, Kenya, Mt. Kenya, 8000', Podocarp, litter, 13.VII.1990, J.F. Cornell leg. (FMNHC).

DISTRIBUTION: KENYA.

***Atheta (Tropatheta) shimbaoides* n. sp.**

(Figs 10 and 42–43)

Holotype ♂, Kenya, Mt. Kenya, nr. Meteorological Station, 11000', 13.VII.1990, 0°10'S 37°25'E, J.F. Cornell leg. (FMNHC).

Description. Length 2.4 mm. Body shiny and blackish-brown, antennae black with the two basal antennomeres yellowish-red, legs reddish-brown. Eyes as long as the

post-ocular region, in dorsal view. Second antennomere shorter than the first, third as long as the second, 4th and 5th longer than broad, sixth and seventh as long as broad, eighth to tenth transverse. Reticulation of head and pronotum strong, that of the elytrae evident, that of the abdomen very transverse and superficial. Puncturation of the head close and evident, absent on the longitudinal median band. Puncturation of the pronotum close and very superficial, that of the elytrae close and evident. Granularity of the abdomen fine and well visible. Aedeagus figs 42–43.

Comparative notes. A curved internal copulatory piece of the aedeagus of the new species is also found in the aedeagus of *A. shimbaiensis* Pace, 1995 also from Kenya. In the new species this piece is long, that of *A. shimbaensis* short. The sides of the aedeagus of the new species, in ventral view, are convergent toward the apex, those of *A. shimbaensis* are parallel. The aedeagus of *A. shimbaensis* presents a ventral protruding spine-shaped appendix, absent in the aedeagus of the new species.

Etymology. The name of the new species means “Image of *shimbaensis*”.

***Atheta (Tropatheta) cristakenyensis* n. sp.**

(Figs 11 and 44–45)

Holotype ♂, Kenya, Mt. Kenya, 8000', Podocarp, litter, 13.VII.1990, J.F. Cornell leg. (FMNH).

Description. Length 2.4 mm. Body shiny and brown, head blackish-brown, antennae black with the two basal antennomeres brown, legs yellowish-red. Eyes shorter than the post-ocular region, in dorsal view. Second antennomere shorter than the first, third shorter than the second, fourth to tenth transverse. Reticulation of head and elytrae evident, that of the pronotum very superficial, that of abdomen the irregular polygonal strong, on the sixth free urotergite of the male very strong. Granularity of head and pronotum fine, dense and superficial, those of elytrae and abdomen dense and salient. Pronotum with feeble median sulcus. Aedeagus figs 44–45.

Comparative notes. The aedeagus of the new species presents some characters that are found similar in the aedeagus of *A. nairobiensis* Fauvel, 1907 from Oriental Africa, of which I have examined the male holotype labeled “Afrique orient., angl., Nairobi (Wa-Kikouyou et Masai), Ch. Alluaud, 1904 aout, *nairobiensis* Fvl.,

Type” (IRSNB). The aedeagus of the new species presents “crista apicalis” very developed, absent in *A. nairobiensis*. The apex of the aedeagus of the new species, in ventral view, is less narrow than that very narrow of *A. nairobiensis*. The eyes of the new species are shorter than the post-ocular region, in dorsal view, those of *A. nairobiensis* are as long as the post-ocular region, in dorsal view.

Etymology. The name of the new species alludes to the great “crista apicalis” of the aedeagus.

***Alomacrotona tambachensis* Pace, 1995**

Alomacrotona tambachensis Pace, 1995: 835

1 ♀, Kenya, Mt. Kenya, 8000', Podocarp, litter, 13.VII.1990, J.F. Cornell leg.; 1 Kenya, Mt. Kenya, nr. Metsta, 11000', 13.VII.1990, 0°10'S 37°25'E, J.F. Cornell leg. (CCOR).

Distribution: Kenya.

***Brachysipalia viatica* Pace, 1995**

Brachysipalia viatica Pace, 1995: 841

1 ♂, Kenya, Mt. Kenya, nr. Metsta, 11000', 13.VII.1990, 0°10'S 37°25'E, J.F. Cornell leg. (CCOR).

Distribution: Kenya.

***Brachysipalia imbellis* Pace, 1985**

Brachysipalia imbellis Pace, 1985: 130; Pace, 1995: 836

7 specimen, Kenya, Mt. Kenya, nr. Meteorological Station, 11000', 13.VII.1990, 0°10'S 37°25'E, J.F. Cornell leg. (CCOR).

Distribution: Mt. Aberdare, Mt. Kenya.

***Brachysipalia sublapidicola* Pace, 2005**

Brachysipalia sublapidicola Pace, 2005: 117

14 specimen, Kenya, Mt. Kenya, nr. Meteorological Station 11000', 13.VII.1990, 0°10'S 37°25'E, J.F. Cornell leg. (CCOR).

Distribution: Mt. Kenya.

LOMECHUSINI Fleming, 1821

***Oncodethorax* n. gen.**

(Figs 12 and 46–50)

Diagnosis. For the body almost without puncturation and for the shape of the head, the new genus shares these characters with the genus *Orphnebius* Motschulsky, 1858, of the tribe Lomechusini, but the maxillae

present long spines to the internal side of the internal lobe and with some fine spines under the apex, ciliate elsewhere. The flattened and dilated tibiae are not present in *Orphnebius*. The ligula separated in two broad lobes places *Oncodethorax* with numerous genera of the Lomechusini but the very transverse pronotum and strong narrowing posteriorly of the new genus distinguish *Oncodethorax* from *Orphnebius*.

Description. In facies resembling *Orphnebius* Motschulsky, 1858; abdomen conic (Fig. 12). Head narrower than the thorax, transversely sub-orbicular, neck indistinct; temples not bordered below; eyes as long as the basal antennomere. Antennae parallel and moderate in length. Labrum transverse, slightly curvedly emarginated in front, the angles rounded. Outer lobe of maxilla as broader than the inner and very extending beyond it, membranous at apex and covered with short hairs; inner lobe short, acute, near the apex with three slender spines, and behind these closely ciliate and with four long spines, as in Fig. 49. Maxillary palpi with the first joint very small, SECOND thickened towards the apex, third as long as the SECOND, FOURTH short (Fig. 49). Mentum fused to the submentum (Fig. 50), very transverse, trapezoidal, the anterior border a little arched. Labial palpi rather long, the first joint very long, SECOND much shorter than the FIRST, third narrower than the SECOND (Fig. 48). Ligula broad and a little elongate, with a broad triangular excision reaching nearly to the base and dividing it into two diverging lobes (Fig. 48). Paraglossae feeble (Fig. 48). Pronotum very transverse, convex, the pronotal epipleura not visible in lateral view. Mesosternum not keeled throughout, fused to the metasternum, the mesocoxae slightly separated. Elytra not emarginated poster-externally. Abdomen strongly narrowed from base to apex. Legs short, a little compressed. Tarsi 4–5–5. Claws slightly curved. Aedeagus: Figs 46–47.

Type species: *Oncodethorax zimbabwensis* n. sp.

Etymology. The name of the new genus means “Pronotum inflated”, from ancient Greek language «ὄγκωδης» = «inflated» and «θώραξ» = «Pronotum».

***Oncodethorax zimbabwensis* n. sp.**

(Figs 12 and 46–50)

Holotype ♂, NE Zimbabwe, Umgebung Kotwa, Broken Causeway, 17°03'S 32°45'E, 21.VIII.1986, Driftnetz, M. Lillig & S. Potel leg. (NME).

Description. Length 3.4 mm. Body shiny and yellowish-red, antennae yellow, legs yellowish-red. Eyes longer than the post-ocular region, in dorsal view. Second antennomere shorter than the first, third longer than the second, fourth to tenth transverse. Reticulation of the body absent. Punctuation of the head absent, that of the pronotum reduced to four points to every side of the median line. Punctuation of the elytrae superficial and very sparse, that of the abdomen absent. Forehead concave. Pronotum with a deep transverse depression on the anterior half. Elytrae convex with a deep oblique lateral depression. Basal transverse sulci of the free urotergites feeble. Aedeagus figs 46–47.

Etymology. The name refers to the country of the origin of the species.

***Drusilla kisumuensis* Pace, 1996**

Drusilla kisumuensis Pace, 1996: 224

1 ♂, Kenya, Kakamega, 17.VII.1990, ex logs, J.F. Cornell leg. (CCOR).

Distribution: Kenya.

***Zyras (Androdonia) reicherti* Wasmann, 1912**

Zyras reicherti Wasmann, 1912: 94

Zyras (Androdonia) reicherti; Scheerpeltz, 1957: 167

1 ♂, Südafrika, NE-Prov. Tshipise, Honet Nature Reserve, Camp LF, 22°36'S 30°10'E, 300 m, NN, 23–25.XI.1996, M. Hartmann leg. (NME).

Distribution: Cape Province, Swaziland.

***Zyras (Camonia) hlanensis* Pace, 2008**

Zyras (Camonia) hlanensis Pace, 2008: 383

1 ♂, Namibia, 10 km NW Warmquelle, 19°09'S 13°44'E, 640 m, 8.III.2003, Lichtfang, U. Heinig leg. (CSCH).

Distribution: Swaziland.

***Zyras (Parophthalmonia) kristenseni* Bernhauer, 1915**

Zyras (Parophthalmonia) kristenseni Bernhauer, 1915: 173

4 specimens, Rep. Southafrica, Northern Prov. Camp David, 5 km S Ofcolaco, 475 m, 17–24.I.2002, S. Murzin leg. (CSCH).

Distribution: Eritrea, Guinea Bissau, Mozambique, Sierra Leone, Kenya, Gold Coast, Zaire, Swaziland.

***Zyras (Trachydonia) ofcolacoensis* n. sp.**

(Figs 13 and 51–52)

Holotype ♂, Rep. Southafrica, Northern Prov. Camp David, 5 km S Ofcolaco, 475 m, 17–24.I.2002, S. Murzin leg. (MNHUB).

Description. Length 3.9 mm. Body shiny and yellowish-red, head reddish-brown, antennae reddish-brown with the three basal antennomeres and the eleventh yellowish-red, legs yellowish-red. Eyes longer than the post-ocular region, in dorsal view. Second antennomere shorter than the first, third longer than the second, fourth to tenth transverse and to oval section. Reticulation of the body absent. Punctuation of the head strong and absent on the longitudinal median band, that of the elytrae evident and close, that of the abdomen fine, close and well visible. Granularity of the elytrae close and salient. Pronotum with feeble lateral depression. Frees urotergites fifth and sixth of the male without secondary sexual characters. Figs 51–52.

Comparative notes. According to the key published by Bernhauer (1928), the new species is similar to *Z. hector* Bernhauer, 1915 from Oriental Africa. It is separate for the reddish-brown color of the head, in *Z. hector* black. The elytrae of the new species are shiny, those of *Z. hector* almost opaque.

Etymology. The new species derives its name from the toponym Ofcolaco.

Aenictonia hemigastrophysa Eichelbaum, 1913

Aenictonia hemigastrophysa Eichelbaum, 1913: 150; Kistner, 1968: 979
1 ♂, Zimbabwe, Victoria Falls, Caravan Camp, 1000 m, 17°54'S 25°49'E, 14–15.III.2000, Lichtfang, U. Heinig leg. (CSCH).

Distribution: Tanzania, Somalia, Congo, Zambia, South Africa.

PYGOSTENINI Fauvel, 1899

Typhloponemys daressalamensis (Bernhauer, 1915)

Pygostenus daressalamensis Bernhauer, 1915: 153
Typhloponemys daressalamensis; Kistner, 1958: 76
1 ♀, Zimbabwe, Kariba, Umg Mopani-Bay, Camp 480 m, 16°31'S 28°49'E, 20–21.III.2000, Lichtfang, U. Heinig leg. (CSCH).

Distribution: Tanzania, Somalia.

Typhloponemys maliensis n. sp. (Figs 14 and 53–54)

Holotype ♂, Mali, Konoto, 6.XII.1972, Stam leg. (CSCH).

Paratype: 1 ♂, same origin.

Description. Length 3.9 mm. Body shiny and yellowish-red, head reddish, antennae brown with basal antennomere and eleventh yellowish-red, legs yellowish-red.

Reticulation of the body absent. Punctuation of head and pronotum fine and very sparse, that of the elytrae almost indistinct. Granularity of the abdomen almost lined up. Aedeagus figs 53–54.

Comparative notes. The aedeagus of the new species presents a ventral gibbosity as in *T. leleupi* Kistner, 1958 from Zaire and Kivu. It is separate to show the ventral gibbosity of the aedeagus in the preapical region and not as in *T. leleupi* situated in the intermediary region of the same aedeagus.

Etymology. The new species is named after the Mali.

Typhloponemys barbertonensis n. sp.

(Figs 15 and 55–57)

Holotype ♀, Rep. South Africa, Mpumalanga pr., 50 km W Barberton, 1150 m, 14.1.20012, Murzin leg. (CSCH).

Paratypes: 37 specimens, same origin; 1 ♂, Rep. South Africa, Mpumalanga pr., env. Hazyview, 1100 m, 15.1.20012, Murzin leg. (MNHUB).

Description. Length 3.9 mm. Body shiny and yellowish-red, head reddish. Reticulation of the body absent. Punctuation of the head evident, that of the pronotum indistinct, that of the elytrae close and very superficial. Granularity of the abdomen longitudinal, distributed in regular lines. Aedeagus figs 55–56, spermatheca fig. 57.

Comparative notes. For the shape of the spermatheca, the new species is similar to *T. mbalensis* Jacobson & Kistner, 1975 from Zambia. It is distinguished for the deep umbilicus of the distal bulb of the spermatheca, in *T. mbalensis* short (Fig. 58) and for the proximal portion of the same spermatheca curved to semicircle and not to shape of complete coil as in *T. mbalensis* (Fig. 58). The male of *T. mbalensis* is not known.

Etymology. The new species is named after the toponym Barberton.

Typhloponemys hazyviewensis n. sp. (Figs 16 and 59)

Holotype ♀, Rep. South Africa, Mpumalanga pr., env. Hazyview, 1100 m, 15.1.20012, Murzin leg. (MNHUB).

Description. Length 3.9 mm. Body shiny and yellowish-red, head reddish, antennae reddish-brown, legs yellowish-red. Reticulation of the body absent. Punctuation of the head fine and sparse, that of pronotum and elytrae indistinct. Longitudinal granularity of the abdomen lined up in transverse lines. Spermatheca fig. 59.

Comparative notes. The shape of the spermatheca of the new species is similar to that of the spermatheca of *T. tanzianensis* Jacobson & Kistner, 1975 from Tanzania (Fig. 60). The distal bulb of the spermatheca of the new species is long (Fig. 59), that of the spermatheca of *T. tanzianensis* spherical. The intermediary portion among distal bulb of the spermatheca and proximal bulb is short in the new species, long in *T. tanzianensis*.
Etymology. The name of the new species derives from the toponym Hazyview.

THAMIARAEINI Fenyés, 1921

***Schistogenia methneri* Bernhauer, 1915**

Schistogenia methneri Bernhauer, 1915:162

8 specimens, Africa, Tanzania, nr Iringa Udzungawa Mts., 30.VI.2005, ex litter, K. Angelus leg. (CCOR).

DISTRIBUTION: Oriental Africa, Soudan, Darfour, Gabon.

HOPLANDRIINI Casey, 1910

***Tinotus major* Pace, 1986**

Tinotus major Pace, 1986: 107

1 ♂, Kenya, nr Meteorological Station, 1100', 13.VII.1990, 0°10'S 37°25'E, J.F. Cornell leg. (CCOR).

Distribution: Natal, Tanzania.

ALEOCHARINI Fleming, 1821

***Aleochara (Xenochara) puberula* Klug, 1833**

Aleochara puberula Klug, 1833: 139

Aleochara (Xenochara) puberula; Klimaszewski & Jansen, 1993: 72; Pace, 1998: 155

1 ♂, Simbabwe, Kariba National Park, Charara Safari Area, 30 km SO Kariba, ca 700 m, 16°40'S 29°01'E, 19.III.2000, Lichtfang, V. Heinig leg. (CSCH).

DISTRIBUTION: Cosmopolitan species.

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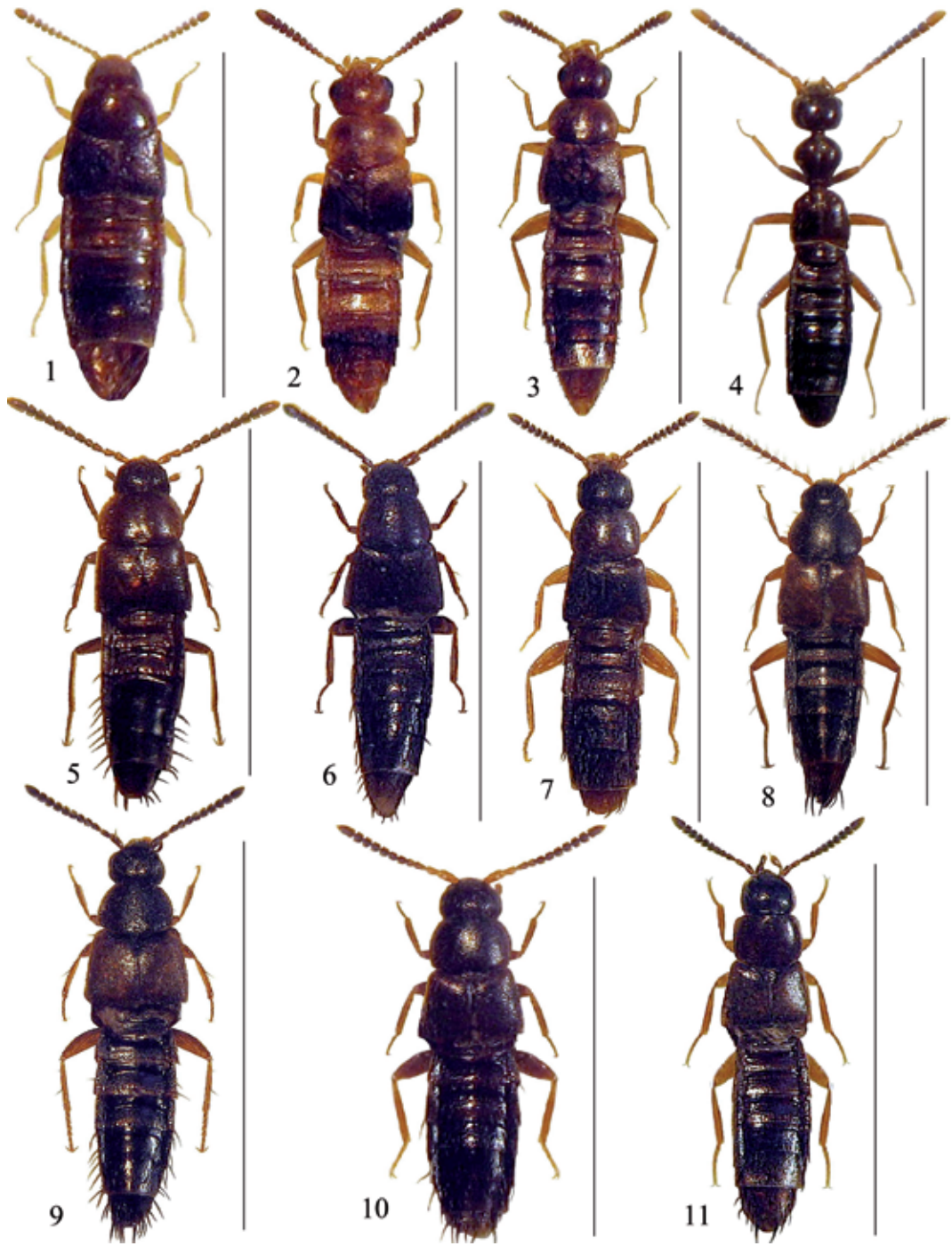
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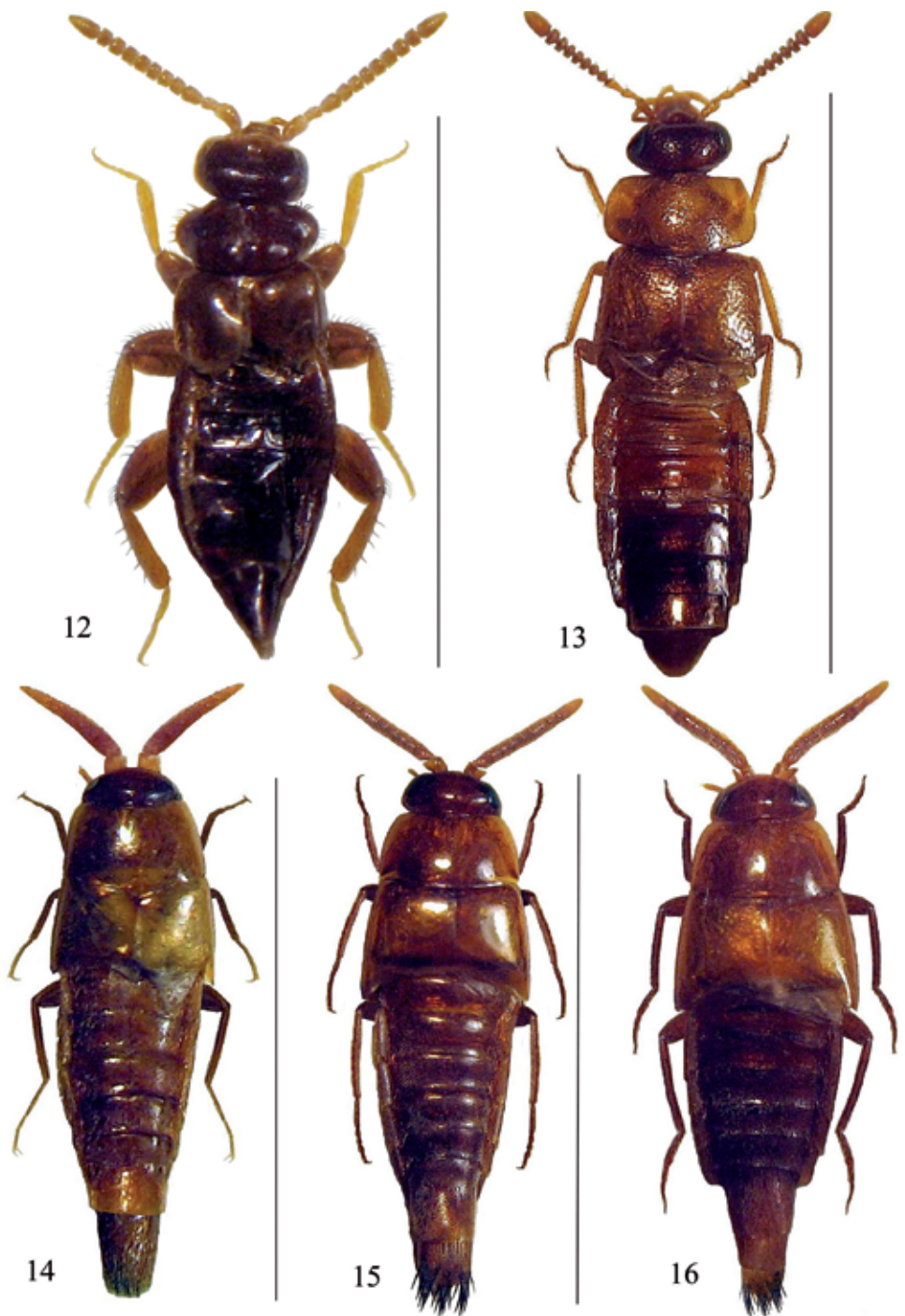
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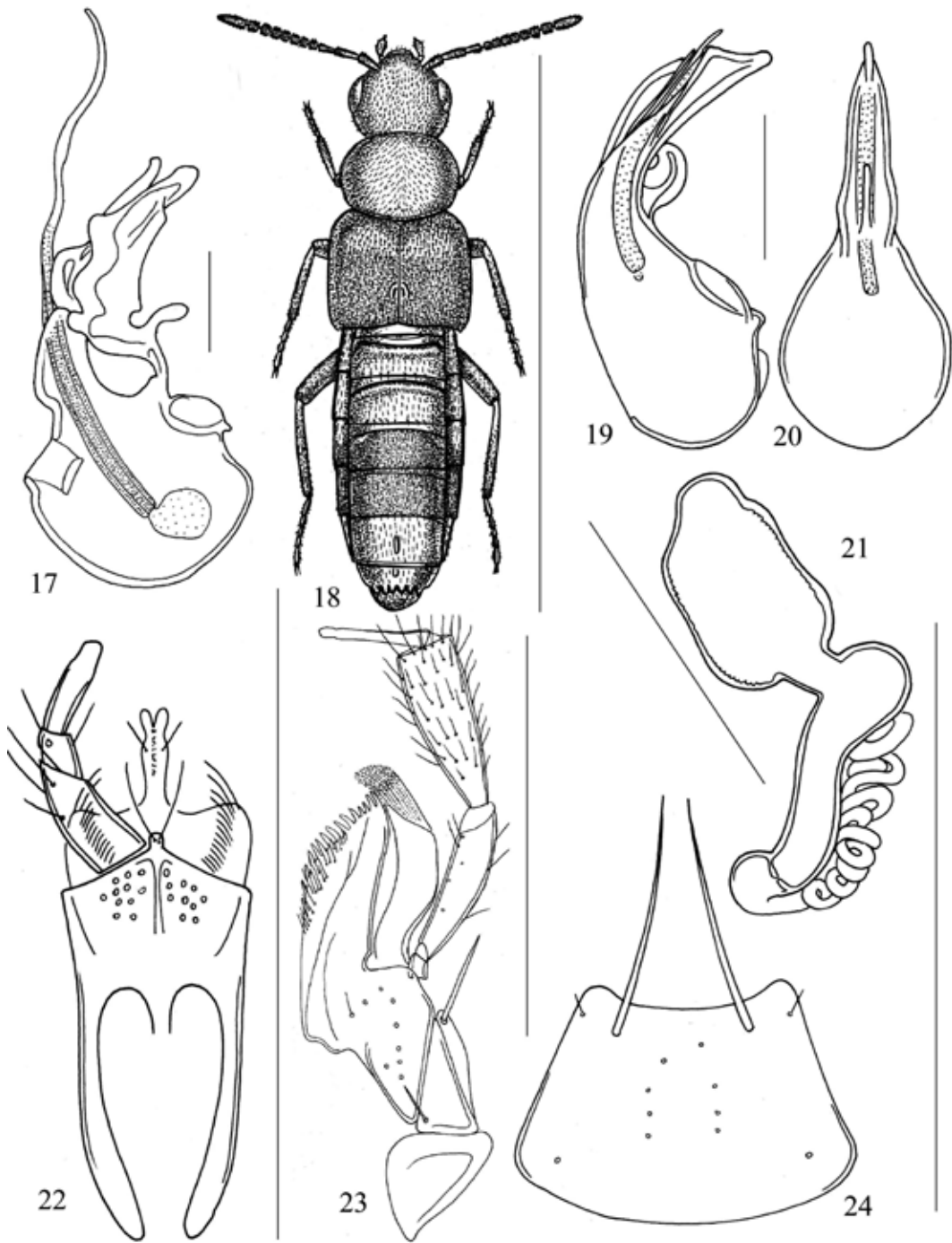
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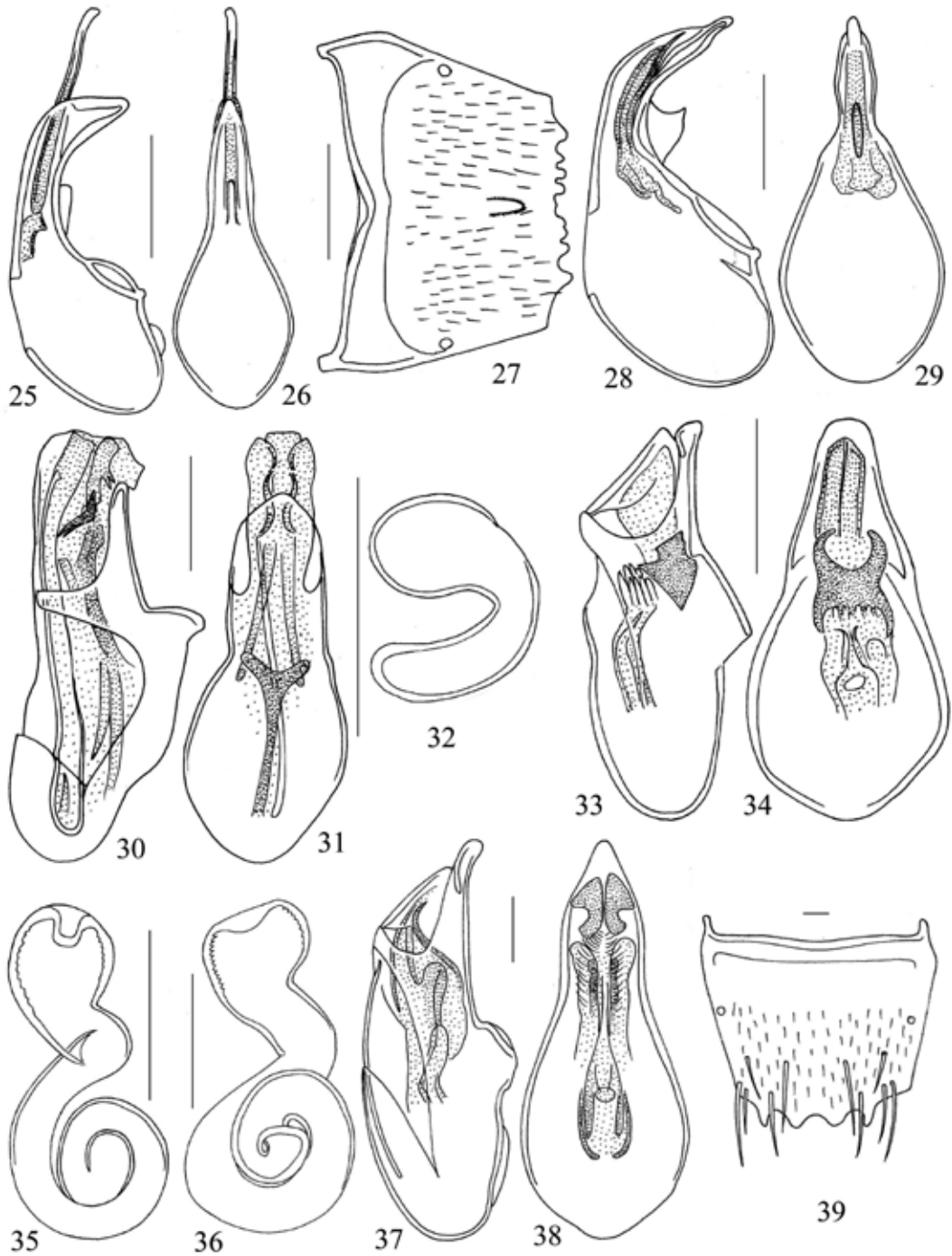
Figs 1–11. Habitus of: *Gyrophæna semicircularis* n. sp.: 1; *Symmachara dhilinzensis* n. sp.: 2; *Symmachara natalensis* n. sp.: 3; *Falagria (Falagria) burundensis* n. sp.: 4; *Atheta (Acrotona) basipennisoides* n. sp.: 5; *Atheta (Acrotona) promissionoides* n. sp.: 6; *Atheta (Acrotona) patefactor* n. sp.: 7; *Atheta (Oxypodera) kenyarobusta* n. sp.: 8; *Atheta (Oxypodera) kenyaminor* n. sp.: 9; *Atheta (Tropatheta) shimbaoides* n. sp.: 10; *Atheta (Tropatheta) cristakenyensis* n. sp.: 11. Scale bars: fig. 1: 1.6 mm; fig. 2: 1.96 mm; fig. 3: 2.4 mm; fig. 4: 2.5 mm; fig. 5: 2.2 mm; figs. 6: 2.1 mm; fig. 7: 2.5 mm; fig. 8: 3.9 mm; fig. 9: 3.4 mm; fig. 10: 2.4 mm; fig. 11: 2.4 mm.



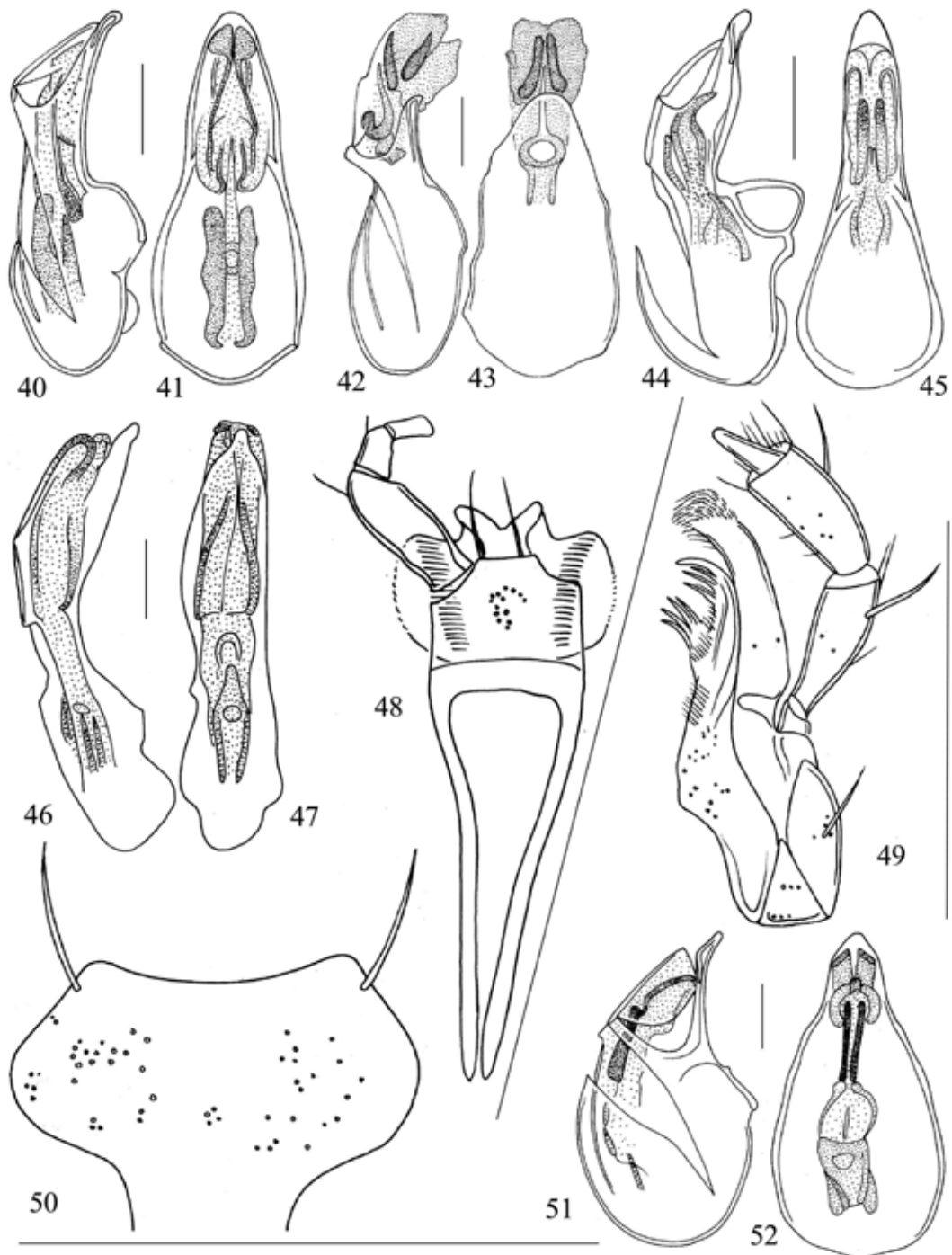
Figs 12–16. Habitus of: *Oncodethorax zimbabwensis* n. sp.: 12; *Zyras (Trachydonia) ofcolacoensis* n. sp.: 13; *Typhloponemys maliensis* n. sp.: 14; *Typhloponemys barbertonensis* n. sp.: 15; *Typhloponemys hazyviewensis* n. sp.: 16. Scale bars: fig. 12: 3.4 mm; fig. 13: 3.9 mm; fig. 14: 3.9 mm; fig. 15: 3.9 mm; fig. 16: 3.9 mm.



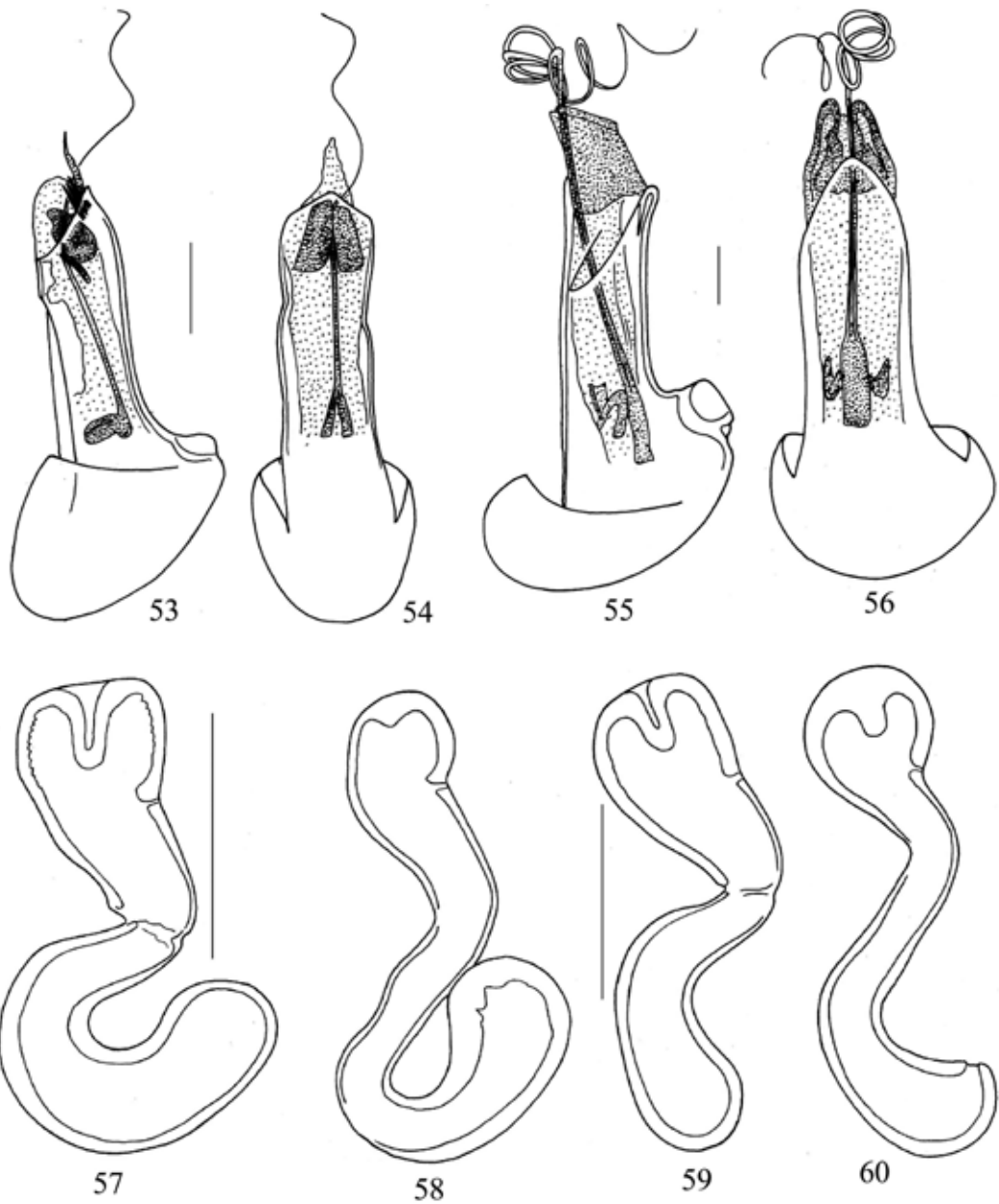
Figs 17–24. Aedeagus in lateral and ventral views, habitus, spermatheca, labium with labial palpus, maxilla with maxillary palpus, mentum. 17: *Gyrophaena semicircularisn.* sp.; 18–24: *Symmachara nigrotestacea* (Bernhauer, 1915) **comb. n.**, typical series. Scale bars: 0.1 mm.



Figs 25–39. Aedeagus in lateral and ventral views, sixth urotergite male, spermatheca. 25–27: *Symmachara dhilinzensis* n. sp.; 28–29: *Symmachara natalensis* n. sp.; 30–32: *Falagria (Falagria) burundensis* n. sp.; 33–34: *Atheta (Acrotona) basipennoides* n. sp.; 35: *Atheta (Acrotona) promissionoides* n. sp.; 36: *Atheta (Acrotona) patefactor* n. sp.; 37–39: *Atheta (Oxyptera) kenyarobusta* n. sp. Scale bars: 0.1 mm.



Figs 40–52. Aedeagus in lateral and ventral views, labium with labial palpus, maxilla with maxillary palpus, mentum. 40–41: *Atheta (Oxyptera) kenyaminor* n. sp.; 42–43: *Atheta (Tropatheta) shimbaoides* n. sp.; 44–45: *Atheta (Tropatheta) cristakenyensis* n. sp.; 46–50: *Oncodethorax zimbabwensis* n. sp.; 51–52: *Zyras (Trachydonia) ofcolacoensis* n. sp. Scale bars: 0.1 mm.



Figs 53–60. Aedeagus in lateral and ventral views, spermatheca. 53–54: *Typhloponemys maliensis* n. sp.; 55–57: *Typhloponemys barbertonensis* n. sp.; 58: *Typhloponemys mbalensis* Jacobson & Kistner (according to Jacobson & Kistner, 1975); 59: *Typhloponemys hazyviewensis* n. sp.; *Typhloponemys tanzaniensis* Jacobson & Kistner (according to Jacobson & Kistner, 1975). Scale bars: 0.1 mm.

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