

Cerambycidae (Coleoptera) of Saudi Arabia: Part I, Lamiinae

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Abstract: The present contribution deals with the members of the subfamily Lamiinae that are now known from Saudi Arabia. A total of 29 species or subspecies is recorded, and of these 7 are new to science: *Dinocephalus heissi* Holzschuh n. sp., *Freapomecyna holzschuhi* Téocchi n. sp., *Pterolophia* (*Arabopraonetha* Téocchi n. subgen.) *arabica* Téocchi n. sp., *Crossotus albicollis saudicola* Téocchi n. ssp., *Biobessa holzschuhi* Téocchi n. sp., *Sophronica talhouki* Holzschuh n. sp. and *Sophronica wittmeri* Holzschuh n. sp. Six species are newly recorded from the Arabian Peninsula, and 10 are recorded for the first time from Saudi Arabia. *Eunidia submarmorata* Breuning, 1968, and *E. naviauxi* Villiers, 1977, are new synonyms of *E. breuningae* Villiers, 1951. The genus *Paratitoceres* Breuning, 1962, is synonymised with *Titoceres* Thomson, 1868, and the subgenus *Arabosybrinus* Breuning, 1948, with the genus *Sophroniella* Breuning, 1943, which results in the following new combinations: *Titoceres arabicus* (Breuning, 1962) n. comb., *Sophroniella flavescens* (Breuning, 1948) n. comb., and *Sophroniella albosignata* (Breuning, 1948) n. comb.

العائلة Cerambycidae (رتبة غمدية الأجنحة)
في المملكة العربية السعودية
الجزء الأول ، Lamiinae
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الخلاصة: يتعلق هذا البحث بأفراد تحت العائلة Lamiinae المعروفة حالياً من المملكة العربية السعودية. ويشمل البحث تسجيلاً لتسع وعشرين نوعاً أو تحت نوع، منها سبعة أنواع جديدة للعلم، *Dinocephalus heissi*، *Freapomecyna holzschuhi*، *Pterolophia arabica*، *Crossotus albicollis saudicola*، *Biobessa holzschuhi*، *Sophronica talhouki*، *Sophronica wittmeri*. كما أن ستة أنواع منها هي تسجيلات جديدة من الجزيرة العربية و 10 أنواع سجل لأول مرة من المملكة العربية السعودية. كما يشمل البحث وضع بعض الأنواع والأجناس مرادفات لأنواع وأجناس أخرى.

INTRODUCTION

There has been very little information on the cerambycid fauna of Saudi Arabia, since most of the species hitherto recorded from the Arabian Peninsula have been collected in South or North Yemen. In recent times, thanks to the intensive collecting activities over many years of Prof. Dr. W. Büttiker and to those undertaken through the initiative of Prof. A. S. Talhouk, a great number of species have been discovered in Saudi Arabia. During a four-week collecting trip in Saudi Arabia undertaken by the senior author in March–April 1983, a surprisingly large number of species were collected, but this is easily understood when one remembers that collecting activities were directed specifically towards the capture of these longhorn beetles. In addition to the regular operation of a light trap, special efforts were made to search for larvae. During the subsequent efforts to rear this material through in Vienna, parasitism by Bethyridae (Hymenoptera) and mites was found to be at a relatively high level; furthermore, due to

lack of experience in rearing material from arid regions, a large percentage died during the winter. Nonetheless, the results of these rearing attempts have been very satisfactory, as several species only came to light as a result of this work and the host-plants of several species could be established for the first time.

SYSTEMATIC SECTION

Tribe Mesosini

Coptops aedificator (Fabricius, 1792) (fig. 1)

Lamia aedificator Fabricius, 1792. – Ent. Syst. 1 (2): 275 (type locality: "India orientalis").

Lamia ambulator Fabricius, 1775. – Syst. Ent.: 171 (type locality: "Insulis Luzonum").

Lamia fusca Olivier, 1792. – Encycl. méthod. 7: 462–463 (type locality: "Sénégal").

Lamia villica Olivier, 1792. – Encycl. méthod. 7: 468 (type locality: "Isle de Bourbon").

Lachmia parallela Serville, 1835. – Anns Soc. ent. Fr. 4: 64–65 (type locality: "Sénégal").

Coptops quadristigma Fähræus, 1872. – Oefvers. K. Vetensk. Akad. Förh. Stockh. 29 (2): 30 (type locality: "Caffrerie").

Material: Saudi Arabia: 1 ♀, An Namas, 10. IV. 1983, A. S. Talhouk et al.; 1 ♀, Fayfa, 30. VII. 1982, A. S. Talhouk; 1 ♀, Fayfa, 27–31. III. 1983, C. Holzschuh, fully formed within a pupal chamber in a branch of *Ficus salicifolia*. Material taken for rearing produced a further 4 ♂♂ and 8 ♀♀ between 8. IV. and 11. IX. 1983, 1 ♀ on 1. VI. 1985, and 1 ♀ on 5. III. 1986; 2 ♂♂ emerged on 16. VII. 1983 from an *Acacia* twig.

This species has already been recorded several times from the Arabian Peninsula, though only from South Yemen (GAHAN 1896, VILLIERS 1968), and this is the first record from Saudi Arabia. All the Saudi Arabian specimens are characterised by the rather rugose sculpture on the disc of the pronotum, the protuberances on the central part of the disc are not low but are sharply defined, and a short, narrow, rugose longitudinal channel is conspicuously developed along the middle of the pronotum. In these respects the Saudi Arabian material appears to differ consistently from specimens from Africa or south Asia and should perhaps be recognised as a distinct subspecies.

Over 50 species of trees and shrubs have been recorded as hosts of this highly polyphagous species in Africa (TÉOCCHI & MOURGLIA 1986); in Asia, BEESON (1961) has listed 37 different hosts in 31 genera.

Distribution: Tropical Africa, Madagascar, Mauritius, Réunion, Arabia, South Asia.

Tribe Tragocephalini

—*Dinocephalus heissi* Holzschuh n. sp. (fig. 2)

Holotype: ♂, Saudi Arabia, Asir National Park, Abha district, 2200 m, 7. VI. 1982, E. Heiss (in Holzschuh collection).

The new species has been compared with the ♂ type of *D. alboguttatus* Breuning, 1958 (type locality: "Abyssinien, Harrar") which it superficially resembles, but the two species are not closely related.

Colour: Black; mandibles reddish-brown; basal half of upper lip, legs and antennae dark reddish-brown, the latter black towards tip.

Hairs everywhere very fine, decumbent, reddish-grey; with small, roundish, somewhat paler, narrowly black-bordered spots on pronotum and elytra, the positions of which can best be seen from the figure; each side of the pronotum with two black-bordered, irregular longitudinal bands; the 11th black-bordered spot on each elytron, which is not visible when viewed from above, is situated on the lateral margin below the humerus. The sides of the metasternum are adorned with two such spots, whilst the sides of the first four visible sternites each have one such spot. Frons, cheeks, vertex and temples with more or less narrow, short, blackish longitudinal or transverse lines.

Head with only fine punctures, 1.1 times as broad as the pronotum at its widest point; frons much more conspicuously convex than in *D. alboguttatus*, with a strong longitudinal median keel and deep indentations between the antennal tubercles. Cheeks somewhat longer than the lower eye-flaps, the temples behind the latter rather distinctly pointed. Mandibles, viewed from the outer side, gradually becoming broader towards base on both sides. Antennae considerably shorter than in *D. alboguttatus*, the 7th segment being the first to reach the tip of the elytra; 3rd segment 1.1 times as long as 1st, 1.4 times as long as 4th, and 1.6 times as long as 5th; 11th segment at least twice as long as 10th and strongly tapering from middle to tip; 1st segment finely punctured.

Pronotum broadest at tip and at this point 1.2 times as broad as long and 1.1 times as broad as at base; the sides narrowing behind in an almost straight line. Disc with a shallow transverse constriction just before base, evenly convex, at its centre with extremely fine sparse punctures and somewhat shining.

Elytra 2.4 times as long as their width measured behind the weakly developed humeri, conspicuously narrowing posteriorly after the middle, the apex of each elytron evenly narrowly rounded; the lateral margin, viewed from the side, almost straight. Puncturation as dense as in *D. alboguttatus* but somewhat less strongly developed.

Legs: Shorter than in *D. alboguttatus*, the femora somewhat more strongly dilated, praetarsi much longer, hind tibia with conspicuous, projecting, blunt angle just before tip on the inner surface.

Length: 9.9 mm

D. alboguttatus differs most strikingly from the new species as follows: Head narrower than the pronotum at its broadest point, the latter broadest behind middle, antennae more than twice as long as the body and with the 5th segment reaching the tip of the elytra, mandibles on the outer surface suddenly very strongly dilated from the middle to base, elytra only 1.9 times as long as their width at the humeri, the latter very markedly protruding, lateral margin of the elytra when viewed from the side somewhat incised at the level of the hind coxae, femora more slender, praetarsi much shorter, inner surface of hind tibia at tip without an angular dilation, frons flat and without a dark pattern, pronotum without black-bordered spots laterally, the two basal spots on the disc of the pronotum more widely separated, each elytron with only nine black-bordered spots, the lower surface grey-haired and without spots.

Tribe Prosopocerini

Prosopocera albescens Breuning, 1938 (fig. 3)

Prosopocera albescens Breuning, 1938. – Atti Mus. civ. Stor. nat. Trieste 14: 110 (type locality: "Somalia").

Material: Saudi Arabia: 1 ♀, Fayfa, 27–31. III. 1983, emerged 14. IX. 1983 from the branch of a Leguminosae (not *Acacia*), C. Holzschuh; 1 ♂ in very poor condition, 81 km S of Biljurshi, 2000 m, VIII. 1979, G. Vogel.

The identification of these two specimens as *P. albescens* is not certain, although the type has been examined. Further material is needed to decide whether they can or should be separated from Breuning's species.

Distribution: Somalia, Saudi Arabia.

Tribe Apomecynini

Eunidia nebulosa Erichson, 1843 (fig. 4)

Eunidia nebulosa Erichson, 1843. – Arch. Naturgesch. 9 (1): 262 (type locality: "Angola").

Eunidia senilis Thomson, 1868. – Physis, Paris 2: 137–138 (type locality: "Natal").

Eunidia puncticollis Fähræus, 1872. – Oefvers. K. Vetensk. Akad. Förh. Stockh. 29 (2): 52 (type locality "Cafferie").

Eunidia rustica Fähræus, 1872. – Oefvers. K. Vetensk. Akad. Förh. Stockh. 29 (2): 53 (type locality "Caffrerie").

Paphraecia obliquepicta Fairmaire, 1894. – Anns Soc. ent. Belg. 38: 332 (type locality: "Abyssinie").

Eunidia mixta Gahan, 1909. – Bull. Mus. natn. Hist. nat. Paris 15: 73 (type locality: "Afrique orientalis anglaise: Voi").

Eunidia distinguenda Aurivillius, 1926. – Ann. Mus. civ. Stor. nat. Giacomo Doria 52: 480–481 (type locality: "Somaliland, Villagio Duca degli Abruzzi, zwischen El Bar und El Ellan").

Eunidia proxima Breuning, 1939. – Festschrift E. Strand 5: 215 (type locality: "Natal, Port Natal").

Eunidia gabonica Breuning, 1939. – Festschrift E. Strand 5: 214 (type locality: "Centr. Afr.: Gabun, Sankira").

Material: Already recorded from Saudi Arabia: 1 ♂, Fayfa, at light, 27–31. III. 1983, C. Holzschuh (TÉOCCHI 1987).

This is the only specimen known so far from the Arabian Peninsula.

Distribution: Throughout Africa, as far north as latitude 20°, Saudi Arabia. The species is represented in Madagascar by the subspecies *australis* Thomson, 1868.

Eunidia haplotrita Aurivillius, 1911 (fig. 5)

Eunidia haplotrita Aurivillius, 1911. – Ark. Zool. 7 (19): 32 (type locality: "Abyssinien, Harrar").

Material: Saudi Arabia: 1 ♂, Fayfa, at light, 27–31. III. 1983, C. Holzschuh.

This species is a new record for the Arabian Peninsula.

Distribution: Ethiopia, Somalia, Kenya, Saudi Arabia.

Eunidia breuningae Villiers, 1951 (fig. 6)

Eunidia breuningae Villiers, 1951. – Mém. Inst. fr. Afr. noire 10: 201, fig. 1 (type locality: "Air: Agadez, *Acacia*").

Eunidia submarmorata Breuning, 1968. – Atti Soc. ital. Sci. nat. Milano 107 (1): 91 (type locality: "Yemen: Est di Radà, Rocce Nere, 1880 m"), n. syn.

Eunidia naviauxi Villiers, 1977. – Bull. Soc. ent. Fr. 82: 168, fig. 1 (type locality: "Nord-Yémen, Achahli"), n. syn.

Material: Saudi Arabia: 1 ♂, Khamis Mushait, 15. VII. 1981, A. S. Talhouk; 1 ♂, Wadi Gaanah, 13–14. II. 1980, W. Büttiker; 1 ♂, Wadi Majarish, 1050 m, 6. IV. 1980, W. Büttiker; 1 ♂, Ash Sharaiy, 23. IX. 1978, W. Büttiker; 1 ♀, road from Abha to Gizan, km 28, Wadi Ad Dilla, 700 m, 2. X. 1979, W. Büttiker; 3 ♂♂, Gizan, 25–26. III. 1983, emerged from *Acacia* twigs on 28. VII. & 11. IX. 1983, C. Holzschuh; 1 ♀, Asir Mts, NW of Shuqayq, Muhail, 500 m, at light, 4. IV. 1983, C. Holzschuh.

Previously recorded from Saudi Arabia: Asir Mts, road from Abha to Gizan, km 28, Wadi Ad Dilla, 700 m, 22. IV. 1976 (HOLZSCHUH 1979).

Apart from the host-plant cited above with the type locality, no other hosts are known for this species in Africa.

The figure shows a specimen with a very contrasting colour pattern. Many specimens have almost no pattern because of the increasing pallour of the brown colouration, whilst others have predominantly ochraceous hairs in place of the usual grey ones. The types of the two names placed in new synonymy above were examined and do not differ from *E. breuningae*.

Distribution: Sahel zone, North Yemen, Saudi Arabia.

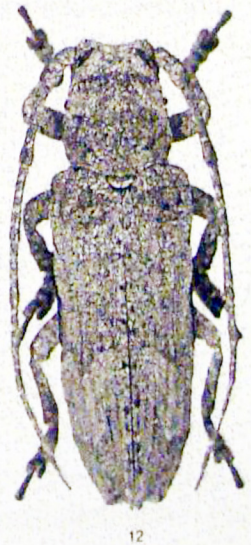
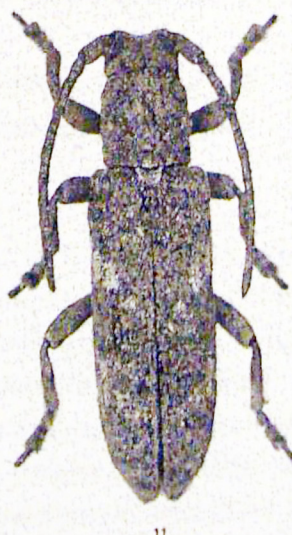
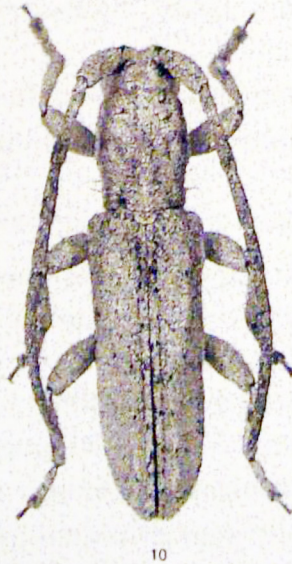
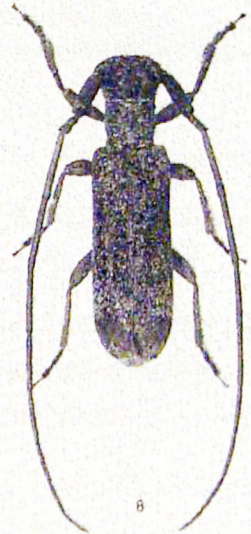
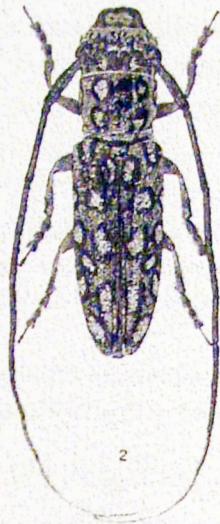
Eunidia arabica Breuning, 1968

Eunidia arabica Breuning, 1968. – Atti Soc. ital. Sci. nat. Milano 107 (1): 90 (type locality: "Yemen: U. Ezone, 1450 m").

Eunidia arabensis Breuning, 1969. – Bull. Soc. ent. Mulhouse: 104 (nom. nov. pro *E. arabica* Breuning, 1968, nec *E. kristenseni* morph *arabica* Breuning, 1962), n. syn.

Material: Saudi Arabia: 1 ♂, Fayfa, at light, 27–31. III. 1983, C. Holzschuh.

Figs 1–12: 1, *Coptops aedificator* (Fabricius, 1792), ♂, 13.6 mm (Saudi Arabia, Fayfa); 2, *Dinocephalus heissi* Holzschuh n. sp., holotype ♂, 10.5 mm (Saudi Arabia, Asir National Park, Abha); 3, *Prosopocera albescens* Breuning, 1938, ♀, 13.1 mm (Saudi Arabia, Fayfa); 4, *Eunidia nebulosa* Erichson, 1843, ♂, 11.3 mm (Saudi Arabia, Fayfa); 5, *Eunidia haplotrita* Aurivillius, 1911, ♂, 7.9 mm (Saudi Arabia, Fayfa); 6, *Eunidia breuningae* Villiers, 1951, ♂, 6.6 mm (Saudi Arabia, Gizan); 7, *Eunidia thomseni* Distant, 1898, ♀, 12.1 mm (Saudi Arabia, Fayfa); 8, *Eunidia kristenseni* Aurivillius, 1911, ♂, 5.2 mm (Saudi Arabia, Fayfa); 9, *Freapomecyna holzschuhi* Téocchi n. sp., holotype ♀, 10.3 mm (Saudi Arabia, Fayfa); 10, *Ogmocera sulcata* Aurivillius, 1908, ♂, 8.5 mm (Saudi Arabia, Gizan); 11, *Apomecyna scortecii* Breuning, 1968, ♂, 8.3 mm (Saudi Arabia, Wadi Daykah); 12, *Niphona appendiculata* Gerstaecker, 1871, ♂, 13.6 mm (Saudi Arabia, Fayfa).



New for the fauna of Saudi Arabia. This species is rather uniformly whitish-grey haired all over, and the upper surface has no pattern. The taxon *E. kristenseni* m. *arabica*, erected by BREUNING (1962), is unavailable as it is an infraspecific name. It is therefore not an older homonym of *E. arabica* Breuning, 1968, and no replacement name was required.

Distribution: South Yemen, Saudi Arabia (endemic).

Eunidia thomseni Distant, 1898 (fig. 7)

Eunidia Thomseni Distant, 1898. – Ann. Mag. nat. Hist. (7) 1: 377 (type locality: "Transvaal, Pienaars River").

Eunidia guttulata Aurivillius, 1908. – Ark. Zool. 4 (17): 8 (type locality: "Africa or.: Ikutha").

Eunidia Ferrandii Aurivillius, 1962. – Ann. Mus. civ. Stor. nat. Giacomo Doria 52: 482–483, fig. 6 (type locality: "Somaliland, Bardera").

Eunidia albicans Breuning, 1939. – Festschrift E. Strand 5: 211 (type locality: "Somaliland: 10°10'N 45°45'E, 500 m").

Eunidia Zavattarii Breuning, 1942. – Atti Mus. civ. Stor. nat. Trieste 15: 94 (type locality: "Italienisch Ostafrika, El Banno").

Eunidia guttata Breuning, 1957. – Anns Mus. r. Congo Belge, Sci. Zool. (8) 53: 71 (nom. nov. pro *E. guttulata* Aurivillius, 1908).

Eunidia thomseni subsp. *rubroscapus* Breuning, 1962. – Ent. Arb. Mus. Frey 13 (1): 71 (type locality: "Somaliland: Eil").

Eunidia apiceclarior Breuning, 1967. – Journ. Nat. Hist. 1: 297 (type locality: "Uganda: Hyabyeya").

Eunidia subalbicans Breuning, 1967. – Rev. Zool. Bot. Afr. 75 (1–2): 86 (type locality: "Sénégal").

Eunidia pseudoalbicans Breuning, 1968. – Bull. Soc. ent. Mulhouse: 86 (nom. nov. pro *E. subalbicans* Breuning, 1967, nec *E. subalbicans* Breuning, 1961).

Eunidia clarkei Breuning, 1974. – Rev. Zool. Bot. Afr. 88 (2): 414 (type locality: "Ethiopie: Prov. Kaffa, Mui").

Eunidia bicoloripennis Breuning, 1974. – Rev. Zool. Bot. Afr. 88 (2): 413 (type locality: "Ethiopie: Prov. Shoa, Awash Nat. Park, 1000 m").

Eunidia suturebrunnea Breuning, 1977. – Bull. Mus. Nat. Hist. Nat., Zool. (3) 434: 273 (type locality: "Ethiopie: Prov. Shoa, Anosh Park").

Material: Saudi Arabia: 1 ♀, Fayfa, at light, 27–31. III. 1983, C. Holzschuh.

This is a common and very variable species in Africa, and was previously recorded from the Arabian Peninsula, from Yemen, by BREUNING (1957). This is the first record from Saudi Arabia.

Distribution: East, South and South-West Africa, Yemen, Saudi Arabia.

Eunidia kristenseni Aurivillius, 1911 (fig. 8)

Eunidia Kristenseni Aurivillius, 1911. – Ark. Zool. 7 (19): 29–30 (type locality: "Abyssinien: Harrar; British Ostafrika: Ikutha").

Material: Saudi Arabia: 1 ♂, Fayfa, at light, 27–31. III. 1983, C. Holzschuh.

Previous records from Saudi Arabia: Hedjaz (BREUNING 1957); Buraiman, nr Jeddah, 7. I. 1946 (VILLIERS 1968).

Recorded from South Yemen by BREUNING (1962, 1968).

Distribution: North-East Africa, South Yemen, Saudi Arabia.

Freapomecyna holzschuhi Téoçchi n. sp. (fig. 9)

Holotype: ♀, SW Saudi Arabia, Fayfa, at light, 27–31. III. 1983, C. Holzschuh (in Holzschuh collection).

The genus *Freapomecyna* Breuning was previously known only from Africa. The new species is close to *F.* (ex *Pseudotrangocephala*) *albovariegata* Breuning, 1938 (= *F. rougemonti* Breuning, 1977) and *F. allardi* Breuning, 1969 (= *Parabelodasys fuscognata* Breuning, 1986).

Colour ochraceous-yellow to pale brown, with sparse whitish-grey hairs. Pronotum with three inconspicuous, faded, pale brown longitudinal stripes: one median, and one on each side of the disc. Elytra inconspicuously marbled in very faded pale brown, except for a small dark brown spot on each side of the scutellum. Tibiae with a dark spot outside, somewhat beyond base. Antennal segments 3–10 with the tips brown.

Head: Lower eye-flaps relatively small, subtrapezoidal in shape, somewhat shorter than the cheeks (large, subquadrate or subrectangular, somewhat longer than the cheeks in *F. albovariegata*); scape more slender, antennal segments 3–5 not slightly broadened at tips as in *F. albovariegata*, 4th segment distinctly longer than 5th (as in *F. allardi*, whereas in *F. albovariegata* 4th segment is somewhat longer than 5th).

Pronotum: Sides at middle with only a rounded protuberance (*F. albovariegata* and *F. allardi* have pointed lateral angles, sometimes in the form of a backwardly-curved spine).

Scutellum transverse, only at apex very broad and smoothly rounded.

Elytron: Broadly rounded at apex; the fine and dense puncturation can be clearly seen through the rather sparse hairs.

Length: 10.3 mm.

Ogmodera sulcata Aurivillius, 1908 (fig. 10)

Ogmodera sulcata Aurivillius, 1908. – Sjöst. Kilimandj. Exped. 7: 150 (type locality: "Kilimandjaro: Kibonoro, in der Steppe").

Material: Saudi Arabia: 1 ♂, 1 ♀, Wadi Jizan (Gizan), 9.XI.1978, Filipponi; 1 ♂, Hakimah, 14.IV.1971, collector not given.

This very characteristic species is new for the fauna of the Arabian Peninsula.

Distribution: Tanzania, Ethiopia, Saudi Arabia.

Apomecyna lameerei (Pic, 1895)

Eurycotyle Lameerei [sic] Pic, 1895. – Échange 11 (127): 77–78 (type locality: "Arabia").

Apomecyna arabica Breuning, 1938. – Novit. ent. 8: 50 (type locality: "Arabie: La Mecque").

Apomecyna arabica Mateui Breuning, 1953. – Bull. Inst. r. Sci. nat. Belg. 29 (8): 11 (type locality: "de Rio de Oro: Tuisgui, Remtz Dra").

Material: Saudi Arabia: 1 ♀, Wadi Majarish, 1020 m, 7.II.1980, W. Büttiker; 1 ♂, 80 km N of Riyadh, Thumama Park, 570 m, 24.III.1985, H. Kessler; 1 ♂, Bahara, 9.XII.1980, W. Büttiker; 3 ♂♂, 7 ♀♀, Wadi Huraymala, 25°09'N 46°08'E, 770 m, ex *Citrullus colocynthis* (L.) Schrad., emerged 11–25.VIII.1988, C.W. Mills; 1 ♀, 30 km W of Medina, 500 m, 27.IV.1979, Exp. N. Hedjaz.

Previously recorded from Saudi Arabia: Makkah, Bir Sanocia, 12.VIII.1944; Buraiman, nr Jeddah, 18.XI.1944; Musaina, 23.V.1938 (VILLIERS 1968). Riyadh, Araida, Selouly's Farm, 9.X.1975; Riyadh, Wadi Hanifa, 7.V.1976; Wadi Hanifa, 600 m, 25.IV.1976; Riyadh, Wadi Mizbil, 18.IV.1977; Riyadh, Wadi Shaib Luha, 30.IX.1976 (HOLZSCHUH 1979).

This widespread species is the most abundant Cerambycidae in Saudi Arabia. It is a considerably stouter species than the following one, and differs from it by having several small, conspicuous, smooth, more or less bare patches on the elytra, on the interspaces on each side of the whitish tomentose cross-bands, and also has the apex of each elytron truncated almost straight at its tip.

Distribution: North, West and East Africa, Arabia, Israel, Iraq, Iran, Pakistan.

Apomecyna scorteccii Breuning, 1968 (fig. 11)

Apomecyna scorteccii Breuning, 1968. – Atti Soc. ital. Sci. nat. Milano 107 (1): 90 (type locality: "Yemen: El Haurat, 1550 m").

Material: Saudi Arabia: 1 ♂, Wadi Daykah, 3–4.IV.1980, W. Büttiker; 1 ♂, Wadi Shuqub/Turabah, 1250 m, 21.IV.1980, W. Büttiker; 1 ♂, Muhayel, 4.III.1986, RAWRC; 1 ♂, Fayfa, 1240 m, 23.IX.1981, W. Büttiker.

This little-known species is new for the fauna of Saudi Arabia. It is much more slender than the preceding species, and differs from it above all by having the apex of each elytron with a short point at the middle.

Distribution: South Yemen, Saudi Arabia (endemic).

Tribe Pteropliini

Niphona appendiculata Gerstaecker, 1871 (fig. 12)

Niphona appendiculata Gerstaecker, 1871. – Arch. Naturgesch. 37 (1): 78 (type locality: "Zanzibar: Vom See Jipe").

Niphona sordida Fähræus, 1872. – Oefvers. K. Vetensk. Akad. Förh. Stockh. 29 (2): 35 (type locality: "Cafferrie").

Aelara severa Duvivier, 1892. – Ann. Soc. ent. Belg. 36: 360–361 (type locality: "Haut-Congo: Basoko").

Material: Saudi Arabia: Fayfa, 27–31. III. 1983, from material taken for rearing from *Ficus salicifolia* Vahl, 1 ♂, emerged 17. IV. 1983, 2 ♀♀, emerged 7. VIII. 1983, and 1 ♀, emerged 4. IX. 1983, C. Holzschuh.

New to the Arabian Peninsula. In the typical form, the blackish tomentose spot on the sides of the elytra takes the form of a narrow longitudinal line or broadens as far as the lateral margin (illustrated by BREUNING & TÉOCCHI 1982).

The following host-plants have been recorded in Central Africa (TÉOCCHI 1981): *Acacia* sp. (Leguminosae); *Albizzia adianthifolia* W. F. Wright and *A. zygia* Macbride (Mimosaceae); *Bosquieia phoberos* Baill. (Moraceae); *Hymenocardia ulmoides* Oliv. and *Manihot utilissima* Pohl (Euphorbiaceae); and *Manilkara* sp. (Sapotaceae).

Distribution: Tropical Africa, Saudi Arabia.

—*Pterolophia* Newman, subgen. *Arabopraonetha* Téocchi n. subgen.

Type species: *Pterolophia arabica* Téocchi n. sp.

The type species is curiously similar to *Ramularius unicolor* Breuning, 1960, which the author described in his revision of the Apomecynini of Black Africa. However, the new species differs by the divided eyes, the non-fringed inner surface of the antennae, and above all by the non-emarginate middle tibiae, and it therefore does not belong to the Apomecynini.

After rather protracted bibliographic researches, I am convinced that this can only be a member of the Pteropliini and is close to *Pterolophia* (*Principipraonetha*) *principis* Aurivillius. Before describing the new subgenus, I should like to point out that all the *Pterolophia* species that I have been able to examine have the eyes divided: the upper eye-flaps are separated from the lower ones only by a narrow strip which is devoid of eye-facets; the eyes are therefore not "subdivisés" as BREUNING (1961) has stated in his revision of the genus.

The new subgenus *Arabopraonetha* Téocchi is placed close to *Principipraonetha* Breuning and differs from it in the following characters: The tips of the tibiae have on their upper surface a comb of short, strong, stiff, spinose bristles, and the apex of each elytron is produced into a pointed lobe.

—*Pterolophia* (*Arabopraonetha*) *arabica* Téocchi n. sp. (fig. 13)

Holotype: ♀, SW Saudi Arabia, Gizan, at light, 25–26. III. 1983, C. Holzschuh (in Holzschuh collection).

Very slender, and identical in appearance to *Ramularius unicolor* Breuning. Colour reddish-brown, with several small, irregularly arranged, roundish, dark spots on the elytra.

Hairs: Uniformly dirty white, densely scaly; the scales are very sparse on the dark spots of the elytra, which therefore appear somewhat marbled.

Head: Frons transverse; the lower eye-flaps almost triangular, almost as long as the cheeks; the upper flaps bead-like, separated from each other by somewhat less than three times the width of a flap. Antennae less fine, hardly reaching the middle of the elytra, not haired on their lower surface; scape short, hardly more than twice as long as 2nd segment, the following segments becoming progressively shorter and the length of each segment not twice as long as its diameter.

Pronotum rather longer than broad, subcylindrical.

Scutellum transverse, almost rectangular.

Elytra very long, slightly constricted in the first third, then parallel, and after the middle gradually tapering posteriorly; puncturation dense and strong, arranged in rather regular longitudinal rows, the interspaces on the dark spots also with individual punctures, each puncture with a very short white hair-scale; interspaces 2, 4 and 6 in particular are more deeply incised than the others.

Length: 6.5 mm

Tribe Ancytonotini

Idactus cristulatus (Fairmaire, 1885) (fig. 14)

Pogonocherus cristulatus Fairmaire, 1885. – Anns Soc. ent. Fr. (6) 5: 458 (type locality: "Obock").

Idactus assimilis Breuning, 1938. – Festschrift E. Strand 4 [1937]: 214–215 (type locality: "Arabien: Ktubu").

Material: Saudi Arabia: 2 ♂♂, Fayfa, at light, 27–31. III. 1983, C. Holzschuh; 1 ♂, same locality, reared from *Calotropis procera*, emerged 12. IV. 1983; 1 ♀, Fayfa, 3. X. 1984, A. S. Talhouk; 1 ♂, 2 ♀♀, Gizan, at light, 25–26. III. 1983, C. Holzschuh; 2 ♂♂, same locality, reared from branches of *Commiphora opobalsamum*, emerged 17. IV. 1983; 1 ♂, NW of Gizan, Shuqayq, at light, 2. IV. 1983, C. Holzschuh.

There are previous records from Saudi Arabia: Jeddah, Buraiman, 16. III. 1946, and Lith, I. 1945 (VILLIERS 1968).

Arabian specimens may belong to a separate subspecies, because the lateral tooth of the pronotum and the veins on the elytra are only weakly distinct.

Distribution: Somalia, South Yemen, Oman, Saudi Arabia.

Idactus bettoni Gahan, 1898 (fig. 15)

Idactus Bettoni Gahan, 1898. – Ann. Mag. nat. Hist. (7) 2: 46–47 (type locality: "Samburu and Voi, Brit. E. Africa").

Material: Saudi Arabia: 1 ♂, Fayfa, at light, 27–31. III. 1983, C. Holzschuh.

One previous record from Saudi Arabia: Fayfa, 23. X. 1983 (TÉOCCHI 1988).

These are the only two specimens so far known from the Arabian Peninsula.

Distribution: East Africa, south to Mozambique, Namibia, Saudi Arabia.

Paraphloeus scorteccii Breuning, 1968 (fig. 16)

Paraphloeus scorteccii Breuning, 1968. – Atti Soc. ital. Sci. nat. Milano 107 (1): 92 (type locality: "Arabie: Taiz, 1350 m").

Material: Saudi Arabia: 1 ♂, Fayfa, at light, 27–31. III. 1983, C. Holzschuh.

This species is new for the fauna of Saudi Arabia.

Distribution: South Yemen, Saudi Arabia (endemic).

Tribe Crossotini

Crossotus strigifrons (Fairmaire, 1885)

Dichostates strigifrons Fairmaire, 1885. – Anns Soc. ent. Fr. (6) 5: 457 (type locality: "Soudan").

Crossotus arabicus. – Holzschuh 1979, Fauna of Saudi Arabia 1: 294 [misidentification].

Material: Saudi Arabia: 1 ♂, 1 ♀, Asir Mts, SE of Taif, Wadi Qust, 1400 m, 6. IV. 1983, emerged 16. VII. & 21. VIII. 1983; SE of Taif, Wadi Shuqub, 1300 m, 7. IV. 1983, 2 ♂♂, emerged 27. IV. 1983, 1 ♀, emerged 22. VII. 1983 and 1 ♂, emerged 4. IX. 1983; 4 ♂♂, 4 ♀♀, Asir Mts, NW of Shuqayq, 500 m, 4. IV. 1983, emerged 12. IV.–28. VIII. 1983; 1 ♂, 1 ♀, Gizan, 25–26. III. 1983, emerged 7. & 28. VIII. 1983; 1 ♂, 1 ♀, Fayfa, 27–31. III. 1983, emerged 16. VII. 1983; 1 ♂, 1 ♀, 85 km W of Najran, 10. IV. 1983, emerged 25. VI. & 16. VII. 1983. All specimens reared from relatively thin *Acacia* twigs, collector C. Holzschuh.

Previous records from Saudi Arabia are: Jiddat el Harash, XII. 1946–I. 1947; Asir, El Mahala, 19. IX. 1944; K. Wir, 8. II. 1947; West Shibun, 12. II. 1947; Buraiman, nr Jeddah, 24. I. 1946; West Boi, 4. II. 1947 (VILLIERS 1968); Asir Mts, Khamis-Mushayt, IV. 1971 (as *Crossotus arabicus*: HOLZSCHUH 1979).

This species is characterised by the presence of three weak longitudinal keels on the vertex, of which the middle one is usually the most conspicuous. Specimens with a contrasting dark pattern commonly occur alongside specimens that are almost uniformly grey.

Distribution: Ethiopia, Somalia, Sudan, Arabia.

Crossotus arabicus Gahan, 1896

Crossotus arabicus Gahan, 1896. – Ann. Mag. nat. Hist. (6) 18 (108): 458 (type locality: "Lahej").

Crossotus subocellatus. – Holzschuh 1979, Fauna of Saudi Arabia 1: 294, fig. 9 [misidentification].

Material: Saudi Arabia: 1 ♂, 2 ♀♀, S of Riyadh, Al Hair, 550 m, 17. IV. 1983, emerged 12. V. 1983; SW of Riyadh, Sulayyil, 600 m, 11. IV. 1983, 1 ♂, completely formed inside its pupal chamber, and 1 ♀, emerged 28. VIII. 1983; 1 ♂, completely formed inside its pupal chamber, SE of Jeddah, Shawag, 5. IV. 1983; 2 ♂♂, 1 ♀, Fayfa, active at night on a dead *Acacia*, 27–31. III. 1983; 1 ♂, dead inside its pupal chamber in an unidentified tree species, same locality, and 1 ♂, emerged 21. VIII. 1983; 1 ♀, Gizan, at light, 25–26. III. 1983; 2 ♀♀, same locality, emerged 8. IV. & 31. VII. 1983. All reared specimens were from *Acacia* branches, collector C. Holzschuh.

Previous records from Saudi Arabia are: Jidda, la Mecque (BREUNING 1942). Jiddat el Harash, XII. 1946–I. 1947; Haband, 16. III. 1947; West Herkot, 12. II. 1947 (VILLIERS 1968). Asir Mts, road from Abha to Gizan, km 28, Wadi Ad Dilla, 700 m, 22. IV. 1976 (as *Crossotus subocellatus*: HOLZSCHUH 1979).

It is possible that the specimens recorded from Saudi Arabia as *C. subocellatus* (Fairmaire) by BREUNING (1942) and VILLIERS (1968) also belong here. At all events, we have seen no specimens of *C. subocellatus* from Saudi Arabia.

Distribution: Somalia, Arabia.

Crossotus albicollis saudicola Téocchi n. ssp.

Crossotus albicollis. – Holzschuh 1979, Fauna of Saudi Arabia 1: 294, fig. 10.

Holotype: ♂, SW Saudi Arabia, Fayfa, 27–31. III. 1983, emerged ex *Acacia* 21. VIII. 1983, C. Holzschuh (in Holzschuh collection).

Paratypes: Saudi Arabia: 3 ♂♂, 3 ♀♀, same locality, emerged 12. IV.–11. IX. 1983; 1 ♂, 1 ♀, Gizan, 25–26. III. 1983, emerged ex *Acacia* 12. IV. & 28. VIII. 1983, C. Holzschuh; 1 ♂, NW of Shuqayq, Muhail, 500 m, 4. IV. 1983, emerged ex *Acacia*, 12. IV. 1983, C. Holzschuh; 1 ♂, 1 ♀, Muhayel, 4. III. 1986, RAWRC; 1 ♂, road from Abha to Gizan, km 28, Wadi Ad Dilla, 700 m, 22. IV. 1974, Wittmer & Büttiker. (Paratypes also in NHM Basel and in Téocchi collection.)

The new subspecies differs from specimens of the nominate form from West Africa by the somewhat smaller lower eye-flaps: the distance between the two flaps on the frons, measured at the upper eye-angle, is conspicuously more than twice the width of a flap (in the nominate form, this distance is less than the width of one flap); by the blackish or yellowish tufts of hairs after the middle of the elytra, which are placed closer to the suture than to the lateral margin (in the nominate form, closer to the side than to the suture); and by the somewhat paler colouration.

Length: 8.9–11.5 mm.

Biobessa holzschuhi Téocchi n. sp. (fig. 17)

Holotype: ♀, SW Saudi Arabia, Fayfa, 27–31. III. 1983, ex unidentified small dry twig, emerged 6. V. 1983, C. Holzschuh (in Holzschuh collection).

Very similar to *B. albopunctata* Breuning and perhaps only a subspecies of that species. For this reason, only the differences from this species are given here.

Hairs paler than in *B. albopunctata*, similarly beige or pale yellowish-grey. Furthermore, there is a velvety, dark brown, oval spot below the humerus, which is also present in *B. albopunctata* but which was not mentioned in the original description of that species.

Body more slender. Lower eye-flaps smaller and not as long as the cheeks (longer than the cheeks in *B. albopunctata*); upper flaps separated from each other by 5–6 times the width of a flap (by 2.5 times the width of a flap in *B. albopunctata*); the two brush-like hair-tufts on the occiput much longer.

Pronotum conspicuously widened and arched in apical part when compared with its base (scarcely higher, and narrower, in *B. albopunctata*); the lateral tooth is distinctly more weakly developed, whilst there are only three tubercles present on the disc: two in front and one behind the middle (eight tubercles present in *B. albopunctata*: two small latero-discal ones in front, two discals in front of and two behind the middle, and two along the longitudinal mid-line).

Length: 13.6 mm.

Tribe Ceroplesini

— *Ceroplesis elegans* Gestro, 1889 (fig. 18)

Ceroplesis elegans Gestro, 1889. – Ann. Mus. civ. Stor. nat. Giacomo Doria (2) 7: 70–71 (type locality: "Yemen meridionale: Tes").

Material: Saudi Arabia: 1 ♂, 1 ♀, Makkah, Al Uqdah, 21°07'N 40°25'E, 1780 m, 21–22.VIII.1984, W. Büttiker.

This species can be easily recognised just by its colour pattern. It is recorded here for the first time from Saudi Arabia, and was previously recorded from North Yemen by VILLIERS (1977).

Distribution: North and South Yemen, Saudi Arabia (endemic).

— *Ceroplesis millingeni* Pic, 1895 (fig. 19)

Cerophesis [sic] *Millingeni* Pic, 1895. – Échange 11 (127): 77 (type locality: "Arabie").

+ *Ceroplesis atropos*. – Holzschuh 1979, Fauna of Saudi Arabia 1: 294 [misidentification].

Material: Saudi Arabia: 2 ♂♂, Asir Mts, An Namas, 2400 m, crawling around by day on dead *Acacia* branches, 8.IV.1983, C. Holzschuh; 11 ♂♂, 5 ♀♀, same locality, reared from branches containing larvae, emerged 10.V.–18.IX.1983; 1 ♀, Abha, 2260 m, 4.X.1984, W. Büttiker; 1 ♂, Biljurshi, 2350 m, 13.IX.1983, W. Büttiker; 2 ♂♂, 3 ♀♀, Wadi Aziza, 18°13'N 42°28'E, 2400 m, 18.IX.1983, W. Büttiker; 1 ♂, 1 ♀, Lahifa, 7.IX.1984, W. Büttiker.

Previously recorded from Saudi Arabia: Asir Mts, Qaraah Village, 2000 m, 18.IV.1976 (as *Ceroplesis atropos*: HOLZSCHUH 1979).

This is the second most commonly collected Lamiine species in Saudi Arabia. It develops in *Acacia* branches and also lives in relatively slender twigs with a diameter of 1.5 cm or more. Because of the size of the larvae, the inside of such twigs is completely consumed so that only the covering of bark remains.

Distribution: Saudi Arabia (endemic).

— *Titoceres arabicus* (Breuning, 1962) n. comb. (fig. 20)

Paratitoceres arabicus Breuning, 1962. – Ann. Mag. nat. Hist. (13) 5: 235 (type locality: "N-Yemen: Sana Distr. Sur *Acacia*").

Material: Saudi Arabia: 1 ♀, Taif, 26.VI.1983, collector not given; 1 ♂, 1 ♀, Maraba, 30.IX.1978, W. Büttiker; 1 ♂, Asir Mts, NW of Shuqayq, Muhail, 500 m, 4.IV.1983, emerged ex *Acacia* 1.IX.1983, C. Holzschuh; 1 ♀, Fayfa, at light, 27–31.III.1983, C. Holzschuh.

The holotype, in the British Museum (Natural History), London, is a very defective specimen in which the elytra in particular are very deformed. The differences given by Breuning between *Paratitoceres* Breuning, 1962, and *Titoceres* Thomson, 1868, are not correct and the former genus thus falls as a synonym of the latter. The principal differences between this species and *T. jaspideus* (Serville, 1835) are the much stronger and bluntly rounded lateral spines on the pronotum and the much less strongly

convex post-basal disc of the elytra behind the scutellum. The species is new to Saudi Arabia. It is probable that the specimens of *T. jaspideus* recorded from South Yemen (GESTRO 1889) actually belong to this species.

Distribution: North and South Yemen, Saudi Arabia (endemic).

Tribe Rhodopini

Sophroniella flavescens (Breuning, 1948) n. comb. (fig. 21)

Sybrinus (*Arabosybrinus*) *flavescens* Breuning, 1948. – Bull. Mus. r. Hist. nat. Belg. 24 (47): 16 (type locality: "Arabie: Aden").

Material: Saudi Arabia: Najran, 24.III.1983, ex *Calotropis procera*, 1 ♂, emerged 4.IV., 1 ♂, emerged 17.IV., 1 ♀, emerged 31.VII., and 1 ♀, emerged 4.IX.1983, C. Holzschuh.

This and the following species were both incorrectly described into the genus *Sybrinus* Gahan, 1900. The subgenus *Arabosybrinus* Breuning, 1948, erected at that time, thus becomes a synonym of *Sophroniella* Breuning, 1943. This is the first record of this species from Saudi Arabia.

Distribution: South Yemen, Saudi Arabia (endemic).

Sophroniella albosignata (Breuning, 1948) n. comb. (fig. 22)

Sybrinus (*Arabosybrinus*) *albosignatus* Breuning, 1948. – Bull. Mus. r. Hist. nat. Belg. 24 (47): 16 (type locality: "Arabie: Aden").

Material: Saudi Arabia: Fayfa, 27–31.III.1983, ex *Calotropis procera*, 1 ♀, emerged 6.V.1983, 1 ♂, emerged 9.VII.1983, C. Holzschuh; 1 ♀, Hofuf, 28.VI.1981, collector not given.

The species is new for the fauna of Saudi Arabia.

Distribution: Yemen, Saudi Arabia (endemic).

Sophronica talhouki Holzschuh n. sp. (fig. 23)

Holotype: ♂, SW Saudi Arabia, Gizan, at light, 25–26.III.1983, C. Holzschuh (in Holzschuh collection).

Paratypes: Saudi Arabia: 1 ♂, same data; 1 ♀, same locality, 22.II.1979, A.S. Talhouk; 1 ♀, SW Saudi Arabia, Fayfa, at light, 27–31.III.1983, C. Holzschuh (in NHM Basel and Holzschuh collection).

This species is compared with *S. arabica* Breuning, 1962, the ♂ type of which has been studied.

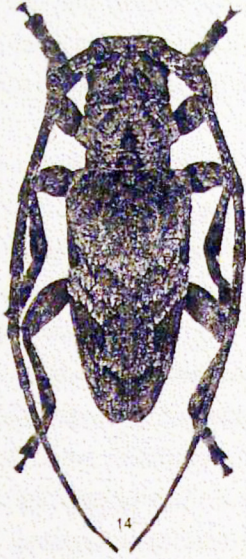
Colour: Pale reddish-brown with blackish tips to the mandibles as in *S. arabica*, but head, antennae and pronotum not darker, at most the latter with the fore and hind margins somewhat darkened; elytra broadly darkened blackish along the lateral margin, though irregularly delimited next to the scutellum and the suture, but the apical point remaining pale; the disc of each elytron sometimes somewhat darker marked on the irregular bare patches. Legs yellowish-brown.

There are three kinds of hairs. 1: Covered all over with ochraceous, relatively dense, decumbent ground-hairs, almost absent only on the frons of the ♂; on the pronotum these hairs appear very irregular and pointing in different directions; on the antennae they are interrupted by the coarse

Figs 13–24: 13, *Pterolophia arabica* Téocchi n. sp., holotype ♀, 6.5 mm (Saudi Arabia, Gizan); 14, *Idactus cristulatus* (Fairmaire, 1885), ♀, 9.8 mm, (Saudi Arabia, Gizan); 15, *Idactus bettoni* Gahan, 1898, ♂, 12.6 mm (Saudi Arabia, Fayfa); 16, *Paraphloeus scortecii* Breuning, 1968, ♂, 14.1 mm (Saudi Arabia, Fayfa); 17, *Biobessa holzschuhi* Téocchi n. sp., holotype ♀, 13.6 mm (Saudi Arabia, Fayfa); 18, *Ceroplesis elegans* Gestro, 1889, ♂, 31 mm (Saudi Arabia, Makkah, Al Uqdah); 19, *Ceroplesis millingeni* Pic, 1895, ♂, 25 mm (Saudi Arabia, Asir Mts, An Namas); 20, *Titoceres arabicus* (Breuning, 1962), ♀, 24 mm (Saudi Arabia, Taif); 21, *Sophroniella flavescens* (Breuning, 1948), ♂, 10.3 mm (Saudi Arabia, Najran); 22, *Sophroniella albosignata* (Breuning, 1948), ♂, 8.7 mm (Saudi Arabia, Fayfa); 23, *Sophronica talhouki* Holzschuh n. sp., ♂, 6.3 mm (Saudi Arabia, Fayfa); 24, *Sophronica wistmeri* Holzschuh n. sp., ♂, 5.8 mm (Saudi Arabia, Fayfa).



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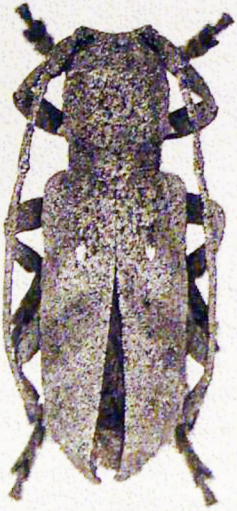
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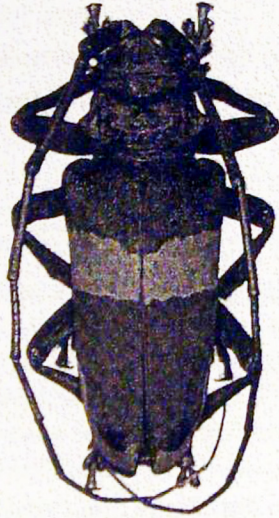
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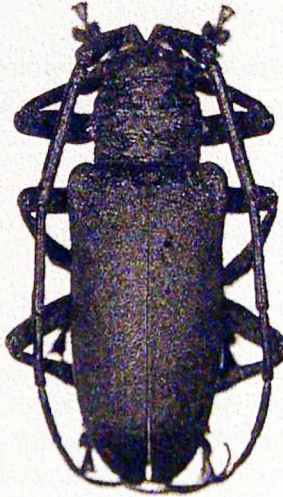
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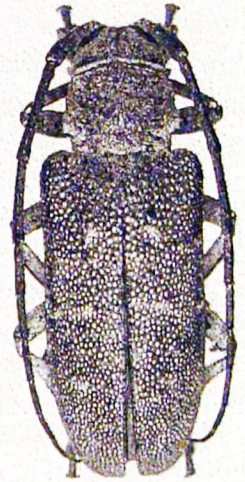
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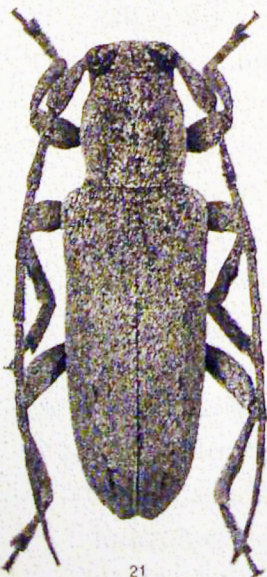
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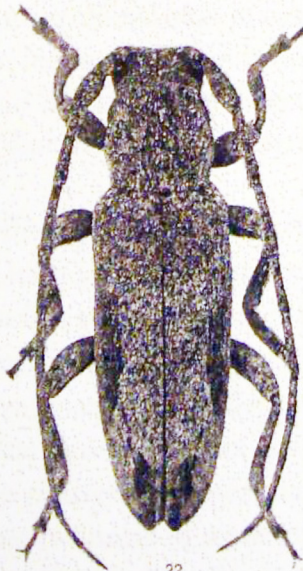
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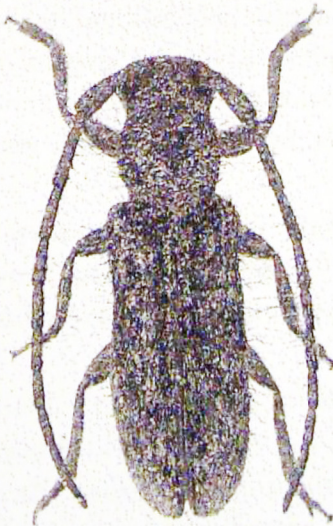
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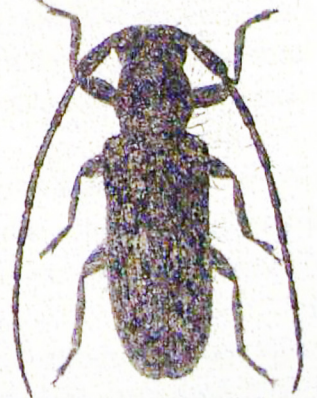
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punctures; on the elytra they appear dappled because of some small, irregularly arranged bare patches or patches with much less dense hairs. 2: The elytra in particular are entirely covered with relatively very long, oblique, pale hairs. 3: All over there are some conspicuously longer, erect, pale hairs which give the beetle a shaggy appearance; these long hairs encircle the antennae, particularly on the basal segments.

Head: Lower eye-flaps about twice as long as the cheeks; upper flaps separated from each other by about the width of one flap. Frons somewhat less densely punctured than the vertex and more strongly shining. In the ♂ the antennae reach over the elytra at most by a trace, but in the ♀ they are only a little shorter; 1st segment relatively densely punctured, 1.1 to 1.2 times as long as 3rd, 1.3 times as long as 4th, and a good 1.5 times as long as 5th.

Pronotum at its widest point behind middle 1.2 times as wide as long, about as long as its width at tip or at base; the sides strongly rounded rather as in *S. arabica*. Disc evenly convex, practically without any transverse constriction, strongly but less densely punctured than in *S. arabica*.

Elytra 2.2 times as long as their width at the humeri, the sides hardly narrowed behind, the apex rounded. Disc very coarsely punctured in basal half, twice as strongly as in *S. arabica*, with traces of rows indicated at most in the middle of each elytron, the apex only finely punctured; the post-basal indentation more or less distinct.

Length: 5.8–8.1 mm.

S. arabica differs in particular by its stouter body, distinctly shorter antennae, much weaker and entirely irregular punctures on the elytra, darker coloured head, antennae and pronotum, and the almost uniformly tomentose elytra.

—*Sophronica wittmeri* Holzschuh n. sp. (fig. 24)

Holotype: ♂, Saudi Arabia, Gizan, at light, 25–26. III. 1983, C. Holzschuh (in Holzschuh collection).

Paratypes: Saudi Arabia: 1 ♂, 1 ♀, same data; 3 ♂♂, 11 ♀♀, same data, ex dry twigs of *Euphorbia triaculeata*, emerged between 22.V. & 7.VIII. 1983; 2 ♂♂, Gizan, Sabiyah, 16. II. 1985, W. Büttiker; 1 ♂, 1 ♀, Fayfa, 1240 m, 23. IX. 1981, W. Büttiker; 1 ♂, 5 ♀♀, Fayfa, at light, 27–31. III. 1983, C. Holzschuh; 1 ♀, Asir Mts, NW of Shuqayq, Muhail, 500 m, 4. IV. 1983, ex dry *Euphorbia triaculeata*, emerged 17. VI. 1983, C. Holzschuh; 1 ♂, 1 ♀, Wadi Juwa, 8. II. 1986, J. Grainger. (In NHM Basel, Ent. Lab. RAWRC Riyadh, Holzschuh collection, Téocchi collection).

Very closely related, and very similar, to the preceding species, *S. talhouki*, so that only the differences are enumerated in this description.

Colour: Somewhat darker reddish-brown than in *S. talhouki*, the head almost always distinctly darker, the pronotum often darker in colour on fore and hind margins; elytra mostly dark reddish-brown with one more or less large reddish-brown longitudinal streak on the middle of the disc of each elytron, but the suture and lateral margin always very narrowly pale in colour; the tip of each antennal segment always narrowly darkened, rarely 1st segment unicolourous. Head, pronotum and elytra rarely uniformly reddish-brown.

Hairs not different from *S. talhouki*, with exactly the same dappled arrangement on the elytra, the semi-erect hairs long and the vertically erect hairs even longer; on the pronotum the decumbent hairs are arranged in a less swirling manner and on each side of the mid-line there is always a short, more or less bare, elongated spot.

Head: Eyes very large, lower flaps about 4 times as long as the cheeks, upper flaps separated from each other by less than 1.5 times the width of a flap. Frons as densely punctured as in *S. arabica*. Antennae of the ♂ slightly longer than the body, and also in the ♀ at least as long as the body, the individual segments similar in structure to those of *S. talhouki*.

Pronotum exactly as in *S. talhouki*, rarely a little broader than long. Disc usually rather conspicuously more densely punctured, and usually more strongly shining on the two bare patches.

Elytra not differing from those of *S. talhouki*, and puncturation often equally strong.

Length: 5.4–7.2 mm.

S. talhouki differs from this new species by its much smaller eyes, unicolourous antennae, and more densely tomentose pronotum which lacks bare patches.

ZOOGEOGRAPHY

It is not surprising that the Lamiinae of Saudi Arabia show very close affinities with the Afrotropical fauna since the available material originates almost entirely from that part of the peninsula that is assigned mainly to the Afrotropical zoogeographic region. About half the species are endemic to the Arabian Peninsula and, with one exception, their closest relatives are to be found in Africa. This exception is *Apomecyna scorteccii* Breuning, which is very close to *A. fallaciosa* Breuning from India. The other species have a more or less wide distribution in Africa; one of them, *Coptops aedificator* (Fabricius), is also widespread in the Oriental region, whilst another, *Apomecyna lameerei* (Pic) from Central Saudi Arabia, also extends far into the Palaearctic region.

HOST PLANTS

Lamiinae have been reared from the following host plants in Saudi Arabia:

Asclepiadaceae:

Calotropis procera (Ait.) Ait. f.:

Idactus cristulatus (Fairmaire)

Sophroniella flavescens (Breuning)

Sophroniella albosignata (Breuning)

Burseraceae:

Commiphora opobalsamum (L.) Engl.:

Idactus cristulatus (Fairmaire)

Cucurbitaceae:

Citrulus colocynthis (L.) Schrad.:

Apomecyna lameerei (Pic)

Euphorbiaceae:

Euphorbia triaculeata Forssk.:

Sophronica talhouki Holzschuh n. sp.

Leguminosae:

Acacia spp.:

Coptops aedificator (Fabricius)

Eunidia breuningae Villiers

Crossotus strigifrons (Fairmaire)

Crossotus arabicus Gahan

Crossotus albicollis saudicola Téocchi n. ssp.
Ceroplesis millingeni Pic
Titoceres arabicus (Breuning)

Moraceae:

Ficus salicifolia Vahl:
Coptops aedificator (Fabricius)
Niphonia appendiculata Gerstaecker

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The senior author is extremely grateful to Dr. h. c. W. Wittmer (Basel), who originally suggested that he should undertake the fieldwork in Saudi Arabia in 1983 (22 March to 18 April), to Mr. Abdul Aziz el Mudbil, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, who arranged for the entry visa, and to Prof. Dr. A. S. Talhouk who organised the execution of the field-trips in such an efficient manner. Without this assistance it would not have been possible to make such a relatively extensive collection in the short time available. Considerable support was also received from Mr. Radhi Abozuhairah and Mr. Sarko Tilkian of the Division of Entomology, Ministry of Agriculture and Water, Riyadh, who as drivers and collectors also contributed substantially to the success of this visit.

We also thank Dr. M. Brancucci (Basel) and Prof. W. Büttiker (Basel) for the loan of material, and Ms. M. Gschwandt of the photographic laboratory of the Forstliche Bundesversuchsanstalt, Vienna, for the excellent quality of the photographs accompanying this paper.

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