

Asilidae of the Kuzikus Wildlife Reserve (Namibia) (Diptera)

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Summary

A list of 13 species of Asilidae is reported from Kuzikus Wildlife Reserve in Namibia. Five of those are new and described : *Daspletis spatula* sp. nov., *Gonioscelis reinhardi* sp. nov., *Neolophonotus incoladumetus* sp. nov., *Rhabdogaster kuzikusensis* sp. nov. and *Scylaticus falcatus* sp. nov. The genus *Laxenacera* Macquart, 1838 is reported for the first time from Namibia. Habitus of the species are illustrated, distribution maps are provided and for the new species, male genitalia are figured.

Keywords : Robber fly, Afrotropical, Kalahari desert, new species

Résumé

Une liste de 13 espèces d'Asilidae provenant de la faune de Kuzikus en Namibie est présentée. Cinq d'entre-elles sont nouvelles et décrites : *Daspletis spatula* sp. nov., *Gonioscelis reinhardi* sp. nov., *Neolophonotus incoladumetus* sp. nov., *Rhabdogaster kuzikusensis* sp. nov. et *Scylaticus falcatus* sp. nov. Le genre *Laxenacera* Macquart, 1838 est rapporté pour la première fois de Namibie. Les habitus des espèces sont illustrés, des cartes de distribution sont fournies et, pour les espèces nouvelles, les genitalia sont illustrés.

Samenvatting

Een lijst met 13 soorten Asilidae van Kuzikus Wildlife Reserve te Namibië wordt hier gegeven. Vijf van deze soorten zijn nieuw en worden beschreven : *Daspletis spatula* sp. nov., *Gonioscelis reinhardi* sp. nov., *Neolophonotus incoladumetus* sp. nov., *Rhabdogaster kuzikusensis* sp. nov. en *Scylaticus falcatus* sp. nov. Het genus *Laxenacera* Macquart, 1838 wordt voor de eerste keer gemeld voor Namibië. Habitus en verspreidingskaarten van de nieuwe soorten worden geïllustreerd en mannelijke genitalia worden weergegeven.

Introduction

The Republic of Namibia is a country of 824 292 km² in southern Africa, bordered by the Atlantic Ocean on the West. Landscapes of Namibia are varied, ranging from forest and grasslands to deserts and has both low-lying coastal areas, and mountains. The Kuzikus Wildlife Reserve where the specimens were collected, is situated in the Kalahari Desert (coordinates : 23°14'17"S 18°23'29"E).

The Kalahari Desert covers the eastern part of Namibia. Its 900 000 square kilometers extend also over much of Botswana and parts of South Africa. As semi-desert, with huge tracts of excellent grazing after good rains, the Kalahari supports more animals and plants than a true desert.

The family Asilidae (Brachycera), the Robber Flies, counts more than 7,000 species distributed worldwide. All the species have hunting behaviour, some species are huge and powerfully armed to tackle dangerous prey like Hymenoptera. Records of preys taken by Robber Flies indicate that they are often opportunistic predators, feeding upon any insect that they can catch. The majority of the larvae live in soil but those of the Laphriinae and Laphystiinae occur in decaying logs and stumps, where they feed on larvae and pupae of other insects. In Africa several recent studies have been dedicated to the predation of Asilidae (LOND'T 1993a, 1995, 2006b).

In Namibia, 57 genera and 123 species are recorded, from which 100 species have been described by Londt of the Natal Museum between 1980 and 2005.

Material and methods

External structures were examined using a stereomicroscope (Wild M3B 6-16-40). Drawings were made using a camera lucida. The male genitalia were examined after soaking in 10% KOH solution. They have been glued on small tongue of bristol board and pinned together with the specimen. The maps were produced with Carto Fauna Flora 2.0 (BARBIER & RASMONT, 2000). All occurrences other than those in Kuzikus were extracted from the works of Londt mentioned in this study.

All specimens listed were collected by J. Constant in Kuzikus Wildlife Reserve. They are deposited in the collections of the Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences (Brussels) with the General Inventory number I.G. 31.840.

ASILINAE Apocleini

Genus *Neolophonotus* Engel, 1925

This huge Afrotropical genus with 225 species has been revised by LOND'T (1985a, 1986, 1987 and 1988) who divided it into six species-groups : *angustibarbus*, *chionthrix*, *comatus*, *pellitus*, *squamosus* and *suillus*. Species of three species-groups are recorded from Namibia.

Group *angustibarbus* (Figs 69-70)

This group contains 16 species out of which 6 are recorded from Namibia. All were described by LOND'T (1985a); *Neolophonotus gertrudae* Londt, 1985, *N. kalahari* Londt, 1985, *N. schoemani* Londt, 1985, *N. swaensis* Londt, 1985, *N. torridus* Londt, 1985 and *N. trilobius* Londt, 1985. *N. swaensis* has been collected in August while all the other species were found from February till May.

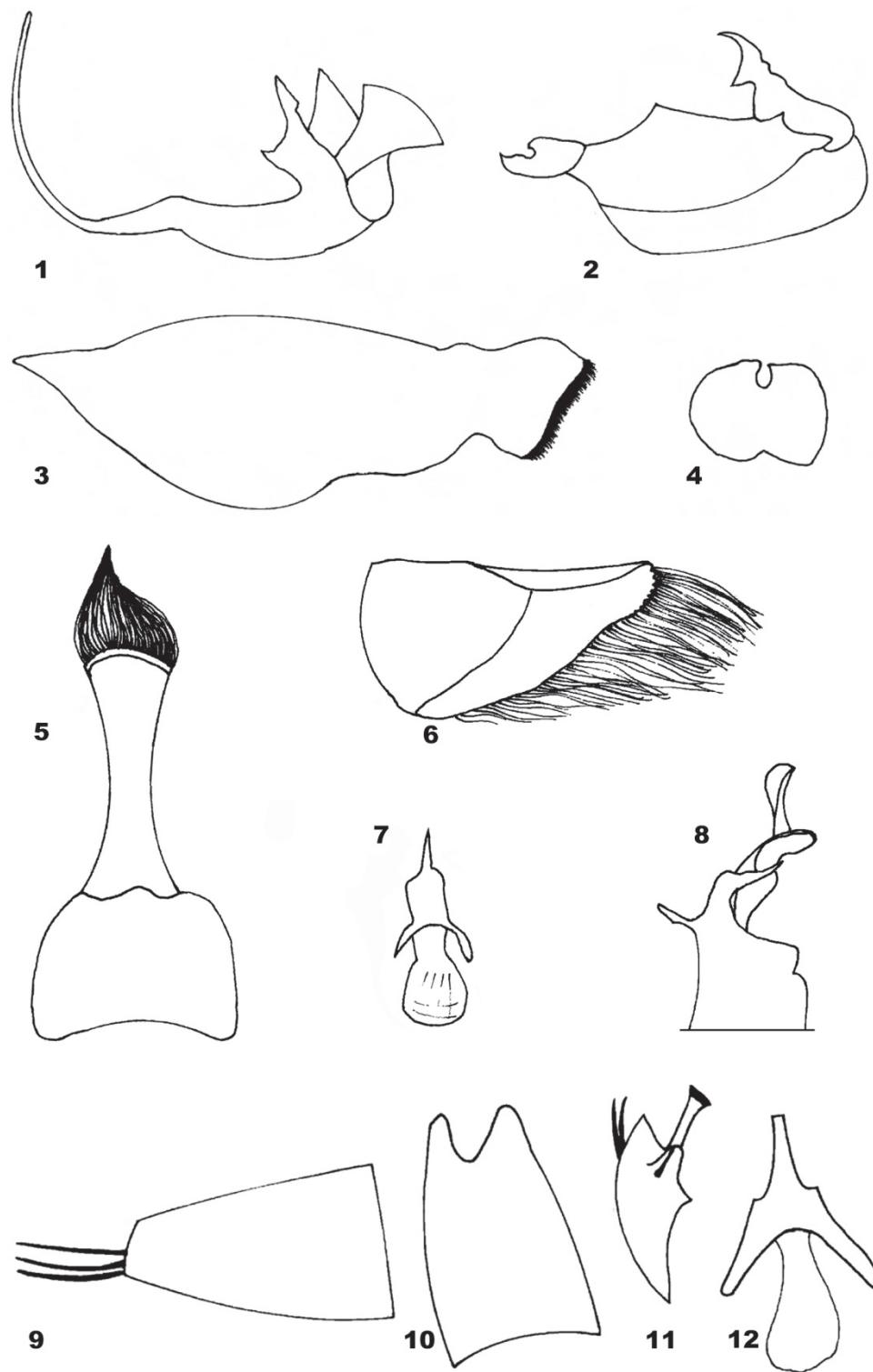
Neolophonotus trilobius Londt, 1985 (Figs 25-28, 70)

DISTRIBUTION. Northern Cape Province and Namibia.

MATERIAL EXAMINED. 1♀ : 29.III-3.IV.2011 ; 1♂ : 29.III-13.IV.2011, sweeping ; 1♂ : 7.IV.2011 ; 1♀ : 12.IV.2011, white pitfall.

Group *pellitus* (Figs 3-4)

This group contains 42 species out of which 10 are recorded from Namibia : *N. bromleyi* Londt, 1987, *N. coronatus* Londt, 1987, *N. gemsbock* Bromley, 1946, *N. isse* (WALKER, 1849), *N. megaphallus* Londt, 1987, *N. niveus* Londt, 1987, *N. satanus* Londt, 1987, *N. spoliator* Londt, 1987, *N. struthaulon* Londt, 1987 and *N. vansonii* Bromley, 1936.



Figs 1-4. *Neolophonotus incoladumetus* sp. nov., male genitalia. 1. Phallus. 2. Gonocoxite and dististylus. 3. Epandrium. 4. Hypandrium.
 Figs 5-8. *Daspletis spatula* sp. nov., male genitalia. 5. Hypandrium. 6. Epandrium. 7. Phallus. 8. Gonocoxite and dististylus.
 Figs 9-12. *Gonioscelis reinhardi* sp. nov. 9. Epandrium. 10. Hypandrium. 11. Gonocoxite and dististylus. 12. Phallus.

***Neolophonotus incoladumetus* sp. nov.**
(Figs 1-4, 29-33, 71)

DERIVATIO NOMINIS. From Latin : *incola* = inhabiting, and *dumetus* = bush.

MATERIAL EXAMINED. Holotype : 1♂ : 29.III-3.IV.2011, sweeping. Paratypes (83) : 7♂, 9♀ : 29.III-3.IV.2011 ; 5♂, 11♀ : 29.III-13.IV.2011 ; 21♂, 14♀ : 4-8.IV.2011 net catching ; 2♀ : 4-10.IV. Day ; 3♂, 4♀ : 8.IV.2011 night sweeping ; 1♂, 1♀ : 8-9.IV.2011 white pitfall ; 1♀ : 10.IV.2011 white pitfall ; 1♀ : 11-12.IV.2011 white pitfall ; 1♂, 1♀ : 12.IV.2011, white pitfall.

DESCRIPTION.

Length : 14-15 mm. Black with black setae. Mystax black and white. Setae black, strong setae on disc of scutum. Mane short, black anteriorly, centre lacking white posteriorly.

Head : face with white tomentum. Mystax with dense black setae on basal part ; on upper part, mix of white, long and fine setae and short black setae. Antennae black with black setae, setae longer on anterior face of scape. Postocular setae black, long and strongly bowed, occipital and lower occipital hairs white. Palpi black with black setae. Proboscis black, proboscial hairs white.

Thorax : Antepronotum black with long and fine white hairs, antepronotal setae yellow. Scutum with white, sparse and short white hairs laterally, longer on basal part. Anterior half of mane short and black, longer and more dense anteriorly, posterior half white extending on the disc of scutellum. Setae black : acrostical and dorsocentral, strong and long ; 3 notopleural, 2 supra-alar, 1 postalar, 2 discal and 4 sutellar. Pleura with 2 anepisternal black setae ; katatergal and metepisternal setae yellowish. Legs black, covered with short white hairs. All coxae with white setae. Femora : anterior with yellowish setae, median and posterior with white setae. Tibiae : anterior with black and yellowish setae, external face with yellowish, fine and long setae ; median with white setae ; posterior with white and black setae. Tarsomeres : anterior and median with majoritarily white setae, other black ; posterior with black setae. Wings iridescent, wrinkled, with veins black.

Abdomen black : Tergites and sternites with sparse, short and white hairs. Tergites with 2 lateral white and 2 central black setae. Sternites with white setae ; only one black seta on the last sternite.

Male genitalia (Figs 1-4) dark brown with white hairs. Epandrium with short white brush at distal part. Gonocoxite with some black setae at tip.

This species is close to *N. gemsboek*, but differs in the coloration, the chaetotaxy and the male genitalia.

Group *suillus*
(Fig. 73)

This group contains 52 species out of which 5 are recorded from Namibia : *Neolophonotus bimaculatus* Londt, 1986, *N. leucopygus* Engel, 1927, *N. manselli* Londt, 1986, *N. robustus* (Ricardo, 1922) and *N. stuckenbergi* Londt, 1986.

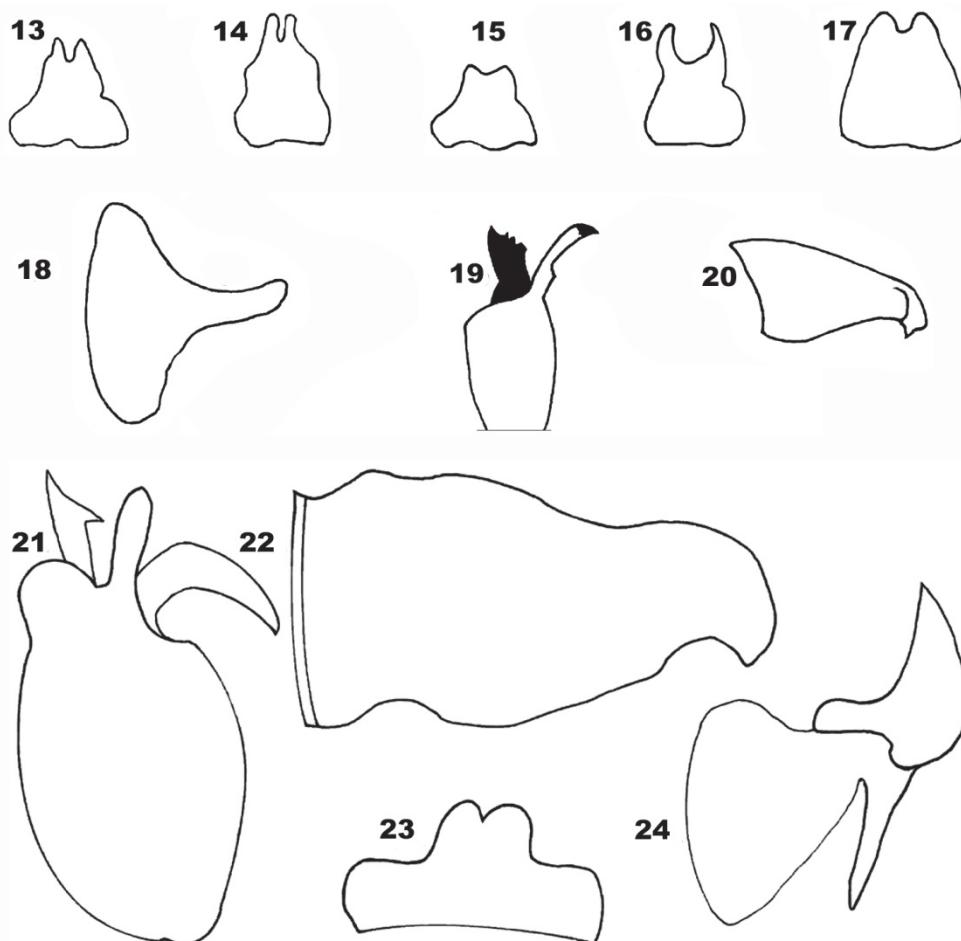
***Neolophonotus robustus* (Ricardo, 1922)**
(Figs 34-37, 73)

MATERIAL EXAMINED. 2♂ : 29.III-3.IV.2011, sweeping ; 4♀ : 29.III-13.IV.2011, sweeping ; 10♂, 11♀ : 4-8.IV.2011, net catching.

LAPHRIINAE

Genus *Lamyra* Loew, 1851

This is one of the most conspicuous and most easily recognized genera of African Asilidae reaching 30 mm in length. But although species of *Lamyra* are easy to recognise in the field, little is known about their biology. Their prey are mainly Aculeate Hymenoptera and Diptera including other Robber Flies (DIKOW & LONDRT, 2000). Five species are presently recognized and DIKOW & LONDRT suggested that *L. nobilis* Walker, 1871 could be a junior synonym of *L. vorax* Loew, 1858.



Figs 13-17. *Gonioscelis*, hypandrium. 13. *G. bykanistes*. 14. *G. genitalis*. 15. *G. maculiventris*. 16. *G. nigripennis*. 17. *G. ventralis*.

Figs 18-20. *Rhabdogaster kuzikusensis* sp. nov., male genitalia. 18. Hypandrium. 19. Gonocoxite and dististylus. 20. Epandrium.

Figs 21-24. *Scylaticus falcatus* sp. nov., male genitalia. 21. Gonocoxite and dististylus. 22. Epandrium. 23. Hypandrium. 24. Phallus.

***Lamyra gulo* (Loew, 1851)**
(Figs 66-68, 74)

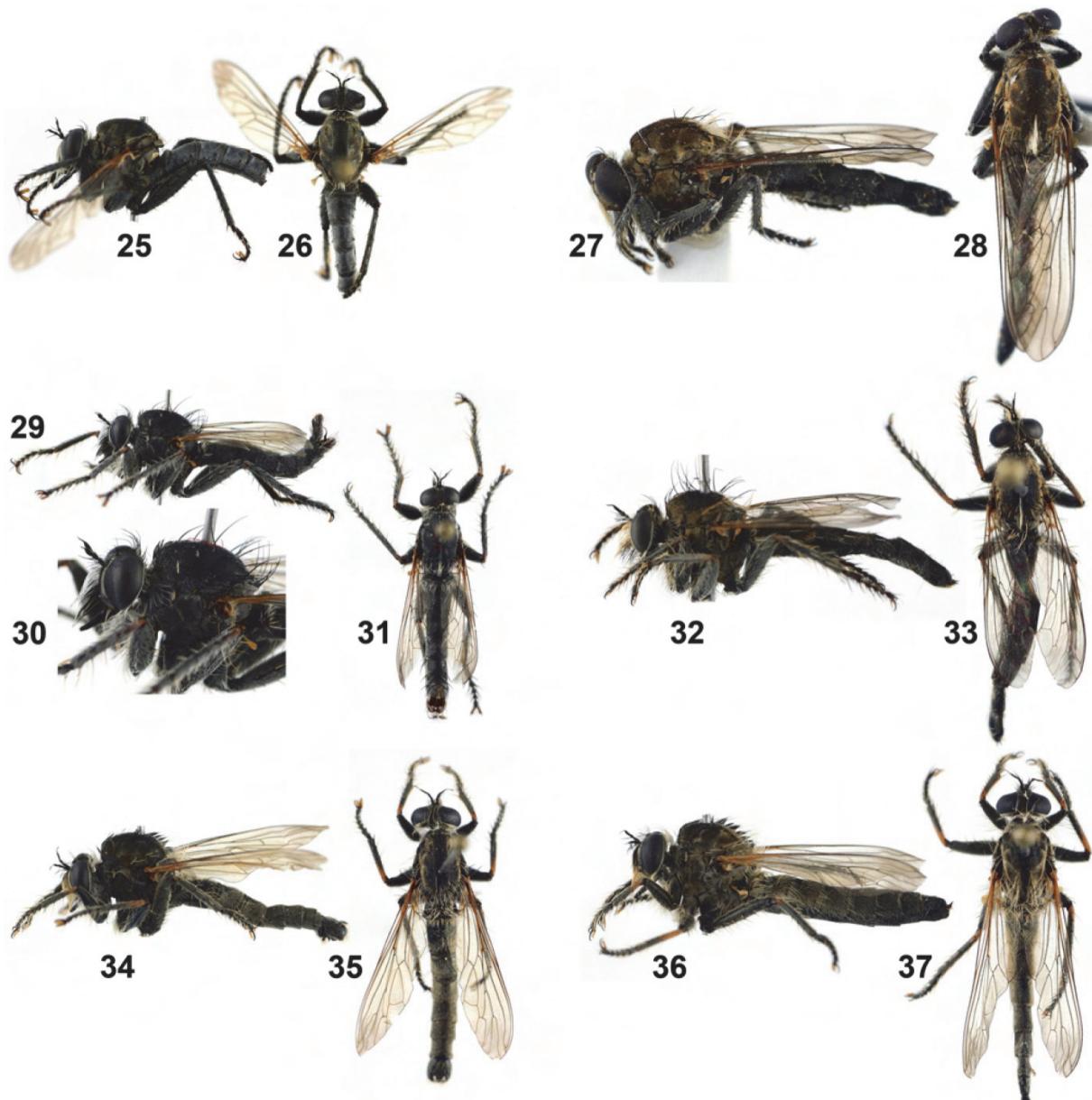
HULL (1962) provided a detailed description of this species which is the only one of the genus recorded from Namibia.

DISTRIBUTION. South African Republic, Botswana, Democratic Republic of Congo, Malawi, Mozambique, Angola, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda, Ethiopia, Sudan.

MATERIAL EXAMINED. 1♂ : 4-10.IV.2011, sweeping.

Genus ***Laxenacera*** Macquart, 1838 new genus for Namibia

The species of this genus are relatively small and furry with a row of fine hairs dorsally on the postpedicel. There are 28 Afrotropical species and two are recorded from South Africa and Botswana : *L. andrenoides* Macquart, 1846 and *L. mollis* Loew, 1858 (LONDT, 2007).



Figs 25-37. 25-28. *Neolophonotus trilobius* Londt, 1985. 25-26. Male. 27-28. Female. 29-33. *Neolophonotus incoladumetus* sp. nov. 29-31. Male. 32-33. Female. 34-37. *Neolophonotus robustus* (Ricardo, 1922). 34-35. Male. 36-37. Female. (Photos Jérôme Constant)

***Laxenacera andrenoides* Macquart, 1846**
(Figs 38-41)

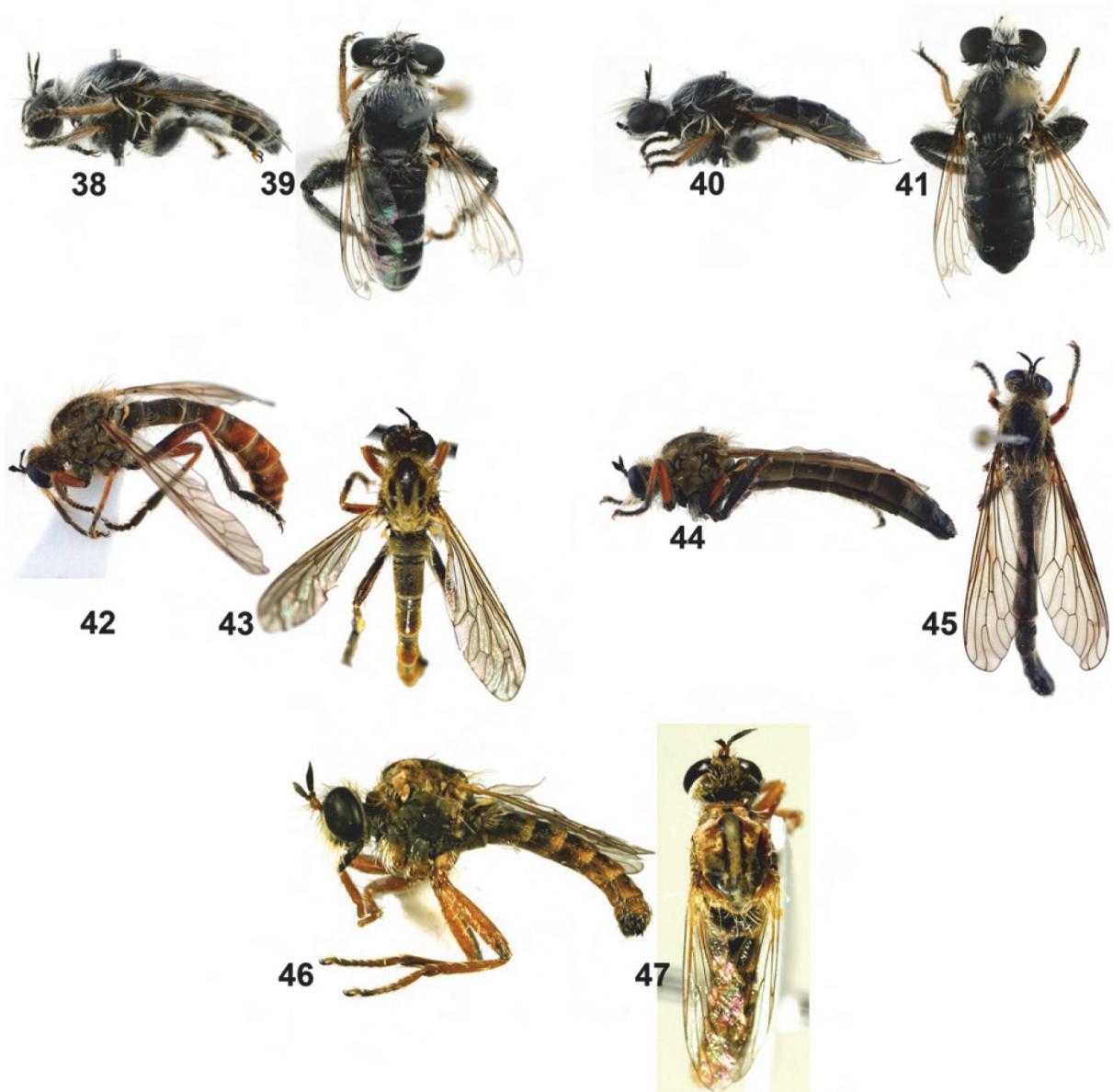
MATERIAL EXAMINED. 3♂, 4♀ : 29.III-3.IV.2011, sweeping.

LEPTOGASTRINAE

The species of this genus are usually very fragile. In the subfamily, only two genera are known from Namibia : *Euscelidia* Westwood, 1850 with six species, and *Leptogaster* Meigen, 1803 with only one recorded species : *L. pictipennis* Loew, 1858 (GELLER-GRIMM, 2012).

***Leptogaster* sp.**

MATERIAL EXAMINED. 1 specimen (antennae broken and apical half of abdomen missing) : 29.III-3.IV.2011, sweeping.



Figs 38-47. 38-41. *Laxenecera andrenoides* Macquart, 1846. 38-39. Male. 40-41. Female. 42-45. *Agrostomyia dimorpha* Londt, 1994. 42-43. Male. 44-45. Female. 46-47. *Connomyia callima* Londt, 1993, male. (Photos Jérôme Constant)

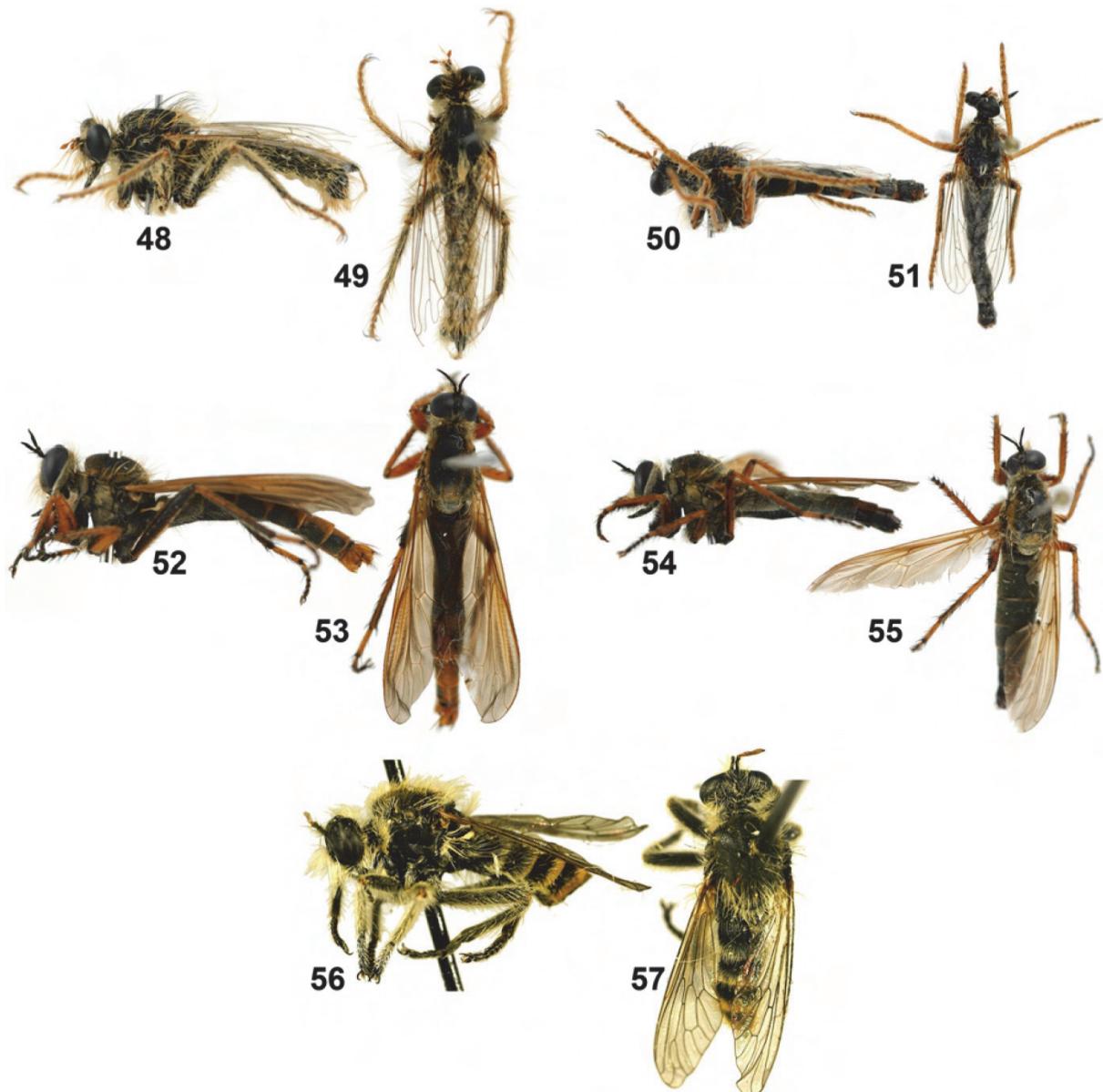
STENOPOGONINAE

Genus *Agrostomyia* Londt, 1994

***Agrostomyia dimorpha* Londt, 1994**
(Figs 42-45, 75)

This genus counts a single species, *A. dimorpha* Londt, 1994, known from South Africa and Namibia (LONDT, 1994).

MATERIAL EXAMINED. 22♂, 32♀ : 29.III-03.IV.2011 ; 2♂, 3♀ : 29.III-3.IV.2011 ; 12♂, 14♀ : 29.III-13.IV.2011 ; 1♂, 1♀ : 4-10.IV.2011, sweeping ; 1♂ : 8.IV.2011, night sweeping.



Figs 48-57. 48-51. *Daspletis spatula* sp. nov. 48-49. Male. 50-51. Female. 52-55. *Gonioscelis reinhardi* sp. nov. 52-53. Male. 54-55. Female. 56-57. *Pycnomerinx rhodesii* (Ricardo, 1925), male. (Photos Jérôme Constant)

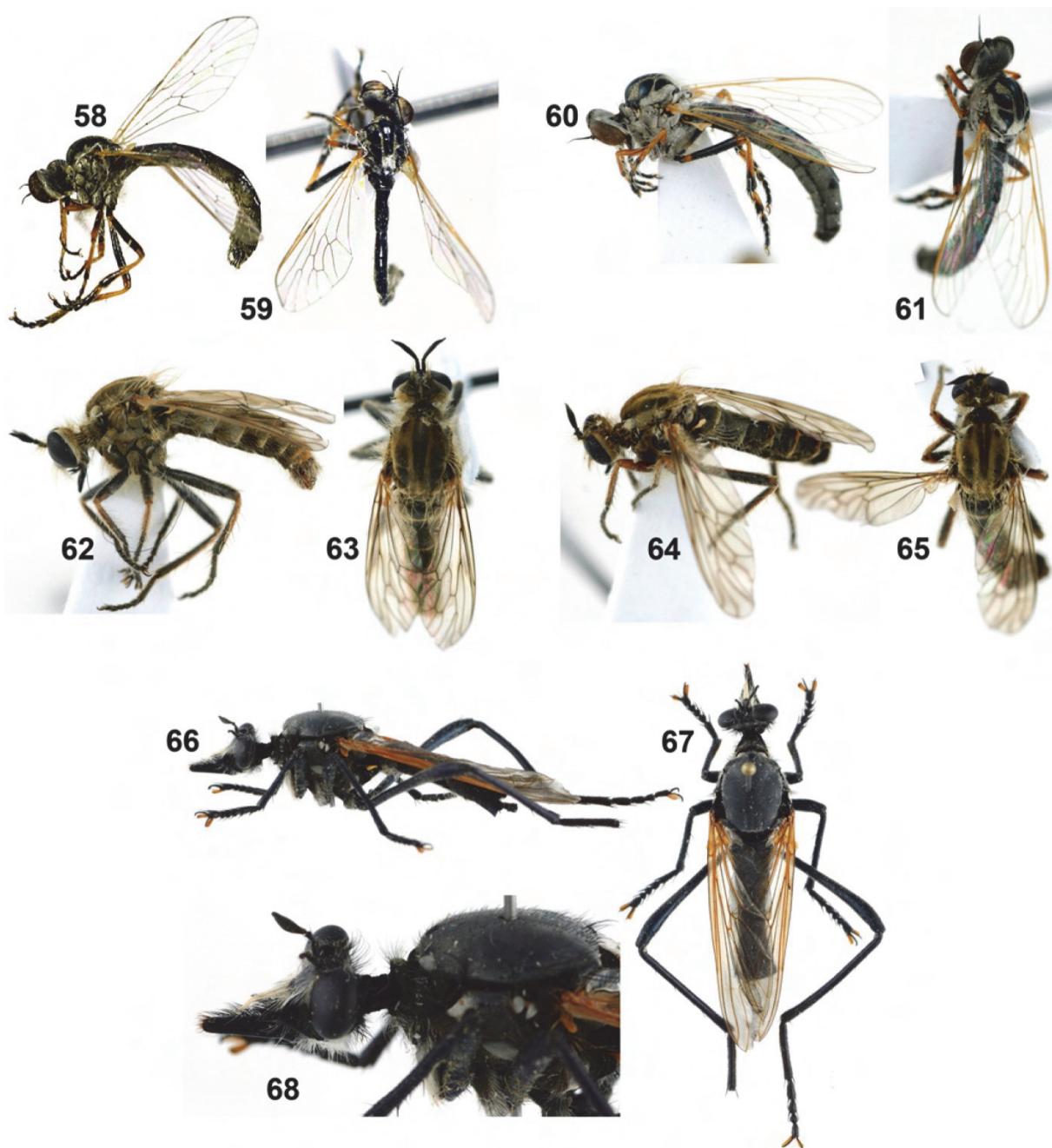
Genus ***Connomyia*** Londt, 1992
(Figs 76-77)

The genus *Connomyia* Londt, 1992 was reviewed by LONDТ (1993b), who provided descriptions and keys for all Afrotropical species placed in the genus.

***Connomyia callima* Londt, 1993**
(Figs 46-47, 77)

DISTRIBUTION. Known only from the Windhoek area of Namibia and the northern Cape province of South Africa (LONDТ, 1993).

LONDТ (1993) stated that the species can be recognized from the other species of the genus by its femora dark red-brown anteriorly and posteriorly. Specimens of this species with femora completely



Figs 58-68. 58-61. *Rhabdogaster kuzikusensis* sp. nov. 58-59. Male. 60-61. Female. 62-65. *Scylaticus falcatus* sp. nov. 62-63. Male. 64-65. Female. 66-68. *Lamyra gulo* (Loew, 1851), male. (Photos Jérôme Constant)

yellow-brown or with small dark red-brown marking have been examined, but the male genitalia match the illustrations by LONDT (1993).

MATERIAL EXAMINED : 11♂, 23♀ : 29.III-3.IV.2011, sweeping ; 1♀ : 29.III-13.IV.2011, sweeping ; 1♂, 2♀ : 4-8.IV.2011, net catching ; 3♀ : 4-10.IV.2011, day collecting ; 1♀ : 8-9.IV.2011, white pitfall.

Genus *Daspletis* Loew, 1858
(Fig. 78)

Only *D. lykos* Londt, 1985, a species known from a single male, is recorded from Namibia. OLDROYD (1974) gave a key of the species of this genus.

***Daspletis spatula* sp. nov.**
(Figs 5-8, 48-51, 78)

DERIVATIO NOMINIS. The species name refers to the spatulate shape of the hypandrium.

MATERIAL EXAMINED. Holotype ♂ : 29.III-13.IV.2011, sweeping. Paratypes (5) : 1♂, 1♀ : same data as holotype ; 1♂, 1♀ : 29.III-3.IV.2011 ; 1♂ : 4-8.IV.2011, sweeping.

DESCRIPTION. Based on holotype male.

Long : 18 mm. Robust species, black with anterior femora yellow. Chaetotaxy yellowish and relatively dense.

Head : Face, vertex and occiput with whitish pruinosity. Antennae : scape black with yellowish setae, pedicel and postpedicel orange, pedicel with yellowish setae. Mystax yellowish, prolonged by long yellowish hairs reaching scape. Palpi black with yellowish setae. Proboscis black, proboscial hairs long and yellowish. Ocellarium with fine yellowish hairs. Occiput with long, sinuous setae dorsally.

Thorax : Black with yellow-grey pruinosity. Pronotum with long, yellow-white setae and hairs. Scutum with sparse, short, yellow-white hairs. Setae yellow ; 2 posthumeral, 4 notopleural, 3 supraalar, 3 postalar, 8 scutellar. Dorsocentral setae black, extending to anterior margin of mesonotum. Anepisternum, anepimeron, katepisternum with long and fine yellow hairs. Katatergal and metepisternal setae yellow, anatergal hairs yellow. Legs : coxae like thorax with yellow white setae and hairs. Femora : anterior and median black with yellow-red stripe, posterior black, chaetotaxy long and yellow-white. Tibiae with yellow-white chaetotaxy, anterior and median yellow, posterior black, all with strong setae at apex. Tarsi yellow with setae and hairs yellow white.

Abdomen : Tergites and sternites with brown yellowish pruinosity. Tergites I, II and III with marginal setae yellow. Sternites with long yellow hairs.

Male genitalia (Figs 5-8) : black with dense yellowish chaetotaxy.

Genus ***Gonioscelis*** Schiner, 1866
(Figs 79-80)

Among the 38 species of the genus, 10 are recorded from Central Africa (TOMASOVIC, 2009), and 30 (79%) from southern Africa, most of them being endemic to this subregion. Six species are recorded from Namibia : *G. bykanistes* Londt, 2004, *G. genitalis* Ricardo, 1925, *G. maculiventris* Bigot, 1879, *G. nigripennis* Ricardo, 1925, *G. ventralis* Schiner, 1867 and *G. xanthochaites* Londt, 2004. *G. maculiventris* and *G. xanthochaites* were collected in winter (dry season) while the other species were collected during austral summer (rainy season).

The most distinctive feature of the genus *Goniocelis* the highly diagnostic posteroventral spur posteroventrally on the prothoracic femora.

***Gonioscelis reinhardi* sp. nov.**
(Figs 9-12, 52-55, 80)

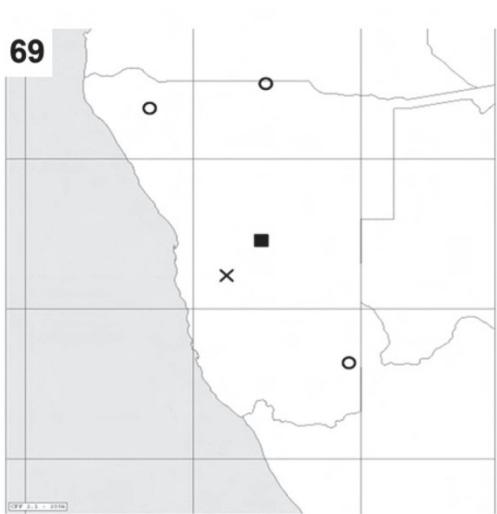
DERIVATIO NOMINIS. Dedicated to Mrs Johanna Reinhard, leader of the association BRinK (Biological Research in Kuzikus), who organized the entomological project in Kuzikus Wildlife Reserve.

MATERIAL EXAMINED. Holotype ♂ : 29.III-13.IV.2011, sweeping. Paratypes (9) : 1♂, 7♀ : 29.III-03.IV.2011 ; 1♀ : 29.III-13.IV.2011, sweeping.

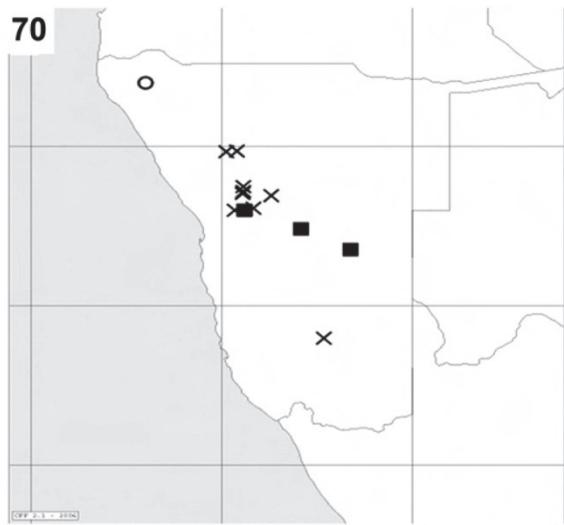
DESCRIPTION. Based on holotype male.

Long : 17 mm. Robust species. Black with orange legs and tanned wings. Head and thorax with chaetotaxy mostly yellowish.

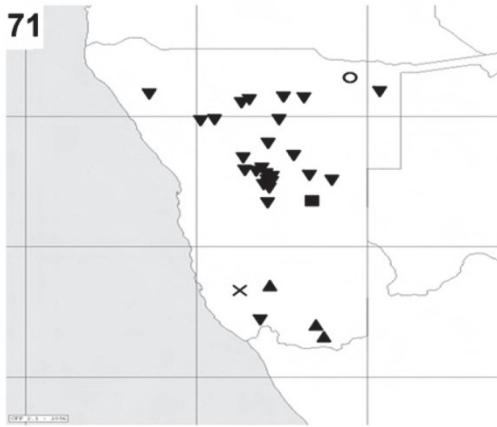
Head : Face with pale yellow tomentum, swelling poorly developed on full length on face. Mystax white prolonged by short white hairs reaching scape. Frons and vertex with brown tomentum, ocellar tubercle shiny black and two orbital lines of fine black hairs. Postocular bristles white, numerous and



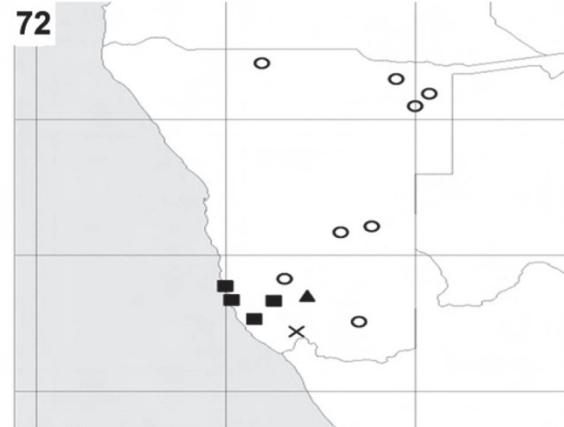
○ : *Neolophonotus gertrudae*, 4 ex., × : *Neolophonotus kalahari*, 1 ex., ■ : *Neolophonotus schoemani*, 1 ex.



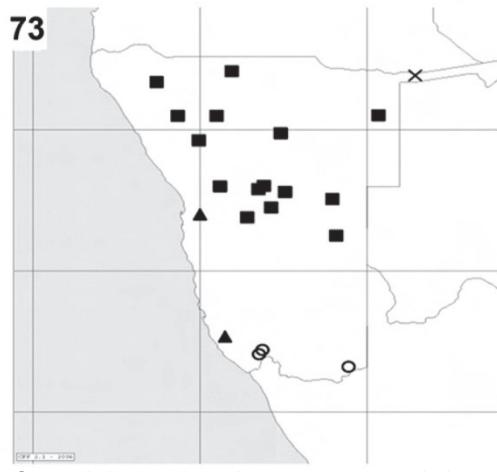
○ : *Neolophonotus swaensis*, 38 ex., × : *Neolophonotus torridus*, 58 ex., ■ : *Neolophonotus trilobius*, 26 ex.



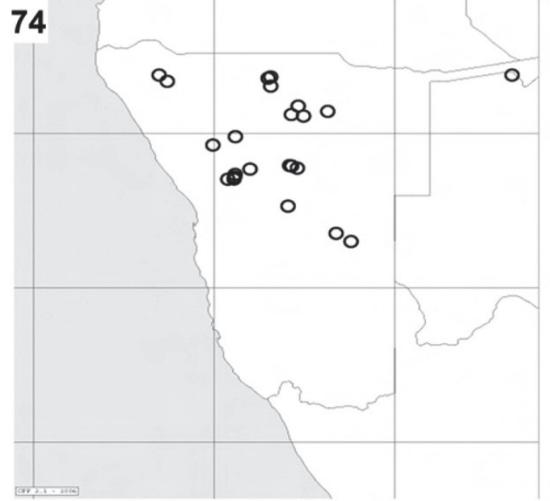
○ : *Neolophonotus bromleyi*, 31 ex., × : *Neolophonotus coronatus*, 12 ex., ■ : *Neolophonotus incoladumetus*, 83 ex., ▲ : *Neolophonotus niveus*, 15 ex., ▼ : *Neolophonotus satanus*, 154 ex.



○ : *Neolophonotus gemsboek*, 38 ex., × : *Neolophonotus megaphallus*, 2 ex., ■ : *Neolophonotus spoliator*, 11 ex., ▲ : *Neolophonotus struthaulon*, 8 ex.



○ : *Neolophonotus bimaculatus*, 6 ex., × : *Neolophonotus manselli*, 1 ex., ■ : *Neolophonotus robustus*, 52 ex., ▲ : *Neolophonotus stuckenbergi*, 4 ex.



○ : *Lamyra gulo*, 40 ex.

Figs 69-74. Distribution maps in Namibia. 69. *Neolophonotus gertrudae* Londt, 1985, *N. kalahari* Londt, 1985, *N. schoemani* Londt, 1985. 70. *N. swaensis* Londt, 1985, *N. torridus* Londt, 1985, *N. trilobius* Londt, 1985. 71. *N. bromleyi* Londt, 1987, *N. coronatus* Londt, 1987, *N. incoladumetus* n.sp., *N. niveus* Londt, 1987, *N. satanus* Londt, 1987. 72. *N. gemsboek* Bromley, 1946, *N. megaphallus* Londt, 1987, *N. spoliator* Londt, 1987, *N. struthaulon* Londt, 1987. 73. *N. bimaculatus* Londt, 1986, *N. manselli* Londt, 1986, *N. robustus* (Ricardo, 1922), *N. stuckenbergi* Londt, 1986. 74. *Lamyra gulo* (Loew, 1851).

proclinate, occipital hairs white. Palpus black with white setae, proboscis black with fine and long white hair ventrally on basal half, short fine and white hairs on tip.

Thorax : Antepronotum anteriorly and posteriorly with grey yellowish tomentum and white setae. Postpronotal lobe reddish-brown. Scutum black with reddish brown stripe lateraly and posteriorly. Setae white : 5 notopleural, 3 supra-alar, 4 postalar, 3 pairs dorsocentral. Scutellum with greyish tomentum and 4 scutellar setae. Wings tanned, hyaline and wrinkled, long and darker spot in marginal and submarginal cells. Legs : Coxa with grey yellowish tomentum and white chaetotaxy. Femora, tibiae and tarsi orange with black setae. Fore femora with black spot, middle femora entirely orange, hind femora with anterior part black. Hind tibia darker at apex. Tarsi with black tip, hind metatarsus longer than next four tarsomeres combined.

Abdomen : Black and orange ; tergite I black with numerous short and fine yellowish setae ; other tergites bicolor, black anteriorly and orange posteriorly, with sparse short yellowish hairs. Sternites orange with hairs similar to those of tergites.

Male genitalia (Figs 9-12) : Orange. Empodium with rounded apex bearing 4-5 strong black setae. Dististylus parallel-sided, slightly curved, black at apex. Hypandrium rectangular with concave posterior margin.

Note : LOND'T (2004) differentiates the species mainly by the shape of the hypandrium, so here we illustrate the hypandrium of other *Gonioscelis* species present in Namibia for comparison (Figs 13-17).

Genus *Pycnomerinx* Hull, 1962
(Fig. 81)

The genus was described by Hull (1962) and later revised by Londt (1990) who illustrated the male genitalia and provided a distribution map. All three species of the genus are present in Namibia : *P. cogani* Oldroyd, 1974, *P. gweta* Oldroyd, 1974 and *P. rhodesii* (Ricardo, 1925).

Pycnomerinx rhodesii (Ricardo, 1925)
(Figs 56-57, 81)

MATERIAL EXAMINED. 1♂, 1♀ : 4-8.IV.2011, net catching.

Genus *Rhabdogaster* Loew, 1858
(Figs 82-84)

Among the 38 species known in the genus from southern Arabia and Sub-Saharan Africa, 10 are recorded from Namibia (LOND'T, 2006b).

The *Rhabdogaster* are small, dark coloured flies. All species have entirely sclerotised postmetacoxal bridge. It is an excellent and easily observable character, which should avoid any confusion. They are generally poorly collected flies, so it is likely that a considerable number of species still remain undiscovered (LOND'T 2006). The species are usually associated with biomes dominated by grass.

Rhabdogaster kuzikusensis sp. nov.
(Figs 18-20, 58-61, 83)

DERIVATIO NOMINIS. The name refers to the type locality of the species, the Kuzikus Wildlife Reserve.

MATERIAL EXAMINED. Holotype ♂ : 29.III-13.IV.2011, sweeping. Paratypes (84) : 2♂, 31♀ : idem ; 24♂ : 29.III-3.IV.2011 ; 1♂ : 8.IV.2011, night sweeping ; 14♂, 8♀ : 4-8.IV.2011, net catching ; 1♂ : 3-10.IV.2011, light trap ; 1♂, 2♀ : 8.IV.2011, night sweeping.

DESCRIPTION. Based on holotype male.

Long : 9 mm, species black, shiny and slender.



Figs 75-80. 75. *Agrostomyia dimorpha* Londt, 1994. 76. *Connomyia argyropodus* Londt, 1993, *C. barkeri* (Bromley, 1947), *C. briani* Londt, 1993. 77. *C. callima* Londt, 1993, *C. oropegia* Londt, 1993, *C. pallida* (Ricardo, 1925). 78. *Daspletis lykos* Londt, 1985, *D. spatula* sp. nov. 79. *Gonioscelis bykanistes* Londt, 2004, *G. genitalis* Ricardo, 1925, *G. maculiventris* Bigot, 1879. 80. *G. nigripennis* Ricardo, 1925, *G. reinhardi* sp. nov., *G. ventralis* Schiner, 1867.

Head : Face and frons with yellowish pruinosity, mystax white covering lower half of face. Antennae black ; scape and pedicel with white setae. Occiput with greyish tomentum and white chaetotaxy. Proboscis and palpi black with white setae.

Thorax : Shiny black with silvery tomentum and white setae. Mesonotum with pruinose area on paramedian stripe extending to anterior 2/3 and a spot on presutural, postsutural and postalar callus. Posterior 1/3 covered with silver tomentum and long, fine, white hairs. Pleura with white tomentum, katatergal setae white. Scutellum shiny black in middle and with silver tomentum laterally, 2 scutellar setae. Posmetacoxal bridge entirely pruinose. Legs : chaetotaxy white. Coxae with tomentum similar to that of pleura and with white chaetotaxy. Anterior and median femora orange, posterior ones orange with large black ring in middle. Tibiae orange and black at apex, tarsomeres orange and black. Wings : veins brown, membrane iridescent.

Abdomen with sparse fine, white hairs, tergites shiny black with greyish tomentum laterally, sternites entirely covered with grey tomentum.

Male genitalia (Figs 18-20) : dark brown with relatively longs and fines white hairs. Hypandrium with a long appendix with rounded apex. Epandrium short, triangular with bended and truncacated apex. Gonocoxite with slightly curved sharp-pointed apical processes. Dististylus broad with minute tooth to the apex.

Remark : almost half of the examined specimens, males and females, have the median tibiae with a black spot in middle.

The key of LOND'T (2006) leads to the couplet 36 which can be modified as follows :

36. Empodium rectangular at the tip *cornuata* Londt (South Africa)
- Empodium rounded at the tip *kuzikusensis* sp. nov. (Namibia)

Genus ***Scylaticus*** Loew, 1858
(Figs 85-86)

The genus has been revised by LOND'T (1992) who gave a key for the 35 Afrotropical species based primarily on adult males and illustrated male genitalia.

***Scylaticus falcatus* sp. nov.**
(Figs 21-24, 62-65, 85)

DERIVATIO NOMINIS. Latin, *falcatus* = scythe-shaped, refers to the shape of the dististylus.

MATERIAL EXAMINED. Holotype ♂ : 29.III-3.IV.2011, sweeping. Paratypes (4) : 2♀ : idem ; 1♂, 1♀ : 4-8.IV.2011, net catching.

DESCRIPTION. Based on holotype male.

Long 9 mm. Black with yellowish grey pruinosity. Chaetotaxy yellowish white.

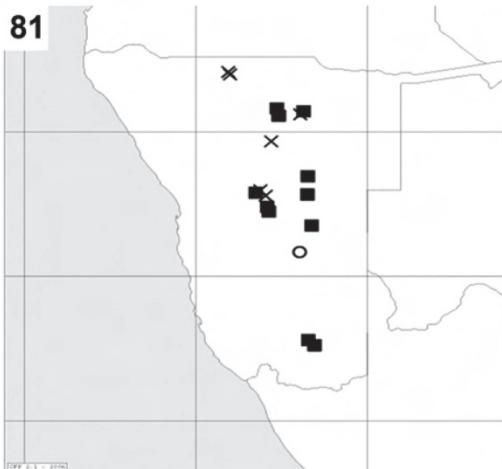
Head : Antennae black, scape and pedicel with anterior setae, setae longer on scape, scape longer than pedicel, postpedicel 1.5 times longer than scape and pedicel together, microsegment cylindrical with small terminal setae. Gibbosity not very prominent with long mystax. Palpi black with long, fine setae. Proboscis black, proboscial hairs fine. Frons, vertex and ocellar tubercle with long and fine setae. Postocular setae fine, mixed with long hairs.

Thorax : Pronotum with long and fine setae. Scutum with bright black spots, and with sparse short hairs anteriorly. Setae long and fine : 5 postpronotal, 3 posthumeral, 3 notopleural, 4-5 supra-alar, 3 postalar, 4-5 dorsocentral and 6 scutellar. Pleura with 1 anepisternal and 15 katatergal setae. Legs : femora black, tibiae red-brown with sides black.

Abdomen : Black, tergites with a pale distal stripe. Hairs on tergites and sternites rather brushy and long.

Male genitalia (Figs 21-24) : Rotated, red-brown, hypandrium clearly wider than long. Epandrium with rounded apex. Gonocoxite with well-developed rectangular process rounded at apex. Phallus : sheath short, wide to the base and pointed to apex, apodeme broad.

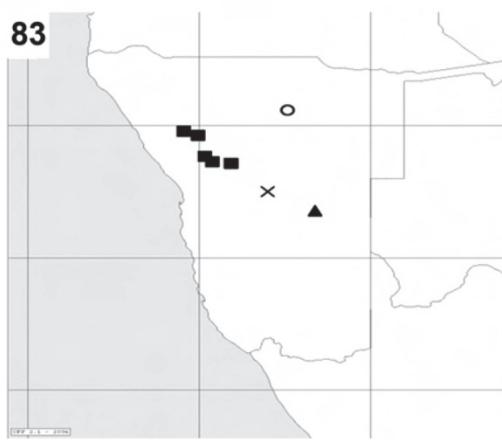
Females : similar to males but femora red-brown with sides black like the tibiae.



○ : *Pygmymerinx cogani*, 1 ex., × : *Pygmymerinx gweta*, 9 ex.,
■ : *Pygmymerinx rhodesii*, 24 ex.



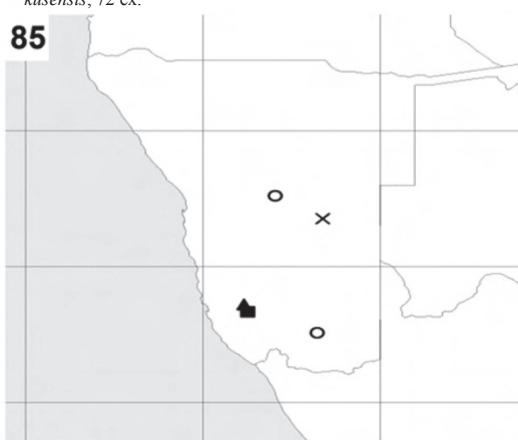
○ : *Rhabdogaster eremia*, 3 ex., × : *Rhabdogaster etheira*, 6 ex.,
■ : *Rhabdogaster flavigra*, 5 ex., ▲ : *Rhabdogaster gracilis*, 2 ex.



○ : *Rhabdogaster kalyptos*, 40 ex., × : *Rhabdogaster glabra*,
2 ex., ■ : *Rhabdogaster kosmos*, 11 ex., ▲ : *Rhabdogaster kuzikusensis*, 72 ex.



○ : *Rhabdogaster oldroydi*, 10 ex., × : *Rhabdogaster tanylabis*,
2 ex., ■ : *Rhabdogaster yetti*, 3 ex.



○ : *Scylaticus chrysotus*, 4 ex., × : *Scylaticus falcatus*, 5 ex.,
■ : *Scylaticus gongrocerus*, 2 ex., ▲ : *Scylaticus irwini*, 3 ex.



○ : *Scylaticus melanurus*, 1 ex., × : *Scylaticus namibiensis*, 22 ex.,
■ : *Scylaticus whiteheadi*, 10 ex.

Figs 81-86. 81. *Pygmymerinx cogani* Oldroyd, 1974, *P. gweta* Oldroyd, 1974, *P. rhodesii* (Ricardo, 1925). 82. *Rhabdogaster eremia* Londt, 2006, *R. etheira* Londt, 2006, *R. flavigra* (Lindner, 1973), *R. gracilis* (Engel & Cuthbertson 1937). 83. *R. kalyptos* Londt, 2006, *R. glabra* Londt, 2006, *R. kosmos* Londt, 2006, *R. kuzikusensis* n.sp. 84. *R. oldroydi* (Lindner, 1973), *R. tanylabis* Londt, 2006, *R. yetti* Londt, 2006. 85. *Scylaticus chrysotus* Londt, 1992, *S. falcatus* sp. nov., *S. gongrocerus* Londt, 1992, *S. irwini* Londt, 1992. 86. *S. melanurus* Londt, 1992, *S. namibiensis* Londt, 1992, *S. whiteheadi* Londt, 1992.

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