

Institut royal des Sciences  
naturelles de Belgique

Koninklijk Belgisch Instituut  
voor Natuurwetenschappen

BULLETIN

MEDEDELINGEN

Tome XXXII, n° 37  
Bruxelles, juillet 1956.

Deel XXXII, n° 37  
Brussel, juli 1956.

ON TWO NEW SPECIES OF ANTHRIBIDAE (COLEOPTERA),

by Karl JORDAN, Ph. D., F. R. S. (Tring, Herts., England).

1. *Mecocerus tricinctus* sp. nov.

In the style of colouring and the detail of structure similar to *M. vestitus* JORDAN, 1895, which was based on two males from Monrovia in coll. C. A. DOHRN. In both species the pronotum and a little more than the apical third of the elytra are densely and uniformly covered with a mat russet brown pubescence without any markings. But whereas *M. vestitus* has one white belt, the new species has three across the elytra. These are about 1 mm broad; the first of the three is basal, running from the suture close behind the scutellum to above the shoulder, here turning obliquely backwards and joining the second white belt at the side of the elytrum; as in *M. vestitus* this antemedian belt extends straight across the elytra as well as the metasternum; apart from a short forward projection on the suture the third belt is parallel with the second, forming the anterior margin of the apical area and being like the basal belt restricted to the elytra.

Pygidium and under surface russet brown; a lateral row of dots or spots on abdomen black. Tibiae denuded, their apices black; tarsi black, segments 1 and 4 greyish white except at apex, 1 of foretarsus of ♂ much longer than 2 to 4 together. Prosternum of ♂ with a large groove and a pair of spines the tips of which are curved forward. Length (head excl.) 13 mm, breadth 6 mm.

Tabou, Côte d'Ivoire, 1 ♂ (holotype) in the Institut royal des Sciences naturelles de Belgique, 1 ♀ (paratype) in the British Museum. The basal belt of the ♂ is partially destroyed by denudation. The similarity of these two white-belted species suggests the possibility of the occurrence of intermediates. Material from Monrovia is much desirable.

## 2. *Mecocerus ditholus* sp. n.

Near *M. callosus* JORDAN, 1904 (from Tonking); the two rounded tubercles of the pronotum very prominent. General colour olivaceous black variegated with whitish grey, on the elytra deep black spots and tufts.

Rostrum not quite one-half longer than its apical area, is broad (17:12) and close behind the antennae half as broad as in front of them, a dorsal median channel is rather deep, extends on to the frons and runs forward to near the marginal apical flattened area, being more or less interrupted halfway to the antennae and deepened again between the antennae, along the side three shallow depressions, distinctly separated from each other: one subdorsal, continued to near apex as a narrow groove above the margin of the antennal fossa, the second, commencing farther away from the eye, is almost a continuation of the antennal fossa, and the third is ventral, commencing far from the eye below the rather long and conspicuous genal groove, ending below the shallow part of the antennal fossa; apical margin of rostrum with a shallow triangular sinus. Frons about half as broad as rostrum behind antennae; at upper margin of eye and behind eye some whitish grey pubescence and on occiput two thin whitish grey lines forming a sharp angle directed forward to median channel of frons. Upper margin of eye slightly flattened, nearly as in *Nessiara* PASCOE. Antenna more than twice as long as the body inclusive of rostrum (in holotype the segments not stretched, some of them forming nearly a half ring); segment 1 not reaching to eye, apex of 3 to 8 white.

Pronotum very uneven, broader than long, each side of middle a large round glosay tubercle, nearer to transverse carina than to apical margin, each tubercle surrounded by a depression, other depressions on apical area and above lateral carina, dorsal carina with a small median angle and a larger one halfway to sides, both directed forward, in the depressions some whitish grey spots and lines, two of them at apical margin converging forward but well separate, behind carina four linear spots, the two middle ones resembling a pair of brackets with the convex side turned towards each other.

Scutellum a small white dot. Elytra strongly rounded and convex, only one-fourth longer than broad, the punctate lines absent from apical fourth, suture and alternate interspaces with some deep black spots and numerous greyish white ones, some of the black spots tufted, the subbasal one of interspace 3 much the largest. Pygidium olivaceous.

Underside of body diffusely marked with whitish grey and olivaceous black, without prominent spots. Prosternum with a deep median groove and at each side of it a stout thorn of which the tip is turned forward-sideward. No velvety central spot on metasternum (rubbed off?). Legs black, diffusely grey, tibiae with two greyish white spots or rings, tarsi black, basal two-thirds of segment 1 and extreme base of 2 white, hind femora reaching beyond end of abdomen. First foretarsal segment about as long as 2 to 4 together.

Length (head excl.) 14 mm, breadth 8 mm.

In Institut royal des Sciences naturelles de Belgique one ♂ (holotype) from Sumatra : Laboen Bilok, collected by Mr. DORSINGFANG, another ♂, without locality label, in the British Museum.

#### SUMMARY.

The author describes two new species of Anthribidae : *Mecocerus tricinctus* from the Ivory Coast and *M. ditholus* from Sumatra.

BRITISH MUSEUM, TRING, HERTS., ENGLAND.

