

ENDOMYCHIDAE

(Coleoptera clavicornia or Cucujoidea)

BY

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The *Endomychidae* collected by the expeditions of Messrs. G. F. DE WITTE, HACKARS and Dr. DAMAS total fifty-five specimens, representing eleven species. The literature on the family contains few records for the Belgian Congo and none for Albert Park particularly. The *Endomychidae* are secretive insects and unless especial effort is made to collect them they may escape observation. In habit they are fungivorous (with some questionable exceptions) and are usually found under bark. Mr. GILBERT ARROW reports that the species of *Danaë* occur for most part among the stems of grasses.

Of the eleven species represented in the collections two are apparently new. Of these one is described; the other, represented by a single imperfect specimen, is best left for accumulation of more material.

I. — EUMORPHINAE

Genus **TRYCHERUS** GERSTAECKER.

GERSTAECKER, Archiv. f. Naturgeschichte (1857), XXIII, p. 223.

1. — **Trycherus appendiculatus** GERSTAECKER.

GERSTAECKER, Archiv. f. Naturgeschichte (1857), XXIII, p. 223.

The collections contain a single female collected at Monga (Uele) between the dates April 18 and May 8, 1935 (DE WITTE).

Mr. GILBERT ARROW ⁽¹⁾ of the British Museum has described several species of *Trycherus* from Uganda, some or all of which may occur in Albert Park, particularly at lower elevations. These species are :

Trycherus rex,
Trycherus m-flavus,
Trycherus ovatus,
Trycherus frater,
Trycherus latus,
Trycherus attenuatus,
Trycherus nitidus.

Genus **ANCYLOPUS** COSTA.

COSTA, Fauna Regno Napoli, Coleotteri, Endomychidei (1854), p. 14.

1. — **Ancylopus melanocephalus** (OLIVIER).

OLIVIER, Entomologie ou Hist. Nat. Insectes (1808), 6, p. 1073 (*Endomychus*).

One male, Burunga, W. Kamatembe, 9-14.III.1934 (DE WITTE); one male, Rutshuru (1.285 m.), 7-18.VI.1935 (DE WITTE). These specimens are much larger than European and Asiatic specimens of this wide-spread species.

Genus **LYCOPERDINODES** ARROW.

ARROW, Trans. Ent. Soc. London (1923), p. 485.

1. — **Lycoperdinodes morosa** (ARROW).

ARROW, Trans. Ent. Soc. London (1920), p. 23 (*Lycoperdinella*).

Lac Edouard : N.-E. Katwe, 12.VI.1935 (Dr. H. DAMAS), one male. I have followed ARROW's use of the name *Lycoperdinodes* but there seems to be no feature of this species which would exclude it from *Lycoperdina*.

Genus **MYCETINA** MULSANT.

MULSANT, Hist. Nat. Coleopt. France, Sulcicolles (1846), p. 15.

1. — **Mycetina africana** GORHAM.

GORHAM, Trans. Ent. Soc. London (1874), p. 442.

There are three specimens before me collected at Tshambi (975 m.), 11.II.1936 by M. LIPPENS and Kivu (riv. Rutshuru, 1.000 and 1.285 m.), 3.VII.1935 by M. DE WITTE.

(1) *Trans. Ent. Soc. London* (1920), pp. 6-11.

II. — STENOTARSINAE

Genus **STENOTARSUS** PERTY.

PERTY, Dilectus Animalium Artic. quae in Brasiliam, etc. (1832), p. 112.

1. — **Stenotarsus guineensis** GERSTAECKER.

GERSTAECKER, Monographie Endomychiden (1858), p. 335.

Ruwenzori : Mutwanga (1.000-1.500 m.), XII.1936 to IV. 1937 (HACKARS); forêt Nyasheke : Nyamuragira (1.820 m.), 14-26.VI.1935 (DE WITTE). This species ranges over most of equatorial Africa and is apparently the commonest species of the family on the continent. Six specimens are in the collections.

2. — **Stenotarsus pauli** WEISE.

WEISE, Deutsche Ent. Zeitschr. (1903), XLVII, p. 203.

One specimen, Mayumbu (volcan Nyamuragira, 2.100 m.), 14-26.VI.1935 (DE WITTE).

Genus **SAULA** GERSTAECKER.

GERSTAECKER, Monographie Endomychiden (1858), p. 223.

1. — **Saula serraticollis** STROHECKER.

STROHECKER, Psyche, Jour. Ent. (1945), LI, p. 144.

Kivu (riv. Rutshuru, 1.000 m.), 3.VII.1935 and (1.285 m.), 11.VII.1935 (DE WITTE). Two specimens, which have been compared with the type, are in the collection. Possibly the name is a synonym of *Danaë simplicicollis* PIC, but M. PIC's description is too inadequate to determine this with any certainty.

Genus **DANAË** REICHE.

REICHE (in FERRET et GALINIER), Voyage en Abyssinie (1847), III, p. 408.

1. — **Danaë goffarti** PIC.

PIC, L'Échange (1945), n° 501, p. 11.

This species differs from most of the described African forms in its decidedly sinuate outlines. The elytra are considerably wider than the prothorax and are quite abruptly rounded posteriorly. The surface of the insect is shining and the legs and antennae deep black. The males have somewhat longer antennae than the females but otherwise there are no

external sexual features. I have satisfied myself by dissections that both sexes are represented in the series of thirty-three specimens. Kivu (riv. Rutshuru, 1.250 m.), 4.VII.1935 (DE WITTE); (Kivu) Ngesho (2.000 m.), 3-6.IV.1934 (DE WITTE); (Kivu) Rutshuru (riv. Rodahira, 1.200-1.285 m.),

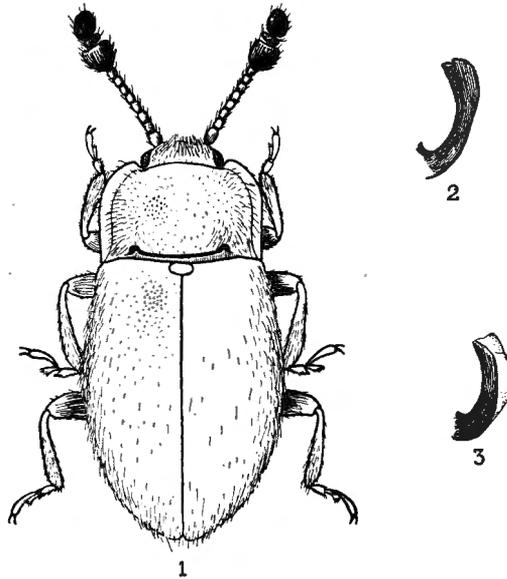


FIG. 1. — *Danaë caprella* sp. n., ♂.

FIG. 2. — Aedeagus.

FIG. 3. — *Danaë goffarti* PIC, aedeagus.

1-2.VII.1935 (DE WITTE); (Kivu) Sake, 19-22.II.1935 (DE WITTE); lac Kivu : N.-W. Bobandana, 20.II.1936 (Dr. H. DAMAS); lac Edouard : E. Rwindi, 15.I.1936 (Dr. H. DAMAS).

2. — **Danaë** sp.

There is in the collection a single female specimen which cannot be identified with certainty. The species of *Danaë* are very similar and accurate determination requires study of male specimens in most instances. As Mr. ARROW has said, « ... unless they (female specimens) can be associated with males they are best left alone ». Kanyabayonga (Kabasha, 1.760 m.), 7.XII.1934 (DE WITTE).

3. — **Danaë** sp.

Before me is a single specimen of undetermined sex which quite certainly represents an undescribed species. The prothorax is unmargined at its base; the basal foveae are obsolete, being represented by a fine carina on each

side of the pronotum. The lateral margins of the pronotum are strongly elevated or rather the pronotal disc is strongly depressed on each side into a broad and deep groove. The insect is for the genus unusually stout and its outlines are subparallel. The antennae are missing and, since these organs have figured so largely in previous descriptions, I think it wiser not to apply a name to this specimen. Volcan Nyamuragira (Mayumbu), 14-26.VI.1935 (DE WITTE).

4. — *Danaë caprella* sp. n.

Type : Male, Munagana (Djomba), 23.VIII.1934 (DE WITTE). Entirely rufous except for the eyes and antennal club which are black. The thorax and elytra were apparently covered originally with a semierect pubescence but this has been rubbed off considerable areas. Thorax with sides parallel from base to beyond middle, thence regularly curved to the acutely rounded front angles. Hind angles slightly acute. Margin of pronotum moderately wide, distinctly but not strongly elevated. Basal, transverse sulcus deep, ending in a deep fovea on each side. Elytra perceptibly, not greatly widened from their base to the middle, thence evenly convergent. Femora and tibiae simple, straight. Antennae with joints 2 and 6-8 about as broad as long; joints 3-5 a little longer than broad, of these 3 longest. Joint 9 inflated, a little concave beneath; 10 short, transverse; 11 suboval, about as long as broad. Length 3 mm.

From examination of the aedeagi of several species of the genus *Danaë* I am of the opinion that exact specific determination can be accomplished by study of these organs. The genus apparently is greatly developed in Africa and until re-examination of some of the types, in conjunction with considerable series of specimens, can be accomplished the naming of some material cannot be done with complete confidence.

Paratype : Male, data as for type.

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