

DERMAPTERA

BY

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The Dermaptera collected by the « Exploration hydrobiologique du Lac Tanganika », which I have received for examination, consists of 51 specimens belonging only to two species, the well-known cosmopolitan *Labidura riparia* (PALLÁS) and a new variety or local form belonging to the related genus *Forcipula*.

Labidura riparia (PALLÁS, 1773).

40 ♂♂ ♀♀ : Baie de Kasoje, Riv. Lubulungu, 15.XII.46; Kanengela, 20.XI.46; Baie de Tembwe, 20.XII.46; Karema, 22.XII.46; Moba, 27.XII.46; Pala, 20.XII.46; Edith Bay, 23.XII.46; Lac Tanganika, II.47.

This series shows a remarkable range of variation in the males from a very small depauperated example from Lake Tanganyika (total length 19,5 mms) to magnificent specimens of maximum development (up to 40 mms long) and four or five time the bulk of the small male. The large males show a very well marked pair of teeth on the caudal margin of the ultimate tergite and a strong inner tooth on the forceps; the former are reduced in moderately developed individuals and both are missing in the Lake Tanganyika male.

Forcipula BOLIVAR.

KEY TO AFRICAN SPECIES.

- (4) Head normal. Pronotum parallel-sided or nearly so. Colour usually dark. Tergites 3 to 6 with lateral peg-like projections, their caudal margins crenulate. Caudal margin of ultimate tergite crenulate and milled. Pygidium with two pointed spinules. Free margin of penultimate sternite evenly rounded. Forceps usually with a single inner tooth.

- 2 (3) Pronotum slightly broader, sides parallel. Colour usually dark; tegmina often lighter at shoulders. Peg-like projections on sides of tergites larger and more distinct. Pygidial teeth sharply pointed and distinct. Fully winged.....
F. gariazzo BORELLI (1900, *Boll. Mus. Zool. Anat. comp. Torino*, 15, n° 381 : 1. West and East Africa).
- 3 (2) Pronotum slightly narrower, sides slightly contracted in the middle. Pronotum and tegmina chocolate, latter unicolorous. Projections on tergites smaller. Pygidial spinules small and inconspicuous. Tegmina abbreviated, wings absent
 var. *tanganyikae* nov.
- 4 (1) Head with occiput inflated. Pronotum clearly contracted near middle. Tergites 3 to 5 with toothed lateral ridge, the caudal margins of tergites not crenulate. Caudal margin of ultimate tergite simple. Pygidium simple, without teeth. Penultimate sternite truncate and slightly concave distad. Colour lighter, subtessaceous. Forceps with two inner teeth (in material examined) *F. congo* BURR (1900, *Ann. Soc. Ent. Belg.*, 44 : 49. Belgian Congo).

***Forcipula gariazzo* var. *tanganyikae* nov.**

This form is easily distinguished from typical *F. gariazzo* by several characters which, however, are not of sufficient importance to be regarded as specific. *F. gariazzo* is widely distributed in West Africa and I have examined a male from Uganda which does not differ from the typical form. The present appears to be a local form differing in coloration, in the reduction of the wings, and slightly in the shape of the pronotum.

♂ ♀. *Colour*. Dull black or piceous; mouthparts, antennae and legs brown; pronotum and tegmina chocolate; former with more or less distinct lateral dark stripe and extreme lateral margins brown. *Head* similar to that of *F. gariazzo*. *Pronotum* longer than broad, slightly broader caudal than cephalad; sides very slightly concave mesad. *Tegmina* abbreviated, only slightly longer than pronotum, caudal margin truncate. *Wings* absent. *Abdomen* of both sexes similar to type but granulation slightly less distinct and lateral spinules of male somewhat smaller. Ultimate tergite similar but slightly less sculptured. Pygidium of male of same general form but two teeth a little larger and a little nearer base when compared with individuals of *F. gariazzo* of equal total length. *Length* (total), ♂ 33, ♀ 23-29 mms.

Types : Holotype ♂, Baie de Kasoje, Riv. Lubulunga, 15.XII.46 (Inst. Royal des Sc. Nat., Belg.); paratype ♂, same data (Coll. HINCKS); allotype ♀ and 2 ♀♀ paratypes, same data (Inst. Royal des Sc. Nat., Belg. & Coll. HINCKS); paratype ♀, Pala, 20.XII.46 (Inst. Royal des Sc. Nat., Belg.). In addition 1 ♂, 1 ♀ nymphs and 1 damaged ♀, Baie de Kasoje, 15.XII.46; 1 damaged ♀, Baie de Bracona (without further data) (Inst. Royal des Sc. Nat., Belg.).

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