



Cis pickeri sp. nov. (Coleoptera: Ciidae) from Southern Africa

CRISTIANO LOPES-ANDRADE^{1,4}, NATALIA MATUSHKINA², GERDA BUDER³ &
KLAUS-DIETER KLASS³

¹Departamento de Biologia Animal, Universidade Federal de Viçosa, 36570-000 Viçosa MG, Brazil. E-mail: ciidae@gmail.com

²Department of Zoology, Biological Faculty, Kiev National University, vul. Vodovymirs'ka 64 UA-01033 Kyiv, Ukraine.

E-mail: odonataly@gmail.com

³Senckenberg Naturhistorische Sammlungen Dresden, Museum für Tierkunde, Königsbrücker Landstrasse 159, 01109 Dresden, Germany. E-mail: gerda.buder@senckenberg.de; klaus.klass@senckenberg.de

⁴Corresponding author

Abstract

A new species of ciid beetle from southwestern South Africa is described. Images of the habitus, male genitalia and other characters of the external morphology are provided. The observed variations of male secondary sexual characters are briefly discussed. The similarities of external morphological characters of *Cis pickeri* sp. nov. to other species of *Cis* Latreille are discussed, and the new species is tentatively included in the *bilamellatus* species group.

Key words: Tenebrionoidea, Ciini, Ciidae, Western Cape Province

Introduction

The known continental and insular Ethiopian Ciidae faunas comprise 71 described species, of which 40 belong to the genus *Cis* Latreille. The others are included in *Ceracis* Mellié (1 species), *Dimerapterocis* Scott (1), *Ennearthron* Mellié (1), *Orthocis* Casey (6), *Paratrichapus* Scott (1), *Tropicis* Scott (4), and *Xylographus* Mellié (17).

Scott (1926) published the sole work dedicated exclusively to Ethiopian ciids. He dealt with the ciids from Aldabra and the Seychelles islands, and provided identification keys to genera and species. The descriptions of most species are scattered over several papers contributed by few authors (*e.g.* Pic 1916; Reitter 1908), and after the description of *X. rufipennis* by Pic (1934) the Ethiopian ciids were neglected for more than 60 years. Then, Ferrer (1997) provided notes on the species described by Fåhraeus (1871) and Reitter (1908), and Lopes-Andrade (2008a) described one species of *Tropicis* from the Mascarene Islands.

The described Ethiopian ciid species are not homogeneously distributed throughout the region. Apart from a few widespread species, such as *X. seychellensis* Scott, the great majority of species appear to be restricted to one or few biogeographic provinces (Lopes-Andrade pers. obs.). Only ten described species are recorded from Southern Africa (comprising Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, Republic of South Africa and Swaziland): *Cer. cucullatus* (Mellié); *C. afer* Fåhraeus; *C. bimucronatus* Motschulsky; *C. caffer* Fåhraeus; *C. capensis* Mellié; *C. delagoensis* Pic; *C. muriceus* Mellié; *C. testaceus* Fåhraeus; *O. subornatus* (Wollaston); and *X. tarsalis* Fåhraeus. All except *Cer. cucullatus* are known only from Africa.

In this work, we describe *Cis pickeri* sp. nov. (Ciini), a new species of ciid beetle from the Western Cape Province, Republic of South Africa.