

**Revision of the Afrotropical species
of the genus *Mentophilonthus*
(Coleoptera: Staphylinidae: Philonthina)**

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Abstract. Afrotropical species of the genus *Mentophilonthus* Levasseur, 1966 (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae) are revised taxonomically. Twenty species are recognized, including six new ones: *M. crocuta* sp. nov. (Ghana), *M. equus* sp. nov. (Malawi), *M. hystrix* sp. nov. (Namibia), *M. manis* sp. nov. (Gabon), *M. struthio* sp. nov. (Sudan, Democratic Republic of the Congo), and *M. vanellus* sp. nov. (Democratic Republic of the Congo). Six species are transferred to *Mentophilonthus* from the genus *Philonthus* Stephens, 1829: *M. curiosus* (Tottenham, 1949) comb. nov., *M. dilucidus* (Tottenham, 1962) comb. nov., *M. ochrighonalis* (Tottenham, 1962) comb. nov., *M. reinecki* (Schubert, 1902) comb. nov., *M. schoutedeni* (Bernhauer, 1928) comb. nov., and *M. tristichus* (Cameron, 1929) comb. nov. *Mentophilonthus bangoranensis* (Levasseur, 1980), syn. nov., is synonymized with *M. ochrighonalis* Tottenham, 1962; *M. seriatipennis* (Bernhauer, 1928), stat. restit. is removed from the synonymy with *M. dilutior* (Bernhauer, 1928). A lectotype is designated for *Philonthus schoutedeni* Bernhauer, 1928 and *P. seriatipennis* Bernhauer, 1928. All species are (re)described and morphological details of some species and aedeagi of all species are figured. A key to Afrotropical species of the genus *Mentophilonthus* is provided. A list of all *Mentophilonthus* species is provided along with their known distribution.

Key words. Coleoptera, Staphylinidae, Philonthina, *Mentophilonthus*, taxonomy, new species, new synonymy, new combination, key, Afrotropical Region

Introduction

The philonthine genus *Mentophilonthus* (type species: *Philonthus triseriatus* Bernhauer, 1928) was described by LEVASSEUR (1966), including three Afrotropical species. Three additional species are known from the Oriental region (HROMÁDKA & SCHILLHAMMER 2007). During my recent revisional studies on the genus *Philonthus* Stephens, 1829, eleven further

species, described originally in *Philonthus*, were recognized to belong to *Mentophilonthus*. In addition, six undescribed species were found in the material examined for this study. In total, the genus *Mentophilonthus* currently comprises 20 Afrotropical and 3 Oriental species (see the list below).

The species of *Mentophilonthus* are similar in general habitus to those of *Philonthus* but differ by large and flat eyes that do not project from the outline of the head capsule. The genus may be recognized by the well-developed infra-orbital ridge, reaching anteriorly at least to mid-length of the head and mesad toward gular sutures (Figs. 1, 2). The African species of *Mentophilonthus* live mostly in dung of mammals and in sand and are frequently found at light; the Oriental representatives were mostly collected at the edges of stagnant and flowing waters (HROMÁDKA & SCHILHAMMER 2007).

Materials and methods

Specimens examined during this study are deposited in the following institutions and private collections:

AACO	Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Ottawa, Canada (Aleš Smetana);
ABFC	Arnaldo Bordoni collection, Firenze, Italy;
BMNH	Natural History Museum, London, United Kingdom (Max Barclay, Roger Booth and Martin Brendell);
FMNH	Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago, USA (James M. Boone);
IRSB	Institut royal des Sciences naturelles de Belgique, Bruxelles, Belgium (Didier Drugmand);
JJRC	Jiří Janák collection, Rtně nad Břilinou, Czech Republic;
LHPC	Lubomír Hromádka collection, Praha, Czech Republic;
MNHN	Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle, Paris, France (Thierry Deuve);
MRAC	Musee Royal de l'Afrique centrale, Tervuren, Belgium (Marc de Meyer);
MZLU	Museum of Zoology Lund University, Lund Sweden (Roy Danielsson);
MZSF	Museo Zoologico de la specola Firenze, Firenze, Italy (Arnaldo Bordoni);
NHMW	Naturhistorisches Museum, Wien, Austria (Harald Schillhammer);
NMPC	National Museum, Praha, Czech Republic (Jiří Hájek);
TMNP	Transvaal Museum of Natural History, Pretoria, Republic of South Africa (Ruth Müller);
ZMHB	Museum für Naturkunde der Humboldt-Universität, Berlin, Germany (Manfred Uhlig).

A double slash (/) is used to divide separate labels of type specimens. All measurements were taken in beetles with a stretched abdomen. All ratios mentioned in the descriptions are dimensionless but can be converted to lengths as 20 units = 1 mm. When indicating the relative lengths of antennal and tarsal segments, equal lengths of subsequent segments are abbreviated (e.g., 2–4 = 5 means that each of segments 2, 3 and 4 is of the same length of 5 units).

Species list of *Mentophilonthus* Levasseur, 1966

Afrotropical species

<i>M. centrafricanus</i> Levasseur, 1980	Botswana, Central African Republic, Namibia, Republic of South Africa, Zambia
<i>M. crocuta</i> sp. nov.	Ghana
<i>M. curiosus</i> (Tottenham, 1949)	Tanzania, Zambia

<i>M. descarpentriasi</i> Levasseur, 1966	Democratic Republic of the Congo, Republic of the Congo
<i>M. dilucidus</i> (Tottenham, 1962)	Nigeria
<i>M. dilutior</i> (Bernhauer, 1928)	Democratic Republic of the Congo
<i>M. equus</i> sp. nov.	Malawi
<i>M. hystrix</i> sp. nov.	Namibia
<i>M. lampropterus</i> (Bernhauer, 1934)	Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kenya
<i>M. manis</i> sp. nov.	Gabon
<i>M. mongendensis</i> (Bernhauer, 1928)	Democratic Republic of the Congo
<i>M. ochrigonalis</i> (Tottenham, 1962)	Central African Republic, Sudan
<i>M. odzalaensis</i> Levasseur, 1966	Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Gabon, Republic of the Congo
<i>M. reinecki</i> (Schubert, 1902)	Kenya, Namibia, Republic of South Africa, Tanzania
<i>M. schoutedeni</i> (Bernhauer, 1928)	Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ghana
<i>M. seriatiipennis</i> (Bernhauer, 1928)	Democratic Republic of the Congo
<i>M. struthio</i> sp. nov.	Sudan
<i>M. triseriatus</i> (Bernhauer, 1928)	Democratic Republic of the Congo, Republic of the Congo, Rwanda
<i>M. tristichus</i> (Cameron, 1929)	Democratic Republic of the Congo
<i>M. vanellus</i> sp. nov.	Democratic Republic of the Congo

Oriental species

<i>M. davidkrali</i> Hromádka & Schillhammer, 2007	India, Nepal
<i>M. notabilis</i> Kraatz, 1859	Andaman Islands, India, Indonesia, Japan, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam.
<i>M. quediiformis</i> (Cameron, 1932)	India

Taxonomy

Mentophilonthus centrafricanus Levasseur, 1980

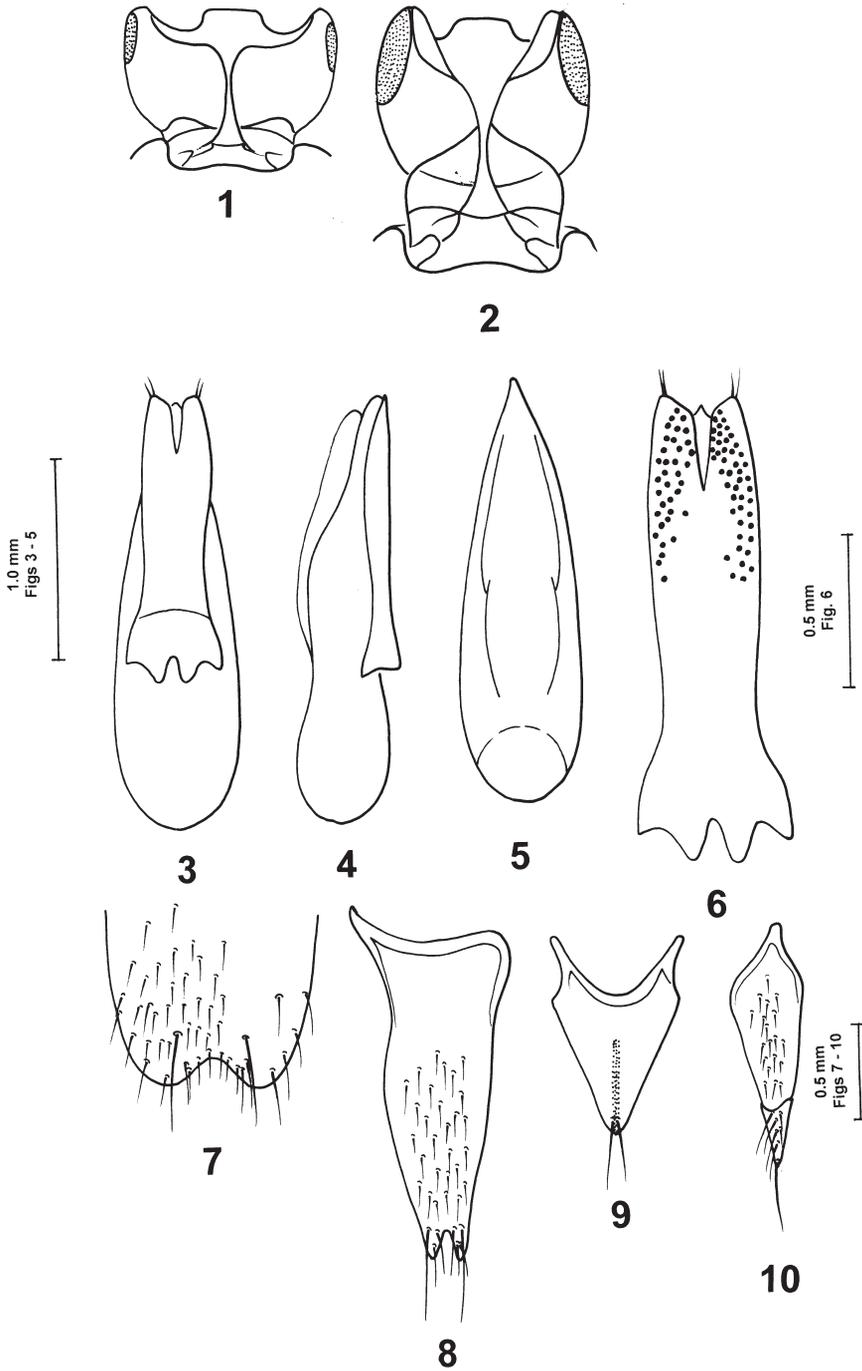
(Figs. 3–10)

Mentophilonthus centrafricanus Levasseur, 1980: 356.

Type locality. Republic of South Africa, Bangoran, S. W. Ndélé.

Type material examined. Holotype: ♂, 'Republic of South Africa, Bangoran s. w. Ndélé, Savane boisée, crotte buffle, i.1968, R. Cailleux, dessine, Museum Paris. // Holotype, *Mentophilonthus centrafricanus*, Levasseur, det. [white label with red margin, handwritten]' (MNHP).

Additional material examined. **BOTSWANA:** 1 spec., Okavango-Delta, Moremi Wildlife Reserve, Third Bridge Campsite, 19°14'22"S/23°21'24"E, at light, M. Uhlig lgt., 10.iii.1993 (ZMHB). **NAMIBIA:** 1 spec., 'Exp. ZMB



1992, Kavango: Mahango Game, Reserve Elefantenmist, 18°17'S/21°43'E, 28.ii.1992, leg. M. Uhlig' (ZMHB); 1 spec., 'Exp. ZMB 1992, East Caprivi: Katima Mulilo, lux, 17°29'S/24°17'E, 8.iii.1992, leg. M. Uhlig' (ZMHB); 1 spec., 'Exp. ZMB 1992, Bushmanland: Klein Pobe, 19°25'S/20°21'E, lux, 19.–21.ii.1992, leg. M. Uhlig' (ZMHB); 1 spec., '15.iv.1993, 18°37'S/16°49'E, Etosha NP, 25km NWN Namutoni, elephant dung, leg. B.+ M. Uhlig' (ZMHB). **REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA:** 2 spec., '31.xii.1998, Kruger NP: Skukuza, elephant dung, ex sample No.2 leg. C. Paetel' (ZMHB, LHPC); 1 spec., '3.i.1999: Kruger NP: Skukuza, zebra dung, ex sample No. 1, leg. C. Paetel' (ZMHB); 3 spec., '4.i.1999, Kruger NP: Skukuza, elepaht dung, ex sample No. 7, leg. C. Paetel' (ZMHB, LHPC); 4 spec., '5.i.1999, Kruger NP: Skukuza, ex elephant dung, ex sample No.9, leg. C. Paetel' (ZMHB); 2 spec.: '7.i.1999, Kruger NP: Skukuza, ex elephant dung, ex sample No. 1., leg. C.Paetel' (LHPC); 14 spec., 'Kruger Nat. PK. Punda Maria, 22.41'S–31.01'E, 3.ii.1994, E.–Y.:2977, elephant dung, leg. Endrödy–Younga' (TMNP); 3 spec., 'Kruger Nat. PK. Malongasprings 2 km W, 22.38'S–31.17'E, 8.ii.1994, E.–Y.: 2987, elephant dung, leg. Endrödy–Younga' (TMNP); 2 spec., 'Kruger Nat. PK. Punda Milia, sand, 22.38°S–31°02'E, 3.ii.1994, E.–Y.: 2974, ground traps with faeces bait, leg. Endrödy–Younga' (TMNP); 2 spec., 'Kruger Nat., PK. Skukuza rec. Camp, 25.00°S–31.35°E, 19.ii.1995, E.–Y.: 3102, UV light-trap, leg. Endrödy–Younga' (TMNP). **ZAMBIA:** 12 spec., '24.iii.2003, 13°S/31°E/ south Luangwa NP, elephant dung, ca. 450m, leg. M. Uhlig' (ZMHB).

Redescription. Body length 6.8–7.1 mm, length of fore body (to end of elytra) 3.2–3.5 mm.

Colouration. Head black, anterior margin of clypeus and antennal sockets narrowly reddish yellow, labrum and mandibles dark brown, pronotum black-brown, elytra black, epipleura and posterior margins of elytra narrowly yellow-brown, abdomen black with golden reflex, posterior margins of first four visible tergites narrowly reddish, maxillary and labial palpi brown, antennomeres 1–2 brown-yellow, remaining antennomeres dark brown, legs brown-yellow.

Head slightly wider than long (ratio 19 : 16). Posterior angles of head capsule with two long black bristles. Eyes flat, almost twice as long as temples (eye length / temple length ratio 8.5 : 4.5). Posterior margin of eyes with two setiferous punctures. Temporal area with several coarse punctures. Dorsal surface of head with fine and dense microsculpture and numerous microscopic dots.

Antennae reaching posterior fifth of pronotum when reclined. Antennomere 1 slightly longer than antennomeres 10–11 combined. Relative lengths of antennomeres: 1 = 7; 2–4 = 4; 3 = 5; 4–8 = 3; 9–10 = 2.5; 11 = 3.5.

Pronotum slightly longer than wide (ratio 30 : 27.5), slightly narrowed anteriorly. Each dorsal row with two punctures, each sublateral row with one puncture situated halfway between dorsal row and lateral margin. Microsculpture similar to that on head.

Scutellum finely and sparsely punctate, punctures distinctly smaller than eye-facets, transverse interspaces between punctures 2× as large as diameters of punctures. Surface with very fine microsculpture; setation black.

Elytra combined distinctly wider than long (ratio 37 : 32), widened posteriorly. Punctuation fine and very dense; punctures equal in size to eye-facets, separated mostly by distance larger than puncture diameter. Longitudinal row of four coarser punctures situated at about midwidth of elytron. Surface without microsculpture; setation testaceous.

Figs. 1–10. 1 – *Philonthus (Philonthus) splendens* (Fabricius, 1793), head, ventral view. 2 – *Mentophilonthus triseriatus* (Bernhauer, 1928), head, ventral view. 3–10. *M. centrafricanus* Levasseur, 1980: 3–6 – aedeagus (3 – ventral view, 4 – lateral view, 5 – dorsal view, 6 – underside of paramere, with sensory peg setae); 7 – apical portion of male sternite VIII, ventral view; 8 – male sternite IX, ventral view; 9 – female tergite X, dorsal view; 10 – gonocoxites of female genital segment. (Figs 1–2 redrawn from LEVASSEUR (1965)).

Legs. Metatibia slightly longer than metatarsus (ratio 20 : 18). Metatarsomere 1 slightly shorter than metatarsomere 5, relative lengths of metatarsomeres: 1 = 6; 2–4 = 2; 5 = 6.5.

First four visible abdominal tergites with two basal lines, elevated area between basal lines very sparsely punctate. Punctuation of all tergites finer and much sparser than that on elytra; setation of the same colour as that on elytra.

Male. Protarsomeres 1–3 conspicuously dilated and subbilobed, each covered with modified pale setae ventrally, protarsomere 4 distinctly narrower than preceding ones. Sternite VIII (Fig. 7), sternite IX (Fig. 8), aedeagus (Figs. 3–6).

Female. Protarsomeres 1–3 much less dilated than those in male, each with a few modified pale setae ventrally, protarsomere 4 small. Tergite X (Fig. 9), gonocoxites of female genital segment (Fig. 10).

Differential diagnosis. *Mentophilonthus centrafricanus* is similar to *M. dilutior* from which it differs by the longer antennae, larger eyes and denser punctuation of the scutellum and abdomen. It differs from *M. ochrigonalis* by the narrower head and sparser punctuation of the abdomen, and from *M. mongedensis* by the lighter-coloured first two antennomeres. It differs from all *Mentophilonthus* species by the shape of the aedeagus.

Bionomics. Most specimens have been found in the dung of mammals, in sand, pitfall traps with faeces bait and in light traps.

Distribution. Botswana, Namibia, Republic of South Africa and Zambia (this paper); Central African Republic (HERMAN 2001).

Mentophilonthus crocuta sp. nov.

(Figs. 11–15)

Type locality. Ghana, Mkawkaw.

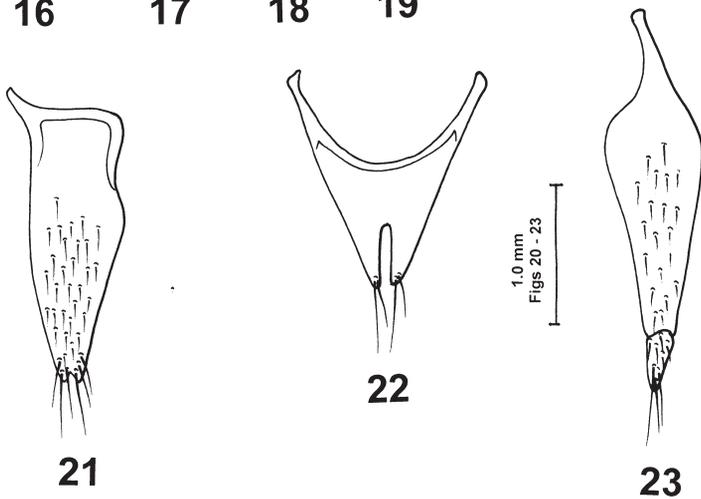
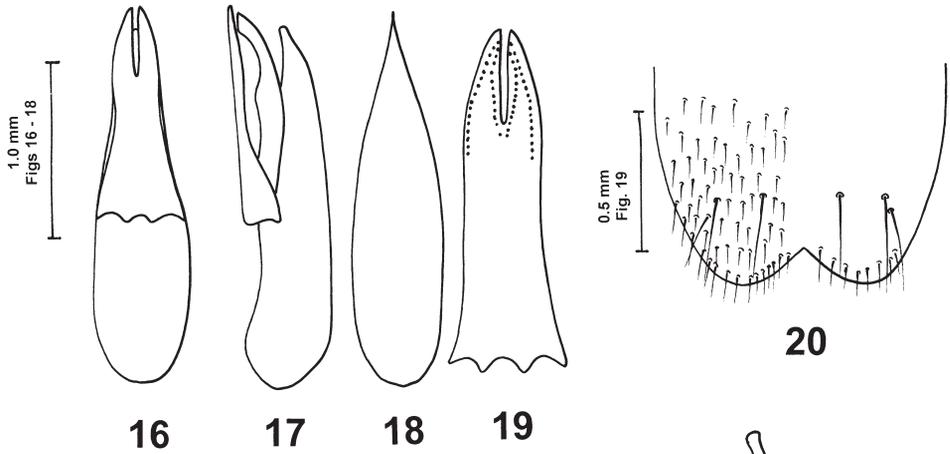
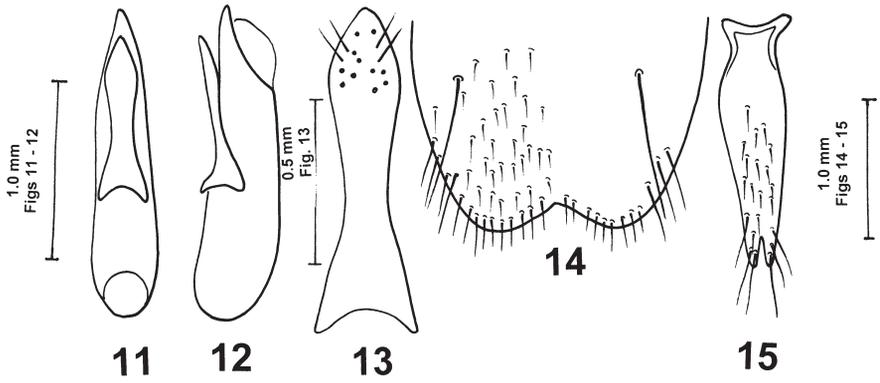
Type material. HOLOTYPE: ♂, 'GHANA, Mkawkaw, 20.iv.1984, leg. W. Rossi. // Holotype, *Mentophilonthus crocuta* sp. nov., Hromádka det. 2007 [red oblong printed label]' (NMPC).

Description. Body length 5.2 mm, length of fore body (to end of elytra) 3.3 mm.

Colouration. Head black, pronotum black-brown; elytra brown, narrowly yellow-brown along suture; abdomen black-brown, posterior margins of all tergites somewhat paler; maxillary and labial palpi brown-yellow, antennomere 1 yellow-brown, antennomeres 2–3 brown-yellow, remaining antennomeres dark brown; legs yellow-brown.

Head approximately as long as wide, narrowed posteriad. Posterior angles of head capsule obtusely rounded. Eyes flat, longer than temples (ratio 8.0 : 5.5), anterior margin of each eye with one coarse setiferous puncture. Temporal area with single puncture. Dorsal surface of head with dense and very fine microsculpture consisting of transverse and oblique waves.

Figs. 11–23. 11–15 – *Mentophilonthus crocuta* sp. nov.: 11–13 – aedeagus (11 – ventral view, 12 – lateral view, 13 – underside of paramere, with sensory peg setae); 14 – apical portion of male sternite VIII, ventral view; 15 – male sternite IX, ventral view. 16–23 – *Mentophilonthus curiosus* (Tottenham, 1949): 16–19 – aedeagus (16 – ventral view, 17 – lateral view, 18 – ventral view, without paramere, 19 – underside of paramere, with sensory peg setae); 20 – apical portion of male sternite VIII, ventral view; 21 – male sternite IX, ventral view; 22 – female tergite X, dorsal view; 23 – gonocoxites of female genital segment.



Antennae reaching mid-length of pronotum when reclined, antennomere 1 slightly shorter than antennomeres 2–3 combined, antennomeres 7–10 slightly transverse. Relative lengths of antennomeres: 1 = 5; 2 = 3; 3 = 2.5; 4–10 = 2; 11 = 3.5.

Pronotum slightly longer than wide (ratio 21 : 20), distinctly narrowed anteriorly. Posterior angles entirely rounded. Each dorsal row with two coarse punctures; each sublateral row with one puncture. Surface shiny, microsculpture similar to that on head.

Scutellum sparsely and very finely punctate, punctures somewhat smaller than eye-facets, transverse interspaces between punctures 2–3× as large as diameters of punctures. Surface with fine microsculpture consisting of transverse and oblique waves; shiny.

Elytra combined wider than long (ratio 27 : 25), slightly widened posteriorly. Posterior angles with several long black bristles. Surface with microscopic dots, in places intermixed with irregularly arranged, somewhat larger punctures. Longitudinal row of four larger punctures situated at midwidth of each elytron. Surface without microsculpture and setation.

Legs. Metatibia somewhat longer than metatarsus (ratio 14 : 12). All tibiae with several black bristles of unequal length. Metatarsomere 1 longer than metatarsomere 5. Relative lengths of metatarsomeres: 1 = 3.5; 2–4 = 2.5; 5 = 3.

Abdomen slightly narrowed towards apex. First four visible abdominal tergites with two basal lines, elevated area between basal lines finely and sparsely punctate. Punctuation of all visible tergites very fine and sparse, punctures smaller than eye-facets, separated by two puncture diameters in transverse direction; surface between punctures without microsculpture.

Male. Protarsomeres 1–3 distinctly dilated and subbilobed, each covered with modified pale setae ventrally, protarsomere 4 distinctly narrower than preceding ones. Sternite VIII (Fig. 14), sternite IX (Fig. 15), aedeagus (Figs. 11–13).

Female. Unknown.

Differential diagnosis. *Mentophilonthus crocuta* sp. nov. is very similar to *M. tristichus*, but it may be distinguished by the shorter and rounder head, shorter pronotum and elytra, lighter coloured elytra, sparser and finer punctuation of the elytra and abdomen, and different shape of the aedeagus.

Etymology. The name of this species, a noun in apposition, is the Latin generic name of the African hyena *Crocuta crocuta* (Erxleben, 1777).

Bionomics. Unknown.

Distribution. Ghana.

Mentophilonthus curiosus (Tottenham, 1949) comb. nov.

(Figs. 16–23)

Philonthus (*Philonthus*) *curiosus* Tottenham, 1949: 298.

Type locality. Zambia, Kashitu N of Broken Hill.

Type material examined. HOLOTYPE: ♂, 'N.W. RHODESIA, Kashitu N of Broken Hill, 26.iii.1915, H.C. Dollman; H.C. Dollman Coll. 1919 // *Philonthus curiosus*, Tottenham, det [white oblong label, handwritten]' (BMNH).

Additional material examined. TANZANIA: 1 ♂, 'Email Range, 4900–5900 ft., iii.40, M. Cameron, Bequest, B.M. 1955–147' (BMNH). ZAMBIA: 1 ♀, 'N.W. Rhodesia, Kashitu N of Broken Hill, 26.iii.1915, H.C. Dollman., H.C. Dollman Coll. 1919' (BMNH).

Redescription. Body length: 10.1 mm, (with stretched abdomen), length of fore body (to end of elytra) 4.9 mm.

Colouration. Head black, clypeus narrowly yellow-brown along anterior margin and antennal sockets, mandibles brown, pronotum pitchy brown, entire elytra and abdomen black-brown, paratergites and posterior margins of all tergites narrowly, but sharply reddish, maxillary and labial palpi brown, antennae brown-yellow to brown, legs dark testaceous.

Head rounded, as wide as long, eyes almost twice as long as temples (ratio 13 : 7), anterior margin of each eye with one coarse setiferous puncture, posterior margin of each eye with two coarse setiferous punctures. Temporal area with several coarse punctures, two punctures setiferous. Surface with fine and dense microsculpture consisting of mostly transverse waves and numerous microscopic dots.

Antennae reaching posterior fourth of pronotum when reclined. Antennomere 1 somewhat longer than antennomeres 2–3 combined. Relative lengths of antennomeres: 1 = 10; 2 = 4.5; 3 = 5; 4–8 = 3.5; 9–10 = 3; 11 = 4.

Pronotum as long as wide, slightly narrowed anteriorly. Lateral margins with one long, brown-yellow bristle in anterior half. Each dorsal and each sublateral row with one puncture. Microsculpture similar as that on head.

Scutellum rather densely and finely punctate, punctures somewhat smaller than those on elytra. Surface partially with microsculpture much finer than that on head and pronotum. Setation black, relatively long.

Elytra combined slightly wider than long (ratio 50 : 47). Punctuation very fine and dense, punctures somewhat smaller than eye-facets, separated by two puncture diameters in transverse direction. Longitudinal row with three larger punctures situated at about midwidth of each elytron. Setation brown.

Legs. Metatibia as long as metatarsus. Metatarsomere 1 as long as metatarsomeres 2–3 combined, metatarsomere 5 shorter than metatarsomere 1. Relative lengths of metatarsomeres: 1 = 9; 2 = 5; 3 = 4; 4 = 2.5; 5 = 8.

Abdomen with visible tergite III widest, slightly narrowed from it toward base and apex. First four visible tergites of abdomen with two basal lines, elevated area between basal lines impunctate. Punctuation on bases of all tergites slightly finer than that on elytra, punctuation of each tergite gradually becoming finer and sparser posteriorly. Surface without microsculpture; setation of the same colour as that on elytra.

Male. Protarsomeres 1–3 markedly dilated and subbilobed, each covered with modified pale setae ventrally, protarsomere 4 triangular, much narrower than preceding ones. Sternite VIII (Fig. 20), sternite IX (Fig. 21), aedeagus (Figs. 16–19).

Female. Protarsomeres 1–3 much less dilated than those in male, protarsomere 4 very small; only protarsomeres 1–3 bearing modified pale setae ventrally. Tergite X (Fig. 22), gonocoxite of female genital segment (Fig. 23).

Differential diagnosis. *Mentophilonthus curiosus* may be distinguished from the similar *M. dilucidus* by the finer punctuation of the elytra, from *M. ochrigonalis* by the finer punctuation of abdominal tergites and darker posterior margin of the elytra, and from both species by the shape of the aedeagus.

Bionomics. Unknown.

Distribution. Tanzania, Zambia.

***Mentophilonthus descarpentriesi* Levasseur, 1966**

(Figs. 24–28)

Mentophilonthus descarpentriesi Levasseur, 1966: 209.**Type locality.** Democratic Republic of the Congo, Odzala.**Type material examined.** PARATYPE: ♂, 'Congo Belge, Odzala: Octobre, Muséum Paris, Mission A. Descarpentriès, et A. Villiers, 1963 – 1964 // Paratype, *Mentophilonthus descarpentriesi* Levasseur, det. [white round yellow-margined label, handwritten]' (MNHN).**Additional material.** DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO: ♂, 'Congo Belge, Libenge, 29.iv.1946, R. Cremer & M. Neuman' (LHPC).**Redescription.** Body length 8.0–9.0 mm, length of fore body (to end of elytra) 4.0–4.2 mm.

Colouration. Head black, clypeus very narrowly reddish-yellow along anterior margin and antennal sockets, labrum redish-yellow, mandibles brown-black, pronotum brown, elytra brown-black, suture, epipleura and posterior margin yellow-brown, abdomen black-brown, posterior margins of all tergites relatively broadly yellow-brown, all paratergites yellow-brown, maxillary and labial palpi brown-yellow, first two antennomeres and legs yellow-brown, remaining antennomeres dark brown.

Head wider than long (ratio 23.5 : 21). Posterior angles of head capsule each with two long, black bristles. Eyes flat, occupying almost entire sides of head (ratio 13 : 5). Posterior margin of each eye with two coarse punctures. Dorsal surface with fine microsculpture consisting of transverse and oblique waves and microscopic dots.

Antennae reaching posterior fifth of pronotum when reclined. Antennomere 1 as long as antennomeres 2–3 combined, antennomere 11 as long as antennomere 4. Relative lengths of antennomeres: 1 = 9; 2 = 4; 3 = 5; 4–8 = 3; 9–10 = 2.5; 11 = 3.

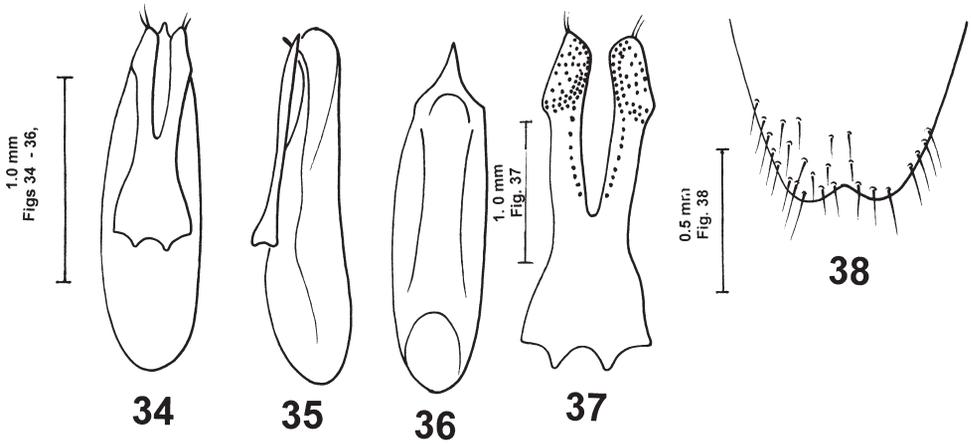
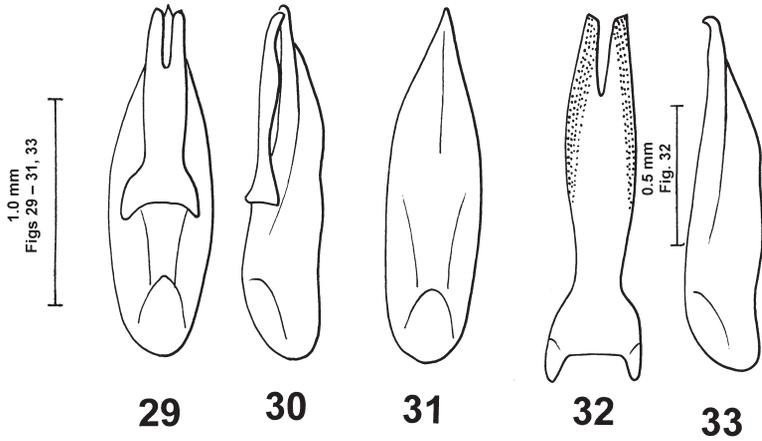
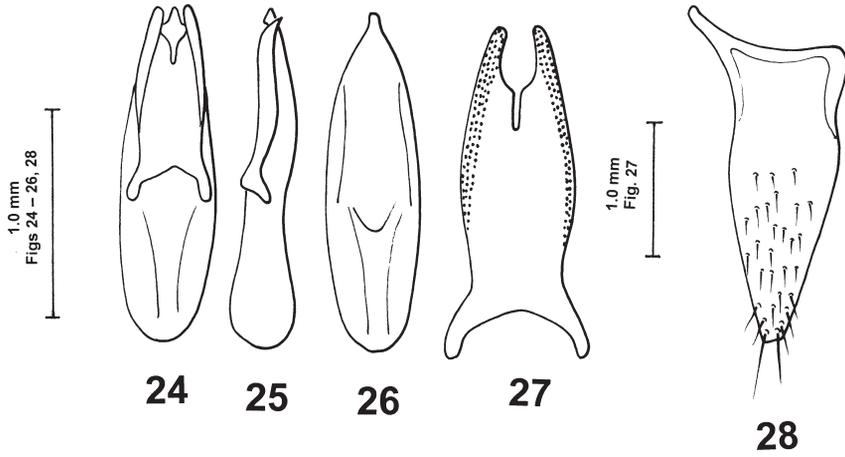
Pronotum slightly longer than wide (ratio 33 : 31), slightly narrowed anteriorly, posterior angles conspicuously rounded. Each dorsal and each sublateral row with two punctures. Microsculpture similar to that on head.

Scutellum sparsely and exceedingly finely punctate, punctures distinctly smaller than eye-facets, separated by 2–3 puncture diameters in transverse direction. Surface with very fine microsculpture consisting of transverse and oblique waves.

Elytra combined slightly wider than long (ratio 41.5 : 40), distinctly widened posteriorly. Punctuation very fine and sparse, punctures somewhat smaller than eye-facets, separated mostly by puncture diameter in transverse direction. Longitudinal row of four coarse punctures situated at about midwidth of each elytron. Anterior angles each with 1 long, black bristle. Surface without microsculpture; setation short, dark.

Legs. Metatibia as long as metatarsus, metatarsomere 1 as long as metatarsomeres 3–4 combined, metatarsomere 5 shorter than metatarsomere 1. Relative lengths of metatarsomeres: 1 = 7; 2 = 4; 3 = 4; 4 = 3; 5 = 5.5.

Figs. 24–38. 24–28 – *Mentophilonthus descarpentriesi* Levasseur, 1965: 24–27 – aedeagus (24 – ventral view, 25 – lateral view, 26 – ventral view, without paramere, 27 – underside of paramere, with sensory peg setae); 28 – male sternite IX, ventral view. 29–33 – *Mentophilonthus dilucidus* (Tottenham, 1962): 29–33 – aedeagus (29 – ventral view, 30 – lateral view, 31 – ventral view, without paramere, 32 – underside of paramere, with sensory peg setae, 33 – lateral view without paramere). 34–38 – *Mentophilonthus dilutior* (Bernhauer, 1928): 34–37 – aedeagus (34 – ventral view, 35 – lateral view, 36 – ventral view, without paramere, 37 – underside of paramere with sensory peg setae); 38 – apical portion of male sternite VIII, ventral view.



First four visible tergites with two basal lines, elevated area between basal lines very finely and sparsely punctate. Punctuation of abdominal tergites inconspicuously finer than that on elytra, becoming sparser posteriad. Surface without microsculpture; setation brown-yellow.

Male. Protarsomeres 1–3 strongly dilated and subbilobed, densely covered with modified pale setae ventrally, protarsomere 4 distinctly narrower than preceding ones. Sternite IX (Fig. 28), aedeagus (Figs. 24–27).

Female. Unknown.

Differential diagnosis. *Mentophilonthus descarpentriesi* is very similar to *M. odzalaensis*, from which it may be distinguished by the paler antennae and tibiae and by the different shape of the aedeagus.

Bionomics. Unknown.

Distribution. Democratic Republic of the Congo (this paper), Republic of the Congo (HERMAN 2001).

***Mentophilonthus dilucidus* (Tottenham, 1962) comb.nov.**

(Figs. 29–33)

Philonthus (*Philonthus*) *dilucidus* Tottenham, 1962: 154.

Type locality. Nigeria, Ibadan.

Type material. HOLOTYPE: ♂, 'NIGERIA, Ibadan, 22.v.1936, V.F. Eastop, C.E. Tottenham collection, B.M. 1974–587 // Holotype, *Philonthus dilucidus* Tottenham, det. [white oblong label, handwritten]' (BMNH). PARATYPE: ♂, 'Nakiwogo, Entebbe, xi.1961, A.J. Haddowm, height 400 ft. [white oblong label, handwritten]' (BMNH).

Redescription. Body length: 8.5 mm, length of fore body (to end of elytra) 4.2 mm.

Colouration. Head black, pronotum black with brown shine, scutellum paler, elytra black-brown with posterior angles and epipleura yellow-brown, abdomen black-brown, posterior margins of abdominal tergites and posterior half of each paratergite yellow-brown, maxillary and labial palpi brown, first three antennomeres yellow-brown, remaining antennomeres brown-yellow, legs with femora and tarsi yellow-brown, middle and posterior tibiae somewhat darker.

Head rounded, slightly wider than long (ratio 25 : 22); posterior angles entirely obliterated, each with two long dark bristles. Eyes flat, about twice as long as temples (ratio 11.5 : 5.5). Anterior margin of each eye with one setiferous puncture. Temporal area with several punctures. Dorsal surface shiny, with dense and fine microsculpture consisting of transverse and oblique waves.

Antennae reaching posterior third of pronotum when reclined. Antennomere 1 somewhat longer than antennomeres 2–3 combined, antennomere 11 about a half shorter than antennomere 1. Relative lengths of antennomeres: 1 = 9; 2 = 4; 3 = 4.5; 4–10 = 3.5; 11 = 4.5.

Pronotum about as long as wide, slightly narrowed anteriorly. Posterior angles strongly rounded. Each dorsal row with one puncture situated in posterior third, each sublateral row with one puncture. Lateral margins each with one long, dark brown bristle in anterior half. Microsculpture similar to that on head.

Scutellum very finely and densely punctate, punctures smaller than eye-facets. Microsculpture very fine; setation long and dark.

Elytra combined wider than long (ratio 46 : 39), slightly widened posteriad. Punctuation very fine and relatively sparse, punctures as large as eye-facets, separated by two puncture

diameters in transverse direction. Longitudinal row of four coarse punctures situated at about midwidth of each elytron. Surface without microsculpture; setation testaceous.

Legs. Metatibia as long as metatarsus. Metatarsomere 1 longer than metatarsomeres 2–3 combined. Relative lengths of metatarsomeres: 1 = 7.5; 2–4 = 3.5; 5 = 5.

Abdomen with base distinctly narrower than posterior width of elytra, gradually narrowed posteriorly. First three visible tergites with two basal lines, elevated area between basal lines very finely and sparsely punctate. Punctuation of visible tergites similar to that on elytra, separated mostly by two puncture diameters in transverse direction. Surface between punctures without microsculpture. Lateral margins of all tergites with several short bristles; shiny.

Male. Protarsomeres 1–3 markedly dilated and subbilobed, covered with modified pale setae ventrally, protarsomere 4 distinctly narrower than preceding ones, lacking modified setae ventrally. Aedeagus (Figs. 29–33).

Female. Unknown.

Differential diagnosis. *Mentophilonthus dilucidus* is similar to *M. struthio*, from which it may be distinguished by the shorter antennae, narrower elytra, paler elytra and abdomen, and sparser punctuation of the elytra and abdomen. It may be distinguished from *M. curiosus* by the coarser punctuation of abdomen, and from both above species by the shape of the aedeagus.

Bionomics. Unknown.

Distribution. Nigeria.

Mentophilonthus dilutior (Bernhauer, 1928)

(Figs. 34–40)

Philonthus (*Philonthus*) *dilutior* Bernhauer, 1928: 113.

Mentophilonthus dilutior: LEVASSEUR, 1966: 208, 211.

Type locality. Democratic Republic of the Congo, Mongende.

Type material. HOLOTYPE: ♂, 'Congo Belge, Mongende, 19.iv.1921, Schouteden, Chicago NHMus. M. Bernhauer, collection, // Type *Philonthus dilutior* Bernhauer det. [yellow oblong label, handwritten]' (FMNH).

Redescription. Body length: 7.1 mm (with stretched abdomen), length of fore body (to end of elytra) 4.2 mm.

Colouration. Head black, antennal sockets and clypeus along anterior margin very narrowly brown-yellow, pronotum and abdomen black-brown, elytra brown-reddish palpi brown-yellow, antennomeres 1–2 yellow-brown, remaining antennomeres blackish, legs yellow-brown, tibiae and tarsi infusate.

Head rounded, hardly longer than wide (ratio 22 : 20.5). Eyes slightly longer than temples (ratio 11 : 9). Anterior margin of each eye with two coarse punctures. Dorsal surface with fine and dense microsculpture consisting of transverse and oblique waves, in places intermixed with numerous microscopic dots.

Antennae reaching posterior margin of pronotum when reclined. Antennomere 2 shorter than antennomere 3. Relative lengths of antennomeres: 1 = 9.5; 2 = 4; 3 = 5; 4–9 = 3.5; 10 = 3; 11 = 4.

Pronotum somewhat longer than wide (ratio 34 : 32), hardly narrowed anteriorly. Posterior angles entirely rounded. Each dorsal row with two punctures; each sublateral row with one puncture. Microsculpture similar to that on head.

Scutellum exceedingly finely and sparsely punctate, punctures somewhat smaller than eye-facets, separated by 1–1.5 puncture diameters in transverse direction. Microsculpture much finer than that on head and pronotum.

Elytra combined wider than long (ratio 43 : 37), distinctly widened posteriad. Punctuation rather coarse and dense, punctures as large as eye-facets, transverse interspaces between punctures equal to diameter of punctures. Longitudinal row of three larger punctures situated at about midwidth of each elytron. Surface without microsculpture; setation greyish.

Legs. Metatibia longer than metatarsus (ratio 24 : 22). Metatarsomere 1 as long as metatarsomeres 2–3 combined. Relative lengths of metatarsomeres: 1 = 8; 2–3 = 4; 4 = 3; 5 = 6.

Abdomen with first four visible tergites with two basal lines, elevated area between basal lines very finely and very sparsely punctate, punctuation of all tergites similar to that on elytra; setation of the same colour as that on elytra.

Male. Protarsomeres 1–3 markedly dilated and subbilobed, densely covered with modified pale setae ventrally, protarsomere 4 only slightly narrower than preceding ones. Sternite VIII (Fig. 38), sternite IX (Fig. 39), aedeagus (Figs. 34–37).

Female. Protarsomeres 1–3 less dilated than those of male, protarsomere 4 small, only protarsomeres 1–3 bearing modified pale setae ventrally. Tergite X (Fig. 39), gonocoxite of female genital segment (Fig. 40).

Differential diagnosis. *Mentophilonthus dilutior* differs from *M. mongendensis* by paler antennomeres 1–2, shorter antennomeres 1–11 and sparser punctuation of the elytra. It differs from *M. ochrionalis* by a wider head and denser punctuation of the abdomen, and from *M. odzalaensis* by a denser punctuation of the elytra. The species may be distinguished from all other species of *Mentophilonthus* by the shape of the aedeagus.

Bionomics. Unknown.

Distribution. Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Mentophilonthus equus sp. nov.

(Figs. 41–42)

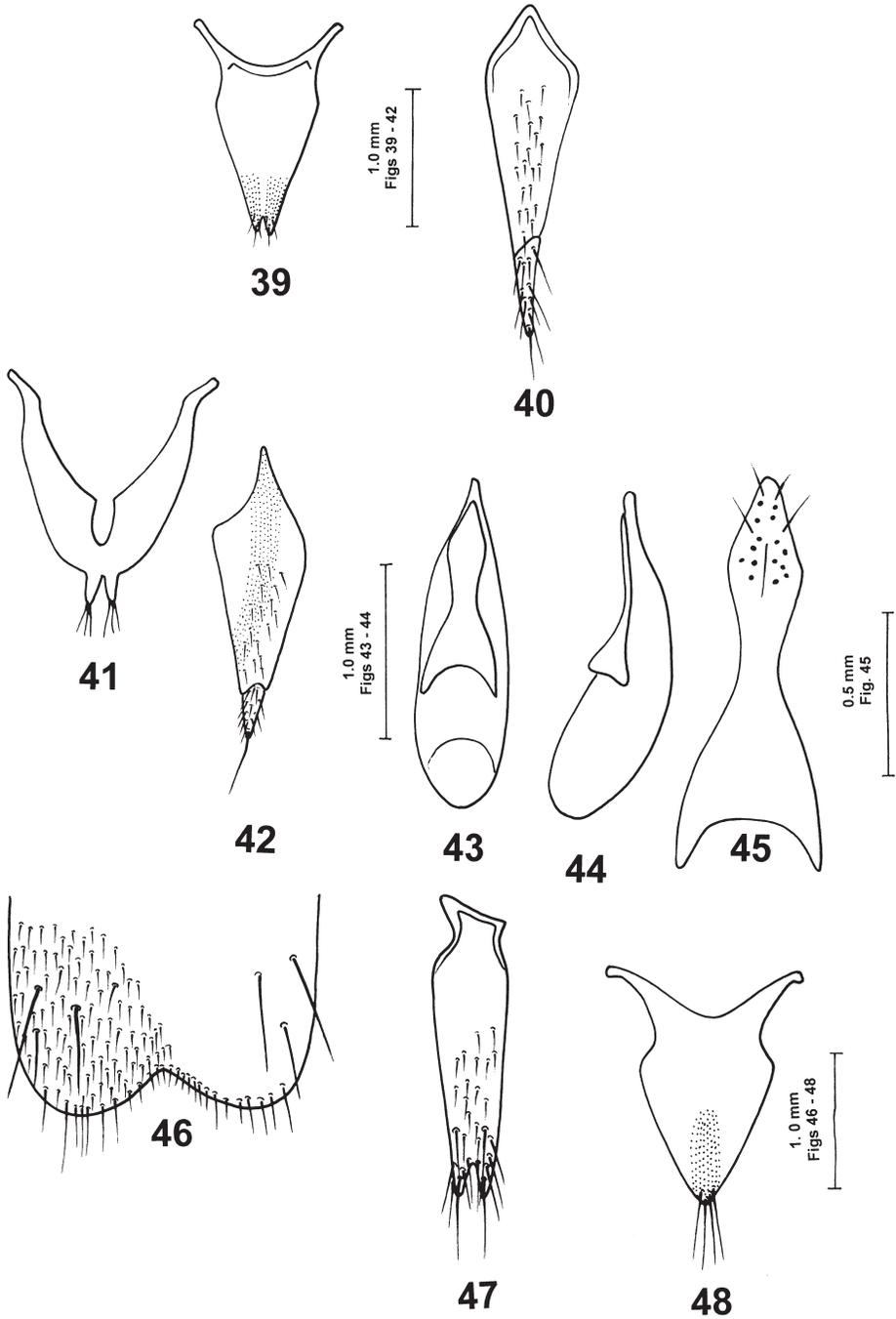
Type locality. Malawi, S Masenjere, 80 km S of Blantyre.

Type material. HOLOTYPE: ♀, 'Malawi, S Masenjere, 80km S of Blantyre, 21.–22.xii.2001, J. Bezděk, lgt. // *Mentophilonthus equus* sp.nov. Hromádka, det. 2006 [red oblong printed label]' (NMPC).

Description. Length: 11.0 mm, length of fore body (to end of elytra) 4.9 mm.

Colouration. Head black, antennal sockets and clypeus along anterior margin very narrowly reddish-yellow, labrum yellow-red, mandibles black-brown, pronotum brown-red, elytra dark brown, with suture narrowly yellow-brown, posterior angles of elytra and epipleura wider dark yellow, abdomen dark brown, posterior margins of all tergites and paratergites yellow-brown, maxillary and labial palpi brown, antennae dark yellow; legs yellow-brown.

Figs. 39–48. 39–40 – *Mentophilonthus dilutior* (Bernhauer, 1928): 39 – female tergite X, dorsal view; 40 – gonocoxites of female genital segment. 41–42 – *Mentophilonthus equus* sp. nov.: 41 – female tergite X, dorsal view; 42 – gonocoxites of female genital segment. 43–48 – *Mentophilonthus hystrix* sp. nov.: 43–45 aedeagus (43 – ventral view, 44 – lateral view, 45 – underside of paramere with sensory peg setae); 46 – apical portion of male sternite VIII, ventral view; 47 – male sternite IX, ventral view; 48 – female tergite X, dorsal view.



Head orbicular, weakly transverse (ratio 29 : 25). Eyes flat, twice as long as temples (ratio 14 : 7). Posterior margin of each eye with two coarse punctures. Dorsal surface with fine, very dense microsculpture consisting of transverse and oblique waves, in places intermixed with numerous microscopic dots.

Antennae reaching mid-length of pronotum when reclined. Antennomere 1 somewhat longer than antennomeres 2–3 combined, antennomere 11 shorter than antennomeres 9–10 combined. Relative lengths of antennomeres: 1 = 10; 2 = 4.5; 3 = 5; 4–5 = 3.5; 6–8 = 3; 9–10 = 2.5; 11 = 4.

Pronotum slightly longer than wide (ratio 43 : 40.5), hardly narrowed anteriorly. Posterior angles markedly rounded. Each dorsal row with one puncture, situated on posterior half of pronotum, each sublateral row with one puncture, situated exactly at midlength of pronotum. Microsculpture similar to that on head, without microscopic dots.

Entire scutellum exceedingly finely punctate, punctures slightly smaller than eye-facets, separated by two puncture diameters in transverse direction. Surface with microsculpture consisting of transverse and oblique waves, much finer than that on head and pronotum.

Elytra combined wider than long (ratio 53 : 49), slightly widened posteriorly. Very finely and densely punctate, punctures slightly smaller than eye-facets, separated mostly by two puncture diameters in transverse direction. Surface without microsculpture; setation yellow-brown.

Abdomen parallel-sided, first four visible tergites with two basal lines, elevated area between basal lines impunctate. Punctuation of tergites somewhat sparser and coarser than that on elytra; setation of same colour as that on elytra.

Legs. Metatibia longer than metatarsus (ratio 30:23). Metatarsomere 1 as long as metatarsomere 5. Relative lengths of metatarsomeres: 1 = 8; 2–3 = 4; 4 = 2.5; 5 = 8.

Male. Unknown.

Female. Protarsomeres 1–3 slightly dilated, densely covered with modified pale setae ventrally, protarsomere 4 narrower than preceding ones, triangular. Tergite X (Fig. 41), gonocoxite of female genital segment (Fig. 42).

Differential diagnosis. *Mentophilonthus equus* sp. nov. is similar to *M. triseriatus* from which it may be distinguished by the shorter eyes, more slender head and finer punctuation of the scutellum.

Etymology. The name of this species, a noun in apposition, is the Latin generic name of the African Nubian wild ass *Equus africanus asinus* (Fitzinger, 1857).

Bionomics. Unknown.

Distribution. Malawi.

Mentophilonthus hystrix sp. nov.

(Figs. 43–48)

Type locality. Namibia, Damaral Grootberg Pass.

Type material. HOLOTYPE: ♂, 'Namibia, Damaral Grootberg Pass, 19°55'S 13°59'E, 16.ii.1975, E–Y: 669, elephant dung, leg. Endrödy-Younga // *Mentophilonthus hystrix* sp. nov. Hromádka, det., 2007 [red oblong printed label]' (TMNP). PARATYPES: 8 spec., same label data as holotype (TMNP, LHPC).

Description. Body length 6.4–6.8 mm, length of fore body (to end of elytra) 2.2–2.6 mm.

Colouration. Head black; pronotum and scutellum black-brown; elytra dark brown, with suture narrowly darker, abdomen black-brown, maxillary and labial palpi brown, antennomere 1 and base of antennomere 2 brown-yellow, remaining antennomeres black-brown, femora yellow-brown, tibiae and tarsi somewhat darker.

Head wider than long (ratio 19 : 12), posterior angles obtusely rounded. Eyes flat, longer than temples (ratio 7.5 : 6.5). Anterior margin of each eye with one coarse puncture. Temporal area with several coarse setiferous punctures. Dorsal surface with fine, dense microsculpture consisting of transverse and oblique waves.

Antennae reaching midlength of pronotum when reclined. Antennomere 1 twice as long as antennomere 2, antennomere 2 as long as antennomere 3, antennomeres 5–10 slightly transverse. Relative lengths of antennomeres: 1 = 6; 2–3 = 3; 4–7 = 2.5; 8–10 = 2; 11 = 3.

Pronotum as long as wide, distinctly narrowed anteriorly. Anterior angles with several black bristles of unequal length. Posterior margin continuously rounded with lateral margins. Each dorsal row with two punctures, each sublateral row with one puncture. Microsculpture similar as that on head. Lateral margins with one long black bristle in anterior third.

Scutellum with scattered very small punctures. Surface with distinct microsculpture, without setation.

Elytra combined wider than long (ratio 36 : 33), hardly widened posteriorly. Punctuation consisting of tiny punctures with several larger intermixed punctures, with several larger punctures near scutellum and along suture. Longitudinal row of three coarser punctures situated at midwidth of each elytron. Surface without microsculpture and setation.

Legs. Metatibia slightly longer than metatarsus (ratio 19 : 18), all tibiae with several brown bristles of unequal length. Metatarsomere 1 somewhat longer than metatarsomeres 2–3 combined, metatarsomere 5 shorter than metatarsomere 1. Relative lengths of metatarsomeres: 1 = 6; 2 = 3; 3 = 2.5; 4 = 2; 5 = 5.

Abdomen parallel-sided anteriorly, slightly narrowed from visible tergite III posteriorly. First four visible abdominal tergites with two basal lines, elevated area between basal lines impunctate. Punctuation of visible tergites very fine, sparser medially, diameter of punctures somewhat smaller than eye-facets, separated mostly by 2 puncture diameters in transverse direction.

Male. Protarsomeres 1–3 only weakly dilated, scarcely sub-bilobed, ventral side covered with modified pale setae, protarsomere 4 narrower than preceding ones. Sternite VIII (Fig. 46), sternite IX (Fig. 47), aedeagus (Figs. 43–45).

Female. Protarsomeres 1–4 similar to those of male. Tergite X (Fig. 48).

Differential diagnosis. *Mentophilonthus hystrix* sp. nov. may be distinguished from the most similar species *M. tristichus* by the longer and paler elytra, wider head and by the different shape of the aedeagus.

Etymology. The name of this species, a noun in apposition, is the Latin generic name of the African porcupine *Hystrix africae australis* Eters, 1852.

Bionomics. All specimens have been found in elephant dung.

Distribution. Namibia.

***Mentophilonthus lampropterus* (Bernhauer, 1934)**

(Figs. 49–53)

Philonthus (*Philonthus*) *lampropterus* Bernhauer, 1934: 239.*Mentophilonthus lampropterus*: LEVASSEUR 1966: 213.**Type locality.** Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kivu, Kibumba.**Type material.** HOLOTYPE: ♂, 'Congo Belge, Kivu: Kibumba, 7. ix. 1932/L. Burgeon, Chicago Museum, Bernhauer, Collection, // TYPE *Philonthus lampropterus* Bernhauer det. [ochre oblong label, handwritten]' (FMNH).**Additional material studied.** KENYA: 2 spec. Mt. Algon T. Palm, lgt. (LHPC, MZLU).**Redescription.** Body length: 8.5 mm, length of fore body (to end of elytra) 4.3 mm.

Colouration. Head and pronotum black, elytra yellow-brown, darkly translucent here and there, maxillary and labial palpi black-brown, antennae black, base of antennomeres 2 and 3 paler, scutellum and suture of elytra black, abdomen black-brown, tergite 8 paler, legs black-brown, femora brown-yellow.

Head of rounded shape, wider than long (ratio 25.0 : 21.5). Posterior angles entirely rounded, each with two long, black bristles. Eyes flat, longer than temples (ratio 10 : 7). Posterior margin of each eye with two punctures. Temporal area with several smaller punctures. Dorsal surface with fine microsculpture consisting of transverse and oblique waves.

Antennae reaching midlength of pronotum when reclined. Antennomere 1 distinctly shorter than antennomeres 2–3 combined, antennomere 11 as long as antennomere 3. Relative lengths of antennomeres: 1 = 9; 2 = 5; 3 = 6; 4–10 = 3; 11 = 6.

Pronotum wider than long (ratio 37.5 : 33). Anterior angles with several black bristles, posterior angles entirely rounded. Lateral margins each with one long, black bristle at mid-length. Each dorsal row with two punctures. Each sublateral row with one puncture. Surface shiny, with fine microsculpture consisting of transverse and oblique waves.

Scutellum finely punctate, diameter of punctures equal to those of eye-facets. Surface with very fine microsculpture.

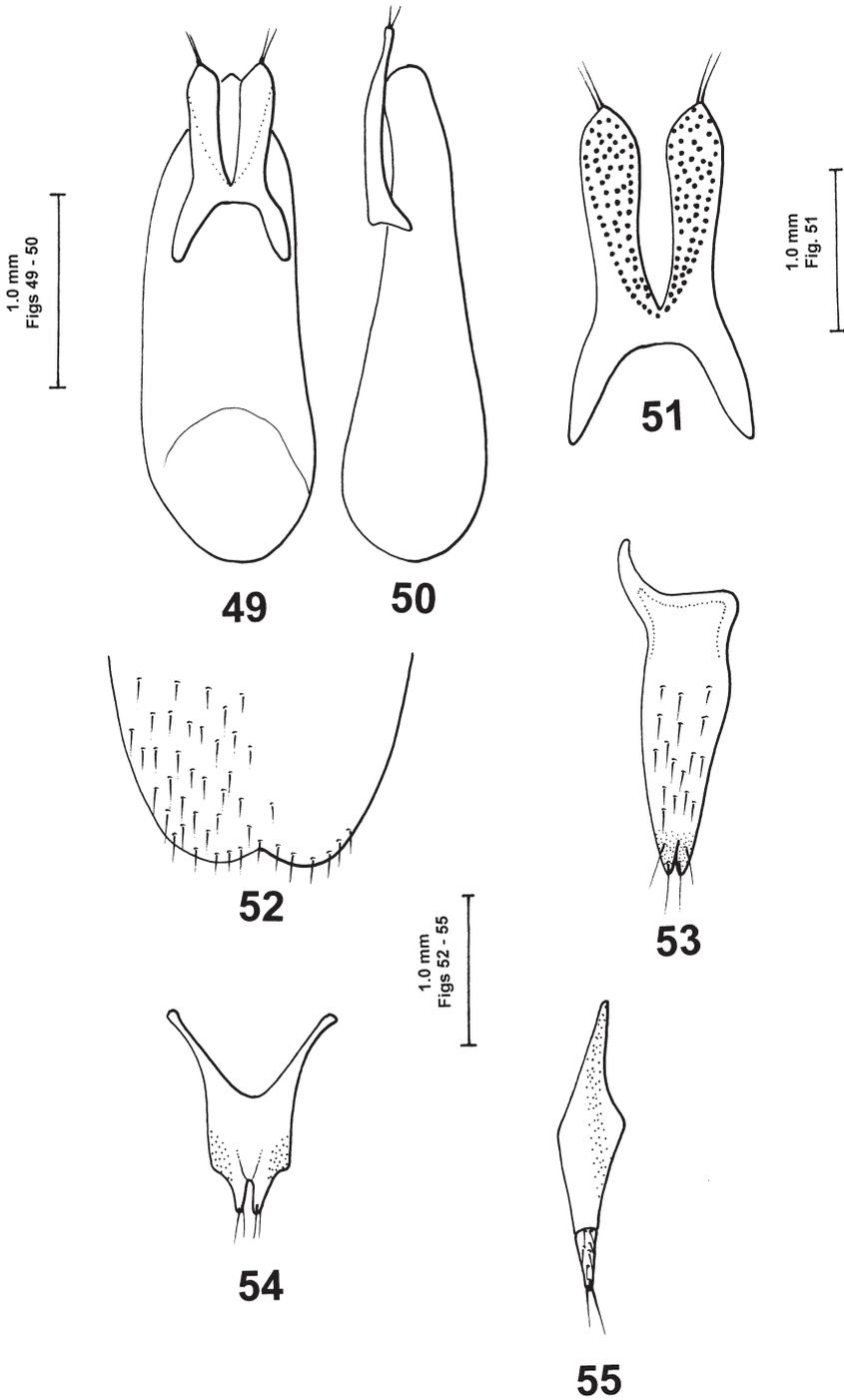
Elytra combined wider than long (ratio 50 : 44), widened posteriad. Punctuation fine and relatively sparse, diameter of punctures slightly larger than those of eye-facets, separated by two puncture diameters in transverse direction. Longitudinal row of four larger punctures situated at midline of each elytron. Surface without microsculpture; setation brown-yellow.

Legs. Metatibia somewhat longer than metatarsus (ratio 26 : 24). Metatarsomere 1 almost as long as metatarsomeres 2–3 combined, metatarsomere 5 shorter than metatarsomere 1. Relative lengths of metatarsomeres: 1 = 7; 2 = 4; 3 = 3.5; 4 = 3; 5 = 6. All tibiae with dark bristles of unequal length.

Abdomen parallel-sided, first four visible tergites with two basal lines, elevated area between basal lines impunctate. Punctuation of visible tergites somewhat finer than that on elytra. Surface between punctures without microsculpture; setation brown-yellow.

Male. Protarsomeres 1–3 distinctly dilated, sub-bilobed, densely covered with modified pale setae ventrally, protarsomere 4 much narrower than preceding ones. Sternite VIII (Fig. 52), sternite IX (Fig. 53), aedeagus (Figs. 49–51).

Figs. 49–55. 49–53 – *Mentophilonthus lampropterus* (Bernhauer, 1934): 49–51 – aedeagus (49 – ventral view, 50 – lateral view, 51 – underside of paramere with sensory peg setae); 52 – apical portion of male sternite VIII, ventral view; 53 – male sternite IX, ventral view; 54–55 – *Mentophilonthus manis* sp. nov.: 54 – female tergite X; dorsal view, 55 – gonocoxites of female genital segment.



Female. Unknown.

Differential diagnosis. *Mentophilonthus lampropterus* is very similar to *M. schoutedeni*, from which it differs by a darker antennomere 1, finer and denser punctation of the scutellum, different punctation of the elytra and by the different shape of the aedeagus.

Bionomics. Unknown.

Distribution. Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kenya.

***Mentophilonthus manis* sp. nov.**

(Figs. 54–55)

Type locality. Gabon, Belinga.

Type material. HOLOTYPE: ♀, 'Gabon, Belinga, 12.iii.1963, (199 L), leg. H. Coiffait // *Mentophilonthus manis* sp. nov. Hromádka det, 2007 [red oblong printed label]' (NMPC).

Description. Body length 9.1 mm, length of fore body (to end of elytra) 4.7 mm.

Colouration. Head black, antennal sockets and clypeus along anterior margin narrowly yellow-brown, mandibles black-brown, pronotum brown, elytra, scutellum and abdomen uniformly chestnut-brown, all paratergites broadly yellow-brown, maxillary, labial palpi and first two antennomeres yellow-brown, remaining antennomeres brown, legs yellow-brown, tarsi vaguely paler.

Head inconspicuously wider than long (ratio 25 : 23), sides markedly narrowed anteriorly in straight line. Posterior angles rounded, each with one long black bristle. Eyes flat, much longer than temples, occupying almost entire sides of head (ratio 13 : 3). Posterior margin of each of eye with two coarse punctures. Surface with fine and dense microsculpture consisting of transverse and oblique waves.

Antennae reaching midlength of pronotum when reclined. Antennomeres 1–8 and 11 longer than wide, antennomeres 9–10 as long as wide. Relative lengths of antennomeres: 1 = 9; 2 = 4.5; 3 = 4; 4–8 = 3.5; 9–10 = 2.5; 11 = 4.

Pronotum slightly longer than wide (ratio 37 : 35.5), slightly narrowed anteriorly. Anterior pronotal angles each with several short bristles. Lateral margins each with one long bristle in anterior third. Each dorsal row with two coarse punctures. Each sublateral row with one puncture. Surface with microsculpture similar to that on head.

Entire scutellum very finely and sparsely punctate. Punctures distinctly smaller than eye-facets, separated mostly by 2 puncture diameters in transverse direction. Surface without microsculpture.

Elytra combined wider than long (ratio 48 : 45), slightly widened posteriorly. Punctuation fine and sparse, punctures as large as eye-facets, separated mostly by two puncture diameters in transverse direction. Surface without microsculpture; setation short, greyish.

Legs. Metatibia as long as metatarsus. Metatarsomere 1 longer than metatarsomeres 2–3 combined. Relative lengths of metatarsomeres: 1 = 8; 2 = 4; 3 = 3; 4 = 2.5; 5 = 6.

Abdomen wide, vaguely narrowed posteriorly. First four visible tergites each with two basal lines, elevated area between basal lines impunctate. Punctuation and setation similar to that on elytra. Surface without microsculpture.

Male. Unknown.

Female. Protarsomeres 1–3 slightly dilated, densely covered with modified pale setae ventrally. Protarsomere 4 narrower than preceding ones. Tergite X (Fig. 54) gonocoxite of female genital segment (Fig. 55).

Differential diagnosis. *Mentophilonthus manis* sp. nov. may be distinguished from all species of the genus by the head being markedly narrowed anteriorly.

Etymology. The name of this species, a noun in apposition, is the Latin generic name of the African cape pangolin *Manis temminckii* Smuts, 1832.

Bionomics. Unknown.

Distribution. Gabon.

Mentophilonthus mongendensis (Bernhauer, 1928)

(Figs. 56–63)

Philonthus (Philonthus) mongendensis Bernhauer, 1928: 114.

Mentophilonthus mongendensis: LEVASSEUR (1966: 211).

Type locality. Democratic Republic of the Congo, Mongende.

Type material. not examined.

Material examined. DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO: 2 ♀♀ 1 ♂, 'Congo Belge, Libenga, 8.i.1948, R. Cremer – M. Neuman.' (IRSB, LHPC).

Redescription. Body length: 8.3–8.6 mm, length of fore body (to end of elytra) 3.8–4.1 mm.

Colouration. Head black, clypeus, labrum and mandibles black-brown, antennal sockets brown-yellow, pronotum, elytra, abdomen, palpi black-brown, antennomere 1 and base of antennomere 2 brown-black, remaining antennomeres black, femora and tarsi brown-yellow, tibiae brown-black.

Head of oval shape, longer than wide (ratio 25 : 20). Eyes flat, somewhat longer than temples (ratio 9 : 7). Anterior margin of each eye with two small punctures, posterior margin of each eye with two coarse punctures. Temporal area with two long, black, bristles. Surface with fine microsculpture consisting of transverse and oblique waves and numerous microscopic dots.

Antennae reaching posterior fifth of pronotum when reclined, all antennomeres longer than wide. Antennomere 1 longer than antennomeres 2–3 combined, antennomere 11 as long as antennomere 4. Relative lengths of antennomeres: 1 = 9; 2 = 3.5; 3 = 4.5; 4–8 = 4; 9–10 = 3; 11 = 4.

Pronotum longer than wide (ratio 30 : 25), hardly narrowed anteriorly, posterior angles entirely rounded. Each dorsal row with two punctures. Each sublateral row with one puncture situated at midwidth between dorsal row and lateral margin, close to second puncture of dorsal row. Microsculpture similar to that on head.

Scutellum densely and finely punctate, punctures distinctly smaller than those on elytra. Microsculpture almost indistinct.

Elytra combined wider than long (ratio 39 : 34), slightly widened posteriorly. Anterior angles each with one long, black bristle. Punctuation fine and dense, punctures as large as eye-facets, separated mostly by puncture diameter in transverse direction. Longitudinal row of four coarser punctures situated at about midwidth of each elytron. Surface without microsculpture; setation black.

Legs. Metatibia as long as metatarsus, metatarsomere 1 as long as metatarsomeres 4–5 combined, metatarsomere 5 as long as metatarsomere 2. Relative lengths of metatarsomeres: 1 = 7; 2 = 4; 3 = 3.5; 4 = 3; 5 = 4.

Abdomen parallel-sided anteriorly, slightly narrowed posteriad from visible tergite VI. First four visible tergites with two basal lines, elevated area between basal lines with a few microscopic dots. Punctuation of visible tergites very fine and rather sparse, much sparser than that on elytra; setation similar to that on elytra.

Male. Protarsomeres 1–3 strongly dilated, sub-bilobed, densely covered with modified pale setae ventrally, protarsomere 4 distinctly narrower than preceding ones. Sternite VIII (Fig. 60), sternite IX (Fig. 61), aedeagus (Figs. 56–59).

Female. Protarsomeres 1–3 much less dilated than those of male, protarsomere 4 small. Tergite X. (Fig. 62), gonocoxite of female genital segment (Fig. 63).

Differential diagnosis. *Mentophilonthus mongendensis* may be distinguished from the similar *M. diluitor* by the darker antennomeres 1–2, longer antennomeres 1–11 and denser punctuation of the elytra; it differs from *M. centrafricanus* by the darker first two antennomeres. The species differs from both above species by the different shape of the aedeagus.

Bionomics. Unknown.

Distribution. Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Mentophilonthus ochrionalis (Tottenham, 1962) comb. nov.

(Figs. 64–68)

Philonthus (*Philonthus*) *ochrionalis* Tottenham, 1962: 156.

Mentophilonthus bangoranensis Levasseur, 1980: 351 **syn. nov.**

Type locality. Southern Sudan: 18 miles E of Yirol.

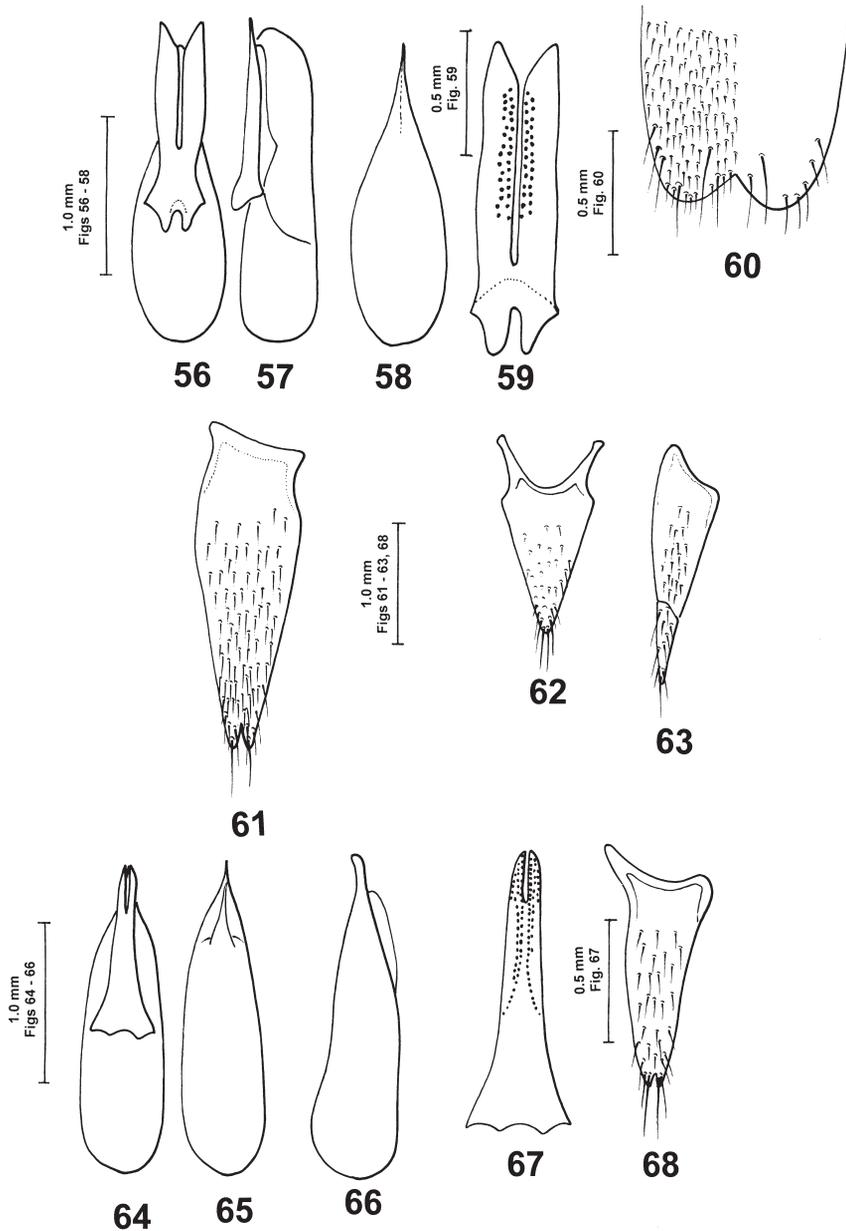
Type material examined. *Philonthus ochrionalis*: HOLOTYPE: ♂, 'S. Sudan: 18miles E. of Yirol, 4.vi.54, elephant dung // Holotype, *Philonthus ochrionalis* Tottenham [white oblong label, handwritten]' (BMNH). PARATYPES: ♀, 'Juin Rives du Moyen Chari, Amont des Niellims, Mission Chari-Tchad, Dr. J. Decorse, 1904 [white oblong handwritten paratype label]' (BMNH); ♂ ♀, 'S. Sudan: 18 mls. E. of Yirol, 4.vi.1954, C.E. Tottenham, M. Cameron Bequest B.M. 1955–147, elephant dung' [white oblong, handwritten paratype label] (BMNH).

Note. I did not study the type material of *M. bangoranensis*. The original description of this species by LEVASSEUR (1980) is rather incomplete and it is therefore difficult to decide whether *P. bangoranensis* is really identical with *P. ochrionalis* in all important characters. However, two characters mentioned in the description (proportion and shape of the aedeagus) support the synonymy proposed above.

Redescription. Body length: 9.6–10.0 mm, length of fore body (to end of elytra) 4.6–4.9 mm.

Colouration. Head black, antennal sockets and clypeus along anterior margin very narrowly reddish-yellow, labrum brown-yellow, mandibles dark brown, pronotum, elytra and abdomen black-brown, epipleura and posterior angles of elytra white-yellow, elytral suture and sides of scutellum narrowly brown-yellow, maxillary and labial palpi dark brown, antennae brown-black, ventral side of antennomere 1 extensively yellowish, dorsal side brown-black, legs brown-yellow, inner side of all tarsi infuscate.

Head as long as wide. Posterior angles markedly rounded, each with two long black bristles. Eyes flat, much longer than temples (ratio 12 : 7), posterior margin of eyes with three setiferous punctures arranged into transverse row. Dorsal surface with microsculpture consisting of transverse and oblique waves.



Figs. 56–68. 56–63 – *Mentophilonthus mongedensis* (Bernhauer, 1928): 56–59 – aedeagus (56 – ventral view, 57 – lateral view, 58 – ventral view, without paramere, 59 – underside of paramere with sensory peg setae); 60 – apical portion of male sternite VIII, ventral view; 61 – male sternite IX, ventral view; 62 – female tergite X, dorsal view; 63 – gonocoxites of female genital segment. 64–68 – *Mentophilonthus ochrignalis* (Tottenham, 1962). 64–67 – aedeagus (64 – ventral view, 65 – ventral view, without paramere, 66 – lateral view, 67 – underside of paramere with sensory peg setae); 68 – male sternite IX, ventral view.

Antennae reaching midlength of pronotum when reclined. Antennomere 1 somewhat longer than antennomeres 2–3 combined, antennomere 11 as long as antennomeres 9–10 combined. Relative lengths of antennomeres: 1 = 10; 2 = 4.5; 3 = 5; 4–8 = 3; 9–10 = 2.5; 11 = 5.

Pronotum hardly longer than wide (ratio 40 : 39), slightly narrowed anteriorly, posterior angles entirely. Each dorsal row and each sublateral row with two punctures. Microsculpture similar to that on head.

Scutellum moderately densely and finely punctate, punctures slightly smaller than eye-facets. Surface without microsculpture; setation dark, relatively long.

Elytra combined wider than long (ratio 51 : 44), slightly widened posteriorly, hardly wider than pronotum basally. Punctuation fine and dense, punctures as large as eye-facets, separated by a puncture diameter in transverse direction. Longitudinal row of four coarse punctures situated at midwidth of each elytron. Surface without microsculpture; setation brown-yellow.

Legs. Metatibia slightly shorter than metatarsus (ratio 26 : 28). Metatarsomere 1 as long as metatarsomeres 2–3 combined, metatarsomere 5 much shorter than metatarsomere 1. Relative lengths of metatarsomeres: 1 = 9; 2 = 5; 3 = 4; 4 = 3; 5 = 6.5. All tibiae with several strong dark bristles.

Abdomen parallel-sided anteriorly, hardly narrowed posteriorly from visible tergite III, first four visible tergites with two basal lines, elevated area between basal lines with scattered fine punctures. Punctuation of visible tergites somewhat sparser and coarser than that on elytra, punctures slightly larger than eye-facets. Surface between punctures without microsculpture, shiny.

Male. Protarsomeres 1–3 strongly dilated, sub-bilobed, densely covered with modified pale setae ventrally, protarsomere 4 much narrower than preceding ones. Sternite IX (Fig. 68), aedeagus (Figs. 64–67).

Female. Protarsomeres 1–3 much less dilated than those in male, protarsomere 4 very small, only first three protarsomeres bearing modified pale setae ventrally.

Differential diagnosis. *Mentophilonthus ochrionalis* is similar to *M. centrafricanus*, from which it may be distinguished by the wider head and denser punctuation of the abdomen. It may be distinguished from *M. dilutior* by the narrower head and sparser punctuation of the abdomen, from *M. curiosus* by the coarser punctuation of the abdomen and paler posterior margin of the elytra. It differs from all above species by the shape of the aedeagus.

Bionomics. One of the specimens examined was found in elephant dung.

Distribution. Sudan (this paper); Central African Republic (HERMAN 2001).

Mentophilonthus odzalaensis Levasseur, 1966

(Figs. 69–72)

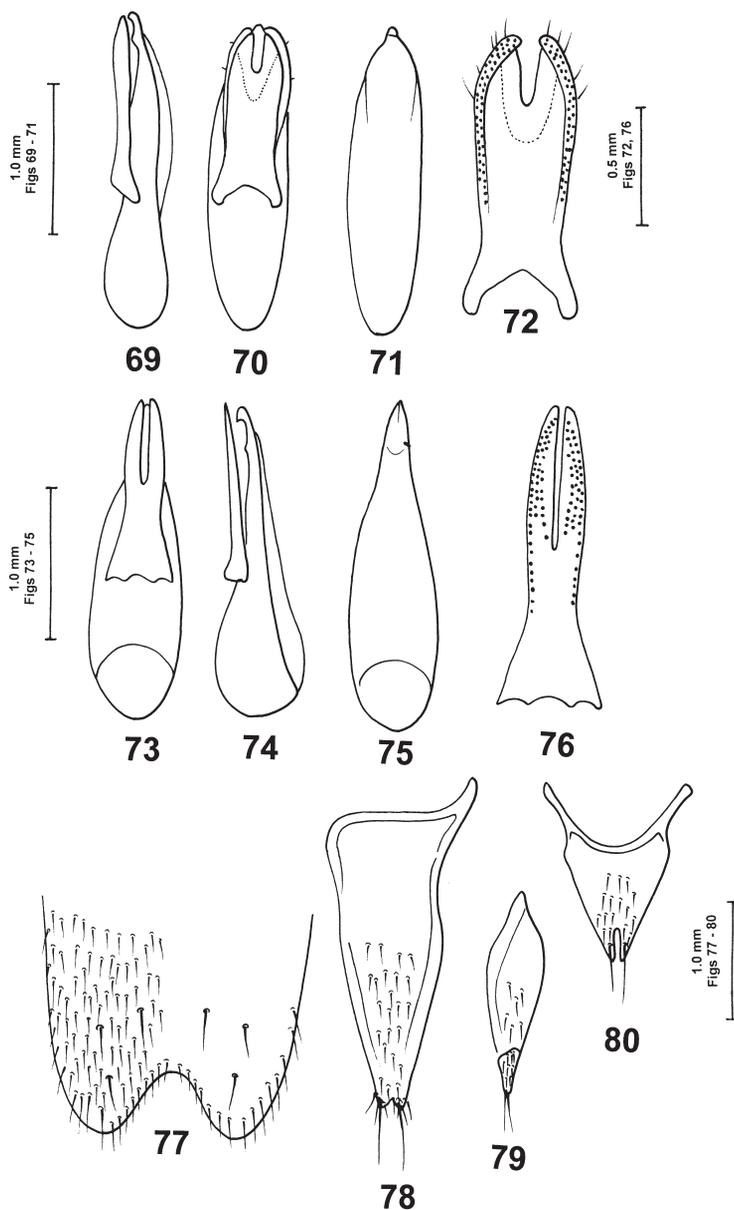
Mentophilonthus odzalaensis Levasseur, 1966: 211.

Type locality. Gabon, Odzala.

Type material examined. PARATYPE: ♂, 'Congo ex française, Belinga 5.ii.63., H. Coiffait, Mission biologique // Paratype, *Mentophilonthus odzalaensis* Levasseur det. [white oblong label, handwritten]' (MNHN).

Redescription. Body length 10.5 mm, length of fore body (to end of elytra) 5.0 mm.

Colouration. Head black, entire clypeus and antennal sockets narrowly yellow-brown, pronotum brown-red, elytra and abdomen dark brown, suture and posterior margin of elytra



Figs. 69-80. 69-72 – *Mentophilonthus odzalensis* Levasseur, 1965: 69-72 – aedeagus (69 – lateral view, 70 – ventral view, 71 – ventral view, without paramere, 72 – underside of paramere). 73-80 – *Mentophilonthus reinecki* (Schubert, 1902): 73-76 – aedeagus (73 – ventral view, 74 – lateral view, 75 – ventral view, without paramere, 76 – underside of paramere with sensory peg setae); 77 – apical portion of male sternite VIII, ventral view; 78 – male sternite IX, ventral view; 79 – genocoxites of female genital segment; 80 – female tergite X, dorsal view.

yellow-brown, posterior margin of tergites and all paratergites yellow-brown, palpi and mandibles dark brown, antennomere 1 brown-yellow, remaining antennomeres black-brown, legs yellow-brown, medial side of all tibiae infuscate.

Head of rounded shape, as wide as long, eyes flat and much longer than temples, occupying almost entire sides of head (ratio 18 : 5), anterior margin of each eye with one coarse puncture, posterior margin of each eye with two punctures. Posterior angles indistinct, with two long dark bristles. Surface with microsculpture consisting of transverse and oblique waves.

Antennae reaching posterior margin of pronotum when reclined, all antennomeres longer than wide. Antennomere 1 longer than antennomeres 2–3 combined, antennomere 2 shorter than antennomere 3, antennomere 11 as long as antennomere 10. Relative lengths of antennomeres: 1 = 12; 2 = 5; 3 = 6; 4–11 = 4.

Pronotum longer than wide (ratio 43 : 41), slightly narrowed anteriorly. Each dorsal row with two punctures; each sublateral row with one puncture. Lateral margins of pronotum with 4 long dark bristles of unequal length in anterior half. Microsculpture similar to that on head.

Scutellum very finely and densely punctate, punctures smaller than eye-facets. Surface with very fine microsculpture consisting of transverse and oblique waves.

Elytra combined wider than long (ratio 54 : 48), distinctly widened posteriorly. Punctuation very fine and sparse, diameter of punctures smaller than eye-facets, punctures separated by two puncture diameters in transverse direction. Longitudinal row of four larger setiferous punctures situated at midwidth of each elytron. Surface between punctures without microsculpture, with numerous microscopic dots.

Legs. Metatibia longer than metatarsus (ratio 38 : 36). Metatarsomere 1 somewhat longer than metatarsomere 5. Relative lengths of metatarsomeres: 1 = 7; 2 = 4; 3 = 3.5; 4 = 3; 5 = 6.5.

First four visible tergites of abdomen with two basal lines, elevated area between basal lines finely and very sparsely punctate. Punctuation of all abdominal tergites slightly denser and coarser than that on elytra. Setation much longer than that on elytra.

Male. Protarsomeres 1–3 distinctly dilated and sub-bilobed, covered with modified pale setae ventrally, protarsomere 4 markedly narrower than preceding ones. Aedeagus (Figs. 69–72).

Female. Unknown.

Differential diagnosis. *Mentophilonthus odzalaensis* may be distinguished from the similar *M. dilutior* by the sparser punctuation of the elytra, from *M. descapentriesi* by the darker antennae and tibiae, and from all species of *Mentophilonthus* by the different shape of the aedeagus.

Bionomics. Unknown.

Distribution. Gabon (this paper); Central African Republic, Republic of the Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo (HERMAN 2001).

Mentophilonthus reinecki (Schubert, 1902) comb. nov.

(Figs. 73–80)

Philonthus (*Philonthus*) *reinecki* Schubert, 1902: 405.

Type locality. Republic of South Africa, Natal, Pietermaritzburg.

Type material. HOLOTYPE: ♂, 'Natal, Pietermaritzburg [blue, oblong label, handwritten]' (ZMHB).

Additional material examined. KENYA: 1 spec., 'Taita distr., 30.v.–2.vi.1994' (MZSF). NAMIBIA: 5 spec., '15.iv.1993, 18°37'S/16°49'E, Etosha NP 25 km; 5 spec., 15.iv.1993/ 18°37'S/16°, NWN Namutoni, elephant dung,

leg. B.+ M. Uhlig' (ZMHB, LHPC). **REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA:** 3 spec., '5.ii.1994, 28°02'S/32°05'E; Natal: Hluhluwe NP: elephant dung, leg. M. Uhlig' (ZMHB, LHPC); 14 exs, '31.xii.1998, Kruger NP: Skukuza, elephant dung, ex sample No. 2, leg. C. Paetel' (ZMHB, LHPC); 2 spec., '2.-3.i.1999, Kruger NP, Skukuza, ex zebra dung, ex sample No. 6/ C.Paetel' (LHPC); 2 exs, 'Little Karroo Swartberg Pass, 700m, 26.x.1993, 33.23 S-22.07 E, Endrödy-Younga' (TMNP).

Redescription. Body length: 8.3–10.8 mm, length of fore body (to end of elytra) 4.0–4.6 mm.

Colouration. Head black, clypeus along anterior margin and antennal sockets very narrowly reddish-yellow, labrum brown-yellow, mandibles black, pronotum black-brown to chestnut brown, elytra black-brown to brown with suture, epipleura and posterior margin of elytra narrowly yellow-brown, abdomen black-brown, posterior margin of all tergites narrowly paler. Palpi and antennae brown-black to brown-yellow, antennomeres 1–2 somewhat paler, medial surface of all tibiae vaguely infuscate.

Head suborbicular, slightly wider than long (ratio 29 : 25), distinctly widened posteriad, posterior angles entirely rounded, each with one long black bristle. Eyes considerably large, flat, longer than temples (ratio 13 : 7). Anterior margin of each eye with one coarse puncture. Posterior margin of each eye with three coarse punctures arranged in transverse row. Dorsal surface with fine microsculpture consisting of transverse and oblique waves and numerous microscopic dots.

Antennae reaching midlength of pronotum when reclined. Antennomere 1 inconspicuously longer than antennomeres 2–3 combined, antennomere 11 about half as long as antennomere 1. Relative lengths of antennomeres: 1 = 9; 2 = 4.5; 3 = 4; 4–7 = 3.5; 8–10 = 3; 11 = 4.5.

Pronotum somewhat longer than wide (ratio 41 : 39), posterior angles entirely rounded. Each dorsal row and each sublateral row with one puncture. Lateral margins each with one long dark bristle in anterior half. Surface with very fine and dense microsculpture consisting of transverse and oblique waves.

Scutellum sparsely punctate, punctures slightly smaller than eye-facets. Surface with microsculpture similar to that on head. Setation black.

Elytra combined somewhat wider than long (ratio 52 : 46), widened posteriad. Punctuation fine and dense, punctures as large as eye-facets, punctures separated by 1.5 puncture diameters in transverse direction. Longitudinal row of four coarse punctures situated at midwidth of each elytron. Posterior angles of elytra each with one long black bristle. Surface between punctures without distinct microsculpture; setation yellowish-brown.

Legs. Metatibia almost as long as metatarsus. Metatarsomere 1 somewhat longer than metatarsomeres 2–3 combined, metatarsomere 5 somewhat shorter than metatarsomeres 3–4 combined. Relative lengths of metatarsomeres: 1 = 9.5; 2 = 5; 3 = 4; 4 = 3.5; 5 = 7.

Abdomen elongate, slightly narrowed posteriad. First four visible tergites of abdomen with two basal lines, elevated area between basal lines very sparsely punctate. Punctuation of all visible tergites very fine and sparse, punctures as large as eye-facets, separated by two puncture diameters in transverse direction; setation brown.

Male. Protarsomeres 1–3 strongly dilated, sub-bilobed, densely covered with modified pale setae ventrally, protarsomere 4 distinctly narrower than preceding ones. Sternite VIII (Fig. 77), sternite IX (Fig. 78), aedeagus (Figs. 73–76).

Female. Protarsomeres 1–3 much less dilated than those in male, protarsomere 4 narrower than preceding ones, only protarsomeres 1–3 bearing modified pale setae ventrally. Tergite X (Fig. 80), gonocoxites of female genital segment (Fig. 79).

Differential diagnosis. *Mentophilonthus reinecki* is very similar to *M. odzalaensis*, from which it may be distinguished by the somewhat denser punctation of the elytra, yellow-brown lateral margins of the elytra and by the different shape of the aedeagus.

Bionomics. Several specimens have been found in elephant and zebra dung.

Distribution. Kenya, Namibia, Republic of South Africa (this paper); Tanzania (HERMAN 2001).

***Mentophilonthus schoutedeni* (Bernhauer, 1928) comb. nov.**

(Figs. 81–87)

Philonthus (*Philonthus*) *schoutedeni* Bernhauer, 1928: 115.

Type locality. Democratic Republic of the Congo, Mongende.

Type material examined. LECTOTYPE (here designated): ♂, 'Holotype ♂ / Congo Belge, Mongende 20.iv.1921, Dr. Schouteden [ochre oblong label handwritten]' (FMNH). PARALECTOTYPES: ♀, same label data as lectotype (MRAC); 1 spec., 'Typus ♀ / Congo Belge, Mongende, 19. iv.1921, H. Schouteden, Chicago NHMus., M. Bernhauer collection [ochre, oblong label, handwritten]' (FMNH); ♀, 'Cotypus ♀ / Mongende, 21.iv.1921, H. Schouteden, Chicago NHMus., M. Bernhauer collection [ochre, oblong label, handwritten]' (FMNH).

Note. Original description mentions only locality data without the specification of number of specimens and designation of the holotype. For this reason, I consider all specimens mentioned above as syntypes irrespective of the type indication attached to them and hereby designate the lectotype of this species.

Additional material examined. GHANA: 2 spec., 'Bia National Park, 26.–27.iv.1984, leg. W. Rossi' (CABF, LHPC). DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO: 1 spec., 'Haut-Uele: Dika, 25.iii.1925, Dr. H. Schouteden, det. 5561' (MRAC); 1 spec., 'Haut Uelé: Watsa, iii.1920, I. Burgeon' (MRAC).

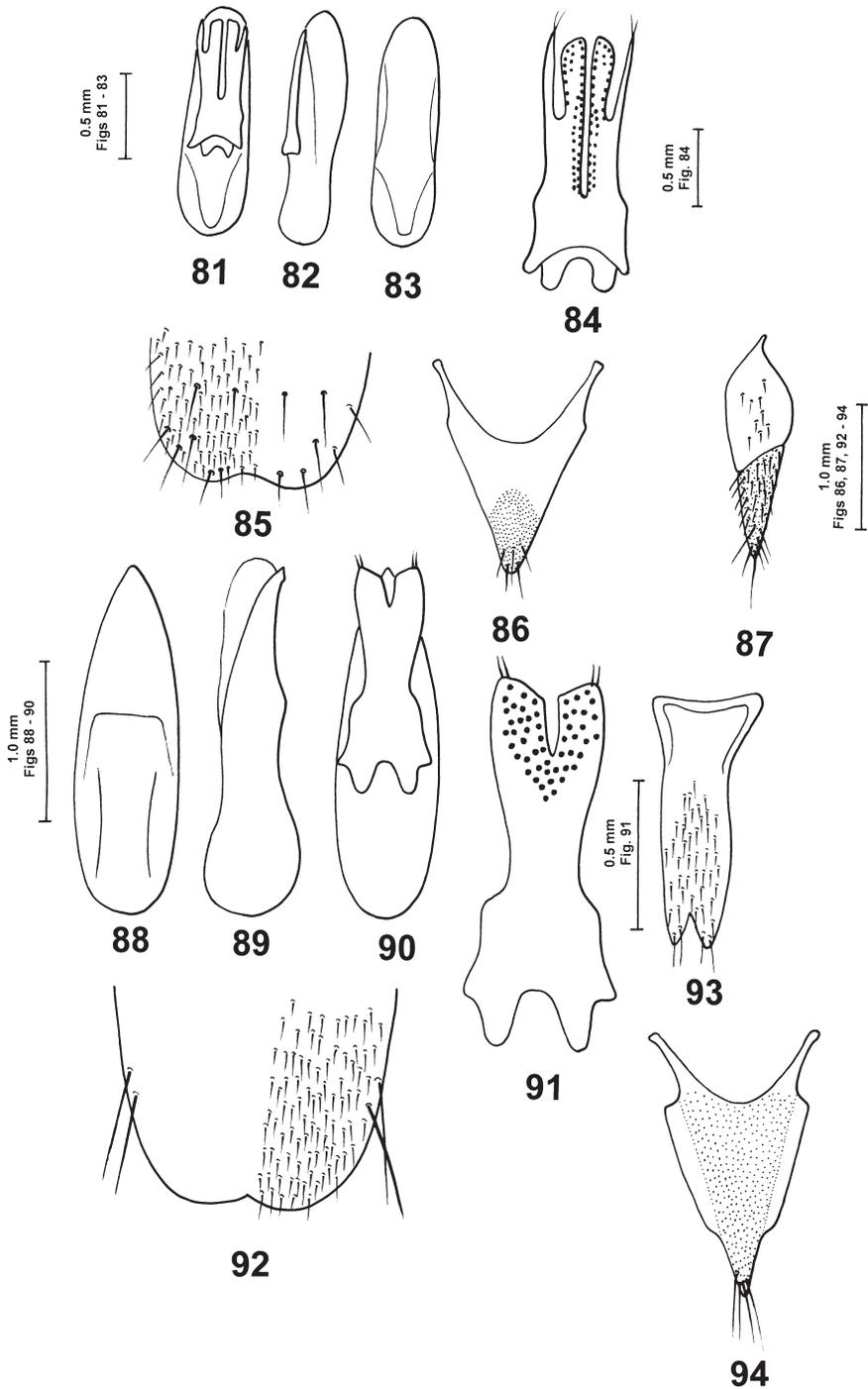
Redescription. Body length: 8.4–8.6 mm, length of fore body (to end of elytra) 4.0–4.2 mm.

Colouration. Head black, pronotum, scutellum and abdomen black-brown, elytra brown-red to black-brown, elytral suture black, antennal sockets and clypeus along anterior margin very narrowly yellow-brown, palpi brown, antennomere 1 and larger part of antennomere 2 brown-yellow, remaining antennomeres black-brown, all femora brown-yellow, tibiae and tarsi dark-brown.

Head relatively small, rounded, almost as wide as long, hardly narrowed behind eyes, posterior angles almost obliterated. Eyes considerably large, flat, much longer than temples (ratio 13 : 6.5). Anterior margin of each eyes with one puncture, temporal area with few setiferous punctures of unequal size. Surface with dense and fine microsculpture consisting of transverse and oblique waves.

Antennae reaching posterior fourth of pronotum when reclined. Antennomere 1 somewhat longer than antennomeres 2–3 combined, antennomere 11 shorter than antennomeres 9–10 combined. Relative lengths of antennomeres: 1 = 10; 2 = 4.5; 3 = 5; 4–7 = 3; 8–10 = 2.5; 11 = 4.5.

Figs. 81–94. 81–87 – *Mentophilonthus schoutedeni* (Bernhauer, 1928): 81–84 aedeagus (81 – ventral view, 82 – lateral view, 83 – ventral view, without paramere, 84 – underside of paramere with sensory peg setae); 85 – apical portion of male sternite VIII, ventral view; 86 – female tergite X, dorsal view; 87 – gonocoxites of female genital segment. 88–94 – *Mentophilonthus seriatipennis* (Bernhauer, 1928): 88–92 – aedeagus (88 – ventral view, without paramere, 89 – lateral view, 90 – ventral view, 91 – underside of paramere with sensory peg setae, 92 – apical portion of male sternite VIII, ventral view); 93 – male sternite IX, ventral view; 94 – female tergite X, dorsal view.



Pronotum hardly wider than long (ratio 39.5 : 38), hardly narrowed anteriorly. Posterior angles strongly rounded. Each dorsal and each sublateral row with one puncture. Lateral margins each with several black bristles of unequal length in anterior half. Dorsal surface shiny, microsculpture similar to that on head.

Scutellum sparsely punctured. Punctures as large as eye-facets, separated by distance hardly larger than puncture diameter in transverse direction. Surface between punctures without microsculpture.

Elytra combined wider than long (ratio 55 : 44), hardly widened posteriorly, without distinct punctation, only with scattered microscopic dots and longitudinal row of four larger punctures situated at midwidth of each elytron. Surface without microsculpture, shiny. Lateral and posterior margins with several long dark bristles.

Legs. Metatibia longer than metatarsus (ratio 20 : 18), all tibiae with many dark bristles of unequal length. Metatarsomere 1 somewhat shorter than metatarsomeres 2–3 combined, metatarsomere 5 somewhat shorter than metatarsomeres 3–4 combined. Relative lengths of metatarsomeres: 1 = 6; 2 = 4; 3 = 3; 4 = 2.5; 5 = 5.

Abdomen slightly narrowed posteriorly. First four visible tergites with two basal lines, elevated area between basal lines impunctate. Punctuation of visible tergites somewhat coarser and denser than that on elytra, denser on anterior portion of all tergites. Surface between punctures without microsculpture, shiny; setation brown-yellow.

Male. Protarsomeres 1–3 conspicuously dilated, sub-bilobed, densely covered with modified pale setae ventrally, protarsomere 4 distinctly narrower than preceding ones. Sternite VIII (Fig. 85), aedeagus (Figs. 81–84).

Female. Protarsomeres 1–3 less dilated than those in male, protarsomere 4 narrower than preceding ones. Tergite X (Fig. 86), gonocoxites of female genital segment (Fig. 87).

Differential diagnosis. *Mentophilonthus schoutedeni* may be distinguished from the similar *M. lampropterus* by the paler antennomere 1, coarser and sparser punctuation of scutellum, different punctuation of the elytra, and different shape of the aedeagus.

Bionomics. Unknown.

Distribution. Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ghana.

Mentophilonthus seriatipennis (Bernhauer, 1928) **stat. restit.**

(Figs. 88–94)

Philonthus (*Philonthus*) *seriatipennis* Bernhauer, 1928: 114

Philonthus (*Philonthus*) *seriatipennis*: LEVASSEUR (1966: 211) (as synonym of *Mentophilonthus diluitor* Bernhauer, 1928).

Type locality. Democratic Republic of the Congo, Mongende.

Type material examined. LECTOTYPE (here designated): ♂, 'Congo Belge, Mongende, 19.iv.1921, Schouteden, Chicago NHMus, M. Bernhauer, collection // Type *Philonthus seriatipennis* Bernhauer [ochre oblong label, handwritten]' (FMNH). PARALECTOTYPE: ♂, same label data as holotype (FMNH).

Note. Original description mentions only locality data without the specification of number of specimens and designation of the holotype. As for *M. schoutedeni* (see above), I therefore consider both specimens as syntypes irrespective of the type indication attached to them and hereby designate the lectotype of this species.

Additional material examined. DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO: 'Libenge, 29.iv.1948, R. Cremer & M. Neuman' (LHPC).

Redescription. Body length 6.4–6.7 mm, length of fore body (to end of elytra) 3.0–3.3 mm.

Colouration. Head black, pronotum, scutellum and abdomen black-brown, lateral margins of scutellum narrowly brown-yellow, posterior margin of all tergites narrowly red-brown, elytra dark brown, palpi and mandibles brown-yellow, antennae brown, antennomeres 1–2, femora and tarsi yellow-brown, tibiae somewhat darker.

Head as long as wide, lateral margins slightly rounded, eyes large and flat, slightly longer than temples (ratio 8 : 7). Posterior angles each with two long, black bristles. Anterior margin of each eye with one coarse puncture, posterior margin of each eye with two coarse punctures, temporal area with several punctures of unequal size. Surface with distinct microsculpture consisting of transverse and oblique waves.

Antennae stout, reaching posterior third of pronotum when reclined. Antennomeres 1–3 and 11 longer than wide, antennomeres 4–5 as long as wide, antennomeres 6–10 slightly wider than long. Relative lengths of antennomeres: 1 = 7; 2 = 3.5; 3 = 3; 4–10 = 2.5; 11 = 3.5.

Pronotum highly convex, somewhat longer than wide (ratio 27 : 25), slightly widened posteriorly. Anterior angles obtusely rounded, posterior angles markedly rounded. Each dorsal row with two punctures, each sublateral row with one puncture, anterior puncture situated in anterior fourth, posterior puncture in posterior fourth of pronotum. Microsculpture similar to that on head.

Entire scutellum exceedingly finely and sparsely punctate, punctures smaller than eye-facets, separated by two puncture diameters in transverse direction.

Elytra combined wider than long (ratio 38 : 29), distinctly widened posteriorly, finely and densely punctate, punctures as large as eye-facets, separated mostly by a puncture diameter in transverse direction. Longitudinal row of four larger punctures situated at midwidth of each elytron. Surface between punctures without microsculpture. Setation greyish.

Legs. Metatibia somewhat longer than metatarsus (ratio 19 : 17). Metatarsomere 1 as long as metatarsomeres 2–3 combined, metatarsomere 5 somewhat longer than metatarsomeres 3–4 combined. Relative lengths of metatarsomeres: 1 = 5; 2 = 3; 3 = 2; 4 = 1.5; 5 = 4.

Abdomen: First four visible tergites with two basal lines, elevated area between basal lines with scattered punctures. Punctuation of visible tergites somewhat finer than that on elytra, surface without microsculpture. Setation of the same colour as that on elytra.

Male. Protarsomeres 1–3 simple, not conspicuously dilated, a little wider than long, protarsomere 4 very small. Sternite VIII (Fig. 92), sternite IX (Fig. 93) aedeagus (Figs. 94–91).

Female. Unknown.

Differential diagnosis. *Mentophilonthus seriatipennis* is very similar to *M. tristichus*, from which it may be distinguished by the darker maxillary and labial palpi, different punctuation of the elytra and by the different shape of the aedeagus.

Note. Based on the examination of the type specimens of both species, *P. seriatipennis* and *P. dilutior* differ very distinctly in the shape of the male genitalia (compare Figs. 34–38 and 88–93). Therefore, I consider *P. seriatipennis* as a valid species and remove it from synonymy with *M. dilutior*.

Bionomics. Unknown.

Distribution. Democratic Republic of the Congo.

***Mentophilonthus struthio* sp. nov.**

(Figs. 95–102)

Type locality. Sudan, Shamne.

Type material. HOLOTYPE: ♂, 'Sudan mer., Shamne, 15.x.1966, Dr.P.Štys leg. // Holotype *Mentophilonthus struthio* sp. nov. Hromádka, det, 2007 [red oblong printed label]' (NMPC). PARATYPES: 2 spec., 'Congo Belge, Massif Ruwenzori marais Kivaita près Ibatama, 1.780 m, 14.xii.1956, P. Vanschuythbroeck' (LHPC, JJRC); 1 spec., 'N. Lac. Kivu: RwankwI, xi.1951, J. V. Leroy' (LHPC); 2 spec., 'PNA [= Parc National Albert], 12.vi.1954, Massif Ruwenzori riv., Kakalari affl., Bombi 1.725. P. Vanschuythbroeck + H. Synave, 8005 – 08' (LHPC); 2 spec., 'P.N.A. [= Parc National Albert] 12.vi.1954, Massif Ruwenzori, Kalonge 2.000 m, Ruiss. Katsambu, affl., Dr Butahu, P. Vanschuythbroeck + H. Synave, 8905 – 08' (MRAC); 1 spec., 'P.N.A. [= Parc National Albert] 27.xi.1957, Massif Ruwenzori, Mont Mulungu 2.600 m, P. Vanschuythbroeck, VS – 240' (LHPC); 1 spec., 'P.N.A. [=Parc National Albert] 9.xii.1957, Massif Ruwenzori, 2.600 m, riv. Katauleko, affl., Butahu, P. Vanschuythbroeck, VS 255' (LHPC); 2 spec., 'Massif Ruwenzori, Grotte Ibatama, 1.610, (lumière), Congo, P.N.A. 4.v.1958, P. Vanschuythbroeck, VS – 377' (LHPC, MRAC); 1 spec., 'Massif Ruwenzori, Kalonge 2.060 m, riv. Katauleka affl., Butahu, Congo, P.N.A., 9.xii.1957, P. Vanschuythbroeck, V S 255' (LHPC). All paratypes with red printed paratype label.

Description. Body length: 9.5–12.5 mm, length of fore body (to end of elytra) 5.3–6.3 mm.

Colouration. Head black-brown, antennal sockets and clypeus along anterior margin very narrowly brown-yellow, pronotum and scutellum dark brown-reddish, elytra dark brown, suture narrowly brown-red, posterior margin and epipleura very narrowly yellow-brown, abdomen brown, posterior margin of tergites and paratergites narrowly yellow-brown, maxillary and labial palpi brown-yellow, antennomeres 1–3 and legs yellow-brown, remaining antennomeres brown, tarsomeres 4–5 of all tarsi more or less paler.

Head wider than long (ratio 30 : 27). Posterior angles entirely rounded. Eyes flat and much longer than temples (ratio 14 : 5). Anterior margin of each eyes with 1 puncture, posterior margin of each eye with 2 punctures, short temporal area each with 1 long bristle. Surface with dense and fine microsculpture consisting of transverse and oblique waves.

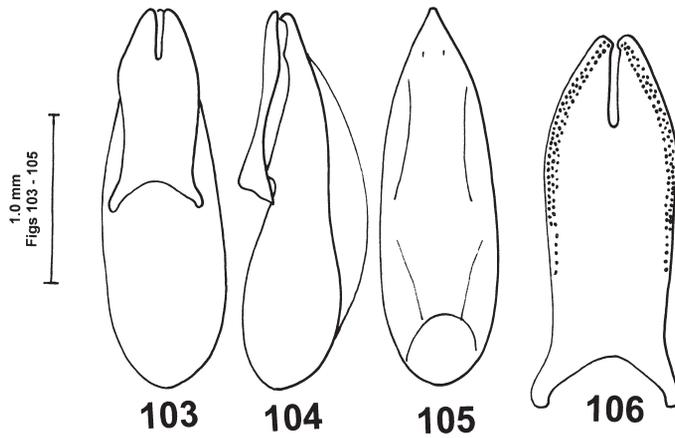
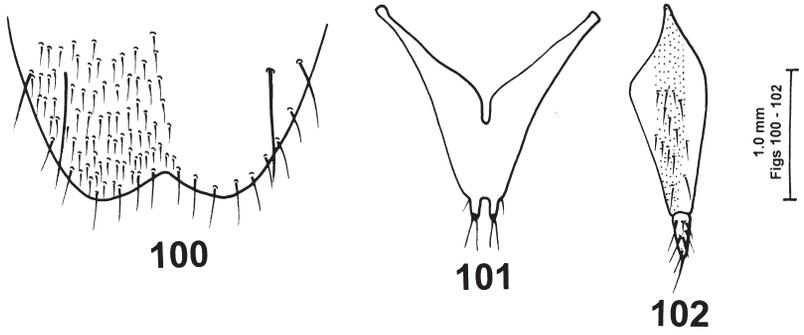
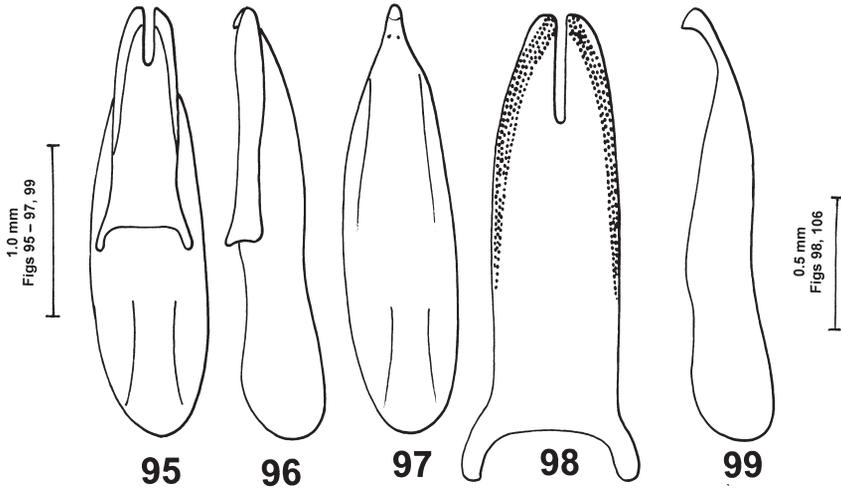
Antennae slender, reaching posterior fourth of pronotum when reclined. Antennomere 1 much longer than antennomeres 2–3 combined, antennomere 11 as long as antennomere 3. Relative lengths of antennomeres: 1 = 11.5; 2 = 4.5; 3 = 5; 4–8 = 4; 9–10 = 3.5; 11 = 5.

Pronotum slightly longer than wide (ratio 43 : 41) slightly narrowed anteriorly. Each dorsal row with two punctures, each sublateral row with one puncture. Anterior angles each with several relatively short black bristles. Surface with microsculpture similar to that on head.

Scutellum very finely and sparsely punctured, punctures somewhat smaller than eye-facets, separated by three puncture diameters in transverse direction. Surface with fine microsculpture consisting of transverse and oblique waves.

Elytra combined wider than long (ratio 54 : 50), slightly widened posteriorly. Punctuation very fine and sparse, punctures as large as eye-facets, separated by two puncture diameters in

Figs. 95–106. 95–102 – *Mentophilonthus struthio* sp. nov.: 95–99 – aedeagus (95 – ventral view, 96 – lateral view, 97 – ventral view, without paramere, 98 – underside of paramere with sensory peg setae, 99 – lateral view, without paramere); 100 – apical portion of male sternite VIII, ventral view; 101 – female tergite X, dorsal view; 102 – gonocoxites of female genital segment. 103–106 – *Mentophilonthus triseriatus* (Bernhauer, 1928): 103–106 – aedeagus (103 – ventral view, 104 – lateral view, 105 – ventral view, without paramere, 106 – underside of paramere, with sensory peg setae).



transverse direction. Longitudinal row of five larger punctures situated at midwidth of each elytron. Surface without microsculpture. Setation brown-yellow.

Legs. Metatibia as long as metatarsus, all tibiae with several dark bristles of unequal length. Metatarsomere 1 longer than metatarsomere 2–3 combined, metatarsomere 5 longer than metatarsomere 2. Relative lengths of metatarsomeres: 1 = 10; 2 = 4.5; 3 = 4; 4 = 3; 5 = 5.

Abdomen gradually narrowing posteriad. First four visible tergites with two basal lines, elevated area between basal lines impunctate. Punctuation of all visible tergites finer than that on elytra, becoming slightly sparser towards posterior margin of each tergite. Setation brown-yellow. Surface between punctures without microsculpture. Lateral margins of all tergites with several short bristles.

Male. Protarsomeres 1–3 markedly dilated, sub-bilobed, densely covered with modified pale setae ventrally, protarsomere 4 distinctly narrower than preceding ones. Sternite VIII (Fig. 100), aedeagus (Figs. 95–99).

Female. Protarsomeres 1–3 much less dilated than those in male, covered with modified pale setae ventrally, protarsomere 4 very small. Tergite X (Fig. 101), gonocoxites of female genital segment (Fig. 102).

Differential diagnosis. *Mentophilonthus struthio* sp. nov. may be distinguished from the similar *M. dilucidus*, by longer antennae, wider head and elytra, paler colouration of elytra and abdomen, sparser punctuation of elytra and abdomen and by the different shape of the aedeagus.

Etymology. The name of this species, a noun in apposition, is the Latin generic name of the ostrich *Struthio camelus* (Linnaeus, 1758).

Bionomics. Unknown.

Distribution. Sudan.

Mentophilonthus triseriatus (Bernhauer, 1928)

(Figs. 103–110)

Philonthus (*Philonthus*) *triseriatus* Bernhauer, 1928: 112.

Mentophilonthus triseriatus: LEVASSEUR (1966: 208).

Type locality. Democratic Republic of the Congo, Mongende.

Type material examined. HOLOTYPE: ♂, 'Congo Belge, Mongende, 19.iv.1921, Schouteden, Chicago NHMus, M. Bernhauer Collection // Type, *Philonthus triseriatus* Bernhauer [ochre oblong label, handwritten]' (FMNH). PARATYPES: 5 spec., 'Mongende, 21.iv.1921, Schouteden, Chicago NHMus, M. Bernhauer collection' [ochre oblong paratype label, handwritten] (FMNH).

Additional material examined. DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO: 1 spec., 'Congo ex Belge, Libenge, 29.4.1948, R. Cremer - M. Neuman' (LHPC); 1 spec., 'Edouard Vitshumbi, 10.ii.1954, J. Verbeke - KEA' (IRSB); 2 spec., 'Massif Ruwenzori, marais Kivaita, près Ibatama 1780 m, CONGO (Congo Belge), P.N.A., 14.xii.1956, P. Vanschuythbroeck, VS 850' (LHPC).

Redescription. Body length 11.5 mm, length of fore body (to end of elytra), 5.5 mm.

Colouration. Head black, antennal sockets and clypeus along anterior margin very narrowly reddish-yellow, clypeus brown-yellow, mandibles, elytra and abdomen black-brown, pronotum brown-black, elytral suture, epipleura and posterior margin of elytra narrowly brown-yellow, posterior margin of first five visible tergites and paratergites narrowly yellow-brown, palpi and first three antennomeres brown-yellow, remaining antennomeres dark brown, legs yellow-brown, tarsomeres 3–5 of all tarsi somewhat paler.

Head short, oval, wider than long (ratio 30 : 26). Posterior angles each with two long dark bristles. Eyes flat, occupying almost entire side of head (ratio 15.5 : 6). Anterior margin of each eye with one coarse puncture bearing long yellow-brown bristle, posterior margin of each eye with three coarse punctures. Surface with fine, very dense microsculpture consisting of transverse and oblique waves.

Antennae reaching posterior third of pronotum when reclined. Antennomere 1 somewhat longer than antennomeres 2–3 combined, antennomere 11 shorter than antennomere 2. Relative lengths of antennomeres: 1 = 11; 2 = 5; 3 = 5.5; 4 = 4; 5–7 = 4; 8–9 = 3.5; 10 = 3; 11 = 4.5.

Pronotum somewhat longer than wide (ratio 43 : 40), distinctly narrowed anteriorly, posterior angles entirely rounded. Each dorsal row with two coarse punctures. Each sublateral row with one puncture. Microsculpture similar to that on head.

Scutellum sparsely and finely punctate, posterior fourth impunctate. Punctures smaller than eye-facets, separated mostly by 2 puncture diameters in transverse direction. Transverse microsculpture much finer than that on head and pronotum.

Elytra combined wider than long (ratio 56 : 53), slightly widened posteriorly, very finely and sparsely punctate. Punctures slightly smaller than eye-facets, separated by distance slightly larger than a puncture diameter in transverse direction. Longitudinal row of five coarse punctures situated at midwidth of each elytron. Surface without microsculpture, with many microscopic dots. Setation brown-yellow.

Legs. Metatibia as long as metatarsus, all tibiae with several long brown bristles of unequal length. Metatarsomere 1 longer than metatarsomere 5. Relative lengths of metatarsomeres: 1 = 9; 2 = 5; 3 = 4; 4 = 3; 5 = 8.

Abdomen slightly narrowed from tergite V posteriorly. First four visible tergites with two basal lines, elevated area between basal lines impunctate. Punctuation at base of all visible tergites slightly finer and slightly denser than that on elytra, gradually becoming finer and sparser towards posterior margin of each tergite, surface without microsculpture. Lateral margins of each tergite with several brown bristles.

Male. Protarsomeres 1–3 markedly dilated, sub-bilobed, covered with modified pale setae ventrally, protarsomere 4 much less dilated, triangular. Sternite VIII (Fig. 107), sternite IX (Fig. 108), aedeagus (Figs. 103–106).

Female. First three protarsomeres much less dilated than those in male, protarsomere 4 small, only protarsomeres 1–3 bearing modified pale setae ventrally. Tergite X (Fig. 109), gonocoxites of female genital segment (Fig. 110).

Differential diagnosis. *Mentophilonthus triseriatus* is very similar to *M. struthio* sp. nov., from which it may be distinguished by the shorter antennae, coarse punctuation of the scutellum and darker body colouration. *Mentophilonthus triseriatus* may be distinguished from *M. equus* sp. nov. by longer eyes, wider head and sparser punctuation of the scutellum, and it differs from both *M. struthio* sp. nov. and *M. equus* sp. nov. by the shape of the aedeagus.

Bionomics. Unknown.

Distribution. Democratic Republic of the Congo (this paper); Republic of the Congo, Rwanda (HERMAN 2001).

***Mentophilonthus tristichus* (Cameron, 1929) comb. nov.**

(Figs. 111–113)

Philonthus (*Philonthus*) *tristichus* Cameron, 1929: 62.**Type locality.** Democratic Republic of the Congo, Haut Uele, Mauda: Dika.**Type material examined.** PARATYPES: 1 ♂, 1 spec., 'Congo, 2.III.1925, Haut-Uele: Mauda, Dr. Schouteden, M. Cameron Bequest, B.M. 1955–147 // Paratype, *Philonthus tristichus* Cameron det. [white oblong label, handwritten]' (BMNH).**Redescription.** Body length 6.4 mm, length of fore body (to end of elytra) 3.2 mm.

Colouration. Head black, pronotum brown-black, elytra black-brown, suture narrowly brown-yellow, abdomen and antennae black, antennomere 1, base of antennomere 2 and legs yellow-brown, inner side of all tibiae and tarsi infuscate, maxillary and labial palpi dark brown.

Head orbicular, as long as wide, eyes slightly longer than temples (ratio 13 : 11). Anterior margin of each eye with one puncture. Temporal area with several coarse punctures. Surface with very dense and fine microsculpture consisting of transverse and oblique waves.

Antennae reaching posterior fourth of pronotum when reclined. Antennomere 1 as long as antennomeres 2–3 combined, antennomere 11 as long as antennomere 3. Relative lengths of antennomeres: 1 = 11; 2 = 5; 3 = 6; 4–9 = 4; 10 = 3.5; 11 = 6.

Pronotum longer than wide (ratio 46 : 41), narrowed anteriorly, posterior angles entirely rounded. Each dorsal row with two punctures. Each sublateral row with one puncture. Surface shiny, with very fine microsculpture consisting of transverse and oblique waves.

Scutellum with very fine and sparse punctation and microsculpture, setation dark.

Elytra combined wider than long (ratio 55 : 52), surface with scattered larger punctures intermixed with many microscopic dots. Longitudinal row of three coarser punctures situated at midwidth of each elytron. Surface shiny, without microsculpture.

Legs. Metatibia as long as metatarsus. Metatarsomere 1 longer than metatarsomeres 2–3 combined. Relative lengths of metatarsomeres: 1 = 10; 2 = 5; 3 = 4; 4–5 = 3.

Abdomen slightly narrowed posteriorly. First four visible tergites with two basal lines, elevated area between basal lines very sparsely punctate. Punctation of visible tergites much coarser than that on elytra, punctures as large as eye-facets, separated mostly by a puncture diameter in transverse direction. Surface with fine microsculpture consisting of transverse and oblique waves, shiny. Lateral margins of all tergites with long black bristles.

Male. Protarsomeres 1–3 strongly dilated, sub-bilobed, covered with modified pale setae ventrally, protarsomere 4 considerably narrower than preceding ones. Sternite VIII (Fig. 112), sternite IX (Fig. 113). Aedeagus as in Fig. 111 (genitalia of the paratype with only paramere preserved, median lobe missing).

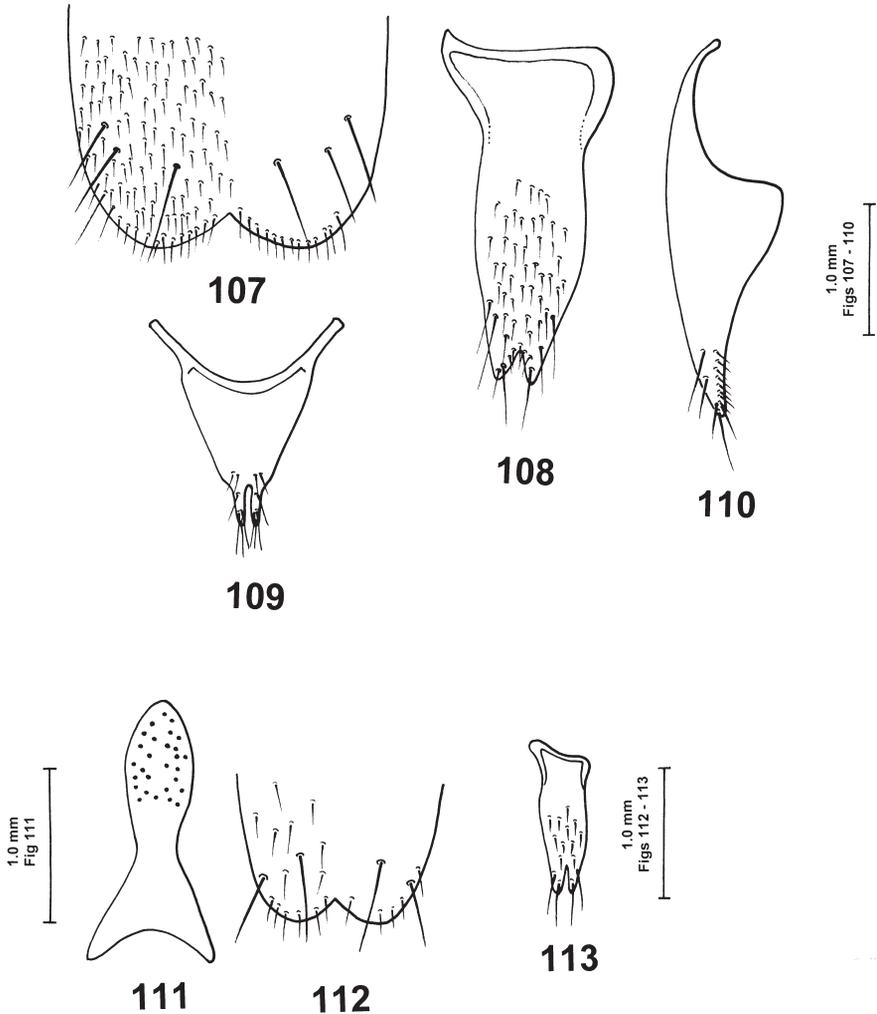
Female. Unknown.

Differential diagnosis. *Mentophilonthus tristichus* may be distinguished from the most similar *M. seriatipennis* by the paler maxillary and labial palpi and different punctation of the elytra; it differs from *M. crocuta* sp. nov. by the longer and more rounded head, longer pronotum and elytra, darker elytra and denser and coarser punctation of the elytra and abdomen; from

M. hystrix sp. nov. it differs by the shorter and darker elytra and narrower head. It differs from all above species by the shape of the aedeagus.

Bionomics. Unknown.

Distribution. Democratic Republic of the Congo.



Figs. 107–113. 107–110 – *Mentophilonthus triseriatus* (Bernhauer, 1928): 107 – apical portion of male sternite VIII, ventral view; 108 – male sternite IX, ventral view; 109 – female tergite X, dorsal view; 110 – gonocoxite of female genital segment. 111–113 – *Mentophilonthus tristichus* (Cameron, 1929): 111 – underside of paramere with sensory peg setae; 112 – apical portion of male sternite VIII, ventral view; 113 – male sternite IX, ventral view.

***Mentophilonthus vanellus* sp. nov.**

(Figs. 114–118)

Type locality. Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Type material examined. HOLOTYPE: ♂, 'Congo, Mongende, 21.iv.1921, Schouteden, Musée du Congo, Chicago NHMus, M. Bernhauer Collection // Holotype, *Mentophilonthus vannelus* sp.nov. Hromádka, det. 2007 [red oblong printed label]' (FMNH).

Description. Body length 7.0 mm, length of fore body (to end of elytra) 3.4 mm.

Colouration. Head black, antennal sockets and clypeus along anterior margin very narrowly yellow-brown, pronotum and abdomen chestnut-brown, posterior margin of all tergites narrowly yellow-brown, elytra brown-orange with suture narrowly dark brown, palpi, antennomere 1 and base of antennomere 2 yellow-brown, remaining antennomeres brown.

Head somewhat wider than long (ratio 19 : 17.5), distinctly narrowed anteriorly. Posterior angles rounded, each with three long, black bristles. Temporal area with several coarse punctures. Eyes flat, much longer than temples (ratio 13 : 7). Surface with fine and very dense microsculpture consisting of transverse and oblique waves.

Antennae reaching posterior fourth of pronotum when reclined. Antennomere 1 as long as antennomeres 2–3 combined, antennomere 2 shorter than antennomere 3. Relative lengths of antennomeres: 1 = 6.5; 2 = 3; 3 = 3.5; 4–7 = 3; 8–10 = 2.5; 11 = 4.5.

Pronotum longer than wide, (ratio 32 : 29), distinctly narrowed anteriorly. Each dorsal row with three punctures. Each sublateral row with one puncture. Surface with irregular, indistinct microsculpture here and there.

Scutellum very finely and sparsely punctate, punctures as large as eye-facets, separated by a puncture diameter in transverse direction. Setation brown.

Elytra combined distinctly wider than long (ratio 38 : 31), widened posteriorly. Sides each with six black bristles of unequal length, punctation very fine, punctures slightly smaller than eye-facets, separated mostly by 2 puncture diameters in transverse direction. Longitudinal row of four coarse, setiferous punctures situated at about midwidth of each elytron; surface without microsculpture.

Metatibia longer than metatarsus (ratio 17 : 15). Metatarsomere 1 as long as metatarsomeres 2–3 combined, metatarsomere 5 longer than metatarsomere 1. Relative lengths of metatarsomeres: 1 = 5.5; 2 = 3; 3 = 2.5; 4 = 2; 5 = 6.

Abdomen: first four visible tergites with two basal lines, elevated area between basal lines impunctate. Punctation of visible tergites very fine and sparse, punctures much smaller than eye-facets, separated mostly by three puncture diameters in transverse direction. Surface without microsculpture between punctures. Lateral margins of tergites with several black bristles of unequal length.

Male. Protarsomeres 1–3 strongly dilated and sub-bilobed, covered with modified pale setae ventrally, protarsomere 4 small, heart-shaped. Sternite VIII (Fig. 117) sternite IX (Fig. 118), aedeagus (Figs. 114–116).

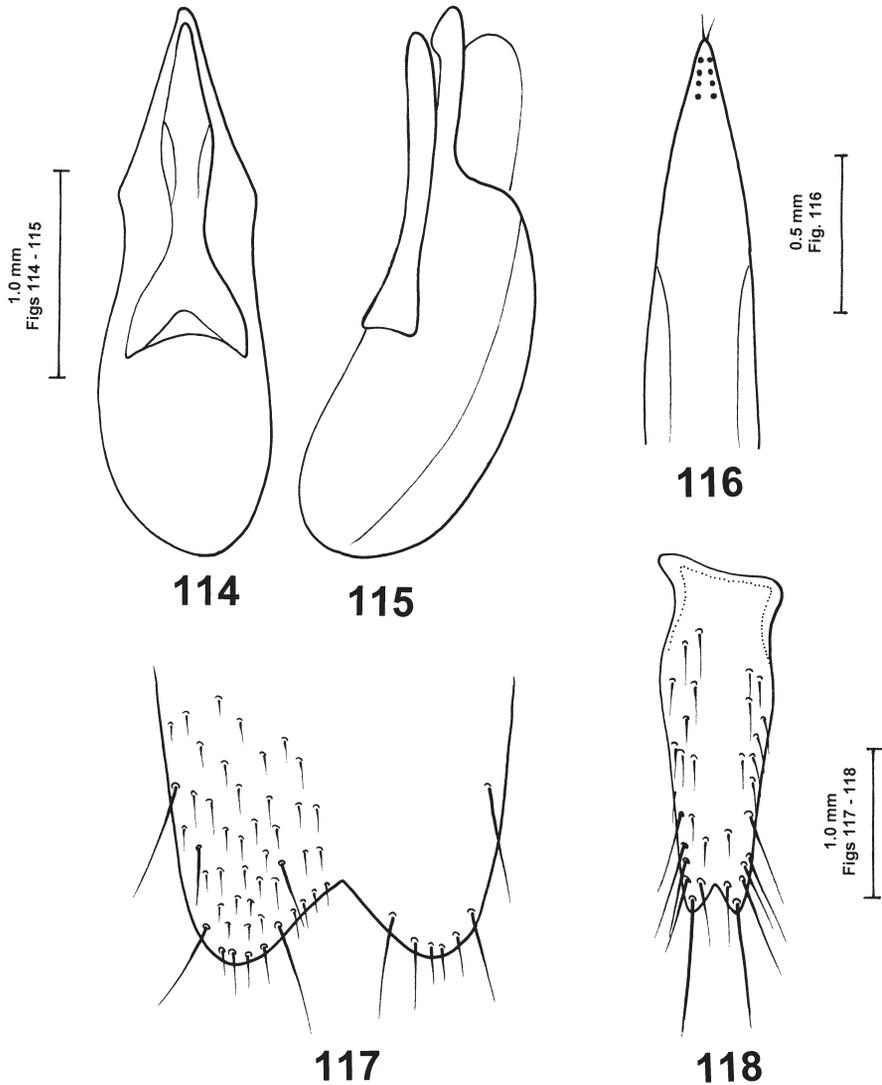
Female. Unknown.

Differential diagnosis. *Mentophilonthus vanellus* sp. nov. may be distinguished from all species of the genus by the presence of three punctures in dorsal rows of the pronotum (in contrast to one or two punctures present in all other species).

Bionomics. Unknown.

Etymology. The name of this species, a noun in apposition, is the Latin generic name of the lapwing *Vanellus armatus* (Linnaeus, 1758).

Distribution. Democratic Republic of the Congo.



Figs. 114–118. *Mentophilonthus vanellus* sp. nov. 114–116 aedeagus ; 114 – ventral view, 115 – lateral view, 116 – apical portion of underside of paramere, with sensory peg setae, ventral view, 117 – apical portion of male sternite VIII, ventral view, 118 – male sternite IX, ventral view.

Key to the Afrotropical species of the genus *Mentophilonthus*

- 1 Each dorsal row of pronotum with one puncture. 2
- Each dorsal row of pronotum with two punctures. 5
- Each dorsal row of pronotum with three punctures. *M. vanellus* sp. nov.
- 2 Larger species body length 11.0 mm, epipleura and posterior margin of elytra narrowly yellow, antennae dirty yellow. *M. equus* sp. nov.
- Smaller species, body length 7.5–10.0 mm. 3
- 3 Epipleura of the same colour as elytra. 4
- Epipleura yellow-white to yellow-brown, paler than elytra. 7
- 4 Elytra without distinct ground punctation, only with scattered microscopic dots and longitudinal row of four larger punctures, punctation of visible tergites coarse and dense, entire antennomere 1 and larger part of antennomere 2 brown-yellow, remaining antennomeres black-brown. *M. schoutedeni* (Bernhauer, 1928)
- Elytra with fine and dense ground punctation, punctation of abdomen slightly sparser and coarser than that on elytra, antennae brown, only ventral side of antennomere 1 yellow-brown. *M. ochrigonalis* (Tottenham, 1962)
- 5 Head rounded, punctation of abdominal tergites much sparser than that of elytra. 6
- Head markedly narrowed anteriorly, punctation of visible tergites of abdomen similar to that on elytra. *M. manis* sp. nov.
- 6 Antennae brown-yellow to brown, entire elytra black-brown, paratergites narrowly but sharply reddish, apex of median lobe in lateral view without small tooth (Fig. 17).
- Antennomeres 1–2 yellow-brown, apex of median lobe in lateral view with distinct small tooth (Fig. 33), elytra black-brown with posterior angles and epipleura yellow-brown. *M. curiosus* (Tottenham, 1949)
- Antennomeres 1–3 yellow-brown, suture, posterior margin of elytra and epipleura yellow-brown, apex of median lobe with distinct small tooth (Fig. 74).
- *M. reinecki* (Schubert, 1902)
- 7 Entire epipleura yellow-white to yellow-brown or only in posterior half. 8
- Epipleura of the same colour as dorsal surface of elytra. 11
- 8 Epipleura yellow-white only in posterior half, dorsal surface of elytra without ground punctation, only with microscopic dots. *M. hystrix* sp. nov.
- Entire epipleura yellow-brown, dorsal surface of elytra with fine but distinct punctation. 9
- 9 Larger species body length 11.5 mm, punctation of elytra very fine and dense.
- *M. triseriatus* (Bernhauer, 1928)
- Smaller species, body length 8.0–9.0 mm. 10
- 10 Elytra and abdominal paratergites dark brown, posterior margins of abdominal tergites narrowly yellow-brown, punctation of elytra fine and very dense.
- *M. centrafricanus* Levasseur, 1980
- Elytra chestnut-brown, punctation fine and sparse suture, posterior margin of elytra and abdominal paratergites more widely yellow-brown.
- *M. descarpentriasi* Levasseur, 1966

- 11 Dorsal surface of elytra without ground punctation, only with microscopic dots.
 *M. crocota* sp. nov.
- Dorsal surface of elytra with normal ground punctation. 12
- 12 Elytra red-brown to yellow-brown. 13
- Elytra dark-brown to black-brown. 14
- 13 Elytra red-brown, darker translucent here and there, pronotum and abdomen brown-red,
 punctation of elytra sparser. Aedeagus as in Figs. 95–99. *M. struthio* sp. nov.
- Elytra dark red-brown, pronotum and abdomen dark brown, punctation of elytra denser.
 Aedeagus as in Figs. 34–37. *M. dilutior* (Bernhauer, 1928)
- Elytra yellow-brown, dark translucent here and there, pronotum and abdomen black-
 brown. Aedeagus as in Figs. 49–51. *M. lampropterus* (Bernhauer, 1934)
- 14 Smaller species (body length 5.5–6.4 mm). 15
- Larger species (body length 7.5–11.0 mm). 16
- 15 Palpi dark brown, surface of elytra with many microscopic dots among scattered larger
 punctures. *M. tristichus* (Cameron, 1929)
- Palpi brown-yellow, elytra finely and densely punctate.
 *M. seriatipennis* (Bernhauer, 1928)
- 16 Paramere divided into two short, widely diverging branches (Figs. 64–67).
 *M. odzalaensis* Levasseur, 1966
- Paramere divided into two long, narrowly diverging branches (Figs. 56–59).
 *M. mongendensis* (Bernhauer, 1928)

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