

**Revision of the Afrotropical species
of the genus *Pseudohesperus*, with taxonomic notes
on other Afrotropical species of the subtribe *Philonthina*
(Coleoptera: Staphylinidae)**

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Abstract. Afrotropical species of the genus *Pseudohesperus* Hayashi, 2008 are revised. The genus contains nine Afrotropical species, four of which are described as new: *P. apsilus* sp. nov. (Uganda, Gabon), *P. tauraco* sp. nov. (Democratic Republic of the Congo), *P. tyto* sp. nov. (Democratic Republic of the Congo) and *P. varanus* sp. nov. (Democratic Republic of the Congo). Three species are transferred to *Pseudohesperus* from the genus *Philonthus* Stephens, 1829: *P. conradti* (Bernhauer, 1912) comb. nov., *P. eccoptomus* (Tottenham, 1962) comb. nov. and *P. proselytus* (Bernhauer, 1912) comb. nov. Two species are transferred to *Pseudohesperus* from the genus *Hesperus* Stephens, 1829: *Pseudohesperus bafutensis* (Levasseur, 1967) comb. nov. and *Pseudohesperus natalensis* (Scheerpeltz, 1956) comb. nov. *Hesperus longicornis* Cameron, 1950 syn. nov. is synonymized with *Pseudohesperus conradti*. All Afrotropical species of the genus *Pseudohesperus* are keyed and their aedeagi and relevant morphological characters are figured. In addition, new synonyms and new combinations are proposed for some other representatives of the Afrotropical *Philonthina* based on the study of type specimens. Five species of *Philonthus* are synonymized: *Philonthus captivus* Levasseur, 1966 syn. nov. = *P. wittei* Bernhauer, 1932; *P. parasanguineus* Levasseur, 1962 syn. nov. = *P. ichor* Tottenham, 1961; *P. rubrovittatus* Tottenham, 1979 syn. nov. = *P. nimeaglius* Tottenham, 1962; *P. discoideisimillis* Scheerpeltz, 1974 syn. nov. = *P. taterae* Scheerpeltz, 1951; and *P. flandrianus* Cameron, 1952 syn. nov. = *P. ventralis* Gravenhorst, 1802. Eight species of *Philonthus* are transferred to the genus *Gabrius* Stephens, 1829: *G. definitus* (Cameron, 1950) comb. nov., *G. dubiosus* (Bernhauer, 1936) comb. nov., *G. elypticus* (Bernhauer, 1932) comb. nov., *G. gerardi* (Bernhauer, 1928) comb. nov., *G. gongulus* (Tottenham, 1949) comb. nov., *G. rudiventris* (Bernhauer, 1937) comb. nov., and *G. separatus* (Cameron, 1950) comb. nov. *Philonthus meridioafricanus* Scheerpeltz, 1974 syn. nov.

is synonymized with *Gabronthus maritimus* (Motschulsky, 1858). Two species of *Gabrius* are transferred to the genus *Gabronthus* Tottenham, 1955: *Gabronthus heterocerus* (Cameron, 1950) comb. nov. and *Gabronthus kamatembeanus* (Cameron, 1950) comb. nov.

Key words. Coleoptera, Staphylinidae, Philonthina, *Pseudohesperus*, *Philonthus*, *Gabrius*, *Gabronthus*, taxonomy, new species, new synonyms, new combinations, distribution, Afrotropical Region

Introduction

The genus *Pseudohesperus* Hayashi, 2008 was described recently by HAYASHI (2008) to accommodate two species occurring in the eastern Palaearctic and Oriental Regions and classified previously in *Philonthus* Stephens, 1829: *P. eustilbus* Kraatz, 1859 and *P. rutiliventris* Sharp, 1874. During my recent studies of many specimens of Afrotropical Philonthina from different museum collections, I have found that several species from this region also belong to *Pseudohesperus*. Some of them have been placed in *Philonthus* and others are new to science. The genus is hereby newly recorded from the Afrotropical Region and a revision of its Afrotropical species is provided.

When examining the type material for my recent revision of the Afrotropical Philonthina (e.g. HROMÁDKA 2008a,b; 2009a,b; 2010), I have found a number of synonyms and incorrect generic placements which could not be included into my published papers. These synonyms and revised generic placements are summarized at the end of this paper.

Material and methods

The following acronyms are used to refer to the collections mentioned:

BMNH	Natural History Museum, London, UK (Maxwell Barclay, Roger Booth);
FMNH	Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago, USA (James Boone);
IRSB	Institut Royal des Sciences naturelles de Belgique, Bruxelles, Belgium (Yvonnick Gérard);
LHPC	Lubomír Hromádka collection, Praha, Czech Republic;
NMUK	Manchester Museum, Manchester, United Kingdom (Dmitri Logunov);
MNHG	Muséum d'Histoire naturelle, Genève, Switzerland (Giulio Cuccodoro);
MNHN	Museum national d'Histoire naturelle, Paris, France (Thierry Deuve, Azadeh Taghavian);
MRAC	Musée royal de l'Afrique centrale, Tervuren, Belgium (Marc De Meyer);
NHMW	Naturhistorisches Museum, Wien, Austria (Harald Schillhammer);
NMPC	National Museum, Praha, Czech Republic (Jiří Hájek).

A double slash (//) is used to divide separate labels of each type specimen. All measurements were taken from beetles with stretched abdomen. All ratios mentioned in the descriptions are dimensionless but can be converted to lengths in millimetres as follows: 20 units = 1 mm.

Genus *Pseudohesperus* Hayashi, 2008

The genus *Pseudohesperus* was characterized in great detail by HAYASHI (2008): the genus is closely allied to *Bisnius* Stephens, 1829 and *Gabrius* Stephens, 1829, because of the similar structure of protarsi, but is easily distinguishable from them by the following characters: (1) mesoventrite strongly convex medially in a subtriangular form, without a transverse carina; (2) male sternite 9 with a pair of long appendages and without any long erect bristles; (3) female second gonocoxite very slender and long; (4) chaetotaxy of the pronotum composed of only a pair of anterolateral macrosetae, basolateral setae absent; (5) gular sutures gradually convergent posteriad to the neck constriction, not parallel in posterior (basal) half.

Species list of *Pseudohesperus*

Afrotropical species

<i>Pseudohesperus apsilus</i> sp. nov.	Uganda, Gabon, Ivory Coast
<i>Pseudohesperus bafutensis</i> (Levasseur, 1967) comb. nov.	Cameroon
<i>Pseudohesperus conradti</i> (Bernhauer, 1912) comb. nov.	Cameroon, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Senegal, Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe
<i>Pseudohesperus eccoptomus</i> (Tottenham, 1962) comb. nov.	Republic of South Africa
<i>Pseudohesperus natalensis</i> (Scheerpeltz, 1956) comb. nov.	Republic of South Africa
<i>Pseudohesperus proselytus</i> (Herman, 2001) comb. nov.	Democratic Republic of the Congo
<i>Pseudohesperus tauraco</i> sp. nov.	Democratic Republic of the Congo
<i>Pseudohesperus tyto</i> sp. nov.	Ethiopia, Democratic Republic of the Congo
<i>Pseudohesperus varanus</i> sp. nov.	Democratic Republic of the Congo

Asian species

<i>Pseudohesperus eustilbus</i> (Kraatz, 1859)	India, Indonesia
<i>Pseudohesperus rutiliventris</i> (Sharp, 1874)	Russian Far East, China, Japan, South Korea

Pseudohesperus apsilus **sp. nov.**

(Figs 1–5)

Type locality. Uganda, Nakiwogo Entebbe.

Type material examined. HOLOTYPE: ♂, 'Uganda, Nakiwogo Entebbe, xi.1961-vi.1962, A. S. Hoddeta // HOLOTYPE, *Pseudohesperus apsilus* sp. nov. Hromádka, det., 2009 [red oblong label, printed]' (NMPC). PARATYPES: **GABON:** 1 spec., Konta de Cristal, // *Philonthus megalops* R.I.Sc.N.B. Coll. et det. A. Fauvel, [white oblong label, handwritten] // *Philonthus megalops* Tottenham TYPE [ochre oblong label, handwritten] (IRSB); 2 spec., Loango, // *Philonthus megalops*, R.I.Sc.N.B. Coll. et det. A. Fauvel // *Philonthus megalops* Tottenham PARATYPE [ochre

oblong label, handwritten] (IRSB). **IVORY COAST:** 4 spec., Danané, Droplou, 10.x.1980, tamisage ss. fronc mort, Mahnert – Perret (MNHG).

Description. Body length 7.3 mm, length of fore body (to end of elytra) 3.7 mm.

Colouration. Head, pronotum and elytra black, scutellum dark carmine, in the middle slightly bluish iridescent, abdomen conspicuously golden, violet and green iridescent, labial palpi brown, palpomeres 1 and 2 of maxillary palpi brown, palpomere 3 yellow-brown, mandibles brown, slightly paler distally, antennae black, femora brown-yellow, tibiae and tarsi dark brown.

Head transverse, wider than long (ratio 28 : 20), slightly narrowed posteriad, each posterior angle rounded with one small tooth as in *P. morio* Boheman, 1848, eyes distinctly longer than temples (ratio 11 : 6). Distance between medial interocular punctures almost four times as long as distance between medial and lateral puncture, medial punctures distinctly shifted anteriorly, each side along impunctate midline with scattered punctures, temporal area with several variably large punctures. Surface without microsculpture.

Antennae slender and very long, exceeding posterior margin of pronotum by last four antennomeres when reclined, all antennomeres longer than wide. Relative lengths of antennomeres 1–11: 1 = 11 units, 2 = 8 units, 3 = 7 units, 4–6 = 6 units, 7–10 = 5 units and 11 = 5.5 units.

Pronotum slightly convex, as wide as long, parallel-sided, anterior angles conspicuously deflexed, vaguely obtusely rounded, posterior angles markedly rounded. Each dorsal row irregularly punctate, exact number of larger punctures in the dorsal rows difficult to state owing to their irregular nature, each side along narrow impunctate midline with small scattered punctures. Surface without microsculpture.

Scutellum densely and finely punctate, punctures as large as eye-facets, separated by one puncture diameter in transverse direction.

Elytra combined wider than long (ratio 43 : 40), very slightly narrowed posteriad, punctation fine and dense, diameter of punctures smaller than eye-facets, transverse interstices between punctures usually smaller than their diameter. Surface between microsculpture, shiny; setation greyish.

Legs. Metatibia longer than metatarsus (ratio 25 : 23), relative lengths of metatarsomeres 1–5: 1 = 6 units, 2 = 4 units, 3 = 3 units, 4 = 2 units and 5 = 6 units.

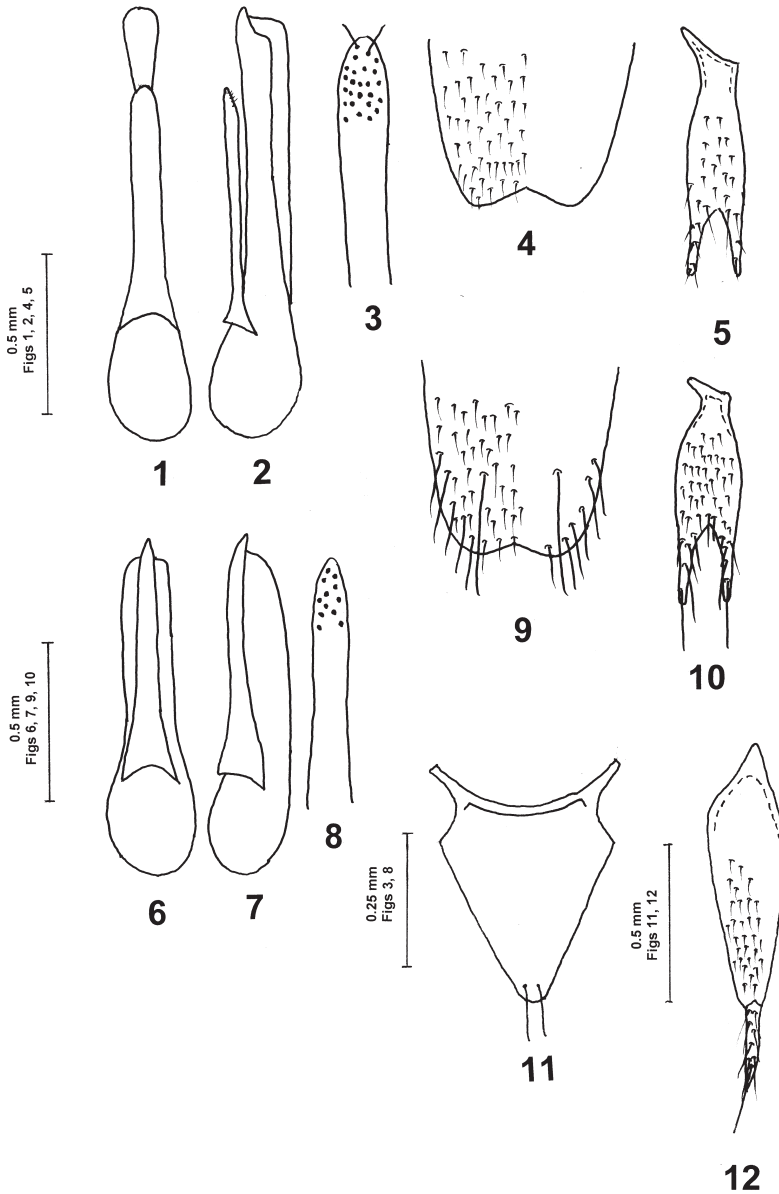
Abdomen wide, very gradually narrowing towards apex. First three visible tergites with two basal lines, elevated area between lines with scattered punctures. Punctation of basal portion of all tergites coarser than that on elytra, becoming sparser towards posterior margin of each tergite. Surface between punctures without microsculpture; setation similar to that on elytra.

Male. Protarsomeres 1–4 simple, hardly dilated, each with few modified pale setae laterally. Sternite VIII (Fig. 4), sternite IX (Fig. 5), aedeagus (Figs. 1–3).

Female. Unknown.

Differential diagnosis. *Pseudohesperus apsilus* sp. nov. may be separated from *P. conradti* by longer eyes and antennae, darker antennomere 1 and a different shape of the aedeagus and from *P. proselytus* by a wider head, longer antennae and denser punctation of the abdomen.

Note. I have found this new species in the collection of IRSB, labelled by A. Fauvel and C. E. Tottenham as *Philonthus megalops*, but neither of them formally described the taxon as new.



Figs. 1–12. 1–5 – *Pseudohesperus apsilus* sp. nov. (1 – aedeagus, ventral view; 2 – aedeagus, lateral view; 3 – apical portion of paramere with sensory peg setae, ventral view; 4 – apical portion of male sternite VIII, ventral view; 5 – male sternite IX, ventral view). 6–10 – *Pseudohesperus conradti* (Bernhauer, 1912) (6 – aedeagus, ventral view; 7 – aedeagus, lateral view; 8 – apical portion of paramere with sensory peg setae; 9 – apical portion of male sternite VIII, ventral view; 10 – male sternite IX, ventral view). 11–12 – *Pseudohesperus proselytus* (Herman, 2001) (11 – female tergite, ventral view; 12 – gonocoxite of female genital segment).

Etymology. The name of this species, a noun in apposition, is the Latin generic name of the African forktail snapper *Apsilus fuscus* Valenciennes, 1830.

Distribution. Uganda, Gabon and Ivory Coast.

***Pseudohesperus bafutensis* (Levasseur, 1967) comb. nov.**

(Figs. 18–22)

Hesperus bafutensis Levasseur, 1967: 954.

Type locality. Cameroon, Bafut forest, N'guemba.

Type material. HOLOTYPE: ♂, 'F'BAFUT, N'guemba, 16.VIII.1965, Muséum Paris, CAMEROUN, B. de Miré, // *Hesperus bafutensis* n. sp. L. Levasseur det. 1966 [ochre oblong label, handwritten]' (MNHN).

Additional material examined. NIGER: 1 ♂, Abargasit, 3.ii.1978, R. Macek leg. (NMPC).

Description. Body length 9.2 mm, length of fore body (to end of elytra) 3.9 mm.

Colouration. Head and pronotum black, scutellum and elytra brown-black, suture and posterior margin narrowly brown-yellow, abdomen black-brown, posterior margin of all tergites narrowly red-brown, all tergites with bluish purple iridescence. Maxillary palpi, labial palpi and mandibles brown-yellow, antennae black, base of antennomere 2 yellow-brown, femora brown, tibiae darker, tarsi brown, slightly paler distally.

Head rectangular, wider than long (ratio 30 : 22), parallel-sided, each posterior angle obtusely rounded, bearing one long black bristle. Eyes flat, as long as temples. Four coarse punctures between eyes, distance between medial interocular punctures three times as long as distance between medial and lateral puncture, medial punctures slightly shifted anteriorly. Several variably large punctures placed posterolaterally of the line connecting middle of inner margin of eyes and middle of posterior margin of head. Surface with patches of very fine irregular microsculpture.

Antennae slender and very long, exceeding posterior margin of pronotum by antennomeres 10 and 11 when reclined, all antennomeres longer than wide. Relative lengths of antennomeres 1–11: 1 = 8 units, 2 = 5 units, 3 = 6 units, 4–7 = 5 units, 8 and 9 = 4.5 units, 10 = 4 units and 11 = 5 units.

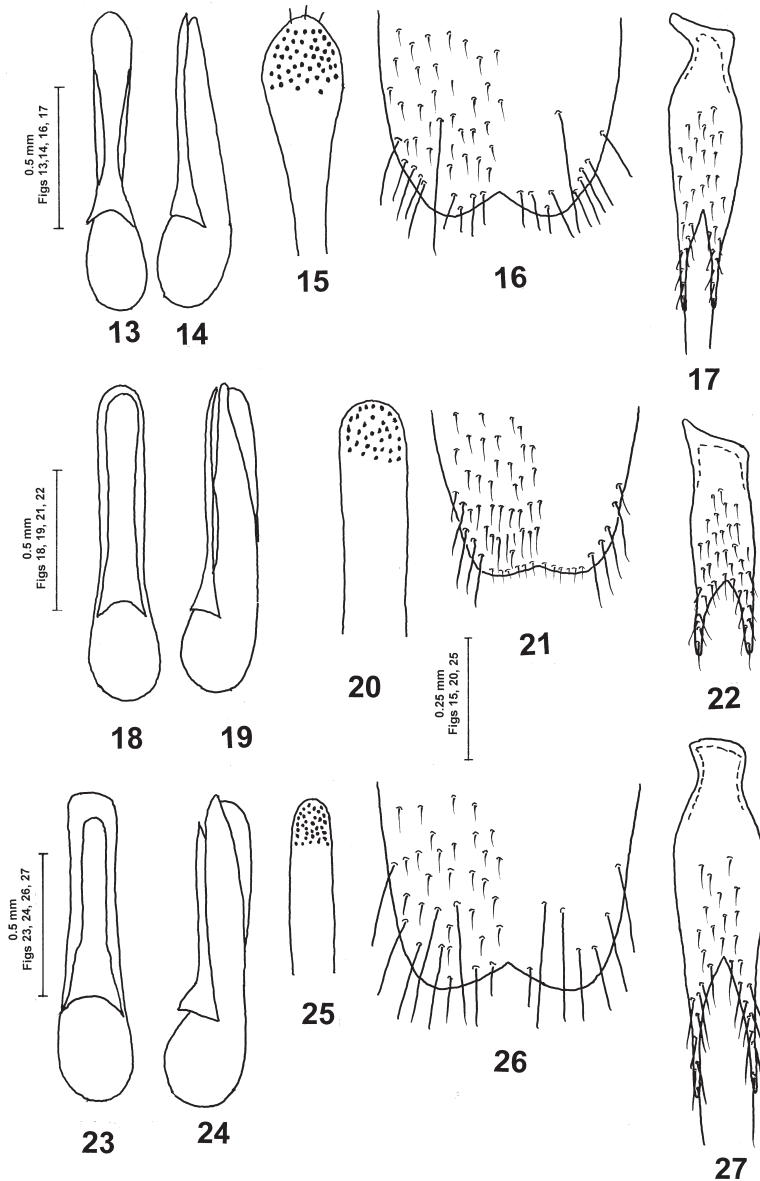
Pronotum highly convex, slightly wider than long (ratio 34 : 32), parallel-sided, anterior angles conspicuously deflexed, vaguely obtusely rounded, posterior angles markedly rounded. Each dorsal row with four coarse punctures and many smaller punctures. Each side along impunctate midline with numerous punctures. Surface with microsculpture similar to that on head.

Scutellum very finely punctate, punctures somewhat smaller than eye-facets, distance between punctures mostly larger than their diameter. Setation dark.

Elytra combined wider than long (ratio 45 : 40), widened posteriorly. Punctuation very fine and dense, punctures as large as eye-facets, separated by 1–1.5 diameter of punctures. Surface without microsculpture; setation greyish.

Legs. Metatarsus shorter than metatibia (ratio 25 : 27), lengths of metatarsomeres 1–5: 1 = 7 units, 2 = 4 units, 3 = 3 units, 4 = 2.5 units and 5 = 7 units.

Abdomen wide, parallel-sided, very hardly narrowed posteriorly. First three visible tergites with two basal lines, elevated area between lines coarsely and densely punctate. Punctuation of tergites sparser and coarser than that on elytra, becoming sparser towards apex of each tergite; setation similar to that on elytra.



Figs. 13–27. 13–17 – *Pseudothesperus tauraco* sp. nov. (13 – aedeagus, ventral view; 14 – aedeagus, lateral view, 15 – apical portion of paramere with sensory peg setae, ventral view; 16 – apical portion of male sternite VIII, ventral view; 17 – male sternite IX, ventral view). 18–22 – *Pseudothesperus bafutensis* (Levasseur, 1967) (18 – aedeagus, ventral view; 19 – aedeagus, lateral view; 20 – apex of paramere with sensory peg setae, ventral view; 21 – apical portion of male sternite VIII, ventral view; 22 – male sternite IX, ventral view). 23–27 – *Pseudothesperus tyto* sp. nov. (23 – aedeagus, ventral view; 24 – aedeagus, lateral view; 25 – apex of paramere with sensory peg setae, ventral view; 26 – apical portion of male sternite VIII, ventral view; 27 – male sternite IX, ventral view).

Male. Protarsomeres 1–4 simple, each with modified pale setae laterally. Sternite VIII (Fig. 21), sternite IX (Fig. 22), aedeagus (Figs. 18–20).

Female. Unknown.

Differential diagnosis. *Pseudohesperus bafutensis* may be distinguished from the most similar species *P. conradti* by its wider head, shorter antennae and denser punctation of the scutellum, from *P. natalensis* by a different colouration of the pronotum and abdomen, narrower elytra and darker legs, from *P. varanus* sp. nov. by a finer punctation of the elytra and sparser punctation of the abdomen, and from all three species by a different shape of the aedeagus. Moreover, *P. bafutensis* differs from *P. proselytus* by a wider head, longer antennae and sparser punctation of the scutellum.

Distribution. Cameroon and Niger.

***Pseudohesperus conradti* (Bernhauer, 1912) comb. nov.**

(Figs. 6–10)

Philonthus (*Eccoitolonthus*) *conradti* Bernhauer, 1912: 206.

Hesperus longicornis Cameron, 1950, **syn. nov.**

Type locality. Cameroon, Lolodorf [= village of Lolo].

Type material examined. *Philonthus conradti*: HOLOTYPE: ♀, 'S. O. Kamerun: Lolodorf, L. Conradt, 1895. Chicago NHMus, M. Bernhauer collection // *Philonthus conradti* Bernhauer, Type [ochre oblong label, handwritten]' (FMNH).

Hesperus longicornis: COTYPE: 1 ♀, 'ANGOLA, Ngauyanga // *Hesperus longicornis* COTYPE Cameron, M. Cameron-Bequest B.M.1955-147' (BMNH).

Additional material examined. ANGOLA: 1 spec., Ngauyanga (BMNH). NIGERIA: 1 spec., Ibadan, 1.v.1956 (NMUK), 1 spec., Aroche, viii.1945 (NMUK). ZIMBABWE: 3 spec., Kutsaga, near Harare airport, 18.vi.1997, W. Rossi (LHPC),

Redescription. Body length 7.9 mm, length of fore body (to end of elytra) 3.8 mm.

Colouration. Head black, pronotum, scutellum, elytra and abdomen black-brown, posterior margin of all tergites narrowly brown-red, maxillary palpi, labial palpi and antennomeres 1 and 2 yellow-brown, remaining antennomeres black-brown, mandibles brown, femora and tarsi yellow-brown, tibiae darker. Scutellum bluish iridescent, abdomen slightly golden-red iridescent.

Head transverse, wider than long (ratio 27 : 20), inconspicuously narrowed posteriad. Posterior angles obtusely rounded with two long black bristles. Eyes longer than temples (ratio 9 : 7). Four coarse punctures present between eyes, distance between medial interocular punctures three times as long as distance between medial and lateral puncture, median punctures slightly shifted anteriad. Inner margin of eyes and entire temporal area with variably large punctures, vertex of head largely impunctate. Dorsal surface without appreciable microsculpture.

Antennae slender and long, exceeding posterior margin of pronotum by antennomeres 10 and 11 when reclined. All antennomeres longer than wide. Relative lengths of antennomeres 1–11: 1 = 11 units, 2 = 5 units, 3 = 6 units, 4 = 5 units, 5–7 = 6 units, 8 = 5.5 units and 9–11 = 5 units.

Pronotum wider than long (ratio 32 : 30), parallel-sided, each anterior angle distinctly deflexed, vaguely obtusely rounded, posterior angles conspicuously rounded. Wide area along midline impunctate, each dorsal row consisting of four coarse and large, irregularly placed punctures and with many smaller punctures, lateral portions of pronotum with scattered punctures. Surface without microsculpture.

Scutellum densely and finely punctate. Punctures as large as eye-facets, separated by one puncture diameter in transverse direction.

Elytra combined wider than long (ratio 42 : 38), hardly widened posteriad. Punctuation fine and dense. Punctures somewhat larger than eye-facets, distance between punctures mostly smaller than their diameter. Surface without microsculpture; setation brown-yellow.

Legs. Metatarsus as long as metatibia. Relative length of metatarsomeres 1–5: 1 = 7 units, 2 = 4 units, 3 = 3.5 units, 4 = 3 units and 5 = 7 units.

Abdomen wide, gradually narrowed towards apex from visible tergite III. First three tergites with two basal lines, elevated area between lines impunctate. Punctuation at base of all tergites slightly coarser than that on elytra, gradually becoming finer and sparser towards posterior margin of each tergite. Surface between punctures without microsculpture; setation similar to that on elytra.

Male. Protarsomeres 1–4 simple, with few modified pale setae laterally. Sternite VIII (Fig. 9), sternite IX (Fig. 10), aedeagus (Figs. 6–8).

Female. Protarsomeres 1–3 simple, each covered with modified pale setae ventrally.

Differential diagnosis. *Pseudohesperus conradti* is similar to *P. apsilus* sp. nov., but may be distinguished from the latter by shorter antennae and eyes, paler antennomere 1 and a different shape of the aedeagus; it differs from *P. proselytus* by a wider head, longer antennae, paler antennomere 1 and denser punctuation of the scutellum, pronotal sides and abdomen.

Distribution. Cameroon and Zimbabwe.

Pseudohesperus eccoptomus (Tottenham, 1962) comb. nov.

(Figs. 33–36)

Philonthus (*Eccoptolonthus*) *eccoptomus* Tottenham, 1962: 231.

Type locality. Republic of South Africa, Natal.

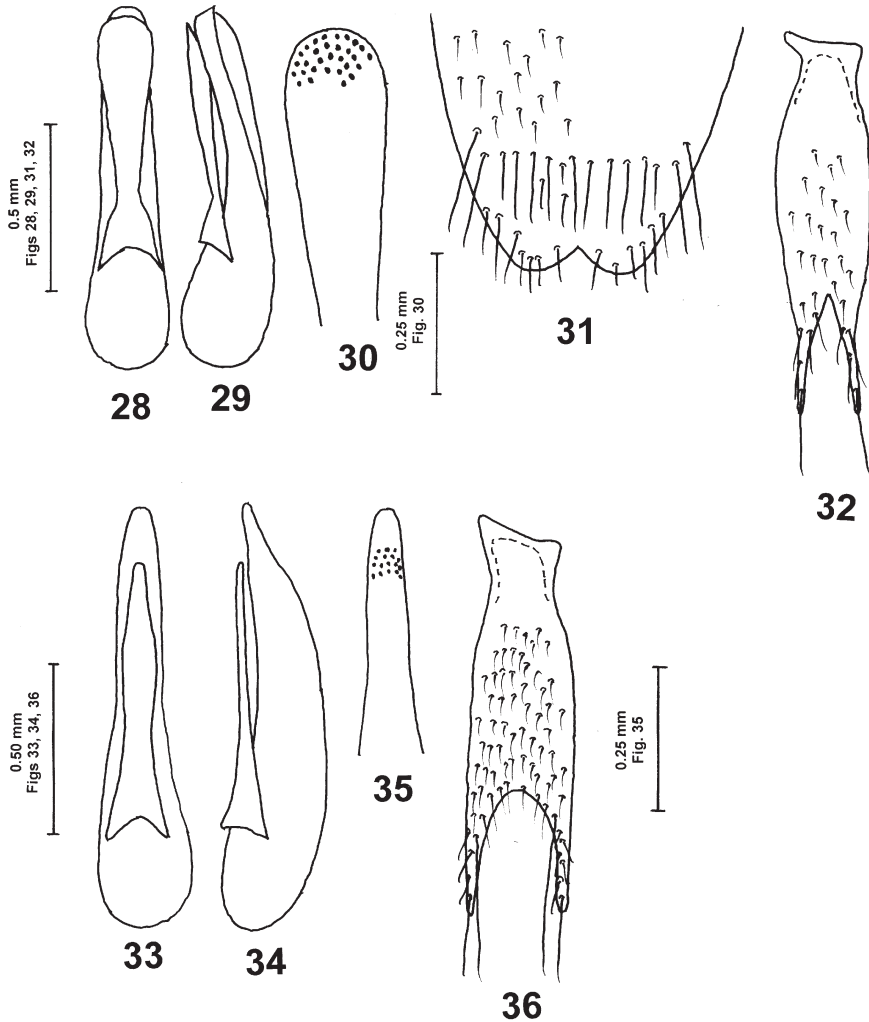
Type material examined. HOLOTYPE: ♂, 'Natal, Sharp Coll. 1905-313, // *Philonthus eccoptomus* Tottenham, TYPE [ochre oblong label, handwritten] // Holotype: ♂, *Philonthus eccoptomus* Tottenham, det. 1962 R.G., Booth, 2009 [white oblong label, handwritten] (BMNH).

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

Colouration. Head, pronotum and abdomen black, scutellum and elytra dark brown-violet, maxillary, labial palpi, mandibles and legs yellow-brown, antennomeres 1–3 dark brown, remaining antennomeres black. Abdomen with very conspicuous, golden to rainbow-coloured iridescence.

Head transverse, distinctly wider than long (ratio 32 : 26), posterior angles rounded, bearing one long black bristle. Four coarse punctures present between eyes, distance between

median interocular punctures three times as large as distance between medial and lateral puncture. Medial punctures shifted anteriad. Eyes flat, longer than temples (ratio 11 : 8). Surface except wide area along midline and clypeus finely and irregularly punctate. Diameter of punctures markedly larger than eye-facets, distance between punctures irregular. Surface without microsculpture.



Figs. 28–36. 28–32 – *Pseudohesperus varanus* sp. nov. (28 – aedeagus, ventral view; 29 – aedeagus, lateral view; 30 – apex of paramere with sensory peg setae, ventral view; 31 – apical portion of male sternite VIII, ventral view; 32 – male sternite IX, ventral view). 33–36 – *Pseudohesperus eccoptomus* (Tottenham, 1962) (33 – aedeagus, ventral view; 34 – aedeagus, lateral view; 35 – apex of paramere with sensory peg setae, ventral view; 36 – male sternite IX, ventral view).

Antennae slender and long, all antennomeres longer than wide, exceeding posterior margin of pronotum by antennomere 11 when reclined. Relative lengths of antennomeres 1–11: 1 = 11 units, 2 = 6.5 units, 3 = 7.5 units, 4–8 = 5.5 units, 9 and 10 = 5 units and 11 = 5.5 units.

Pronotum highly convex, parallel-sided, wider than long (ratio 37 : 35), anterior angles conspicuously deflexed, vaguely obtusely rounded, with several punctures, posterior angles markedly rounded. Wide midline impunctate, each side along midline with many variably large punctures. Surface without microsculpture.

Scutellum very finely and densely punctate, punctures as large as eye-facets, separated by one puncture diameter or slightly smaller distance.

Elytra wider than long (ratio 37 : 35), slightly widened posteriad. Punctuation fine and dense, punctures larger than those on scutellum, separated by distance mostly smaller than one puncture diameter in transverse direction. Surface without microsculpture; setation brown.

Legs. Metatarsus longer than metatibia (ratio 29 : 27), relative lengths of metatarsomeres 1–5: 1 = 9 units, 2 = 5 units, 3 = 4 units, 4 = 3 units and 5 = 7 units.

Abdomen wide, very gradually narrowed from visible tergite III towards apex. First three visible tergites with two basal lines, elevated area between lines with scattered punctures. Punctuation at base of all tergites coarser and sparser than that on elytra, becoming finer and sparser towards posterior margin of each tergite. Surface without microsculpture; setation similar to that on elytra.

Male. Protarsomeres 1–4 simple, each with few modified pale setae laterally. Sternite IX (Fig. 36), aedeagus (Figs. 33–35).

Female. Unknown.

Differential diagnosis. *Pseudohesperus eccoptomus* is quite similar to *P. tyto* sp. nov., but differs from the latter by longer eyes, coarser punctuation of abdomen and a different shape of the aedeagus. Moreover, it may be distinguished from *P. proselytus* by longer eyes and a very conspicuous, golden to rainbow-coloured iridescence of the abdomen.

Distribution. Republic of South Africa.

Pseudohesperus natalensis (Scheerpeltz, 1956) comb. nov.

(Figs. 37–40)

Hesperus natalensis Scheerpeltz, 1956: 22.

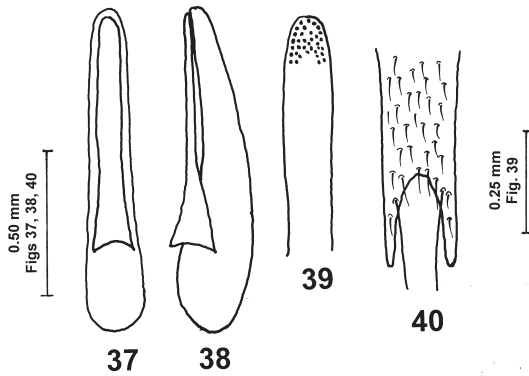
Type locality. Natal.

Type material examined. HOLOTYPE: ♂, 'Natal, 1914, // TYPUS *Hesperus natalensis* O. Scheerpeltz [red oblong label, handwritten], E. Ross – Berlin donarit 1934,' (NHMW).

Redescription. Body length 9.4 mm, length of fore body (to end of elytra) 3.9 mm.

Colouration. Head and pronotum black, with very feeble bluish tinge, scutellum and elytra dark black-violet, abdomen black, very strongly golden-violet-greenish iridescent, maxillary, labial palpi and mandibles yellow-brown, antennae dark brown, legs brown yellow, tarsi paler distally.

Head wider than long (ratio 31 : 25), parallel-sided, posterior angles obtusely rounded, midline wide impunctate, each side with many varying large punctures. Temporal area with many punctures. Four coarse punctures present between eyes, distance between medial punctures three times as large as distance between medial and lateral puncture, medial punctures



Figs. 37–40. *Pseudohesperus natalensis* (Scheerpeltz, 1956). 37 – aedagus, ventral view; 38 – aedeagus; lateral view; 39 – apex of paramere with sensory peg setae, ventral view; 40 – male sternite IX, ventral view.

markedly shifted anteriorly. Eyes large, longer than temples (ratio 12 : 10). Surface without microsculpture.

Antennae incomplete in the holotype: left antenna with only six antennomeres, right antennae with only two antennomeres. Antennomere 1 as long as antennomeres 5 and 6 combined.

Pronotum almost as long as wide, parallel-sided, anterior angles rounded, with several small punctures, posterior angles markedly rounded. Midline with wide impunctate area, punctures near midline coarse and dense, finer and sparser towards sides, diameter of smaller punctures mostly slightly larger than eye-facets, separated by 1–2 puncture diameters. Surface without microsculpture.

Scutellum densely and finely punctate, punctures as large as those on pronotum, separated by one puncture diameter in transverse direction.

Elytra wider than long (ratio 49 : 42), widened posteriorly. Punctuation very fine and dense. Diameter of punctures as large as smaller punctures on elytra, separated by one puncture diameter in transverse direction. Surface without microsculpture; setation brown.

Legs. Metatibia as long as metatarsus, metatarsomere 1 longer than metatarsomere 5, almost as long as metatarsomeres 2–4 combined.

Abdomen wide, very gradually narrowed posteriorly, first three visible tergites with two basal lines, elevated area between lines punctate. Punctuation at base of all tergites dense, most punctures droplet-shaped, sparser towards posterior margin of each tergite. Surface without microsculpture, setation similar to that on elytra.

Male. Protarsomeres 1–3 not dilated, protarsomere 1 almost as long as protarsomeres 2–4 combined, longer than protarsomere 5. Sternite IX (Fig. 40), aedeagus (Figs. 37–39).

Female. Unknown.

Differential diagnosis. *Pseudohesperus natalensis* may be distinguished from the similar *P. bafutensis* by a different colouration of the pronotum and abdomen, wider elytra, paler legs and a different shape of the aedeagus.

Distribution. Republic of South Africa.

***Pseudohesperus proselytus* (Herman, 2001) comb. nov.**

(Figs. 11–12)

Philonthus tamulus Tottenham, 1949:358 (junior primary homonym of *P. tamulus* Cameron, 1932).*Philonthus proselytus* Herman, 2001: 47 (replacement name).**Type locality.** Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kivu, Tshibinda.**Type material examined.** HOLOTYPE: ♀, 'Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kivu: Tshibinda, xi, 1932, L Burgeon, Musée du Congo, // *Philonthus tamulus*, Tottenham, Type [yellow square label, handwritten]' (MRAC).**Redescription.** Body length 7.5 mm, length of fore body (to end of elytra) 3.4 mm.

Colouration. Head black, pronotum black-brown, elytra including suture black, abdomen pitchy brown, golden-bluish iridescent, maxillary palpi and labial palpi yellow-brown, mandibles brown, slightly paler distally, antennae black, legs pitchy brown with femora vaguely lighter.

Head wider than long (ratio 24 : 20), sides very slightly rounded, posterior angles obtusely rounded, base straight. Four coarse punctures present between eyes, distance between medial interocular punctures four times as long as distance between medial and lateral puncture, medial punctures slightly shifted anteriorly, outer punctures situated halfway between inner punctures and marginal punctures of eyes, one or two much smaller shallow punctures present behind these; temples with several variably large punctures. Eyes flat, slightly shorter than temples (ratio 7 : 8). Surface with very fine, almost inconspicuous microsculpture.

Antennae slender and long, all antennomeres longer than wide, exceeding posterior margin of pronotum by length of antennomere 2 when reclined. Relative lengths of antennomeres 1–11: 1 = 7 units, 2 and 3 = 5 units, 4 and 5 = 4.5 units, 6 and 7 = 4 units, 8–10 = 3.5 units and 11 = 6 units.

Pronotum highly convex, as wide as long, vaguely narrowed anteriorly, anterior angles conspicuously deflexed, obtusely rounded, posterior angles markedly rounded. Each dorsal row irregular, consisting of about four coarse punctures and 5–6 very small but distinct punctures (number of punctures in dorsal row difficult to state owing to its irregular nature), other similar small and 1–2 larger punctures scattered over whole lateral area, surface with microsculpture similar to that on head.

Scutellum sparsely and finely punctate, punctures smaller than eye-facets, separated by 1.5–2 puncture diameters in transverse direction.

Elytra combined wider than long (ratio 39 : 36), slightly widened posteriorly, very finely and densely punctate, with several distinctly larger punctures in indistinct longitudinal rows.

Legs. Metatarsus shorter than metatibia (ratio 21 : 23), relative lengths of metatarsomeres 1–5: 1 = 6 units, 2 = 3.5 units, 3 = 3 units, 4 = 2.5 units and 5 = 5 units.

Abdomen wide, very slightly and gradually narrowed towards apex. First four visible tergites with two basal lines, elevated area between lines with scattered punctures. Punctuation at base of all tergites coarser and sparser than on elytra, gradually becoming finer and sparser towards posterior margin of each tergite. Surface without microsculpture; setation similar to that on elytra.

Male. Unknown.

Female. Protarsomeres 1–4 simple, each with few modified pale setae laterally. Tergite X (Fig. 11), gonocoxite of female genital segment (Fig. 12).

Differential diagnosis. *Pseudohesperus proselytus* may be distinguished from *P. apsilus* sp. nov. by a narrower head, shorter antennae and sparser punctuation of the abdomen, from *P. bafutensis* by a narrower head, longer antennae and sparser punctuation of the scutellum, from *P. conradti* by a narrower head, shorter antennae, darker antennomere 1 and sparser punctuation of the scutellum, pronotal sides and abdomen, from *P. eccoptomus* by shorter eyes and the lack of rainbow-coloured iridescence of the abdomen, from *P. tauraco* sp. nov. by a narrower head, shorter antennae and denser punctuation of the scutellum, from *P. tyto* sp. nov. by a narrower head, shorter antennae, darker antennomere 1 and sparser punctuation of the scutellum and abdomen, and from *P. varanus* sp. nov. by a narrower head and shorter eyes and antennae.

Distribution. Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Pseudohesperus tauraco sp. nov.

(Figs. 13–17)

Type locality. Democratic Republic of the Congo, Massif Ruwenzori, Kyandolire, 1700 m a.s.l.

Type material. HOLOTYPE: ♂, 'Democratic Republic of the Congo ['Congo Belge'], Massif Ruwenzori, Kyandolire, 1700 m, Camp des Gardé (terreau), 7.-9.x.1952, P. Vanschuytbroeck & J. Kekenbosch 1136-39 // Holotypus, *Pseudo-hesperus tauraco* sp. nov., Hromádka det. 2010 [red oblong label, printed] (MRAC). PARATYPES: **DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO:** ♀, Massif Ruwenzori, Kyandolire, 1.750 m, Riv. Mulaku, Kakalari (terreau), ['Congo Belge']: P.N.A., 16.X.1952, P. Vanschuytbroeck & J. Kekenbosch, 1302 (MRAC); ♀, Massif Ruwenzori, Kalonge, 2.060 m, Ruiss, Kalambure affl. Katauleko, ['Congo Belge']: P.N.A. 30.i.-21.ii.1953, P. Vanschuytbroeck & J. Kekenbosch 2225-59 (MRAC), ♀, Massif Ruwenzori, Kalonge, 2.210 m (terreau), ['Congo Belge']: P.N.A., 4.ix.1952, P. Vanschuytbroeck & J. Kekenbosch 934 (MRAC), ♂, Kivu: T. Kalohe, Btale, N.O. Kahusi, 1600m, 29.vi.1951, N. Leleup, Récolté dans l'humus (LHPC); ♀, Massif Ruwenzori, Kalonge 2.010m Riv. Nyamwamba, affl. Butahu, ['Congo Belge']: P.N.A., 2.-3.ii.1953, P. Vanschuytbroeck & J. Kekenbosch 2214-21 (MRAC); ♂, Massif Ruwenzori 1.780m, Kyandolire, 1780m, R. Bwisonge, affl. Butahu (terreau), ['Congo Belge']: P.N.A. 12.x.1952, P. Vanschuytbroeck & J. Kekenbosch 1253-57 (MRAC); ♂, Massif Ruwenzori, Kalonge, 2.480m. (ét bambus), R. Nyamwamba-Ihonger, ['Congo Belge']: P.N.A., 26-27.viii.1952, P. Vanschuytbroeck & J. Kekenbosch (MRAC); ♀, Massif Ruwenzori, Kyandolire, 1750m, Riv. Mulaku af Kakalari (terreau), ['Congo Belge']: P.N.A., 14.x.1952, P. Vanschuytbroeck & J. Kekenbosch (LHPC). Each paratype is provided with a red printed paratype label.

Description. Body length 6.1 mm, length of fore body (to end of elytra) 3.5 mm.

Colouration. Head black, pronotum, scutellum, elytra and abdomen black-brown, mandibles, maxillary and labial palpi brown, apex of labial and maxillary palpomeres 3 yellow-brown, antennae black, femora and tarsomeres 5 of all tarsi brown-yellow, tibiae and remaining tarsomeres dark brown.

Head transverse, markedly wider than long (ratio 27 : 20), parallel-sided. Posterior angles obtusely rounded. Eyes flat, slightly longer than temples (ratio 8 : 7). Four coarse punctures present between eyes, distance between medial interocular punctures four times as large as distance between medial and lateral puncture. Medial punctures distinctly shifted anteriorly. Middle portion of head with wide impunctate median area, each side and temple area with several variably large punctures. Posterior margin of each eye with two coarse punctures. Surface without microsculpture.

Antennae very long, exceeding posterior margin of pronotum by antennomeres 10 and 11 when reclined. All antennomeres longer than wide. Relative lengths of antennomeres 1–11: 1 = 10 units, 2 and 3 = 7 units, 4 = 6 units, 5 and 6 = 5.5 units, 7–10 = 5 units and 11 = 6 units.

Pronotum highly convex, wider than long (ratio 30 : 28), anterior angles conspicuously deflexed, vaguely obtusely rounded, posterior angles markedly rounded. Each dorsal row with 4–5 large punctures, and 9–10 small punctures, middle portion of pronotum with wide impunctate longitudinal band. Each side with many irregularly arranged small punctures and several large punctures between them. Surface without microsculpture.

Scutellum very finely punctate, punctures smaller than eye-facets and separated by two puncture diameters in transverse direction; setation black.

Elytra combined wider than long (ratio 38 : 33), hardly widened posteriad. Punctuation very fine and sparse, punctures smaller than eye-facets, separated by 2–3 puncture diameters. Surface without microsculpture; setation dark.

Legs. Metatarsus about as long as metatibia. Relative lengths of metatarsomeres 1–5: 1 = 10 units, 2 = 5 units, 3 = 4.5 units, 4 = 4 units and 5 = 7 units.

Abdomen wide, very slightly narrowed towards apex. First three visible tergites with two basal lines, elevated area between lines with scattered punctures. Punctuation of visible tergites finer and much sparser than that on elytra, becoming sparser towards posterior margin of each tergite. Surface between punctures without microsculpture. Setation similar to that on elytra.

Male. Protarsomeres 1–4 simple, each with few modified pale setae laterally. Sternite VIII (Fig. 16), sternite IX (Fig. 17), aedeagus (Figs. 13–15).

Female. Unknown.

Differential diagnosis. *Pseudohesperus tauraco* sp. nov. may be distinguished from *P. tyto* sp. nov. by a narrower and sparser punctuation of the head and a different shape of the aedeagus and from *P. proselytus* by a wider head, shorter antennae and denser punctuation of the scutellum.

Etymology. The name of this species, a noun in apposition, is the Latin generic name of the African red-crested turaco *Tauraco erythrolophus* (Vieillot, 1819).

Distribution. Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Pseudohesperus tyto sp. nov.

(Figs. 23–27)

Type locality. Ethiopia, Shoa, Sodere.

Type material. HOLOTYPE: ♂, 'ETHIOPIA: Shoa, Sodere, 1971 // HOLOTYPE *Pseudohesperus tyto* sp. nov. Hromádka det. [red oblong label, printed]' (MRAC). PARATYPES: ETHIOPIA: 3 ♂♂, Abessin, Maraco, 5.v.1914 (LHPC); 1 ♂, Abyssinie // *Tottenham megalopoides* Tottenham, TYPE [ochre oblong label, handwritten] (IRSB).

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO: 1 ♂, Congo Belge, Libenge, 29.iv.1948, R. Cremer – M. Neuman (IRSB).

Description. Body length 8.3–8.9 mm, length of fore body (to end of elytra) 4.2–4.6 mm.

Colouration. Head and pronotum black, scutellum slightly pitchy, abdomen black, conspicuously blue-golden iridescent, mandibles, maxillary and labial palpi brown, anterior half

of palpomere 3 yellow-brown, ventral side of antennomere 1 yellow-brown, dorsal side and antennomeres 2 and 3 dark brown, remaining antennomeres black, legs pitchy with femora hardly lighter.

Head markedly transverse, wider than long (ratio 32 : 22), parallel-sided, posterior angles obtusely rounded, bearing one long black bristle each. Eyes flat, hardly longer than temples (ratio 10 : 9), base straight. Four coarse punctures present between eyes, distance between medial interocular punctures 2.5 times as long as distance between medial and lateral puncture. Middle portion of head with relatively wide impunctate longitudinal band. Each side and temporal area with many punctures of variable size. Surface with very fine microsculpture.

Antennae very long, exceeding posterior margin of pronotum by the length of antennomere 1 when reclined. All antennomeres longer than wide. Relative lengths of antennomeres 1–11: 1 = 10 units, 2 = 5 units, 3 = 6 units, 4–9 = 5 units, 10 = 4.5 units and 11 = 5 units.

Pronotum highly convex, hardly wider than long (ratio 33 : 31), each anterior angle strongly deflexed, obtusely rounded, posterior angles conspicuously rounded. Middle portion of pronotum with wide impunctate longitudinal band. Each dorsal row irregular, consisting of four large and 5–6 small but distinct punctures, number of punctures difficult to state owing to its irregularity; other similarly small and 1–2 larger punctures diffusely scattered over whole lateral area. Surface with microsculpture similar to that on head.

Scutellum finely punctate, punctures as large as eye-facets, separated by one puncture diameter in transverse direction; setation black.

Elytra vaguely wider than long (ratio 42 : 40), very slightly widened posteriad. Punctuation fine and dense, diameter of punctures somewhat larger than those on scutellum, separated by 1–1.5 puncture diameters. Surface without microsculpture; setation greyish.

Legs. Metatarsus as long as metatibia. Metatarsomere 1 longer than metatarsomere 5. Relative lengths of metatarsomeres 1–5: 1 = 8 units, 2 = 4 units, 3 = 3.5 units, 4 = 3 units and 5 = 6 units.

Abdomen slightly narrowed from visible tergite III towards apex. First three visible tergites with two basal lines, elevated area between lines sparsely punctate. Base of each tergite finely and densely punctate, gradually becoming finer and much sparser towards posterior margin of tergite. Surface between tergites without microsculpture; setation similar to that on elytra.

Male. Protarsomeres 1–4 simple, each with few modified pale setae laterally. Sternite VIII (Fig. 26), sternite IX (Fig. 27), aedeagus (Figs. 23–25).

Female. Protarsomeres 1–4 of the same shape as in male.

Differential diagnosis. *Pseudohesperus tyto* sp. nov. may be distinguished from *P. tauraco* sp. nov. by a wider and densely punctate head and different shape of the aedeagus, from *P. eccoptomus* by shorter eyes, finer punctuation of the abdomen and a different shape of the aedeagus, and from *P. proselytus* by a wider head, longer antennae, paler antennomere 1 and denser punctuation of the scutellum and abdomen.

Note. I have found this new species under the name *Philonthus megalopoides* identified by Tottenham in the collection of IRSB, but the species has never been formally described.

Etymology. The name of this species, a noun in apposition, is the Latin generic name of the African grass-owl *Tyto capensis* (Smith, 1834).

Distribution. Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia.



Fig. 41. Distribution of the Afrotropical *Pseudohesperus*. ● – *P. apsilus* sp. nov.; ♣ – *P. bafutensis* (Levasseur, 1967); ♥ – *P. conradti* (Bernhauer, 1912); ▼ – *P. eccoptomus* (Tottenham, 1962); × – *P. natalensis* (Scheerpeltz, 1956); ○ – *P. proselytus* (Herman, 2001); ◇ – *P. tauraco* sp. nov.; * – *P. tyto* sp. nov.; + – *P. varanus* sp. nov.

Pseudohesperus varanus sp. nov.

(Figs. 28–32)

Type locality. Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kibali-Ituri, Blukwa 1820–2100 m a.s.l.

Type material examined. HOLOTYPE: ♂, ‘Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kibali-Ituri 1820–2100m, (Dans humus en forêt) i. 1954, N. Leleup // HOLOTYPE, *Pseudohesperus varanus* sp. nov., Hromádka det. 2009 [red oblong label, printed]’ (IRSB). PARATYPES: **DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO:** 1♂ 1♀, Kibali-Ituri: Terr. Djugu, Mt. Aboro, 2200 m, 1.1954, H. Leleup (IRSB, LHPC).

Description. Body length 7.5 mm, length of fore body (to end of elytra) 3.3 mm.

Colouration. Head black, pronotum black-brown, elytra and abdomen chestnut brown, scutellum and suture of elytra brown-yellow, abdomen bluish iridescent, maxillary palpi, labial palpi, femora and tarsi yellow-brown, mandibles and tibiae darker.

Head vaguely wider than long (ratio 32 : 30), distinctly narrowed posteriad, arching from posterior margin of eyes towards neck, posterior angles rounded, bearing one long black

bristle each. Eyes flat, slightly shorter than temples (ratio 8 : 9). Four coarse punctures present between eyes, distance between medial interocular punctures four times as large as distance between medial and lateral puncture. Posterior margin of eye with two coarse punctures, temporal area with several variably large punctures. Surface without microsculpture.

Antennae slender and long, exceeding posterior margin of pronotum by antennomere 11 when reclined, all antennomeres longer than wide, relative lengths of antennomeres 1–11: 1 = 9 units, 2 and 3 = 6 units, 4–7 = 5 units, 8 and 9 = 4 units, 10 = 3.5 units and 11 = 5 units.

Pronotum highly convex, almost as wide as long, parallel-sided, anterior angle with several variably large bristles, posterior angles markedly rounded. Sides bearing one long black bristle in anterior third. Each dorsal row with four coarse punctures and many small, but distinct punctures, each sublateral row with two coarse punctures, second puncture distinctly shifted laterad. Each side with several scattered punctures. Surface without microsculpture.

Scutellum finely and densely punctate, punctures as large as eye-facets, separated by one puncture diameter in transverse direction.

Elytra combined wider than long (ratio 40 : 35), hardly wider posteriorly. Punctuation slightly denser than that on scutellum. Surface between punctures without microsculpture; setation short and yellowish-brown.

Legs. Metatarsus as long as metatibia, relative lengths of metatarsomeres 1–5: 1 = 7 units, 2 = 4 units, 3 = 3.5 units, 4 = 3 units and 5 = 6 units.

Abdomen wide, very gradually narrowed towards apex. First three visible tergites with two basal lines, elevated area between basal lines with scattered punctures. Punctuation of visible tergites coarser and much sparser than that on elytra. Surface without microsculpture, very shiny; setation longer, yellowish-brown.

Male. Protarsomeres 1–4 simple, each with few modified pale setae laterally. Sternite VIII (Fig. 31), sternite IX (Fig. 32), aedeagus (Figs. 28–30).

Female. Unknown.

Differential diagnosis. *Pseudohesperus varanus* sp. nov. can be separated from *P. proselytus* by a wider head, longer eyes and antennae and different shape of the aedeagus, from *P. bafutensis* by a finer punctuation of the elytra, sparser punctuation of the abdomen and different shape of the aedeagus and from *P. proselytus* by a wider head and longer eyes and antennae.

Etymology. The name of this species, a noun in apposition, is the Latin generic name of the African rock monitor *Varanus albigularis* Daudin, 1802.

Distribution. Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Taxonomic notes on the subtribe *Philonthina*

New synonyms

Philonthus (s. str.) *ichor* Tottenham, 1961

Philonthus ichor Tottenham, 1961: 204.

Philonthus (s. str.) *parasanguineus* Levasseur, 1962: 242, **syn. nov.**

Material examined: *P. ichor*: PARATYPE: ♂, Senegal, Bad: Wassadou (IRSB). *P. parasanguineus*: HOLOTYPE: ♂, Senegal, Thies (MNHN).

***Philonthus* (s. str.) *rubrovittatus* Tottenham, 1949**

Philonthus rubrovittatus Tottenham, 1949: 320.

Philonthus (s. str.) *nimeaglius* Tottenham, 1962: 172, **syn. nov.**

Material examined. *P. rubrovittatus*: HOLOTYPE: ♀, Belgian Congo [= Democratic Republic of the Congo], Kivu: Lulenga (MRAC). *P. nimeaglius*: PARATYPE: ♂, Kenya, Mau Escarpment 2150-2200 m (BMNH).

***Philonthus* (s. str.) *taterae* Scheerpeltz, 1951**

Philonthus taterae Scheerpeltz, 1951: 27.

Philonthus (s. str.) *discoideisimilis* Scheerpeltz, 1974: 149, **syn. nov.**

Material examined. *P. taterae*: HOLOTYPE: ♂, South Africa, Vrededorp (NHMW). *P. discoideisimilis*: 'COTYPE': ♂, Cape: Prov.: Near Areb Mnt. (NHMW).

***Philonthus* (s. str.) *ventralis* Gravenhorst, 1802**

Philonthus ventralis Gravenhorst, 1802: 174.

Philonthus (s. str.) *flandrianus* Cameron, 1952: 329, **syn. nov.**

Material examined. *P. ventralis*: ♂, Ethiopia, Bele 8km. W of Dinshu (LHPC). *P. flandrianus*: PARATYPE: ♂, Democratic Republic of the Congo: Tshuapa: Flandra (IRSB).

***Philonthus* (s. str.) *wittei* Bernhauer, 1932**

Philonthus wittei Bernhauer, 1932: 149.

Philonthus (s. str.) *captivus* Levasseur, 1966: 1497. **Syn. nov.**

Material examined. *P. wittei*: HOLOTYPE: ♂, Belgian Congo [= Democratic Republic of the Congo], Katanga: Kansenia (FMNH). *P. captivus*: HOLOTYPE: ♂, Belgian Congo [= Democratic Republic of the Congo], Reg. Kolwezi, Katanga, Musonoie (MNHN).

***Gabronthus maritimus* Motschulsky, 1858**

Gabronthus maritimus Motschulsky, 1858: 661.

Philonthus meridioafricanus Scheerpeltz, 1974: 158, **syn. nov.**

Material examined. *G. maritimus*: ♂, Ethiopia, Bale 8km W of Dinshu (LHPC). *P. meridioafricanus*: SYNTYPE: ♂ SW Afr. Kaokoveld Anabib 100 miles W Ohopoho (NHMW).

New combinations

The generic transfers proposed in this paper are based on the following generic characters:

1. Species transferred from *Philonthus* to *Gabrius*: In *Philonthus*, the last labial palpomere is at most slightly more slender than the penultimate palpomere; in contrast, the last labial palpomere is slender and narrower than the penultimate palpomere in *Bisnius* as in *Gabrius*.

2. Species transferred from *Gabrius* to *Gabronthus*: In *Gabrius*, the last labial palpomere is slender and distinctly narrower than the penultimate palpomere, whereas the penultimate labial palpomere is slightly swollen and the last palpomere is distinctly narrower than the penultimate one in *Gabronthus* and *Philonthus*.

***Gabrius definitus* (Cameron, 1950) comb. nov.**

Philonthus (s. str.) *definitus* Cameron, 1965: 35.

Material examined. HOLOTYPE: ♀, Belgian Congo [= Democratic Republic of the Congo], vers Rweru, volc. Mikeno, alt. 2400 m. (MRAC).

***Gabrius dubiosus* (Bernhauer, 1936) comb. nov.**

Philonthus (s. str.) *dubiosus* Bernhauer, 1936: 324.

Material examined. HOLOTYPE: ♀, Ostafrika, Katamayu, sept. 1934, A. F. J. Gerte (FMNH).

***Gabrius elypticus* (Bernhauer, 1932) comb. nov.**

Philonthus (s. str.) *elypticus* Bernhauer, 1932: 150.

Material examined. HOLOTYPE: ♂, Belgian Congo [= Democratic Republic of the Congo], Haut-Uele: Moto (FMNH).

***Gabrius gerardi* (Bernhauer, 1928) comb. nov.**

Philonthus (s. str.) *gerardi* Bernhauer, 1928: 108.

Material examined. HOLOTYPE: ♂, [Belgian Congo], Manyema, Sibatawa Kilengwe (FMNH).

***Gabrius gongulus* (Tottenham, 1949) comb. nov.**

Philonthus (s. str.) *gongulus* Tottenham, 1949: 356.

Material examined. HOLOTYPE: ♂, [Belgian Congo], Kivu: N'Gama (MRAC).

***Gabrius rudiventris* (Bernhauer, 1937) comb. nov.**

Philonthus (s. str.) *rudiventris* Bernhauer, 1937: 603.

Material examined. HOLOTYPE: ♀, D. Ostafrika [= Deutsche Ostafrika, i.e. German East Africa, referring to Tanzania], Kahama (FMNH).

***Gabrius separatus* (Cameron, 1950) comb. nov.**

Philonthus (s. str.) *separatus* Cameron, 1950: 38.

Material examined. PARATYPE: ♀, Congo Belge [= Democratic Republic of the Congo], Nyasheke (Nyamuragira, 1820 m) [Congo Belge] (IRSB).

***Gabronthus heterocerus* (Cameron, 1950) comb. nov.**

Gabrius heterocerus Cameron, 1950: 42.

Material examined. PARATYPE: ♀, [Belgian Congo], Mt. Sesero, près Bitashimwa, 200m (IRSB).

***Gabronthus kamatembeanus* (Cameron, 1950), comb. nov.**

Gabrius kamatembeanus Cameron, 1950: 38.

Material examined. PARATYPE: ♀, Belgian Congo, forest near Mont Kamatembe, 2200m (IRSB).

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