

Bonn. zool. Beitr.	Bd. 47	H. 1—2	S. 95—98	Bonn, September 1997
--------------------	--------	--------	----------	----------------------

## A new species of *Notolaemus* Lefkovitch from Rwanda (Coleoptera: Laemophloeidae)

Michael Karner

Abstract. *Notolaemus wagneri* n. sp. from Rwanda is diagnosed, described and illustrated. Brief notes on the genus *Notolaemus* are given.

Key words. Coleoptera, Laemophloeidae, *Notolaemus*, description, Rwanda.

### Introduction

In his study of European Laemophloeinae, Lefkovitch (1959) described the genus *Notolaemus* with two species, *Notolaemus castaneus* (Erichson) and *N. unifasciatus* (Latreille), and mentioned that the genus is also represented in Asia, America, and Africa. Later, Lefkovitch (1962) provided a key to the African Laemophloeidae and recorded eight species of *Notolaemus*. Except for the genus *Cryptolestes* Ganglbauer (which is, because of the economic importance of some species, comparatively well-studied [Thomas 1988], little work has been done on this family since then. It is to be expected, therefore, that the great majority of Laemophloeidae is still undiscovered. A small but very interesting sample of Laemophloeidae and Silvanidae collected near the Akagera National Park, Rwanda, by Thomas Wagner (Bonn), included a new species of *Notolaemus* which is described here.

### *Notolaemus wagneri* n. sp.

Types: Male holotype in Zoologisches Forschungsinstitut und Museum Alexander Koenig, Bonn (ZFMK), with following data: "Rwanda, Rusumo / Ibanda Makera, X. / Th. Wagner leg. 93". 9 Paratypes with same data, in ZFMK (1 ♂, 5 ♀) and in the author's collection (1 ♂, 2 ♀).

### Diagnosis

*Notolaemus wagneri* n. sp. is similar to *N. liganus* Lefkovitch and *N. perspicuus* (Grouvelle), it can be differentiated from *N. liganus* by greater body length (see Discussion), longer antennae, and from both species by its more prominent, irregularly rounded eyes and by the structure of the male genitalia.

### Description

Length 1.63—2.00 mm, body flattened, moderately shining, testaceous; habitus as in fig. 1. Head transverse, length (from apical margin of clypeus at its middle to imaginary line between hind margins of eyes) 0.30—0.39 mm, width (across eyes) 0.45—0.65 mm, width : length = 1.45—1.70; dorsal surface of head near antennal insertions and along median line shallowly impressed. Eyes prominent, irregularly rounded. Front margin of head with flat antennal and deeper mandibular emarginations, labral emargination evenly rounded. Clypeus emarginate anteriorly, with distinct microreticulation. Disc of head shining, almost impunctate medially, laterally punctate, puncture diameter 1.5—2.0 times that of eye facet and punctures separated by on an average their diameter, pubescence very fine, setae about as long as

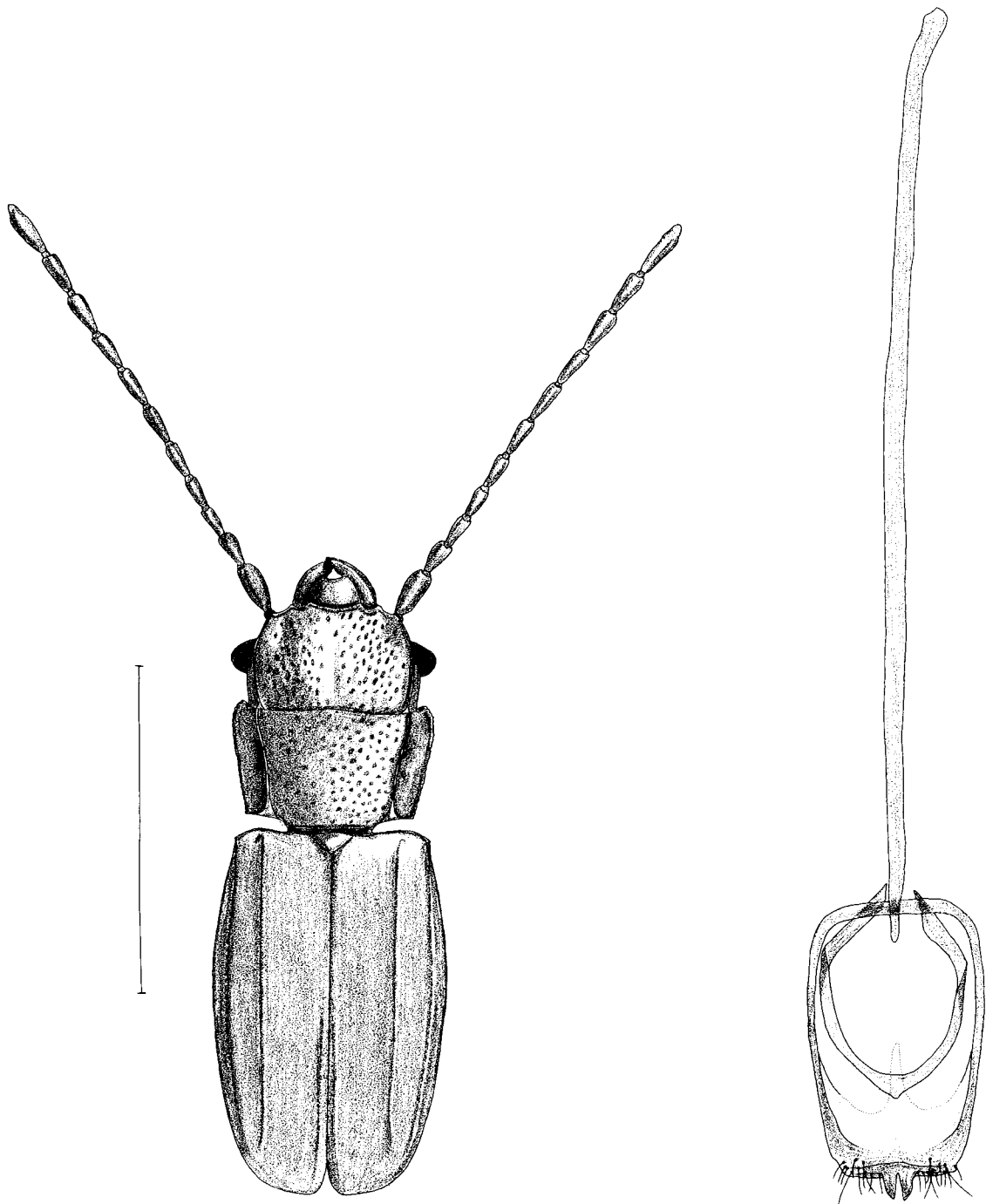


Fig. 1: Habitus of *Notolaemus wagneri* n. sp. (scale line 1 mm).

Fig. 2: Male genitalia of *Notolaemus wagneri* n. sp. (holotype, scale line 0.25 mm).

puncture diameter; surface between punctures somewhat uneven, on lateral parts of head with indistinct microreticulation.

Antennae long and slender, length 1.00–1.43 mm, reaching almost three quarters of body length in males, in females a little shorter, about 0.6 times as long as body. Ratios of length of antennomeres I–XI as: 1:0.6:0.7:0.6:0.75:0.8:0.85:0.8:0.85:0.9:1.15 (male holotype), or 1:0.6:0.5:0.55:0.5:0.6:0.6:0.55:0.7:0.7:1 (female paratype).

Pronotum transverse, length 0.31–0.43 mm, width 0.46–0.63 mm, width:length = 1.35–1.56; broadest at apical fourth in males, at apical third or somewhat closer to the midpoint in females; posterior angles obtuse, anterior angles acute, rectangular; lateral margin very slightly crenulate. Sublateral lines consisting of internal groove and basally broadened raised ridge. A longitudinal impression located laterad to sublateral line at about midpoint of pronotum.

Puncture size as on head, punctures separated by about 1–2 times their diameter; surface between punctures shining, with sparse microsculpture consisting of very fine and short lines (magnification 80 times).

Elytra evenly curved laterally, length (measured along suture, including scutellum) 0.95–1.2 mm, width (across maximum joint width) 0.60–0.75 mm, length:width = 1.50–1.63. Humerus with small, tooth-like projection, sutural stria present only on apical half of elytra, elytral cells I and II absent, cell III impressed basally, only inner stria extending apically, lateral carina complete.

Male genitalia as in fig. 2.

Derivatio nominis: Dedicated to Thomas Wagner, collector of the new species.

Variation: In a single female paratype, two rounded impressions near the pronotal base on both sides of the inner third are present. No further differences to the other specimens at hand could be observed, so this may be a unique deformation.

### Discussion

The study of the holotype and six paratypes of *Notolaemus liganus* showed that the body length ranges from 1.35 to 1.55 mm (using a calibrated ocular micrometer), differing considerably from the data according to Lefkovitch (1962). Lefkovitch (1962) described the sublateral lines on the pronotum of *Notolaemus* as represented by raised ridges. Nevertheless, the sublateral lines of both *N. liganus* and *N. wagneri* n. sp. consist of a raised ridge and an internal groove. The transverse sectional view of the pronotum of *N. clarus* (Grouvelle) given by Lefkovitch (1962) also shows distinct internal grooves.

The genus *Notolaemus* seems to be composed of some species — groups whose systematic positions are far from clear. Lefkovitch (1962) stated that the African species *Notolaemus picinus* (Grouvelle) belongs to what he called “*unifasciatus* group”, whereas the other African species are closer to *N. castaneus*. However, the comparison of e.g. *N. liganus* with *N. castaneus* hardly reveals greater similarity than there is between *N. castaneus* and *N. unifasciatus*. Any division of the genus *Notolaemus* into subgenera or even species groups is obviously premature until much more work has been done especially on tropical species.

### Acknowledgements

The author would like to thank Dr. N. Berti (Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris) and Dr. E. De Coninck (Museum Royal de l'Afrique Centrale, Tervuren) for the loan of types, Dr. Th. Wagner (Zoologisches Forschungsinstitut und Museum Alexander Koenig, Bonn) for the opportunity to study his material, and Christine Ott (Frankfurt am Main), Dr. D. Burckhardt (Geneva), Bernd Franzen (Cologne), and Dr. M. C. Thomas (Gainesville) for reading and criticizing the manuscript.

**Zusammenfassung**

*Notolaemus wagneri*, eine neue afrikanische Laemophloeide, wird diagnostiziert, beschrieben und abgebildet. Die Zusammensetzung der Gattung *Notolaemus* wird kurz diskutiert.

**Literature**

- Lefkovich, L. P. (1959): A revision of European Laemophloeidae (Coleoptera: Cucujidae). — Trans. R. Ent. Soc. London 111: 95–118.
- Lefkovich, L. P. (1962): A revision of African Laemophloeinae (Coleoptera: Cucujidae). — Bull. British Mus. Nat. Hist. (Ent.) 12: 167–245.
- Thomas, M. C. (1988): A revision of the New World Species of *Cryptolestes* Ganglbauer (Coleoptera: Cucujidae: Laemophloeinae). — Insecta Mundi 2: 43–65.

Michael Karner, c/o Dr. D. Kovac, Sektion Entomologie I, Senckenbergisches Naturforschendes Institut, Senckenberganlage 25, D-60325 Frankfurt.