

# THE GENUS *EURYLEONUS* BEDEL, 1907 WITH DESCRIPTION OF *E. AMON*, SP. N. FROM SINAI (COLEOPTERA: CURCULIONIDAE: CLEONINAE)

**Massimo Meregalli**

V. Tagliamento, 2

10040 RIVALTA. TORINO. ITALY

## ABSTRACT

**The genus *Eurycleonus* Bedel, 1907 with description of *E. amon* n. sp. from Sinai (Coleoptera: Curculionidae: Cleoninae).**

The genus *Eurycleonus* Bedel, 1907 is revised. Its nomenclatural history is summarized and the systematic position of the species ascribed to the genus discussed. *E. amon* sp. n. from Sinai is described and a key to the species is given. The following new combinations are proposed: *Temnorhinus persicus* (Chevrolat, 1873) **comb. n.**, from *Exochus* Chevrolat, 1873 and *Isomerops baluchicus* (Marshall, 1913) **comb. n.**, from *Eurycleonus*. A lectotype for this last species is designated.

**Key words:** Coleoptera, Curculionidae, Cleoninae, *Eurycleonus*, systematics, Maghreb fauna, Sinai fauna.

## INTRODUCTION

The discovery of a new species of *Eurycleonus* Bedel, 1907 suggested a revision of taxonomy and nomenclature of the genus. *Eurycleonus* was first described as *Exochus* Chevrolat, 1873, a junior homonym of *Exochus* Gravenhorst, 1829. FAUST (1904) replaced *Exochus* Chevrolat with *Epilectus* Faust, 1904, a junior homonym of *Epilectus* Blackburn, 1888. Finally, BEDEL (1907) replaced *Epilectus* Faust with *Eurycleonus* (CSIKI, 1934; NEAVE, 1939). The type species, originally designated by CHEVROLAT (1873), is *Leucochromus gigas* Marseul, 1868.

Before discussing the nomenclatural history of *Eurycleonus* it is necessary to recall that several misconceptions and misapplications of genus-group names occurred in the past in tribe Cleonini. Most of these were corrected by ALONSO-ZARAZAGA & LYAL (1999) and the genus-group names used throughout this study follow their publication.

CHEVROLAT (1873) included three species in *Exochus* in addition to *E. gigas*: *E. latus* Chevrolat, 1873 from Kirghizia, *E. simplicirostris* Chevrolat, 1873 from Persia and *E. persicus* Chevrolat, 1873 from Persia. The first name is of uncertain application; FAUST (1904) suggested that it could be a synonym of *Epilectus lehmanni* (Ménétries, 1849), now in *Epexochus* Reitter 1913, without justifying his

opinion. *E. simplicirostris* was transferred by FAUST (1904) to *Meneclonus* Faust, 1904. *Exochus persicus* was neither mentioned by FAUST (1904), nor was it subsequently considered in any systematic study; CSIKI (1934) listed it under *Eurycleonus* Bedel. However, CHEVROLAT (1873) had underlined its similarity with *Temnorhinus mimosae* Olivier, 1807. From the original description *Exochus persicus* indeed seems to belong to *Temnorhinus*, because the granulate pronotum and elytra in particular suggesting this combination.

The new combination proposed is:

*Temnorhinus persicus* (Chevrolat, 1873) **comb. n.**

*Exochus persicus* Chevrolat, 1873: 4.

FAUST (1904) included two species in *Epilectus* Faust: *E. gigas* and *E. lehmanni*, both originally described in *Leucochromus* Motschulsky, 1860. As previously mentioned, Faust included *Exochus latus* as a possible synonym of the latter (cf. FAUST, 1904: 208). Subsequently, REITTER (1913) transferred *Epilectus lehmanni* to the monotypic genus *Epexochus* Reitter, 1913, a taxon which seems to be phylogenetically related to *Eurycleonus* and, according to recently examined material, probably contains some undescribed species.

MARSHALL (1913) described *Epilectus baluchicus* from Baluchistan; this name was subsequently combined with *Eurycleonus* by CSIKI (1934). This species has not since been collected; thanks to my colleagues Chris Lyal and Sharon Shute I have examined two syntypes of *E. baluchicus*, conserved at the Natural History Museum in London. The species belongs to *Isomerops* Reitter, 1913.

The new combination proposed is:

*Isomerops baluchicus* (Marshall, 1913) **comb. n.**

*Epilectus baluchicus* Marshall, 1913: 225.

*Eurycleonus baluchicus* (Marshall): CSIKI, 1934: 39.

Lectotype: specimen ♀ conserved at the BMNH, with the following labels:

1. red round label "Type H.T."
2. Baluchistan, Quetta, S. Massy
3. *Epilectus baluchicus* Mshl., TYPE, ♀
4. *Epilectus baluchicus* Marshall, LECTOTYPUS, 2000 Meregalli des. (red label)
5. *Isomerops baluchicus* (Marshall), 2000 Meregalli det.

Paralectotype: specimen ♂ conserved at the BMNH, with the following labels:

1. Nuskki district, Baluchistan, E. Vredenberg
2. *Epilectus baluchicus* Mshl. ♂
3. *Epilectus baluchicus* Marshall, PARALECTOTYPUS, 2000 Meregalli des. (red label)
4. *Isomerops baluchicus* (Marshall), 2000 Meregalli det.

At present, therefore, only *E. gigas* can be ascribed to the genus *Eurycleonus*.

## **EURYCLEONUS** Bedel, 1907

Type species: *Leucochromus gigas* Marseul, 1868, by original designation (CHEVROLAT, 1873: 3, sub *Exochus* Chevrolat).

*Exochus* Chevrolat, 1873: 2 (nec *Exochus* Gravenhorst, 1829).

*Epilectus* Faust, 1904: 183, nomen novum pro *Exochus* Chevrolat, 1873 (nec *Epilectus* Blackburn, 1888).

*Euryleonus* Bedel, 1907: 43, nomen novum pro *Exochus* Chevrolat, 1873.

*Euryleonus* Bedel: REITTER, 1913: 40.

*Euryleonus* Bedel: CSIKI, 1934: 39.

#### Description

Size very large (18-33 mm), oblong, very robust in form. Dorsum with mainly bifurcate, in spots trifurcate, glossy scales, connate near base and with strong and long teeth. Underside with two- to four-toothed scales.

Rostrum strong, with a small obtuse middle keel which is transversely widened at the level of antennal insertion, where a small puncture is present; keel swollen into a triangular elevation at apex; epistoma moderately swollen; dorsum longitudinally depressed at sides of keel; sides of rostrum rectilinear, dorso-lateral margin rounded, without sharp edge or keel; lower side of rostrum with two flat unclothed lines directed from sides of prementum to small puncture below head. Antenna slender, segment 2 slightly longer than segment 1. Upper margin of scrobe directed to lower part of rostrum, rather distant from lower part of eye. Vestiture white, rather dense on the whole surface, except on triangular apical elevation.

Head globular; eye kidney-shaped, slightly convex. Frons flat.

Prothorax. Pronotum nearly as long as wide or scarcely longer than wide, with very thin trace of median line on the anterior half, sometimes indistinct; base rectilinear or moderately arched towards elytra, sides nearly rectilinear from base to apical quarter, then regularly constricted; postocular lobes strongly developed, with long yellow vibrissae. Surface with extremely minute punctures, evenly and densely distributed, with some sparse, isolated slightly larger punctures; granules or tubercles completely lacking; disc in profile nearly flat or convex towards base; dorso-lateral surface sometimes with depression. Prosternum with long triangular appendix between fore coxae; mesosternum with wide rectangular projection between mesocoxae; metasternum longer than diameter of mesocoxae. Fore coxae very large, rounded-conical, contiguous. Vestiture moderately dense on disc, often with two curving brownish dorsal bands; sides very densely covered by whitish scales, with some very small naked punctures.

Legs. Fore tarsus with tarsomeres 1 and 2 small, triangular, as long as wide; tarsomere 3 bilobed, nearly twice as long as tarsomere 2 in male, as long as or slightly longer than tarsomere 2 in female; onychium slender, as long as tarsomeres 2 and 3 together; sides of tarsomeres with long setae curving downwards, lower surface of tarsomere 3 with more or less complete vestiture of small and dense setae. Meso and metatarsus similar to protarsus, with tarsomere 3 shorter. Claws connate in basal quarter, robust, weakly divaricate. Fore tibia with apex perpendicularly cut, outer margin with obtuse tooth; inner tooth strong. Vestiture very dense, composed by long and large bifurcate, weakly lifted whitish scales mixed with simple very tight scales; tibiae with longer, scarcely lifted setae.

Scutellum small, triangular.

Elytra. Intervals uniformly flat or very weakly convex; striae thin, linear; single punctures scarcely distinct. Vestiture rather dense, composed of bifurcate whitish to yellowish scales, mixed with orange-brownish bifurcate scales disposed in vague patches or in even vaguer lines on the intervals or the striae.

Abdomen. Male with moderate depression on ventrites 1 and 2, female with ventrite 1 and 2 convex; ventrite 1 slightly longer than ventrite 2; ventrites 3 and 4 moderately shorter than ventrite 2. Vestiture composed by extremely dense bifurcate to tetrafurcate white scales, connate at or near base, sometimes with small naked dots and usually with large naked dot on apex of ventrite 1; ventrite 2, 3 and 4 with two brown stripes at base, ventrite 5 with wide brown stripe at base.

Genitalia. See figures. 5-12.

#### Taxonomy

*Eurycleonus* seems phyletically related to *Epexochus*. This is suggested by prothorax nearly rectilinear at base, lacking granules and middle keel, and thick and long setae curving downwards on tarsi. *Epexochus* differs for nearly untoothed scales, funicle with segment 2 not longer than 1 and claws connate only at base. Following FAUST's key to the genera of Cleonini (1904) (but not REITTER's, 1913) it is possible to end up to genus *Ammocleonus* Bedel, 1907, which lives in the same habitats (and, at least in Sinai, feeds on the same plants). This can be distinguished by base of pronotum triangularly protruded towards elytra, longer rostrum, with high and sharp keel, and untoothed scales.

#### Key to the species of *Eurycleonus* Bedel, 1907

- 1 Base of pronotum nearly straight; profile of pronotum slightly and regularly convex; elytra much wider than prothorax. Tunisia, Algeria, ? Morocco.....  
..... *Eurycleonus gigas* (Marseul, 1868)
- Base of pronotum sinuate, regularly arched towards elytra; pronotum in profile distinctly higher towards base; elytra scarcely wider than prothorax. Sinai ....  
..... *Eurycleonus amon* sp. n.

#### *Eurycleonus gigas* (Marseul, 1868)

*Leucochromus gigas* Marseul, 1868: 197 (precise publication date unknown, but almost certainly preceding the publication date of *Cleonus ellipticus* Fairmaire, 1868).

*Cleonus ellipticus* Fairmaire, 1868: 49 (publication date: December 23, 1868 according to a note at page CXLIII of the Bulletin de la Société entomologique de France, 1868).

*Exochus gigas* (Marseul): CHEVROLAT, 1873: 99.

*Epilectus gigas* (Marseul): FAUST, 1904: 208.

*Eurycleonus gigas* (Marseul): BEDEL, 1907: 43.

*Eurycleonus gigas* (Marseul): REITTER, 1913: 40.

*Eurycleonus gigas* (Marseul): CSIKI, 1934: 39.

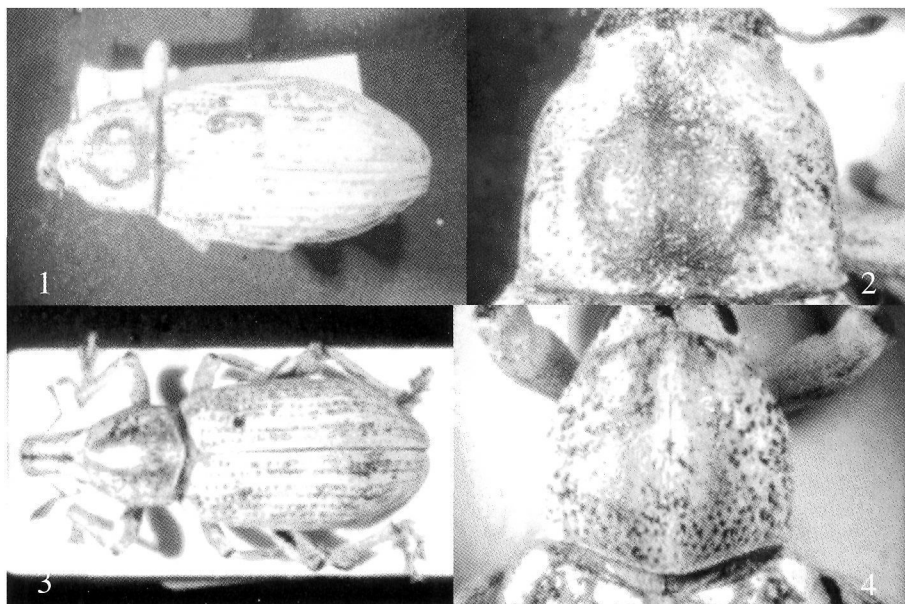
*Eurycleonus gigas* (Marseul): KOCHER, 1961: 117.

Type locality: Algeria, Tuggurt (MARSEUL, 1868) [33°07'N 06°04'E]

#### Material

Type material not seen.

Algeria: Tuggurt, Oberthur, 1 ♀ (Staatliche Museum für Tierkunde, Dresden, Germany). Tunisia: Tunis / Coll. C. Felsche, 1 ♀; Tunes, Sahara / Spatz 1896, 1 ♀; Tunesische Sahara, 1 ♀ (Staatliche Museum für Tierkunde, Dresden, Germany).



Figs. 1-4. *Eurycleonus gigas* (Marseul, 1868), Tunis: habitus (1); pronotum (2). *Eurycleonus amon* sp. n., holotypus: habitus (3); pronotum (4).

Tunis, 1 ♂ 1 ♀ (Senckenberg Museum, Frankfurt, Germany). Tunes, Douz, 30.3.1991, leg. Wewalka, 1 ♂ (Coll. Meregalli, Italy).

*Eurycleonus* sp. cf. *gigas*: Morocco: 30 km W Es-Smara, m 250, 18.III.1997, Colonnelli leg. (fragment of elytra) (Coll. Meregalli, Italy).

#### Description

Size very robust, ovate (Fig. 1). Rostrum stout and straight, depressed at base, where surface is uneven, middle keel narrow, obtuse, not sharpened; sides with deep and narrow furrow above upper margin of scrobe. Vestiture of whitish bifurcate scales very dense on dorsum and on the lateral furrow, sparse at apex and sides in front of eye; scales very dense, longer, often simple on sides and underside of rostrum, in front of scrobe. Antenna (Fig. 13) slender, scape dark reddish, straight, with small scales; segment 1 of funicle short, globular, segment 2 about 2 times longer than segment 1, segment 3 as long as wide, segments 4 to 6 more or less isodiametric, segment 7 conical, appressed to club; all segments scaly; club elongated, minutely scaly. Pronotum slightly wider than long, base nearly rectilinear, not or very weakly arched towards elytra in the middle (Fig. 2), sides more or less straight from base to apical quarter, regularly constricted at apex; surface with a small depression in basal third on each side of disc; dorsum in profile regularly and very weakly convex. Vestiture of white bifurcate scales dense on sides and lateral half of dorsum, leaving very small and sparse naked punctures, each bearing a yellowish hair; disc with brownish, sparse scales.

Legs: Fore tibia straight, with dense scales and setae much denser on inner side; metatibia short, curved, slightly enlarged at apex, very densely covered with scales and weakly lifted setae. Metatarsus with first tarsomere short, slightly longer than tarsomere 2.

Elytra very robust, wide, enlarged behind pronotum, ovate-elongate; striae deep, small, 2 and 3 curving outwards at base; intervals regularly and moderately convex, interval 3 usually wider. Vestiture composed of dense bifurcate, sometimes simple, white-yellowish scales, brownish patches very scarce.

Genitalia: see figures 6, 8, 10, 12.

Measurements of a ♀ from Tuggurt (in millimeters; length = L, width = W).

L without rostrum 22.62. Rostrum: L 3.88, W at base 2.00, W at apex 2.18, W of dorsum between antennae 1.69. Frons between eyes: W 2.00. Prothorax: L 5.53, W base 6.07. Elytra: L from base of scutellum to apex 12.96, W 9.03. Antenna: scape L 1.84; funicle: segment 1 L 0.30, W 0.24; segment 2 L 0.43, W 0.24; segment 3 L 0.19, W 0.21; segment 4 L 0.25, W 0.22; segment 5 L 0.27, W 0.22; segment 6 L 0.29, W 0.23; segment 7 L 0.36, W 0.33; club: L 0.86 (segment 1 L 0.22, segment 2 L 0.21, segment 3 L 0.43), W 0.39. Legs: protibia L 4.75; mesotibia L 4.38; metatibia L 4.76; metatarsus: tarsomere 1 L 0.83; tarsomere 2 L 0.68; tarsomere 3 L 1.13; onychium L 1.98. Sterna, length on middle: ventrite 1 L 3.04; ventrite 2 L 2.48; ventrite 3 L 1.20; ventrite 4 L 1.04; ventrite 5 L 1.16.

#### Variability

Females are larger and more robust than males, a general rule for the genus. Largest female among examined specimens: 28 mm.

#### Distribution

This species was based on a female from Tuggurt, in the Algerian desert (MARSEUL, 1868). A topotypic specimen (ex coll. Faust) was examined in the present study. In the same year, Fairmaire described *Cleonus ellipticus* from a specimen from another Algerian locality, El-Aghouat (ex Allard). A further male from Algeria, without more precise locality data, ex Jekel was reported by CHEVROLAT (1873). *E. gigas* is also present in the Tunisian desert, near Douz.

This species has also been reported from southern Morocco: Tizgui-el-Harratine (KOCHER, 1961, based on a specimen conserved at the Institut Scientifique Chérifien, identified by Hoffmann, not examined in the present study). A very incomplete specimen (fragments of elytra) from 30 km W of Es-Smara, near to El-Aaiun (Laayune) was studied: elytra scarcely enlarged, sides regularly converging from base to apex, bifid scales with teeth shorter than in the Algerian and Tunisian specimens, white on even intervals, light brownish on odd intervals. New findings are necessary to define the taxonomic status of the Moroccan specimens, which can be ascribed to *E. gigas* only *sensu lato* and are very likely belonging to an undescribed species.

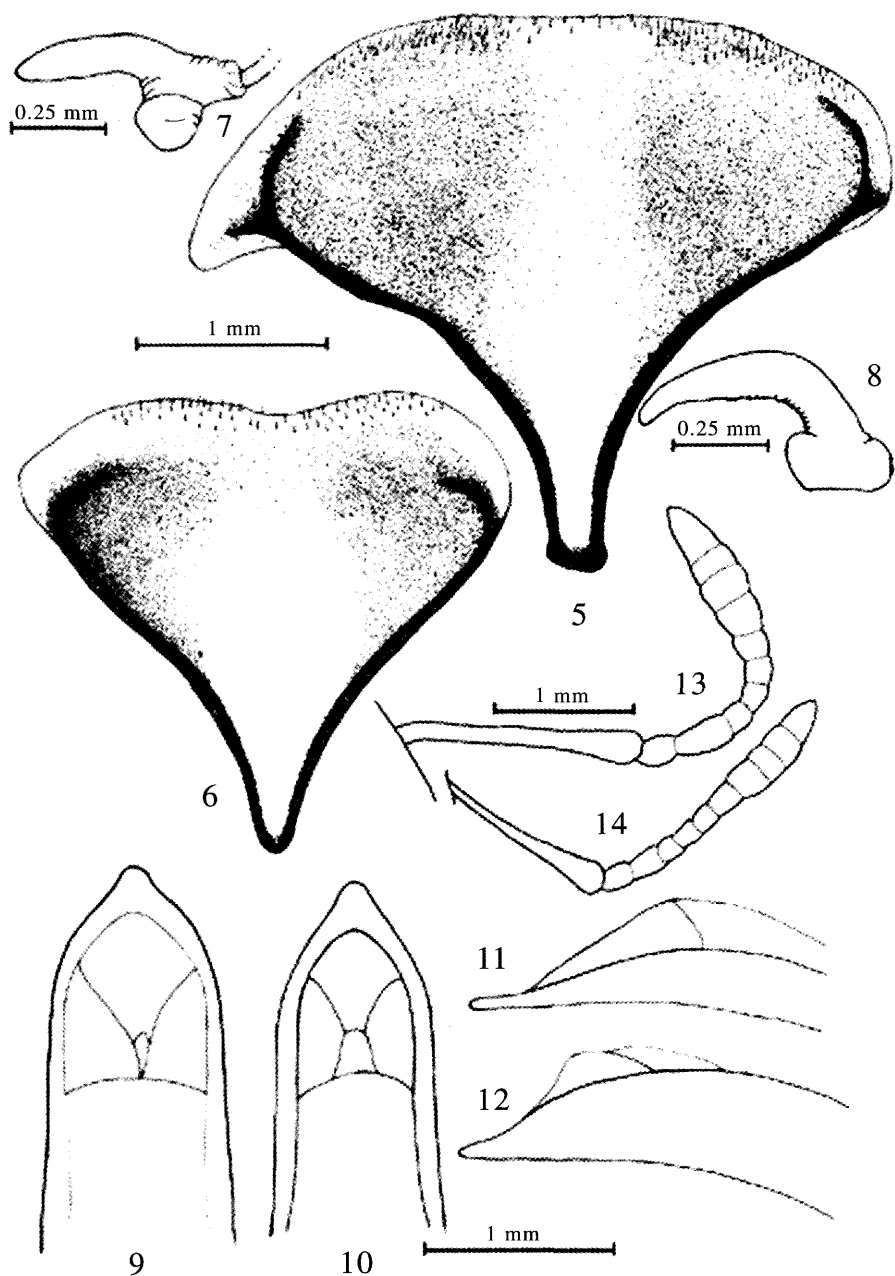
PEYERIMHOFF (1917) gave Sinai as a locality for *E. gigas*, based on a specimen from Hadjar-er-Reqab identified by Bedel. This specimen (not examined in the present study) almost certainly belongs to *E. amon*: at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century Hadjar-er-Reqab was a village in Wadi Wardan, the type locality of *E. amon*. The village is not indicated on recent maps, and perhaps no longer exists. CSIKI (1934) overlooked Peyerimhoff's citation and reported *E. gigas* only from Algeria.

#### Ecology

Nothing is known about host-plants. All localities where the species has been collected are in the Sahara desert, with low and sparse bushes. As with *E. amon*, it could be linked to eremic Chenopodiaceae.

#### Discussion

There has been considerable confusion regarding the dates of publication of the names *Leucochromus gigas* and *Cleonus ellipticus*. It all started in 1873, when CHEVROLAT (1873: 3) first reported *Leucochromus gigas* as published in «Abeille, 1868, p. 97», whereas in another page (CHEVROLAT, 1873: 99) the same was



Figs. 5-14. *Eurycleonus gigas* (Marseul, 1868), Tunis: sternum VIII of ♀ (6); spermatheca (8); aedeagus (10, 12). *Eurycleonus amon* sp. n., paratype: sternum VIII of ♀ (5); spermatheca (7). *Eurycleonus amon* sp. n., holotype: aedeagus (9, 11); antenna (14).

quoted as published in «Abeille, 1866, p 91». On the other hand *Cleonus ellipticus* was cited (CHEVROLAT, 1873: 99) as described in «Ann., 1866, p. 49, 5». CSIKI (1934) mixed the two (wrong) Chevrolat indications, and reported *Eurycleonus gigas* for «Abeille V, 1868, p. 91», while *Eurycleonus ellipticus*, included in the synonymy of *E. gigas*, had two references: the first reads «Ann. Soc. Ent. France (4) VI, 1866, p. 49»; the second one is correct. Thanks to my friend and colleague Miguel Angel Alonso-Zarazaga, the journals of 1866 were checked: none of them reports either of the two names. The two original descriptions of *Cleonus ellipticus* and *Leucochromus gigas* were summarized by CROTCH (1871); after this and CHEVROLAT's (1873) works, the name *ellipticus* Fairmaire disappeared from the scientific literature, being cited by CSIKI (1934) only.

### *Eurycleonus amon* sp. n.

Type locality: Sinai, Wadi Wardan, 29°30'N 32°49'E

#### Material

Holotype ♂ : Sinai / Samml. K. Hartmann, Ankauf 1941.1 (Städtisches Museum für Tierkunde, Dresden, Germany).

Paratypes: 2 ♂♂, 2 ♀♀, Sinai / Samml. K. Hartmann, Ankauf 1941.1; 1 ♂, Sinai / Kneucker legit / Samml. K. Hartmann, Ankauf 1941.1 (Städtisches Museum für Tierkunde, Dresden, Germany); 1 ♂, Sinai (coll. Meregalli, Italy, ex Städtisches Museum für Tierkunde); 1 ♀, Wadi Wardan, Sinai Mars 1904, (des récoltes de Kneucker), reçu de A. Andres / Coll Alfieri, Egypte (coll. Frey at the Naturhistorisches Museum, Basel, Switzerland).

#### Diagnosis

Distinguished from *E. gigas* by first segment of funicle longer than wide, pronotum convex near base in lateral aspect, with base sinuate, arched towards elytra and sides of elytra nearly parallel, scarcely enlarged behind shoulders.

#### Description

Size very robust, elliptical (Fig. 3). Rostrum stout, more or less depressed at base in profile; middle keel obtuse, moderately enlarged at insertion of antenna, where it is interrupted by a small puncture, swollen at triangle at apex; vestiture at side of keel very dense. Antenna (Fig. 14) slender, scape weakly curved, dark reddish with some bifurcate scales on apical part; funicle dark reddish, with white bifurcate scales and yellow setae; segment 1 longer than wide; segment 2 slightly longer than segment 1; segments 3-6 as long as wide; segment 7 longer and wider, with smaller yellowish scales; club slender, finely hairy. Pronotum. Base distinctly sinuate, arched at middle (Fig. 4); pronotum in lateral aspect clearly swollen at base; vestiture not completely masking the surface, formed by mainly bifurcate scales, white on sides and light-brownish on disc and on anterior side, white on the middle line. Legs slender, femur weakly enlarged medially, tibia rectilinear; vestiture composed of white scales, smaller, bifurcate to trifurcate on femur, longer and simply bifurcate on tibia, and by white to yellowish setae, on femur rather sparse and short, on tibia dense, long, moderately lifted; tarsus with tarsomere 1 nearly twice as long as tarsomere 2, lobes of tarsomere 3 slightly longer than tarsomere 2; protarsus with tarsomere 3 longer than in meso and metatarsus; tarsomeres 1 and 2 on sides with dense yellow setae directed downwards. Elytra very robust, moderately larger than prothorax at base, sides nearly rectilinear, maximum width at two-third of length. Intervals flat or very weakly convex; intervals 2 and 7 slightly smaller than the others; striae very small and superficial, punctures scarcely distinct. Vestiture

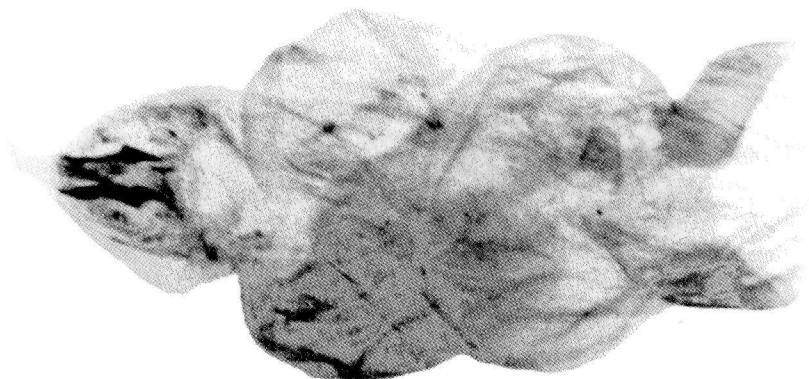


Fig. 15. *Eurycleonus amon* sp. n., holotypus: internal sac of aedeagus.

composed of whitish bifurcate scales, mixed with yellow-brownish bifurcate scales, darker towards base, disposed in small dots and short vague lines. *Sterna* morphology and vestiture as typical of the genus.

Genitalia: see figures 5, 7, 9, 11, 15.

Measurements of holotypus (in millimeters; length = L, width = W).

L without rostrum 22.10. Rostrum: L 3.81, W base 2.13, W apex 2.26, W dorsum between antennae 1.82. Frons between eyes: W 2.00. Prothorax: L 5.38, W base 5.51, W anterior 3.87. Elytra: L from base of scutellum to apex 12.35, W 8.27. Antenna: Scape L 1.83; Funicle: segment 1 L 0.36, W 0.27; segment 2 L 0.37, W 0.25; segment 3 L 0.21, W 0.22; segment 4 L 0.22, W 0.22; segment 5 L 0.21, W 0.22; segment 6 L 0.25, W 0.25; segment 7 L 0.29, W 0.30; Club L 0.92 (segment 1 0.24, segment 2 0.22, segment 3 0.46), W max 0.40. Legs: protibia L 5.06; mesotibia L 4.50; metatibia L 5.26; metatarsus: tarsomere 1 L 1.06; tarsomere 2 L 0.63; tarsomere 3 L 1.11; onychium L 1.98. Sterna, length on middle: ventrite 1 L 3.32; ventrite 2 L 2.32; ventrite 3 L 1.24; ventrite 4 L 1.24; ventrite 5 L 1.24.

#### Variability

Females more robust; characters very uniform in all specimens examined.

Largest female: L 32.85, elytra: L 16.73, W 12.05; smallest male: L 18.87, elytra: L 11.02, W 7.04.

#### Etymology

The new species is named after Amon, Egyptian God of wind, fertility, and secrets. There are several possible transliterations into the Roman alphabet (Amon, Ammon, Amun, Amana, Amen, Hammon). At the Egyptian Museum of Torino the first transliteration is adopted, and the same is followed here.

#### Distribution

*E. amon* is so far known only from Sinai. All examined specimens were collected in the same occasion: the paratype ♀ conserved in Basel has a first label «Wadi Wardan / Sinai Mars 1904 / (des récoltes de Kneucker) / reçu de A. Andres» and another label «Coll Alfieri / Egypte». The other specimens have a label with the same handwriting «Sinai»; one has also a further label «Kneucker leg.». A specimen of *Eurycleonus* is also cited for Wadi Al-Arish by ALFIERI (1976) as *E. gigas*: undoubtedly, this reference is attributable to *E. amon*. Unfortunately, this specimen is not anymore present in the Alfieri collection (Abdel-Dayem, personal communication).

As mentioned above, a further specimen was cited by PEYERIMHOFF (1907) from a village in Wadi Wardan.

### Ecology

According to ALFIERI (1976) this species (sub *E. gigas*) is linked to *Hammada elegans* (Bunge) Botsch. (sub *Haloxylon salicornicum*). Recent investigations in Sinai failed to yield other specimens. Most of the habitats in the Sinai desert are now severely disturbed either by overgrazing or by human exploitation, when not completely destroyed as is, for example, the type locality of the new species, Wadi Wardan. Wadi Al-Arish, anyway, still conserves a comparatively rich xerophytic vegetation, although at the time of the investigation, after many months of drought, most of the plants were in very poor condition.

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I wish to thank my friends M. A. Alonso-Zarazaga, E. Colonnelli (Rome) and C. Lyal (London) for the critical reading of the manuscript and useful suggestions; A. Alma (Torino), M. A. Alonso Zarazaga (Madrid), G. Osella and M.A. Zuppa (L'Aquila) for bibliographical research, M. Abdel-Dayem (Cairo) for the examination of the Alfieri collection, S. Shute (London) for the loan of the types of *Epilectus baluchicus*, R. Krause (Dresden), R. Kovac (Frankfurt) and E. Sprecher (Basel) for the loan of the specimens of *Eurycleonus*. I am much indebted to C. Lyal for checking English language.

### REFERENCES

- ALFIERI, A. 1976. The Coleoptera of Egypt. *Mém. Soc. Ent. Egypte*. Vol. 5: I-XVI + 361 pp.
- ALONSO-ZARAZAGA, M. A. & LYAL, C. H. C. 1999. *A world catalogue of families and genera of Curculionoidea (Insecta: Coleoptera) (Excepting Scolytiidae and Platypodidae)*. Entomopraxis, Barcelona. 315 p.
- BEDEL, L. 1907. In PEYERIMHOFF, 1907.
- CHEVROLAT, A. 1873. Mémoire sur les Cléonides. *Mém. Soc. Roy. Sci. Liège*, 2e série, t. V: I-VIII + 118 p.
- CROTCH, G. R. 1871. *Synopsis Coleopterorum Europae et confinium anno 1868 descriptorum. Curculionoidea: 38-56*. Williams & Norgate, London, Edinburgh.
- CSIKI, E. 1934. *Coleopterorum Catalogus auspiciis et auxilio W. Junk editus a S. Schenkling. Pars 134: Curculionidae: Subfam. Cleoninae*. W. Junk, Berlin, 152 p.
- FAUST, J. 1904. Revision der Gruppe Cléonides vrais. *Dtsch. Ent. Z.*, (1): 177-284.
- FAIRMAIRE, L. 1868. Essai sur les Coléoptères de Barbarie. Sixième partie. *Ann. Soc. ent. Fr.*, (4), 8 (3): 471-502.
- KOCHER, L. 1961. *Catalogue Commenté des Coléoptères du Maroc. Fascicule IX. Rhynchophores*. Inst. Scient. Cherifien, Sér. Zool. n° 24. Rabat, 264 p.
- MARSEUL, M. S. A. de 1868. Descriptions des Espèces nouvelles. *L'Abeille*, 5: 171-234.
- MARSHALL, G. A. K. 1913. On a new species of Indian Curculionidae. – Part I. *Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist.*, (8) 11: 224-231.
- NEAVE, S. A. 1939. *Nomenclator zoologicus. A list of the names of genera and subgenera in zoology from the tenth edition of Linnaeus 1758 to the end of 1935. Vol. 2 (D-L)*. London, 1025 p.
- PEYERIMHOFF, P. de 1907. Liste de Coléoptères du Sinai. *L'Abeille*, 31: 1-49.
- REITTER, E. 1913. Bestimmungs-Schlüssel der mir bekannten europäischen Gattungen der Curculionidae, mit Einschluss der mir bekannten Gattungen aus dem palaearktischen Gebiete. *Verhan. naturfors. Ver. Brünn*, 51 (1912): 1-90.

The European Association of Coleopterology would like to thank the Division III de Ciències Experimentals i Matemàtiques of the University of Barcelona for financial support for mailing cost.

ELYTRON

© Asociación Europea de Coleopterología

ISSN: 0214-1353

CODEN: ELTREZ

Legal Register: D.L.B.-22088-2001

Published by the Asociación Europea de Coleopterología

Publication date: May 2001

Graphic Design by Jesús del Hoyo

Composition: Amador Viñolas

Photomechanics and Printed: ATM Producció S.L.

Gran Via Carles III, 86 local 11. 08028 Barcelona. Spain