

Two new Clambidae species  
from the collections  
of the Natural History Museum, Geneva  
(Coleoptera, Staphylinoidea, Clambidae)

by

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With 4 figures

The intensive collecting of soil insects by the scientists of the Museum resulted inter alia in a rich material of Clambids. Valuable faunistical data were provided by the earlier collections of Dr. C. Besuchet in Switzerland, Southern France, Spain and in North Africa, and a new species was also found in his material from Turkey. This species proves the phylogenetic relation of a number of species linking *Clambus filii* E.-Y. to *C. dux* E.-Y. A further new species was collected by R. Mussard in Rhodesia. These two new species, *C. Besucheti* sp.n. and *C. brunneus* sp.n. respectively are described in the present paper.

The material collected by Mussard, Besuchet and Löbl in Ceylon, containing two new species, was also examined and the results will be published in a paper: A Revision of the Oriental Clambids with Reference to Papuan and Micronesian Species (in press).

I express my thanks to Dr. C. Besuchet who lent me the very interesting material for examination.

***Clambus Besucheti* sp. n.**

Medium size for the family, chestnut brown, pubescence uniformly short, including the pubescence of clypeus. Temporal angle of head is situated behind the middle of eyes, not indented at tip. Hind, horizontal plate of metasternum moderately short in middle. The species belongs to the *dux* group of the genus, being also closely related to *C. filii* E.-Y.



Head broad, disc distinctly longer in front of eyes than the diameter of eye (8 : 5). Temporal angle broad, rectangular, rounded at apex, lateral end of collar fossa faintly marked behind apex. Lateral margin of eye diverges from temporal margin of head backwardly. Head moderately convex, dorsal line in lateral view joins clypeal margin in an angle of about 70 degrees. Surface very indistinctly shagreened, shiny, basal punctures of hairs hardly visible. Pubescence fine and short, semierect, not longer at clypeus than at pronotum or elytra. — Front angle of pronotum narrower arcuate than hind angle, lateral margin straight in a short stretch behind front angle. Surface similar to that of the head with a large, transparent, light area at both sides. Pubescence short, fine, semierect, directed from the centre of disc towards margins in a star like arrangement. — Elytra as long as combined breadth. Evenly arcuate in dorsal view, and evenly and moderately arcuate in lateral view. Microsculpture and pubescence similar to those of pronotum with hairs directed backwards. — Horizontal, hind plate of metasternum not very short in middle, here about a third of lateral length of the plate (3.5 : 11). Transversal crest regular, clear cut and moderately elevated. Surface of metasternum and hind femoral plates more distinctly shagreened, pubescence similar but denser than on elytra. Microsculpture and pubescence of abdominal sternites similar to those of elytra without an accumulation of hairs at apex of anal sternit. — Antennae and legs yellow. 8th segment of antennae slightly longer than broad. — Aedeagus 0.5 mm long; basal plate 0.11 mm, fused paramers 0.11 mm, and free standing, apical part of penis 0.28 mm of the total length. Basal plate forms a ring at the base of aedeagus, but is deeply emarginate at dorsal side. Fused paramers small and narrow, slightly dilate towards apex, there truncate with rounded angles. Penis elongate, strongly bulbous in middle; abruptly enlarges behind basal plate and forms a pointed, finger shaped process at its apical one-fifth of length. In lateral view the ventral side of the whole aedeagus is about the same level, the dorsal side elevating into the bulbous part of penis. (fig. 1, 2).

Length: 0.9-1.1 mm. — Breadth: 0.7-0.75 mm.

Distribution: Turkey.

Material examined: 8 ♂, 5 ♀, and 2 further specimens. All specimens from the collections of the Natural History Museum, Geneva.

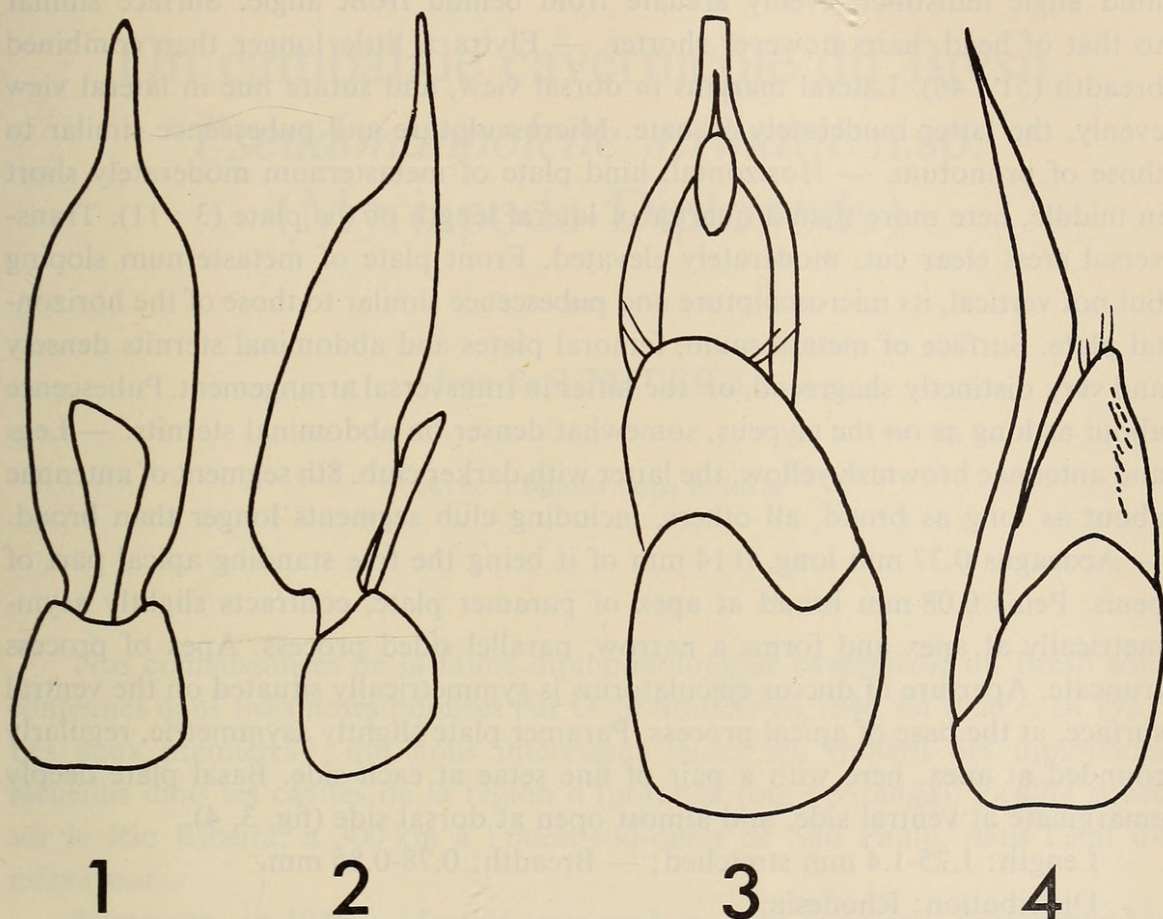
Holotypus ♂, allotypus ♀, 7 ♂, 3 ♀ and 2 further paratypes: Turkey, Erzurum: Azort, Tortum Lake, 12.V.1967; 1 ♀ paratype: Turkey, Istanbul: Kilyos, 27.VII.1969.

The new species belongs to the *dux* group, characterized by the uniformly short pubescence of the dorsal surface; by the temporal angle of head situated near the middle of eyes; by the moderately short middle part of metasternum; by the bulbous penis and short paramer. The extremely bulbous penis points to a close relationship with *C. filii*, which has an even more bulbous penis in a



more complicated structure. In this way *C. besucheti* links *C. filii* to *dux* group which shows only a moderate bulbous enlargement at the base of penis.

The new species is named in honour of Dr. C. Besuchet, coleopterist of the Geneva museum and collector of this and many other interesting and new Clambids.



Aedeagi of *Clambus* spp. 1, 2: *C. besucheti* sp. n.; 3, 4: *C. brunneus* sp. n.

Fig. 1 and 3 are in ventral view, 2 and 4 in lateral view.

#### ***Clambus brunneus* sp. n.**

Shiny chestnut brown with lighter transparent lateral and narrow basal margin of pronotum. Temporal angle of head situated behind eyes. Pubescence of dorsal surface short, fine and semierect, that of clypeus slightly longer and somewhat denser. Horizontal, hind plate of metasternum moderately short in middle.

Head broad; disc much longer in front of eyes than longitudinal diameter of eye (8 : 5). Temporal angle broad, rectangular, both margins slightly arcuate before reaching apex. Collar fossa does not reach the margin behind temporal angle, but marginates the angle diminishing at temporal margin beside eye. Eye



moderately large, its lateral margin parallel with temporal margin of head; it is situated much closer to antennal fossa than to collar margin (1 : 3). Head moderately convex, dorsal line in lateral view evenly and moderately arcuate and joins the clypeal margin in an angle of about 75 degrees. Surface shiny, indistinctly shagreened. — Front angle of pronotum obtuse angular, rounded, hind angle indistinct, evenly arcuate from behind front angle. Surface similar to that of head, hairs however shorter. — Elytra a little longer than combined breadth (51 : 46). Lateral margins in dorsal view, and suture line in lateral view evenly, the latter moderately arcuate. Microsculpture and pubescence similar to those of pronotum. — Horizontal, hind plate of metasternum moderately short in middle, here more than a quarter of lateral length of the plate (3 : 11). Transversal crest clear cut, moderately elevated. Front plate of metasternum sloping but not vertical, its microsculpture and pubescence similar to those of the horizontal plate. Surface of metasternum, femoral plates and abdominal sternites densely and very distinctly shagreened, on the latter in transversal arrangement. Pubescence about as long as on the clypeus, somewhat denser on abdominal sternites. — Legs and antennae brownish yellow, the latter with darker club. 8th segment of antennae about as long as broad, all others, including club segments longer than broad. — Aedeagus 0.37 mm long, 0.14 mm of it being the free standing apical part of penis. Penis 0.08 mm broad at apex of paramer plate, contracts slightly asymmetrically at apex and forms a narrow, parallel sided process. Apex of process truncate. Aperture of ductus ejaculatorius is symmetrically situated on the ventral surface, at the base of apical process. Paramer plate slightly asymmetric, regularly rounded at apex, here with a pair of fine setae at each side. Basal plate deeply emarginate at ventral side, and almost open at dorsal side (fig. 3, 4).

Length: 1.25-1.4 mm stretched; — Breadth: 0.78-0.85 mm.

Distribution: Rhodesia.

Material examined: 1 ♂ and 2 ♀, all from the collections of the Natural History Museum, Geneva.

Holotypus ♂, allotypus ♀ and 1 paratypus: Rhodesia, Umtali, Melsetter, 1700 m, II.1969.

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