

Arnaldo Bordoni¹

**Four new species of *Thyreocephalus*
from South America and Africa south of the Sahara**

(Insecta: Coleoptera: Staphylinidae: Xantholinini).

Abstract.

Thyreocephalus peruvianus sp. n., *T. perene* sp. n. from South America, and *T. buta* sp. n., *T. pseudoclypeatus* sp. n. from Africa are described and illustrated.

Key words: *Thyreocephalus*, new species, Peru, Congo.

Riassunto

[*Quattro nuove specie di Thyreocephalus del Sud America e dell'Africa a sud del Sahara (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae: Xantholinini)*]

Sono descritte le due nuove specie del Sud America *Thyreocephalus peruvianus* sp. n. e *T. perene* sp. n., e le due nuove specie africane *T. buta* sp. n. e *T. pseudoclypeatus* sp. n.

Material and method

The author has studied some *Thyreocephalus* of his own collection and that of the Museum of Tervuren (Belgium), identifying four new species here described. The four species are represented only by female specimens, but they are so different from all the other species of the genus, that they undoubtedly belong to new taxa. The examination of the specimens was done through a Wild M5A binocular and an Optika B-290 tri-ocular microscope.

Acronyms:

cB - coll. Bordoni, Florence, Italy;

MRAC - Musée royal de l'Afrique centrale, Tervuren, Belgium.

Taxonomy

***Thyreocephalus peruvianus* sp. n.**

Examined material. Holotype ♀: Peru, Calabasa vill., 2200 m, 11°30S, 74°49W, E. Petrov 5.IV.2009 (Holotype in **cB**).

¹ 334th contribution to the knowledge of Staphylinidae.

Description. Length of body 16 mm; from anterior margin of head to posterior margin of elytra: 9 mm. Head and pronotum black, elytra and scutellum blue, abdomen dark brown, 5th-6th visible abdominal segment and genital segment reddish brown. Head and pronotum and related punctuation as in Fig. 1. Labrum as in Fig. 2. Elytra sub-rectangular, not dilated behind, with barely rounded sides and rounded humeral angles. Surface with evident punctuation, arranged in numerous series. Abdomen with transverse micro-striation and fine punctuation on the sides.

Etymology. The specific epithet refers to Peru.

Distribution. The species is known only from the type locality in Peru.

Remark. *Thyreocephalus peruvianus* sp. n. differs from the similar species *T. cyanipennis* Sharp, 1885 from Panama by robustior body, color (last two visible abdominal segment black in *T. cyanipennis*), shape of head and related punctuation, by shape of pronotum and punctuation of elytra (three series of punctures in *T. cyanipennis*).

***Thyreocephalus perene* sp. n.**

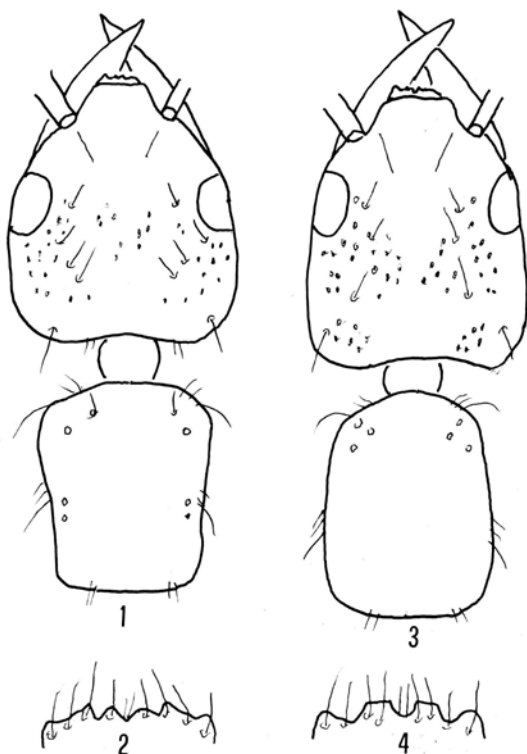
Examined material. Holotype ♀: Peru, Junin prov., Perené river, 1100 m, 11 km NNE from Puerto Ocopa, Los Olivos vill., 11°30'S. 74°15'52"W, A. Petrov 26.III.2009 (Holotype in **cB**).

Description. Length of body 15 mm; from anterior margin of head to posterior margin of elytra: 8 mm. Body black, with blue elytra; antennae and legs dark brown. Head and pronotum and related punctuation as in Fig. 3. Labrum as in Fig. 4. Elytra sub-rectangular, barely dilated behind, with barely rounded sides and marked humeral angles. Surface with evident punctuation, arranged in numerous series. Abdomen with evident punctuation arranged in 3-4 series on each segment.

Etymology. The specific epithet refers to the name of the river Perené, as a noun in apposition.

Distribution. The species is known only from the type locality in Peru.

Remark. *Thyreocephalus perene* differs from the most similar species *T. subtilis* Sharp, 1885 from West Indies, Panama, Venezuela and Peru by the shape of head (sub-rounded in *T. subtilis*), punctuation of head and labrum.



Figs 1-4. Head and pronotum (total length 5 mm) (1) and labrum (2) of *Thyreocephalus peruvianus* sp. n. and head and pronotum (total length 4 mm) (3) and labrum (4) of *Thyreocephalus perene* sp. n.

***Thyreocephalus buta* sp. n.**

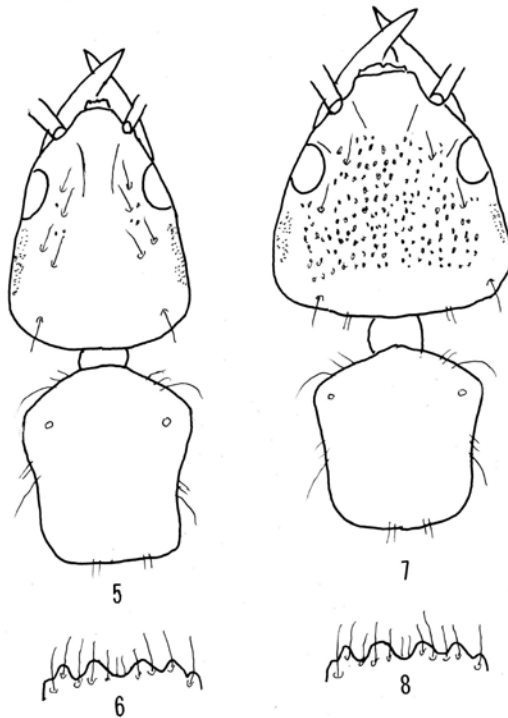
Examined material. Holotype ♀: Rep. Dem. Congo, Buta, 1949 (Holotype in cB).

Description. Length of body 13 mm; from anterior margin of head to posterior margin of elytra: 7 mm. Body shiny, black with 6th visible abdominal segment and genital segment light brown; antennae and legs dark brown. Head and pronotum and related punctation as in Fig. 5. Labrum as in Fig. 6. Elytra sub-rectangular, with sub-rectilinear sides and marked humeral angles. Surface with three series of fine punctures, one juxtasutural, one median and one lateral. Abdomen with fine punctuation on the sides.

Etymology. The specific epithet refers to the type locality, as a noun in apposition.

Distribution. The species is known only from the type locality in Congo.

Remark. *Thyreocephalus buta* sp. n. differs from the most similar species *T. meridioafricanus* Janak & Bordoni, 2015 from Rwanda by shape and punctuation of head, and labrum.



Figs 5-8. Head and pronotum (total length 4.5 mm) (5) and labrum (6) of *Thyreocephalus buta* sp. n. and head and pronotum (total length 6 mm) (7) and labrum (8) of *Thyreocephalus pseudoclypeatus* sp. n.

***Thyreocephalus pseudoclypeatus* sp. n.**

Examined material. Holotype ♀: Congo, Katanga, entrée Grotte de Kakontrée, N. Leleup 1.VIII.1948, sous des pierres (Holotype in MRAC).

Description. Length of body 22 mm; from anterior margin of head to posterior margin of elytra: 8 mm. Body black with blue elytra and scutellum; antennae and legs dark brown. Head and pronotum and related punctation as in Fig. 7. Labrum as in Fig. 8. Elytra sub-rectangular with rounded humeral angles. Surface with three series of very fine punctures, one juxtasutural, one median and one lateral. Abdomen with fine punctation on the sides.

Etymology. From the compound word pseudo-clypeatus (false-clypeatus) that means this new species can be confused with the very similar *T. clypeatus*.

Distribution. The species is known only from the type locality in Congo.

Remark. *Thyreocephalus pseudoclypeatus* differs from the closest species *T. clypeatus* Bordoni, 2016 from Ivory Coast, Gabon and Ghana, by size and more numerous punctures on the head that cover most of its surface, and by labrum.

References

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