

## New species of African Clytrinae from the collection of the Hungarian National-Museum (Coleoptera, Chrysomelidae)

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In this paper, I describe 4 new species from East Africa. The material from the collection of the Hungarian Museum was amiably placed at my disposal by Dr. Z. KASZAB. The holotypes are in the Hungarian National-Museum, the paratypes of *Melitonoma ugandica* are in the Hungarian National-Museum, and in the Zoological Institute, Academy of Sciences, USSR.

It must be noted that the systematics of the African Clytrinae is quite unsatisfactory. Most authors disregard the structure of the aedeagi, which renders the best distinguishing characters within this group. Besides many species and varieties, described by LACORDAIRE, need revision and redescription. At present, the determination of African Clytrinae is very difficult, but I have no doubt that a number of species will prove, after a thorough examination, to be synonyms and varieties of other species.

### *Peploptera kaszabi* sp. nov. (Fig. 1)

Black; prothorax fulvous with black markings in middle of anterior and posterior margins; elytra as in *P. katonica*, but preapical transverse band broadly interrupted in middle; antennae, legs, abdomen and margins of pygidium before apex fulvous, apical segments of antennae fuscous.

Clypeus smooth and nitid, frons and vertex coarsely punctured, with triangular impression between eyes, pubescent near inner margin of eyes. Prothorax transverse, coarsely but not very densely punctured, its central part before base distinctly elevated into a blunt low tubercle. Scutellum triangular, nitid. Elytra narrowed to apex, strongly and very regularly punctato-striate, interstices smooth and nitid. Underside covered with a whitish pubescence. Length 3,9 mm.

Africa or.: Mto-ja-Kifaru, leg. KITTENBERGER (KATONA), 1 female Holotype.

Closely allied to *P. meruensis* WSE. and *P. katonica* sp. nov., but easily separable by the structure of the prothorax and the fulvous abdomen.

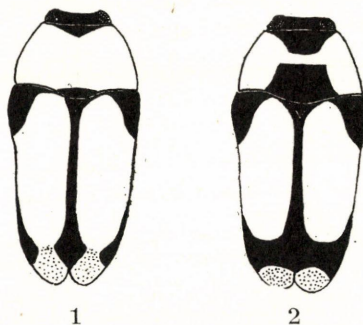


Fig. 1. *Peploptera kaszabi* sp. nov., pattern of upperside. —  
Fig. 2. *Peploptera katonica* sp. nov., pattern of upperside.

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**Peploptera katonica** sp. nov. (Fig. 2)

Black; prothorax fulvous with a longitudinal black band, interrupted in middle, elytra greyish white, narrowly margined with black except for apex; epipleurae, a humeral spot, — touching lateral black band and preapical transverse band (connecting lateral and sutural black margins) — black; extreme apex orange. Antennae fulvous, apical segments darkened. Legs fulvous with femora, except for apex, black.

Frons coarsely punctured, pubescent near inner margin of eyes, with a longitudinal, almost smooth, impression in middle; clypeus and vertex less coarsely punctured. Prothorax transverse, evenly convex, coarsely but not very densely punctured. Scutellum triangular, nitid. Elytra slightly narrowed to apex, rather strongly punctured, punctures arranged in irregular rows, interstices smooth and nitid. Underside clothed with a whitish pubescence. Length 5, 7 mm.

Africa or.: Mto-ja-Kifaru, leg. KITTINGERGER (KATONA) 1904, 1 female Holotype.

Very similar to *P. meruensis* WSE., differing in its larger size and the colour of the underside and legs (the femora is largely black, the prothoracal and elytral markings somewhat different).

The species of the group, which I name „the *P. meruensis* WSE. group”, may be distinguished as follows:

- 1 (2) Prothorax pubescent, with interrupted longitudinal black band. Legs black. Length 5–6 mm ***P. terminata* JAC.**
- 2 (1) Prothorax bare. Legs more or less fulvous.
- 3 (4) Abdomen and legs entirely fulvous. Central part of prothorax distinctly elevated before base. Length 3,9 mm ***P. kaszabi* sp. nov.**
- 4 (3) Abdomen black. Prothorax not elevated before base, evenly convex.
- 5 (6) Legs entirely fulvous. Prothoracic longitudinal black band not interrupted in middle. Length 3–4 mm (*P. minuta* BRYANT, new synonym) ***P. meruensis* WSE.**
- 6 (5) Femora, except for apex, black. Prothoracic longitudinal black band interrupted in middle. Length 5,7 mm ***P. katonica* sp. nov.**

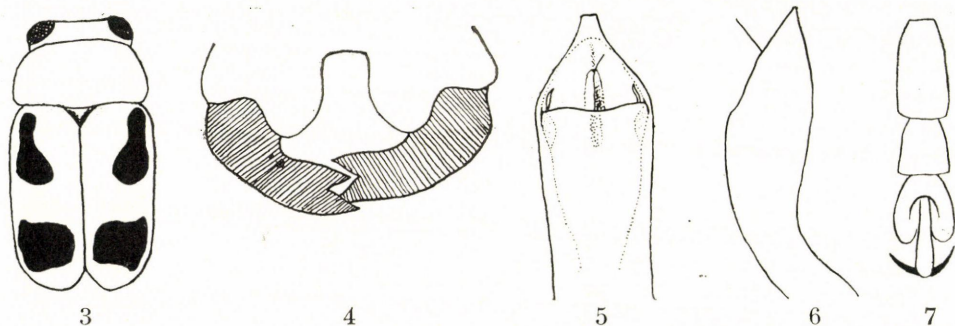


Fig. 3–4. *Damia kilimandjarica* sp. nov. — Fig. 3: pattern of upperside. Fig. 4: clypeus and mandibles of male. Fig. 5: Fig. 5–7. *Damia kilimandjarica* sp. nov. — Fig. 5: aedeagus, dorsal view. — Fig. 6: aedeagus, lateral view. — Fig. 7: front tarsus of male.



***Damia kilimandjarica* sp. nov. (Fig. 3—7)**

Fulvous; mandibles, front margin of clypeus, margins of scutellum, 2 spots at each elytron, base of anterior and most part of middle and hind femora black, breast piceous, apical segments of antennae and abdomen fuscous. Form and arrangement of elytral spots shown on fig. 3.

Clypeus very deeply and quadrangularly emarginate, its lateral lobes rounded at apex (fig. 4). Head impunctate, feebly shining, with a slight transverse impression between eyes. Prothorax transverse, twice as broad as long, mat, very finely punctured and microsculptured, lateral margins broad. Scutellum elongately triangular, almost smooth. Elytra parallel, mat, moderately strongly and densely punctured, more finely at apex, interstices microsculptured. Underside with a dense subappressed pubescence. Anterior legs elongate, tarsi — fig. 7; aedeagus — fig. 5, 6. Length 5,8 mm.

East Africa: Kilimandjaro, leg. BORNEMISSZA, 1 male Holotype.

This species may be placed in the group of species around *D. emarginata* LAC. — *D. frontalis* JAC. It is very similar to *D. tibialis* WSE., differing in the head and the apex of elytra being fulvous and the humeral spot elongated. The latter character separates *D. kilimandjarica* from all its congeners, which have a transverse band at the base of the elytra.

***Melitonoma ugandica* sp. nov. (Fig. 8—11)**

Black with a slight metallic reflection, joints 1—4 of antennae, tibiae, tarsi, prothorax and elytra fulvous. Prothorax with 3 basal black spots, sometimes connected with each other. Elytra with a big humeral spot and 2 transverse bands, anterior band occasionally divided in 2 spots (fig. 8).

Clypeus and frons with a few fine punctures, almost smooth, distinctly pubescent, slightly transversely impressed between eyes. Vertex smooth, evenly convex. Mandibles short, thickened at base, especially in male. Prothorax 1,8 time as broad as long, nitid, very finely but densely punctured. Scutellum triangular with a rounded apex, nitid. Elytra with fine punctures, arranged in irregular rows, interstices very finely punctured. First joint of anterior tarsi distinctly more elongate and broader than second one (fig. 11). Aedeagus — fig. 9, 10. Sexual dimorphism indistinct. Length 4,5—4,7 mm.

Uganda: Mujenje, leg. KITTENBERGER (KATONA), VII. 1913, 1 male Holotype and 2 female Paratypes.

This species differs from most allies of a similar colour in its metallic blue reflection. Very similar to *M. decemmaculata* BURGEON, differing in its smaller size and the different pattern of the prothorax and elytra.

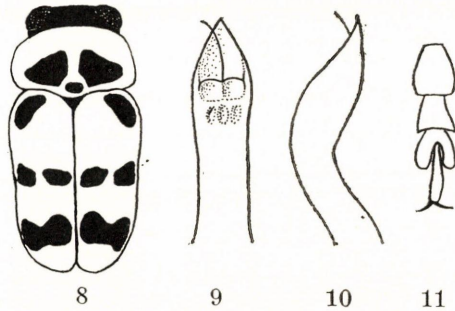


Fig. 8—11. *Melitonoma ugandica* sp. nov. — Fig. 8: pattern of upperside. — Fig. 9: aedeagus, dorsal view. — Fig. 10: aedeagus, lateral view. — Fig. 11: front tarsus of male.

