

African Criocerinae from the Hungarian Natural History
Museum (Coleoptera, Chrysomelidae)
Contribution to the study of Criocerinae 5.

By

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Abstract: 25 species from various parts of Africa are listed. New species are Oulema subfusca from Guinea, O. vittigera from Guinea and O. depressa from Tanzania. Noteworthy records are Lema lacerta Hze. from Ghana, L. rubricollis Klug from Guinea, L. ledyardi Hze. from Tanzania, Oulema angustior Silfv. from Ghana, O. infima (Lac.) from Ghana and O. punctatissima (Hze.) from Liberia and Ghana. Bradylema Wse. is shown to be the valid name for Petauristes auct. nec. Latr.

Some time ago I received from the Hungarian Natural History Museum a number of African Criocerinae for identification. Among them were several common species, but also some little known, and a few proved to be previously unknown. I wish to thank Dr. Z. KASZAB for the opportunity to study this material.

LIST OF THE SPECIES

Crioceris nigropunctata Lacordaire, 1845. - Cameroon, Dr. G. NONVEILLER, Nyong et Nfoumou S., Yeme-Yeme, 27.-28.IV.1971, 1 ex. - Western, eastern and southern Africa.

Lilioceris latipennis (Clark, 1866). - Cameroon, Abong-Mbang, Dr. R. LENCZY, 1959, 2 ex. - West Africa.

Lilioceris africana (Jacoby, 1895). - Cameroon, Nanga Eboko, III-IV.1959, leg. LENCZY, 1 ex. - Recorded from Guinea, Togo, Cameroon and Congo.

Bradylema erycina (Baly, 1859). - Cameroon, Nanga Eboko, III-IV.1959, leg. LENCZY, 1 ex.; Abong-Mbang, 1959, Dr. R. LENCZY, 1 ex. - West and Central Africa.

The name Petauristes Latreille, 1829, has been used as a senior synonym of Bradylema Weise, 1901 (e.g. MONROS 1960, GRESSITT KIMOTO 1961). However, in the original description of Petauristes (Latreille 1829) only two species were included, Lema varia F. and Lema posticata F., both described from South America. Therefore the designation of Lema crassipes Ol. as type of Petauristes is invalid, and Bradylema is the valid name for Petauristes auct. nec. Latreille.

Lema incognita Heinze, 1963. - Mali, Soudan: Disa, leg. ALLISON, 2 ex. - From Senegal to Zaire.

Lema coelestina Klug, 1835. - Ghana, Northern region, Tamale, 184 m, N 8°25' -W 0°53', Dr. S. ENDRÓDY-YOUNGA, Nr. 478, netted, 24.IX.1971, 1 ex. - From the Ivory Coast to Somalia and the Cape province.

Lema dregei Lacordaire, 1845. - Cameroon, Mbam - Yambetta, 22.-23.VII.1971, Dr. G. NONVEILLER, 1 ex. - From Cameroon to Ethiopia and the Cape province.

Lema calabarica Clark, 1866. - Cameroon, Nanga Eboko, III.-IV.1959, leg. LENCZY, 7 ex. - From Sierra Leone to Zaire.

Lema chalcoptera Lacordaire, 1845. - Tanzania, Africa or., Arusha-Yu, X.-XI.1905, leg. KITTENBERGER, 4 ex.; Africa or., Shirati, leg. KITTENBERGER, 1 ex.; Mt. Meru, W slope, Olkokola, 8700 feet, coll. Dr. J. SZUNYOGHY, extracted litter from forest, 26.IX.1965, 7 ex. - From Kenya and Congo to South Africa.

Lema humeralis (Guérin-Méneville, 1844). - Ghana, Northern region, Tamale, 184 m, N 8°25' -W 0°53', Dr. S. ENDRÓDY-YOUNGA, Nr. 478, netted, 24.IX.1971, 1 ex. - From Guinea to Uganda.

Lema fuscitarsis Jacoby, 1897. - Tanzania, Usa River, 3900 feet, coll. Dr. J. SZUNYOGHY, light trap, 15.IX.-25.XI.1965, 1 ex.; Uganda, Mujenje, KATONA, 1913, 1 ex. - From Ethiopia to Zaire and the Cape province.

Lema lacerta Heinze, 1929. - Ghana, Northern region, Tamale, 184 m, N 8°25' -W 0°53', Dr. S. ENDRÓDY-YOUNGA, Nr. 478, netted, 24.IX.1971, 1 ex. - Previously known only from Togo.

Lema quadripartita Lacordaire, 1845. - Nigeria, Samaru, Dr. S. ENDRÓDY-YOUNGA, Nr. 401, netted, 20.X.1969, 1 ex. - From Senegal to Uganda.

Lema rubricollis Klug, 1835. - Guinea, Coyah, III.63.VIII.64, leg. K. FERENCZ, 1 ex.; Cameroon, Nanga Eboko, III.-IV.1959, leg. LENCZY, 1 ex.; ibid. VII.-X.1959, 2 ex. - Previously recorded from the Ivory Coast to Uganda and Angola.

Lema nigriventris Gerstaecker, 1871. - Cameroon, Abong-Mbang, 1959, Dr. R. LENCZY, 1 ex.; Ethiopia, Abyssinia, Walamo, III. 1912, KOVÁCS, 2 ex.; Tanzania, Mt. Meru, E slope, 5700 feet, coll. Dr. J. SZUNYOGHY, extracted litter from forest, 26.I.1966, 2 ex.; Morogoro, light trap, II.1970, T. PÓCS, 1 ex. - From Senegal to Ethiopia and Transvaal.

Lema ledvardi Heinze, 1964. - Tanzania, Arusha-Yu, X.-XI.1905, KITTENBERGER, 5 ex.; Mt. Meru, W slope, Olkokola, 8700 feet, coll. Dr. J. SZUNYOGHY, extracted litter from forest, 26.IX.1965, 1 ex. - Previously known only from Malawi.

Lema suahelorum Weise, 1901. - Tanzania, Mt. Meru, W slope, Olkokola, 8700 feet, coll. Dr. J. SZUNYOGHY, extracted litter from forest, 26.IX.1965, 2 ex. - Tanzania, Zaire, South Africa.

Oulema pambanensis (Weise, 1910). - Tanzania, Morogoro, light trap, II.1970, T. PÓCS, 1 ex. - Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania, Zambia.

Oulema angustior Silfverberg, 1970. - Ghana, Ashanti region, Mampong, 366-591 m, N 7°00' -W 1°22', Dr. S. ENDRÓDY-YOUNGA, Nr. 480, netted, 28.IX.1971, 1 ex. - Previously known only from Sudan.

The specimen from Ghana differs from the holotype in having the abdomen red. Similar individual variation is known from the closely related O. pambanensis.

Oulema vittigera sp.n.

Head and pronotum piceous, frons with indistinct reddish markings along furrow, pronotum with brownish yellow base; antennae brownish yellow at base, from 5th segment on darker brown, legs brownish yellow with outer half of tarsi darker, underside yellowish brown; scutellum piceous, elytra brownish yellow with piceous border along side and hind margins and suture. Frons somewhat elevated, in hind part with a small pit. Eyes with very slight incision. Antennae comparatively slender, 5th segment about 2.75 times, the next ones about twice as long as broad. Pronotum strongly convex, slightly longer than broad, sides almost straight until the constriction, fore corners with distinct but short tubercle. Disc punctated on sides and along mid line, inbetween unpunctated. Constriction sharp, basal furrow densely punctated. Elytra parallel-sided, about 1.75 times as long as together broad, striae with strong punctures but not otherwise impressed, intervals unpunctated, not elevated. Male genitalia: Aedeagus comparatively broad, strongly bent (fig. 1). Length: 3.4 mm, breadth: 1.4 mm.

Holotype: Guinea, Kaledu, V.-VI.1970, leg. K. FERENCZ.

O. vittigera is only known from the holotype. It resembles *O. raffrayi* (Chap.), but differs in the coloration of the pronotum, by smaller size, by somewhat more slender antennae and by the strongly bent aedeagus. From *O. alterna* Silfv. it differs by smaller size, by pale legs, by pronotal coloration and by the strongly bent aedeagus (in *O. raffrayi* and *O. alterna* the aedeagus is comparatively straight, see SILFVERBERG 1979).

Oulema infima (Lacordaire, 1845). - Ghana, Northern region, Tamale, 184 m, N 8°25' -W 0°53', Dr. S. ENDRÓDY-YOUNGA, Nr. 418, light trap, 11.III.1970, 21 ex.; *ibid.* Nr. 419, 2 ex.; *ibid.* Nr. 420, 1 ex. - Previously recorded from Senegal and from Niger eastwards to Ethiopia.

Oulema leleupi (Bryant, 1960). - Tanzania, 1.5 miles to Lake Sereri, E shore, 3150 feet, coll. Dr. J. SZUNYOGHY, singled material, 11.-27.VIII.1965, 1 ex. - Recorded from Kenya and Tanzania.

Oulema subfusca sp.n.

Head and prothorax reddish yellow, underside otherwise black; antennae reddish yellow, from 6th segment on brownish, legs yellow with last tarsal segments brownish; elytra and scutellum dark metallic blue. Frons not elevated, in hind part with a small pit. Eyes with a very shallow incision. Antennae comparatively slender, 5th segment almost 2.5 times, the next ones 1.5-1.75 times as long as broad. Pronotum about as long as broad, sides rounded, fore corners with distinct but short tubercle. Disc convex, punctated on sides and along mid line, inbetween unpunctated. Constriction moderately deep. Basal furrow sharp, densely punctated. Elytra parallel-sided, about 1 2/3 times as long as together broad, striae strong, with large punctures, intervals unpunctated, distinctly elevated in apical half, especially the outer ones. Length: 3.5 mm, breadth: 1.7 mm.

Holotype: W. Africa, Guinea, Coyah, 24.X.1967, leg. K. FERENCZ.

O. subfusca is only known from the holotype. It resembles *O. methneri* (Hze.), but can be distinguished by the black underside. Also the antennae are somewhat more slender, the tubercles at the pronotal fore corners are shorter, and the elytral intervals are more convex.

Oulema punctatissima (Heinze, 1931). - Liberia, Moarovia, 11.IV.1965, netting, Dr. S. ENDRÓDY-YOUNGA, 1 ex. Ghana, Northern region, Tamale, 184 m, N 8°25' -W 0°53', Dr. S. ENDRÓDY-YOUNGA, Nr. 407, on light, 5.XII.1969, 1 ex. - Recorded from Sierra Leone, Guinea, Nigeria and Zaire.

Oulema depressa sp.n.

Head and prothorax yellowish red, underside otherwise black; antennae yellowish red at base, apical half of 4th and 5th and entire 6th-11th segments brown, legs yellowish red with outer half of tarsi dark brown; scutellum brownish, elytra metallic black with bluish sheen. Frons not elevated, in hind part with a small pit. Eyes very slightly incised, behind the eyes an uncommonly sharp furrow (fig. 2). Antennae moderately slender, 5th segment slightly more than twice as long as broad, the following ones about 1.5 times as long as broad. Pronotum slightly longer than broad, flattened, sides weakly rounded, fore corners with weak, indistinct tubercle. Disc punctated on sides, along mid line only in anterior half. Constriction comparatively shallow, basal furrow weak and shallow, weakly punctated, in the middle with a distinct, sharp depression that reaches forward. Elytra flattened, parallel-sided, about 1.8 times as long as together broad, striae strong with large punctures, intervals unpunctated, very little elevated. Length: 3.5 mm, breadth: 1.4 mm.

Holotype: Tanzania, Morogoro, light trap, II.1970, T. PÓCS.

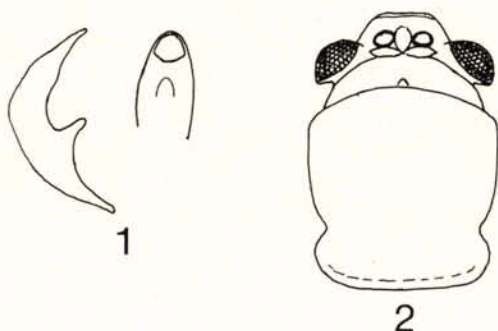


Fig. 1. Aedeagus of *Oulema vittigera* sp.n. - Fig. 2. Head and pronotum of *Oulema depressa* sp.n.

O. depressa is only known from the holotype. It is comparatively isolated within *Oulema*, and easily recognizable by the shape of the head and the pronotum (fig. 2). In these characters it approaches the genus *Incisolema*, which in fact is considered by some authors (e.g. MONRÓS 1960) to be a subgenus of *Oulema*. In coloration *O. depressa* resembles *O. pambanensis*, which has a much more convex pronotum.

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