

Descriptions of two new species of the genus
Sphaenognathus Buquet, 1838 (Coleoptera: Lucanidae)

By

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Abstract: Two new *Sphaenognathus* species are described from South America: *Sphaenognathus bidentatus* sp. nov. from Chile and *Sphaenognathus villosus* sp. nov. from Colombia.

Thirty-eight species of *Sphaenognathus* Buquet, 1838 have so far been described; a further name (*Sphaenognathus rugosum* Parry, 1863) has originally been published as synonym of *Sphaenognathus murrayi* J. Thomson, 1862. Nine species have been reported from Venezuela, 12 from Colombia, 5 from Ecuador, 5 from Peru, 6 from Bolivia and 1 from Australia. These species have generally been described on the basis of one or only few specimens. Only a few names have been synonymized: *Sphaenognathus manifestus* (Jakowleff, 1901) is no doubt identical with *Sphaenognathus garleppi* (Boileau, 1899), however, *Sphaenognathus albofuscus* (Blanchard, [1846]), which has been regarded as a synonym of *Sphaenognathus prionoides* Buquet, 1838, is definitely a distinct species, just as *Sphaenognathus circumflexus* (Parry, 1874) and *Sphaenognathus giganteus* (Boileau, 1911) regarded as synonyms of *Sphaenognathus feisthamelii* (Guérin, 1838). The recently described *Sphaenognathus didieri* (Lacroix, 1972) is most likely identical with *Sphaenognathus murrayi* J. Thomson, 1862.

During the identification of the *Sphaenognathus* material deposited in the Hungarian Natural History Museum, Budapest, I have found specimens belonging to two new species. One of the new species is from Chile; no species of this genus has hitherto been known from this country.

Sphaenognathus bidentatus sp. nov.

Body oblong oval, slightly widening posteriorly. Body surface densely punctate, shining, covered with fine, silky, whitish-grey pubescence, only elytra glabrous. Colour brown, middle and hind tibiae light reddish brown; the whole body with greenish or greenish-violet lustre.

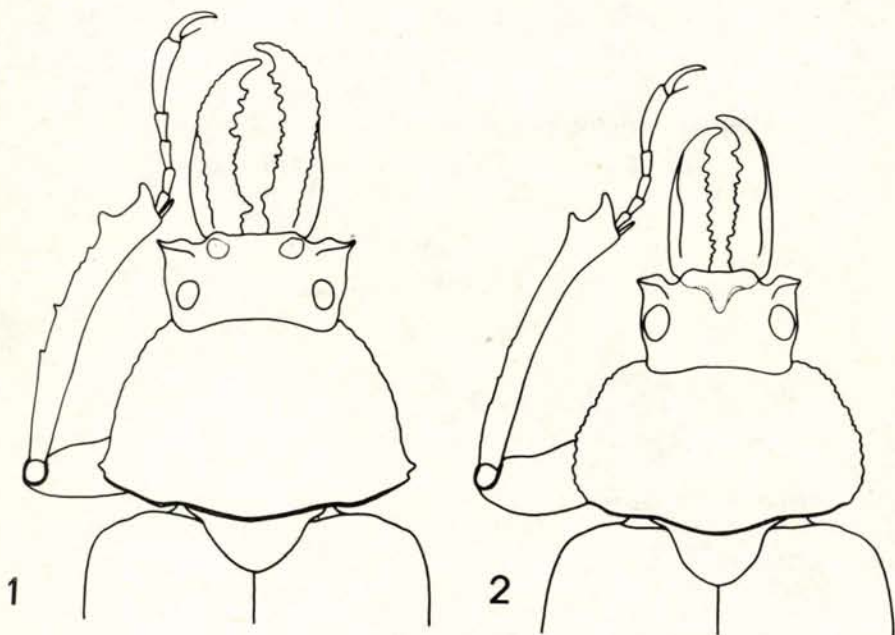
Head densely punctate and pubescent, clypeus with a tubercle each at base of mandibles (Fig. 1). Anterior angles of genae tooth-like, apices acute. Eye canthus pubescent. Mandibles shorter than head and pronotum combined; sublinear, with apex more incurved; densely punctate and finely pubescent (except outer side of apex); inner margin denticulate, preapical tooth slightly larger than others; inner side with a preapical tooth on larger specimens; upper margin strongly dentate. Pronotum widening posteriorly, surface densely punctate, finely pubescent, disc feebly rugose, sides slightly crenulate, posterior angles obtuse, bidentate (two teeth indistinct on smaller specimens). Scutellum large, semicircular, densely pubescent. Elytra subparallel, densely punctate, vermiculate, glabrous. Humeri rounded. Front tibiae curved, outer margin with more than 4 teeth,

two preapical teeth strong, the other tiny and irregular; inner margin with more than 4 small teeth directing downwards. Middle and hind tibiae feebly curved, with 4 or more small teeth externally.

Body length: 26-30 mm; length of mandibles: 5-7 mm.

Holotype (♂): "Chile, Coll.: Erdős", paratypes (2♂): "Chile, coll. Lichtneckert". The types are deposited in the Hungarian Natural History Museum, Budapest.

The new species is very similar to *Sphaenognathus prionoides* Buquet, 1838, its distinctive characters: mandibles not angularly but arcuately incurved apically, posterior angles of pronotum bidentate.



Figs 1-2. Head, prothorax and left fore leg of *Sphaenognathus bidentatus* sp. nov. (1.) and *S. villosus* sp. nov. (2.)

Sphaenognathus villosus sp. nov.

Body oblong oval, slightly widening posteriorly. Body surface densely pubescent, weakly shining, covered with somewhat rough, dense, whitish-grey pubescence. Colour brown; head, pronotal disc, mandibles, antennae, femora and front tibiae darker. Pronotum with faint greenish-violet, elytra with faint greenish, breast and legs with somewhat stronger greenish lustre.

Head densely punctate and pubescent, clypeus swollen between base of mandibles, swelling continues toward frons forming a short, triangular process (Fig. 2). Anterior angles of genae tooth-like, but apices obtuse. Eye canthus pubescent. Mandibles shorter than head and pronotum combined; sublinear, with apex more incurved; densely punctate and pubescent (except outer side of apex), denticulate internally, preapical tooth hardly larger than others; upper margin feebly denticulate. Pronotum widening posteriorly, surface densely punctate and pubescent, disc finely rugose; sides crenulate, posterior angles rounded obtuse, not dentate. Scutellum large, semicircular, densely pubescent. Elytra subparallel, densely punctate, finely rugose, finely and densely pubescent.

Humeri rounded. Front tibiae curved, outer margin with 6-7 teeth, two preapical teeth strong, the other minute; inner margin with 4-5 (6) small teeth directing downwards. Middle tibiae slightly curved, hind tibiae sublinear. Outer margin of middle and hind tibiae with a small tooth in apical third.

Body length: 28 mm; length of mandibles: 7 mm.

Holotype (♂) : [Colombia], "Nova-Granada". The type is deposited in the Hungarian Natural History Museum, Budapest.

The vestiture of this new species is similar to that of Sphaenognathus canaliculatus (Parry, 1874) or Sphaenognathus garleppi (Boileau, 1899), but the pubescence of pronotum is denser. The swelling on the clypeus is similar to that of Sphaenognathus murrayi J. Thomson, 1862 or Sphaenognathus taschenbergi (Parry, 1874).

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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