

Damarus bellesi n. sp. from the Namib Desert
(Coleoptera: Ptinidae)

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ABSTRACT. The genus *Damarus* included hitherto only *D. singularis* PERINGUEY, described from Namibia. A new species *D. bellesi* is described, also from Namibia.

Key words: *Coleoptera*, *Ptinidae*, *Damarus*, new species, Namibia.

INTRODUCTION

The genus *Damarus* included hitherto only *D. singularis* PERINGUEY, an extremely rare species described from Namibia. In the material borrowed from the Zoological Museum, Lund University, I found specimens of the second species of the genus. Its description is given below.

The studied material was collected by the Swedish South Africa Expedition which took place in 1950-1951.

Damarus bellesi n. sp.

(Fig. 1)

NAME DERIVATION

The new species is dedicated to Dr. X. BELLES, who was the first to revise the subfamily *Gibbinae*.

TYPES

Holotypus: male, Namib. 35 miles S Anabib (Orupembe) and 26 miles N Rocky Point., 11.VI.51, No. 337.

Paratypes: 9 specimens; 8 from the type locality and one from Namib: Khumib Valley, Sarusas West, 1.5 mile inland, 10-11.VI. 51, No. 334 . Holotype in the

Zoological Museum, Lund University, paratypes in the Zoological Museum, Lund University and in author's collection.

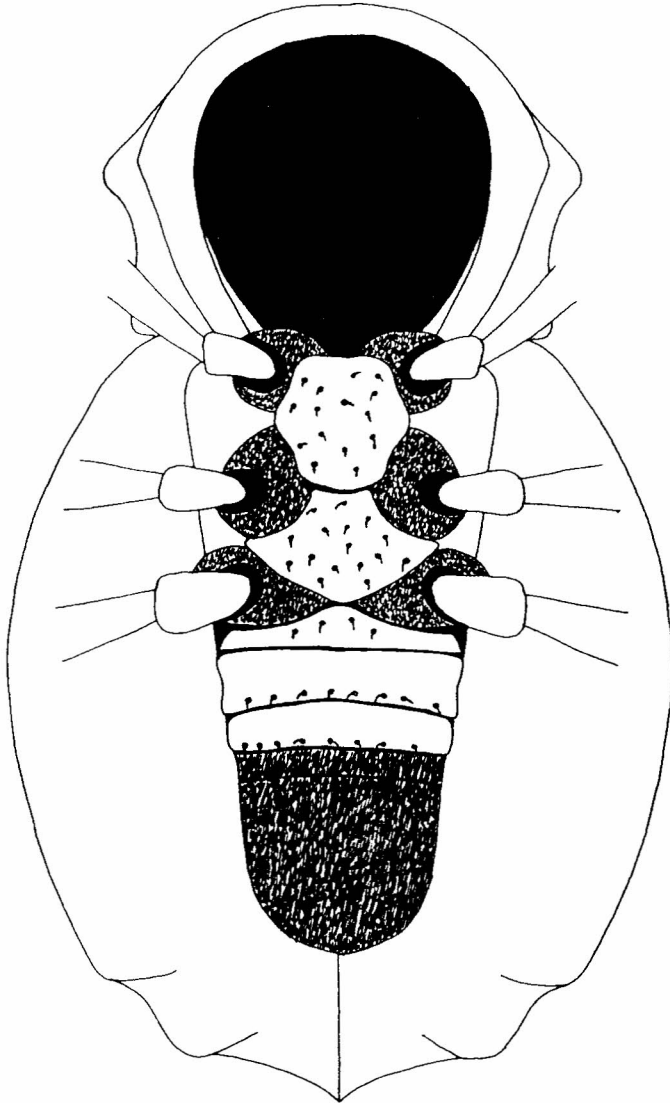
DESCRIPTION

Length: 2.0-2.6 mm. Head yellow, elongate. Eyes black, small and flat. Interantennal space very narrow and sharp. Antennae black, relatively short with 11 thick segments. First antennal segment longer and larger than the others. Last



1. *Damarus bellesi* n. sp., dorsal view

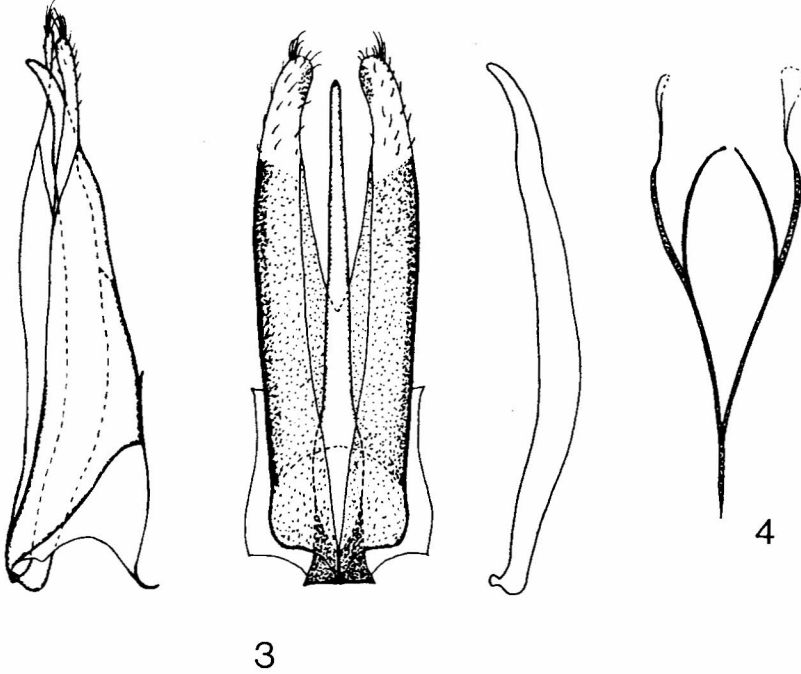
antennal segment short and tightly adjoining the penultimate. Pronotum yellow, wider than long with four bumps: two mid bumps often with dark scales, and two lateral bumps. Anterior margin of pronotum thickened. Scutellum invisible. Elytra black, shiny, very convex, with four longitudinal costae. The sutural costa less



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2. *Damarus bellesi* n. sp., sternal view

convex than the others. Mesosternum and metasternum yellow, small, with deep puncturation and short hair inside the punctures (Fig. 2). Sternal part of the abdomen with five visible and narrow segments. First three segments yellow, others



3-4. *Damarus bellesi* n. sp.: 3 - aedeagus, 4 - male genital segment

dark brown. The last segment as long as other segments combined. Legs black and long. Aedeagus with symmetrical parameres (Fig. 3); genital segment four-branched (Fig. 4).

REMARKS

D. bellesi n. sp. is somewhat similar to *D. singularis* PERING.. Generally it differs in larger body size, structure of pronotum, presence of four longitudinal costae on elytra and structure of aedeagus. It differs also in darker antennae, legs and the last two abdominal segments. Both species were found under stones of the Namib Desert.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to thank Dr. Roy DANIELSSON (Museum of Zoology, Lund University) for the loan of the material.

REFERENCE

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