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Two new species, a new subspecies, and new faunistic data on
African Clytrinae
(Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae)

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ABSTRACT. Three new taxa are described: *Melitonoma tanzaniae* n. sp. from Tanzania, *Anisognatha trinotata* n. sp. from Kenya and Rwanda, and *Afrophthalma lefevrei bicoloricollis* n. ssp. from Rwanda. New faunistic data for 32 other species are given.

Key words: entomology, taxonomy, new species, new records, Coleoptera, Chrysomelidae, Clytrinae, Africa.

INTRODUCTION

The study of African Clytrinae from the collection of the second author revealed a lot of interesting species. These had been collected from localities in countries where they hitherto had not been recorded. Information on these species and collecting localities are presented. Furthermore two new species and one new subspecies are described.

Locality data are cited mostly as on labels but in some cases due to changes of geographical names in the last years toponyms have been cited in the recent spelling.

Abbreviations

LMCM: Lev MEDVEDEV collection, Moscow, Russia.

RBCN: Ron BEENEN collection, Nieuwegein, Netherlands.

DESCRIPTIONS OF NEW TAXA

***Melitonoma tanzaniae* n. sp.**

DIAGNOSIS

This species belongs to the group characterised in the male by a large basal lobe of the mandibles (MEDVEDEV, 2000). It is most similar to *M. maculigera* LACORDAIRE, 1848 and *M. lepida* LACORDAIRE, 1848, but differs clearly in the structure of the clypeus which is deeply emarginate on the anterior margin and has long triangular lateral apically elevated teeth.

DESCRIPTION

Black, antennae with fulvous basal segments, prothorax reddish fulvous with 3 black spots at base: 1 circular before scutellum and 2 subquadrate and larger, one on each side; elytra fulvous with 5 circular black spots (1, 2, 2), tibiae and tarsi fulvous.

Male: Head pubescent and finely punctate on frons and clypeus, anterior margin of clypeus with lateral lobes triangular, comparatively long and acute (Fig. 1). Labrum pubescent, microsculptured. Mandibles large, straight with elevated and vertical basal lobe, looking triangular in lateral view (Figs. 1, 2). Vertex shiny, bare and impunctate. Prothorax a little broader than head, broadest in basal third, with lateral margins feebly rounded, surface shiny and impunctate. Scutellum elongate triangular. Elytra shiny, with distinct and comparatively dense punctures, disappearing on apical slope. Anterior legs slightly elongated, anterior tarsus with segment 1 about twice as long as broad (Fig. 3). Aedeagus with triangular apex, moderately thick in lateral view, apical third of underside with microsculpture on each side (Figs. 4, 5). Body length: 6.3 mm.

Female: Head smaller and narrower, clypeus with triangularly emarginate anterior margin, but its lateral lobes short, not protruding anteriorly. Mandibles much shorter, without elevated basal lobe. Body length: 6.5 mm.

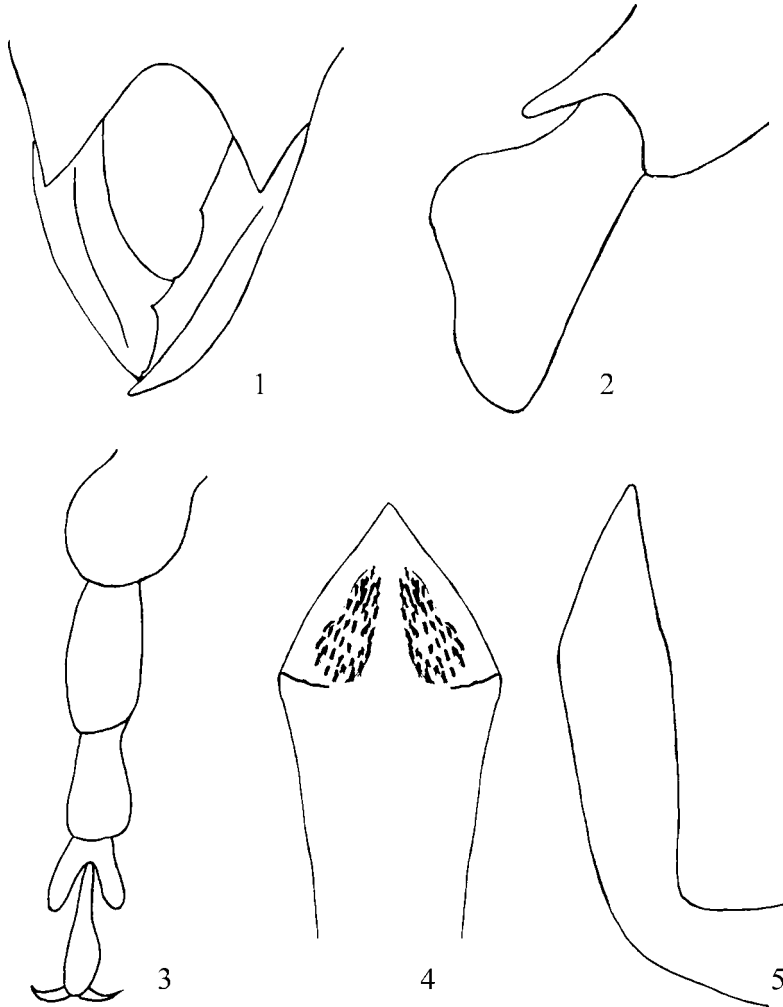
TYPE MATERIAL

Holotype (♂): TANZANIA: Tarangire NP, 18.V.1997, on Compositae, ex. coll. J. Roggeman (LMCM); Paratype: same locality, 1 ♀ (RBCN).

Afrophthalma lefevrei bicoloricollis n. ssp.

DIAGNOSIS

Differs from all forms of this species in having a bicolorous prothorax (Fig. 6). This subspecies is close to the nominotypical subspecies, *Afrophthalma lefevrei ruficeps* L. MEDVEDEV, 1993, which is distributed in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Namibia and Republic of South Africa, has entirely fulvous head; *Afrophthalma lefevrei nigrosuturalis* L. MEDVEDEV, 1978 was described from Tanzania and has black elytral suture.



1-5. *Melitonoma tanzaniae* n. sp.: 1 – clypeus and mandibles of male, dorsal view, 2 – right mandible of male, lateral view, 3 – anterior tarsus of male, 4 – apex of aedeagus, ventral view, 5 – aedeagus, lateral view

DESCRIPTION

Fulvous; frons, vertex, antennae except basal segments, anterior and lateral margins of pronotum and often also central posteriorly shortened stripe and scutellum black, elytra pale flavous, broad basal band, apex and narrow lateral margin black.

Morphologically identical to nominative subspecies. Length of body 4.3-4.7 mm.

REMARKS

Both collecting localities are situated on relatively high altitudes, Gifurwe at 2200 meters above sea level and Rwerere at 2300 meters above sea level. *Afrophthalma lefevrei lefevrei* was collected at Mt. Kigali at altitude of 1850 meters above sea level. It is unknown at what altitude this subspecies occurs in Ethiopia.

TYPE MATERIAL

Holotype: ♀, RWANDA: Gifurwe, 2. IV.1972, coll. R. Beenen ex. coll. J. Roggeman (LMCM).

Paratypes: same locality, 2 ♀ ♀ (RBCN); - RWANDA: Rwerere, 28.V.1972, coll. R. Beenen ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 1 ♀ (LMCM).

Anisognatha trinotata n. sp.

DIAGNOSIS

Most similar to *A. hyacinthina* (ERICHSON, 1843), differs in pattern of prothorax with additional lateral spots, and in different form of aedeagus.

DESCRIPTION

Metallic blue, underside dark, antennae black with 4 basal segments fulvous, sides of prothorax fulvous with blue spot in middle, mostly connected with broad central stripe (Figs. 9, 10), tibiae fulvous except tip of apex.

Male: Head moderately enlarged, narrower than prothorax, pubescent, with large impression between eyes, anterior margin of clypeus straight, mandibles with sharp upper margin, left mandible with comparatively short apical tooth, eyes ovate, large, not emarginate or with inner margin, genae short. Antennae feebly serrate from 5th segment onwards. Pronotum twice as wide as long, broadest before base, but very slightly narrowed anteriorly, surface shiny, indistinctly punctate. Scutellum triangular, impunctate. Elytra 1.55 times as long as wide, densely punctate, with narrow interspaces. Anterior legs feebly elongate, tarsus as long as tibia, with segment 1 narrow and elongate, 3 times as long as wide. Aedeagus (Figs. 7, 8) with short triangular apex, strongly convex in apical part of underside. Length of body 5 mm.

Female: Head not enlarged, mandibles short, prothorax distinctly narrowed anteriorly, anterior legs not elongate. Length of body 4.5-4.9 mm.

TYPE MATERIAL

Holotype: ♂, KENYA: 20 km S Nairobi, VIII.1975, leg. L. Medvedev (LMCM). Paratypes: RWANDA: Gikondo, V. 1970, coll. R. Beenen ex coll. J. Roggemann, 1 ♀ (RBCN); - RWANDA: L. Mugesera, 22. V.1972, coll. R. Beenen ex coll. J. Roggeman, 2 ♀ ♀ (RBCN, LMCM).

NEW FAUNISTIC DATA

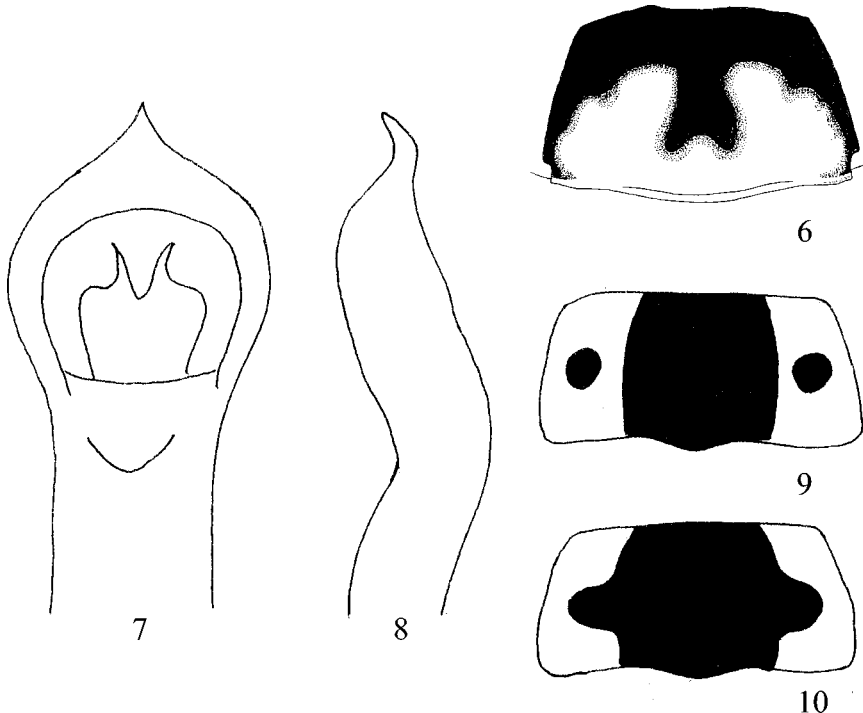
Diapromorpha scabrosa WEISE, 1911

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO: Gandajica, 16 X 1954, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 2 specimens (RBCN).

DISTRIBUTION: Hitherto known from Angola, Congo, and Rhodesia.

Diapromorpha trifasciata junoi WEISE, 1903

ZIMBABWE: Hwenge National Park, 16 III 2000, Sinamatella, 1100 m., 18°35' S – 26°18' E, R. Beenen, 1 specimen (RBCN).



6. *Afrophthalma lefevrei bicoloricollis* n. ssp., pronotum; 7-10 - *Anisognatha trinotata* n. sp.: 7 - apex of aedeagus, dorsal view; 8 - apex of aedeagus, lateral view; 9-10 - patterns on the pronotum

DISTRIBUTION: eastern Africa, but firstly recorded from Zimbabwe; the nominative subspecies is known from West and Central Africa.

***Peploptera impressa* HAROLD, 1880**

RWANDA: Gikondo, 2 IV 1970, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 2 specimens (RBCN); Butare, 1971, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 1 specimen (RBCN); Bugesera, 10 V 1972, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 2 specimens (RBCN); Gashora, 7 V 1972, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 2 specimens (RBCN); Icyanya, 27 III 1972, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 1 specimen (RBCN).

DISTRIBUTION: known from East Africa, mostly from Tanzania, and from Democratic Republic of Congo.

***Peploptera curvilinea* JACOBY, 1901**

RWANDA: Gikondo, I 1970, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 1 specimen (RBCN); Gashora, 10 XII 1969, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 4 specimens (RBCN); ZIMBABWE: road Bulawayo – Victoria Falls, 13 III 2000, 130 km from Bulawayo, 19°03' S – 27°52' E, R. Beenen, 1 specimen (RBCN).

DISTRIBUTION: the most abundant species in Republic of South Africa. It was recorded also from Zambia, and Zimbabwe. New to Rwanda.

***Peploptera puncticollis* CLAVAREAU, 1909**

ETHIOPIA: Bedele, V 1992, leg. Lizler, 4 specimens (RBCN).

DISTRIBUTION: known from Ethiopia and Eritrea.

***Peploptera trifida* LACORDAIRE, 1848**

RWANDA : Lac Hago, 25 I 1970, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 1 specimen (RBCN).

DISTRIBUTION: known from Republic of South Africa, Mozambique, Democratic Republic of Congo, and Cameroon. New to Rwanda.

***Protoclytra (Lacordairella) rugosa* JACOBY, 1895**

ZIMBABWE: Kariba, 5.XI.1982, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 2 specimens (RBCN, LMCM).

DISTRIBUTION: previously recorded from Republic of South Africa, Namibia, and “Zambezi”. The last toponym refers to the African river running through or bordering five African countries: Zambia, Angola, Namibia, Zimbabwe and Mozambique. The locality “Kariba” is situated in Zimbabwe at the shore of a storage reservoir (Lake Kariba) in the Zambezi river.

REMARKS: both specimens have the two premedial spots on the elytra entirely reduced.

***Paraclytra gambiensis* (LACORDAIRE, 1848)**

SUDAN: Wadi Nigea, 25 XI 1988, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 4 specimens (RBCN); J. Kussa, 30 X 1987 and 4 XI 1987, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 8 specimens (RBCN); Kazangolo, 29 VII 1987, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 4 specimens (RBCN).

DISTRIBUTION: known from Senegal, Guinea, Upper Volta, Togo, Nigeria, Chad, and Gambia; new to Sudan.

REMARKS: all specimens have been collected from *Acacia* sp.

***Clytra wahlbergi* LACORDAIRE, 1848**

RWANDA: Gikondo, 5 XII 1969, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 1 specimen (RBCN); Rusumu, 28 XI 1972, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 1 specimen (RBCN); Gashora, 10 XII 1972, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 1 specimen (RBCN); Lac Ihema, 25 XI 1971, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 1 ex. (RBCN); ZIMBABWE: Kariba, 5 XI 1982, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 1 specimen (RBCN); SWAZILAND: Mbabane, IV 1977, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 1 specimen (RBCN).

DISTRIBUTION: widespread in southern Africa, including Namibia and Malawi; new to Rwanda.

***Melitonoma bomaensis* JACOBY, 1903**

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO: Nsiamfumu, 8. XII.1976, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 1 ♀ (RBCN).

DISTRIBUTION: described from Democratic Republic of Congo (vicinity of Boma).

***Melitonoma breuningi* L. MEDVEDEV, 1993**

UGANDA: Semliki, 21. VIII.1971, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 1 ♀ (RBCN).

DISTRIBUTION: described from Burundi; new to Rwanda.

***Melitonoma decempunctata* (OLIVIER, 1808)**

IVORY COAST: Man, X.1970, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 1 ♀ (RBCN).

DISTRIBUTION: widely distributed in West Africa.

***Melitonoma juvenca* LACORDAIRE, 1848**

NIGER: Tibiri, 2. IX.1962, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 1 ♀ (RBCN).

DISTRIBUTION: known from West Africa, but not previously recorded from Niger.

***Melitonoma kivuensis* BURGEON, 1942**

RWANDA: Gikondo, XII.1969, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 5 specimens (RBCN, LMCM); Gikondo, 2 IV 1970, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 1 specimen (RBCN); Parc N. de l'Akagera, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 1 specimen (RBCN).

DISTRIBUTION: known from Democratic Republic of Congo, Uganda, and Tanzania; new to Rwanda.

REMARKS: one of the specimens collected in December 1969 was caught at light, indicating that this species is capable of flight.

***Melitonoma patruelis* LEFÈVRE, 1891**

SOMALIA: Mereyrey, 1 IX 1985, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 1 specimen (RBCN).

DISTRIBUTION: known from Somalia, Kenia, and Tanzania.

***Melitonoma sobrina* LACORDAIRE, 1848**

UGANDA: Semliki, 21 VIII 1971, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 1 specimen (RBCN); NIGER: Tibiri, 2 IX 1962, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 1 specimen (RBCN); RWANDA: Rusumu, 26 XI 1972, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 2 specimens (RBCN); Gikondo, 20 XII 1969, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 1 specimen (RBCN).

DISTRIBUTION: recorded from Benin, Senegal, Niger, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenia, and Tanzania. New to Uganda and Rwanda.

***Melitonoma schoutedeni* JOLIVET, 1954**

RWANDA: Gikondo, III.1970, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 3 specimens (RBCN, LMCM); Gikondo, V.1970, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 1 specimen (RBCN); Kigali, 16 IV 1970, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 1 specimen (RBCN).

DISTRIBUTION: described from Democratic Republic of Congo; new to Rwanda.

REMARKS: taxonomic position of this species is not quite clear, because the male has not been investigated. Possibly it should be transferred to the genus *Smaragdina*.

***Melitonoma tigrina* BRYANT, 1959**

RWANDA: Icyanya, 20. X. 1972, Pl. Basses, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 10 specimens (RBCN, LMCM); Gikondo, 2 IV 1970, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 3 specimens (RBCN); Gashora, 7 V 1972, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 3 specimens (RBCN).

DISTRIBUTION: known from Uganda and Zimbabwe; new to Rwanda.

***Melitonoma truncatifrons* LACORDAIRE, 1848**

ZIMBABWE: road Binga – Karoi, 18 III 2000, near drive to Gokwe, ± 870 m, 17°24' S – 28°16' E, R. Beenen, 2 specimens (RBCN).

DISTRIBUTION: known from Republic of South Africa, Mozambique, Tanzania, Malawi; new to Zimbabwe.

***Melitonoma vinculata* WEISE, 1910**

UGANDA: K'la, Kazi, 17 III 1991 and 7 IV 1991, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 2 specimens (RBCN).

DISTRIBUTION: described from Benin; new to Uganda.

***Afrophthalma apicalis* (JACOBY, 1891)**

UGANDA: K'la, Kikaya, 20 IV 1991, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 1 specimen (RBCN); Wakiso, 14 IV 1991, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 1 specimen (RBCN); Kidepo National Parc, 15 III 1972, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 1 specimen (RBCN); RWANDA: Mayaga, 20 IV 1973, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 1 specimen (RBCN); Gekondo, XII 1969, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 1 specimen (RBCN); Mytara, 19 XII 1970, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 1 specimen (RBCN).

DISTRIBUTION: widely distributed in West and Central Africa, including Democratic Republic of Congo, where it is represented by a local form; registered also in Republic of South Africa, however this record needs confirmation.

***Afrophthalma elongata* (JACOBY, 1897)**

CAMEROUN: Napalang, 12 VII 1984, on Graminaeae, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 1 specimen (RBCN); RWANDA: Gifurwe, 2 IV 1972, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 3 specimens (RBCN); DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC CONGO, Nsiamfumu, 8 XII 1976, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 1 specimen (RBCN); Tshella, 6 XII 1976, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 1 specimen (RBCN); ETHIOPIA, Genet, VI 1980, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 3 specimens (RBCN)

DISTRIBUTION: known nearly throughout tropical Africa, especially abundant in western and central Africa.

***Afrophthalma filiformis* (LACORDAIRE, 1848)**

UGANDA: K'la, Kikaya, 20 IV 1991, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 2 specimens (RBCN).

DISTRIBUTION: common in West and Central Africa.

Afrophthalma gracilis (LACORDAIRE, 1848)

RWANDA: Kigali, 16 IV 1970 ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 1 specimen (RBCN).

DISTRIBUTION: widely distributed in Africa, but new to Rwanda.

Afrophthalma lefevrei lefevrei (CHAPUIS, 1880)

RWANDA: Mt. Kigali, 20 XI 1971, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 2 specimens (RBCN).

DISTRIBUTION. this subspecies was known from Ethiopia and Eritrea, firstly found in Rwanda. The collecting locality at Mt. Kigali is situated at 1850 meters above sea level.

Afrophthalma socia (WEISE, 1924)

RWANDA: Mt. Kigali, 12 XI 1972, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 1 specimen (RBCN).

DISTRIBUTION: described from Democratic Republic of Congo. However, it might be only a local form of *A. apicalis* JACOBY. First record from Rwanda.

Afrophthalma zanzibarica (LEFÈVRE, 1877)

UGANDA: Kidepo National Parc, 15 III 1972, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 1 specimen (RBCN); K'la, Kikaya, 20 IV 1991, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 1 specimen (RBCN).

DISTRIBUTION: widely distributed in southern and eastern Africa.

Smaragdina bifasciata LEFÈVRE, 1872

UGANDA: K'la Kikaja, 20 iv 1991, on Compositae, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 1 specimen (RBCN).

DISTRIBUTION: widespread in southern and eastern Africa, but not recorded from Uganda.

Smaragdina immaculata immaculata LACORDAIRE, 1848

SOMALIA: Mererey, 1 IX 1965, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 1 specimen (RBCN); UGANDA: Kazi, 10 III 1991 and 7 IV 1991, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 2 specimens (RBCN); RWANDA: Gikondo, xii 1969, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 2 specimens (RBCN);

DISTRIBUTION: common species, known from Senegal, Cameroon, Ghana, Gambia, Guinea, Nigeria, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Sudan, Democratic Republic of Congo. New to Somalia and Uganda.

REMARKS: specimens from Rwanda belong to *Smaragdina immaculata* var. *weisei* JACOBY 1903, which was synonymized with the nominotypical form by MEDVEDEV (1978). Nevertheless it differs from the typical form in having a stronger punctation on elytra and a black underside. This form was known from Gabun, Democratic Republic of Congo and now from Rwanda.

***Smaragdina louwi* L. MEDVEDEV, 1993**

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA: Free State, Sterkfonteindam near Olivershoek Pass, 1 XII 2002, leg. P. Schuele, 1 specimen (RBCN).

DISTRIBUTION: only type series was known, described from Kerkenberg Mt. in Oranje Free State of Republic of South Africa. The species seems to be very rare.

***Smaragdina martini* CLAVAREAU, 1906**

RWANDA: Gifurwe, 2.IV.1972, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 2 specimens (RBCN, LMCM); Mt. Kigali, 11.XI.1972, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 1 specimen (RBCN).

DISTRIBUTION: described from Kiulu (Democratic Republic of Congo); new to Rwanda.

REMARKS: this species is not a typical *Smaragdina* and possibly belongs to *Aspidolopha*.

***Smaragdina ochropus* HAROLD, 1880**

RWANDA: Gikondo, 20 IV 1970, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 2 specimens (RBCN); Gashora, 7 V 1972, ex. coll. J. Roggeman, 1 specimen (RBCN).

DISTRIBUTION: known from Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya and Tanzania; new to Rwanda.

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