

NEW EAST AFRICAN CURCULIONIDAE.

PART I.

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The weevil fauna of East Africa is clearly a very rich one, and it is doubtful whether we yet know much more than a tenth of the species that occur there. Those dealt with in this paper are mostly derived from a large collection submitted for identification by Dr. V. G. L. van Someren, and the Coryndon Memorial Museum, Nairobi, which has made it possible to attempt some elucidation of the numerous species that have hitherto been "lumped" into the genus *Systates*.

The types of the new species have been deposited in the British Museum.

Subfamily BRACHYDERINAE.

***Heterostylus gedyei*, sp.n.**

♂ ♀. Derm black, with dense pearl-grey or brownish grey scaling; elytra with a deeply zigzagged common V-shaped pale brown band across the top of the declivity, reaching laterally to stria 9, and before middle an indefinite small transverse patch of the same colour between striae 3 and 6. The ♂ is nearly always darker than the ♀.

Head elongate, the temples longer than an eye, with the usual shallow transverse impression between the frons and vertex; frons gently convex transversely, not elevated near the eyes, with a deep median stria, the coarse punctation hidden by scaling; eyes strongly convex, almost semicircular. *Rostrum* of ♀ about as long as broad, longer in ♂, gradually widening from base to genae, with dense broad epistomal setae; dorsal area slightly convex transversely with only an abbreviated low median carina partly covered by the scaling, which entirely conceals the coarse punctation so that the surface appears to be quite smooth; mandibles and mentum with dense setae and also a few scales. *Antennae* black, densely squamose; scape quite straight, gradually widening from base, extending shortly beyond the eyes, but not nearly reaching the prothorax; funicle with joint 2 longer than 1, 4-6 as long as broad, 3 and 7 slightly longer than broad. *Prothorax* slightly broader than long, widest at the base, with the sides almost straight and slightly converging from base to beyond middle, then narrowing with a curve to the apex,

which is not constricted; dorsum transversely convex, densely squamose, with a smooth even surface and a shallow abbreviated median stria which is often concealed by scaling. *Scutellum* sloping rather steeply forwards, squamose. *Elytra* widest at the obtusely prominent shoulders, gradually narrowing behind, slightly dehiscent at the apex; the narrow striae with widely separated shallow punctures, partly covered by scaling; the broad intervals feebly convex, with irregular appressed stout brown setae, which are short and inconspicuous on the disk and much longer on the declivity, where the suture is somewhat raised; the darker scales on intervals 1 and 2 from the middle to the declivity are mostly much narrower than the pale ones and sharply pointed. *Legs* with dense grey scaling, the femora with appressed broad setae; tibiae of ♂ with a sharp perpendicular mucro.

Length 8-12 mm., *breadth* 3.5-5.4 mm.

KENYA: Emali Range, Sultan Hamud, 4,900 to 5,900 feet, 28 ♂ 24 ♀, iii, 1940. (Emali Survey, Dr. V. G. L. van Someren.)

Allied to *H. longiceps* Pasc., from Tanganyika, which however is uniform brownish grey in colour, with the elytra much more strongly narrowed behind from the shoulders, the striae being broader and deeper and devoid of scaling; the sides of the dorsal area of the rostrum are more sharply marginate, and the median carina is higher and bare.

Subfamily OTIORRHYNCHINAE.

***Diatmetus sparsisquamis*, sp.n.**

♂♀. Derm dull black, with sparse inconspicuous isolated scales above varying from metallic green to pale blue; underside with larger denser buff-coloured scales along the sides of the sternum.

Head with rugose confluent punctation and a short deep median sulcus; eyes moderately convex. *Rostrum* a little longer than broad, parallel-sided basally and only moderately dilated at the genae; the dorsal area shallowly sinuate laterally, rugosely and confluent punctate, with a rugose median carina and a depression on each side of it, the interantennal area containing a low subtriangular elevation behind the epistome. *Antennae* rather long, black; scape with sparse short pale setiform scales and stout recumbent dark setae; funicle with joint 1 a little longer than 2, 3 longer than 4, 4-7 subequal, much longer than broad, clavate. *Prothorax* transverse (8:11), gently rounded laterally, widest behind middle; dorsum somewhat flattened on the disk, rugulose with fairly close low granules and a broad shallow depression in the middle of the base. *Elytra* of ♂ broadly ovate, dilated at one-fifth from the base, the apices

jointly forming an obtuse angle; ♀ less dilated near the base, with a small obtuse laterally-projecting tubercle on each side at a short distance before the apex, the apices jointly projecting to form an acute angle; the dorsal outline almost flat in the basal third, then forming a moderately steep curve to the apex; the 16 fairly regular shallow striae containing small punctures separated by low round granules, those in the basal third of stria 1 being larger than the others; the intervals not wider than the punctures, rugulose, with a row of minute inconspicuous setae. *Legs* red, the tarsi and the apices of femora and tibiae black, with sparse pale setae; hind tibiae of ♂ strongly denticulate, several of the teeth being much larger than the others, hind tibiae of ♀ with only small granules. *Mesosternum* not tuberculate. *Venter* of ♂ with a very broad deep sulcus on the basal half of the anal ventrite and a transverse impression at its apex.

Length 8.5-10.5 mm., *breadth* 4-6 mm.

KENYA: Wandanyi, 5,000 feet; 8 ♂ 12 ♀, iii, 1939 (type); Teita Hills, Bura, 5,000 feet, 7 ♂ 4 ♀, ii, 1939 (Teita Hills Survey, V. G. L. van Someren); Teita Hills, near Voi, 4,500 feet, 1 ♂, on coffee, xi, 1921 (H. E. Box).

Of the two previously described species, the genotype, *praemorsus*, Gerst., differs in being densely clothed with brown scales; the eyes are more convex; the prothorax is rugose, but not granulate, narrowing from base to apex, with the sides straight; the base of the elytra is wider than that of the prothorax and the apices subtruncate; and the mesosternum is sharply tuberculate.

D. vicinus Hust., differs in having the antennae much shorter and stouter; the prothorax is sparsely granulate and parallel-sided in the basal half; and the mesosternum is tuberculate.

***Polyrrhabdotus shimbanus*, sp.n.**

♂ ♀. *Derm* piceous to black; rostrum, head and prothorax with dense pale fawn scaling, which is usually more sparse in the middle of the latter causing an indefinite darker stripe, and some bright green scales at the apex of the rostrum and behind the eyes; elytra with rather sparse creamy or very pale green scales in all the punctures or depressions, here and there forming dense spots, especially in two very variable macular bands, one before the middle and the other at the top of the declivity.

Head with the forehead flat, densely squamose, with small bare spots bearing short stout suberect setae, and with a deep median sulcus; eyes very convex, highest behind the middle. *Rostrum* a little longer than broad, almost parallel-sided in the basal half, moderately dilated at the genae, the narrowest part between the scrobes about half the width of the base; the dorsal

area with a partly squamose median carina and a shallow longitudinal impression on each side of it, the subcarinate margins diverging behind; clothing as on the head; scape thick, feebly bisinuate; the two basal joints of the funicle equal. *Prothorax* transverse (3:4), rounded laterally, widest at a little behind the middle, with the apical margin sinuate; dorsum somewhat flattened in the middle of the disk, with dense scaling and scattered round opaque black spots bearing a short recumbent scale-like seta, without any median carina. *Elytra* subglobose (6:5), widest before the middle, acuminate at the apex, the humeral area obtusely elevated in ♀ only; dorsum very strongly convex longitudinally, highest before the middle, sloping steeply to the base, the curvature forming a strong angle with the outline of the pronotum; the large punctures very irregular, obscuring the normal striae and intervals, the septa between the punctures often uniting laterally to form undulant transverse ridges; the scaling mainly confined to the punctures. *Legs* red-brown, with rather dense pale scaling, the apices of the femora blackish with green scaling; hind tibiae of ♂ with a row of large blunt teeth, those of ♀ with only very small denticles. *Venter* of ♀ without any longitudinal sulcus at the base of ventrite 5.

Length 5.5-9.0 mm., *breadth* 3-5 mm.

KENYA: Rabai, 1 ♂ 1 ♀, i-ii, 1929 (A. F. J. Gedye); Rabai, 2 ♀, i, 1924, viii, 1937; Shimba Hills, 4 ♂ 4 ♀, iii, 1941 (Dr. V. G. L. van Someren).

The only other known species of the genus, *P. transversalis* Fst., 1896, has the scales of the elytra of a brilliant metallic green and these are confined to the depressions, forming narrow wavy transverse lines without any denser patches; the outline of the elytra is much less convex longitudinally and almost continuous with that of the pronotum; the granules on the pronotum are much larger and shiny; and ventrite 5 of the ♀ has a longitudinal impression in the middle of its base.

Genus *Systates* Gerst.

As at present constituted, *Systates* is obviously a composite genus, and authors have found difficulty in discriminating it from *Isaniris* Thoms. at one end of the series and *Nematocerus* Reiche (= *Tanycerus* Lac.) and *Mitophorus* Gerst., at the other end. Faust concluded (*Ann. Soc. Ent. Belg.*, 1894, p. 516, note) that the only character differentiating *Systates* from *Isaniris* was that the former had only ten regular striae, whereas the latter had twelve or more irregular ones; but this character occurs also in species that cannot be included in *Isaniris*.

A useful means for making a preliminary division of the complex is to be found in the number of setae on the disk of the

mentum, and twelve genera are distinguished in the following Key. These setae are sometimes difficult to see, but become much more conspicuous if the apex of the rostrum is turned away from the light; if they are abraded, the points of attachment can often be detected. The mouth-parts nearly always require to be cleaned first with benzene.

It is not to be assumed, however, that the species thus left in *Systates* necessarily form a homogenous assemblage; but the impossibility of obtaining access to a large number of the many described species renders any fuller analysis of the genus undesirable at present.

No genotype appears to have been fixed for *Systates* so far, and therefore the first and most widely spread species described by Gerstaecker, namely, *S. pollinosus*, is now cited as the genotype.

KEY TO GENERA ALLIED TO *Systates*.

- 1 (12). Mentum bearing only two setae on the disk.
- 2 (9). Elytra with only ten regular striae.
- 3 (4). Elytra sloping gradually down to their junction with the mesonotum, without any vertical declivity at base; scutellar area of mesonotum quite flat.
..... **Mesoleurus**, g.n.
- 4 (3). Elytra with a more or less abrupt vertical declivity at the base which fits against the base of the prothorax; the posterior angle of the scutellar area turned abruptly upwards at its tip between the bases of the elytra.
- 5 (8). Elytra not carinate at base; joint 1 of funicle longer than 2; tibiae without a mucro; granules or punctures on pronotum transverse and often confluent.
- 6 (7). Rostrum without a median carina (except *sphaericus* Fst.); head separated from rostrum by a deep, strongly angulated sulcus, which unites in the middle with a short deep longitudinal furrow on the frons; the transversely striate occipital area extending right up to hind margin of eyes. **Phoromitus**, g.n.
- 7 (6). Rostrum with a median carina; head separated from rostrum by a straight shallow sulcus, usually obsolete in middle; striolate occipital area not reaching eyes.
..... *Nematocerus* Reiche.
- 8 (5). Elytra with a distinct basal carina; joint 1 of funicle not longer than 2; at least front tibia with a mucro;

- granules or punctures on pronotum more or less round, not transverse. **Systaniris**, g.n.
- 9 (2). Elytra with twelve or more striae, usually very irregular without a basal carina.
- 10 (11). Corbels of hind tibiae open; joint 1 of funicle longer than 2; scrobes subdorsal, broadly visible from above; hind margin of epistome distinctly carinate, almost semicircular. **Isanates**, g.n.
- 11 (10). Corbels of hind tibiae very broadly enclosed; joint 1 of funicle a little shorter than 2; scrobes sublateral, only narrowly visible from above; hind margin of epistome obsolete. **Machaerorhinus**, g.n.
- 12 (1). Mentum bearing more than two setae.
- 13 (22). Mentum bearing four or six setae.
- 14 (21). Intercoxal process of venter broadly truncate, as wide as or wider than a hind coxa; mentum with four setae.
- 15 (16). Corbels of hind tibiae narrowly enclosed; rostrum with the scrobes forming a deep, almost semicircular, lateral incision in the dorsal area, the posterior side of the incision forming a sharp angle; joint 1 of funicle equal to or shorter than 2; elytra with more than ten irregular rows of punctures. *Isaniris* Thoms.
- 16 (15). Corbels of hind tibiae entirely open; rostrum with the dorsal area not laterally incised; joint 1 of funicle always longer than 2.
- 17 (20). Rostrum with a median carina, epistome defined; hind tibiae without any mucro; vertex of head with strong transverse striation (often concealed by prothorax).
- 18 (19). Elytra with eighteen partly irregular rows of punctures. *Diaecoderus* Fairm.
- 19 (18). Elytra with ten regular striae. *Systates* Gerst.
- 20 (17). Rostrum without any median carina, epistome obliterated; hind tibiae with a mucro; vertex of head without transverse striation, even under prothorax; elytra with the punctures in the ten striae irregular and sometimes duplicated. *Liosystates* Hust.
- 21 (14). Intercoxal process of venter only half the width of a hind coxa; mentum with six setae; vertex of head without transverse striation; hind tibiae mucronate. *Oreosystates* Mshl.
- 22 (13). Mentum with eight setae. *Mitophorus* Gerst.

Seeing that as a result of this revision sixty of the species listed under *Systates* in the latest catalogue have to be transferred elsewhere, it will clearly be a convenience to list them here under their respective genera.

Diaecoderus Fairm.
acuticollis Fst.
chyuluanus Mshl.
densepunctatus Aur.
otiorrhynchoides Hust.
sobrinus Mshl.
trapezicollis Fst.
villosus Hust.

Isanates, g.n.
bispinosus Hust.
irregularis Fst.
Machaerorrhinus, g.n.
bicornutus Hust.

Mesoleurus, g.n.
albidovittatus Fairm.
dentipes Mshl.
habenatus Mshl.
katonaensis Hust.
strophosomoides Hust.
suturalis Hust.

Nematocerus Reiche.
angustirostris Aur.
assimilis Aur.
bayeri Hust.
brevicornis Hust.
castaneipennis Hust.
dollei Fairm.
elegantulus Hust.
elongatus Aur.
farinosus Hust.
glaber Hust.
laevistriatus Hust.
lindblomi Aur.
loveni Aur.

Nematocerus Reiche—contd.

marginalis Hust.
metallicus Gerst.
mülleri Hust.
nigriclava Hust.
nigrinus Hust.
nitens Hust.
opacus Aur.
pilifrons Hust.
prolixus Fairm.
proximus Hust.
pyriförmis Aur.
rothschildi Aur.
ruficornis Fairm.
simplex Aur.
striolatus Aur.
sulcatus Hust.
sylvaticus Hust.
torticornis Mshl.
virescens Aur.
vittatus Aur.
zukwalanus Hust.

Phoromitus, g.n.
longehirtus Hust.
rhinorhytus Aur.
sphaericus Fst.

Systaniris, g.n.
angulipennis Qued.
erinaceus Hust.
fossulatus Klb.
laticollis Pasc.
maynei Mshl.
pumilus Fst.
ramosus Mshl.

***Systates cobaltinus*, sp.n.**

♂ ♀. Derm rather dull black, with sparse narrow small scales of cobalt blue above, those on the head and pronotum being longer and setiform; one of the two females has the elytra with very few blue scales and with sparse spots of longer yellowish scales; underside with dense pale green scales at the sides of the sternum, the venter and metasternum with grey setae.

Head with very sparse recumbent blue setae and a few erect whitish ones; frons flat, lower than base of rostrum, as wide as the length of an eye, shallowly wrinkled, with a deep median

stria; eyes moderately convex. *Rostrum* a little longer than its basal width, scarcely narrowed from base to middle, slightly dilated at apex; the dorsal area almost parallel-sided, obtusely marginate laterally, with a strong median carina and an ill-defined low transverse elevation behind the epistome. *Antennae* long, very slender, piceous; scape abruptly clavate, with sparse recumbent setae; funicle with joint 1 as long as 2+3+4, 2-6 gradually diminishing, 7 as long as 4. *Prothorax* transverse (5:7), rounded laterally, widest at middle, slightly narrower at apex than at base; dorsum slightly convex longitudinally, highest near base, rather closely set with flattened granules of varying shapes, usually with a trace of a low median carina anteriorly. *Elytra* narrowly subelliptical in ♂, much broader in ♀, immarginate and vertically declivous at base; dorsal curvature slight in ♂ and vertical at apex, more convex in ♀ and incurved but not produced downwards at apex; the regular striae with deep punctures separated by low granules, the intervals transversely rugose, broader than the striae in ♀ but not in ♂, without setae. *Legs* black, with sparse recumbent bluish setae, the ♂ with the tibiae and the basal half of the femora beneath clothed with long white erect setae; front tibiae of ♂ not incurved at apex, hind tibiae deeply excavate and flattened on the apical half of the lower edge, the basal half of the inner edge strongly denticulate. *Venter* of ♂ rather thinly clothed with long soft erect white setae, the basal ventrite broadly and deeply depressed in the middle.

Length 4.8-6.5. mm., breadth 1.7-3.0 mm.

KENYA: Wandanyi, 5,000 feet, 16 ♂ 2 ♀, iii, 1939. (Teita Hills Survey, Dr. V. G. L. van Someren.)

Allied to *S. smeei* Mshl., from Nyasaland, which however, apart from colour distinctions, differs in having much stouter antennae, the frons level with the rostrum, less convex eyes, and coarsely granulate elytra.

***Systates alsus*, s.p.**

♂♀. Derm shiny black with rather thin grey scaling above and below; elytra with intervals 1-3 more or less bare from base to top of declivity.

Head aciculate or with very shallow confluent punctures, sparsely squamose and with a few erect pale setae; frons flat, forming a low angle with the base of the rostrum, wider than the length of an eye (3:2), with a deep median stria; eyes moderately convex. *Rostrum* a little longer than its basal width, parallel-sided, not dilated at the genae; the dorsal area parallel-sided, tricarinate, the interantennal area impressed, almost smooth. *Antennae* long, very slender, honey-brown, with the club of the scape and the apices of the funicular joints infusate; scape abruptly clavate, with sparse recumbent setae; funicle with joint 1 longer than 2+3, 2-6 gradually diminishing, 7 as long

as 4. *Prothorax* slightly transverse (9:10), rounded laterally, widest behind middle, shallowly constricted at apex, which is slightly narrower than the base; dorsum feebly convex longitudinally, highest near base and there steeply declivous, with close flattened granules and an ill-defined abbreviated smooth median line, and with slightly spatulate short suberect setae. *Elytra* narrowly ovate in ♂, much broader in ♀, immarginate and steeply declivous at base, produced downwards at apex in ♀; dorsal curvature slight in ♂ and very steep at apex, more convex in ♀ and vertical at apex; the regular striae with close deep round punctures, the intervals broader than the striae, smooth, with a row of broad setae, which are short, darker and inconspicuous anteriorly but pure white and erect on the declivity; in ♂ the posterior setae are short and rather sparse, in ♀ much longer and much more numerous, there being also a group of long narrower dark setae on interval 1 at the top of the declivity. *Legs* black, with sparse narrow grey scales; front tibiae of ♂ strongly incurved at the apex, the deep sinuation thus caused on the lower edge being denticulate and bearing long pale erect setae, hind tibiae similarly but less strongly curved, the inner face somewhat flattened and with a row of denticles along its upper and lower edges, those on the basal half being longer, especially on the lower edge; tibiae of ♀ much more shallowly sinuate, and only the hind pair finely denticulate. *Venter* of ♂ with very short sparse subrecumbent setae, ventrite 1 with a broad median sulcus and a strong costa on each side, 2 smooth in the middle and rugose laterally.

Length 4.5-6.0 mm., *breadth* 1.8-3.0 mm.

KENYA: Wandanyi, 5,000 feet, 5 ♂ 4 ♀, iii, 1939. (Teita Hills Survey, Dr. V. G. L. van Someren.)

Allied to *S. beiranus* Mshl., which has the rostrum somewhat dilated at apex, with the dorsal area sinuate laterally; antennae shorter and much stouter; prothorax more transverse, with larger convex granules; elytra submarginate at base, with much larger punctures; and the tarsi much shorter.

Systates oreas, sp.n.

♂ ♀. Derm dull piceous, with thin grey or yellowish scaling above and at the sides of the lower surface, and usually a faint common V-shaped pale mark at the top of the declivity.

Head finely rugulose, sparsely squamose, with a few short erect setae along the eyes; frons flat, forming a low angle with the base of the rostrum, much wider than the length of an eye (5:3), with a short deep median stria; eyes strongly convex. *Rostrum* as long as broad, almost parallel-sided, only very slightly dilated at the genae; the dorsal area flat or shallowly depressed, with a distinct median carina and a low obtuse transverse ridge anteriorly, the lateral carinae converging behind, the interantennal area depressed, bare and smooth. *Antennae* long,

slender, honey-brown; scape abruptly clavate, with sparse fine subrecumbent setae; funicle with joint 1 shorter than 2+3, 2-7 gradually diminishing. *Prothorax* transverse (σ 5:6, φ 4.5:6), gently rounded laterally and widest at about middle in σ , more strongly rounded and widest behind middle in φ , broadly but shallowly constricted at apex, which is a little narrower than the base; dorsum feebly convex longitudinally, highest behind middle and moderately declivous at base, with fairly close small low granules, a variable smooth median line on the anterior half, a very shallow transverse depression on each side near apex, and a shallow round impression on each side near base; the setae short, spatulate and recumbent. *Elytra* narrowly elliptical in σ , broadly ovate in φ , vertically declivous and immarginate at base in both sexes, and produced downwards at apex in φ ; dorsum flattened on the disk and steeply declivous behind, with a deep oval depression before middle in φ between intervals 1 and 3 (very feeble or obsolete in σ); the regular striae with small close punctures, the intervals broader than the striae, especially in φ , each with a row of erect spatulate setae, which are sparse and inconspicuous on the disk and longer and denser on the declivity, there being a conspicuous tuft of setae on interval 1 at the top of the declivity in φ . *Legs* with sparse pale scales and an indefinite pale band on the femora: front tibia of σ strongly incurved at apex and finely denticulate below, those of φ less curved and not denticulate; hind tibiae similar in the two sexes, slightly curved, flattened on the inner face, of which both upper and lower edges are finely denticulate. *Venter* of σ broadly but shallowly impressed at base, with a shallow median furrow on the posterior half of ventrite 1.

Length 4.5-5.5 mm., *breadth* 2-4 mm.

KENYA: Mt. Kenya, 8,000 feet, 3 σ 6 φ , xii, 1934 (A.F.J. Gedye type); Gura River, 7,500 feet, 3 σ 1 φ , viii, 1929 (R. E. Dent); Nanyuki, 5,500 feet, 3 φ , xii, 1926 (A. F. J. Gedye); S.E. slopes of Mt. Kenya, 6,000 to 7,000 feet, 1 φ , ii, 1911, W. slopes of Mt. Kenya, on Meru-Nyeri road, 6,000 to 8,500 feet, 1 σ 1 φ , ii, 1911 (Dr. S. A. Neave).

Closely allied to *S. cordatus* Aur., which, however, has the eyes less convex; the rostrum has no transverse ridge anteriorly and the interantennal area is not depressed; the elytra of the φ are much narrower, not flattened dorsally, and without the two discal impressions.

Genus *Diaecoderus* Fairm.

This genus does not appear to have been recognised by recent authors. Two specimens of the genotype, *D. hamaticollis* Fairm., taken by Revoil at Tabora, Tanganyika, were in the Fry Collection (British Museum) and prove to be closely allied to *Systates acuticollis* Fst., from the same country, so that this species

together with five other *Systates* (indicated above) must be transferred to this genus. *Isaniris ater* Mshl., also belongs here, as well as *I. cognatus* Mshl.

The genus, as at present known, ranges from Abyssinia, through Kenya, Tanganyika, Nyasaland and the Rhodesias into the Katanga district of the Belgian Congo.

Genus **Mesoleurus**, nov.

The species of this genus differ from all the others here associated with them in the form of the mesonotum and the base of the elytra. In the other genera there is at the base of the elytra a short vertical declivity (the upper edge of which may or may not be carinate) that fits more or less closely against a similar area at the base of the pronotum, thus normally concealing the mesonotum. But in *Mesoleurus* the elytra slope more or less gradually down to the mesonotum, which is seen as a large flat triangle between their bases, and the base of the prothorax slides freely over them, being itself almost flat without any basal carina. This mesonotal triangle is here called the scutellar area, because it is not a true scutellum in the conventional sense of that term.

In the winged *Curculionidae* the posterior angle of the scutellar area is first turned upwards and its tip is again bent backwards between the bases of the elytra on the dorsal surface, this tip forming the normal scutellum. In most wingless forms the tip of the scutellar area still turns almost vertically upwards, but is not bent backwards between the elytra and is not normally visible dorsally. In *Mesoleurus*, however, the scutellar area is flat throughout to the tip of the angle, and is usually broadly exposed, being even squamose in some species.

Other characters are: *Rostrum* separated from the frons by an almost straight incision; mentum somewhat immersed at base, with only two setae. *Antennae* slender, scape cylindrical, with finely appressed setae, joint 1 of funicle longer than 2, all joints longer than broad. *Elytra* gradually narrowing to base, with ten regular striae. *Legs* with the front coxae very close to the anterior margin of the prosternum; corbels of hind tibiae open.

Genotype: *Systates habenatus* Mshl.

Five other species of *Systates* that must also be transferred to this genus have been listed above (p. 314), and seven new species are described below.

The genus ranges from Eritrea down to the Rhodesias and into the Katanga district of the Belgian Congo, but it has not been found in Uganda or further west.

KEY TO THE SPECIES OF *Mesoleurus*.

- 1 (10). Frons very broad, its width twice the length of an eye or nearly so; lateral margins of dorsal area of rostrum

- rather ill-defined; scutellar area squamose; epistome without a carinate margin.
- 2 (9). Pronotum with shallow subreticulate or confluent punctures; dorsal area of rostrum much narrower than frons; mid coxae and hind tibia of ♂ without processes.
 - 3 (6). Elytra without any definite sublateral stripe; funicle with joint 3 only slightly longer than 4.
 - 4 (5). Scaling pale green, dorsal scales almost round; elytra of ♀ with the dorsal outline sloping upwards from base; hind tibiae of ♂ narrower, the inner face flattened only near apex, partly squamose and without transverse ridges *strophosomoides* Hust.
 - 5 (4). Scaling pale coppery, dorsal scales narrow; elytra of ♀ flat at base forming an almost continuous line with the pronotum; hind tibiae of ♂ with the inner face broadly flattened throughout, bare, with numerous transverse ridges. **costatipes**, sp.n.
 - 6 (3). Elytra with a sublateral stripe of scales; funicle with joint 3 very nearly as long as 4+5.
 - 7 (8). Elytra with a sharply defined sublateral stripe of pale green or gold scales between striae 5 and 8, interval 3 without any row of spots; base of venter and metasternum depressed in ♀, the latter with numerous scales and sparse recumbent setae. **limbatus**, sp.n.
 - 8 (7). Elytra with a whitish sublateral stripe that is irregular on both edges and a row of small whitish spots on interval 3; base of venter and metasternum not depressed in ♀, the latter with numerous suberect setae and sparse narrow scales. **direptus**, sp.n.
 - 9 (2). Pronotum with flat granules; dorsal area of rostrum nearly as wide at base as the frons; mid coxae of ♂ with a long stout spine, hind tibiae of ♂ with a broad laminate process near apex on inner edge **laminifer**, sp.n.
 - 10 (1). Width of frons not greater than the length of an eye, or rarely one-third more; lateral margins of dorsal area of rostrum sharply defined, scutellar area of mesonotum bare.
 - 11 (12). Epistome without a carinate margin, rostrum parallel-sided; frons wider than dorsal area of rostrum; front tibiae of ♂ with a very large triangular tooth on inner edge and mid tibiae with a long sharp tooth *dentipes* Mshl.
 - 12 (11). Epistome with a carinate margin; frons not wider than base of dorsal area of rostrum; anterior pairs of tibiae of ♂ without a tooth.
 - 13 (14). Rostrum with a distinct median carina, pronotum with duplicate punctation; elytra densely squamose throughout *albidovittatus* Fairm.

- 14 (13). Rostrum with the median carina absent or obsolescent; pronotum with simple punctation or flattened granules; elytra only partly squamose.
- 15 (18). Pronotum with granules only, without punctures; rostrum with a carina running obliquely backwards and downwards from the lower edge of the scrobe.
- 16 (17). Rostrum longer than broad; frons depressed, with a long median stria; pronotum shiny, with much flattened large subcontiguous granules; elytra ovate, without any patch of scales at base of intervals 6-9 or behind middle on interval 4 *habenatus* Mshl.
- 17 (16). Rostrum stouter, quadrate; frons longitudinally convex, with a round fovea equidistant from rostrum and eyes; pronotum dull, shagreened, with small separated granules; elytra pyriform, with a patch of scales at base of intervals 6-9 and another on 4 behind middle **cyladoides**, sp.n.
- 18 (15). Pronotum punctate or with mixed punctures and flattened granules; rostrum without an oblique carina below scrobe.
- 19 (20). Prothorax very nearly as wide at apex as at base, almost as long as broad; elytra subglobose, strongly constricted at base, without any sutural stripe of scales, but with an abbreviated stripe on interval 4 starting behind base and not reaching middle ... **plagiatus**, sp.n.
- 20 (19). Prothorax much narrower at apex than at base, distinctly transverse (3:4); elytra pyriform or ovate, moderately constricted at base, with a complete sutural stripe but none on interval 4.
- 21 (22). Pronotum with mixed punctures and flattened granules; funicle with joint 7 much longer than broad; the postmedian patches of scales on intervals 5 and 6 of elytra short oblong, almost in juxtaposition, extending only shortly behind the stripe on interval 7 *katonaensis* Hust.
- 22 (21). Pronotum simply punctate; funicle with joint 7 as long as broad; the postmedian patches on intervals 5 and 6 elongate, extending in echelon far behind the stripe on interval 7 **cinctus**, sp.n.

Judging by the description, *Systates suturalis* Hust., 1931, is provisionally transferred to this genus; it is apparently allied to the last two species, but the sublateral stripe is broader (on intervals 6-8) and curves inwards behind to interval 3; and joints 1 and 2 of the funicle are equal.

Mesoleurus limbatus, sp.n.

♀. Derm dull black, with separated narrow pale green or coppery scales that do not conceal the integument; prothorax with a broad lateral stripe of denser broader pale green or coppery

scales; elytra with a sharply defined lateral stripe of broader pale green or pale gold scales between striae 5 and 8 from base nearly to apex, or suffusing the whole apical area.

Head with small dense confluent punctures but only the narrow intervals showing through the scaling; frons very broad, nearly as broad as the base of the rostrum, the width equal to twice the length of an eye, with a deep median fovea adjoining the rostrum; eyes strongly convex. *Rostrum* slightly broader than long, narrowing from base to apex, the genae not projecting; the dorsal area nearly half the width of the frons, transversely depressed in the middle, with a distinct median carina, but the lateral carinae becoming obsolescent behind, the interantennal part separated off by a transverse ridge, flat and less rugosely punctate than the posterior part; epistome with an obtuse non-carinate margin. *Antennae* elongate, very slender, testaceous, with the apex of all the joints infuscate; scape abruptly clavate, with sparse appressed fine setae; funicle with all the joints clavate, 1 shorter than 2+3, 3 much longer than 4, 4-6 equal, 7 nearly as long as 3. *Prothorax* transverse (10:13), parallel-sided from base to middle, then narrowing slightly to apex; dorsum punctate like the head, with an indefinite shallow transverse impression close to apex. *Scutellar area* densely squamose. *Elytra* of ♀ subelliptical, moderately rounded laterally, widest at a little behind middle; dorsal outline gradually rising from base, then nearly flat to the declivity, which is vertical; the shallow striae with small close deep punctures which become very shallow behind, the intervals broad, slightly convex and finely rugulose transversely; the numerous irregular setae short, clavate and subrecumbent on the sides and declivity, but much smaller and inconspicuous on the disk. *Legs* black, rather densely squamose, the tarsi reddish; hind tibiae of ♀ slightly curved and with small granules on the inner edge; hind tarsi with joint 1 longer than 2+3.

Length 6 mm., breadth 2.2 mm.

N.W. RHODESIA: Mwendwa, 2 ♀, xii, 1913, i, 1914 (H. C. Dollman).

Close to *strophosomoides* Hust., from Katanga, which differs (in addition to the characters given in the Key) in having the sides of the prothorax more rounded, and the pale green scales on the disk of the elytra are almost round, instead of narrow.

Mesoleurus direptus, sp.n.

♀. Derm dull black, with narrow greyish or coppery scales that do not conceal the surface and markings formed of denser broader whitish scales; prothorax with a much interrupted broad whitish lateral stripe and a few white scales down the median line; elytra with a very irregular submarginal whitish stripe and interval 3 with a row of small white spots varying in

number from 2 to 7; underside with rather dense suberect setae and sparse narrow scales, without the usual densely squamose areas laterally.

Closely allied structurally to *limbatus*, sp.n., and differing chiefly as follows:—

Head much more coarsely punctate, with the elongate frontal fovea rather broader and deeper; the only pale markings being a small spot in front of the eyes and a few scales along the median line. *Rostrum* somewhat broader and less narrowed in front. *Prothorax* proportionately longer, more strongly punctate, more or less striolate transversely, the spaces between the punctures usually forming small low granules. *Scutellar area* with only a few scales. *Elytra* ovate, widest before the middle, the vertical posterior declivity longer and much more abrupt; the punctures in the striae larger and much less diminished behind. *Legs* black, except the red claws, with rather sparse narrow scales; legs rather stouter than in *limbatus*, hind tarsi with joint 1 not longer than 2+3.

Length 6.0-6.7 mm., *breadth* 2.5-2.7 mm.

TANGANYIKA: Ndala, Tabora district, 3 ♀, xii, 1916, i, 1917 (Dr. G. D. Hale Carpenter).

Mesoleurus costatipes, sp.n.

♂♀. Dull black, rather thinly clothed with narrow non-contiguous coppery scales; prothorax with a very indefinite lateral stripe of broader and usually paler scales, and similar scales scattered on the sides and posterior declivity of the elytra.

Head and *rostrum* of ♀ as described for *M. limbatus*, sp.n., except that the dorsal area of the rostrum is not depressed, the median carina is flattened, and the lateral carinae less distinct; rostrum of ♂ slightly longer and the width of the frons only 1.5 times the length of an eye. *Antennae* as in *M. limbatus*. *Prothorax* of ♂ somewhat transverse (5:6), moderately rounded laterally, widest at middle, distinctly narrower at apex than at base, with small rugosely-confluent punctures, a broad shallow transverse depression at the apex, and usually a small smooth spot in the middle of the disk; prothorax of ♀ broader and less rounded laterally. *Scutellar area* densely squamose. *Elytra* of ♂ rather narrowly subelliptical, widest at middle, the dorsal outline almost flat, continuous with that of the pronotum, or nearly so, the posterior declivity sloping, the shallow striae with small close punctures that scarcely diminish behind, the broad intervals slightly convex and finely rugulose, the irregular short subrecumbent setae inconspicuous except on the declivity; elytra of ♀ much broader, the dorsal outline continuous with that of the pronotum, the posterior declivity vertical, and the apex somewhat produced downwards. *Legs* black, rather sparsely squamose, the tarsi red-brown; hind tibiae of ♂ with the inner

face broadly flattened throughout, bare, with numerous transverse ridges, those of ♀ not flattened or granulate internally; hind tarsi with joint 1 not longer than 2-3. *Venter* of ♂ with a broad median furrow on ventrite 5.

Length 5-6 mm., *breadth* 2.0-2.6 mm.

N.E. RHODESIA: Serenje district, 3 ♂ 10 ♀, xii, 1907 (Dr. S. A. Neave).

Closely allied to *strophosomoides* Hust., but sufficiently distinguished by the characters given in the Key. In the original description of the latter species the rostrum is said to be longer than broad and the prothorax of the male as long as broad, whereas in the specimens before me (including a cotype) both these parts are broader than long.

Mesoleurus laminifer, sp.n.

♂. Rather dull black, with sparse small broad whitish scales, which are denser laterally on the prothorax, elytra and sternum.

Head rugosely punctate, sparsely squamose; frons nearly as broad as the base of the rostrum, the width 1.7 times the length of an eye, flat transversely, with a small median fovea adjoining the rostrum; eyes strongly convex. *Rostrum* as long as broad, almost parallel-sided; the dorsal area slightly convex transversely, widening from antennae to base, rugosely punctate, with a strong median carina, the lateral margins becoming indistinct basally, the interantennal part concave, smooth and sparsely punctate; epistome with the margin not carinate. *Antennae* elongate, slender, reddish or testaceous, with the apices of all the joints and the club infusate; scape abruptly clavate, with fine sparse recumbent setae; funicle with the joints clavate, 1 shorter than 2+3, 3 much longer than 4, 4 slightly longer than 5, 5-7 subequal. *Prothorax* very nearly as long as broad, rounded laterally, widest at middle, a little narrower at apex than base, sometimes with a transverse impression near apex; dorsum transversely rugulose, with numerous small flat granules bearing a puncture on the inner side that often makes them appear lunate. *Scutellar area* sparsely squamose. *Elytra* of ♂ narrowly subelliptical, widest before middle; dorsal outline rising slightly from the base, then almost flat, the declivity steep; the shallow striae with strong punctures that only slightly diminish behind; the broader intervals somewhat convex, transversely rugulose, the very short recumbent setae inconspicuous even on the declivity. *Legs* entirely black, sparsely squamose; mid coxae bearing a very stout long blunt spine; front tibiae deeply sinuate on the inner edge close to apex, mid pair with a rather shallower sinuation and a few sharp granules above it, hind pair flattened and bare on the inner face with numerous transverse sulci and ridges, and just before the apex a large subtriangular laminate process projecting inwards and upwards which is clothed on its

distal surface with long curved setae, a few of which also ascend the dorsal edge of the tibia for a short distance; hind tarsi with joint 1 a little shorter than 2+3.

Length 7.0-8.5 mm., *breadth* 2.5-3.0 mm.

NYASALAND: Between Fort Mangoche and Chikala Boma, 4,000 feet, 2 ♂, (Dr. S. A. Neave).

The remarkable processes on the mid coxae and hind tibiae render the ♂ of this species easily recognisable.

Mesoleurus cyladoides, sp.n.

♀. Derm rather dull black; elytra bare except for the following markings formed of narrowly ovate whitish scales with a golden reflection: an ill-defined round spot at the base of intervals 6-9, an abbreviated stripe occupying about the middle half of interval 8, a postmedian macular band on 7 to 4 (the spots on 7 and 6 quadrate, that on 5 half as long and that on 4 twice as long as the one on 6), and a sparser stripe on the declivity on 2 and 3; underside with similar dense scaling at the sides of the meso- and metasternum, venter with sparse setiform scales.

Head opaque, shagreened, with obsolescent punctures and a few narrow scales; frons only as wide as the base of the dorsal area of the rostrum, longitudinally convex, with a deep median fovea about equidistant from the eyes and rostrum; eyes strongly convex. *Rostrum* stout, as broad as long, quite parallel-sided, the genae not projecting, the margin of the epistome carinate; dorsal area bare, shagreened, dull and impunctate on basal two-thirds, the interantennal part more shiny and rugulose, without any median carina, the lateral margins carinate and sinuate; lateral areas with a low obtuse carina running obliquely downwards from the scrobe. *Antennae* slender, piceous; scape gradually clavate; funicle with the joints elongate, 1 as long as 2+3, 3 much longer than 4, 4-7 subequal. *Prothorax* as long as broad, rather strongly rounded laterally, widest at middle, narrowed but not constricted at base and apex, the arcuate apex very nearly as wide as the base; dorsum dull, shagreened, with small separated low granules, bare on the disk, and with a very few sparse narrow scales laterally. *Scutellar area* bare. *Elytra* broadly pyriform, much narrowed at base, widest at one-third from apex; the dorsal outline strongly convex, highest behind middle, not vertical at apex; the very shallow striae with a row of small separated punctures, the intervals broad and finely aciculate. *Legs* with the femora piceous and with narrow scales dorsally, tibiae and tarsi red-brown; femora finely aciculate, with sparse minute granules dorsally; hind tarsi with joint 1 shorter than 2+3.

Length 5 mm., *breadth* 1.7 mm.

TANGANYIKA TERRITORY: Tabora, 1 ♀ (G. Revoil).

A very distinct species, the female having somewhat the facies of a small wingless *Cylas*.

Mesoleurus plagiatus, sp.n.

♀. Rather dull bronze-black, almost bare, except for markings of dense pale green scales; prothorax with a rather indefinite broad lateral stripe; elytra with an irregular sub-triangular basal patch between striae 5 and 8, close behind this a large oblong patch on intervals 7 and 8 (the part on 8 produced nearer to the base), adjoining this patch a small transverse spot on interval 6, and a stripe on 4 beginning not far from the base and ending before the middle, the apical area and part of the suture with sparse setiform coppery scales; underside with fairly numerous narrow coppery scales, becoming much denser and whiter on the mesepimera and sides of the metasternum.

Head shagreened, with shallow separated punctures and sparse setiform scales, frons only slightly wider than the dorsal area of the rostrum, almost flat, with a deep oval fovea remote from the rostrum; eyes moderately convex. *Rostrum* broad, almost parallel-sided, as long as broad, the margin of the epistome carinate; dorsal area nearly flat, bare, shagreened and almost impunctate on the basal half, shiny and confluent punctate in front, with a broad low elevation in middle of base, without a median carina, the lateral margins strongly carinate and sinuate; lateral areas without any oblique carina below the scrobe. *Antennae* slender, black, the club reddish; scape gradually clavate; funicle with joint 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ a little shorter than 2+3, 3 slightly longer than 4. *Prothorax* very nearly as long as broad, gently rounded laterally, widest at middle, narrowed but not constricted at base and apex, the latter only slightly the narrower; dorsum opaque, with small much flattened granules and some obsolescent punctures between them. *Scutellar area* bare. *Elytra* broadly ovate, widest at middle, deeply constricted at base, so that the basal area is below the level of the mesonotum; dorsal outline strongly convex, highest at middle, steeply declivous but not vertical behind; the shallow striae with small deep punctures that scarcely diminish behind, the broad intervals finely aciculate transversely. *Legs* black with the last two joints of the tarsi reddish, with sparse narrow scales which are denser on the dorsum of the posterior femora; joint 1 of hind tarsi shorter than 2+3.

Length 6 mm., *breadth* 2.7 mm.

TANGANYIKA TERRITORY: Ndala, Tabora district, 1 ♀, xii, 1916, i, 1917 (*Dr. G. D. Hale Carpenter*).

Mesoleurus cinctus, sp.n.

♂♀. Derm shiny bronze-black, mostly bare; prothorax with a broad lateral stripe of pale green or golden scales; elytra with the following markings formed of similar scales: a complete sutural stripe, a stripe on interval 7 from base to beyond middle, and an elongate patch on 6 and another one on 5 continuing beyond the stripe in echelon; the apical area generally with

sparser narrower scales, and some very sparse coppery setiform scales on each side of stria 8; underside with sparse narrow scales, and dense broader scales at the sides of the sternum.

Head with small separated punctures and sparse narrow green or coppery scales; frons flat, as wide as the base of the dorsal area of the rostrum, the width only slightly greater than the length of an eye, with a median sulcus; eyes moderately convex. *Rostrum* a little longer than broad in ♂, as long as broad in ♀, narrowing slightly from base to middle, then almost parallel-sided to apex, margin of epistome carinate; dorsal area broadly but shallowly depressed down the middle, with sparse, very shallow and often longitudinally confluent punctures and a few narrow scales, the median carina feeble or obsolete, the lateral margins strongly carinate and somewhat sinuate. *Antennae* comparatively short and stout, piceous; scape gradually clavate, with sparse fine recumbent setae; funicle with joint 1 somewhat longer than 2, 3 and 4 subequal and a little longer than broad, 5-7 equal and as long as broad. *Prothorax* transverse (3:4), gently rounded laterally, widest at or behind middle, not constricted at apex, which is narrower than the base; dorsum with fine punctures of varying density, usually separated but often transversely confluent, especially towards the base. *Elytra* of ♂ narrowly elliptical, widest at middle, the dorsal outline flat and continuous with that of pronotum, the declivity sloping; elytra of ♀ broader, widest at or before middle, the dorsal outline moderately convex, the declivity vertical near apex; the very shallow striae with deep small punctures which diminish behind, especially in ♀, the broad intervals very shiny, though sometimes shallowly aciculate, without setae. *Legs* with the femora black, the tibiae and tarsi reddish to piceous, with sparse narrow scales; hind tibiae straight, strongly serrate on the lower edge throughout in ♂, but only finely granulate on the apical half in ♀; hind tarsi with joint 1 as long as 2+3. *Venter* of ♂ with numerous small granules, especially on the basal half, these granules much sparser in ♀.

Length 5-6 mm., breadth 1.5-2.5 mm.

TANGANYIKA TERRITORY: Ngorongoro Crater, Serengeti Plains, 9 ♂ 9 ♀, iv, 1941.

Closely allied to *katonaensis* Hust., but in addition to the distinctions given in the Key, the elytra in the latter species are more pyriform and relatively more narrowed at the base.

Genus **Phoromit**, nov.

Head separated from the rostrum by a deep, strongly angulated sulcus, which unites in the middle with a very short deep longitudinal furrow on the frons; when the head is fully withdrawn the eyes can touch the front margin of the prothorax, and the transverse occipital striation thus extends right up to

the eyes; frons as wide as the base of the dorsal area of the rostrum. *Rostrum* stout, as long as or longer than broad, not or but slightly dilated at the genae, without a median carina (except *sphaericus* Fst.); epistome short, its curved carinate basal margin sometimes rather indistinct; mentum rather small, immersed at the base, with only two discal setae. *Antennae* with the scape compressed or cylindrical; funicle with joint 1 longer than 2, distal joints longer than broad, clavate. *Prothorax* fitting closely to elytra, with the basal margin finely carinate. *Elytra* ovate in ♂, rotund and very convex in ♀, with ten rows of punctures or shallow striae and rows of erect setae (except *sphaericus*).

Genotype: *Mitophorus gravidus* Gerst.

The species included in this genus have been partly associated erroneously with *Mitophorus pruinus* Gerst., from the Zambezi Valley, and partly placed in *Systates*. In addition to the genotype, the following species must be transferred here: *Mitophorus pilosus* Hust., *M. largus* Mshl., *Systates sphaericus* Fst., and *S. rhinorhytus* Aur.

S. longehirtus Hust., must also be included, as it is a synonym of *rhinorhytus* (cotypes compared) (*n.syn.*).

The species form a homogenous group, which can be distinguished from both *Mitophorus* and *Systates* by the structure of the head and the basally immersed mentum bearing only two setae.

KEY TO THE SPECIES OF *Phoromitus* MSHL.

- 1 (14). Rostrum without any median carina; frons not interrupted in middle by base of rostrum; intervals on elytra without granules and with fine erect setae.
- 2 (11). Scape of antennae compressed (usually more so in ♀); front tibiae of ♂ with inner angle of corbel projecting forwards longitudinally in a sharp curved process.
- 3 (6). Elytra with a stripe or row of spots formed of scales on interval 3.
- 4 (5). Scales on elytra short, ovate and obtuse at apex; hind tibiae straight *gravidus* Gerst.
- 5 (4). Scales on elytra long, narrow and sharply acuminate; hind tibiae strongly curved in ♂, slightly so in ♀ *pilosus* Hust.
- 6 (3). Elytra setose only on disk, without scales.
- 7 (8). Elytra with interval 8 clothed with sparse pale setae like the others *rhinorhytus* Aur.
- 8 (7). Interval 8 with a dense stripe of pale bluish green elongate scales from base to beyond middle.
- 9 (10). Elytra subglobose, without any short recumbent setae on the dorsum **lucens**, sp. n.
- 10 (9). Elytra broadly ovate, with numerous short recumbent setae dorsally **sublateralis**, sp.n.

- 11 (2). Scape of antennae cylindrical; front tibiae of ♂ normal, truncate at apex.
- 12 (13). Elytra bronze, with very long erect setae (much longer than the width of an interval); scape with a small club, joint 2 of funicle longer than 3 *largus* Mshl.
- 13 (12). Elytra blue-black, with much shorter erect setae (shorter than the width of an interval); scape with very large club, joint 2 of funicle not longer than 3
..... ***brevisetis***, sp.n.
- 14 (1). Rostrum with a distinct median carina, its median basal angle produced so far backwards as almost to divide the frons into two; intervals on elytra with a row of very small granules, each bearing a short subrecumbent spatulate seta *sphaericus* Fst.

Phoromitius lucens, sp.n.

♀. Derm bronze, very shiny; prothorax with sparse recumbent white setae, without scales; elytra dorsally with only the usual rows of long slender setae, without any recumbent setae and only a few narrow green scales on the basal slope, but interval 8 with a dense stripe of narrow greenish scales from base to two-thirds and passing over behind on to interval 7, and the area below this stripe rather thinly clothed with short recumbent metallic setae, and a few similar setae on the apical declivity.

Head impunctate or with very few shallow punctures, frons with sparse setae and a very deep median fovea; eyes rather strongly convex. *Rostrum* a little longer than broad, narrowing from base to scrobes and moderately dilated at the genae; dorsal area almost flat basally, shallowly concave in front, sparsely punctate or shallow striolate in middle, the lateral margins strongly carinate and sinuate. *Antennae* piceous, with sparse subrecumbent setae; scape compressed, abruptly clavate; funicle with joint 2 slightly longer than 3, 7 as long as 4. *Prothorax* a little broader than long, gently rounded laterally, widest slightly before the middle, of equal width at base and apex; dorsum quite smooth and sparsely punctate down the middle of the disk, becoming transversely rugose laterally and with a transverse impressed line on each side behind middle, with sparse fine recumbent and suberect setae. *Elytra* of ♀ subglobose, the dorsal outline rising rather steeply at the base but forming a low curve on the disk and becoming vertical towards apex; the shallow striae with deep round punctures that do not diminish behind, the intervals slightly convex, quite smooth and very shiny, with a row of long fine erect setae. *Legs* bronze, with sparse recumbent metallic setae; hind tibiae of ♀ slightly curved, with a few granules on the inner edge.

Length 4.5-5.5 mm., *breadth* 2.4-2.7 mm.

TANGANYIKA TERRITORY: Meru, Kingori, 2 ♀, vi, 1914.

Much resembling the female of *rhinorhytus* Aur., in general facies, but in that species the prothorax is longer than broad and rugosely sculptured throughout, and the elytra bear numerous short recumbent setae on the disk but have no sublateral stripe of scales.

Phoromitus sublateralis, sp.n.

♂ ♀. Derm dark blue, black or rarely bronze, shiny, sparsely clothed above with metallic recumbent setae and rows of very long erect setae on the elytra, which have on interval 8 a dense stripe of pale bluish-green elongate scales from base to beyond middle; underside clothed laterally with narrow or setiform, pale green scales.

Head with sparse shallow punctures on the frons and a very short deep median sulcus; eyes strongly convex. *Rostrum* as long as broad, gradually narrowing from base to middle and slightly widened at the genae; dorsal area concave with sparse shallow punctures, sometimes almost impunctate or rarely wrinkled longitudinally, the lateral margins rather strongly carinate. *Antennae* piceous, with sparse subrecumbent pale setae; scape distinctly compressed, only slightly wider in ♀, with a large abrupt club; funicle with joint 2 slightly longer than 3, 7 as long as 4. *Prothorax* nearly as long as broad, gently rounded laterally, widest at middle, of equal width at base and apex; sculpture of dorsum variable, normally transversely rugose, but sometimes smooth in the middle of the disk, with sparse small punctures. *Elytra* of ♂ narrowly ovate, widest at one-fourth from base, those of ♀ more broadly ovate (not globose), widest near middle; the dorsal curvature low in ♂, higher in ♀, but less convex than in most other species; the shallow striae with deep round punctures, the intervals wider than the striae, feebly convex, almost smooth, each with a sparse row of very long fine erect setae. *Legs* bronze-black, with sparse metallic recumbent setae and pale erect ones; front tibiae of ♂ with a sharp apical process projecting straight forwards, posterior pairs only slightly curved and with short obtuse teeth on the inner edge.

Length 5-6 mm., *breadth* 2.0-2.5 mm.

TANGANYIKA TERRITORY: Ngorongoro Crater, Serengeti Plains, 14 ♂ 3 ♀, iv, 1941.

Closely allied to *P. rhinorhytus* Aur., from Kilimanjaro, which, in addition to the absence of squamose stripes on the elytra, differs in having the dorsal area of the rostrum flat with the margins less carinate; the scape is rather more slender and joints 2 and 3 of the funicle are equal; the elytra are broader, especially in the ♀; and the apical process on the front tibiae of the ♂ is more oblique.

Phoromitus brevisetis, sp.n.

♂ ♀. Derm black, with the elytra blue-black, sparsely covered with small ovate or narrow, pale bluish-green scales, and with short erect white setae; underside with similar sparse scales at the sides of the sternum.

Head with the frons rather strongly wrinkled longitudinally, and with a short deep median sulcus; eyes moderately convex. *Rostrum* longer than broad (9:7), shallowly sinuate at the sides; dorsal area almost parallel-sided, rugosely wrinkled longitudinally, with a deep median sulcus; scape similar in the two sexes, cylindrical, abruptly and strongly clavate; funicle with joints 2 and 3 equal, 7 as long as 4. *Prothorax* a little longer than broad, almost parallel-sided, with a slight widening beyond middle, of equal width at base and apex; dorsum with transversely confluent flattened granules and short suberect white setae. *Elytra* broadly ovate and convex in ♂, globose and strongly convex in ♀; the comparatively broad and deep striae with strong punctures, the intervals broader than the striae, slightly convex, almost smooth on the disk in ♂, somewhat wrinkled transversely in ♀, each with a row of short erect white setae. *Legs* black, with sparse narrow greenish scales and suberect white setae; front tibiae of ♂ truncate at apex, hind pair slightly curved and granulate on the inner face in both sexes.

Length 5.0-5.5 mm., breadth 2-3 mm.

KENYA: N. slopes of Mt. Kenya, on Embu-Meru road, 4,500 to 5,000 feet, 1 ♂ 2 ♀, ii, 1911 (Dr. S. A. Neave).

A very distinct species on account of its dark blue convex elytra with short erect setae, the cylindrical scapes, and the truncate front tibiae in the male.

Genus *Nematocerus* Reiche.

Platyscapus Hustache, Babault's Voy. Afr. Or. Angl., Curc., 1921, p. 28, pl. 2, f. 6 (*n.syn.*).

I can find no single character by which to distinguish *Platyscapus* from *Nematocerus*, for the flattened scape is found also in the latter genus, especially in the females. *Platyscapus* was founded on two specimens of a single species, *oblongus* Hust., which were females, and the male differs notably in the structure of the scape and front tibiae; the scape is very slender, though also compressed, and the front tibiae bear a broad obtuse triangular tooth on the inner edge at one-third from the apex. Another species closely allied to *N. oblongus* is *Systates virescens* Aur., which has an exactly similar sexual dimorphism in the antennae (but not the tibial tooth); this must also be referred to *Nematocerus*.

This proves to be quite a large genus, and in addition to the genotype, *N. metallicus* Reiche, the following species described as *Mitophorus* must be transferred to it: *acerbus* Fst., *aeneipennis* Gerst., *sulciscapus* Aur., and *vittatus* Pasc.

M. inflatus Gerst., is merely the female of *aeneipennis*, and *longirostris* Hust. (cotype seen) is also a synonym of the same species (*n.syn.*).

M. semiaeneus Gerst., *rugicollis* Gestro, and the very remarkable *inflatipennis* Hust., 1938, (all known from description only) may provisionally be placed in *Nematocerus*, because they certainly do not belong to *Mitophorus*.

The species of *Systates* which must be transferred to this genus have already been listed above (p. 314). Among these it must be noted that *mülleri* Hust., is a synonym of *angustirostris* Aur. (*n.syn.*), and the name of *metallicus* Gerst., being pre-occupied by the genotype, must be changed to **aereus**, *nom.nov.*

Apart from the difference in the mentum having only two setae instead of four, *Nematocerus* may also be distinguished from the typical forms of *Systates* by the more or less compressed antennal scape (this is sometimes easy to overlook in those males in which this joint is slender), the transverse granulation of the pronotum, and the very shallow straight stria (often obsolete in the middle) separating the rostrum from the frons.

The genus seems to find its highest development in Kenya and Uganda, and extends from Eritrea to the Zambesi (but not south of it) and into the Belgian Congo. From West Africa proper only two or three species are known at present.

***Nematocerus subcyaneus*, sp.n.**

♂♀. Derm deep blue-black; head, rostrum and prothorax with sparse short grey recumbent setae; elytra apparently bare, but with very sparse and very minute setae; prosternum, mesosternum, and the sides of the metasternum and basal ventrite, with small separated grey scales.

Head with variable shallow punctures, which are sometimes partly confluent; frons flat with a very fine shallow median stria, sometimes almost obliterated; eyes strongly convex. *Rostrum* as long as its basal width, narrowing from base to antennae, and moderately dilated at the genae, dorsal area quite flat, very shallowly and confluent punctate, almost parallel-sided, the lateral margins continued to the base, the median carina narrow and flat. *Antennae* red-brown to piceous, with the apices of the joints more or less infuscated; scape compressed, slender in ♂, distinctly broader in ♀, being widest at one-third from base; funicle with the joints elongate and clavate, 1 one-third longer than 2, 7 as long as 3. *Prothorax* transverse, moderately rounded laterally, widest at middle, apex not narrower than base and not constricted; dorsum with transversely confluent shallow punctures, the intervals normally forming flat transverse granules. *Elytra* of ♂ narrowly ovate, widest at one-third from base, of ♀ much broader, widest at middle; dorsal outline of ♂ steep at base and apex but only gently convex on the disk, ♀ much more

convex and the suture not elevated behind; the shallow striae with distinct round punctures, which diminish behind, the broad intervals finely striolate transversely. *Legs* black, with sparse short recumbent white setae; front tibiae of ♂ strongly bisinuate, the apex dorsally produced forwards into a pointed lamina, front tibiae of ♀ much more shallowly bisinuate and truncate at apex; hind tibiae of ♂ strongly curved and sharply dentate internally, those of ♀ more shallowly curved and with small granules.

Length 5.0-5.7 mm., *breadth* 2.0-2.5 mm.

KENYA: Mumias, 4,200 feet., N. Kavirondo, 1 ♂ 20 ♀, vi, 1911 (type); Nasisi Hills, 20 miles N. of Mumias, 4,800 feet, 2 ♂, vi, 1911; Nandi Plateau, 5,700 to 6,200 feet, 3 ♀, vi, 1911; Ilala, Maramas district, 4,500 feet, 1 ♀, vi, 1911; Valley of Upper Nzoia River, 5,100 to 5,400 feet, 3 ♀, vi, 1911; S. foot and slopes of Mt. Elgon, 5,100 to 5,800 feet, 5 ♀, vi, 1911 (all *Dr. S. A. Neave*).

Nearly allied to *N. pyriformis* Aur. (*Systates*), which, however, has the elytra entirely black, more strongly ovate, being more narrowed apically, much more convex dorsally, with the suture more raised behind and the striae deeper; the front tibiae of the ♂ are only shallowly sinuate.

***Nematocerus sericeus*, sp.n.**

♂♀. Dull black, with fine short grey pubescence; head and rostrum with short recumbent whitish setae; elytra with a stripe of longer pubescence covered with whitish powder on the lateral margins from base to beyond middle.

Head finely shagreened, often with traces of very shallow punctures; frons flat, with a very shallow median sulcus (often obsolete); eyes moderately convex. *Rostrum* a little longer than its width at the genae, parallel-sided from base to scrobes and moderately dilated at the genae; dorsal area parallel-sided, nearly flat, shagreened and almost impunctate, narrowly tricarinate, the marginal carinae extending to base. *Antennae* black to piceous; scape compressed, gradually clavate, somewhat dilated near base, only slightly broader in ♀; funicle very long and slender, with the joints clavate, 1 much longer than 2 (5:3), 7 as long as 4. *Prothorax* a little broader than long, moderately rounded laterally, widest at middle, constricted at apex, which is slightly narrower than base; dorsum with small separated transverse granules. *Elytra* of ♂ rather narrowly ovate, widest at one-fourth from base and rapidly narrowing to apex, much broader and widest at middle in ♀; dorsal outline moderately convex in ♀ and highest at middle, much flatter in ♂ and highest near base; the shallow striae with small close punctures, the intervals flat, finely rugose transversely. *Legs* black, with rather sparse greyish setae; all the femora with a fringe of long setae on the lower face; hind tibiae of ♂ rather strongly curved and granulate internally, without any fringe of setae, those of ♀ much

less curved and more finely granulate. *Venter* of ♂ with a broad shallow longitudinal impression on ventrite 5.

Length 6.5-8.7 mm., *breadth* 2.5-3.6 mm.

S. ABYSSINIA: Boran, Yavello, 10 ♂ 3 ♀, v, 1941 (A. F. J. Gedye).

Closely allied to *N. angustirostris* Aur. (*Systates*), which differs markedly in colouring, having stripes of pale scaling on the prothorax and elytra; the striae on the elytra are deeper and the intervals distinctly convex; the granules on the pronotum mostly bear a large shallow puncture on their anterior edge, which gives them a lunate form; the shape of the elytra in the ♂ is very different, being much narrower and elliptical instead of ovate.

***Nematocerus distortipes*, sp.n.**

♂ ♀. Rather dull black, with sparse minute recumbent pale setae; in fresh specimens the sides and lower surface are probably covered with yellowish powder.

Head with very shallow, more or less confluent punctures; frons quite flat, with an indistinct median furrow; eyes moderately convex. *Rostrum* as long as its width at the genae, parallel-sided from base to scrobes, moderately dilated at the genae; dorsal area parallel-sided, shagreened and almost impunctate, with a distinct median carina and the margins carinate to base. *Antennae* slender, piceous; scape distinctly compressed, abruptly clavate, a little wider in ♀ near base; funicle with the joints long and clavate, 1 a third longer than 2, 7 as long as 3. *Prothorax* transverse (4:5), moderately rounded laterally, widest at or a little behind middle, not or feebly constricted at apex, which is scarcely narrower than base; dorsum with rather dense low transverse ovate granules. *Elytra* of ♂ ovate, widest at one-fourth from base, rapidly narrowing behind, obtusely acuminate at apex, those of ♀ very broad, globose, widest at middle; dorsal outline of ♂ rising steeply near base, highest before middle and gradually sloping with a continuous curve to apex, that of ♀ strongly convex, highest behind middle, very steeply declivous behind, becoming vertical towards apex; the shallow striae with deep close punctures that scarcely diminish behind, the broad intervals finely aciculate transversely. *Legs* black with the claws red, with sparse short recumbent white setae; hind tibiae of ♂ very deeply sinuate and flattened on the apical half of the inner face, and somewhat dilated dorso-ventrally above the sinuation, the inner face rather coarsely granulate, the upper edge bisinuate, the front tibiae truncate at apex; hind tibiae of ♀ only moderately curved and more finely granulate. *Venter* of ♂ with a very broad shallow median impression on ventrite 5.

Length ♂ 7.0-7.5 mm., ♀ 6.0-7.5 mm.; *breadth* ♂ 2.7-3.0 mm., ♀ 3.0-4.0 mm.

UGANDA: Mabira Forest, Chagwe, 3,500 to 3,800 feet, 1 ♂ 4 ♀, vii, 1911 (Dr. S. A. Neave); between Seziwa River and Kampala, 3,500 feet, 1 ♀, viii, 1911 (S.A.N.); Budongo Forest, Unyoro, 3,400 feet, 1 ♀, xii, 1911 (S.A.N.), 3 ♂ 5 ♀, x, 1936 (A. F. J. Gedye—type); Bwamba Valley, 1 ♀, vii, 1921 (H. Hargreaves); Masindi, 1 ♀, vii, 1923 (H.H.); Entebbe, 1 ♀, iii, 1926 (Dr. G. D. H. Carpenter); Jinja, vi, 1940 (A.F.J.G.), Mulange, Jinja, 1 ♂, v, 1922.

Belongs to the group of the common, widely distributed *castaneipennis* Hust., the ♂ of which differs in having the elytra much less convex, less wide and less narrowed behind; the front tibiae have the dorsal edge of the apex produced into a point, and the hind tibiae are simply curved and serrately granulate on the inner edge. In the ♀, the elytra are not globose but broadly ovate, much less convex and with the punctures reduced behind; hind tibiae almost straight.

Genus *Mitophorus* Gerst.

Gerstaecker founded this genus on a single species from the Zambesi Valley, *M. pruinosus*, and later added several more species from further north in East Africa. Up till now later authors, having failed to recognise the genotype, have based their concept of the genus on the globose East African species. An examination of the genotype has shown, however, that it is generically distinct from the more northern forms, and I have myself unfortunately redescribed it as *Systates lesnei* Mshl, 1926, (*n.syn.*).

In addition to having only four setae on the mentum, *Systates* differs in having the median carina bifurcate anteriorly near the epistome or interrupted there by a low transverse ridge; whereas in *Mitophorus* the median carina is simple and there is no transverse ridge.

Nematocerus has only two setae on the mentum, and the scape of the antennae is more or less compressed, especially in the female.

Mitophorus vittatus Pasc., and *acerbus* Fst., must be transferred to *Nematocerus*.

I am not acquainted with *Mitophorus semiaeneus* Gerst., or *rugosicollis* Gestro, but from the descriptions they apparently belong also to *Nematocerus*, in which they may provisionally be included.

Mitophorus globosus and *humerosus* Gestro, appear from the descriptions to belong to the genus *Systates*.

M. gravidus Gerst., *pilosus* Hust., and *largus* Mshl., have been transferred to *Phoromitus*, gen.n.

Genus **Systaniris**, nov.

This genus is erected for those species of *Systates* having ten regular striae on the elytra which also present the following characters: Mentum with only two setae on the disk; rostrum with the epistome not extending behind the front margin of the scrobes or only very slightly so; funicle with joint 1 not longer than 2.

On the other hand, typical *Systates* have a transverse row of four setae on the mentum, the epistome extends well behind the scrobes, and joint 1 of the funicle is always longer than 2.

Genotype: *Systates fossulatus* Kolbe.

The other species of *Systates* that must be transferred to this genus are: *angulipennis* Qued., *erinaceus* Hust., *laticollis* Pasc., *maynei* Mshl., *pumilus* Fst., and *ramosus* Mshl.

Genus **Isanates**, nov.

This genus is proposed for seventeen species of *Isaniris* and three species of *Systates* which exhibit the following characters: Dorsal area of rostrum without any deep semicircular incision laterally, mentum with only two setae; funicle with joint 1 longer than 2; elytra with twelve or more rows of punctures, usually very irregular; corbels of hind tibiae entirely open.

Genotype: *Isaniris gerstaeckeri* Fst.

Isaniris differs from this genus in having the dorsal area of the rostrum very deeply incised laterally by the scrobes, almost in the form of a semicircle, the mentum bearing four setae; the funicle has joint 1 equal to or shorter than 2; and the corbels of the hind tibiae are narrowly enclosed.

Systates differs principally from *Isanates* in that the mentum bears four setae and the elytra have ten regular striae.

In addition to the genotype, the following sixteen species of *Isaniris* must be assigned to this genus:—

<i>australis</i> Mshl.	<i>pusillus</i> Hust.
<i>bidentulus</i> Fst.	<i>rana</i> Hust.
<i>flicornis</i> Hust.	<i>saegeri</i> Hust.
<i>hamaticollis</i> Hust.	<i>setipennis</i> Hust.
<i>lanipes</i> Hust.	<i>seydeli</i> Hust.
<i>laticeps</i> Hust.	<i>sinuatus</i> Fst.
<i>lectus</i> Hust.	<i>spinithorax</i> Hust.
<i>pilipes</i> Hust.	<i>veterator</i> Hust.

The following species of *Systates* must also be included: *armiger* Klb., *bispinosus* Hust., and *irregularis* Fst.

Of the species known at present more than half (eleven out of twenty-one) have been recorded from the Belgian Congo, seven occur to the eastward from Italian Somaliland to the Zambezi Valley, and only three from West Africa.

Isanates vansomereni, sp.n.

♂♀. Derm black, unevenly clothed with grey, pale green or pinkish scales; pronotum with the bare granules showing through the scales, which often form a narrow denser median stripe; elytra with the scales partly dispersed and partly collected in patches, rather denser laterally and apically, and with an indefinite macular stripe on interval 3.

Head with the bare vertical area extending right up to the eyes, its anterior margin well-defined and arcuate in the middle; frons flat, not narrowed in front, much wider than the length of an eye (5:3), with a deep median sulcus; eyes strongly convex (sometimes almost subconical), deepest much behind middle. *Rostrum* a little longer than broad, slightly wider at the genae than at base, with the sides sinuate; dorsal area somewhat convex at base, impressed in front just behind the transverse ridge, the median carina fine and often hidden by scaling, the lateral carinae converging anteriorly but not incised by the scrobes; inter-antennal area bare, with a feeble median carina. *Antennae* piceous, elongate and slender; scape gradually clavate, with narrow scales and subrecumbent setae. *Prothorax* transverse (♂ 6:7, ♀ 6:8), strongly rounded laterally, widest at middle, distinctly sinuate at base which is as wide as apex; dorsum strongly convex longitudinally, highest at middle, lower at base than at apex, with separated low bare setigerous granules showing through the scaling. *Elytra* broadly ovate in ♂, broader and subglobose in ♀, sinuate at base, with the basal angles projecting forwards; dorsum moderately convex longitudinally in ♂, strongly so in ♀, with about fourteen very irregular rows of punctures, and on the disk rows of stiff brown erect setae, which become shorter, white, spatulate and subrecumbent on the declivity. *Legs* black, with dense white scaling and black spots from which arise short recumbent setae; front tibiae of ♂ shallowly bisinuate and with a fringe of long setae beneath, hind tibiae strongly curved and flattened and glabrous on the inner face without granules; front tibiae of ♀ almost straight, hind tibiae less curved and finely denticulate on the upper and lower edges of the flattened glabrous inner face. *Venter* of ♂ with the last ventrite not impressed.

Length 5-7 mm., breadth 2.3-3.7 mm.

KENYA: Shimba Hills, 10 ♂ 7 ♀, vii, 1939, 10 ♂ 4 ♀, iii, 1941 (V. G. L. van Someren); Gasi, 2 ♂ 2 ♀, xi, 1927 (V. G. L. van Someren); Rabai, 7 ♂ 11 ♀, viii, 1937 (V. G. L. van Someren—type), 1 ♀, ii, 1929 (A. F. J. Gedye).

Allied to the West African *I. gerstaeckeri* Fst., which has a longer and apically more dilated rostrum, the dorsal area being much narrower and not impressed; the prothorax is narrower, truncate at base and much less convex, as also are the elytra; the hind tibiae are not glabrous or flattened on the inner face,

but granulate, and those of the ♂ have a fringe of long hairs; and the last ventrite of the ♂ has a broad median sulcus.

Genus **Machaerorrhinus**, nov.

Head with the frons broadly and deeply impressed, without any median stria; eyes very convex. *Rostrum* with the dorsal area very broad, without any median carina, its lateral margins each bearing a broad suberect curved horn extending backwards over the head; epistome extending backwards further than usual, but its posterior margin obliterated in the middle; scrobes almost lateral, being overhung by the dorso-lateral margin and only partly visible from above anteriorly; mentum with only two setae. *Antennae* with the scape stout, gradually clavate; joint 1 of funicle a little shorter than 2. *Prothorax* very deeply and coarsely punctate, the base sinuate and broadly bevelled. *Elytra* with 12 quite regular striae. *Legs* with the corbels of the hind tibiae very broadly enclosed. *Sternum* with the mesepimera extending narrowly to the base of the elytra.

Genotype: *Isaniris bicornutus* Hust., 1937.

This very aberrant monotypic genus is included here only because it was described as an *Isaniris*; the broadly enclosed corbels of the hind tibiae and the elongate mesepimera indicate that its proper place is in the multistriate Embrithini and not in the Peritelini.

Genus **Isaniris** Thoms.

As here restricted, this genus contains only four described species: *viridimicans* Thoms. (genotype), *thomsoni* Fst., *decorsei* Hust., and *letestui* Hust., and is confined to West Africa.



Mylocerus mystacinus, sp.n.

♂♀. Derm black, with dense brown and grey scaling above and uniformly pearly grey beneath; head brown, rostrum grey or brown; pronotum brown, with a grey median stripe which narrows to a point in front and widens at base, the lateral margins showing narrowly the grey scaling of the lower surface; elytra variably mottled with grey and brown.

Head with the frons as wide as the dorsal area of the rostrum, the median sulcus of the latter slightly encroaching on the head and behind it a very short median stria; eyes lateral, only slightly convex. *Rostrum* very little longer than its basal width, parallel-sided in the basal half and moderately dilated at the genae; dorsal area gradually narrowing from base to apex, with a broad median sulcus; epistome with its margin almost semicircular, its

sides with an overhanging fringe of very broad setae; mentum with two setae. *Antennae* black, with dense grey scaling; scape gently curved, gradually clavate, with short recumbent setae; funicle with joint 1 a little longer than 2, the rest subequal, longer than broad. *Prothorax* about as long as broad in ♂, more transverse in ♀, almost parallel-sided, moderately bisinuate at base, not constricted at apex, which is vertically truncate laterally; dorsum even, the sculpture hidden by scaling and recumbent squamiform setae. *Scutellum* very small, round, with grey scaling. *Elytra* much wider than the prothorax at the roundly rectangular shoulders, parallel-sided to beyond middle in ♂, slightly wider behind in ♀, jointly rounded at apex; the striae visible through the scaling as fine lines with only traces of punctures, the intervals feebly convex, with slightly overlapping striolate convex scales and with a row of very short recumbent spatulate setae. *Legs* black, with dense grey scaling; femora without a tooth, front tibiae not sinuate beneath.

Length 2.7-3.7 mm., *breadth* 1.2-1.6 mm.

KENYA: Stony Athi, 10 ♂ 26 ♀, v-viii, 1940 (Biological Survey, Nat. Hist. Soc.).

An aberrant species, characterised by the lack of a spine on the femora, the unusually elongate head and rostrum, and the curious scale-like setae on each side of the epistome.

Subfamily TANYRRHYNCHINAE.

Lecanophora constricta Hust.

This species was assigned to the genus *Epeigorrhinus* (= *Sympiezorrhynchus*) by Hustache (Miss. biol. Paese Borana, ii, Zool, 1939, p. 632), but a series before me taken by Mr. A. F. J. Gedye at the type locality, Yavello, S. Abyssinia, shows that it is really a *Lecanophora*. The species of this genus present two characters that have not been previously noted: the elytra bear twelve rows of punctures and their apex is produced downwards like a beak in both sexes.

Lecanophora neavei, sp.n.

♂ ♀. Derm black, densely and uniformly clothed above with pale bluish green or bluish grey scaling; underside with less dense grey scales.

Head densely squamose, the frons two-thirds the width of an eye and nearly twice as wide as the narrowest space between the scrobes, with a median stria; eyes absolutely flat, continuous with the curvature of the head. *Rostrum* a little shorter than the pronotum, gradually widening from base to apex; dorsal area wider than the frons, sharply narrowed where it is excised by the scrobes, almost flat behind the antennae, concave in front, densely squamose, the scales almost concealing the median carina; lateral areas with a sharp carina running with a slight

curve from middle of scrobe to middle of eye, and below this a narrow strip of dense fine punctures which does not extend on to the genae. *Antennae* ferruginous; funicle with joint 2 equal to or slightly longer than 1, the rest gradually diminishing distally. *Prothorax* widest at base, where its sides form an absolutely continuous line with those of the elytra, narrowing rapidly with a slight curve to the apex, where it is very shallowly constricted; dorsum with every puncture covered by a scale, leaving only very narrow bare intervals, without evident setae. *Elytra* very broadly ovate in both sexes, densely squamose, with a small bare spot at the base of the suture, the setae minute and inconspicuous even on the declivity. *Legs* ferruginous, the scaling sparse, but dense on the distal half of the femora dorsally; all the tibiae with rather sparse small denticles.

Length 3.5-5.5 mm., *breadth* 2.0-3.2 mm.

KENYA: N. Kavirondo, Valley of Upper Nzoia River, 5,100 to 5,400 feet, 6 ♂ 9 ♀, vi, 1911 (*Dr. S. A. Neave*).

Closely allied to *L. constricta* Hust., which differs as follows: frons as wide as an eye and three times as wide as the narrowest space between the scrobes; eyes slightly convex; rostrum with the dorsal area not wider than the frons, the lateral areas much more steeply declivous, the punctate area below the lateral carina much broader, with much coarser punctures and extending on to the genae; prothorax not constricted at apex; elytra with the apex more pointed, the setae short but much more conspicuous.

PART II.

Subfamily OTIORRHYNCHINAE.

Bethaeus, gen.nov.

Head shallowly constricted behind the eyes, the impression continuing across the dorsum, separated from the rostrum by a deep angulated sulcus (partly obscured by scaling); frons somewhat narrower than base of rostrum; eyes lateral, strongly convex. *Rostrum* broad, parallel-sided or dilated at the genae; epistome undefined; mandibles multisetose; bearing a few scales; mentum multisetose, sessile. *Prothorax* subconical, deeply bisinuate at base. *Elytra* much wider at the prominent subrectangular shoulders than the prothorax, parallel thence to beyond middle, jointly rounded at apex, trisinate at base, with ten regular striae, without any posterior callus. *Wings* functional. *Legs* with front coxae nearer to front margin of prosternum, hind coxae touching elytra; trochanters without a seta; femora short, clavate, unarmed; tibiae straight, not denticulate, front pair slightly produced outwards at apex, corbels of hind pair broadly enclosed, bare internally, tarsal claws connate. *Sternum* with the mesipimera large, reaching the base; metepisternal suture complete. *Venter* with the intercoxal process arcuate, rather narrower than a coxa; ventrite 2 a little longer than 3 and separated from 1 by a straight incision.

Genotype: **Bethaeus varius**, sp.n.

Belongs to the Episomini, in which small tribe there are only two other African genera that are capable of flight, viz., *Platyomicus* Thoms., and *Catamonus* Schön. (misplaced in *Catalogus Coleopt.*). The species of the former genus are large insects with a very different facies; the scrobes are strongly convergent, joint 2 of the funicle is much longer than 1, the base of the prothorax is truncate, the elytra multistriate, the corbels of the hind tibiae densely squamose internally, etc.

Catamonus has comparatively a much longer rostrum, with the scrobes lateral, and the setae on the mentum are confined to the front margin; the head is not constricted behind the eyes; and the first ventral suture is sinuate in the middle.

The West African genus *Zyrcosa* Pasc., which is placed in the tribe Episomini in *Catalogus Coleopt.*, belongs to the subfamily *Brachyderinae* in the tribe Dermatodini.

Bethaeus varius, sp.n.

Derm black, with dense brown or greyish brown scaling and very variable faint paler and darker markings, but often showing

signs of a common postmedian transverse pale patch extending to stria 3 and followed by a usually V-shaped brown marking; underside with uniform dense grey scaling.

Head with the eyes almost touching the prothorax when fully retracted; frons flat, longitudinally wrinkled, with a very broad deep median sulcus, but the sculpture hidden by dense scaling and the sulcus appearing only as a narrow line; eyes highest behind the middle. *Rostrum* as long as broad, parallel-sided throughout; dorsal area flat or very slightly depressed in the middle, with no definite margin laterally, sculptured like the frons, but only a narrow median line showing through the scaling; scrobes nearly parallel, so that the interscrobal area is almost parallel-sided. *Antennae* densely squamose, scape broad, short, reaching only to hind margin of eye, widening from base to apex, with overlapping scales and short recumbent setae; funicle with the two basal joints equal, distal joints longer than broad, 7 longer than 6; club rather short, ovate. *Prothorax* transverse (2:3 or 3:4) widest at the base, with the sides almost straight and gradually narrowed to apex, where it is usually, but not always, shortly constricted (when the constriction is deeper, the apical angles may rarely project); apical margin arcuate; dorsum flat longitudinally, with a shallow round impression on each side behind middle, closely set with small low granules that are entirely hidden by scaling, the scales being scarcely larger than those on the elytra. *Elytra* broad, oblong-ovate, almost vertically declivous behind, the shallow striae partly covered by scaling, but the small bare punctures visible throughout; the intervals slightly convex, of equal height, with overlapping convex scales and very small appressed inconspicuous setae. *Legs* with dense grey and brown scaling.

Length 4.5-7.5 mm., *breadth* 2.3-3.3 mm.

KENYA: Lower Tana-Sabaki Rivers, 4 ♀, 4, v, 1932 (*Turner and McArthur*); Mwingi, Kitui, 4 ♀, xi, 1940 (*T. H. E. Jackson*—type); Garissa Road, Mile 245, 9 ♀, xi, 1940 (*A. R. Melville*).

***Bethaeus canus*, sp.n. ♀ (Fig. 1).**

Derm black, with dense uniform pearl-grey scaling above; underside with similar but sparser scales. *Head* with the frontal median sulcus very broad and deep, the frons coarsely rugose, and highest next to eyes, which are highest nearly in the middle. *Rostrum* a little longer than broad, parallel-sided in the basal half and rather strongly dilated at the genae; dorsal area with a strong smooth median carina and two ill-defined sinuous carinae on each side; scrobes turning inwards, and the interscrobal area strongly dilated in front. *Antennae* less densely squamose; scape comparatively slender, gradually widening from base to apex, extending well beyond the front margin of the prothorax, with rather sparse narrow scales and subrecumbent setae; funicle with joint 2 a little longer than 1, 6 as long as

broad, the rest longer; club elongate, fusiform. *Prothorax* transverse (2:3), subconical, rapidly narrowing in front, broadly but shallowly constricted at the apex, the apical margin truncate; dorsum flat longitudinally in the middle, without impressions, set with rather large separated punctures concealed by dense scaling, the scales being round and nearly twice as long as those on the elytra. *Elytra* broad, oblong-ovate, vertically declivous at the apex, the shoulders more sloping than in *B. varius* and thus forming a much wider angle with the sides of the prothorax; the striae shallower and even more covered with scales, so that the punctures show through as narrow black slits; the intervals flat, with dense overlapping scales and inconspicuous appressed setae. *Legs* with uniform darker grey scales.

Length 9 mm., *breadth* 4.1 mm.

KENYA: Lower Tana-Sabaki Rivers, 1, ♀, 4, v, 1932 (*Turner and McArthur*).

The larger size, the carinate and apically dilated rostrum, the widening interscrobal area, and the punctate pronotum, will readily distinguish this species from the genotype.

Catamonus laticollis, sp.n. ♂ ♀.

♂. Derm rather shiny black; pronotum with an indefinite median stripe of sparse pearl-coloured lanceolate scales; elytra with very long erect dark setae, a sutural stripe of buff-coloured scales and the following markings of pearly scales: a stripe on interval 7 from the shoulder to the middle, a small patch at middle on 3 and 5, another before middle on 9, a short stripe near the declivity on 3, 5, 7, 9, a spot at the conjoint apex of 3 and 9, and a narrow marginal stripe from the level of ventrite 2 to the apex; the sides of the mesosternum, metasternum and of the two basal ventrites with fairly dense pearly scales.

♀. Rarely almost like the male above; normally sparsely covered throughout with buff and whitish scales, the short posterior stripes of the male on intervals 3, 5, 7, 9 indicated by denser scaling; underside with fairly dense pearly scales throughout.

Head with a very shallow transverse impression behind the eyes, which project very slightly beyond the temples; frons somewhat depressed in the middle, rugosely punctate, with a deep median sulcus but no lateral ones, and without any definite costa by the eyes. *Rostrum* stout, about as long as the pronotum, parallel-sided in the basal half, dilated at the genae; dorsal area flat, coarsely punctate, without any median carina, but with a strong lateral carina on each side (these converging slightly behind) and bounded anteriorly by a transverse ridge between the antennae; lateral areas with at most a very shallow longitudinal sulcus above the scrobe. *Antennae* piceous, with sparse setiform pale scales and subrecumbent setae on the scape; funicle

with the two basal joints equal, 3 longer than 4, 4-7 subequal, somewhat longer than broad, clavate. *Prothorax* transverse (2:3), very strongly rounded laterally, widest behind the middle, the bisinuate base broader than the apex; dorsum unusually flat, with fairly close strong punctures and a broad shallow transverse impression at base, without any median furrow; male with sparse hairlike pale scales, except for a loose median stripe of broader lanceolate scales, and with sparse long erect setae; female more evenly covered with separate broad scales. *Elytra* jointly trisinate at base, parallel for a short distance behind the prominent roundly-rectangular shoulders; the shallow striae with large deep close punctures, stria 5 strongly curved inwards at the base, 6 not reaching base but ceasing at the shoulder; intervals slightly convex, with sparse fine punctures, and very long irregular erect dark setae. *Legs* red-brown (sometimes piceous), with more or less confluent strong punctures and dispersely squamose; hind femora of male with the usual deep incision at the base of the dorsal edge and the hind coxae broadly and deeply impressed.

Length 8-10 mm., breadth 3.3-4.5 mm.

TANGANYIKA: Msagaa, 35 miles east of Singida, 12 ♂, 12 ♀, 10, xii, 1935 (*E. Burt*).

Readily distinguished from all the previously described species by the very broad, laterally rounded and dorsally flattened prothorax, as well as by the very long setae on the elytra and the absence of a median carina on the rostrum.

Anaplesius Mshl., 1935.

When revising the East African genera of Embrithini with ten striae on the elytra [*Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist.* (ii), ix, 1942. p. 6], I separated *Ischnobrotus* Hust., 1936, from the present genus mainly on the completeness or otherwise of the metepisternal suture—usually a reliable character. But on re-examination of all of the available species, it has become clear that this suture is so variable in development that it cannot be relied upon as a generic distinction in this instance. *Ischnobrotus* (genotype: *typicus* Hust.) must, therefore, be treated as a synonym of *Anaplesius*.

The genus falls into two groups: (a) those species having a bare callus at the base of the elytra on each side of the suture (*granulicollis* Hust., *typicus* Hust., *subcostatus* Hust., *convexus* Hust., *bicallosus* Hust.); and (b) those without any trace of a callus (*nebulosus* Aur., *hystricosus* Hust., *setulosus* Hust., *kenyae* Hust., *gedyei* Mshl., *rhombifer* Mshl.).

Systates macarthuri, sp.n., ♂ ♀.

Derm rather shiny black; head and prothorax with sparse narrow scales; elytra with variable rows of spots formed of narrow fusiform pinkish-white scales on intervals 3 and 9, and

partly also on 5 and 7, and similar scales sparsely scattered elsewhere; these rows are more distinct in the male,⁶ and the scattered scales are more numerous in the female.

Head with very shallow, longitudinally confluent punctures, frons flat with a deep median sulcus; eyes of female only slightly convex, not extending laterally beyond the temples, those of male a little more convex. *Rostrum* a little longer than its greatest width, parallel-sided in the basal half and strongly dilated at the genae; the dorsal area parallel-sided behind the scrobes, distinctly carinate laterally and with a strong higher median carina, without any transverse elevation behind the epistome. *Antennae* elongate, black; scape gradually clavate, with sparse recumbent setae; funicle with joint 1 a little shorter than 2+3, distal joints clavate, 7 as long as 4. *Prothorax* a little broader than long, strongly rounded laterally, widest at middle, slightly narrower at apex than at base; dorsum moderately convex longitudinally, highest behind the middle, closely set with large flat setigerous granules, without any smooth median line. *Elytra* narrowly ovate, much broader in female, immarginate and unconstricted at base; dorsal curvature slight in male and steeply declivous at apex, more convex in female and vertical at apex, which is not produced downwards; the shallow striae with large subquadrate punctures separated by narrow septa, the intervals not (male) or slightly (female) broader than the punctures, set with much flattened granules (becoming higher behind) in female, those in male much smaller and sparser, and with a row of short suberect pale setae that are more conspicuous behind. *Legs* black, with sparse narrow pale scales; tibiae of male clothed beneath with sparse long pale setae, hind pair rather shallowly sinuate and flattened on the inner face in the apical half without any angulation; hind tibiae of female with the dorsal edge slightly sinuate.

Length 5.5-10.0 mm. *breadth* 2.2-5.0 mm.

KENYA: Mutha, 2 ♂, 3 ♀, xi, 1933, 1 ♀, xi, 1937 (C. G. MacArthur); Kibwezi, 1 ♀, xi, 1936 (C.G.M.); Kanziko, 1 ♂, ix, 1936, 2 ♂, v, 1937 (C.G.M.); Athi Falls, 2 ♂, vii, 1937 (C.G.M.); Umoa, Nziu, 1 ♀, xii, 1938 (C.G.M.); Malindi, 1 ♂, v, 1940 (G. W. Jeffery); Ikutha, 1 ♂, i, 1942 (C. G. MacArthur—type).

In facies and scaling this species looks much like *S. lepidotus* Hust., which, however, may be readily distinguished by having the elytra strongly constricted at the base, its basal margin being elevated with the lateral angles projecting.

Structurally *S. macarthuri* is much closer to *S. crenatipennis* Fairm., which is uniformly clothed with small narrow scales; the eyes are rather more prominent, the median carina on the rostrum more raised, the granules on the pronotum rather less flattened, and the sinuation on the hind tibiae of the male is much deeper, forming a distinct angle at its upper end.

Systates cornicollis, sp.n. ♂ ♀ (Fig. 2).

Derm rather shiny black, with patches of pale greenish or whitish scaling; prothorax with an indefinite stripe of denser scaling on each side of the median elevation and another lateral one; elytra with variable rows of spots on the intervals.

Head finely aciculate, with denser scaling laterally, the median sulcus narrow but deep; eyes moderately convex, highest behind the middle. *Rostrum* a little longer than broad, of equal width at base and apex, and shallowly sinuate laterally; the dorsal area almost parallel-sided behind the scrobes, higher near the base than the frons, sharply carinate laterally, shallowly impressed in front and with a fine median carina; the inter-antennal area shallowly impressed, rugulose. *Antennae* with the scape long, very slender, abruptly clavate, with hair-like grey scales and recumbent setae; funicle with joint 3 longer than 4, 4-7 subequal. *Prothorax* transverse, moderately rounded laterally, widest at middle, shallowly constricted at apex, truncate or shallowly sinuate at the narrowly marginate base, which is not wider than the apex; dorsum shagreened, with sparse flattened granules, and in the middle of the disk a horn-like elevation, slightly curving backwards and narrowly bifurcate at its apex. *Elytra* ovate in male, broader in female, widest before the middle, not produced downwards at apex in female, immarginate at base, the dorsal outline strongly convex; the very shallow striae with large close transverse punctures, each with a minute granule on its anterior edge; the intervals not wider than the striae, impunctate, with a sparse row of erect pale setae. *Legs* with sparse pale scales; hind tibiae somewhat curved, those of male with a fringe of long pale setae, those of female finely granulate, front tibiae of male also with a fringe; joint 2 of hind tarsi much longer than 3.

Length 5.0-6.5 mm., *breadth* 2.5-3.5 mm.

NYASALAND: Karonga, 20 ♂, 18 ♀, vii, 1910 (Dr. S. A. Neave).

Very closely allied to *S. alticollis* Mshl. (Bull. Ent. Res., XXV, 1934, p. 497, Fig. 1), from Tanganyika, which, however, differs in the form of the dorsal process on the pronotum, this being much thicker in both directions, more broadly bifurcate at the apex and distinctly angulated on its posterior slope.

Nematocerus rotundus, sp.n., ♂ ♀.

Derm dull black, entirely devoid of scaling, practically bare dorsally, except for minute sparse setae, but the lateral margins of the elytra beyond stria 9 with a stripe from the base to the hind coxae formed of short grey setae.

Head separated from the rostrum by a rather deep stria having only a small angulation in the middle, with shallow and often confluent punctures and a deep median sulcus; eyes moderately convex. *Rostrum* a little longer than its width at the genae, slightly narrowing from base to antennae and strongly

dilated at apex; dorsal area parallel-sided behind the scrobes, almost flat, obtusely marginate laterally, with shallow confluent punctures and a rather broad low median carina. *Antennae* with the scape piceous, the funicle red brown with the apices of the joints infusate; scape rather broadly compressed and dilated near base (especially in female), abruptly clavate; funicle very long and slender, with the joints clavate, 1 twice as long as 2, 2 not or very slightly longer than 3. *Prothorax* nearly as long as broad, moderately rounded laterally, widest at middle, not constricted at apex, which is a little narrower than base; dorsum with dense low transverse granules. *Elytra* ovate in male, much broader and subglobose in female; dorsal outline of female strongly convex, highest at middle, vertically declivous at apex without any sinuation; the shallow striae with close punctures separated by granules on the dorsum, the intervals flat, opaque, transversely shagreened, with traces of minute flattened granules. *Legs* black (except the red claws) with sparse short pale setae; hind tibiae of male rather strongly sinuate and granulate on the inner face, those of female less sinuate; front tibiae of male not produced into a point at apex. *Venter* of male with a broad shallow median depression on ventrite 5; ventrite 5 of female almost flat.

Length ♂ 7.5-8.5 mm., ♀ 8.0-9.5 mm., breadth ♂ 3.0-3.3 mm., ♀ 3.9-4.5 mm.

KENYA: Nairobi, 5,450 feet, 3 ♂, 3 ♀, x, 1920 (type), v, 1921, xi, 1926 (A. F. J. Gedye), 2 ♂, 3 ♀, i, v, 1921, 1 ♀, xi, 1923 (Dr. V. G. L. van Someren), 1 ♂, xi, 1923 (Rev. J. W. Hunt), 1 ♂, x, 1929 (Guy A. K. Marshall); Thika, 1 ♂, i, 1921, 2 ♂, v, 1930 (A.F.J.G.); Machakos, 1 ♂, xii, 1923 (J.W.H.).

Very closely allied to the widely distributed *N. castaneipennis* Hust. (*Systates*), which it seems to replace round Nairobi. Hustache's species, which is also black (having unfortunately been described from teneral specimens), is a much narrower insect in both sexes and also shows the following differences: the dorsal area of the rostrum is much more finely sculptured, being usually shagreened with a narrower median carina; the frontal stria is much shallower and sometimes almost obliterated; joint 2 of the funicle is distinctly longer than 3; the punctures on the elytra are not separated by granules, and in the female the posterior declivity is deeply sinuate above the apex, and the front tibiae of the male are produced into a point dorsally at the apex.

***Subleptospyris turneri*, sp.n. ♂ ♀.**

Derm red-brown to piceous, rather shiny; head, rostrum and pronotum with sparse setiform whitish scales; elytra with small, ovate or round, non-contiguous, pale coppery scales, more or less interrupted by indefinite bare spots, which often form

a regular row on intervals 2, 4 and 6, especially in the female; underside with very sparse pale setae.

Head with shallow punctures that are sometimes longitudinally confluent laterally, and an elongate frontal fovea; eyes moderately convex. *Rostrum* longer than its width at the genae (4:3 in male, 3:2 in female), about as wide at base as at genae, with the sides sinuate; dorsal area flat, obtusely marginate laterally, parallel-sided behind antennae, with obsolescent punctures and a low median carina; interantennal area concave, shallowly rugose, the epistome limited by a distinct curved carina. *Antennae* red-brown; scape gradually clavate, with sparse suberect setae; funicle with joint 1 longer than 2, 3 longer than 4, 4-6 equal and clavate, 7 as long as 3. *Prothorax* slightly transverse in male (11:13), a little broader in female (11:15), moderately rounded laterally, widest behind the middle, shallowly constricted at apex, which is narrower than the feebly arcuate and narrowly marginate base; dorsum feebly convex longitudinally, highest behind middle, with strongly flattened large confluent granules, without any smooth median line. *Elytra* ovate in male, much broader in female, jointly sinuate at base, obtusely acuminate at apex; the dorsal outline gently convex, highest at about middle, rather steeply declivous behind; scarcely striate, with more or less irregular rows of deep round separated punctures, the first four to six rows fairly regular in male, less so in female; the pale setae very short and recumbent, except at the extreme apex where they are longer and erect, female without any erect setae on upper part of declivity. *Legs* piceous, with sparse pale setae, the posterior pairs of femora with a loose band of scales; tibiae not compressed, with 3-4 sharp spines on inner edge near apex, front pair not incurved at apex. *Venter* with sparse obsolescent punctures, ventrite 1 striolate along the basal margin.

Length 5.7-7.5 mm., *breadth* 2.5-4.0 mm.

KENYA: Londiani, 9,000 feet, 3 ♂, 2 ♀, v, 1936 (H. J. Allen Turner—type); Molo, 9,000 feet, 3 ♀, v, 1939 (Trench).

Closely allied to *S. sparsuta* Mshl., from the Chyulu Hills, which differs in the following characters: the epistome is quite undefined; the opaque pronotum is much more finely sculptured, more rounded laterally and not constricted at the apex; the elytra are more opaque, with larger and less regular punctures, and in the female they bear a short row of erect setae on the declivity of interval 1.

After the description of *S. sparsuta* (J.E. Afr. Ug. N.H. Soc., XV, 1940, p. 46) it was inadvertently stated that the tibiae of *S. turbida* Mshl., are not compressed; in fact they are markedly compressed.

***Myllocerus athianus*, sp.n., ♂ ♀.**

Derm piceous, densely squamose above and below, head and rostrum dark brown, the former normally with an irregular

paler transverse band; pronotum dark brown, with an indefinite paler stripe on each side of the disk; elytra very variable in colour—typically, dark brown on the disk as far as stria 5 or 6 and paler greyish to fulvous laterally, with an oblique greyish patch before the middle between striae 2 and 6 and a transverse greyish patch at the top of the declivity between striae 1 (or 2) and 4, but the whole dorsal area is liable to be suffused more or less with light brown or grey; underside uniformly grey.

Head longitudinally striolate (hidden by scaling), with only a short median stria visible; eyes not very convex; frons wider than the dorsal area of the rostrum, flat transversely. *Rostrum* nearly as long as broad, parallel-sided in the basal half, moderately dilated at the apex; dorsal area ill-defined basally, rapidly narrowing in front, depressed, with a bare median line anteriorly; epistome bounded by a sharp, almost semicircular carina; mentum with four setae. *Antennae* red-brown; scape not reaching to middle of prothorax, gradually clavate, with rather dense narrow grey scales and subrecumbent setae; funicle with joint 1 longer than 2, the distal joints longer than broad, club as long as the two preceding joints. *Prothorax* nearly as long as broad, truncate and of equal width at base and apex, almost parallel-sided, slightly rounded laterally in the middle and very shallowly constricted near the apex, the latter somewhat obliquely truncate laterally; dorsum with dense scaling and short recumbent setae, with a rather deep rounded impression on each side behind the middle. *Scutellum* oblong or subquadrate, bare, shiny. *Elytra* much wider at the roundly rectangular shoulders than the prothorax, slightly widened behind the middle in male, more so in female; the striae visible through the scaling as very fine bare lines containing small shallow punctures, the intervals feebly convex, with a row of short erect spatulate setae. *Legs* red brown, with dense grey or brown scaling; femora with only a minute tooth; tibiae rather slender, not bisinuate on the inner edge.

Length 3.3-3.7 mm., *breadth* 1.4-1.6 mm.

KENYA: Stony Athi, 4 ♂, 6 ♀, vi, 1940 (E.A.U. Nat. Hist. Soc. Biol. Survey).

Very close to *M. alboscuteatus* Hust., 1934, from the Congo, which may be distinguished by its oval, densely squamose scutellum and the shorter subrecumbent setae on the elytra; also the antennal scape is somewhat longer and the club as long as the three preceding joints; the tibiae are shorter and bisinuate on the inner edge.

***Mylocerus horridulus*, sp.n., ♂ ♀.**

Derm black, with dense uniform pale metallic green scaling throughout.

Head with the fine shallow striolation entirely hidden by scaling, the setae short and recumbent; frons convex transversely,

PLATE 73.

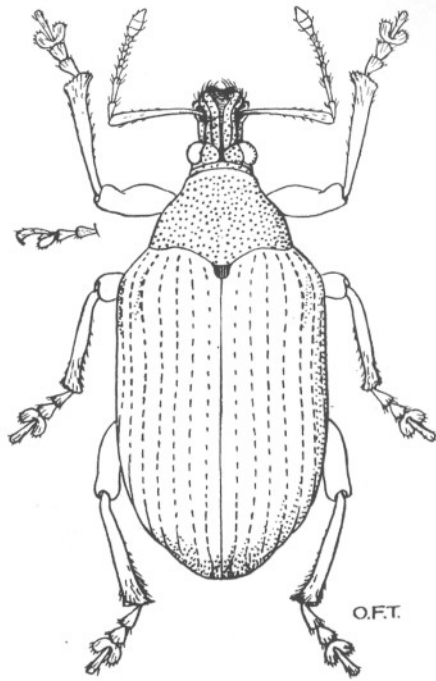


Fig. 1. *Bethaeus* (g.n.) *canus*, sp.n. ♀.

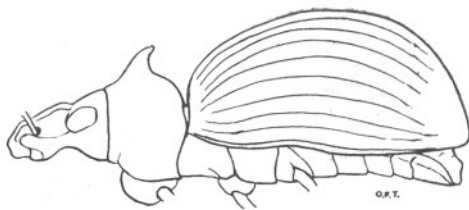


Fig. 2. *Systates* *cornicollis*, sp.n. ♂.

PLATE 74.

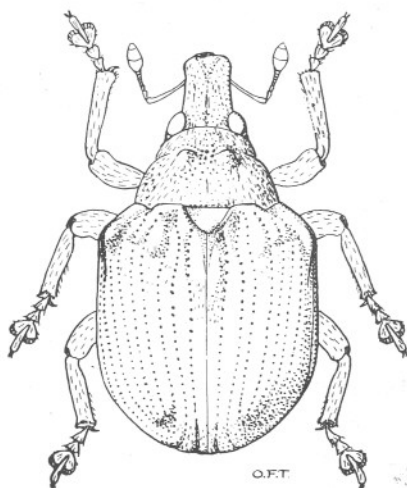


Fig. 3. *Omophorus boxi*, sp.n. ♂.

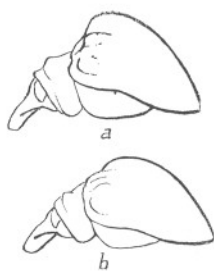


Fig. 4.

- (a) *Omophorus indispositus* Boh.
- (b) *Omophorus boxi*, sp.n.

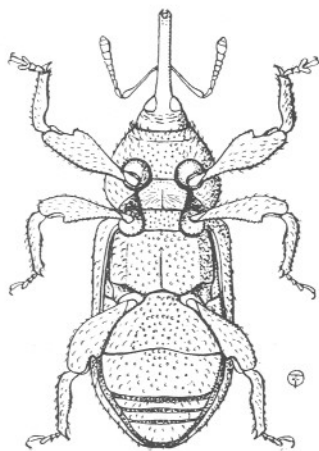


Fig. 5.

- Peltostethus gedyei*, sp.n. ♀.

much wider than the ill-defined dorsal area of the rostrum, without any median stria or puncture; eyes lateral, only slightly convex. *Rostrum* as long as broad, the sides almost parallel or very shallowly sinuate; dorsal area very ill-defined behind, narrowing in front and depressed in the middle; epistome bounded by a low curved carina; mentum with four setae. *Antennae* red, with sparse fine recumbent setae; scape rather stout, gradually clavate; funicle with joint 1 half as long again as 2, 4-7 longer than broad, subequal; club as long as the 3½ preceding joints. *Prothorax* transverse (5:6), feebly rounded laterally, widest a little behind the middle, truncate at base and apex, the latter somewhat narrower and obliquely truncate laterally; dorsum with the rugose punctures entirely hidden by dense scaling and recumbent clavate setae, and with a very shallow round impression on each side behind middle. *Scutellum* small, round, with sparse green scales. *Elytra* comparatively narrow at the obliquely rounded shoulders, widest behind the middle, only slightly wider in the female; the striae narrowly visible through the scaling and with small shallow bare punctures, the intervals flat, with dense convex overlapping scales and with a dense row of moderately long stiff erect spatulate whitish setae. *Legs* red, with grey or greenish scaling; femora with a very minute tooth, often obsolete.

Length 2.9-3.3 mm., breadth 1.2-1.5 mm.

TANGANYIKA: Ngorongoro, 9 ♂, 5 ♀, iv, 1941.

Comes nearest to the still smaller *M. micros* Hust., from the Congo; but the latter has the hind margin of the epistome not carinate in the middle and the frons bears a fine median stria; the subrectangular shoulders of the elytra much more prominent, and the setae are much shorter.

Subfamily NANOPHYINAE.

***Nanophyes analis*, sp.n., ♂ ♀.**

Derm testaceous; head with a dark stripe behind each eye; rostrum more or less blackish behind the antennae; prothorax with an indefinite dark stripe on each side of the disk and a large dark spot near the basal angles (sometimes obsolete); elytra with a large common brown basal triangle with a blackish spot on its hind margin on interval 3, a variable elongate brownish spot at about middle on 3 and a brownish sutural stripe on the declivity; underside with the metasternum, the middle of the mesosternum, and the venter (except a large yellow patch in the middle of ventrite 5), black.

Rostrum forming a continuous line with the frons, very slightly longer than the head and pronotum in both sexes, straight from base to antennae and then slightly curved, the apical portion less than half the length of the scape in ♂, two-thirds in ♀; the post-antennal part dorsally with three carinae in

♂ with impunctate adjoining sulci, the carinae more or less reduced in ♀ and the shallow sulci with a row of punctures. *Antennae* testaceous; length of scape, funicle and club as 13:7:10; joint 4 of funicle not dilated and longer than 2; the two basal joints of club slightly longer than broad. *Prothorax* transverse (5:8), the sides quite straight; dorsum slightly convex longitudinally, with sparse recumbent white setae and very shallow punctures, which are more distinct in ♂ and often quite obsolete in ♀. *Elytra* rather narrowly ovate, widest a little behind the shoulders; striae comparatively deep, with close distinct punctures; intervals gently convex, smooth, the 8th without any row of granules at the base; the recumbent hairs rather long, white on the pale parts and brown on the darker parts. *Legs* pale testaceous, the femora with two very minute unequal teeth.

Length 2.0-2.5 mm., breadth 0.8-1.1 mm.

KENYA: Kinangop, Aberdare Mountains, 6 ♂, 8 ♀, iii, 1930 (H. J. Allen Turner).

Most nearly allied to the South African *N. erraus* Mshl. (Trans. Ent. Soc. Lond., 1927, p. 90, Plate X, Fig. 2), which it closely resembles in pattern, but the shape is more that of *N. balteatus* Mshl. (l.c. Fig. 3).

Subfamily OMOPHORINAE.

Omophorus boxi, sp.n., ♂ ♀ (Figs. 3 and 4).

Derm varying from blackish to blackish brown to red-brown, opaque, evidently during life covered above and below with a whitish waxy efflorescence, but in 2 ♀ this substance is mainly red.

Head obliquely striolate on the vertex, which bears a deep median sulcus, and with sparse recumbent grey hairs; frons with dense round punctures and with a median stria anteriorly (continuous with that on rostrum), which very rarely widens into a median fovea. *Rostrum* much longer than broad (9:5), stout, parallel-sided, with a median sulcus on the basal half; coarsely punctate throughout in ♂, the punctures rugosely confluent laterally on the basal half; apical half in ♀ smooth, opaque, with fine shallow punctures. *Antennae* red-brown; the robust club longer than the 5 jointed funicle (4:3). *Prothorax* subconical, nearly twice as broad as long, widest at base, rapidly narrowing in front, with a broad shallow apical constriction, bisinuate at base, truncate at apex; dorsum sloping steeply forwards, strongly and closely punctate, with a low rounded tubercle on each side of the disk beyond middle and clothed with fine recumbent grey setae. *Scutellum* large, triangular, rugulose, with sparse grey setae. *Elytra* as broad as long, parallel-sided from the prominent shoulders to beyond middle and broadly rounded behind, broadly lobate on each side of the scutellum, and jointly rounded at apex;

dorsum tectiform, being highest along the suture, the dorsal outline very strongly convex, highest not far behind the scutellum, sloping steeply to apex and still more steeply to base; a low obtuse elevation at base of interval 2 adjoining the scutellum and another near base of interval 4, the posterior callus feeble; the shallow striae containing rows of strong separated punctures, stria 10 almost obliterated behind the hind coxae, its outer edge forming a narrow carina throughout. *Legs* red-brown, with rugose shallow punctation and stiff recumbent whitish setae; tibiae straight, with a strong sharp mucro.

Length 4.5-5.0 mm., *breadth* 3.1-3.5 mm.

KENYA: Kabete, 11 ♂, 8 ♀, iii, 1922 (*H. E. Box*—type); Nairobi, 2 ♂, viii, 1925 (*Dr. V. G. L. van Someren*).

Much smaller than the common *O. stomachosus* Boh., that attacks fig trees, and more nearly allied to *O. indispositus* Boh., from Benguella. The latter has larger tubercles on the pronotum, with a broad depression between them; the elytra are shiny, with much sparser punctures, the elevation behind the scutellum is much higher and stria 10 is complete (Fig. 4).

It may be noted that *O. occidentalis* Fairm., 1902, is a synonym of *O. indispositus* Boh., 1845 (*n.syn.*), and *O. nicodi* Hust., 1924 (*Ann. Soc. Linn. Lyon*, p. 22—omitted from *Coleopt. Cat.*) is also synonymous with *O. cupreus* Pasc., 1870, which is widely distributed in West Africa (*n.syn.*).

Subfamily TRYPETINAE.

Peltostethus, gen.nov.

Form oblong, somewhat flattened. *Head* subconical, frons a little narrower than base of rostrum, eyes flat. *Rostrum* subcylindrical, almost straight and about as long as the pronotum in male, longer and curved in female; scrobes oblique, rapidly passing beneath base of rostrum, the antennae being inserted well behind middle in both sexes; mandibles decussate and bidentate; mentum very small, resting on a long peduncle. *Antennae* with the scape strongly clavate, reaching the hind margin of the eye; funicle somewhat widening distally; joint 1 longer than 2, 3-7 transverse; club ovate, only slightly wider than the funicle, joint 1 longer than the rest together. *Prothorax* slightly transverse, rounded laterally, truncate at the base and at the gular margin. *Scutellum* small, triangular. *Elytra* oblong, wider at the shoulders than the prothorax. *Legs* with the femora very strongly clavate, compressed, with a stout tooth; tibiae straight, narrowing distally, strongly uncinat and with a small mucro; tarsi not spongy beneath, but each joint fringed distally with stout setae, joint 3 with rather narrow divergent lobes, the claws free and simple. *Sternum* with the intercoxal piece of the prosternum nearly half as wide as that of the mesosternum (5:9); the prosternum in front of the coxae not longer than a coxa, the

postcoxal area forming a sharply marginate transverse hexagon with vertical sides; mesosternum with the intercoxal area wider than a coxa (3:2); metasternum with the median area quite flat and its lateral margins subangulate and with a median stria on its posterior two-thirds, the episterna broad and dilated behind, the hind coxae separated from the elytra not only by the episterna but also by a piece of the metasternum. *Venter* with the intercoxal process ogival, wider than a coxa; ventrite 2 as long as 1 behind the coxa and separated from it by a fine arcuate stria, 3+4 about half as long as 2.

Genotype: *Peltostethus gedyei*, sp.n.

Only one genus of this subfamily has previously been described from Continental Africa, viz., *Homoeopus* Berg (*Isopus*, Fst., 1898), from the Cameroons, which differs from *Peltostethus* in having the prosternal intercoxal process much narrower (only as wide as the apex of the scape), and the intercoxal process of the venter narrower than a coxa; the femora also are unarmed, and the prosternum lacks the sharply defined hexagonal area behind the front coxae.

The three genera described by Champion (1914) from the Seychelles also all lack the prosternal hexagon, the femora are unarmed, the front coxae are as widely separated as the mid coxae, the antennae are inserted at or beyond the middle of the rostrum, the tibiae bear an unculus but no mucro, etc.

***Peltostethus gedyei*, sp.n., ♂ ♀ (Fig. 5).**

Derm uniformly red-brown, rather opaque, with recumbent scale-like setae.

Head with dense rugose punctation and a shallow median frontal fovea. *Rostrum* of ♂ almost straight, with coarse confluent punctation behind the antennae and finer separated punctures distally; rostrum of ♀ longer, curved, with close shallow punctures near to the base only, shiny and impunctate beyond. *Prothorax* slightly broader than long, strongly rounded laterally, widest somewhat behind the middle, narrowly constricted at apex, the constriction continued across the dorsum, truncate at base and apex, the former nearly twice as wide; dorsum flattened on the disk, with rather large close ocellated punctures and sparse recumbent clavate pale brown setae. *Scutellum* bare, coarsely punctate in the middle. *Elytra* wider at the shoulders than the prothorax, parallel for three-fourths their length, rather broadly rounded behind, jointly rounded at apex; dorsum rather flat on the disk. the striae deep and with shallow punctures, the intervals broader than the striae, flat and transversely rugose, with a single row of closely placed recumbent scale-like setae of a pale brownish colour. *Legs* rugosely punctate, with similar but narrower setae. *Venter* of ♂ with a broad shallow median impression on the two basal ventrites.

Length 4.5-5.0 mm., *breadth* 2 mm.

KENYA: Rabai, 2 ♂, 4 ♀, i-ii, 1929 (A. F. J. Gedye).

This interesting addition to the East African fauna will probably prove to be associated with palm trees.

Subfamily *ITHYPORINAE*.

Haplocorynus deceptor, sp.n., ♂ ♀.

Derm black, with dense ochreous brown scaling; pronotum more or less bare in the middle; elytra with a large subovate lateral black patch between striae 4 and 9, which has a more or less complete narrow border of creamy scales on its upper edge, and a very faint small paler Λ -shaped mark on the suture behind the middle; underside with dense uniform pale brown scaling.

Head with rather large reticulate punctures, with broad scales laterally and narrow ones in the middle. *Rostrum* deeply constricted at base, a little longer than the pronotum; strongly and closely punctate on basal half in ♂, without any median carina, very finely and sparsely punctate distally; basal punctures much less coarse and more restricted in ♀, distal part almost impunctate. *Antennae* red-brown, inserted at about middle (♂) or slightly behind it (♀); funicle with joint 2 a little longer than 1, 5-7 moniliform. *Prothorax* as broad as long, rounded laterally, widest behind the middle, not constricted apically, the very shallowly bisinuate base much broader than the arcuate apex; dorsum convex longitudinally, highest behind the middle, with large subreticulate punctures (mostly concealed by scaling) and a strong median carina on the anterior half or two-thirds; scales much larger than those on the elytra, broad and dense laterally, much narrower and not concealing the derm in the middle of the disk. *Scutellum* subquadrate, with dense erect cream-coloured scales. *Elytra* oblong-ovate, the shallow striae containing large separated punctures, each containing a large pale scale; the intervals convex, of equal height, each with a row of round shiny granules bearing a broad subrecumbent seta. *Legs* with dense ochreous scaling, moderately long, the hind femora shortly exceeding the elytra; femora with an indistinct dark spot at the base of the clavate part, the hind femora with another much larger patch on the basal half, the tibiae with a broad dark ring near base; hind femora strongly clavate, compressed but not very broad in the basal half, the strong squamose tooth with the distal margin simple and sinuate; hind tibiae bisinuate on the inner edge, the outer apical angle obliquely rounded. *Sternum* with the mesosternal process narrowed from base to apex, the latter narrowly truncate and not elevated. *Pygidium* of male broadly excavate and very rugose at apex.

Length 8.5-9.5 mm., breadth 3.2-3.8 mm.

UGANDA: Mawakota, 5 ♂, 8 ♀, ix, 1931 (Dr. V. G. L. van Someren).

Superficially very similar to *H. nigrolateralis* Mshl., 1935, from the Rhodesias and Nyasaland, but the latter species differs strikingly in the structure of the mesosternal process which at its apex is dilated into a broad elevated concave ridge. It presents also the following differences: the rostrum is much more strongly punctate throughout; the pronotum has a much finer lower median carina, and the spaces between the punctures are narrower; the hind femora scarcely reach the apex of the elytra; the hind tibiae are angulate externally at the apex and the inner edge is sinuate only on the basal half.