

Taxonomic Studies on Aphodiinae  
(Coleoptera Scarabaeidae).  
XII. *Colobopterus (Megatelus) doriai*  
(Har.), neoallotypus

by

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With 4 figures

ABSTRACT

A male specimen coming from the Kruger National Park (Transvaal) is designated as neoallotypus of this species.

During a recent visit to the Natural History Museum Geneva I had the possibility of examining material from the collection of Petrovitz, sadly missed friend and teacher. I discovered there a male specimen of *Colobopterus (Megatelus) doriai* (Har.) from the Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

To my knowledge and as already stated (DELLACASA 1977:311) only the holotypus female of this species is known and is preserved in the Genova Museum collection.

I have labelled this male "neoallotypus" to indicate it as the first specimen of the opposite sex of the holotypus coming to our knowledge.

Identification of *Colobopterus doriai* has never caused any problems: it has in fact morphological patterns which differ considerably from those of similar species. Disregarding all other dichotomic characteristics, the length of the basal joint of hind tarsus, which is equal to the following four together, and the scutellum with deep furrow marks on its sides establish beyond doubt the validity of this species.

In conclusion, on comparing holotypus and neoallotypus the following secondary sexual characters emerge:

male: clypeus with border more pronounced and raised; genae distinctly ear-shaped; central hump of front suture distinctly bi-tubercled; pronotum narrower with puncturation thick and irregular, the small punctures hardly evident; elytra with the back not enlarged.



female: clypeus with border less pronounced and less raised; genae less distinctly ear-shaped; central hump of front suture weakly bi-tubercled; pronotum wider with puncturation closer and regular, also small punctures evident; elytra enlarged on the back.

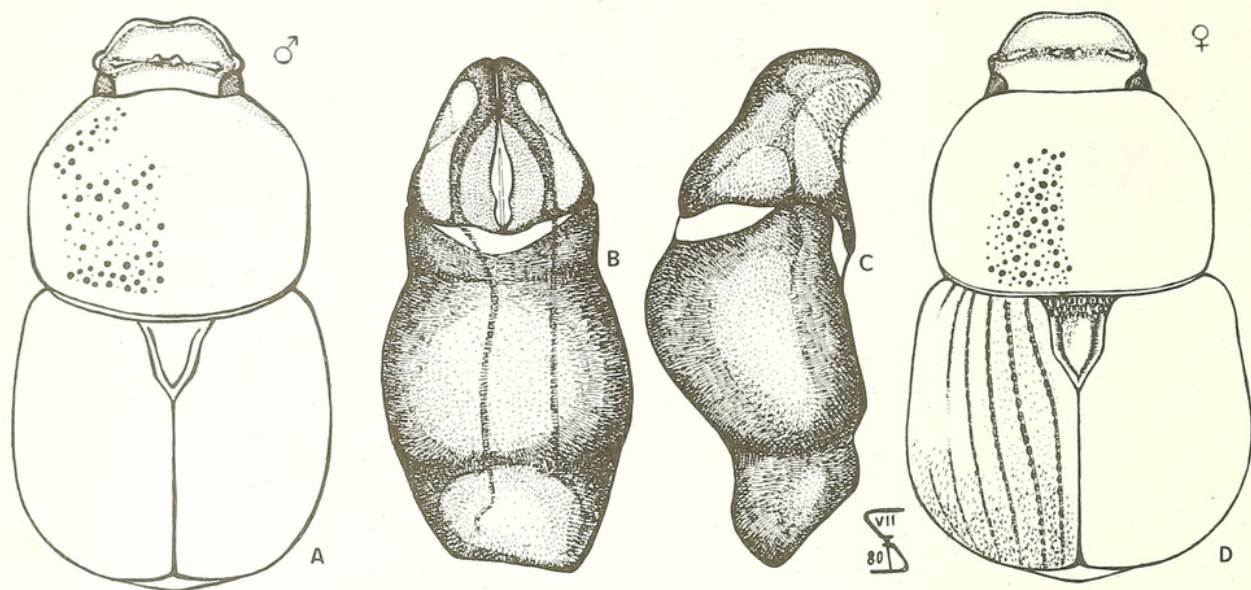


FIG. A-D.

*Colobopterus (Megatelus) doriai* (Har.);

figs. A, B, C: habitus and edeagus of the male from Kruger National Park (Transvaal);  
fig. D: habitus of the female from Insaba (Keren), Ethiopia.

I wish to thank Dr. Besuchet, Löbl, Poggi and Miss M. H. Lewis for their kind cooperation.

#### RIASSUNTO

L'A. ha notato nella collezione Petrovitz al Museo di Ginevra un esemplare maschio di *Colobopterus (Megatelus) doriai* (Har.) proveniente dal Kruger National Park (Transvaal). Egli designa tale esemplare neoallotypus di detta specie e completa quindi lo studio tassonomico della stessa.

#### LITERATURE CITED

- DELLACASA, G. 1977. Studi di sistematica sugli Aphodiinae (Col. Scarabaeidae). III. *Colobopterus (Megatelus) contractus* (Klug), *Colobopterus (Megatelus) doriai* (Har.) e *Colobopterus (Megateloides) dimidiatus* (Roth). *Annali Mus. civ. Stor. nat. Giacomo Doria* 81: 305-312.

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