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Revision of *Mnioticus* COOMBS & WOODROFFE, 1962 (Coleoptera, Cryptophagidae)

Jens ESSER

A b s t r a c t : The afrotropical *Mnioticus* COOMBS & WOODROFFE, 1962 is revised.

K e y w o r d s : Cryptophagidae, *Mnioticus*, revision, Afrotropical Region, new homonymy, new combination, new species

Introduction

Mnioticus COOMBS & WOODROFFE, 1962, a small genus of Cryptophagidae, is restricted to high elevations of East African mountains. They are known from Ethiopia, Kenya, Democratic Republic of Congo, Uganda and Ruanda. From high altitudes of Tanzanian or Burundian mountains are currently no *Mnioticus* known.

The species of *Mnioticus* are poorly studied. LESCHEN (1996) placed the genus as sister taxon of *Telmatophilus* HEER, 1841 into the "*Henoticus*-group" of genera. Due the combination of characters (see below) *Mnioticus* appears to be monophyletic. SCOTT (1936) described four species (in *Mnionomus* WOLLASTON, 1864), COOMBS & WOODROFFE, 1962 transferred Scott´s species (*gibbinsi*, *hancocki*, *jeanneli* and *rhynchopetali*) to the new created genus *Mnioticus*, with *hancocki* as type species. BRUCE (1960) described a further species (in *Cryptophagus* HERBST, 1792), transferred in the present paper to *Mnioticus.* Later, ESSER (2014) described another species.

Among specimens from several institutes the writer found six additional and undescribed species which are described below. Further, the primary homonymy of *Cryptophagus* (*Micrambe*) *similis* BRUCE, 1957 and *Cryptophagus* (*Mnionomus*) *similis* BRUCE, 1960 was stated and a replacement name for the latter (now transferred in *Mnioticus*) found: *Mnioticus scotti* nom.nov.

Material and methods

The material examined is deposited in the following collections:

BMNH ..... Natural History Museum, London, U. K.

NHRM ..... Naturhistoriska Riksmuseet, Stockholm, Sweden

RMCA ..... Royal Museum for Central Africa, Tervuren, Belgium

cES..... author´s private collection, Berlin, Germany

The morphological studies were conducted using an Euromex DZ-1605 and Euromex BB.1153.PLI. Photographs were created with a ToupCam 14MP (ToupTek).

Body length was measured from the head to the apex of the elytra, length of pronotum in the middle, broadness on the broadest part.

Characteristics of *Mnioticus* COOMBS & WOODROFFE, 1962

Mnioticus is lacking typical modifications on pronotum like other genera in Cryptophaginae have: no callosities, no prominent teeth or serrations on sides of pronotum. Only in a few species a micro crenulation is visible, but it is very indistinct and not well developed as usually in *Henoticus* THOMSON, 1868 (fig. 16). In some *Henoticus* from high altitudes in East Africa the serrations is quite indistinct (fig 14, 15). Those *Henoticus* species (with and without membranous wings) are very close to *Mnioticus*, which are all wingless. LESCHEN (1996) stated *Mnioticus* species have a ventrite 1 longer than remaining. On the other hand *Henoticus* have a ventrite 1 equal in length to the remaining. Examining a huge amount of both, *Mnioticus* and *Henoticus* shows no distinct difference in ventrite 1. Further LESCHEN (1996: 585-586) separated *Mnioticus* from *Henoticus* by lacking a connecting furrow between the basal fovea on pronotum. But all examined species of *Mnioticus* bearing a furrow like *Henoticus*. In some cases the separation of the two genera is very indistinct and only based upon the more or less distinct serration of pronotum in *Henoticus*.

There are three groups of species into *Mnioticus*:

1. *M. jeanneli*-group (*jeanneli* (SCOTT, 1936), *kinangopianus* nov.sp.): medium sized, dark brown species with pronotum more or less slightly narrowed to base; pubescence indistinct.
2. *M. gibbinsi*-group (*gibbinsi* (SCOTT, 1936), *hancocki* (SCOTT, 1936): large sized, dark or pale species with pronotum strongly narrowed to base, sides concave in the posterior part; pubescence short, decumbent and dense; legs and antennae slender.
3. *M. rhynchopetali*-group (*M. brucei* nov.sp., *M. gugheanus* nov.sp., *M. holmi* nov.sp., *karisimbianus* nov.sp., *M. rhynchopetali* (SCOTT, 1936), *M. rougemonti* ESSER, 2014, *M. ruwenzoriensis* nov.sp., *M. scotti* nom. nov.): small and medium sized species pale, dark, bicoloured or with spots on elytra; sides of pronotum rounded, sometimes strongly narrowed to base and concave in the posterior part; pubescence more distinct, decumbent or partly erected.

Taxonomic results: new species

***Mnioticus brucei* nov.sp.** (fig. 13)

T y p e m a t e r i a l : Holotype ♂: "Congo; P. N. A., 19-VII-1963, RP M.-J. Célis 2135 / Massif Ruwenzori, Mahungu, camp des porteurs, 3.250 m, Ericetum" [RMCA]. Paratypes: 2 ♀ " Congo; P. N. A., 18-VII-1963, RP M.-J. Célis 2132-33 / Massif Ruwenzori, Mahungu, riv. Katsambu, 3.300 m, Ericetum" [RMCA, cES]; Congo; P. N. A., 16-25-VII-1963, RP M.-J. Célis 2144 / Massif Ruwenzori, ruis. Iterere, camp des bouteilles, 4.000 m, étage alpin » [RMCA]; 1 ♀ « Kanzuiri: 3400/3500 m dans les Mousses / Coll. Mus. Tervuren, Zaïre: Face N Ruwenzori, VII/VIII74, R. P. M. Lejeune » [RMCA].

E t y m o l o g y : Named after Nils Bruce (1883-1981) who did a large work on Cryptophagidae.

D e s c r i p t i o n : Male, 2.1 mm, reddish-brown, each elytron with an indistinct dark spot, shiny. Membranous wings absent. Legs and antennae slender, tarsi 5-segmented, anterior tarsomeres 1-3 widened (only in male). Antennae 11-segmented with a 3-segmented club. Segments 4-8 globular or nearly so, segment 3 elongated and pear-shaped, segment 2 similar but shorter and broader. Segment 1 rounded square-shaped. Segments 9 and 10 moderately transverse, segment 11 fusiform and asymmetrical. Eyes large with coarse ommatidia, puncture on head fine and dense. Pronotum moderately transverse (1,5 times broader than long), broadest somewhat behind the middle, side nearly straight behind and before the broadest point, rounded very slightly anteriorly and straight to concave posteriorly. Basal furrow moderate, basal fovea short. Side margin smooth, anterior margin nearly straight, anterior angles obtuse. Hind margin rounded backwards in the middle, produced besides the cavities. Posterior angles acute, oriented backwards. Puncture of pronotum somewhat stronger than on head and distinctly more sparse. Elytra elongated, without any features, puncture stronger and denser than on pronotum.

C o m m e n t : General shape like many *Cryptophagus* HERBST, 1792. Dark spot on elytra variable and not well circumscribed. Distinguishable from *M. ruwenzoriensis* nov.sp. by the shape of pronotum and more shiny surface. Similar also to *M. holmi* nov.sp., *M. karisimbianus* nov.sp. and *M. scotti* nom. nov. but with pronotum more transverse and elytra less strong punctured and more shiny. *Mnioticus karsimbianus* nov.sp. and *M. scotti* nom. nov. are not known from the Ruwenzori Mts.

***Mnioticus gugheanus* nov.sp.** (fig. 11)

T y p e m a t e r i a l : Holotype ♂: "Ethiopia: 1948-1949, Hugh Scott, B.M. 1949-184 / Abyssinia: Gamo Prov., Mt. Gughé, ca. 10,500 ft, 22.XII.1948 / from dying stem and fruiting inflorescence of Lobelia rhynchopetalum" [BMNH]. Paratypes: 37 ex. with the same data as the holotype [BMNH, cES]; 6 ex. "Ethiopia: 1948-1949, Hugh Scott, B.M. 1949-184 / Abyssinia: Gamo Prov., Mt. Gughé, over 11,000 ft, 21.XII.1948 / among decaying stems and leaves of Kniphofia on south-west slope" [BMNH].

E t y m o l o g y : Named after the Mt. Gughé (Ethiopia), where the type material was collected.

D e s c r i p t i o n : Male, 1.9 mm, reddish-brown, shiny, elytra with a semi-circular black spot (except suture, base and apex). Membranous wings absent. Legs and antennae slender, tarsi 5-segmented, hind tarsi 4-segmented (in female 5-segmented). Antennae 11-segmented with a 3-segmented club. Segments 4 to 8 more or less globular, segments 1 to 3 slightly longer than broad. Segments 9 and 10 moderately transverse, 11 drop-shaped and asymmetrical. Eyes large with fine ommatidia, puncture on head fine and sparse. Pronotum also with fine and sparse puncture. Pronotum convex and moderately transverse (1.5 times broader than long), with sides rounded, more narrowed to base in the posterior third and minute serration. Basal furrow flat, basal fovea deep. Anterior margin slightly concave, posterior margin slightly convex. Elytra elongate, puncture stronger and less sparse than on pronotum. Humeral callus absent.

C o m m e n t : Resembles in general shape to the most species except *M. gibbinsi* (SCOTT, 1936), *M. hancocki* (SCOTT, 1936), *M. jeanneli* (SCOTT, 1936) and *M. kinangopianus*

nov.sp. but normally separated by its dark spots on elytra (spot is of variable in size but well circumscribed). The also Ethiopian species *M. rhynchopetali* (SCOTT, 1936) (fig. 3) differs by its longer legs and more slender antennae. *M. rougemonti* ESSER, 2014 (fig. 4), described also from Ethiopia, has smaller eyes and antennae segments 9 and 10 less transverse.

Pale specimens have only a small dark spot, which is enlarged in darker specimens. Very dark specimens have also a darkened pronotum.

***Mnioticus holmi* nov.sp.** (fig. 9)

T y p e m a t e r i a l : Holotype ♂: "EAK Ruwenzori, Kitandara, 10.IV.1948, Å. Holm Nr. 93 / 3850 m, Sålln mossa i Senecio/Lobelia-skog." [NHRM]. Paratypes: 1 ♂, 5 ♀ with the same data as the holotype [NHRM, cES]; 3 ♀ "Congo: P. N. A., 21-22-VII-1963, RP. M.-J. Célis 2129 / Massif Ruwenzori, Mahungu, r. dr. Katsambu, 3.280 m, terreau » [RMAC, cES], 1 ♀ « Congo: P. N. A., 19-VII-1963, RP. M.-J. Célis 2135 / Massif Ruwenzori, Mahungu, camp des porteurs, 3.250 m, Ericetum » [RMCA].

E t y m o l o g y : Named after Åke Holm (1909-1989) who collected the holotype and a few paratypes, and also a lot of Cryptophagidae from several mountain ranges in East Africa.

D e s c r i p t i o n : Male, 1.9 mm, reddish-brown, elytra pale (except suture), underside dark, posteriorly paler, shiny. Covered with whitish hairs, more or less (on sides of elytra) decumbent. Membranous wings absent. Legs and antennae slender, tarsi 5-segmented, anterior tarsomeres 1-3 widened (only in male), antennae 11-segmented with a 3-segmented club. Segment 3 elongated and pear-shaped, segment 2 somewhat shorter and broader. Segment 1 stout, segments 4 to 8 more or less long as broad. Segments 9 and 10 moderately transverse, 11 fusiform and asymmetrical. Eyes moderately large with coarse ommatidia, puncture on head fine and sparse. Pronotum moderately transverse (1,4 times broader than long), broadest in the middle, sides narrowed anteriorly and posteriorly, convex, before posterior angles abruptly concave. Sides with fine crenulation. Anterior margin nearly straight, basal margin slightly rounded backwards in the medium half. Basal furrow moderate, basal fovea short. Puncture on pronotum fine and sparse. Elytra elongated, without any features. Puncture distinctly denser and stronger than on pronotum.

C o m m e n t : Not well distinguishable from *M. scotti* nom.nov. except by the origin of specimens. *M. scotti* nom.nov. is known by two females (holotype and one additional specimen). For distinguishing the two species the discovery of male of *M. scotti* is helpful. Also similar to *M. ruwenzoriensis* nov.sp. but pronotum with puncture and shiny. Sides of pronotum concave in the posterior part. The *M. karisimbianus* nov.sp. (fig. 10) with elytra more stout is so far not known from Ruwenzori Mountains.

***Mnioticus karisimbianus* nov.sp.** (fig. 10)

T y p e m a t e r i a l : Holotype ♂: 1 "Rukumi: Forêt de Hagenia, 3300/3500 m, 23.VII./1.VIII.70, hum. d´Hag. / Coll. Mus. Tervuren, Zaïre: P. N. V., Mission Karisimbi, R. P. M. Lejeune » [RMCA]. Paratypes: 20 ex. « Rukumi: Forêt de Hagenia, 3300/3500 m, 23.VII./1.VIII.70, hum. d´Hag. / Coll. Mus. Tervuren, Zaïre: P. N. V., Mission Karisimbi, R. P. M. Lejeune » [RMCA, cES]; 3 ex. « Rukumi: Forêt de Séneçons, 3500/3700 m, VII.70, ds. feuilles mortes / Coll. Mus. Tervuren, Zaïre: P. N. V., Mission Karisimbi, R. P. M. Lejeune" [RMCA].

E t y m o l o g y : Named after the Mount Karisimbi as part of the Virunga Mountains.

D e s c r i p t i o n : Male, 1.8 mm, pale yellow-brown, shiny. Covered with pale, short and slightly erected hairs. Membranous wings absent. Legs and antennae slender, tarsi 5-segmented, antennae 11-segmented with a 3-segmented club. Segments 1 and 2 somewhat longer than broad, 1 broader than 2. Segment 3 pear-shaped, segments 4 to 8 oviform or moderately elongated (particularly 5). Segments 9 and 10 moderately transverse, 11 fusiform. Eyes moderately large with coarse ommatidia, puncture on head fine and sparse. Pronotum moderately transverse (1.4 times broader than long), broadest behind the middle sides narrowed anteriorly and posteriorly, convex, before posterior angles abruptly concave. Anterior margin nearly straight, basal margin slightly rounded backwards in the medium half and sinuated behind the basal fovea. Basal furrow moderate, basal fovea short. Posterior angles acute, oriented backwards. Puncture on pronotum fine and sparse. Elytra with puncture strong and more dense, ovate and without any features.

C o m m e n t : Smallest species with elytra more stout than in other small species. Resembles to *M. holmi* nov.sp. from Ruwenzori Mountains. and *M. scotti* nom.nov. from Mt. Tshiaberimu. Both have elytra more elongated and are separated by their distribution. From *Mnioticus brucei* nov.sp. is separated by its more transverse pronotum.

***Mnioticus kinangopianus* nov.sp.** (fig. 12)

T y p e m a t e r i a l : Holotype ♀: "Kenya, Aberdare Range, 26.X.1934, B.M.E.Afr.Exp., B.M. 1935-203 / Mt. Kinangop, 10,000 ft, J. Ford / Senecio brassicaeformis / Mnioticus spp. det by R. Leschen 19" [BMNH]. Paratypes: 2♀♀ "Aberdare, Kinangop, 3725 m, 13/7.48, Å. Holm / 271" [NHRM, cES]; 1 ♀ "Kenya, Aberdare Range, 26.X.1934, B.M.E.Afr.Exp., B.M. 1935-203 / Mt. Kinangop, 10,000 ft, J. Ford / Senecio brassicaeformis / Holotype, Kenyacryptus aenigmaticum, designated by R. Leschen 1994 / MS name, det. R. A. Leschen" [BMNH].

E t y m o l o g y : Named after the Mount Kiangop (Aberdare Range, Kenya) where the type material was collected.

D e s c r i p t i o n : Female, 2 mm, dark brown, shiny. Covered with pale, short and decumbent hairs. Membranous wings absent. Legs and antennae slender, tarsi 5-segmented, antennae 11-segmented with a 3-segmented club. Segments 4 to 7 more or less longer than broad, of reduced length distally. Segment 8 globular, segment 3 two times longer than broad, segments 1 and 2 shorter but broader. Segments 9 not transverse, segment 10 slightly transverse, segment 11 square-shaped but asymmetrical. Eyes moderately large with fine ommatidia, puncture on head fine and sparse. Pronotum flat and large, transverse (1.6 times broader than long), broadest in the middle, sides strongly narrowed anteriorly and nearly straight to base. Basal furrow moderate, basal fovea deep and enlarged. Anterior margin almost straight, posterior margin straight but notched beside the fovea. Puncture fine and sparse. Elytra elongated, sides of the anterior third nearly straight. Puncture fine and somewhat denser than on pronotum.

C o m m e n t : Well separated due to the typical pronotum and dark colour. *M. jeanneli* (SCOTT, 1936) is also a dark coloured species from Kenya but considerably slender (fig. 6).

***Mnioticus ruwenzoriensis* nov.sp.** (figs 7, 8)

T y p e m a t e r i a l : Holotype ♂: "Congo: P. N. A., 30-31-XII-1962, R.P. M.-J. Célis, 2106-07 / Massif Ruwenzori, Kiondo, 4.200 m, prarie alpine" [RMCA]. Paratypes: 3 ♂, 3 ♀ with the same data as the holotype [RMCA, cES]; 1 ♂: " Face N Senguye, 3800 m, ds Lobelia morts / Coll. Mus. Tervuren, Zaïre: N Ruwenzori, VII/VIII.1974, R.P. M. Lejeune" [RMCA].

E t y m o l o g y : Named after the Ruwenzori mountains, where the type material was found.

D e s c r i p t i o n : Male, 2.3 mm, yellow-brown, suture somewhat paler, shiny. Covered dense with short and pale hairs, pubescence decumbent. Membranous wings absent. Legs and antennae slender, tarsi 5-segmented, anterior tarsomeres 1-3 widened (only in male), antennae 11-segmented with a 3-segmented club. Segment 3 elongated and pear-shaped, segment 2 somewhat shorter and broader. Segment 1 rounded, segments 4 to 8 more or less long as broad. Segments 9 and 10 moderately transverse, 11 fusiform and asymmetrical. Eyes moderately large with coarse ommatidia, puncture on head fine and sparse. Pronotum moderately transverse (1.4 time broader than long), broadest in the middle, sides narrowed anteriorly and posteriorly, convex. Sides with extremely fine crenulation. Anterior margin nearly straight, basal margin rounded backwards in the medium half. Basal furrow moderate, basal fovea short. Puncture on pronotum fine but dense. Elytra without any features. Puncture fine and dense like on pronotum.

C o m m e n t : Similar to *M. brucei* nov.sp. and *M. holmi* nov.sp. but pronotum with denser puncture and quite dull. Sides of pronotum entirely convex, pronotum in *M. brucei* nov.sp. more transverse. Further M. *karisimbianus* nov.sp. and *M. scotti* nom.nov. are similar. They are distinguishable by less dull surface, differing shape of pronotum and their distribution outside the Ruwenzori Mts.

Taxonomical results: new name and new combination

Mnioticus scotti nom.nov. for *Mnioticus similis* (BRUCE, 1960) comb.nov.

Original combination: *Cryptophagus* (*Mnionomus*) *similis* BRUCE, 1960; primary homonym of *Cryptophagus* (*Micrambe*) *similis* BRUCE, 1957 (*Micrambe similis* BRUCE, 1957, junior synonym of *Micrambe peringueyi* GROUVELLE, 1908 (OTERO 2012).

***Micrambe peringueyi* GROUVELLE, 1908**
Micrambe similis (BRUCE, 1957) (*Cryptophagus*): junior synonym

***Mnioticus scotti* nom.nov.**
Mnioticus similis (BRUCE, 1960) (*Cryptophagus*): primary homonym

Material examined

***Mnioticus brucei* nov.sp.** (fig. 13)

T y p e m a t e r i a l : Holotype and paratypes from Ruwenzori (Dem. Rep. Congo).

***Mnioticus gibbinsi* (SCOTT, 1936)** (fig. 1)

T y p e m a t e r i a l : Holotype and 4 paratypes (BMNH).

A d d i t i o n a l m a t e r i a l : Uganda: Uganda, Muhavura, 4100 m, 4.10.48, O. Hedberg [NHRM]; Ruanda: Gisenyi/Ruanda, Mt. Karisimbi, 3000-3500m, leg. Mühle, 30.12.183 [cES]; Dem. Rep. Congo: Rukumi: Forêt de Séneçons, 3500/3700m, VII.1970, ds feuilles mortes / Coll. Mus. Tervuren, Zaire P. N. V., Mission Karsimbi, R. P. M. Lejeune [RMCA]; Rukumi: Forêt de Séneçons, 3500/3700m, VII.1970, humus de Séneçons / Coll. Mus. Tervuren, Zaire P. N. V., Mission Karsimbi, R. P. M. Lejeune [RMCA]; Rukumi: Forêt de Hagenia, 3300/3500 m, 23.VII.70, dans Lobelia morts / Coll. Mus. Tervuren, Zaire P. N. V., Mission Karsimbi, R. P. M. Lejeune [RMCA]; Karisimbi: face W, 4000m, 25.VII.1970, ds feuilles mortes / Coll. Mus. Tervuren, Zaire P. N. V., Mission Karsimbi, R. P. M. Lejeune [RMCA].

***Mnioticus gugheanus* nov.sp.** (fig. 11)

T y p e m a t e r i a l : Holotype and paratypes from Mt. Gughé (Ethiopia).

***Mnioticus hancocki* (SCOTT, 1936)** (fig. 2)

T y p e m a t e r i a l : Holotype and 11 paratypes.

A d d i t i o n a l m a t e r i a l : Uganda: Ruwenzori, Bujuku Valley, 3900 m, 23.3.48, Å. Holm [NHRM]; Ruwenzori, Bujuku Valley, 3700-4000 m, 6.4.48, Å. Holm [NHRM]; Ruwenzori, Mijusi Valley, 3800 m, 27.3.48, Å. Holm [NHRM]; Ruwenzori, Bigo, 3500 m, 22.3.48, Å. Holm [NHRM]; Ruwenzori, Bigo, 3350 m, 24.3.48, Å. Holm [NHRM]; Dem. Rep. Congo: Congo Belge: P. N. A., 12.X.1952, P. Vanschuytbroeck & J. Kekenbosch, 1290 / Massif Ruwenzori, Kiondo, 4210 m, dans lobélie [RMCA]; Congo: P. N. A., 28.XII.1962-2.1.1963, RP. M.-J. Célis 2111c / Massif Ruwenzori, piste vallée Butahu, camp des bouteilles ét alpin, 4000 m [RMCA]; Congo: P. N. A., 30.XII.1962, RP. M.-J. Célis 2112 / Massif Ruwenzori, Kiondo, 4200 m, prairie alpine [RMCA]; Congo: P. N. A., 30.XII.1962, RP. M.-J. Célis 2127 / Massif Ruwenzori, Kiondo, 4200 m, étage alpin, inflor. lobélies [RMCA].

***Mnioticus holmi* nov.sp.** (fig. 9)

T y p e m a t e r i a l : Holotype and paratypes from Ruwenzori (Dem. Rep. Congo).

***Mnioticus jeanneli* (SCOTT, 1936)** (fig. 6)

T y p e m a t e r i a l : 9 paratypes [BMNH].

A d d i t i o n a l m a t e r i a l : Kenya: Mt. Kenya, Teleki Valley, 4200 m, 26.7.48, Å. Holm [NHRM].

***Mnioticus karisimbianus* nov.sp.** (fig. 10)

T y p e m a t e r i a l : Holotype and paratypes from Mt. Karisimbi (Virunga Mts.).

***Mnioticus kinangopianus* nov.sp.** (fig. 12)

T y p e m a t e r i a l : Holotype and paratypes from Mt. Kinangop (Aberdare Range, Kenya).

***Mnioticus rhynchopetali* (SCOTT, 1936)** (fig. 3)

T y p e m a t e r i a l : Holotype and 23 paratypes [BMNH].

***Mnioticus rougemonti* ESSER, 2014** (fig. 4)

A d d i t i o n a l m a t e r i a l : Ethopia: Semien Mts., massif of Ras Degien, above Mecana-Abbo, 11.XII.1952, leg. Scott [BMNH]; Semien Mts., Imiet Gogo, 23.X.1972, leg. Clarke [RMCA, cES].

***Mnioticus ruwenzoriensis* nov.sp.** (figs 7, 8)

T y p e m a t e r i a l : Holotype and paratypes from Ruwenzori (Dem. Rep. Congo).

***Mnioticus scotti* nom.nov.** (fig. 5)

T y p e m a t e r i a l : Holotype [RMCA].

A d d i t i o n a l m a t e r i a l : Dem. Rep. Congo: Congo: P. N. A., 19.VII.1963, RP. M.-J. Célis 2150 / Secteur Tshiaberimu, so. Tshiaberimu, 3117m, bruyères, mousses [RMCA].

Catalogue of *Mnioticus* COOMBS & WOODROFFE, 1962

***M. brucei* nov.sp.**

D i s t r i b u t i o n : Dem. Rep. Congo: Ruwenzori Mts.

***M. gibbinsi* (SCOTT, 1936)**
(*Mnionomus*): Linn. Soc. London

D i s t r i b u t i o n : Dem. Rep. Congo / Ruanda / Uganda: Mt. Karisimbi (Virunga Mts.)

***M. gugheanus* nov.sp**.

D i s t r i b u t i o n : Ethiopia: Gughé Mts.

***M. hancocki* (SCOTT, 1936)**
(*Mnionomus*): Linn. Soc. London

D i s t r i b u t i o n : Dem. Rep. Congo / Uganda: Ruwenzori Mts.

***M. holmi* nov.sp.**

D i s t r i b u t i o n : Dem. Rep. Congo: Ruwenzori Mts.

***M. jeanneli* (SCOTT, 1936)**
(*Mnionomus*): Linn. Soc. London

D i s t r i b u t i o n : Kenya: Mt. Kenya

***M. karisimbianus* nov.sp.**

D i s t r i b u t i o n : Dem. Rep. Congo: Mt. Karisimbi (Virunga Mts.)

***M. kinangopianus* nov.sp.**

D i s t r i b u t i o n : Kenya: Aberdare Range

***M. rhynchopetali* (SCOTT, 1936)**
(*Mnionomus*): Linn. Soc. London

D i s t r i b u t i o n : Ethiopia: Mt. Chillalo

***M. rougemonti* ESSER, 2014**: Ent. Zeitschrift

D i s t r i b u t i o n : Ethiopia: Mt. Buhait (Semian Mountains)

***M. ruwenzoriensis* nov.sp.**

D i s t r i b u t i o n : Dem. Rep. Congo: Ruwenzori Mts.

***M. scotti* nom.nov.** = *similis* (BRUCE, 1960): Ann. Mus. Congo Terv.

D i s t r i b u t i o n : Dem. Rep. Congo: Lubero, Mt. Tshiaberimu

Key to *Mnioticus* COOMBS & WOODROFFE, 1962

1 Pronotum slightly narrowed to the base, broad and large, habitus more oviform, (fig. 12) species from Kenya (Aberdare Range) ..... *M. kinangopianus* nov.sp. (fig. 12)

• Pronotum narrowed to the base, less broad and large, habitus not oviform (see also *M. jeanneli*: fig. 6) 2

2 Species from Ethiopia; small (less than 2.5 mm), posterior tarsi 4-segmented in male..... 3

• Species from Kivu, Ruwenzori and Virunga (Uganda, Ruanda or Dem. Rep. Congo) or from Mt. Kenya; longer (more than 2.3 mm, in some cases more than 3 mm), posterior tarsi 5-segmented in both sexes 4

3 Larger, 2.3 to 2.5 mm, pronotum more transverse, eyes larger with more ommatidia as in *rougemonti*. Ethiopia: Mt. Chillalo ..... *M. rhynchopetali* (SCOTT, 1936) (fig. 3)

• Smaller, about 2 mm, pronotum less transverse and slightly narrowed to base, eyes smaller with less ommatidia as in *rhynchopetali*. Elytra indistinct blackish in dark specimens. Ethiopia: Semien Mts..... *M. rougemonti* ESSER, 2014 (fig. 4)

• Smaller, about 2 mm, pronotum less transverse and strongly narrowed to base, posterior part of side margin distinctly concave. Elytra pale with a spot of variable size, pronotum dark brown to blackish in dark specimens. Ethiopia: Gughé Mts ..... *M. gugheanus* nov.sp. (fig. 11)

4 Species from Mt. Kenya, smaller (2.3 – 3.1 mm)..... *M. jeanneli* (SCOTT, 1936) (fig. 6)

• Species from Ruwenzori Mts., Mt. Tshiaberimu and Virunga Mts./Mt. Karisimbi (Uganda, Ruanda or Dem. Rep. Congo)..... 5

5 Larger species, most specimens about 3.0 mm..... 6

• Smaller species around 2.0 mm..... 7

6 Somewhat larger species from Virunga Mts. (Uganda, Ruanda and Dem. Rep. Congo), most specimens around 3.5 mm. Elytra dull with fine and dense punctation ..... *M. gibbinsi* (SCOTT, 1936) (fig. 1)

• Somewhat smaller species from Ruwenzori (Uganda and Dem. Rep. Congo), most specimens around 3.0 mm. Elytra more shiny and less fine and dense punctation..... *M. hancocki* (SCOTT, 1936) (fig. 2)

7 Pronotum strongly narrowed posteriorly with side concave in the posterior part. Puncture of elytra strong, puncture of pronotum distinctly finer, more shiny 8

• Pronotum rounded uniformly and convex. Puncture on pronotum and elytra fine, similar, more dull ..... *M. ruwenzoriensis* nov.sp. (fig. 7, 8)

8 Shiny, posterior angles of pronotum prominent, pronotum more transverse, pubescence short and decumbent. Ruwenzori Mts ..... *M. brucei* nov.sp. (fig. 13)

• Less shiny, posterior angles of pronotum less prominent, pronotum less transverse..... 9

9 Species from Ruwenzori, more elongated and flat ..... *M. holmi* nov.sp. (fig. 9)

• Species from Mt. Tshiaberimu, more elongated and flat..... *M. scotti* nov.sp. (fig. 5)

• Species from Mt. Karisimbi, more stout and convex ..... *M. karisimbianus* nov.sp. (fig. 10)

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Zusammenfassung

Die afrotropische Gattung der Schimmelkäfer *Mnioticus* COOMBS & WOODROFFE, 1962 wird revidiert. Die Artenzahl erhöht sich durch Neubeschreibungen und Neukombinationen von bisher sechs auf nunmehr zwölf Arten. Weiterhin aber beschränkt sich das bekannte Verbreitungsgebiet der Gattung auf einen Teil der ostafrikanischen Hochgebirge in Äthiopien, Kenia, Uganda, Ruanda und der Demokratichen Republik Kongo.

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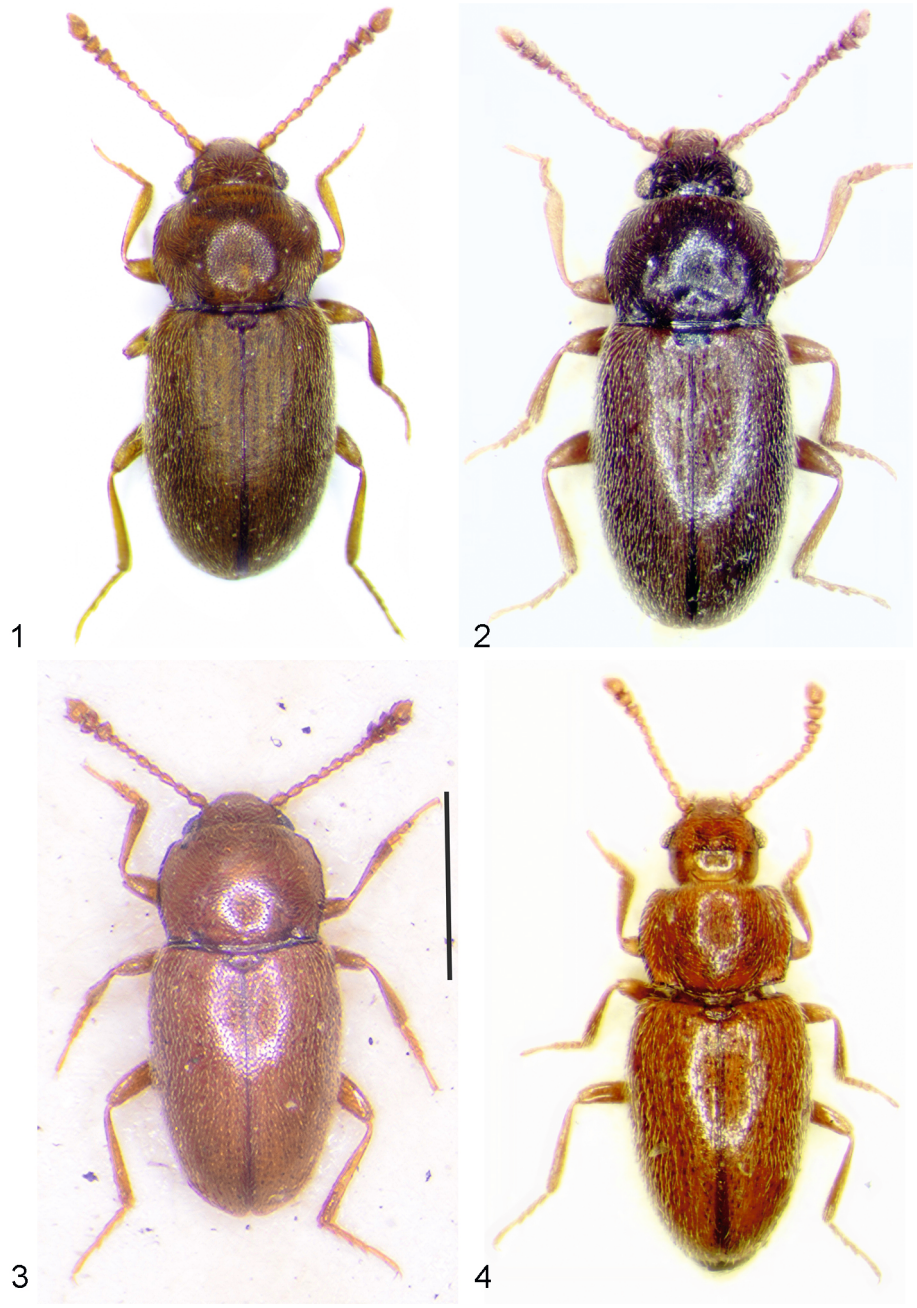
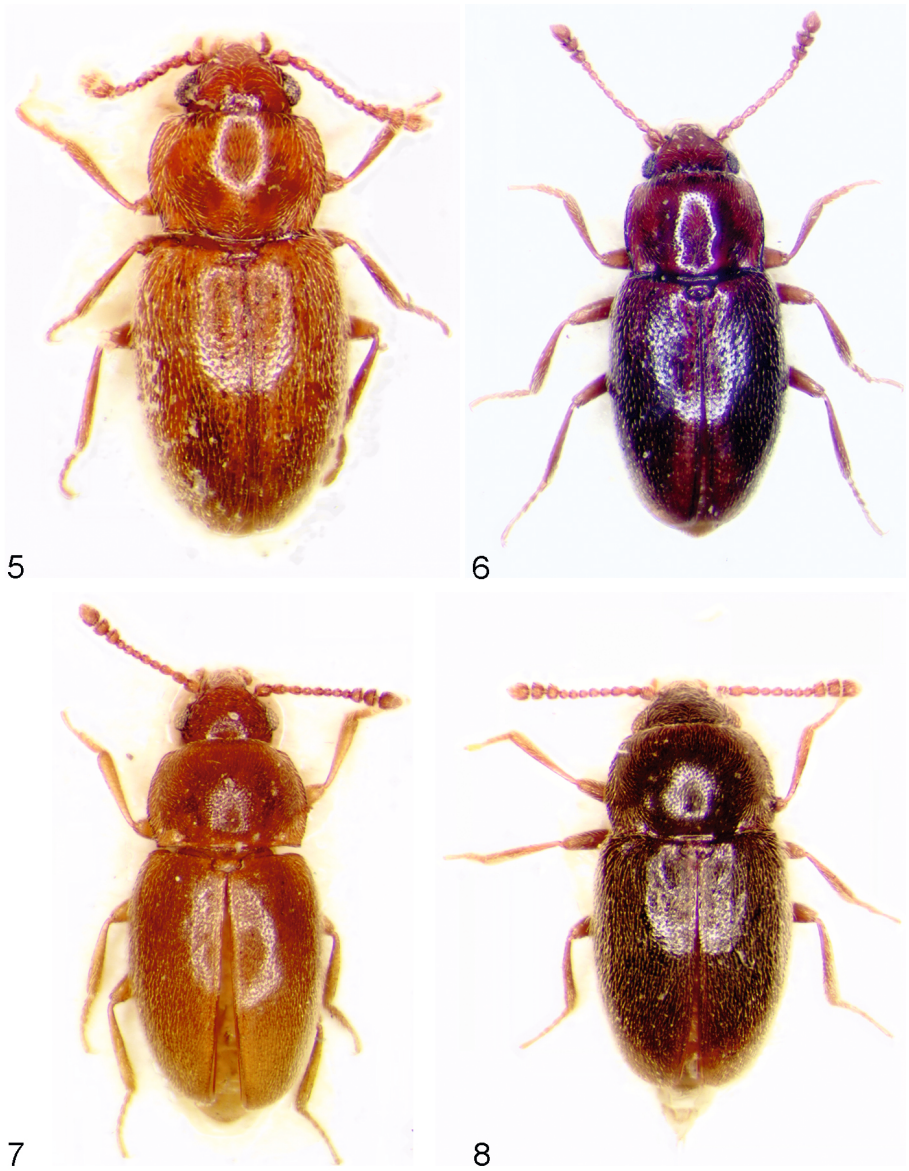
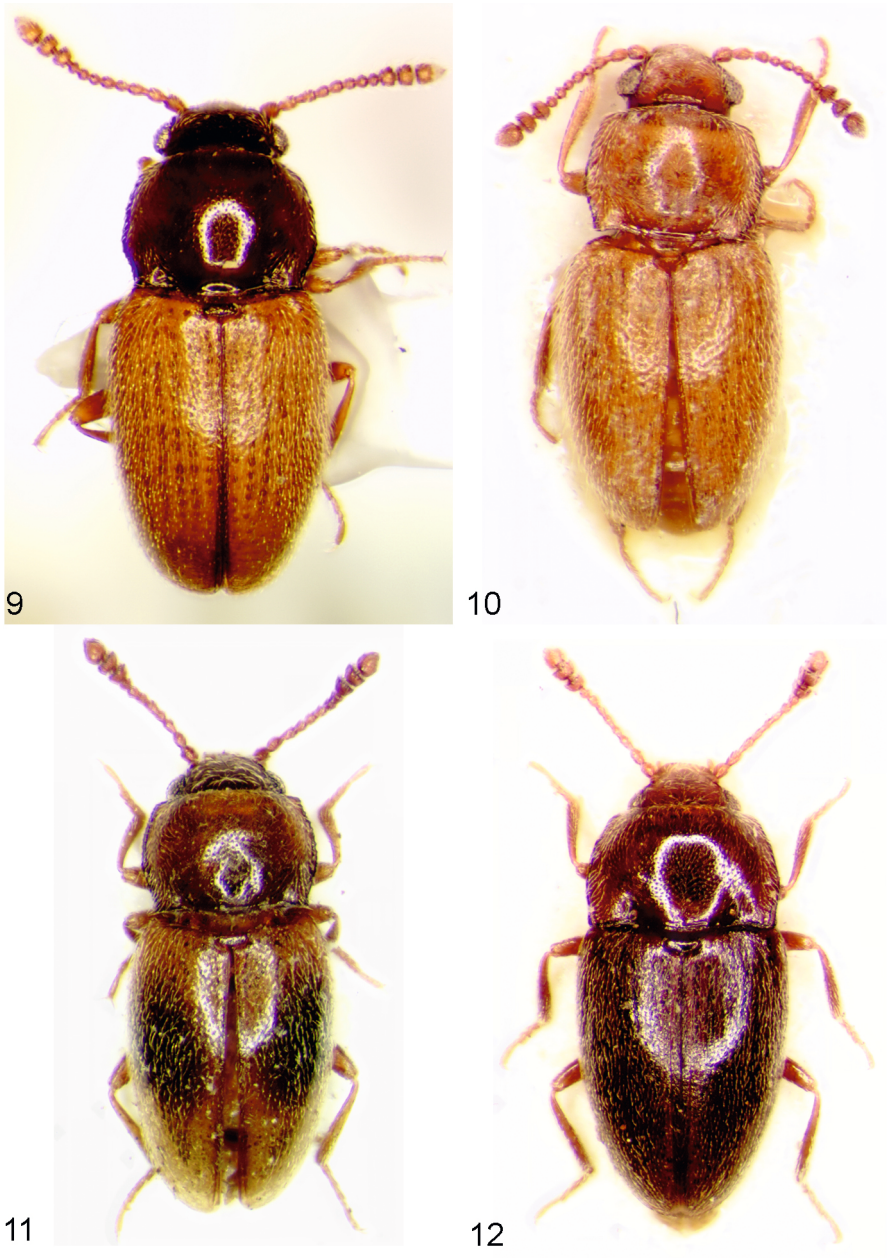
Anschrift des Verfassers: Jens ESSER
Fagottstraße 6
D-13127 Berlin, Deutschland
E-mail: jens_esser@yahoo.de



Figs 1-4: (**1**) *Mnioticus gibbinsi* (SCOTT, 1936), male; (**2**) *Mnioticus hancocki* (SCOTT, 1936), male; (**3**) *Mnioticus rhynchopetali* (SCOTT, 1936), holotype, male; (**4**) *Mnioticus rougemonti* ESSER, 2014, paratype, male.



Figs 5-8: (**5**) *Mnioticus scotti* nom. nov., female; (**6**) *Mnioticus jeanneli* (SCOTT, 1936), male; (**7**) *Mnioticus ruwenzoriensis* nov.sp., pale specimen, paratype, male; (**8**) *Mnioticus ruwenzoriensis* nov.sp., dark specimen, paratype, female.



Figs 9-12: (**9**) *Mnioticus holmi* nov.sp., dark specimen, paratype, female; (**10**) *Mnioticus karisimbianus* nov.sp., paratype, female; (**11**) *Mnioticus gugheanus* nov.sp. Gughe Mts., paratype, male; (**12**) *Mnioticus kinangopianus* nov.sp. Aberdare, paratype, female.

Figs 13-16: (**13**) *Mnioticus brucei* nov.sp., holotype, male; (**14**) *Henoticus montanus* BRUCE, 1960, Tanzania; (**15**) *Henoticus meruensis* BRUCE, 1960, Tanzania; (**16**) *Henoticus pilifer* REITTER, 1888, Russia.