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THE LITTLE-KNOWN AFROTROPICAL GENUS *TRICHOCEPHALA* MOSER, WITH NOTICE OF A SECOND SPECIES (COLEOPTERA: CETONIIDAE)

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With 13 text-figures

ABSTRACT

The Afrotropical genus *Trichocephala* Moser is re-diagnosed. The two known species are keyed and described: *T. flavosignata* Moser and *T. angolensis* sp. nov.

INTRODUCTION

My efforts to become acquainted with as many cetoniid genera as possible recently led to a study of the single known specimen of the Afrotropical genus *Trichocephala* Moser, 1916. The type of the Tanzanian *T. flavosignata* Moser, 1916, on loan from the Berlin museum, was still with me in Leiden when, on visiting the British Museum (Natural History), I encountered an Angolese *Trichocephala* specimen. Then, back in Leiden, I immediately compared this Angolese specimen with the type of *flavosignata*, and concluded that two rather different, but evidently congeneric species are involved. In this paper the genus *Trichocephala* is re-diagnosed, whereas the two species now recognized are keyed and briefly described. Readers are requested to look out for additional material of this apparently very rare genus. Nothing is known about the habits of the two species; as there is in their morphology no obvious indication of any aberrant specialization, the adults may well agree with the bulk of the Cetoniidae in being flower-visitors.

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Trichocephala Moser, 1916

Generic diagnosis. — Clypeal border anteriorly reflexed, feebly bisinuate, length not exceeding width. Pronotum subtrapeziform (figs. 2, 9). Scutellum very large, elongate-triangular. Elytral disc longitudinally costate (figs. 3, 10). Brownish-black, with symmetrical yellow markings.

Clypeal borders entirely marginate; clypeolateral declivities narrow, largely invisible from above; clypeal disc virtually flat. Pronotum with evenly convex general surface; basomedian emargination shallow; posterolateral angle rounded off, slightly shifted forward relative to basomedian section; lateral borders narrowly marginate. Elytron with feebly convex general surface, ornamented with very distinct discomedian and discolateral costae, in addition to strongly elevated juxtasutural zone; posthumeral emargination shallow, deepest point situated above hind coxa; humeral umbone very distinct (with intrahumeral impression), apical umbone subdistinct; apicosutural angle distinct. Antennal lamellae slightly larger than segments 2-7 combined. Preprosternum sharply tectiform. Mesepimeron broadly visible from above. Mesometasternal projection distinctly separating middle coxae, rounded in front, more or less knob-shaped (fig. 7) (mesometasternal suture variably distinct). Hind coxa simply angulate posterolaterally. Abdominal venter of male impressed; 1 + 6 sternites visible, laterally with evenly convex ventro-dorsal transition. Pygidium transversely subtriangular, feebly convex, in one species with shallow central impression; anal border finely marginate, invisible from above. Parameres elongate, simple, more or less spatuliform. Fore tibia of male with apico-external denticle only. Middle and hind tibiae with multidentate-lobate apex; external elevation slight. Terminal tibial spurs elongate-acuminate. Tarsi unmodified. Derm superficially opaque, non-microsculptured parts shiny. Forebody densely setose, setae light-coloured. Total length 1–1.5 cm. — Female sex unknown.

Type-species. — *Trichocephala flavosignata* Moser (by monotypy).

Affinities. — Uncertain, standing somewhat isolated among the Afrotropical Cetoniini, with as a possible closer relative *Latescutella* Ruter. This monotypic genus differs from *Trichocephala* in lacking the discomedian longitudinal elytral costa, in the different, more dilated-truncate shape of the mesometasternal protrusion, and in a number of other characters (cf. Ruter, 1972).

KEY TO THE SPECIES

1. Dorsum dominated by longitudinal yellow markings (figs. 2, 3); pectus and abdomen with yellow markings. Pygidium medially impressed. Elytra and abdomen lacking squamiform setae. Elytral lateral declivity with superficial longitudinal costa. Pronotum with well-defined smooth, glabrous median zone. Habitus less robust. Parameres, fig. 6. — Tanzania *flavosignata*
- Dorsum (elytron) with 3 roundish yellow spots (fig. 10); pectus and abdomen uniformly black or brown. Pygidium evenly convex. Elytra and abdomen with numerous squamiform setae. Pronotum with density of punctures and setae gradually increasing laterad. Habitus more robust. Parameres, fig. 13. — Angola *angolensis*

SPECIES ACCOUNTS

***Trichocephala flavosignata* Moser, 1916**
(figs. 1–7)

Holotype (male). — Length ca 10.5 mm. Brown to black with yellow markings; moderately opaque. Anterior crest of clypeus bisinuate (in frontal view); clypeal derm with 3 small yellow-brown spots, disc flat, abundantly punctate-setose. Frons flat, densely punctate-setose; vertex densely punctate. Pronotal midline smooth, glabrous, remainder of pronotum very densely punctate-setose to rugulate-setose; midline with 2 yellow markings. Scutellum distinctly, densely punctate; midline yellow. Elytron with 3 discal longitudinal costae and vague costa on lateral declivity; costae and intrahumeral elevation more or less smooth, remainder very densely striolate-punctate to aciculate-striolate; discomedian costa yellow in front, intrahumeral elevation, postdiscal spot and lateral costa also yellow.

Antenna light-brown. Pectus largely densely (arcuate-)striolate, densely setose; lateral elements with some small yellow markings. Mesometasternal protrusion (fig. 7) largely yellow, sutures distinct. Internal lobe of hind coxa also yellow. Abdominal venter impressed, medially broadly yellow; ventro-dorsal (lateral) curve of sternites 2–5 with yellow spot against posterior border. Pygidium with broad central impression enclosed by pair of callose yellow spots; general surface slightly convex, virtually entirely finely braidedly aciculate. Parameres, fig. 6, with pointed tips (recurved, invisible in full-face view). Fore tibia unmodified. Middle and hind tibiae with external elevation at ca 0.5 from apex, their apices inferiorly 2- and 3-dentate, respectively. Posterolateral

angle of hind coxa ca 90°. Pilosity yellowish-white, very long on forebody.

Measurements in mm. Clypeal width 1.5; maximum cephalic width (incl. eyes) 2.4. Pronotal median length 2.6, maximum width 4.2. Elytral maximum (longitudinal) length 6.9, sutural length (apex scutellum — apex elytron) 4.7, maximum width (two combined) 5.4.

Material examined. — Holotype from SE Tanzania, labelled “D. Ost-Afrika/Lukuledi”, “Trichocephala/flavosignata/Type Mos.” (Museum für Naturkunde, Berlin).

Trichocephala angolensis sp. nov.

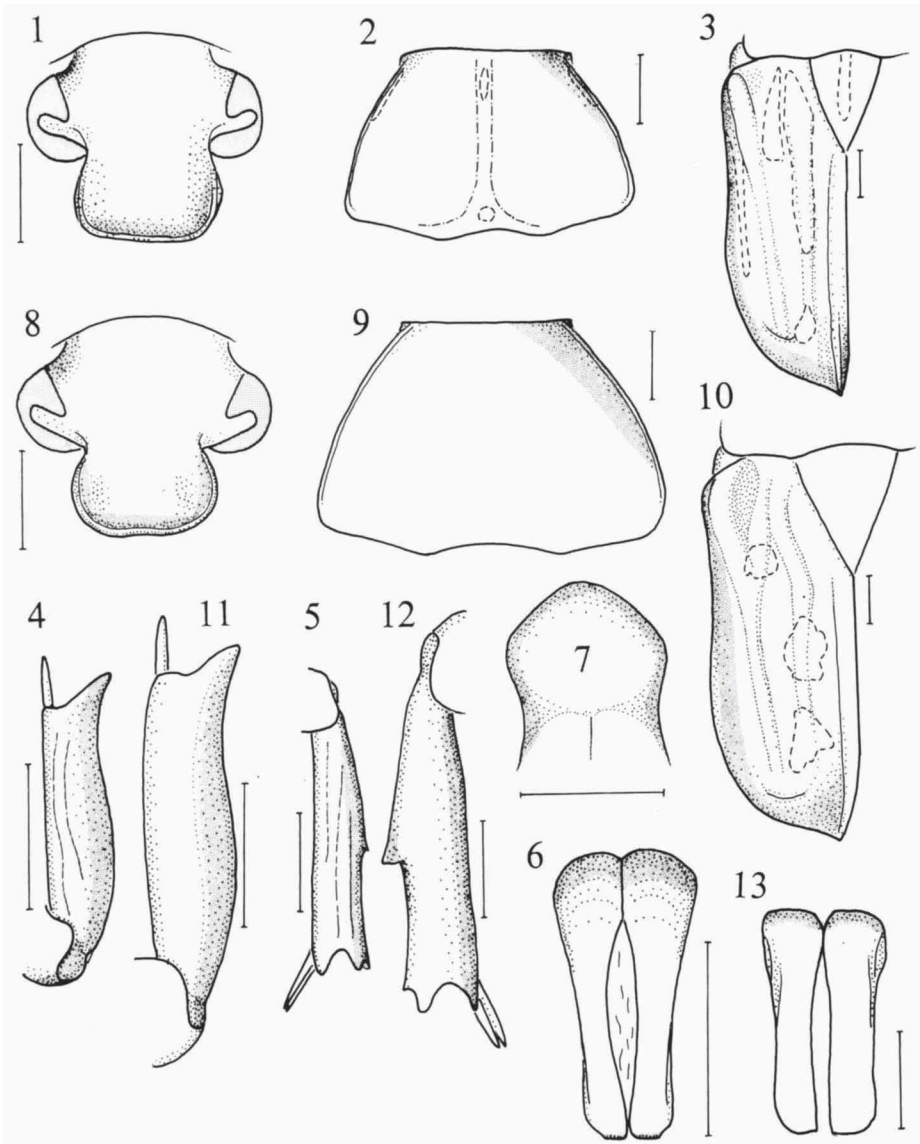
(figs. 8–13)

Holotype (male). — Length ca 12 mm. Brown to black, with yellow markings; moderately opaque. Clypeal margin narrowly reflexed in front, scarcely sinuate; clypeus, frons anteromedially, tempora, densely punctate-setose to rugulate-setose; vertex and sides of frons less densely punctate. Pronotum with broad median zone abundantly distinctly punctate, but glabrous; sides densely punctate-setose to rugulate-setose. Scutellum densely punctate-setose. Elytron with 3 discal longitudinal costae; costae and intrahumeral elevation more or less smooth, remainder punctate and aciculate, with numerous subappressed elongate scales; disc with pre-, medio- and postdiscal yellow spots.

Antenna light-brown. Pectus largely densely striolate and punctate, densely setose. Mesometasternal protrusion black. Abdominal venter entirely brownish, medially impressed, sparsely, finely punctate, sides densely hemipunctate-setose, setae long, subappressed, coarse. Pygidium with general surface evenly slightly convex; centre with abundant scabrous punctation; this area surrounded by numerous subappressed complanate setae; periphery with dense fine aciculation. Parameres, fig. 13. Fore tibia unmodified. Middle and hind tibiae with distinct external elevation at ca 0.5 from apex, their apices inferiorly 2- and 3-dentate, respectively. Posterolateral angle of hind coxa ca 90°. Pilosity yellowish-white, very long on forebody; elsewhere locally more or less squamiform.

Measurements in mm. Clypeal width 1.5; maximum cephalic width (incl. eyes) 2.6. Pronotal median length 3.4, maximum width 5.2. Elytral maximum (longitudinal) length 8.0, sutural length (apex scutellum — apex elytron) 5.5, maximum width (two combined) 6.5.

Material examined. — Holotype from “Angola/76.28” (British Museum (Natural History), London). The late H. Schein had labelled it “*Callophylla costata* Mos. ?”, a very different cetoniine (e.g. lacking a mesometasternal protrusion).



Figs. 1-13. *Trichocephala* spec. 1-7, *T. flavosignata*, holotype ♂; 8-13, *T. angolensis*, holotype ♂. — Contours of: 1, 8, head; 2, 9, pronotum; 3, 10, elytron and scutellum; 4, 11, right fore tibia; 5, 12, hind tibia, ventral view; 6, 13, parameres, full-face view; 7, mesometasternal protrusion, ventral view. — Dashes enclose yellow markings; dash-point line (fig. 2) indicates distinct limits of pilosity. Scale lines are 1 mm.

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