

## A new species of *Aulacocyclus* from Australia (Coleoptera: Passalidae)

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A new species belonging to the passalid genus *Aulacocyclus* is described from Australia.

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### *Aulacocyclus hangayi* spec. nov. (figs. 1-4)

Material.— One female holotype specimen from Australia, Queensland, E. of Middleton, W. of Winton, 22.ix.1984, leg. P. Colman. Attracted by light in mezas (flat topped mountains). The specimen will be deposited in the Australian Museum.

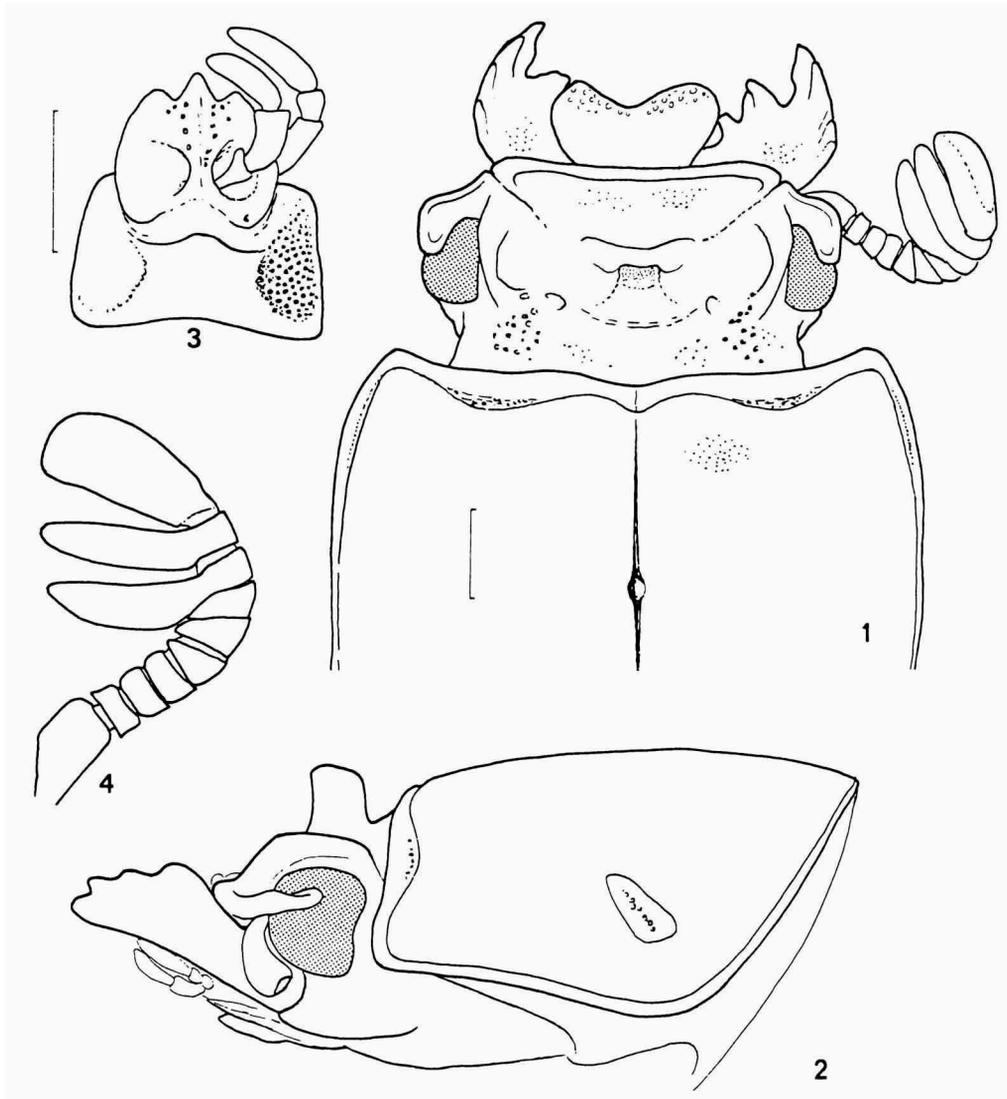
Female.— Closely resembling *A. errans* Blackburn, 1896 or *mastersi* MacLeay, 1873, but differing in the following characteristics. Central tubercle vertical, strongly obtuse; anterior angles of the pronotum less produced, marginal furrows without punctures; elytral striae strongly punctured, especially laterally; lateral areas of metasternum markedly dilated posteriorly, narrowed anteriorly; central part of mentum very broad, smooth and shining.

Head (figs. 1-2).— Anterior margin of labrum rather deeply incised; anterior margin of head feebly concave, somewhat curved-up medially, marginal beading (caused by a submarginal furrow) fine, somewhat broadened and curved-up laterally; frontal area smooth; supra-orbital ridges well developed, almost evenly curved and only slightly produced antero-dorsally, medially limited by a rather deep, curved furrow; central tubercle vertical, short, truncated, slightly squarely rounded, feebly furrowed antero-apically. Antennal club (fig. 4) with the first and second lamellae rather slender, about four times as long as wide. Medial part of mentum (fig. 3) very broad, raised, smooth and shining, anteriorly feebly produced and indistinctly incised medially; lateral areas of mentum heavily punctured.

Thorax.— Marginal furrow of pronotum (figs. 1-2) narrow but complete around, dilated and sinuate anteriorly, finely chagreened at the bottom of the furrow, and only in the anterior sublateral dilated portion with some irregular punctures. Pronotal scar deep, obliquely produced, with some rugosity at the bottom. Median groove deep, entire, passing through anterior and posterior rim, in the middle portion with a deep, round pit. Mesopleurae smooth, shining, without any sign of a scar or depression. Elytrae distinctly grooved and punctured, strongly so in the lateral striae. Lateral metasternal furrow smooth, strongly dilated posteriorly, anteriorly much narrowed. Middle tibiae each with a strong spine at  $\frac{2}{5}$  from apex.

Abdomen.— Ventral surface of abdomen smooth and shining.

Colour.— General colour brown to dark brown; head almost blackish brown,



Figs. 1-4, *Aulacocyclus hangayi* spec. nov., female holotype. 1. Dorsal aspect of head and anterior part of pronotum. 2. Lateral aspect of head and pronotum. 3. Mentum, ventral view. 4. Antenna. The scales represent one mm.

strongly shining; head and pronotum minutely and evenly punctured, denser on anterior rim of head, on the supra-orbital ridges and on the central tubercle.

Measurements.— Total length, 22.4 mm; width over eyes, 4.8 mm; length of pronotum (medially), 5.3 mm; width of pronotum, 7.0 mm; length of elytrae (along suture) 13 mm; width of elytrae, 8 mm.

### Acknowledgements

The species is named after Mr. George Hangay, Chief Preparator of the Australian Museum, Sydney, who kindly placed his passalid collection at the author's disposal.

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