

Revision of the Afrotropical species of the *Gabrius chapmani* species group (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae: Philonthina)

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Abstract. The *Gabrius chapmani* species group of the genus *Gabrius* Stephens, 1829 is proposed, containing thirteen species, five species are described as new: *G. mungos* sp. nov. (South Africa), *G. prodotiscus* sp. nov. (Ethiopia), *G. sternula* sp. nov. (Democratic Republic of the Congo), *G. tadorna* sp. nov. (Democratic Republic of the Congo), *G. thalasseus* sp. nov. (Ethiopia), eight species group taxa are redescribed: *Gabrius chapmani* (Bernhauer, 1939), *G. halisius* Tottenham, 1956, *G. kabisus* Tottenham, 1956, *G. metagenes* Tottenham, 1956, *G. nitetis* Tottenham, 1956, *G. obscuratus* (Cameron, 1950), *G. thermicola* (Cameron, 1947), *G. yakinius* Tottenham, 1956). An identification key to all species of the species group is provided and male genitalia are illustrated.

Key words. Taxonomy, new species, key, Coleoptera, Staphylinidae, Philonthina, *Gabrius*, *chapmani* species group, Afrotropical region.

INTRODUCTION

Tottenham (1956: 206) described this group as group I: “In this group paramere simple, either slender and somewhat pointed, or more or less parallel-sided and more or less truncate at apex, the apex being a large and broad lobe, with a small triangular lobe or shoulder on each side”. The group contains thirteen described species and I describe this species group as the group *Gabrius chapmani*. The members of this species group are known only from the Afrotropical region.

The following thirteen species are included in this group:

<i>Gabrius chapmani</i> (Bernhauer, 1939)	Kenya
<i>Gabrius halisius</i> Tottenham, 1956	Kenya, Tanzania
<i>Gabrius kabisus</i> Tottenham, 1956	Burundi
<i>Gabrius metagenes</i> Tottenham, 1956	Burundi, Kenya
<i>Gabrius mungos</i> sp. nov.	South Africa
<i>Gabrius nitetis</i> Tottenham, 1956	Rwanda
<i>Gabrius obscuratus</i> (Cameron, 1950)	Congo
<i>Gabrius prodotiscus</i> sp. nov.	Ethiopia
<i>Gabrius sternula</i> sp. nov.	Tanzania
<i>Gabrius tadorna</i> sp. nov.	Democratic Republic of the Congo
<i>Gabrius thalasseus</i> sp. nov.	Ethiopia
<i>Gabrius thermicola</i> (Cameron, 1947)	Democratic Republic of the Congo
<i>Gabrius yakinius</i> Tottenham, 1956	South Africa

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The specimens studied are deposited in the following collections:

- BMNH Natural History Museum, London, UK (Maxvell Barclay, Roger Booth);
- FMNH Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago, USA (James Boone);
- LHPC Lubomír Hromádka collection, Praha, Czech Republic;

MRAT Musée royal de l'Afrique centrale, Tervuren, Belgium (Marc De Meyer);
NMPC National Museum, Praha, Czech Republic (Jiří Hájek).

A double slash (//) is used to divide the separate labels of each type specimen. All measurements are beetles with stretched abdomen. All ratios mentioned in the descriptions, are dimensionless but can be converted to lengths in millimeters.

TAXONOMIC PART

Gabrius chapmani (Bernhauer, 1939) (Figs 1–3)

Philonthus chapmani Bernhauer, 1939: 69.

TYPE LOCALITY. “Mt. Elgon Osthang, Suam fishing hut, 2400 m”.

TYPE MATERIAL STUDIED. **Kenya**. Holotype: ♂: “Mt. Elgon Osthang, Suam fishing hut, 2400m // *Philonthus chapmani* Bernhauer TYPUS [ochre oblong label handwritten], Chicago NHMus M. Bernhauer Collection” (FMNH).

REDESCRIPTION. Body length 4.8 mm, length of fore body (from clypeus to end of elytra) 2.4 mm. Head black, pronotum, scutellum and abdomen black-brown, posterior margin of all tergites narrowly brown-red, elytra dark brown. Maxillary and labial palpi, mandibles and antennomeres 1–2 brown-yellow, remaining antennomeres pitchy black, legs dirty yellow.

Head slightly wider than long (ratio 15 : 13), parallel-sided. Posterior angles obtusely rounded. Between eyes four punctures, arranged in straight line, distance between medial punctures three times as large as distance between medial and lateral puncture. Eyes flat, shorter than temples (ratio 5 : 7), temporal area almost impunctate. Surface lacks microsculpture.

Antennae slender and long, reaching posterior fourth of pronotum when reclined. Antennomeres 1–5 and 11 longer than wide, antennomeres 6–10 as long as wide. Antennomere 1 longer than antennomere 11, antennomere 2 as long as antennomere 3.

Pronotum highly convex, parallel-sided. Anterior angles conspicuously deflexed, vaguely obtusely rounded, posterior angles markedly rounded. Each dorsal row with six punctures of irregular distance, each sublateral row with two punctures, puncture two shifted laterally. Surface lacks microsculpture.

Scutellum finely and densely punctate, diameter of punctures slightly larger than eye-facets, separated by one or one and half puncture diameters.

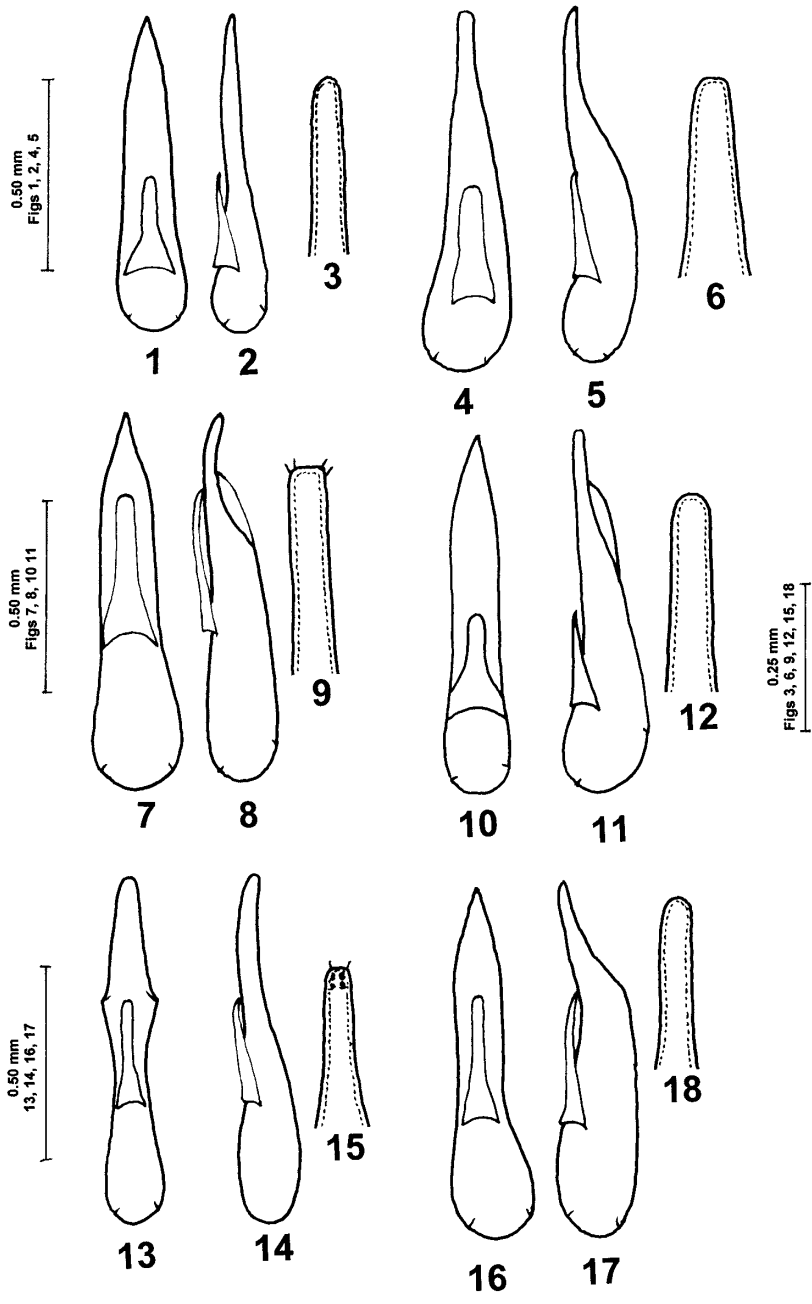
Elytra as long as wide, widened posteriad. Punctuation coarse and relatively dense, diameter of punctures larger than that on scutellum, separated by one puncture diameter or slightly larger here and there. Surface lacks microsculpture; setation gray-yellow.

Metatarsus shorter than metatibia (ratio 12 : 15), metatarsomere 1 as long as metatarsomere 5 and as long as metatarsomeres 2–3 combined.

Abdomen wide, from visible tergite II gradually narrowed posteriad. First three visible tergites with two basal lines, elevated area between lines impunctate. Punctuation of tergites finer and sparser than that on elytra. Surface lacks microsculpture; setation of the same colour as that on elytra.

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Figs. 1–18. 1–3. *Gabrius chapmani* (Bernhauer, 1939). 1 – aedeagus, ventral view, 2 – aedeagus, lateral view, 3 – apex of paramere, ventral view. 4–6. *Gabrius halisius* Tottenham, 1956. 4 – aedeagus, ventral view, 5 – aedeagus, lateral view, 6 – apex of paramere, ventral view. 7–9. *Gabrius kabisus* Tottenham, 1956. 7 – aedeagus, ventral view, 8 – aedeagus, lateral view, 9 – apex of paramere, ventral view. 10–12. *Gabrius metagenes* Tottenham, 1956. 10 – aedeagus, ventral view, 11 – aedeagus, lateral view, 12 – apex of paramere, ventral view. 13–15. *Gabrius mungos* sp. nov. 13 – aedeagus, ventral view, 14 – aedeagus, lateral view, 15 – apex of paramere with sensory peg setae, ventral view. 16–18. *Gabrius nitetis* Tottenham, 1956. 16 – aedeagus, ventral view, 17 – aedeagus, lateral view, 18 – apex of paramere, ventral view.



DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS. *Gabrius chapmani* may be distinguished from the similar *G. nitetis* by the longer antennae, different colouring of elytra, from *G. thalasseus* sp. nov. by the shorter head, head and pronotum lacks microsculpture and from both by the different shape of the aedeagus. DISTRIBUTION. Kenya (Herman 2001).

***Gabrius halisius* Tottenham, 1956**
(Figs 4–6)

Gabrius halisius Tottenham, 1956: 209.

TYPE LOCALITY. “Muguga near Kikuyu”.

TYPE MATERIAL STUDIED. **Kenya**. Holotype: ♂: “Muguga near Kikuyu, ii.1953, V. E. Eastop // *Gabrius halisius* Tottenham, TYPE [ochre oblong label handwritten], C. E. Tottenham collection 1974-587” (BMNH).

REDESCRIPTION. Body length 5.5 mm, length of fore body (from clypeus to end of elytra) 2.6 mm. Body black, antennomeres 1–2 brown, remaining antennomeres black, maxillary and labial palpi dark brown, tarsi reddish-brown.

Head slightly wider than long (ratio 19 : 18), sides behind eyes nearly straight, slightly convergent, posterior angles very broadly rounded. Between eyes 4 coarse punctures, arranged in a straight line, distance between medial punctures four times as large as distance between medial and lateral puncture. Eyes small, twice shorter than temples (ratio 5 : 10). The punctures on the head are unusual: the interocular punctures consist of four punctures on each side arranged in a square, the outer two are as distance from the inner two as they are from the eye, these outer punctures are not marginal punctures of the eye situated away from the eye margin, for marginal punctures are also present, the two squares are widely distance from one another, behind the inner puncture on each side is another puncture, from near the posterior margin of eye is a strongly arcuate row with six punctures across the head, there are also several punctures in the temporal area and near the neck. Surface with very fine microsculpture consisting of transverse waves.

Antennae reaching posterior margin of pronotum when reclined, antennomeres 1–7 and 11 longer than wide, antennomeres 8–10 as long as wide, antennomere 1 longer than antennomere 11, antennomere 2 shorter than antennomere 3.

Pronotum longer than wide (21 : 18), parallel-sided, anterior angles conspicuously deflexed, vaguely obtusely rounded, posterior angles markedly rounded. Each dorsal row with six punctures, punctures 2–5 equidistant, separated between punctures 1–2 and 5–6 larger than distance between previous punctures. Each sublateral row with two punctures, puncture two distinctly shifted to the lateral margin. Surface with microsculpture similar to that on head.

Scutellum in the middle coarsely and densely punctured, diameter of punctures larger than eye-facets, separated between punctures much smaller than one puncture diameter.

Elytra as long as wide, very slightly widened posteriad. Punctuation fine and relatively dense. Diameter of punctures as large as that on scutellum, separated by one or one and half puncture diameters. Surface lacks microsculpture; setation grayish.

Legs. Metatibia as long as metatarsus, metatarsomere 1 slightly shorter than metatarsomere 5.

Abdomen wide, slightly narrowed posteriad from visible tergite III. First three visible tergites with two basal lines, elevated area between lines with several punctures. Punctuation at base of all tergites finer and denser than that on elytra, becoming sparser towards posterior margin of each tergite. Surface lacks microsculpture; setation similar to that on elytra.

DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS. *Gabrius halisius* may be distinguished from the similar *G. yakinius* by the different shape of the apex of paramere, paler colouring and sparser punctuation of elytra and by the different shape of the aedeagus.

DISTRIBUTION. Kenya, Tanzania (Herman 2001).

***Gabrius kabisus* Tottenham, 1956**
(Figs 7–9)

Gabrius kabisus Tottenham, 1956: 301.

TYPE LOCALITY. “Urundi, terr. Bururi, Nyamurembe, 900 m”.

TYPE MATERIAL STUDIED. **Burundi**. Holotype: ♂: “Urundi, terr., Bururi, Nyamurembe, 900 m, 7.iii.1953, P. Basilewsky // *Gabrius kabisus* Tottenham TYPE [ochre oblong label handwritten]” (MRAT).

REDESCRIPTION. Body length 4.9 mm, length of fore body (from clypeus to end of elytra) 2.3 mm. Head black, pronotum and abdomen black-brown, elytra brownish, maxillary and labial palpi and mandibles dark brown, antennomere 1 and base of antennomere 2 brownish, remaining antennomeres black. Femora and tarsi yellow-brown, tibiae infusate.

Head quadrate, as long as wide, very slightly widened in the middle. Posterior angles obtusely rounded, bearing several short bristles. Eyes flat, shorter than temples (ratio 6 : 8). Greater part of head irregular punctured, punctation variable in size and sparing and extense over greater part of head, distance between punctures varying from about the length to fully twice the length of their diameters, only a small area in the middle of head in basal half impunctate. Surface with extremely fine microsculpture, invisible except under strong magnification.

Antennae slender and long, almost reaching posterior margin of pronotum when reclined.

Antennomeres 1–6 and 11 longer than wide, antennomeres 7–10 as long as wide.

Pronotum highly convex, longer than wide (ratio 18 : 16), anterior angles obtusely, posterior angles markedly rounded. Each dorsal row with six approximately equidistant punctures, each sublateral row with three punctures, arranged in a row almost parallel to the dorsal row and half way between it and side. Surface with microsculpture similar to that on head.

Scutellum coarsely and densely punctured, diameter of punctures larger than eye-facets, separated between punctures very small.

Elytra as long as wide, widened posteriad. Punctation slightly coarser than that on elytra, separated mostly by one puncture diameter in transverse direction. Surface lacks microsculpture; setation brown-yellow.

Legs. Metatibia longer than metatarsus (ratio 15 : 11) metatarsomere 1 as long as metatarsomere 5.

Abdomen wide, very gradually narrowed posteriad, punctation at base of all tergites extremely finely punctured, diameter of punctures approximately as large as eye-facets, separated by one puncture diameter in transverse direction, becoming sparser towards posterior margin of each tergite. Surface lacks microsculpture; setation similar to that on elytra.

DIFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS. *Gabrius kabisus* is similar to *G. metagenes*, from which it may be distinguished by the longer eyes, from *G. sternula* sp. nov. by the wider head and from both by the head not in greater part punctured and by the different shape of the aedeagus.

DISTRIBUTION. Burundi (Herman 2001).

***Gabrius metagenes* Tottenham, 1956**
(Figs 10–12)

Gabrius metagenes Tottenham, 1956: 300.

TYPE LOCALITY. “Urundi, Bururi, 1800–2000 m”.

TYPE MATERIAL STUDIED. **Burundi**. Holotype: ♂: “Urundi, Bururi 1800–2000 m, 5.-12.iii.1953, P. Basilewsky, coll. Museum Congo // *Gabrius metagenes* Tottenham TYPE [ochre oblong label handwritten]” (MRAT).

REDESCRIPTION. Body length 4.7 mm, length of fore body (from clypeus to end of elytra) 2.1 mm. Head black, pronotum and scutellum brown, elytra dark brown-reddish, abdomen brown, posterior margin of all tergites narrowly brown-reddish, maxillary and labial palpi, mandibles, antennomeres 1–2 and base of antennomere 3 brown-yellow, remaining antennomeres black, femora and tarsi yellow-brown, tibiae darker.

Head quadrate, as long as wide, posterior angles markedly rounded, sides and posterior angles bearing several varyably long bristles. Sides behind eyes parallel. Between eyes four punctures, distance between medial punctures three times as large as distance between medial and lateral puncture, lateral punctures slightly shifted anteriorly. Eyes small, twice shorter than temples (ratio 6 : 12), posterior margin with two punctures, temporal area with scattered fine punctures. Surface lacks microsculpture.

Antennae stout and long, reaching posterior margin of pronotum when reclined. Antennomeres 1–5 and 11 longer than wide, antennomeres 6–10 as long as wide. Antennomere 1 longer than antennomere 11, antennomere 2 shorter than antennomere 3.

Pronotum highly convex, longer than wide (ratio 16 : 13), parallel-sided. Anterior angles conspicuously deflexed, vaguely obtusely rounded, posterior angles markedly rounded. Each dorsal row with six irregularly arranged coarse punctures, each sublateral row with two punctures, puncture two slightly shifted to the lateral margin. Surface lacks microsculpture.

Scutellum with several irregularly arranged coarse punctures.

Elytra short, wider than long (ratio 22 : 19), slightly widened posteriorly. Punctuation coarse and relatively dense, diameter of punctures larger than that on scutellum, separated by one puncture diameter in transverse direction. Surface lacks microsculpture; setation brown-yellow.

Legs. Metatibia longer than metatarsus (ratio 12 : 9), metatarsomere 1 as long as metatarsomere 5 and as long as metatarsomeres 2–3 combined.

Abdomen wide, very gradually narrowed posteriorly. First three visible tergites with two basal lines, elevated area between lines impunctate. Punctuation of all tergites finer and denser than that on elytra. Surface lacks microsculpture; setation similar to that on elytra.

DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS. *Gabrius metagenes* is similar to *G. kabius*, from which it may be distinguished by the shorter eyes, different punctuation of head and by the different shape of the aedeagus.

DISTRIBUTION. Burundi, Kenya (Herman 2001).

Gabrius mungos sp. nov.

(Figs 13–15)

TYPE LOCALITY. “Südafrika, Ne. Prov. Tshipise, Honet Nature Reserve Camp, LF. 22°36'S, 10°E, 300 m”.

TYPE MATERIAL STUDIED. **South Africa**. Holotype: ♂: “Ne. Prov. Tshipise, Honet Nature Reserve, Camp, LF. 22°36'S, 10°E, 300m, 23.–25.xi.1996, M. Hartmann leg. // Holotypus *Gabrius mungos* sp. nov. Hromádka det., 2014 [red oblong label printed]” (NMPC).

DESCRIPTION. Body length 5.3 mm, length of fore body (from clypeus to end of elytra) 2.4 mm. Head black, pronotum, scutellum, elytra and abdomen black-brown. Maxillary, labial palpi, mandibles, antennomere 1 and base of antennomere 2 brown-yellow, legs yellow-brown.

Head narrower than long (ratio 14 : 17), parallel-sided, posterior angles markedly rounded. Between eyes four coarse punctures arranged in straight line, distance between medial punctures

four times as large as distance between medial and lateral puncture. Eyes flat, shorter than temples (ratio 6 : 9), posterior margin with one coarse puncture, temporal area with several varyably large punctures. Interocular punctures consist of three punctures on each side. Surface with very fine microsculpture consisting of transverse waves.

Antennae short, slightly widened distally, reaching midlength of pronotum when reclined. Antennomeres 1–3 and 11 distinctly longer than wide, antennomeres 4–5 slightly longer than wide, antennomeres 6–10 as long as wide.

Pronotum longer than wide (19 : 13), very slightly narrowed anteriorly, anterior angles obtusely and posterior angles markedly rounded. Each dorsal with six approximately equidistant punctures, each sublateral row with two punctures, puncture two shifted to the lateral margin. Surface with microsculpture similar to that on head.

Scutellum punctate only in posterior two thirds, diameter of setiferous punctures as large as eye-facets, separated between punctures smaller than one puncture diameter in transverse direction, anterior third impunctate, surface with distinct microsculpture.

Elytra longer than wide (ratio 24 : 21), slightly widened posteriorly. Punctuation coarse and dense, diameter of punctures distinctly larger than that on scutellum, separated by one puncture diameter or smaller. Surface lacks microsculpture; setation brown.

Legs. Metatarsus longer than metatarsus (ratio 14 : 11), metatarsomere 1 as long as metatarsomere 5 and as long as metatarsomeres 2–3 combined.

Abdomen wide, very gradually narrowed posteriorly, first three visible tergites with two basal lines, elevated area between lines impunctate. Punctuation at base of all visible tergites finer and sparser than that on elytra, becoming sparser towards posterior margin of each tergite. Surface lacks microsculpture; setation similar to that on elytra.

DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS. *Gabrius mungos* sp. nov., may be distinguished from similar *G. obscuratus* by the longer elytra and by the different shape of the aedeagus.

DISTRIBUTION. South Africa.

ETYMOLOGY. The name of this species, a noun in apposition, is the Latin generic name of the African Striate Mangusta *Mungos mungo* Gmelin, 1788.

***Gabrius nitetis* Tottenham, 1956**

(Figs 16–18)

Gabrius nitetis Tottenham, 1956: 301.

TYPE LOCALITY. “Ruanda, terr. Ruhengeri, Kagogo, 1900 m”.

TYPE MATERIAL STUDIED. **Rwanda**. Holotype: ♂: “Ruanda, terr., Ruhengeri, Kagogo, 1900 m. 29.i.1953, P. Basilewsky // *Gabrius nitetis* Tottenham TYPE [ochre oblong label handwritten]” (MRAT).

REDESCRIPTION. Body length 4.5 mm, length of fore body (from clypeus to end of elytra) 2.2 mm. Head black, pronotum, scutellum, elytra and abdomen black-brown, elytral epipleura and posterior margin of elytra narrowly brown-yellow, maxillary, labial palpi and mandibles dark brown, antennomeres 1–2 and base of antennomere 3 brown-yellow, remaining antennomeres dark brown, legs yellow-brown.

Head longer than wide (ratio 17 : 14), very slightly narrowed posteriorly, posterior angles obtusely rounded, bearing one long black bristle. Between eyes four punctures, arranged in a straight line, distance between medial punctures three times as large as distance between medial and lateral puncture. Eyes very slightly convex, distinctly shorter than temples (ratio 6 : 9). Posterior margin of eyes with two punctures, temporal area with scattered varyably large punctures. Surface with very fine almost indistinct microsculpture.

Antennae stouter and short, reaching midlength of pronotum when reclined. Antennomeres 1–3 and 11 longer than wide, antennomere 4 as long as wide, antennomeres 5–10 slightly wider than long.

Pronotum highly convex, as long as wide, parallel-sided. Anterior angles obtusely and posterior angles markedly rounded. Each dorsal row with six coarse punctures, distance between punctures 1–5 equidistant, distance between punctures 5–6 smaller than distance between previous punctures. Distance between puncture 6 and posterior margin of pronotum as long as the length of antennomere one. Surface with microsculpture similar to that on head.

Scutellum very densely and coarsely punctured, diameter of punctures larger than eye-facets, separated between punctures smaller than one puncture diameter.

Elytra as long as wide, slightly widened posteriad. Punctuation coarser and denser, diameter of punctures larger than that on scutellum separated by one puncture diameter or slightly smaller. Surface lacks microsculpture; setation brown-yellow.

Legs. Metatibia longer than metatarsus (ratio 13 : 10), metatarsomere 1 as long as metatarsomere 5.

Abdomen wide, from visible tergite IV very slightly narrowed posteriad. First three visible tergites with two basal lines, elevated area between lines impunctate. Punctuation at base of all tergites finer and denser than that on elytra, becoming sparser towards posterior margin of each tergite. Surface lacks microsculpture; setation similar to that on elytra.

DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS. *Gabrius nitetis* may be distinguished from the similar *G. chapmani* by the shorter antennae, different colouring of elytra and by the different shape of the aedeagus.

DISTRIBUTION. Rwanda (Herman 2001).

***Gabrius obscuratus* (Cameron, 1950)**

(Figs 19–21)

Philonthus (Gabrius) obscuratus Cameron, 1950: 41.

TYPE LOCALITY. “Congo Belge, lac. N’Gando, pied volc. Karisimbi, alt. 2400 m”.

TYPE MATERIAL STUDIED. **Democratic Republic of the Congo.** Paratype: ♂: “Congo Belge, lac N’Gando, pied volc. Karisimbi, alt. 2400 m, 7.iii.1935, G. F. Witte: 1245 // *Philonthus (Gabrius) obscuratus* Paratype Cameron [white oblong label handwritten], M. Cameron Bequest, B. M. 1955-147” (BMNH).

REDESCRIPTION. Body length 3.2 mm, length of fore body (from clypeus to end of elytra) 1.9 mm. Body black-brown, maxillary, labial palpi and antennomeres 1–2 brown, remaining antennomeres brown-black, femora and tibiae brown, tarsi yellow-brown.

Head as long as wide, very slightly narrowed posteriad, posterior angles markedly rounded, bearing several varyably long black bristles. Between eyes four punctures, distance between medial punctures four times as large as distance between medial and lateral puncture. Eyes shorter than temples (ratio 6 : 9). Posterior margin with one puncture, temporal area impunctate. Surface with traces of fine microsculpture.

Antennae reaching posterior fourth of pronotum when reclined, Antennomeres 1–3 and 11 distinctly longer than wide, antennomere 4 slightly longer than wide, antennomeres 5–10 as long as wide. Antennomere 1 twice longer than antennomere 11, antennomere 2 slightly shorter than antennomere 3.

Pronotum longer than wide (ratio 16 : 14), slightly narrowed anteriorly, anterior and posterior angles markedly rounded. Each dorsal row with six approximately equidistant punctures, each sublateral row with two punctures, arranged in a row parallel to the dorsal row and half way between it and side. Surface with microsculpture, similar to that on head.

Scutellum very finely and sparsely punctured, diameter of punctures as large as eye-facets, separated slightly larger than one puncture diameter.

Elytra wider than long (ratio 20 : 18), slightly widened posteriad. Punctuation coarse and dense, diameter of punctures slightly smaller than diameter of punctures in dorsal rows. Separated smaller than one puncture diameter, several punctures contiguous here and there. Surface lacks microsculpture; setation brown.

Legs. Metatibia longer than metatarsus (ratio 10 : 8) metatarsomere 1 longer than metatarsomere 5, as long as metatarsomeres 2–3 combined.

Abdomen wide, very gradually narrowed posteriad, first three visible tergites with two basal lines, elevated area between lines impunctate. Punctuation at base of all tergites finer and sparser than that on elytra, becoming much sparser to the posterior margin of each tergite. Surface lacks microsculpture; setation similar to that on elytra.

DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS. *Gabrius obscuratus* may be distinguished from the similar *G. mungos* sp. nov. by the shorter elytra and by the different shape of the aedeagus.

DISTRIBUTION. Democratic Republic of the Congo (Herman 2001).

***Gabrius prodotiscus* sp. nov.**

(Figs 28–30)

TYPE LOCALITY. “Ethiopia Arushi 4 km. E. Dighelli 2850 m, 0744N.3915E”.

TYPE MATERIAL STUDIED. **Ethiopia.** Holotype: ♂: “Ethiopia, Arushi 4 km E. Dighelli, 2850 m, 0744N.3915E, under stone. R. O. S. Clark, B.M. 973-450 // HOLOTYPUS *Gabrius prodotiscus* sp. nov. Hromádka det. 2014, [red oblong label, printed] (BMNH). Paratype: 1 spec. same label data as in holotype (LHPC).

DESCRIPTION. Body length 4.9 mm, length of fore body (from clypeus to end of elytra) 2.4 mm. Head and pronotum black, elytra and abdomen black-brown, posterior margin of all tergites narrowly brown-red, maxillary, labial palpi, antennomere 1 and base of antennomere 2 brown, remaining antennomeres black. Femora and tarsi brown-yellow, tibiae darker.

Head longer than wide (ratio 17 : 15), parallel-sided, posterior angles markedly rounded, bearing several variably long black bristles. Between eyes four coarse punctures, lateral punctures slightly shifted anteriorly, distance between medial punctures four times as large as distance between medial and lateral puncture. Eyes shorter than temples (ratio 6 : 9), temporal area with several variably large punctures. Surface with very fine microsculpture consisting of transverse waves.

Antennae slender and long, reaching posterior sixth of pronotum when reclined. Antennomeres 1–3 and 11 distinctly longer than wide, antennomeres 4–5 slightly longer than wide, antennomeres 7–10 as long as wide.

Pronotum as long as wide, slightly narrowed anteriorly. Anterior and posterior angles markedly rounded. Each dorsal row with six punctures, punctures 1–5 approximately equidistant, distance between punctures 1–2 larger than distance between previous ones. Each sublateral row with two punctures, puncture two distinctly shifted anteriorly. Surface with microsculpture similar to that on elytra.

Scutellum finely and sparsely punctured. Diameter of punctures larger than eye-facets, separated by two puncture diameters.

Elytra as long as wide, slightly widened posteriad. Punctuation coarse and sparse. Diameter of punctures much larger than that on scutellum, separated by one, mostly by one and half puncture diameters. Surface lacks microsculpture; setation brown-yellow.

Legs. Metatibia longer than metatarsus (ratio 15 : 2). Metatarsomere 1 shorter than metatarsomere 5.

Abdomen wide, from visible tergite III very gradually narrowed posteriad. First three visible tergites with two basal lines, elevated area between lines impunctate. Punctuation at base of all tergites much finer and sparser than that on elytra, becoming sparser towards posterior margin of each tergite. Surface lacks microsculpture; setation similar to that on elytra.

DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS. *Gabrius prodotiscus* sp. nov. may be distinguished from *G. tadorna* sp. nov. by the narrower head, denser and finer punctuation of elytra and by the different shape of the aedeagus.

DISTRIBUTION. Ethiopia.

ETYMOLOGY. The name of this species, a noun in apposition, is the Latin generic name of the African Western Green-backed Honeyguide *Prodotiscus insignis* (Cassin, 1854).

***Gabrius sternula* sp. nov.**

(Figs 31–33)

TYPE LOCALITY. “Tanzania, Mount-Meru, Arusha N. P., 2224 m, S3°14'54”, E36°48'21”.

TYPE MATERIAL STUDIED. Tanzania. Holotype: ♂: “Tanzania, Mount Meru, Arusha N. P., 2224 m, S3°14'54”, E36°48'21”, 2.–4.iv.2012, dung pitfall, //Holotypus *Gabrius sternula* sp. nov. Hromádka det., 2014, [red oblong label printed] leg. 2014, Smith, R. & Takano, H. BMNH(E) 2012-92.”(BMNH). Paratype: ♂, 1 spec. same label data as in holotype (LHPC).

DESCRIPTION. Body length 4.0 mm, length of fore body (from clypeus to end of elytra) 2.3 mm. Head, pronotum and scutellum black, elytra dark brown-red, abdomen black, posterior margin of all tergites narrowly brown-red. Maxillary and labial palpi, antennomere 1 and base of antennomere 2 brown-yellow, remaining antennomeres black. Femora and tarsi dirty yellow, tibiae darker. Pronotum golden iridescent.

Head longer than wide (ratio 16 : 14), narrowed posteriad, posterior angles markedly rounded. Clypeus with deep vertical line in the middle. Between eyes four coarse punctures, approximately arranged in a straight line. Distance between medial punctures four times as large as distance between medial and lateral puncture. Eyes slightly convex, shorter than temples (ratio 5 : 8), posterior margin with one fine puncture, temporal area with one coarse puncture in anterior third. Surface with very fine microsculpture consisting of transverse waves.

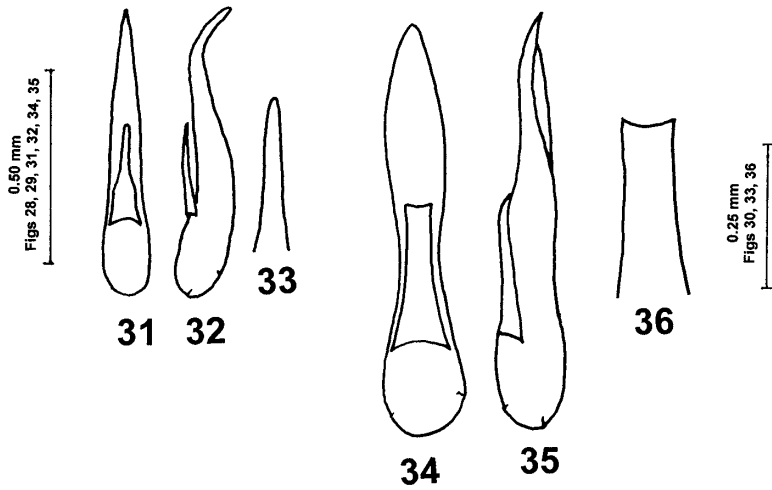
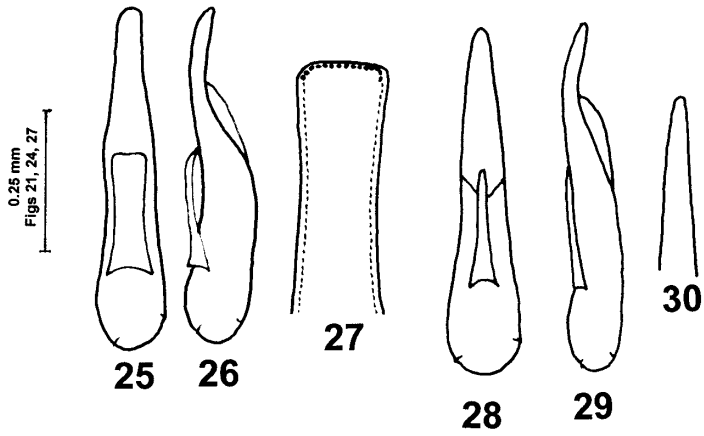
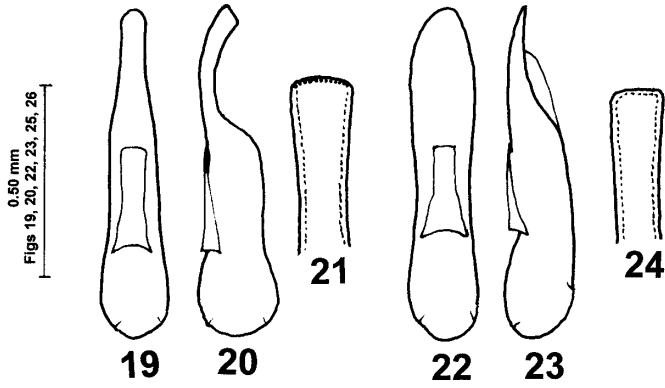
Antennae long reaching posterior margin of pronotum when reclined. Antennomeres 1–3 and 11 distinctly longer than wide, antennomere 4 slightly longer than wide, antennomeres 5–10 as long as wide.

Pronotum longer than wide (ratio 18 : 15), parallel-sided, anterior angles obtusely and posterior angles markedly rounded. Each dorsal row with six approximately equidistant punctures, each sublateral row with two punctures, puncture two distinctly shifted to the lateral margin. Surface with microsculpture similar to that on head.

Scutellum coarsely and densely punctured, diameter of punctures larger than eye-facets, separated by one puncture diameter or smaller.

→

Figs. 19–36. 19–21. *Gabrius obscuratus* (Cameron, 1950). 19 – aedeagus, ventral view, 20 – aedeagus, lateral view, 21 apex of paramere with sensory peg setae, ventral view. 22–24. *Gabrius thermicola* (Cameron, 1947). 22 – aedeagus, ventral view, 23 – aedeagus, lateral view, 24 – apex of paramere, ventral view. 25–27. *Gabrius yakinius* Tottenham, 1956. 25 – aedeagus, ventral view, 26 – aedeagus, lateral view, 27 – apex of paramere with sensory peg setae, ventral view. 28–30. *Gabrius trodotiscus* sp. nov. 28 – aedeagus, ventral view, 29 – aedeagus, lateral view, 30 – apex of paramere, ventral view. 31–33. *Gabrius sternula* sp. nov. 31 – aedeagus, ventral view, 32 – aedeagus, lateral view, 33 – apex of paramere, ventral view. 34–36. *Gabrius tadorna* sp. nov. 34 – aedeagus, ventral view, 35 – aedeagus, lateral view, 36 – apex of paramere, ventral view.



Elytra wider than long (34 : 26), widened posteriad, punctation coarser than that on elytra, diameter of punctures much larger than that on scutellum, separated by one puncture diameter, slightly larger here and there. Surface lacks microsculpture; setation brown-yellow.

Legs. Metatibia almost twice longer than metatarsus (ratio 14 : 8), metatarsomere 1 shorter than metatarsomere 5.

Abdomen wide, from visible tergite III very slightly narrowed posteriad, first three visible tergites with two basal lines, elevated area between lines impunctate. Punctuation at base of all tergites much finer and sparser than that on elytra, becoming sparser to the posterior margin of each tergite. Surface lacks microsculpture; setation similar to that on elytra.

DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS. *Gabrius sternula* sp. nov. may be distinguished from similar *G. kabisus* by the narrower and not in greater part punctured head and by the different shape of the aedeagus.

DISTRIBUTION. Tanzania.

ETYMOLOGY. The name of this species, a noun in apposition, is the Latin generic name of the African Little tern *Sternula albifrons* (Pallas, 1764).

Gabrius tadorna sp. nov.

(Figs 34–36)

TYPE LOCALITY. “Congo Belge N. A. Massif Ruwenzori Katonge, 2010 m, Riv. Nyamwamba affl. Butahu”.

TYPE MATERIAL STUDIED. **Democratic Republic of the Congo.** Holotype: ♂: “N. A. Massif Ruwenzori Katonge, 2010 m, Riv. Nyamwamba affl. Butahu, 2.–3.ii.1953, P. Vanschuytbroeck & J. Kekenbosch 2214-21 // Holotypus *Gabrius tadorna* sp. nov. Hromádka det., 2014 [yellow oblong label, printed]” (MRAT).

DESCRIPTION. Body length 4.9 mm, length of fore body (from clypeus to end of elytra) 2.5 mm. Body brown, maxillary and labial palpi, mandibles brown-yellow, antennomere 1 and base of antennomere 2 brown, remaining antennomeres black-brown, femora and tarsi dirty yellow, tibiae dark brown.

Head quadrate, as long as wide, posterior angles obtusely rounded, bearing one long bristle. Between eyes four coarse punctures, arranged almost in straight line, distance between medial punctures three times larger than distance between medial and lateral puncture, between this punctures several smaller punctures. Eyes flat, shorter than temples (ratio 6 : 9) several varyably large punctures in temporal area and near the base of the head. Surface with very fine irregular microsculpture here and there.

Antennae long, reaching posterior sixth of pronotum when reclined. Antennomeres 1–3 and 11 distinctly longer than wide, antennomere 4 slightly longer than wide, antennomeres 5–10 as long as wide.

Pronotum longer than wide (ratio 21 : 19), parallel-sided. Anterior angles conspicuously deflexed, vaguely obtusely rounded, posterior angles markedly rounded. Each dorsal row with six coarse approximately equidistant punctures, each sublateral row with two finer punctures, puncture two shifted to the lateral margin. Surface with microsculpture similar to that on head.

Scutellum with several very fine punctures, in posterior two thirds, diameter of punctures as large as eye-facets, separated mostly larger than one puncture diameter, anterior third impunctate.

Elytra approximately as long as wide, slightly widened posteriad. Punctuation much coarser than that on scutellum, separated by one puncture diameter, or larger. Surface lacks microsculpture; setation brown.

Legs. Metatibia longer than metatarsus (ratio 16 : 13), metatarsomere 1 slightly shorter than metatarsomere 5. Abdomen almost parallel. First three visible tergites with two basal lines, elevated

area between lines impunctate. Punctuation at base of all tergites much finer and much sparser than that on elytra, becoming sparser to the posterior margin of each tergite. Surface lacks microsculpture; setation similar to that on elytra.

DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS. *Gabrius tadorna* sp. nov. can be distinguished from similar *G. prodotiscus* sp. nov. by the wider head, coarser and sparser punctuation of elytra and by the different shape of the aedeagus.

DISTRIBUTION. Democratic Republic of the Congo.

ETYMOLOGY. The name of this species, a noun in apposition, is the Latin generic name of the African South African Shelduck *Tadorna cana* (J. F. Gmelin, 1789).

***Gabrius thalasseus* sp. nov.**

(Figs 37–39)

TYPE LOCALITY. “Ethiopia, Bate 20 km E Adaba, Z. Melea river, 0720N.3929E, 2600 m”.

TYPE MATERIAL STUDIED. **Ethiopia.** Holotype: ♂: “Bate, 20 km E Adaba, Z. Melea river 0720N.3929E, 2600 m, xii.1971 // Holotypus *Gabrius thalasseus* sp. nov. Hromádka det. 2014, [red oblong label, printed]” (BMNH).

DESCRIPTION. Length 4.6 mm, length of fore body (from clypeus to end of elytra).

Head black, pronotum, scutellum and elytra cocoa brown, abdomen dark brown, posterior margin of all tergites narrowly cocoa brown, maxillary, labial palpi and legs yellow.

Head square, as long as wide, posterior angles obtusely rounded, bearing one long black bristle. Between eyes four coarse punctures arranged in a straight line, distance between medial punctures, four times as large as distance between medial and lateral puncture. Eyes flat, shorter than temples (ratio 5.5 : 8), posterior margin with one coarse puncture, temporal area with two punctures in posterior half. Surface with fine microsculpture consisting of transverse waves.

Antennae by holotype missing.

Pronotum longer than wide, parallel-sided, anterior angles obtusely, posterior angles markedly rounded. Each dorsal row with six coarse punctures, punctures 2–6 equidistant, distance between punctures 1–2 larger than distance between previous punctures. Each sublateral row with two punctures in anterior half, puncture two slightly shifted to the lateral margin. Surface with microsculpture similar to that on head.

Scutellum coarsely and sparsely punctured, between larger punctures several smaller punctures.

Elytra as long as wide, slightly widened posteriad. Punctuation coarse, diameter of punctures as large as diameter of punctures in dorsal rows. Separated by one puncture diameter or slightly smaller. Surface lacks microsculpture; setation brown-yellow.

Legs. Metatibia longer than metatarsus (ratio 14 : 12), metatarsomere 1 slightly shorter than metatarsomere 5 and than metatarsomeres 2–3 combined.

Abdomen wide, almost parallel-sided, first three visible tergites with two basal lines, elevated area between lines impunctate. Punctuation at base of all tergites finer than that on elytra becoming sparser to the posterior margin of each tergite. Surface lacks microsculpture; setation similar to that on elytra.

DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS. *Gabrius thalasseus* sp. nov. may be distinguished from the similar *G. chapmani* by the head and pronotum with microsculpture, longer head and by the different shape of the aedeagus.

DISTRIBUTION. Ethiopia.

ETYMOLOGY. The name of this species, a noun in apposition, is the Latin generic name of the African Great crested tern *Thalasseus bergii* (Lichtenstein, 1823).

***Gabrius thermicola* (Cameron, 1947)**

(Figs 22–24)

Philonthus(*Gabrius*) *thermicola* Cameron, 1947: 3.

TYPE LOCALITY. “Congo Belge, Nizi, Blukwa”.

TYPE MATERIAL STUDIED. **Democratic Republic of the Congo.** Paratypes: ♂: “Congo Belge, P. N. A. Mubiliba (Vol. Nyamuragira), 2000 m, 14. au 26.vi.1935, G. F. de Witte: 1499 // *Philonthus thermicola* M. Cameron det, 1938 [white oblong label, handwritten] M. Cameron, Bequest B. M. 1955-147” (BMNH).

REDESCRIPTION. Body length 4.7 mm, length of fore body (from clypeus to end of elytra) 2.5 mm. Head black, pronotum and abdomen black-brown, elytra black, in part slightly dark red translucent. Labial and maxillary palpi black, palpomere 3 of maxillary palpi brown-yellow, palpomeres 1–2 black, base of antennomere 2 yellow-brown, remaining antennomeres black. Femora yellow-brown, tibiae and tarsi dark brown.

Head as long as wide, slightly narrowed posteriad, posterior angles obtusely rounded. Between eyes four coarse punctures, medial punctures slightly shifted anteriorly, distance between medial punctures five times as large as distance between medial and lateral puncture.

Eyes small, slightly convex, twice shorter than temples (ratio 5 : 10), posterior margin with one coarse puncture, temporal area impunctate. Surface lacks microsculpture.

Antennae reaching posterior fourth of pronotum when reclined. Antennomeres 1–3 and 11 distinctly longer than wide, antennomeres 4–5 slightly longer than wide, antennomeres 6–10 as long as wide.

Pronotum longer than wide (ratio 19 : 15), parallel-sided, anterior angles conspicuously deflexed, vaguely obtusely rounded, posterior angles markedly rounded. Each dorsal row with six approximately equidistant coarse punctures, each sublateral row with two punctures in anterior half. Puncture two distinctly shifted to the lateral margin. Surface lacks microsculpture.

Scutellum in the middle densely punctate, sides impunctate. Diameter of punctures as large as eye-facets, separated by one puncture diameter.

Elytra longer than wide (ratio 25 : 23) slightly widened posteriad. Punctuation coarse and dense, diameter of punctures much larger than that on scutellum, separated by one puncture diameter in transverse direction. Surface lacks microsculpture; setation greyish.

Legs. Metatibia longer than metatarsus (ratio 15 : 12), metatarsomere 1 shorter than metatarsomere 5, as long as metatarsomeres 2–3 combined.

Abdomen wide, from visible tergite III very gradually narrowed posteriad. First three visible tergites with two basal lines, elevated area between lines impunctate. Punctuation at base of all tergites finer and sparser than that on elytra, becoming much sparser towards posterior margin of each tergite. Surface lacks microsculpture; setation similar to that on elytra.

DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS. *Gabrius thermicola* is similar to *G. yakinius* from which it may be distinguished by the shorter antennae and eyes and by the different shape of the aedeagus.

DISTRIBUTION. Democratic Republic of the Congo (Herman 2001).

***Gabrius yakinius* Tottenham, 1956**

(Figs 25–27)

Gabrius yakinius Tottenham, 1956: 210.

TYPE LOCALITY. “Cape Colony: Albany dist.”

TYPE MATERIAL STUDIED. **South Africa.** Holotype: ♂: “Cape Colony: Albany dist., R. Milwidsky // *Gabrius yakinius* Tottenham, TYPE [ochre oblong label handwritten], C. E. Tottenham collection, B. M. 1974-587” (BMNH).

REDESCRIPTION. Body length 4.9 mm, length of fore body (from clypeus to end of elytra) 2.5 mm. Head black, pronotum, scutellum, elytra and abdomen black-brown. Posterior margin of elytra very narrowly red-brown. Maxillary and labial palpi, mandibles and antennomeres 1–2 red-brown, remaining antennomeres black, legs yellow-brown.

Head longer than wide (ratio 17 : 15), slightly narrowed posteriad, posterior angles indistinct, bearing several varyably long bristles. Between eyes four punctures arranged in straight line, distance between medial punctures three times as large as distance between medial and lateral puncture. Eyes flat and small, shorter than temples (ratio 5 : 8), temporal area with scattered varyably large punctures. Surface lacks microsculpture.

Antennae long, reaching almost posterior margin of pronotum when reclined.

Antennomeres 1–3 and 11 distinctly longer than wide, antennomere 4 slightly longer than wide, antennomeres 5–10 as long as wide.

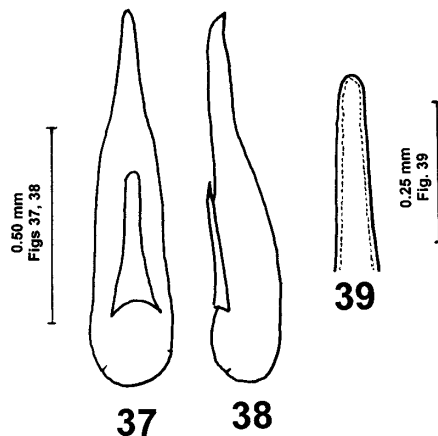
Pronotum longer than wide (ratio 20 : 17) slightly narrowed anteriad. Each dorsal row with six coarse punctures, punctures 2–6 equidistant, distance between punctures 1–2 slightly larger than distance between previous punctures. Each sublateral row with two punctures, puncture two slightly shifted to the lateral margin. Surface lacks microsculpture.

Scutellum with several coarse punctures in the middle, diameter of punctures larger than eye-facets, distance between punctures smaller than one puncture diameter. Surface lacks microsculpture; setation greyish.

Elytra as long as wide, slightly widened posteriad. Punctuation coarser than that on scutellum, separated by one or slightly less than one puncture diameter. Surface lacks microsculpture; setation greyish.

Legs. Metatibia longer than metatarsus (ratio 14 : 10), metatarsomere 1 as long as metatarsomere 5, as long as metatarsomeres 2–3 combined.

Abdomen wide, very gradually narrowed posteriad. Punctuation at base of all tergites finer and denser than that on elytra, becoming sparser towards posterior margin of each tergite. Surface lacks microsculpture; setation similar to that on elytra.



Figs. 37–39. *Gabrius thalasseus* sp. nov. 37 – aedeagus, ventral view, 38 – aedeagus, lateral view, 39 – apex of paramere, ventral view.

DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS. *Gabrius yakikinius* may be distinguished from the similar *G. halisius* by the different shape of the apex of the paramere, darker colouring and denser punctation of elytra, from *G. thermicola* by the longer antennae and eyes and from both of them by the different shape of the aedeagus.

DISTRIBUTION. South Africa (Herman 2001).

Key to the Afrotropical *Gabrius chapmani* species group

- 1 Apical portion of median lobe broad, rather elongate spoon shaped, paramere narrow its apical width about one third that of median lobe at same level. *G. thermicola* (Cameron, 1947)
- Apical portion of median lobe narrow or narrowed, not spoon shaped. 2
- 2 Apex of median lobe sharply shaped. 3
- Apex of median lobe bluntly rounded. 10
- 3 Smaller species, body length 4.0 mm. Pronotum distinctly golden iridescent. *G. sternula* sp. nov.
- Larger species, body length 4.6–4.9 mm. 4
- 4 Greater part of head irregular punctured, only a small area in the middle of the head in basal half impunctate.
..... *G. kabisus* Tottenham, 1954
- Punctuation of head normal. 5
- 5 Eyes about half shorter than temples (ratio 6 : 12), antennomeres 1–2 brown-yellow.
..... *G. metagenes* Tottenham, 1956
- Eyes only a little shorter than temples. 6
- 6 Head and pronotum less microsculpture. Head slightly wider than long (ratio 15 : 14).
..... *G. chapmani* (Bernhauer, 1939)
- Head and pronotum with microsculpture. 7
- 7 Pronotum longer than wide. 8
- Pronotum as long as wide. 9
- 8 Aedeagus (Figs 37-39) with median lobe narrow and elongate, apex of narrow paramere slightly rounded.
..... *G. thalasseus* sp. nov.
- Aedeagus (Figs 34-36) with median lobe abruptly narrowed to apex, paramere wider with straight and slightly cut out apex. *G. tadorno* sp. nov.
- 9 Antennae short, reaching midlength of pronotum when reclined, elytra black-brown, posterior margin and elytral epipleura brown-yellow. *G. nitetis* Tottenham, 1956
- Antennae long, reaching posterior sixth of pronotum when reclined, elytra bicolours dark brown.
..... *G. prodotiscus* sp. nov.
- 10 Antennae long, reaching posterior margin of pronotum when reclined. 11
- Antennae short, reaching midlength, maximally posterior fourth of pronotum when reclined. 12
- 11 Apex of paramere straight, with many sensory peg setae, elytra black-brown. *G. yakinius* Tottenham, 1956
- Apex of paramere bluntly rounded, without sensory peg setae, elytra brownish. *G. halisius* Tottenham, 1956
- 12 Elytra longer than wide (ratio 24 : 21), apex of paramere slender and bluntly rounded, without sensory peg setae. ...
..... *G. mungos* sp. nov.
- Elytra wider than long (ratio 20 : 18), apex of paramere wide and straight with many sensory peg setae.
..... *G. obscuratus* (Cameron, 1950)

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