

A new species of *Onthophagus* Latreille from Sumatra (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae)

by

J. KRIKKEN

Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, Leiden

ABSTRACT. — A new species without close relatives is described and illustrated: *Onthophagus knapperti* from South Sumatra.

INTRODUCTION

Several years ago I set aside a peculiar Sumatran *Onthophagus* that seemed to be undescribed, despite the fact that it had reached the Leiden museum with the Veth collection around 1910. Recently, I had the opportunity to amplify my knowledge of the Indo-Australian *Onthophagus* species by scanning the Boucomont collection in the Paris museum — important, because Boucomont (1915) revised the laparostict scarabs of the Indo-Australian archipelago, describing numerous novelties. Balthasar (1963) added little as far as the archipelagic species are concerned, but provided a useful synopsis. My conclusion now is that the Sumatran specimen indeed represents a new species without close relatives. Its isolated position leads me to publish the following description without further delay. For the context of this paper, cf. introduction in Krikken (1977).

Onthophagus knapperti sp. nov. (figs 1-5)

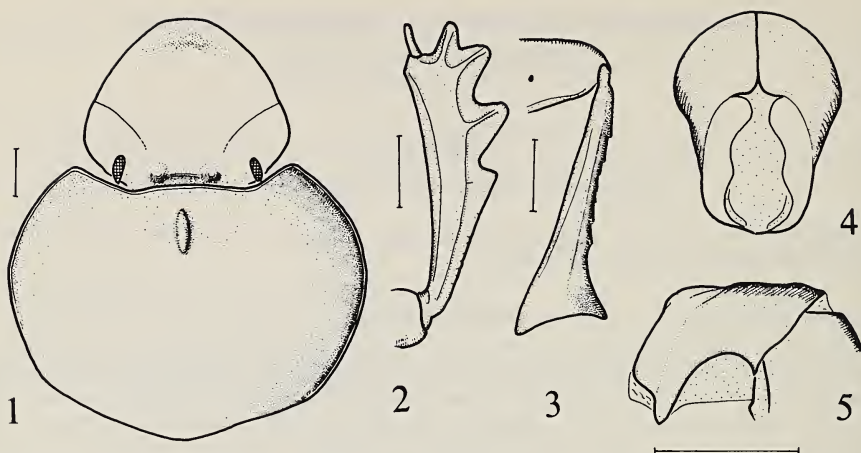
Holotype (male). — Approximate length 13, width 8, height 6 mm. Black, with faint cupreous tinge, dorsum opaque. Pilosity pale yellow to brown, largely restricted to pectus and legs. Habitus like most large *Onthophagus*.

Cephalic contours, fig. 1. Anteromedian lobe of clypeus strongly reflexed; clypeofrontal suture effaced, clypeogenal sutures distinct. Vertex with pair of conical tubercles. Clypeus very heavily transversely rugulate, gradually passing to finely rugulate-punctate posterior parts of the head. Dorsally visible part of eye small, with ca. 12 facet rows across their widest point. Maximum length of head 3.4, maximum width 4.0 mm.

Pronotal contours, fig. 1; general surface of pronotum evenly convex, anterior declivity with elongate prominence; lateral and anterior borders marginate, anterolateral angle ca. 110°, shortly rounded ff; border in front of posterolateral angle very feebly sinuate. Pronotal derm largely punctate, anterolaterally asperate-punctate; punctures densely set, distinct but shallow, isodiametric (apart from asperate punctures), those on disc with diameters of mostly 0.07 mm, their densities $14 \pm 2/0.25$ sq. mm; most punctures with pale stubble. Median length of pronotum 5.0, maximum width 7.0 mm.

General surface of elytra unmodified. Elytral striae feebly impressed, well defined, with vague isodiametric punctures, which very slightly crenulate the interstitial borders; punctures mostly separated by 2 or 3 times their diameter. Interstriae virtually flat, proximally rugulate-punctate, distally more distinctly punctate; most punctures with a fine, erect, short seta ($\times 40$). Sutural length of elytra 4.9, maximum width combined 7.0 mm.

Antenna unmodified, apart from proximal-distal differentiation in the 3 club segments. Lateral parts of propectus abundantly punctate-setose; mesepimeron, metepisternum, metasternal wings and apical part of metasternal lobe densely punctate-setose, punctures more or less asperate; metasternal disc smooth and shiny, midline very slightly impressed. Abdominal sternites superficially rugulate, with transverse row of short, erect setae. Pygidium with marginate base; anal margination broad; surface very densely, coarsely punctate, most punctures with minute erect seta ($\times 40$). Fore tibia (fig. 2) very broad, denticles characteristically arranged. Middle and hind tibiae (fig. 3) slender basally, strongly dilated



Figs 1-4. *Onthophagus knapperti*, holotype; 1, forebody; 2, right fore tibia; 3, left hind tibia; 4, 5, parameres. Scale-lines are 1 mm.

distally. Femora, apart from superior-anterior row of setae, glabrous, virtually impunctate, shiny. Tarsal segment 1 of middle and hind legs robust, length ca. 1.5 times width of tibial apex. Phallus (figs. 4, 5) with modified parameres.

Identification. — *Onthophagus knapperti* is a large species with a peculiar elongate pronotal prominence and remarkably small vertigial protrusions. These two characters combined with the rounded-sublobate clypeus, lack of frontal protrusions, broad fore tibiae, uniform subcupreous black colour, parameral shape, and indeed size, distinguish the species from all the others known from the Indo-Australian archipelago and adjacent continental regions. Characters of Krikken (1977, table 1): 1b, 2a, 3b, 4a, 5a, 6b, 7a, 8a, 9a, 10a, 11c, 12b.

Material examined. — Holotype male, from "Sumatra/Manna 1902/M. Knappert", Leiden museum, ex coll. H. J. Veth.

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PO Box 9517, 2300 RA Leiden.