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A new species of the African genus *Genuchus* Kirby (Coleoptera: Cetoniidae)

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With 8 text-figures

ABSTRACT

Genuchus tomentosus, a new species from Gabon, is described and illustrated.

At present the genus *Genuchus* Kirby is known to comprise about 25 species from Africa south of the Sahara (SCHEIN, 1955). Most characteristic of *Genuchus* is the shape of the mentum, the anterior part of which is transformed into a long, more or less perpendicular appendage. *Genuchus* species share this feature with the closely allied *Meurguesia* Ruter (1969: 94), which is distinguishable by having the clypeus little modified, the anal edge of its pygidium retracted, etc. Two specimens of *Genuchus* in the Leiden museum apparently represent an undescribed species.

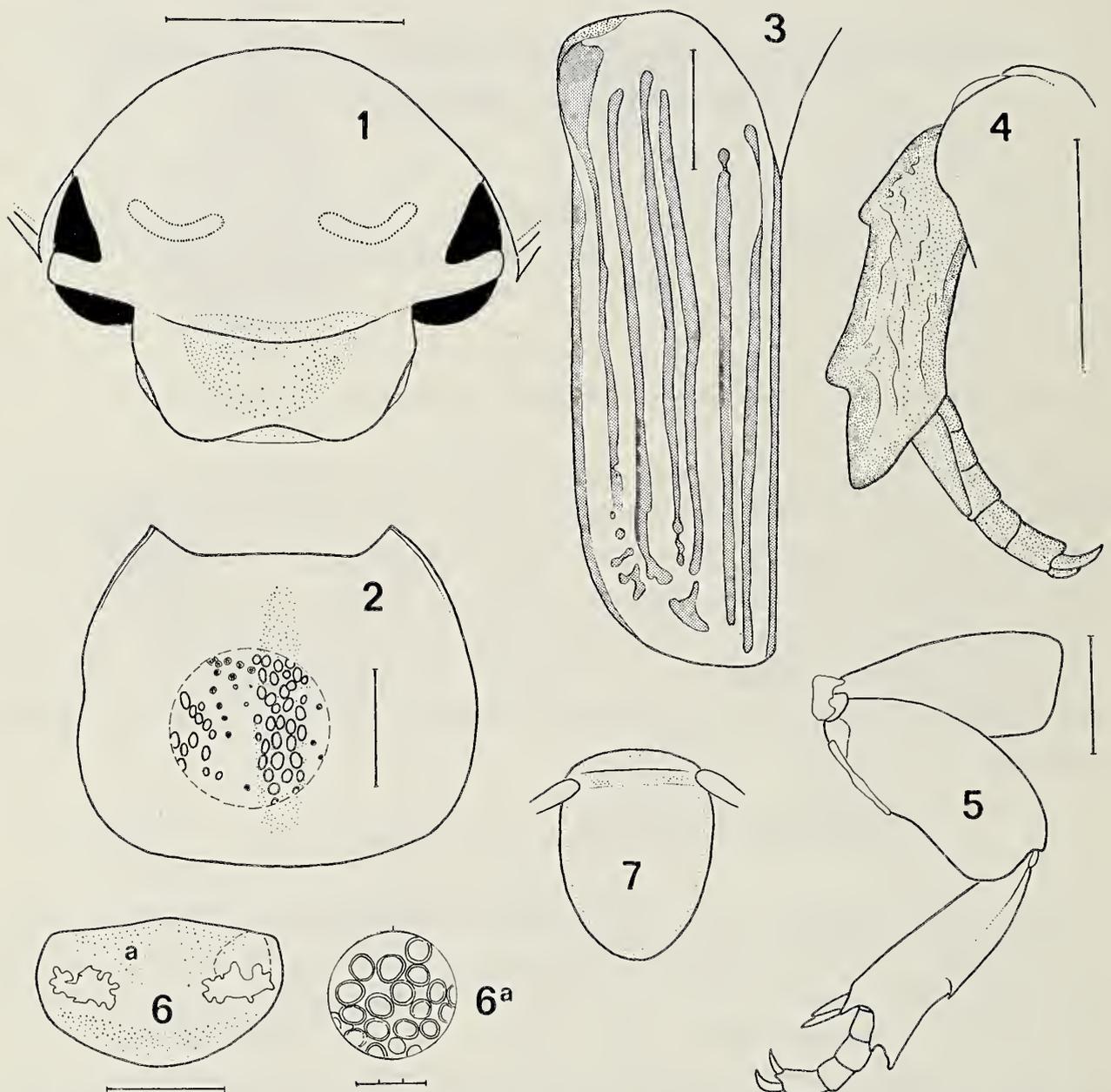
Genuchus tomentosus sp. nov. (figs. 1—8)

Description (holotype, female). — Approximate length 10, width 4, height 3 mm. Colour of head, pronotum, scutellum, greater part of ventral side, and legs black; other parts more or less brown; elytra largely covered with pale yellow-brown tomentum; other parts, like pronotum, ventral side of thorax, anteapical abdominal sternite, pygidium and knees, with tomentose markings; non-sculptured, non-tomentose surfaces shiny; pilosity brownish. Habitus, fig. 8.

Cephalic contours and disposition of elevations, fig. 1. Clypeus (dorso-frontal view) bisinuate anteriorly; posterior crest of medial elevation shallowly bisinuate (SCHEIN: "ingesattelt"), anterior declivity evenly convex, shiny; marginal surface vaguely rugulate. Frons with pair of shallow transverse ridges, together bisinuate (viewed from behind); entire fronto-vertex coarsely punctate-rugulate, diameters of separately discernable units reaching ca. 0.1 mm. Eye-canths with similar sculpture. Maximum width of head 1.92 mm.

Pronotal contours, fig. 2. Pronotal midline distinctly depressed; lateral borders

faintly marginate in front. Medial depression bearing nearly 40 annulate, well-defined punctures, their longitudinal diameters slightly exceeding 0.1 mm; convex paramedian surface shiny, with over 10 distinct, approximately isodiametric punctures, their diameters ca. 0.05 mm; sides and apex of pronotum coarsely, closely punctate to coarsely punctate-rugulate; separately discernable units ca. 0.1 mm in diameter, isolated punctures noticeably subannulate; pronotal disc with five tomentose spots, one in the middle, two on either side. Pronotal median length 2.65, maximum width 3.40 mm; ratio l/w 0.79. Scutellum (fig. 3) punctate-rugulate.



Figs. 1—7. *Genuchus tomentosus* sp. nov., ♀ holotype. 1, head; 2, pronotum, inset with details; 3, left elytron; 4, right fore tibia and tarsus, superior side; 5, right hind leg; 6, pygidium, inset (6a) showing enlarged punctation on point a; 7, appendage of mentum (between palpi). 1, 4—7, full-face, 2—3, dorsal view. Scale-lines = 1 mm, except in 6a = 0.3 mm

Elytral contours, and disposition of striae and tomentum, fig. 3. Elytron with six brown striae and pale yellow-brown tomentose interstriae; lateral zone as well as humeral and apical umbones brown; apico-sutural angle obtuse; humeral surface and stria 6 bearing numerous punctules, those of stria 6 subannulate; lateral zone

punctate-rugulate, diameters of separately discernable units ca. 0.1 mm; tomentose interstriae with traces of scattered punctules, setae associated with these punctules most inconspicuous. Striae 1—5 are geminate zigzag lines, apparently formed by contiguous annulate punctures. Elytral maximum length 5.80 mm; median length (distance between scutellar and elytral apices) 4.50, maximum width of elytra combined 3.70 mm, their ratio 1.22.

Ventro-frontal view of appendage of mentum, fig. 7; surface convex, with curvilinear rugulae and many erect setae. Antero-median appendage of prosternum less than half the height of the coxae, abundantly setose in front; prosternum

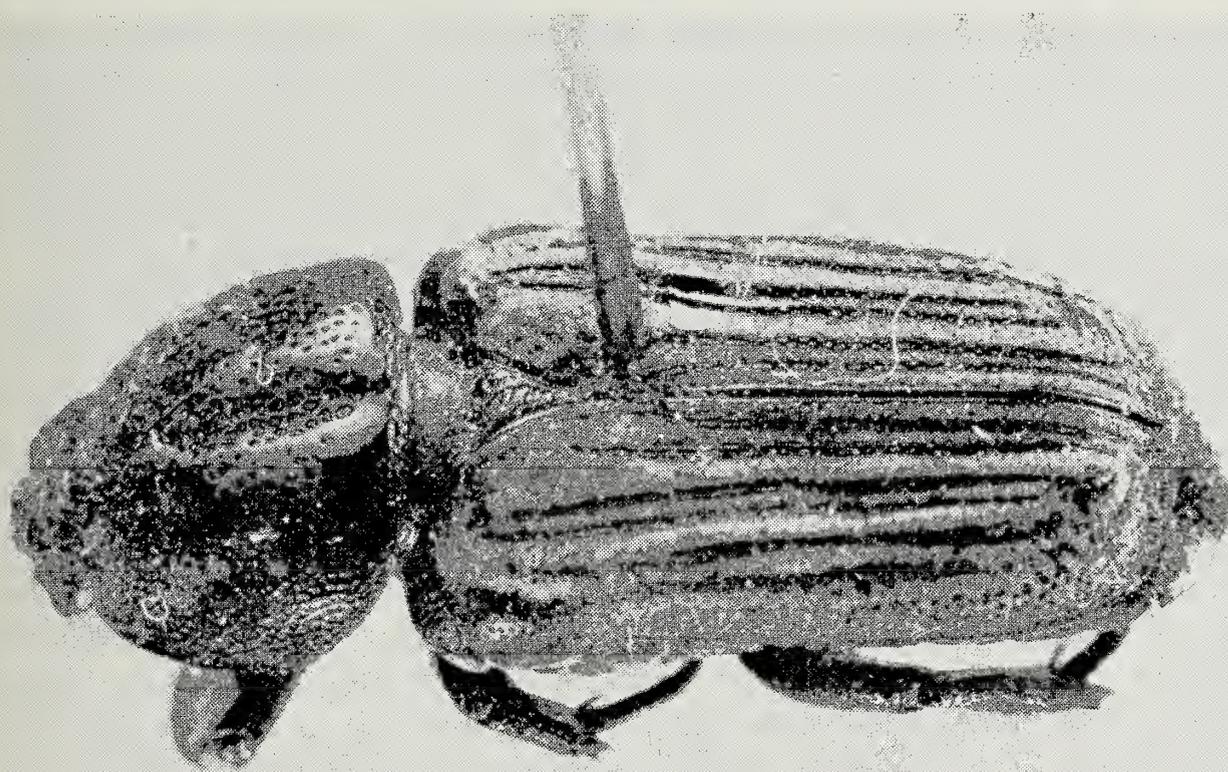


Fig. 8. *Genuchus tomentosus*, holotype; dorso-lateral view; head bent down, bisinuate clypeal crest just visible

behind coxae slightly swollen in the middle. Ventro-lateral parts of prothorax striolate-rugulate, with numerous decumbent, outwardly directed, fine setae. Mesosternum transversely punctate-rugulate, with numerous very fine, decumbent, posteriorly directed setae. Mesepimeron striolate-rugulate, laterally with tomentum; metepisternum with striolae, some of them annulate, and small, scattered tomentose spots. Metepimeron largely tomentose, inner and outer extremities of hind coxa somewhat tomentose as well. Midline of metasternal disc slightly impressed, remaining surface with scattered punctules bearing very fine, curved, posteriorly directed setae; metasternal wings with similar setae placed in arcuate striolae, traces of tomentum present.

Abdominal sternites, except anal one, as follows; medially smooth, except for basal annulate striolae and sparse, very fine, inconspicuously seta-bearing punctures; sides with striolae, these mixed with the very fine seta-bearing punctures just mentioned; lateral extremities of visible sternites 1—4 faintly tomentose;

latero-apical margin of sternite 5 with conspicuous pale yellow-brown tomentose marking; anal sternite closely punctate, punctures small but distinct, bearing very fine setae. Propygidial spiracles not raised. Pygidium (fig. 6) blackish with pair of red lateral markings (left one not distinct in holotype), these faintly tomentose below; base depressed on both sides, apex distinctly convex; basal surface with annulate punctures, apically passing into smaller normal punctures, all closely arranged and provided with very fine setae; height/width ratio of pygidium 0.62.

Fore tibia (fig. 4) with 3 denticles, superior side feebly striolate-rugulate, costa of inferior side with fine longitudinal ridges; acuminate terminal spur extends to apex of tarsal segment 3. All tarsi short, segments cylindrical, possibly telescoped, claws simply sickle-shaped. Visible surfaces of coxae, femora, middle and hind tibiae striolate-rugulate, inferior sides of middle and hind femora with many minute setae behind; coxal-femoral transition with tomentum (fig. 5); postero-inferior edge of middle and hind coxae fringed with tomentum as well. Middle and hind tibiae (fig. 5) short, with distinct external elevation and two acuminate terminal spurs, superior spur slightly longer than inferior one.

Variation. — The paratype is very similar to the holotype, and shows all the features regarded as diagnostic; it is slightly longer (11 mm).

Diagnostic remarks. — *Genuchus tomentosus* may be identifiable from the following combination of characters. Yellow-brown tomentum of elytra exceedingly abundant, interstriae entirely covered. Pygidium closely punctate, superior punctures annulate; sides with patch of yellow-brown tomentum. Pronotum with characteristic sculptural features; midline distinctly depressed. Cephalic features, such as presence of a pair of interocular elevations, and shallowly bisinuate clypeal crest, characteristic. Appendage of mentum semielliptic (ventro-frontal view). Propygidial spiracles not raised. Tarsi as in figs. 4 and 5. No process behind fore coxae. Pygidial base depressed. Small species, length about 1 cm.

This species belongs in SCHEIN's (1955) *dimidiatus* group.

Material examined. — Two female specimens from Gabon, both from the F. T. VALCK LUCASSEN collection. Holotype with original label reading "Ivindo (Gabon)/Coll. Le Moul't". Paratype from Bas-Ogooué.

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Cerambycidae. De heer Gasko Kalman, Pest Nograd Megyei a. g., Szakszolgalati Allogama, Budapest 22, Parkhut 2, Hongarije, zou graag in contact komen met een Nederlandse entomoloog, die in deze groep geïnteresseerd is.