

**Two new species of the genus *Gabronthus* from the Afrotropical Region
(Coleoptera: Staphylinidae: Philonthina)**

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Abstract. Two new species of the genus *Gabronthus* Tottenham, 1955 from the Afrotropical Region are described as follows: *Gabronthus bahbouhi* sp. nov. (Uganda), *Gabronthus veselskyi* sp. nov. (Niger). The male genitalia of all species are illustrated.

INTRODUCTION

The genus *Gabronthus* Tottenham, 1955 belongs to the subtribe Philonthina and is distributed in all major geographical regions. The genus includes more than 30 species in the Afrotropical Region. Two new species are described below.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The following acronyms are used to refer to the collections mentioned:

LHPC Lubomír Hromádka, private collection, Praha, Czech Republic;

MRAT Musée Royal de l'Afrique centrale, Tervuren, Belgium (Marc de Meyer).

Separate labels are divided by a double slash (/). All measurements were taken from beetles with their abdomens stretched. Ratios mentioned in the descriptions can be converted to lengths as 20 units = 1 mm.

DESCRIPTIONS

***Gabronthus bahbouhi* sp. nov.**

(Figs. 1-3)

Type locality. Uganda (Congo Belge) Massif Ruwenzori, Katonga, 2.800 m., Kasambu at Butahu.

Type material. Holotype (♂): Uganda (Congo Belge) Massif Ruwenzori, Katonga 2.800 m, Kasambu at Butahu. 11.ii.1953. P. Vaschuytbroeck & J. Kakenbosch. //Holotypus *Gabronthus bahbouhi* sp. nov. Hromádka det. 2016, [red oblong label printed], (MRAT).

Description. Body length 4.6 mm, length fore body (to end of elytra) 1.8 mm.

Colouration. Head black, pronotum and scutellum brown-red, elytra brown, posterior margin narrowly and whole epipleura yellow, abdomen brown, posterior margin of all

tergites narrowly yellow-brown, maxillary and labial palpi yellow brown, antennomeres 1-2 yellow, remaining antennomeres yellow-brown, legs yellow.

Head longer than wide (ratio 14 : 12), parallel-sided, posterior angles markedly rounded, bearing one long black bristle, between eyes with four coarse punctures, arranged in a row, parallel to the dorsal row and half way between it and side. Distance between medial punctures four times larger than distance between medial and lateral punctures. Eyes flat, longer than wide (ratio 7 : 5), posterior margin with two coarse long setiferous punctures, temporal area bearing one long setiferous puncture in the middle. Surface with very fine microsculpture, consisting of transverse waves.

Antennae long and slender, exceeding posterior margin of pronotum by the length of antennomere 10. All antennomeres longer than wide. Antennomere 1 longer than antennomere 11, antennomere 2 as long as antennomere 3.

Pronotum as long as wide, slightly narrowed anteriorly. Anterior angles obtusely rounded, posterior angles markedly rounded. Each dorsal row with four punctures, punctures 2-4 equidistant, distance between punctures 1-2 larger than distance between previous punctures, each sublateral row with two punctures arranged in a row parallel in 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 smaller than eyefacets, separated by two puncture diameters or more.

Elytra wider than long (ratio 24 : 22) parallel-sided, punctation denser and coarser than that on scutellum. Surface without microsculpture; setation brown-yellow.

Legs. Metatibia longer than metatarsus (ratio 14 : 12) metatarsomere 1 slightly longer than 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, punctation at base of all tergites much sparser and finer than that on elytra, becoming sparser towards posterior margin of each tergite. Surface without microsculpture; setation similar to that on elytra.

Differential diagnosis. *Gabronthus bahbouhi* sp. nov. may be distinguished from the similar *G. meridiaofricanus* Scheerpeltz, 1974 by its narrower head, longer antennae, denser punctation of elytra and different shape of the aedeagus.

Etymology. This species is named after my best friend Kamil Bahbouh (Prague, Czech Republic). Financial expert, banker, publisher, collector and patron of contemporary art.

Distribution. Uganda.

***Gabronthus veselskyi* sp. nov.**

(Figs. 4-6)

Type locality. Niger, Abargasit.

Type material. Holotype (♂): Niger, Abargasit, 3.xi.1978, R. Macek, lgt. //Holotypus *Gabronthus veselskyi* sp. nov., Hromádka det., 2016. [red oblong label printed], (LHPC).

Description. Body length 4.8 mm, length of fore body 2.3 mm.

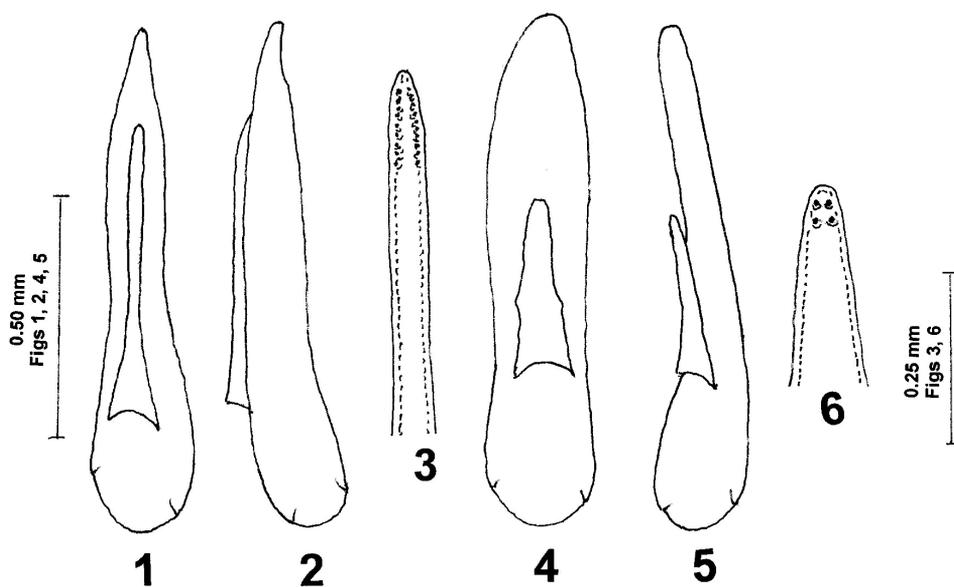
Colouration. Head black, pronotum, scutellum, elytra and abdomen chocolate-brown, maxillary, labial palpi, antennomere one and base of antennomere 2 yellow-brown, remaining antennomeres brown, legs dirty yellow.

Head as long as wide, very slightly narrowed posteriad, posterior angles obtusely rounded. Between eyes four coarse punctures, lateral punctures slightly shifted anteriorly. Distance between medial punctures three times larger than distance between medial and lateral punctures. Eyes flat, larger than temples (ratio 7 : 5), from posterior margin of eyes to the middle of neck and whole temporal area with coarse punctures. Surface without microsculpture.

Antennae longer and slender, reaching posterior margin of pronotum when reclined. Antennomeres 1-5 and 11 distinctly longer than wide, antennomeres 7-8 slightly longer than wide, antennomeres 9-10 as long as wide. Antennomere 1 longer than antennomere 11, antennomere 3 as long as antennomere 2.

Pronotum as long as wide, slightly narrowed anteriorly, anterior and posterior angles markedly rounded. Each dorsal row with 5 approximately equidistant punctures, each sublateral row with 2 punctures, puncture 2 slightly shifted to the lateral margin.

Scutellum densely and coarsely punctured, diameter of punctures as large as eye-facets, separated by distance smaller than puncture diameter.



Figs. 1-6: *Gabronthus bahbouhi* sp. nov.: 1- aedeagus, ventral view; 2- aedeagus, lateral view; 3- apex of paramere, with sensory peg setae, ventral view. *Gabronthus veselskyi* sp. nov.: 4- aedeagus, ventral view; 5- aedeagus, lateral view; 6- apex of paramere, with sensory peg setae, ventral view.

Elytra longer than wide (ratio 30 : 26), parallel-sided. Punctuation slightly coarser than that on scutellum, separated by one puncture diameter, mostly smaller. Surface without microsculpture; metatibia longer than metatarsus (ratio 19 : 15), metatarsomere 1 shorter than metatarsomere 5.

Abdomen parallel-sided, first three visible tergites with two basal lines, elevated area between lines densely punctate. Punctuation at base of all tergites finer than that on elytra becoming sparser to the posterior margin of each tergite. Surface without microsculpture; setation similar to that on elytra.

Differential diagnosis. *Gabronthus veselskyi* sp. nov. can be separated from a similar *G. polemaetus* Hromádka, 2013 by its longer antennae, wider head and elytra, denser punctuation of elytra and different shape of the aedeagus.

Etymology. This species is dedicated to my friend Zbyněk Veselský (Hradec Králové, Czech Republic), specialist in the field of urology, sexuology and psychosocial diagnostics (sociomapping).

Distribution. Niger.

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