

***Procirrus uhligi* sp. nov., from Hluhluwe, South Africa
(Coleoptera: Staphylinidae: Paederinae: Procirrina)**

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Abstract. A new species of the genus *Procirrus* Latreille, 1829, *P. uhligi* sp. nov. from Hluhluwe in KwaZulu-Natal Province, South Africa is described, illustrated and distinguished from related species.

INTRODUCTION

The genus *Procirrus* Latreille, 1829 currently comprises 33 species and one subspecies (Herman 2010, Newton 2025, Janák 2025) reported from the Canary Islands, southern Europe, continental Africa, Madagascar, southern Asia to Japan and Australia. Seventeen species are known from Africa south of the Sahara (Fagel 1971, Drugmand 2003, Janák 2025) and one species from Madagascar (Janák 2021). One species was recently described and several undescribed species were recorded from South Africa (Janák 2025).

During missions of the Museum of Natural History, Berlin in 1990 to South Africa, Manfred Uhlig collected an additional new species, which is described in the present paper.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Dry-mounted specimens were studied under a binocular stereomicroscope MBS 10. Habitus images were taken with a Canon EOS 700D camera in combination with a Canon MP-E65 1-5x macro lens. Images of some body details, aedeagus and male terminalia were made using a Canon EOS 700D camera mounted on a Motic BA 410E-T compound microscope in transmitted or diffused reflected light. Resulting images were focus stacked using Zerene Stacker and then postprocessed in Paint.Net, Paint, XnView and Live Photo Gallery.

Measurements were taken with the above mentioned stereomicroscope using an ocular scale. Body length was measured from the tip of closed mandibles to the end of the abdomen, the length of the forebody was measured from the base of the labrum, the length of pronotum was measured along the midline.

The specimen was dissected and remounted on a card plate using a water-soluble glue, male genitalia and the last abdominal segments were embedded in Euparal. According to collecting permit conditions the specimen will be deposited in TMSA.

Locality labels for the material examined were cited in the original version and marked with quotation marks (“ ”). A slash (/) is used to separate different rows.

The following abbreviations are used to indicate the depository of specimens:

TMSA Ditsong Museum (former Transvaal Museum), Pretoria, South Africa.

Other abbreviations: HW = width of head, PW = width of pronotum, M = arithmetic mean, R = ratio.

TAXONOMY

Procirrus uhligi sp. nov.

(Figs. 1-13)

Type locality. South Africa, KwaZulu-Natal, Hluhluwe National Park.

Type material. Holotype (♂): “R. S. Africa 4.-6.ii.1994 / 28°02’S/32°05’E / Natal: Hluhluwe NP: / lux, leg. M. Uhlig”, “HOLOTYPUS *Procirrus uhligi* sp. nov., J. Janák det. 2025”, (TMSA).

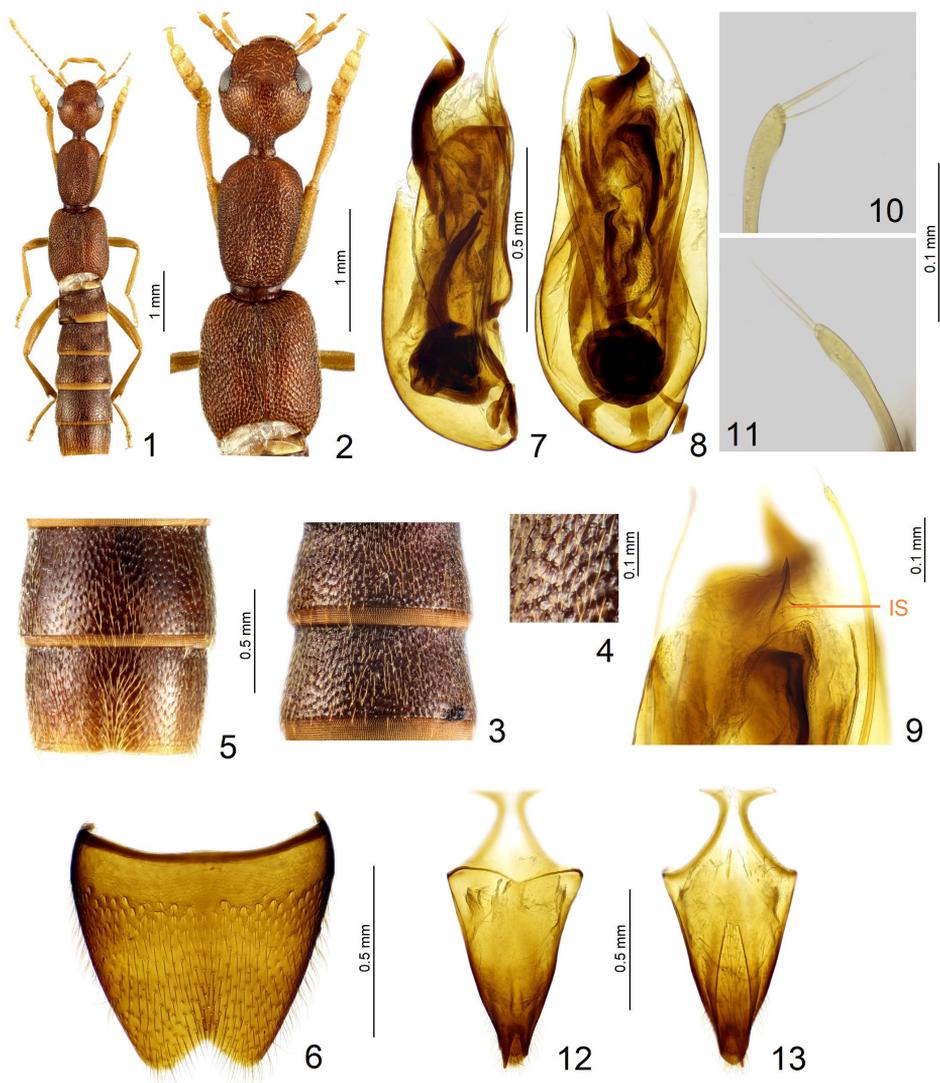
Description. Body length 6.3 mm, forebody length 3.2 mm. Winged, reddish brown, legs, palpi and antennomeres 1-7 light reddish brown, tarsi and antennomeres 8-11 slightly lighter, reddish yellow, head and abdomen slightly shiny, pronotum and elytra dull (Figs. 1, 2).

Head (Fig. 2) about 1.1 times as long as wide (R 1.10), slightly wider than pronotum (HW/PW = 1.10), eyes large, temples markedly longer than eyes (R 1.50), behind eyes roundly narrowed, markedly elevated in middle, very densely and moderately coarsely punctate, less dense in middle; very narrow interspaces shiny, without reticulation, anterior margin of epistoma moderately elevated. Antennae (Fig. 1) long, all antennomeres longer than wide, antennomere 3 narrowest, following segments gradually widened, antennomere 5 more than twice as long as wide (R 2.27), antennomere 8 longer than 7, antennomere 10 about 1.3 times as long as wide (R 1.31), last antennomere about as long as two preceding segments combined.

Pronotum (Fig. 2) about 1.5 times as long as wide (R 1.55), with shallow lateral impressions along midline; lateral sides behind anterior angles slightly roundly narrowed up to middle, in apical half straight, narrowed behind; posterior angles largely rounded; base slightly convex, rugosely, very densely and coarsely punctate, punctures not or only very rarely confluent, slightly wider than diameter of apical part of antennomere 3, with very narrow shiny interspaces, without reticulation; unpunctured midline extremely narrow, but visible up to basal two fifths.

Elytra (Fig. 2) moderately long and wide, moderately longer than wide (R 1.22), slightly longer than pronotum (R 1.14), with shallow sutural and lateral impressions, not markedly elevated, humeri only slightly marked, lateral sides behind humeri slightly widened behind up to posterior fifth; rugosely, very densely and coarsely punctate, punctures similar as on pronotum, not confluent, very narrow interspaces with traces of fine isodiametric mesh.

Abdomen (Fig. 1) subparallel, base of tergites III-VI with basal impressions, tergites III-V rugosely, very densely and coarsely punctate, some punctures forming short transverse groups of connected or confluent punctures (Figs. 3, 4), following tergites gradually



Figs. 1-13. *Procirrus uhligi* sp. nov., holotype; 1- habitus; 2- forebody; 3- abdominal tergites IV, V; 4- abdominal tergite V, detail of structure; 5- male abdominal sternites VI-VII; 6- of male sternite VIII; 7- aedeagus lateral, 8- aedeagus ventral; 9- apical part of aedeagus (IS = internal structure); 10- left paramere; 11- right paramere; 12- male sternites IX, X; 13- male sternite IX. Figs. 3, 5; 7, 8; 12, 13- identical scales 0.5 mm.

less coarsely punctate, tergite VII finely and densely punctate, all tergites with traces of reticulation forming triangular or isodiametric mesh (Fig. 4).

Male. Aedeagus (Figs. 7, 8) asymmetric, elongate, sharply pointed apically (length 1.20 mm), with short, basally weakly sclerotised internal structure (Fig. 9, *IS*), apically forming a long sharp thorn. Parameres slender starting from base, with 2-3 apical setae (Figs. 10, 11). Sternite VI flattened medially in posterior half with long slightly convergent setae (Fig. 5), sternite VII impressed medially and with dense long convergent setae (Fig. 5), sternite VIII shorter than tergite VIII, only slightly elevated medially in posterior half and moderately emarginate at posterior margin (Fig. 6). Tergites IX-X as in Fig. 12. Sternite IX as in Fig. 13.

Female. Unknown.

Differential diagnosis. *Procirrus uhligi* sp. nov. shows characters of the *P. lefebvrei* group as redefined by Janák (2015): body large, abdominal microsculpture very distinct, male sternites VI and VII with groups of convergent long setae, male sternite VIII apically emarginated and with basal part elevated medially, aedeagus asymmetrical, parameres with more than one terminal seta. The new species belongs in Fagel's key (Fagel 1970) at couplet 12 near *P. crocodilus* Bernhauer, 1927 (hitherto known only by females from DR Congo) but differs from this species by the temples much more strongly narrowed behind, by sides of pronotum not emarginated and longer elytra. The new species differs from geographically close *P. hlavaci* Janák, 2005 by shorter, more rounded head, by the sides of the pronotum not emarginated, by narrower elytra in relation to head and pronotum, by sparse punctuation and weak reticulation of abdominal tergites, by male sternites only slightly elevated in posterior half and more deeply emarginate on posterior margin, by parameres with fewer apical setae and internal sclerite shorter and weakly sclerotised.

Etymology. The species is named in honour of my colleague Manfred Uhlig, well-known specialist of the family Staphylinidae, who collected the type specimen.

Bionomics. The type specimen was collected at light.

Distribution. *P. uhligi* sp. nov. is currently known only from Hluhluwe National Reserve, KwaZulu-Natal Province, South Africa (Fig. 16).

Note. *Procirrus uhligi* sp. nov. shows also all generic characters as described in the diagnosis by Herman (2010).

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