

SHORT  
COMMUNICATIONS

**A New Species, *Orphnus drumonti* sp. n. (Coleoptera, Scarabaeidae), from the Democratic Republic of Congo**

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**Abstract**—A new species of the genus *Orphnus* MacLeay, 1819 is described from Kisantu (Democratic Republic of Congo). The new species is similar to *O. striatopunctatus* Felsche in having a long bifurcated clypeal horn in the male, but can be distinguished from it by the shape of the parameres and longitudinal ridges on the pronotum, relatively slender body, and more slender clypeal horn.

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*Orphnus* MacLeay is the most diverse genus of the subfamily Orphninae and it includes more than 100 described species (Paulian, 1948; Petrovitz, 1971). The males of majority *Orphnus* species possess curious clypeal horns which are sometimes species specific. One species, *O. striatopunctatus*, could be easily distinguished from the other described species by having a long, bifurcated clypeal horn. Recently, in the collection of IRScNB I found a male specimen with a well-developed bifurcated clypeal horn which however differs from *O. striatopunctatus* in a number of taxonomically important characters. A new species is described below from this specimen.

***Orphnus (Parorphnus) drumonti* sp. n.**

**Material.** Holotype with the label “Congo Belge Kisantu [5°08' S 15°6' E, Democratic Republic of Congo]1936” and “R. Mus. Hist. Nat. Belg. I.G. 14.406” (IRSNB).

**Description.** Holotype, male (Figs. 1–3). Medium-sized beetle (length 11.0 mm, width 5.5 mm) with strongly shiny, dark brown body.

Clypeus wide, with almost straight anterior margin, rounded laterally. Genae very small, not protruding past eyes. Anterior part of clypeus with long slender process bifurcated in distal 1/3 and somewhat curved backwards (Fig. 2). Dorsal side of head almost impunctate.

Pronotum trapezoidal, with rounded lateral margins, about twice as wide as long, with large medial excavation occupying most of pronotal disc and with 2 large transverse ridges aside this excavation. Ridges not protruding past pronotum outline. Dorsal surface

of pronotum smooth on disc and with single punctures aside of medial excavation.

Elytra strongly convex, with rows of large punctures along striae. Elytral intervals convex, with fine sparse punctuation.

Scutellum rounded apically, smooth, constituting about 1/10 of length of elytra.

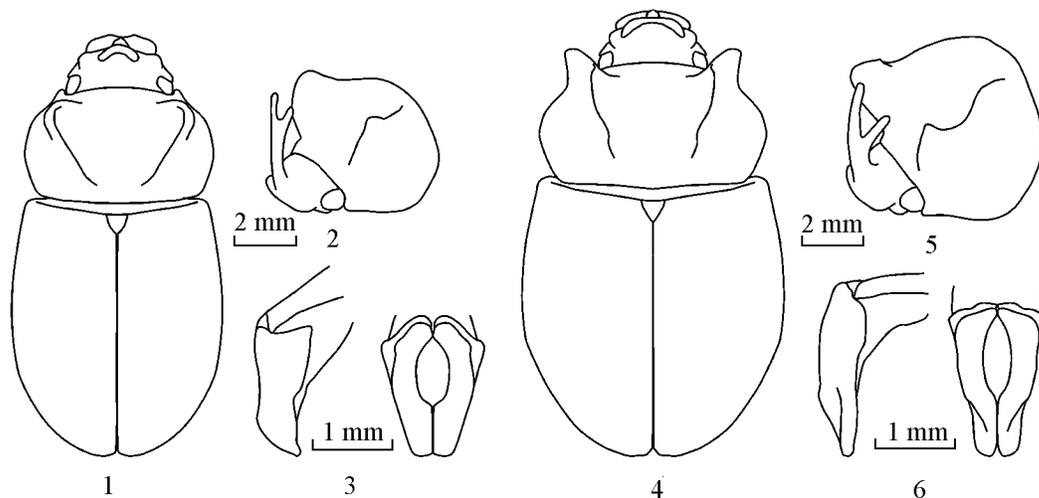
Wings fully developed.

Fore tibia of typical scarabeoid shape, with 3 strong outer teeth. Lateral margin not crenulate basad of outer teeth. Ventral surface of fore tibia smooth, with 2 rows of setae along sides and with single very long setae in middle. Middle and hind legs similar in shape; hind femur and tibia about 1/8 longer than middle ones. Middle and hind femora almost impunctate, with 2 apical spurs; inner margin slightly concave with one transverse keel.

Abdominal sternites irregularly punctate, pubescent with sparse long setae. Sternite VI slightly longer than sternites II–V combined. Pygidium with sparse punctures and sparse long setae, semi-hidden under elytra.

Parameres rather evenly rounded dorsally (in lateral view), their apices not flattened dorso-ventrally (Fig. 3). Internal sac of aedeagus without strongly sclerotized armature.

**Differential diagnosis.** *O. drumonti* sp. n. is most similar to *O. striatopunctatus* but can be distinguished from it by the following characters: body narrower (Fig. 1), longitudinal ridges on pronotum not protruding past pronotum outline in dorsal view (Fig. 1), clypeal process more slender, its bifurcated part constituting 1/3 of length of process (Fig. 2), apices of pa-



**Figs. 1–6.** *Orphnus* spp.: (1–3) *Orphnus drumonti* sp. n., male, holotype; (4–6) *O. striatopunctatus* Felsche, male [(1, 4) habitus; (2, 5) pronotum and head, lateral view; (3, 6) parameres, dorsal and lateral view].

rameres rounded (Fig. 3). *O. striatopunctatus* differs in wider body (Fig. 4), more strongly developed longitudinal ridges on pronotum, protruding beyond anterior margin of pronotum in dorsal view (Fig. 4), thicker clypeal process with bifurcated part constituting half length of this process (Fig. 5), and apices of parameres partly depressed (Fig. 6)

**Etymology.** The species is named after Alain Drumont, a scarab-beetle specialist and curator at the IRSNB, who provided valuable assistance during my work with the Orphninae collection at this institution.

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