

A New Species of the Dung Beetle Genus *Namakwanus* (Coleoptera, Scarabaeidae) from Namibia

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ABSTRACT

A second species of the genus *Namakwanus* Scholtz et Howden, *N. streyi* sp. n., is described from Namibia.

KEY WORDS

Namakwanus streyi, new species, Afrotropical Region, Namibia.

African dung beetles of the tribe Canthonini are relatively well known and include 21 genera and some 80 species (Davis *et al.* 1999, 2001, Howden and Scholtz 1987, Scholtz and Howden 1987a, 1987b, Frolov and Scholtz 2003). Most of the species of the tribe are distributed in the temperate regions of southern Africa and the eastern highlands of central and south-central Africa, however a lineage comprised of three rare, highly modified genera occurs in the Northern Cape Province of South Africa and in Namibia (Frolov and Scholtz 2003). Of these genera, only *Byrrhidium* Harold includes 3 described species but the two other genera, namely *Namakwanus* Scholtz et Howden and *Dicranocara* Frolov et Scholtz, were considered monotypical so far.

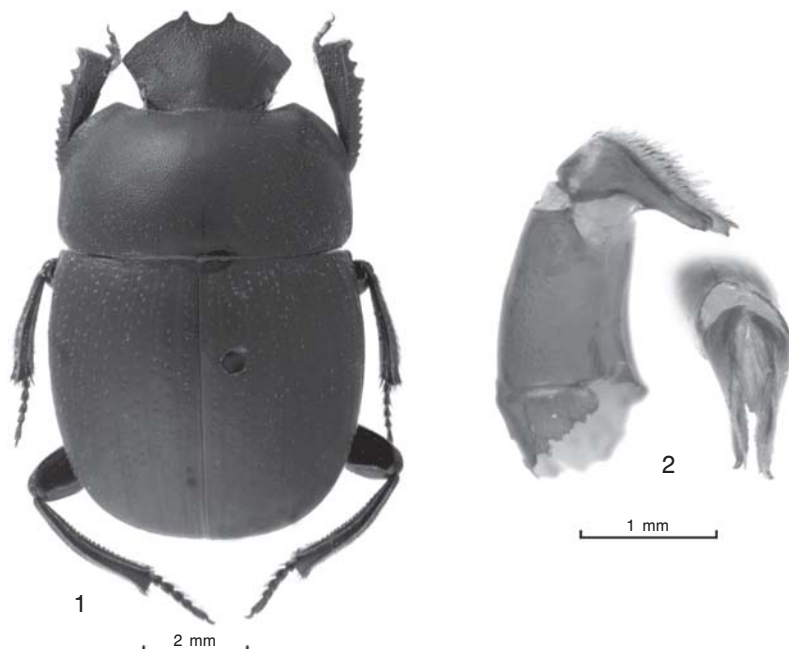
Recently I had the opportunity to examine a male specimen from Namibia which fit well the diagnosis of the genus *Namakwanus* but represent a species clearly different from *N. irishi* Scholtz and Howden. This species is described below.

Aedeagus of the beetle was cleaned in 10% KOH solution, rinsed in distilled water, and air-dried. Author's remarks are in square brackets.

NAMAKWANUS STREYI NEW SPECIES (FIGS. 1, 2)

Description

Holotype, male (Fig. 1). Upper side of body punctate, somewhat shagreened, blackish brown, lateral parts of clypeus and pronotum slightly paler. Body length 10.1 mm, width 6.0 mm.



Figs. 1-2. *Namakwanus streyi* sp. n. 1. habitus of the holotype; 2. parameres in dorsal and lateral view.

Head. Anterior margin of clypeus with two small teeth, sinuate medially, with fine border. Genae angulate, faintly separated from anterior clypeal margin. Frontoclypeal and genal sutures indistinct. Dorsal surface regularly, sparsely punctate in the middle with punctures becoming larger and denser laterally and anteriorly.

Pronotum convex, with subparallel sides, width twice greater than length. Lateral and anterior margins of pronotum bordered, base not bordered. Punctures rounded on disc becoming elongated laterally.

Elytra without humeral umbones. Each elytron with 10 feebly marked striae. Elytral intervals flat, sparsely punctate (punctures separated by 1-2 puncture diameters).

Metathoracic wings reduced.

Legs. Anterior tibia with short, conical spur and three short outer teeth, margin basad of teeth serrate. Apical part of anterior tibia setose dorsally. Lateral margins of middle and hind tibiae curved. Inner margins of posterior tibiae serrate.

Underside. Abdominal sternites with small lateral depressions. Meso- and metasterna with fine punctuation.

Aedeagus. Parameres with strongly sclerotized, hook-shaped apices and rows of long setae (Fig. 2). Internal sac with sub-symmetrically located spinules, without larger sclerites.

Diagnosis

This species differs from *N. irishi* in having relatively wide pronotum with regular punctuation and less depressed anterior angles, clypeus with two small teeth, somewhat rectangular and slightly

depressed elytra, regularly serrate inner margin of posterior tibiae, and straight keel on the dorsal surface of anterior tibiae. It also differs in its larger size and in the shape of parameres.

Type material. Holotype ♂ with the printed label “Bullspoor [Bullspoor: 16°22'E, 24°8'S], S.W.A. [South-West Africa: Namibia], R. G. Strey [leg.]” (Transvaal Museum, Pretoria, South Africa — TMSA).

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