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Description of a new *Danacaea* from Calabria (Italy) (Col., Dasytidae)

by G. Liberti

Abstract: A new species of *Danacaea*, *D. scyllea* n. sp., is described from Aspromonte, Calabria, Italy and characteristics distinguishing it from related species are discussed.

***Danacaea scyllea* n. sp.**

Figs 1–2.

Description: A *Danacaea* with the pronotal hairs all parallel and pointing apically, belonging to the 1st group of SCHILSKY (1897). The aedeagus of *D. scyllea* (Figs 1–2) is clearly different from all others of this group (LIBERTI, 1978), mainly by its rounded apex, without deep emargination.

♂. Antennae rather short, distinctly clubbed, 3rd and 4th segments longer than wide, 5th segment a little longer than wide, 6th, 7th and 8th as wide as long, 9th and 10th wider than long. Forehead nearly flat, not impressed. Pronotal sides enlarged, fairly rounded, slightly angular. Elytra shorter (compared to the body length) than in related species (*ambigua* Muls., *aurichalcea* Küst., *trinacriae* Lib., *imperialis* Gené), a little enlarged in apical third; hairs whitish-yellow, rather short and thin, not obscuring dark green colour. Legs, antennae and mouth yellowish, antennal extremities darkened.

Length: 3–3.5 mm.

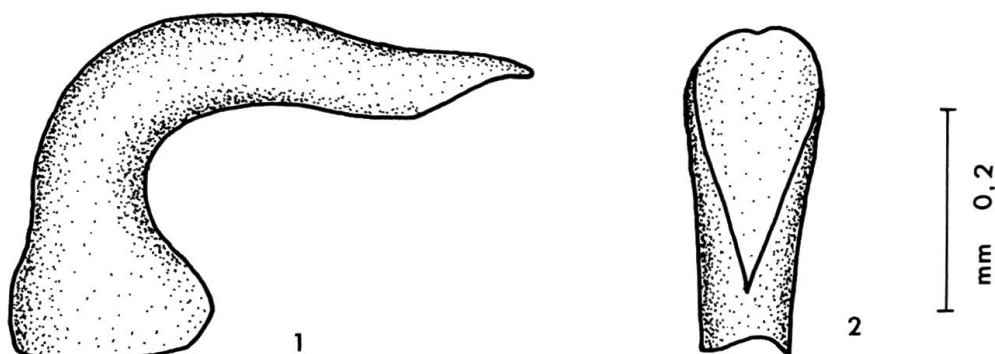
♀. Antennal segments with the same length/width ratio as in the male, but shorter and thicker. Elytra distinctly bellied. Overall body colour as in the male.

Length: 3.8–4.5 mm.

Types: Holotype ♂ and allotype ♀ (coll. W. Wittmer). Locality: Calabria, Sante Eufemia, leg. Paganetti. 1 paratype ♂ and 1 paratype ♀ (Museo di Storia Naturale, Milano), same locality. 1 paratype ♂ (Museo di Storia Naturale, Genova). Locality: Aspromonte (RC), Portella Zagaria 24/27.V.1971, leg. G. Bartoli.

Etymology: *scyllea* from a mythological creature related to the Aspromonte ancient history.

Danacaea scyllea n. sp. can be distinguished from related species as follow: From *D. aurichalcea* Küst. by the shorter elytra and by the shorter and wider antennae; the latter may be seen fairly well in antennal segments 5th to 7th of the female and 5th to 10th of the male; from



Figs 1–2: *Danacaea scyllea* n.sp., holotype. 1, Aedeagus, lateral aspect. 2, Aedeagus, ventral aspect.

ambigua Muls. by the less angular pronotal sides and the shorter elytra; and from *trinacriae* Lib., *leonardii* Lib. and *imperialis* Gené by the wider head, more bulging eyes, and sharper apex of the elytra. As usual in the genus *Danacaea*, an accurate determination must take into account the aedeagus.

All five specimens I have seen of this species came from Aspromonte, Calabria. Worth noting, up to now I have seen no other 1st group *Danacaea* from this locality.

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