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## Two new *Hydrovatus* species described from Kenya and Indonesia (Coleoptera, Dytiscidae)

(Contribution to the study of Dytiscidae 64)

by **O. Biström**

**Abstract:** *Hydrovatus brancuccii* n. sp. is described from Kenya and *H. felixi* n. sp. from Java, Indonesia. Diagnostic features are given for both species. Some new faunistic records are also provided.

**Key words:** Coleoptera – Dytiscidae – *Hydrovatus* – taxonomy – new species – Kenya – Indonesia.

After having submitted the manuscript of the revision of the genus *Hydrovatus* Motschulsky I have received additional material belonging to the same genus. Recently I surveyed the large material deposited in the Basle Natural History Museum (coll. Brancucci), Switzerland. This study resulted in the detection of two new species – the descriptions of which are given below – and to some new faunistic records also listed.

### Descriptions

***Hydrovatus brancuccii* n.sp.**

Figs 1–7.

Type locality: Matiri (Mituguu), Meru Distr., Kenya.

Type material: Holotype, male: Matiri (Mituguu) 8.XI. 83, 800 m./ Meru Distr. R. Mourgalia (in coll. Brancucci, Basle Museum). – Paratypes: Same as holotype (5 exx. coll. Brancucci, 3 exx. Zool. Mus. Helsinki, Finland).

Diagnosis: The new species belongs to species group 4 (sp. gr. *confossus*) as defined by BISTRÖM (1996/1997). The status of this species group is far from settled, and possibly it needs further splitting. *H. brancuccii* n.sp. is probably most closely related to *H. absonus* Guignot and *H. asemus* Biström. *H. brancuccii* is separated from *H. absonus* by having distinctly finer and sparser elytral punctation and from *H. asemus* by the almost straight to evenly curved apex of the penis (lateral aspect) and by its distinct although fine elytral punctation. In *H. asemus* the penis apex is slightly sinuate,

and elytral punctation is somewhat indistinct. See also BISTRÖM (1996/1997).

Description (only differences from the redescription of *H. absonus* in BISTRÖM (1996/1997) are recognized)

Body somewhat elongated (Fig. 1). Length 2.08–2.28 mm, breadth 1.22–1.28 mm.

Head: Brownish, anteriorly with a vague, somewhat paler area. Punctation hardly visible, sparse and irregularly distributed. Frontal aspect of head: Fig. 2. Antenna: Fig. 3.

Elytra: Finely and somewhat sparsely punctate. Epipleuron with a few indistinct punctures, microsculptured and submat.

Ventral side: Prosternal process laterally quite distinctly margined; medial surface almost flat (a little convex) and impunctate.

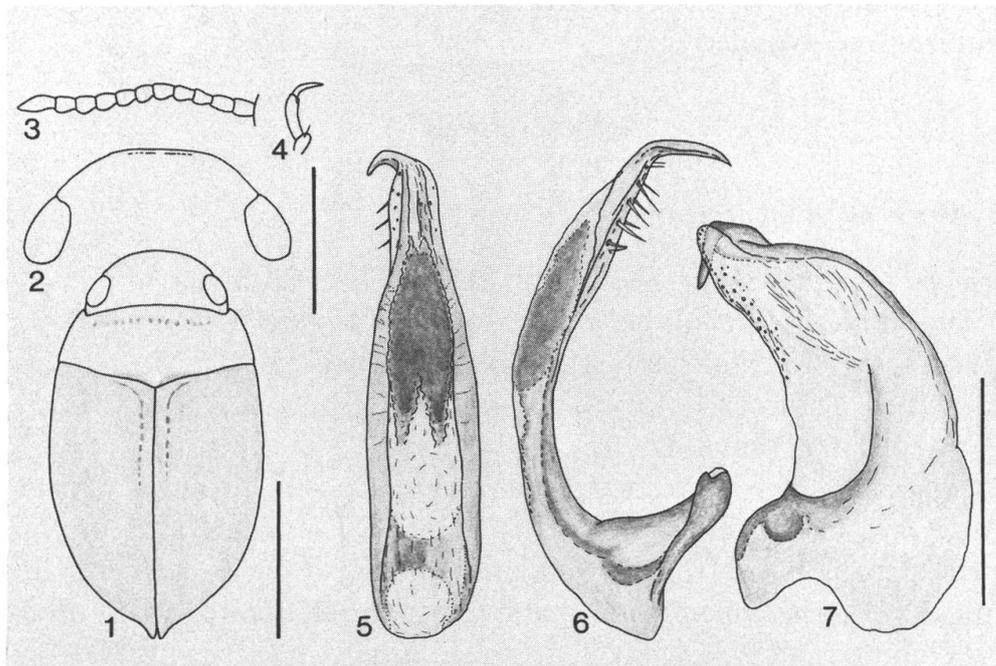
Legs: Pro- (Fig. 4) and mesotarsal claws slightly prolonged.

Male genitalia: Fig. 5–7.

Female: Externally almost as male but pro- and mesotarsal claws slightly shorter.

Biology: Collected at an altitude of 800 m. a.s.l.

Distribution: Kenya.



Figs. 1–7. *Hydrovatus brancuccii* n. sp.: 1, habitus. 2, head. 3, male antenna. 4, male protarsal claw. 5, penis, dorsal aspect. 6, penis, lateral aspect. 7, paramere. Left bottom scale 1 mm, habitus; left top scale 0.5 mm, head, antenna, claw; right scale 0.3 mm, genitalia.

**Hydrovatus felixi** n.sp.

Figs 8–13.

Type locality: Batavia (Djakarta), Java, Indonesia.

Type material: Holotype, male: Batavia Biro 1898/*Hydrovatus* n.sp. Dr. Guignot det. 1956 (in coll. Brancucci, Basle Museum). – Paratype, male: Same as holotype (1 ex. in Zool. Mus. Helsinki).

Diagnosis: The new species belongs to the species group 14 (sp.gr. *confertus*) as defined by BISTRÖM (1996/1997). In male antenna *H. felixi* is most similar to *H. obtusus* Motschulsky (also with the fourth to sixth segments broadest). Elytra of *H. obtusus* are, however, mat to submat, and reticulation is distinct, while in *H. felixi* elytra are quite shiny and reticulation is weakly developed, in part almost obliterated. Size of body is also in part different: The length of *H. obtusus* is 2.44–2.68 mm.

Description (only differences from redescription of *H. confertus* Sharp in BISTRÖM (1996) recognized).

Habitus (Fig. 8).

Head: Although distinctly microsculptured, head somewhat shiny. Frontal aspect of head: Fig. 9. Antenna with segments four to six somewhat enlarged, equally broad. From sixth segment towards apical segment antenna gradually becoming narrower (Fig. 10).

Pronotum: Discal punctation not distinctly sparser than puncture at pronotal edges. Somewhat shiny although distinctly microsculptured.

Elytra: Punctation distinct, fine to somewhat coarse. Punctures not especially dense (distance between punctures from about diameter of single puncture to three times the diameter of one puncture). Rather shiny, finely microsculptured (meshes in part almost obliterated). Epipleural punctures concentrated at inner half. Epipleural reticulation hardly visible.

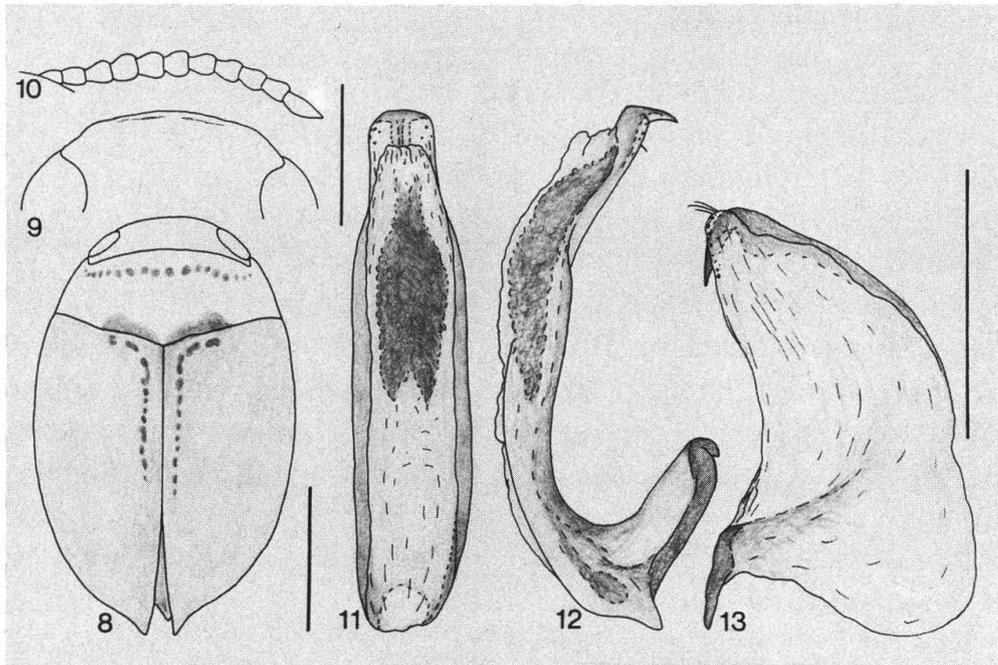
Ventral side: Punctation rather fine to fine, fairly dense to sparse. Abdomen almost impunctate. Shiny to rather shiny, finely reticulated. Stridulatory apparatus with rather minute but clearly discernible ridges, which number 10–12 per file. Ventro-medial surface of prosternal process with hardly visible punctures.

Male genitalia: Figs. 11–13.

Female: Unknown.

Biology: Unknown.

Distributuion: Java, Indonesia.



Figs. 8–13. *Hydrovatus felixi* n.sp. 8, habitus. 9, head. 10, male antenna. 11, penis, dorsal aspect. 12, penis, lateral aspect. 13, paramere. Left bottom scale 1 mm, habitus; left top scale 0.5 mm, head, antenna; right scale 0.4 mm, genitalia.

### New faunistic records

Sp. gr. 4 (sp.gr. *confossus*)

**Hydrovatus maai** Biström: Tonkin Central (2 exx. coll. Brancucci).  
New for Vietnam.

Sp. gr. 6 (sp.gr. *pumilus*)

**Hydrovatus saundersi** Biström: E Borneo, Kariovang (3 exx. coll. Brancucci, 1 ex, Zool. Mus. Helsinki). New for Indonesia.

Sp. gr. 11 (sp.gr. *oblongipennis*)

**Hydrovatus guignotianus** Guignot: Cote d'Ivoire/Camp bei Kafolo Comoé 28.IV. 1988, 9.37E, 4.20W (1 ex. coll. Brancucci). New for the Ivory Coast.

Sp. gr. 12 (sp.gr. *villiersi*)

**Hydrovatus villiersi** Guignot: Namibia/Nkasa Isl. 2–3.XI. 87 E Capriwi 18.27S, 23.36E (1 ex. coll. Brancucci). New for Namibia.

Sp. gr. 13 (sp.gr. *pulcher*)

**Hydrovatus balneator** Guignot: Cote d'Ivoire/Camp bei Kafolo/Comoé 28.IV. 1988, 9.37N, 4.20W (1 ex. coll. Brancucci). New for the Ivory Coast.

**Hydrovatus pulcher** Gschwendtner: Cameroun Foumbot 6.IX. 1966 (1 ex. coll. Brancucci); Ngounderé 17.VII. 1969 (1 ex. coll. Brancucci); Enama Obala 16.V. 1970 (1 ex. coll. Brancucci, 1 ex. Zool. Mus. Helsinki. New for Cameroon.

Sp. gr. 14 (sp.gr. *confertus*)

**Hydrovatus agathodaemon** Biström: Thailand I.–15. 1979 W. Thien/Tap Tan 20 km WNW Uthai Thani 260 km NW Bangkok (2 exx. coll. Brancucci, 1 ex. Zool. Mus. Helsinki).

**Reference**

BISTRÖM, O. (1996/1997): *Taxonomic revision of the genus Hydrovatus Motschulsky (Coleoptera, Dytiscidae)*. Entomologica Basiliensia 19: 57–584.

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