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## Further observations on the tribe Ancyronini Kolibáč, 2006 (Coleoptera, Trogossitidae, Peltinae)

by Jiří Kolibáč

**Abstract.** The genus *Latolaeva* Reitter, 1876 (type species: *Latolaeva ferrarii* Reitter, 1876) is synonymized with the genus *Ancyrona* Reitter, 1876 (type species: *Ancyrona lewisi* Reitter, 1876). Several species-groups are established within the genus *Ancyrona*: *lewisi*-group, *gabonica*-group, *japonica*-group, *colobicoides*-group, and *endroedyi*-group. Two new species are described: *Ancyrona endroedyi* sp.nov. and *A. muelleriae* sp.nov. *Ancyrona colobicoides* (Fairmaire, 1868) comb.nov., *A. fairmairii* (Léveillé, 1903) comb.nov. and *A. minor* (Fairmaire, 1900) comb.nov. are transferred from *Ostoma* Laicharting, 1781 (now *Peltis* O. F. Müller, 1764) to *Ancyrona* (all three species were originally described in *Gaurambe* Léveillé, 1889). The related genus *Afrocyrona* gen.nov. is established for three new species: *Afrocyrona ciskeiensis* sp.nov., *A. dwesae* sp.nov. (type species), and *A. gussmannae* sp.nov. Keys the South African species of *Ancyrona* and *Afrocyrona* gen.nov. are provided.

**Keywords.** Coleoptera – Trogossitidae – Peltinae – Ancyronini – *Ancyrona* – *Afrocyrona* gen.nov. – new species – species groups

### Introduction

The tribe Ancyronini was established by KOLIBÁČ (2006). Apart from the type genus, it contains the genera *Grynomia* Sharp, 1877 (New Zealand), *Leptonyxa* Reitter, 1876 (tropical South America) and *Neaspis* Pascoe, 1872 (Australia). The final genus *Latolaeva* Reitter, 1876 is synonymized in this communication.

The Ancyronini is considered the most advanced group in the subfamily Peltinae. Its representatives are adapted for a predatory way of life (largely adroit and rapid flyers with elevate eyes and mandible without mola). They resemble members of the subfamily Trogossitinae in some features.

The type genus *Ancyrona* Reitter, 1876 is one of the largest and the most widespread genera of the Trogossitidae. It is distributed through five continents, including two records in South America. Its morphological features therefore vary widely and its classification remains in some disarray. This communication may serve as a first step towards clarifying the taxonomy of *Ancyrona*.

### Abbreviations

|      |       |                                                             |
|------|-------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| HNHM | ..... | Hungarian Natural History Museum, Budapest, Hungary         |
| MHNG | ..... | Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle, Geneva, Switzerland            |
| MMJK | ..... | Moravian Museum, Jiří Kolibáč coll., Brno, Czech Republic   |
| TMNH | ..... | Transvaal Museum of Natural History, Pretoria, South Africa |

### Genus *Ancyrona* Reitter, 1876

**Type species:** *Ancyrona lewisi* Reitter, 1876 (designated by KOLIBÁČ 1993).

*Latolaeva* Reitter, 1876: 51. **syn.nov.** [Type species: *Latolaeva ferrarii* Reitter, 1876 (designated by KOLIBÁČ 2005).]

**Material examined.** Fifteen species of *Ancyrona* and three species of the former *Latolaeva*, including both type species.

**Description.** Descriptions and illustrations of *Ancyrona lewisi* Reitter, 1876, *A. japonica* (Reitter, 1889), *A. diversa* (Pic, 1921), *A. kosnovskorum* Kolibáč, 2005 and *Latolaeva incensa* Olliff, 1883 are included in KOLIBÁČ (2005), a character state matrix appears in KOLIBÁČ (2006).

**Distribution.** Japan, China, India, Sri Lanka, south-eastern Asia, East Siberia, Balkans and Central Europe, Madagascar, Africa south of the equator (Cameroon, Congo, Gabon, Ghana, South Africa); Australia (Queensland, New South Wales), New Guinea.

*Ancyrona extensa* Reitter, 1877: Colombia (Bogota). One specimen studied in Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris – unicolorous species with relatively compact, 3-segmented antennal club. Indubitably a member of *Ancyrona*; perhaps mislabelled or introduced.

*Ancyrona pygmea* Lèveillé, 1907: Argentina. Not studied. Perhaps mislabelled or introduced.

“*Latolaeva*” *brasilica* Perty, 1830: Brazil (Minas Geraes). Probably not a member of Cleroidea (see REITTER 1876: 51).

## THE SPECIES-GROUPS OF *ANCYRONA*

### *lewisi* species-group (Figs 1–2)

**Species.** *Ancyrona lewisi* Reitter, 1876, *A. shibatai* Nakane, 1963, *A. haroldi* Reitter, 1877, and numerous undescribed species from south and eastern Asia and New Guinea.

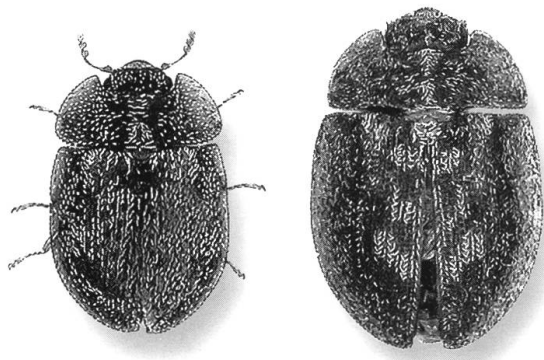


Fig. 1. *lewisi*-group: Sp. 1 (undetermined).

Fig. 2. *lewisi*-group: Sp. 2 (undetermined).

**Photographs.** Sp. 1 (undetermined) (Fig. 1): “Malaysia-W, Perak / 25 km NE of IPOH, 2100 m / Banjaran Titi Wangsa mts. / KORBU mt., 4.–13.iii. / 1998, P. Čechovský leg.” (MMJK). Sp. 2 (undetermined) (Fig. 2): “NEW GUINEA: Wau, Bishop / Museum, Field Station, / 15.–25.IV.1965” “Coll. Dr. J. BALOGH et / Dr. J. J. SZENT-IVANY” (HNHM).

**Distribution.** Japan, China, south-eastern Asia.

**Diagnosis.** Small, flat, broad, oval species. Dorsal surface with colour pattern formed by scales or rigid decumbent setae.

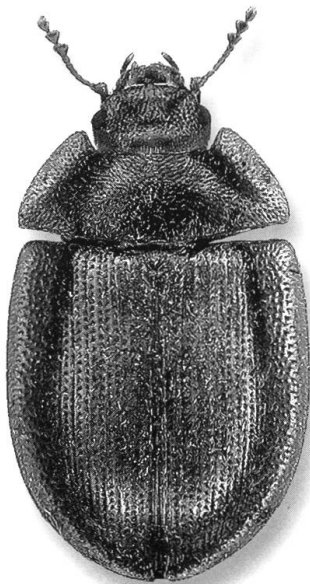
***gabonica* species-group** (Figs 3–5)

**Species.** *Ancyrona gabonica* Lèveillé, 1899, *A. ferrarii* (Reitter, 1876) comb.nov. (*Latolaeva*), *A. vicina* Lèveillé, 1899, *A. bivittata* (Lèveillé, 1899) comb.nov. (*Latolaeva*), *A. feai* Lèveillé, 1905, *A. incensa* (Olliff, 1883) comb.nov. (*Latolaeva*), *A. martini* Lèveillé, 1899, *A. plana* Lèveillé, 1902, and numerous undescribed species from eastern Asia and tropical Africa.

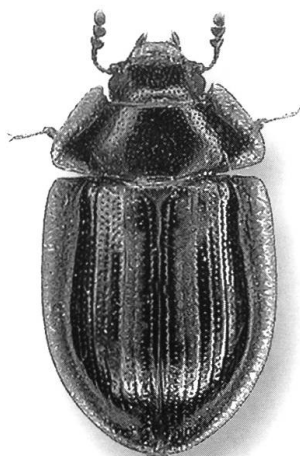
**Photographs.** *Ancyrona gabonica* (Fig. 3): “GHANA: Ashanti region / Abofour, Opro river / 320 m, N 7 07 – W 1 48 / Dr. S. ENDRÖDY-YOUNGA” “Nr. 153 / singling / 8.IV.1966” (HNHM). *Ancyrona bivittata* (Fig. 4): “GHANA: Ashanti region / Ofinso / 259 m, N 6 54 – W 1 39 / Dr. S. ENDRÖDY-YOUNGA” “Nr. 62 – singled / from bark / 4.IX.1965” (HNHM). *Ancyrona ferrarii* (Fig. 5): “Borneo / Brunei” (MMJK).

**Distribution.** Tropical Africa, south-eastern Asia and probably also Australia.

**Diagnosis.** Extremely flat, broad, oval species without scales and lacking decumbent pubescence on dorsal surface; dorsal side quite bare or with inconspicuous or erect pubescence. Some species with longitudinal colour stripes on elytra; stripes not formed by pubescence or scales. Antennal club very loose, nearly serrate. Tegmen in 2–3 parts.



**Fig. 3.** *gabonica*-group: *A. gabonica* (Lèveillé).



**Fig. 4.** *gabonica*-group: *A. bivittata* (Lèveillé).



**Fig. 5.** *gabonica*-group: *A. ferrarii* (Reitter).

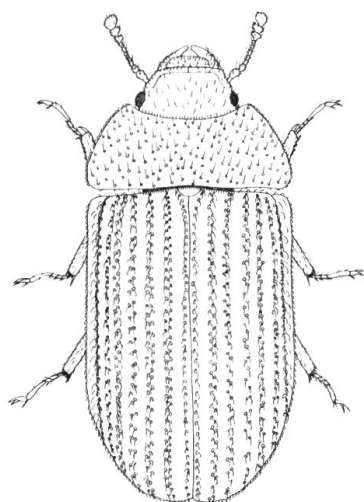


Fig. 6. *japonica*-group: *A. japonica* (Reitter).



Fig. 7. *japonica*-group: *A. diversa* (Pic).

### *japonica* species-group (Figs 6, 7)

**Species.** *Ancyrona japonica* (Reitter, 1889), *A. diversa* (Pic, 1921).

**Illustration.** *Ancyrona japonica* (Fig. 6): “Czechoslovakia, S Slovakia, Kováčovské kopce Hills, Kamenica n. Hronom, 13.6.1987, from branch of Quercus, M. Bednařík leg.” (M. Bednařík, Olomouc, private coll.). *Ancyrona diversa* (Fig. 7): “KOREA, Prov. Gang-von / district On-dzong, / Kum-gang san, near / Hotel Gosong, 250 m” “No. 315. / 4 August 1975 / leg. J. Papp / et A. Vojnits” ((HNHM).

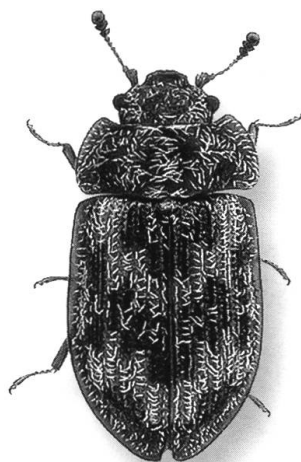
**Distribution.** Japan, northern China, Ussuri. *A. japonica* also in south-eastern and central Europe (from Bulgaria through Hungary to Slovakia); first European record 1904.

**Diagnosis.** Rather elongate unicolorous species with long, soft pubescence on dorsal surface. Tegmen composed of 1–2 parts (parameres fused with phallobase), male abdominal segments IX–X more or less reduced.

### *colobicoides* species-group (Figs 8–10)

**Species.** *Ancyrona colobicoides* (Fairmaire, 1868) comb.nov., *A. fairmairi* (Léveillé, 1903) comb.nov., *A. kosnovskorum* Kolibáč, 2005, *A. minor* (Fairmaire, 1900) comb.nov.

**Photographs.** *Ancyrona colobicoides* (Fig. 7): “Antanambé, / baie d’Antougil / III. IV. 97 / A. Mocquers)” (MMJK). *Ancyrona fairmairi* (Fig. 8): “Madagascar / Tamatave distr. / Moramanga env. / 14.–18.12.1995 / Ivo Jeniš leg.” (MHNG). *Ancyrona kosnovskorum* (Fig. 9): “Madagascar / Tamatave distr. / Moramanga env. / 24.2.–1.3.1995 / Ivo Jeniš coll.” (MHNG).



**Fig. 8.** *colobicoides*-group: *A. colobicoides* (Fairmaire).

**Fig. 9.** *colobicoides*-group: *A. fairmairi* (Léveillé).

**Fig. 10.** *colobicoides*-group: *A. kosnovskorum* Kolibáč.

**Distribution.** Madagascar.

**Diagnosis.** Flat, elongate species with conspicuously elevate eyes and compact 3-segmented club. Yellowish elytra with dark black-brown pattern (stripes, spots), pubescence short and decumbent. Primitive tegmen composed of 3 parts. Elytra with distinct carinae. Some features of this species-group resemble the genus *Leptonyxa* Reitter, 1876 from tropical South America.

**Note.** *Ancyrona maculipennis* (Kraatz, 1878) (South Africa: “near Bawankitzi”) may be also a member of this species-group.

***Ancyrona colobicoides* (Fairmaire, 1868) comb.nov.**

(Fig. 8)

*Gaurambe colobicoides* Fairmaire, 1868: *Annales de la Société entomologique de France* **VIII**(4): 777.

*Ostoma colobicoides*: LÉVEILLÉ (1910): *Coleopterorum Catalogus*, Pars 11: 30.

**Material examined.** 1 specimen: “Madagascar / I.1956 / C. Koch leg.” “Manjakatampo For. / Ambatolampy Distr.” (HNHM); 1 specimen: “Antanambé / baie d’Antougil / III. IV. 97 / (A. Mocquerys)” (MMJK).

***Ancyrona fairmairii* (Léveillé, 1903) comb.nov.** (Fig. 9)

*Gaurambe fairmairii* Léveillé, 1903: *Bulletin de la Société entomologique de France* (1903): 107.

*Ostoma fairmairii*: LÉVEILLÉ (1910): *Coleopterorum Catalogus*, Pars 11: 30.

**Material examined.** 3 specimens: "Madagascar / Tamatave distr. / Moramanga env. / 14.–18.12.1995 / Ivo Jeniš leg." (MHNG).

***Ancyrona kosnovskorum* Kolibáč, 2005** (Fig. 10)

*Ancyrona kosnovskorum* Kolibáč, 2005: *Entomologica Basiliensia et Collectionis Frey* 27: 46.

**Note.** This species may be synonymous with *Ancyrona colobicoides*; however, only two specimens, of dubious determination, have been examined. Type specimens of the latter species have not yet been studied.

***Ancyrona minor* (Fairmaire, 1900) comb.nov.**

*Gaurambe minor* Fairmaire, 1900: *Bulletin de la Société entomologique de France* (1900): 135.

*Ostoma minor*: LÉVEILLÉ (1910): *Coleopterorum Catalogus*, Pars 11: 31.

**Note.** Only a description of the species studied.

***endroedyi* species-group** (Figs 11–12)

**Species.** *Ancyrona endroedyi* sp.nov., *A. muelleriae* sp.nov., *A. caffra* Reitter, 1876 (?).

**Photographs.** See individual species.

**Distribution.** South Africa.

**Diagnosis.** Body rather elongate (as in *japonica*-group), with long, soft, erect hairs or short, decumbent, scale-like setae. Dorsal surface unicolorous or with pattern formed by pubescence. Radial cell completely or partly reduced. Tegmen in 2–3 parts. Elytra with more or less conspicuous carinae.

***Ancyrona endroedyi* sp.nov.** (Pl. 1, Fig. 11)

**Material examined.** Holotype male and 1 paratype: "S. Afr., N. Transvaal – Mmabolela estate – 22,40 S – 28,15 E"; "8.3.1973, E-Y 27 / mercury vap. light / leg. Endrödy-Younga" (TMNH).

**Description.** Dorsal surface dark brown or black-brown; pubescence formed of long, soft, pale hairs; head and pronotum scarcely finely punctate, elytra conspicuously and regularly punctate.

Head: Gular sutures short, convergent; frontoclypeal suture inconspicuous. Eyes relatively large, elevate. Antennae 10-segmented, with loose 3-segmented club. Last joints of both maxillary and labial palpi coniform.

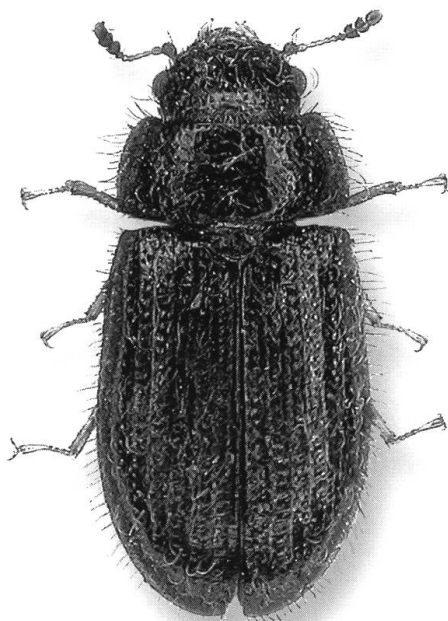


Fig. 11. *endroedyi*-group: *Ancyrona endroedyi* sp.nov.

Thorax: Front and middle coxal cavities externally widely open. Lateral edge not distinctly dentate. Metasternum with distinct discriminial line. Elytral epipleuron moderate, reaching apex of elytron. Wing medial field with single conspicuous vein (AA1+2); veins MP3 and MP4 indistinct; radial cell formed of pigmented plate only. Femora moderately clavate; tibiae with two spurs at apex, front tibia with large hooked spur; tarsal pattern 5–5–5.

Abdomen: Five to six sternites visible; male sternite VIII without spiculum gastrale; segment IX–X not fully developed, slightly reduced. Tegmen ventrally open, composed of 2–3 parts, parameres partially fused with phallobase; phallus slender.

Body size: 3.1–3.5 mm.

**Biology.** Gut with insect remnants. Both specimens attracted by light.

**Distribution.** South Africa: Transvaal.

**Derivatio nominis.** The new species is named in honour of Dr. Sebastian Endrödy-Younga, former head of the Department of Coleoptera at the Transvaal Museum of Natural History, Pretoria, and collector of the species.

**Differential diagnosis.** See key to species.

*Ancyrona muelleriae* sp.nov.

(Pl. 2, Fig. 12)

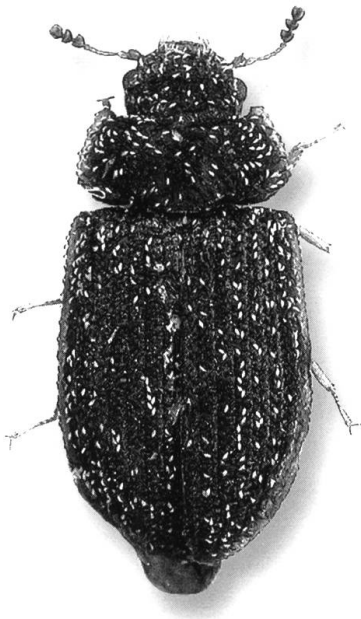
**Material examined.** Holotype male: “S. Afr.: Transvaal / Waterval Farm / 25.35 S – 28.16 E” and “6.11.1991 / light trap / leg. R. Dixon” (TMNH).

**Description.** Body dark brown; dorsal surface of whole body with pubescence composed of short, thick, rigid, black setae and whitish scale-like setae.

Head: Frontoclypeal suture inconspicuous; last joints of both maxillary and labial palpi coniform; eyes moderately elevate. Antennae 10-segmented with loose 3-segmented club, pedicel with tuft of rigid black hairs. Dorsal surface of head finely punctate, with both types of setae (black and whitish); setae grow from punctures.

Thorax: Front and middle coxal cavities externally widely open; metasternite with inconspicuous discriminial line; thorax smooth ventrally. Pronotum transverse, with sculpture similar to that on head; lateral edge dentate. Elytral epipleuron moderate, reaching apex of elytron. Elytra with approximately 7–9 double rows of punctures; rigid, short, black setae grow from them; whitish setae are irregularly and sparsely distributed. Wing with all four veins in medial field, radial cell developed. Femora slightly clavate; tibiae with several (*ca.* 8) spines along outer edge, with 2 spurs at apex (one of them hooked on front legs) and another 2–4 spines at apex. Tarsal pattern 5–5–5.

**Fig. 12.** *endroedyi*-group: *Ancyrona muelleriae* sp.nov.



Abdomen: Six sternites visible; 1 parasternite present. Tegmen ventrally open, composed of 3 distinct parts – parameres conspicuously separated from phallobase. Segments IX-X developed; sternite VIII without spiculum gastrale.

Body size: 3.6 mm.

**Biology.** Unknown, attracted by light.

**Distribution.** South Africa: Transvaal.

**Derivatio nominis.** The new species is named in honour of Ms Ruth Müller, curator of the entomological collections at the Transvaal Museum of Natural History, Pretoria.

**Differential diagnosis.** See key to species.

### Genus *Afrocyrona* gen.nov.

**Type species:** *Afrocyrona dwesae* sp.nov.

**Description.** Body convex, not flattened. Dorsal surface with scales or thick setae. Gular sutures convergent, frontoclypeal suture absent. Antennae 10- or 11-segmented with loose 3-segmented club. Labrum round with simple toral processes. Labium with semirigid ligula, last joint of palpi strongly coniform. Maxilla: basistipes connected with lacinia, galea and lacinia with stout setae; last joint of palpi large, coniform. Mandible without mola, with 2 apical teeth; large penicillus occurs at base of cutting edge; ventral ciliate furrow absent. Front and middle coxal cavities open; intercoxal process of prosternum dilated. Tibiae with single spur at apex; tarsal pattern 4-4-4 or 5-5-5. Coxitae with row of setae along base of coxital styli.

**Distribution.** South Africa: Eastern Cape.

**Derivatio nominis.** The name is a combination of Africa and Ancyrona, the gender feminine.

**Differential diagnosis.** The genus *Ancyrona* is a sister group. Antennae 10- or 11-segmented (always 10-segmented in *Ancyrona*, = apomorphy); body convex (oblate in *Ancyrona*, = plesiomorphy); head bent or somewhat hypognathous (rather prognathous in *Ancyrona*, = plesiomorphy); tarsal pattern 4-4-4 or 5-5-5 (always 5-5-5 in *Ancyrona*, = plesiomorphy); tegmen dorsally open (laterally or ventrally open in *Ancyrona*, state unclear); coxitae with conspicuous row of setae at apex (setae irregular in *Ancyrona*, = plesiomorphy).

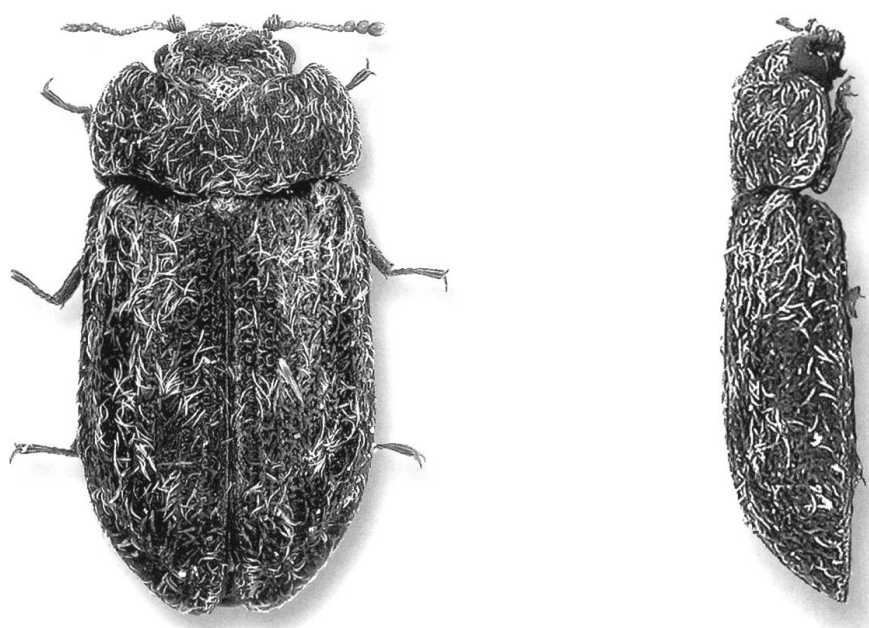


Fig. 13. *Afrocyrona ciskeiensis* sp.nov.: left – dorsally, right – laterally.

***Afrocyrona ciskeiensis* sp.nov.**

(Pls 3–4, Figs 13)

**Material examined.** Holotype female: “RSA, CISKEI / KING WILLIAM TOWN / ROOIKRANS DAM / 12.12.2002 / LGT. M. SNÍŽEK” (MMJK).

**Description.** Body not depressed as in *Ancyrona*; convex. Ventral and dorsal side dark brown, with indistinct lighter spots on elytra; dorsal surface regularly covered with very short, rigid setae and a light pattern formed by long, thick, decumbent hairs. Head and pronotum very finely punctate, elytral punctation regular and dense.

Head: Gular sutures strongly convergent; frontoclypeal suture inconspicuous. Eyes moderately elevate, medium-sized. Antennae 11-segmented with loose 3-segmented club. Labrum round with simple toral processes. Labium with semirigid ligula, prementum in two parts, last joint of palpi strongly coniform. Maxilla: basistipes connected with lacinia (suture inconspicuous), galea with stout setae, lacinia without dark thorns at apex but with row of very stout setae along outer margin; last joint of palpi large, coniform. Mandible without mola, with 2 apical teeth situated in a distinctly horizontal axis; penicillus composed of short, fine hairs growing out of a semi-rigid membrane situated at base of cutting edge; ventral ciliate furrow absent.

Thorax: Ventral surface nearly smooth, with sparse pubescence. Front coxal cavities externally half open, internally open; prosternal process dilated at apex; coxae

transverse; trochantin visible. Lateral edge sharp, not dentate. Pronotum transverse, not flat but rather convex. Mesocoxal cavities widely open; mesonotum transverse, oval. Discriminal line deep and conspicuous. Pronotum and elytra with pattern formed of long hairs which are distributed particularly along outer sides. Elytra with complete epipleura. Wing with all four veins in medial field, radial cell developed. Femora slightly clavate; tibiae with several (*ca.* 5) spines along outer edge, with a single distinct spur at apex (spur on front legs not distinctly hooked) and without spines at apex. Tarsal pattern 5–5–5. Claws without denticle, large empodium present.

Abdomen: Paratergite I present. Ovipositor medium-sized, coxitae with regular row of setae. Internal copulatory organs: spermatheca probably lost in processing, bursa copulatrix large. Female sternite VIII with long spiculum.

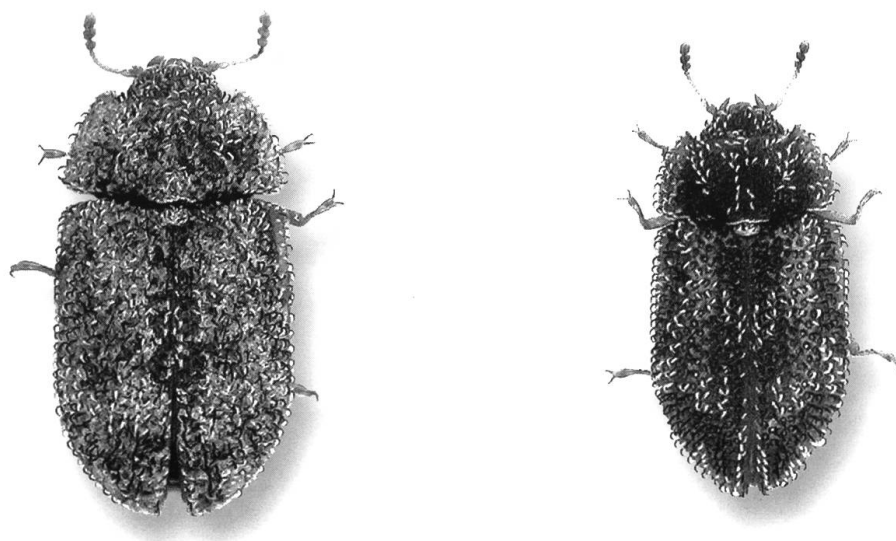
Body size: 5 mm.

**Biology.** Unknown, gut with probable insect fragments.

**Distribution.** South Africa: Eastern Cape.

**Derivatio nominis.** The name is derived from Ciskei, the type locality of the new species.

**Differential diagnosis.** See key to species.



**Fig. 14.** *Afrocyrona dwesae* sp.nov.: left – specimen with scales, right – specimen without scales.

***Afrocyrona dwesae* sp.nov.**

(Pls 5–9, Figs 14)

**Material examined.** Holotype male: “Transkei: coast / Dwesa for. res. / 32.17S – 28.50E”, “27.2.1985, E-Y 2173 / sift. fungous logs / leg. Endrödy-Younga”. Paratypes (24 exx): “Transkei: coast / Dwesa for. res. / 32.17S – 28.50E”, “27.2.1985, E-Y 2173 / sift. fungous logs / leg. Endrödy-Younga” and “Transkei: coast / Dwesa for. res. / 32.17S – 28.50E”, “27.2.1985, E-Y 2172 / beaten, indig. forest / leg. Endrödy-Younga”. Deposited in TMNH (holotype, 20 paratypes) and MMJK (4 paratypes).

**Description.** Body light brown, dorsal surface with stout, rigid, black and whitish setae and whitish scales.

**Head:** Gular sutures strongly convergent; frontoclypeal suture inconspicuous. Eyes moderately elevate, rather small, coarsely faceted. Dorsal surface of head with dense sculpture composed of small tubercles. Antennae 11-segmented with loose 3-segmented club. Labrum round with simple toral processes. Labium with semirigid ligula, last joint of palpi strongly coniform. Maxilla: basistipes connected with lacinia (suture inconspicuous), galea with stout setae, lacinia with two dark thorns at apex and stout setae along outer margin; last joint of palpi large, coniform. Mandible without mola, with 2 apical teeth; large penicillus occurs at base of cutting edge; ventral ciliate furrow absent.

**Thorax:** Ventral surface nearly smooth, without punctation and pubescence. Front coxal cavities externally half open, internally open; prosternal process dilated at apex; coxae transverse; trochantin visible. Lateral edge sharp, dentate. Pronotum transverse, sculpture same as that on head. Middle coxal cavities widely open. Mesonotum transverse, not triangular. Metendosternite, see Pl. 6. Discriminal line inconspicuous. Elytra with wide epipleura; punctation irregular, formed of large punctures; each elytron with whitish setae making up an indistinct pattern in the shape of an inverted letter ‘T’. Elytra mostly covered in whitish scales. Wing with indistinct venation; vein AP3+4 present in anal field and MP1+2 in medial field; without radial cell (only pigmented plate present); wings perhaps unsuitable for flight. Femora clavate; tibiae with single spur at apex, spur on front tibiae somewhat larger, very slightly hooked; without row of spines; claws lacking denticles; empodium distinct. Tarsal pattern 4–4–4.

**Abdomen:** Five to six sternites visible; male spiculum gastrale absent; male segment IX–X partly reduced. Tegmen dorsally open, composed of 1–2 parts; phallus slender. Ovipositor short, coxite with regular row of setae. Internal copulatory organs, see Pl. 6. Female sternite VIII with long spiculum, pygidium, see Pl. 6.

Body size: 2.9–3.1 mm.

**Biology.** Beaten from branches, sifted from rotten “fungous” log. Gut with detritus and what are perhaps several insect remnants. Probably fungivorous, perhaps occasionally predatory. Species may be unable to fly.

**Distribution.** South Africa: Eastern Cape.

**Derivatio nominis.** The name is derived from Dwesa, the type locality of the new species.

**Differential diagnosis.** See key to species.

*Afrocyrona gussmannae* sp.nov.

(Pl. 10, Fig. 15)

**Material examined.** Holotype female: "S.Afr., N. Transvaal / Nylsvley Met. Sta. / 24.40 S – 28.42 E" and "5.9.1975; E-Y: 879 / sifted litter / leg. Endrödy-Younga" (TMNH ).

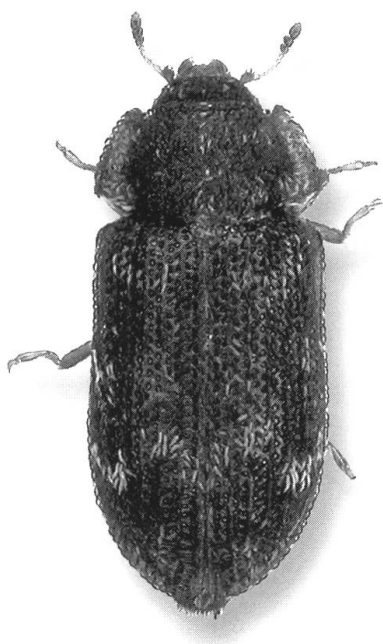


Fig. 15. *Afrocyrona gussmannae* sp.nov.

**Description.** Body brown, dorsal surface with dense vestiture of rigid, thick, black setae and pattern of whitish, scale-like setae.

**Head:** Frontoclypeal suture absent. Eyes rather flat. Last joint of maxillary palps cylindrical, not coniform. Antennae 10-segmented, with loose 3-segmented club; pedicel with tuft of rigid black setae. Frons densely punctate, anterior margin with several long, rigid, spine-like black hairs.

**Thorax:** Front and middle coxal cavities externally open; discriminial line conspicuous. Lateral edge dentate; pronotum depressed along lateral margin, centre of pronotum protuberant; pronotum transverse. Sculpture of pronotum similar to that on head; whitish setae sparsely distributed in central and lateral parts only. Epipleura relatively narrow, reaching elytral apex; elytra with simple rows of punctures; whitish scales form three indistinct transverse stripes.

**Femora** clavate, tibiae without spines along outer margin and without spines at apex; probably with single spur at tibial apex (spur not hooked on front pair of legs); tarsal pattern 4–4–4 (tarsomeres 1 and 2 fused or tarsomere 1 inserted into tibia and invisible). Wing with 4 veins in medial field; radial cell not developed, only pigmented plate present.

**Abdomen:** Six visible sternites, with one parasternite. Female internal copulatory organs with large bursa copulatrix. Coxitae with row of hairs at apex.

Body size: 3.9 mm.

**Biology.** Gut content inconspicuous. Species found in litter.

**Distribution.** South Africa: Transvaal.

**Derivatio nominis.** The new species is named in honour of my friend Mrs Sibylle Gussmann, the former curator of the entomological collections at the Transvaal Museum of Natural History, Pretoria.

**Differential diagnosis.** See key to species.

### A key to the South African genera of Ancyronini

1. Antennae 10- or 11-segmented; head rather hypognathous; body convex; tarsal pattern 4–4–4 or 5–5–5; tegmen dorsally open; coxitae with conspicuous row of setae at apex. .... *Afrocyrona* gen.nov.

- Antennae always 10-segmented; head rather prognathous; body dorsoventrally oblate; tarsal pattern always 5–5–5; tegmen laterally or ventrally open; coxitae irregularly pubescent at apex. ....  
..... *Ancyrona* Reitter, 1876

#### A key to the species of *Afrocyrona* gen.nov.

1. Tarsal pattern 4–4–4. Radial cell absent. Pronotum and elytra with coloured scales and/or short decumbent rigid setae. Body size about 3–4 mm. .... 2.
- Tarsal pattern 5–5–5. Radial cell present. Pronotum and elytra with long decumbent hairs, without scales. Body size about 5 mm; Figs 13. ....  
..... *Afrocyrona ciskeiensis* sp.nov.
2. Antennae 10-segmented. Wing membrane and venation somewhat reduced. Pronotum and elytra densely covered in large scales. Body size about 3 mm; Figs 14. .... *Afrocyrona dwesae* sp.nov.
- Antennae 11-segmented. Wing fully developed. Pronotum and elytra sparsely covered by slender, scale-like setae. Body size about 4 mm; Fig. 15. .... *Afrocyrona gussmannae* sp.nov.

#### A key to the South African species of *Ancyrona*

[The species *A. maculipennis*, *A. martini* and *A. caffra* are known to me only from descriptions.]

1. Unicolorous species. .... 2.
- Body reddish, with fine, yellowish pubescence. Brown-black spots present along scutellum and elytral margins; centre of elytra with elongate, triangular spot. Body size about 5 mm; perhaps *colobicoides*-group. .... *Ancyrona maculipennis* (Kraatz, 1878)
2. Larger species, about 5–6 mm. .... 3.
- Smaller species, about 3.5 mm. .... 4.
3. Body without pubescence, bare. [Body broadly oval. Dorsal surface black-brown; margins of pronotum red-brown.] Body size about 6 mm; *gabonica*-group. .... *Ancyrona martini* Léveillé, 1899
- Body with very fine, erect pubescence. [Body broadly oval. Dorsal surface red-brown.] Body size about 5 mm; perhaps *endroedyi*-group. ...  
..... *Ancyrona caffra* Reitter, 1876
4. Front corners of pronotum not extended anteriorly. Dorsal surface with long, fine, dense, erect pubescence (dorsal surface and body shape similar to *japonica*-group). [Body rather elongate, brown.] Body size about 3.5 mm; *endroedyi*-group; Fig. 11. ....  
..... *Ancyrona endroedyi* sp.nov.

- Front corners of pronotum extended anteriad. Dorsal surface with short, decumbent, sparse, scale-like setae. [Body rather elongate, dark brown.] Body size about 3.5 mm; *endroedyi*-group; Fig. 12. ....  
..... *Ancyrona muelleriae* sp.nov.

### Acknowledgements

My thanks are due to Mrs Sibylle Gussmann and Ms Ruth Müller for the loan of the material from the Transvaal Museum of Natural History, Pretoria, and to Mr Jakub Rolčík for a specimen of *A. ciskeiensis* sp.nov. from his collection. I am also grateful to my colleagues and friends Petr Baňář and Igor Malenovský for the SEM photography. Dr. Vladimír Švihla (National Museum, Prague) helped me to obtain old French literature.

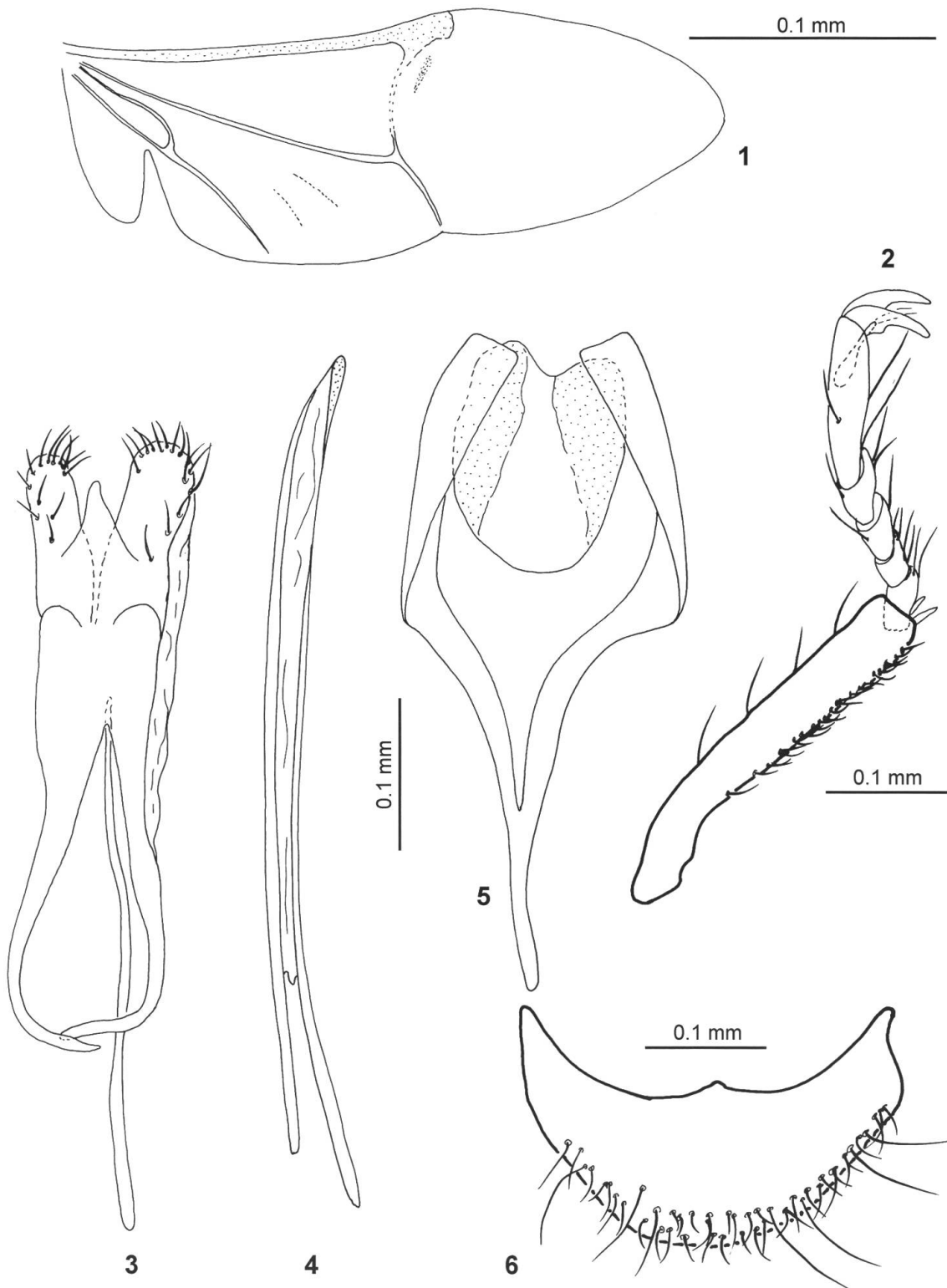
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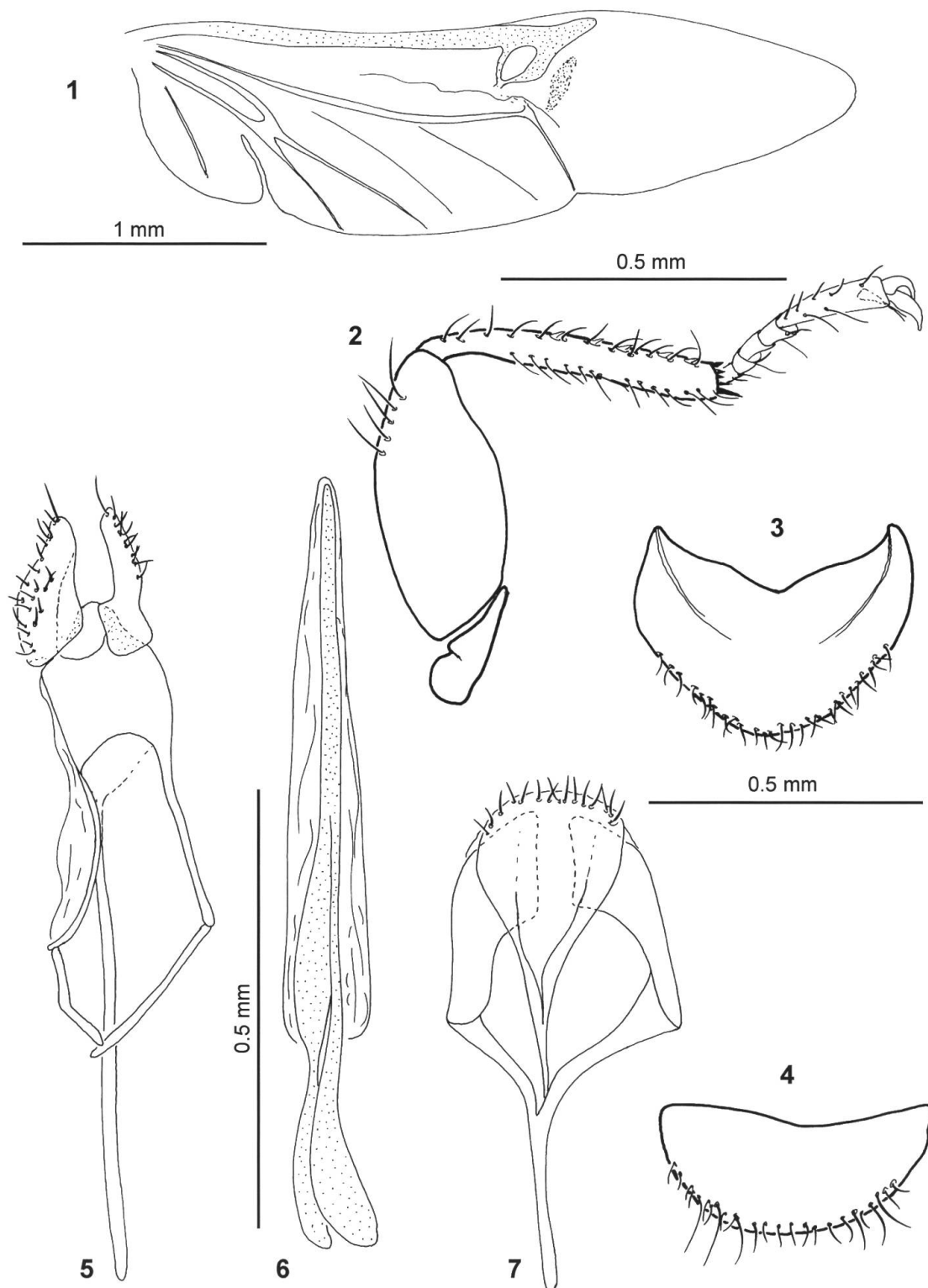
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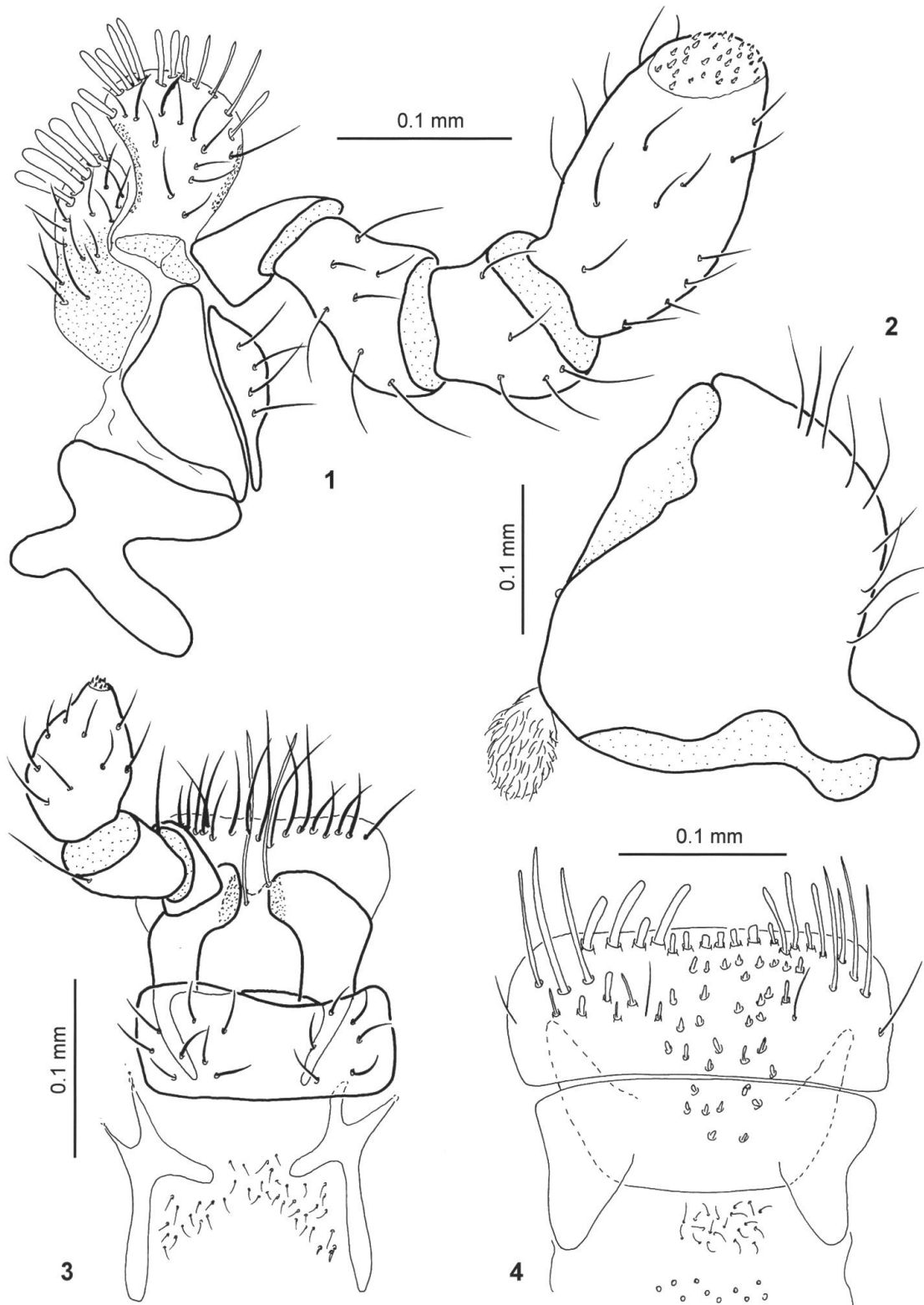
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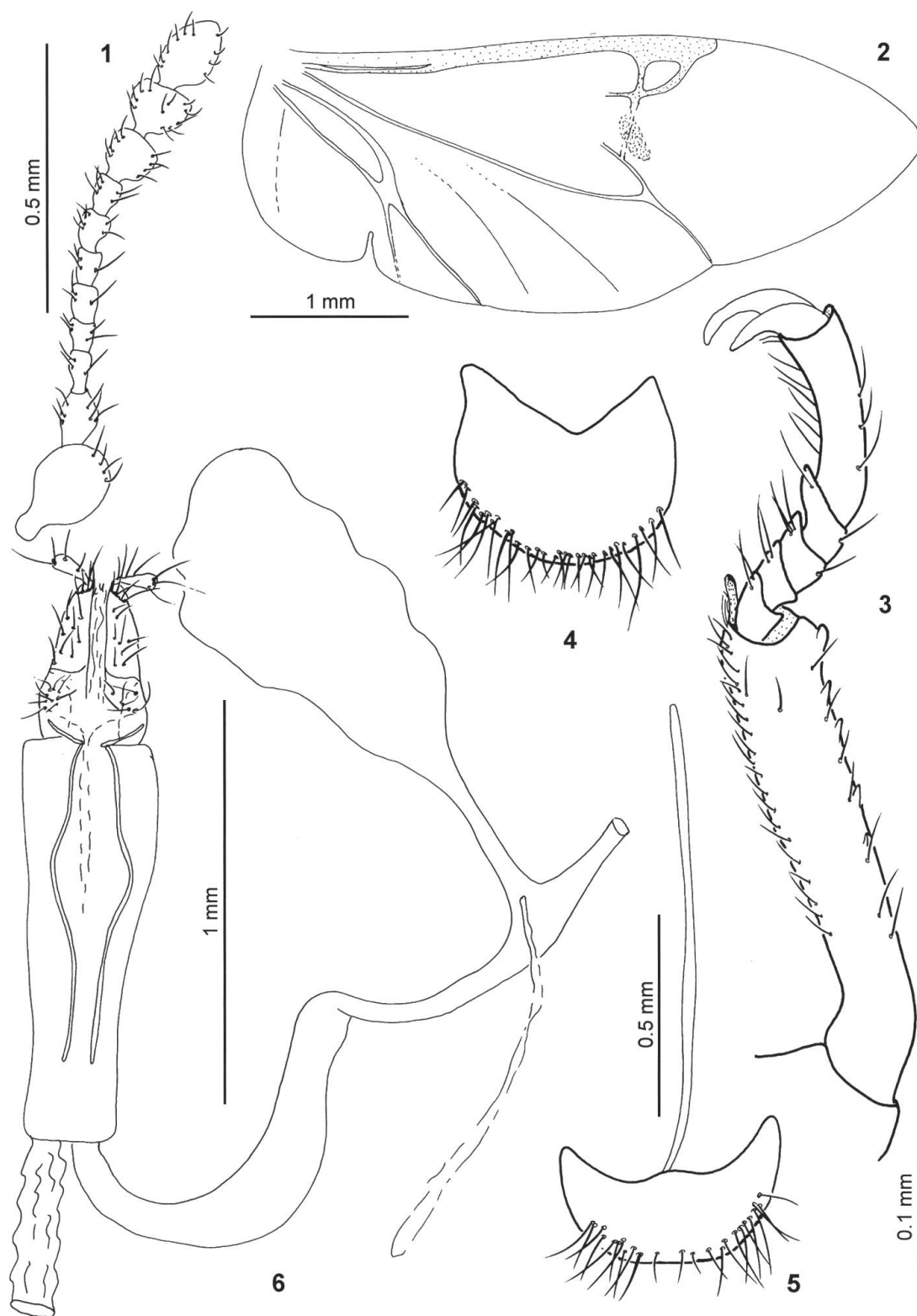
Pl. 1. *Ancyrona endroedyi* sp.nov.: 1 – wing, 2 – middle tibia and tarsus, 3 – tegmen ventrally, 4 – phallus, 5 – male abdominal segments IX–X, 6 – male sternite VIII.



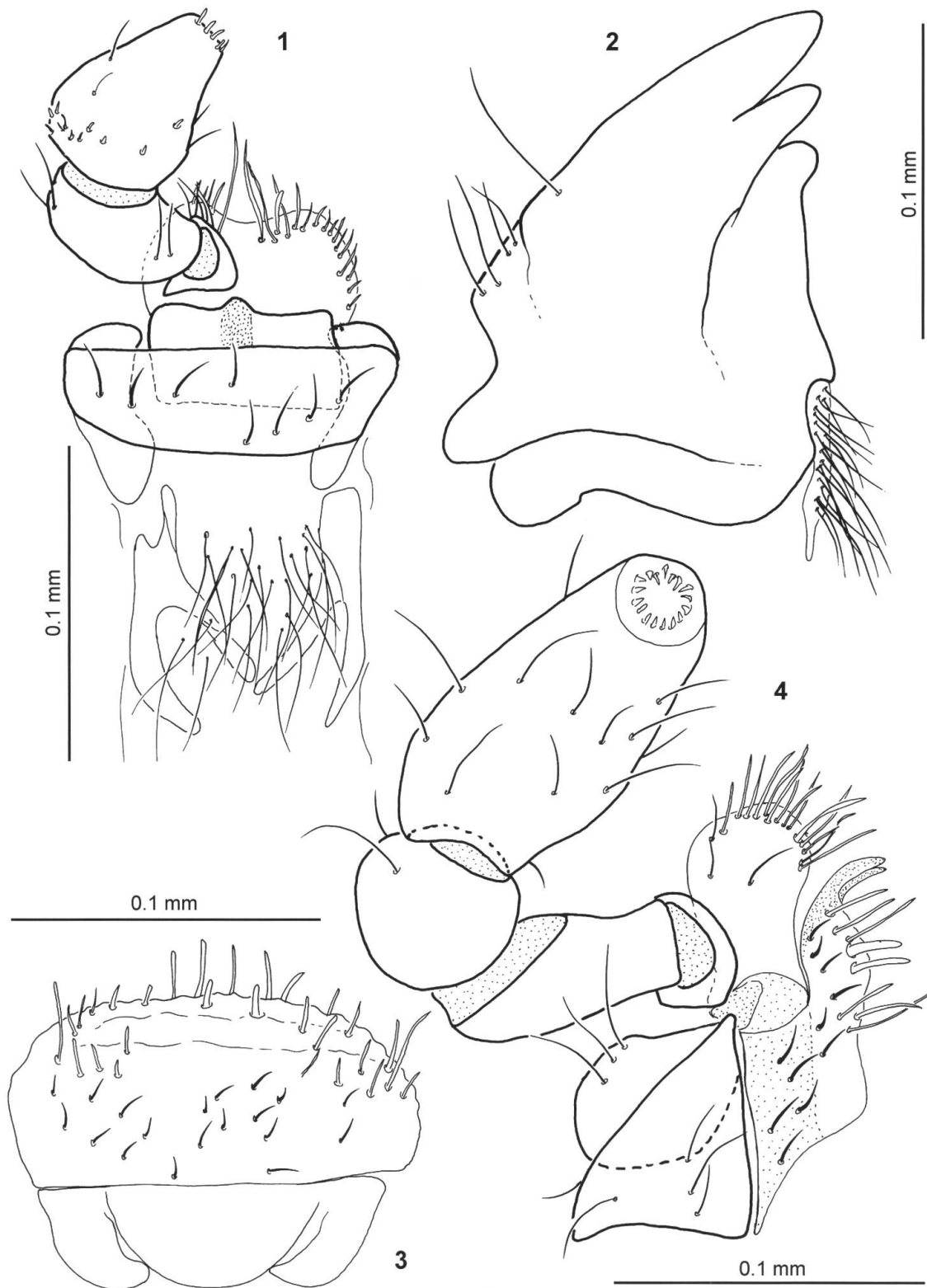
Pl. 2. *Ancyrona muelleriae* sp.nov.: 1 – wing, 2 – hind leg, 3 – male tergite VIII, 4 – male sternite VIII, 5 – tegmen ventrally, 6 – phallus, 7 – male abdominal segments IX–X.



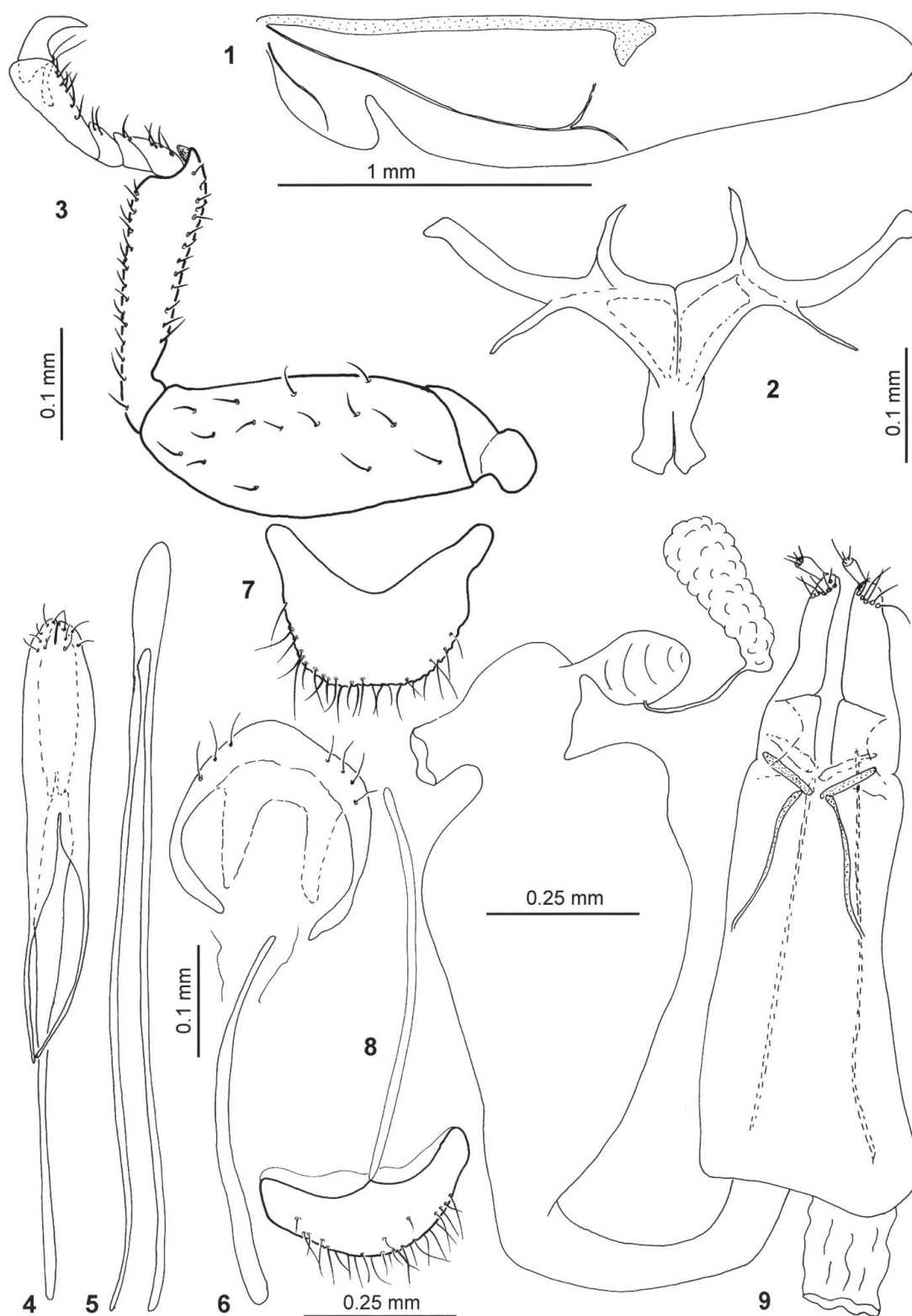
Pl. 3. *Afrocyrona ciskeiensis* sp.nov.: 1 – maxilla, 2 – mandible dorsally, 3 – labium, 4 – labrum.



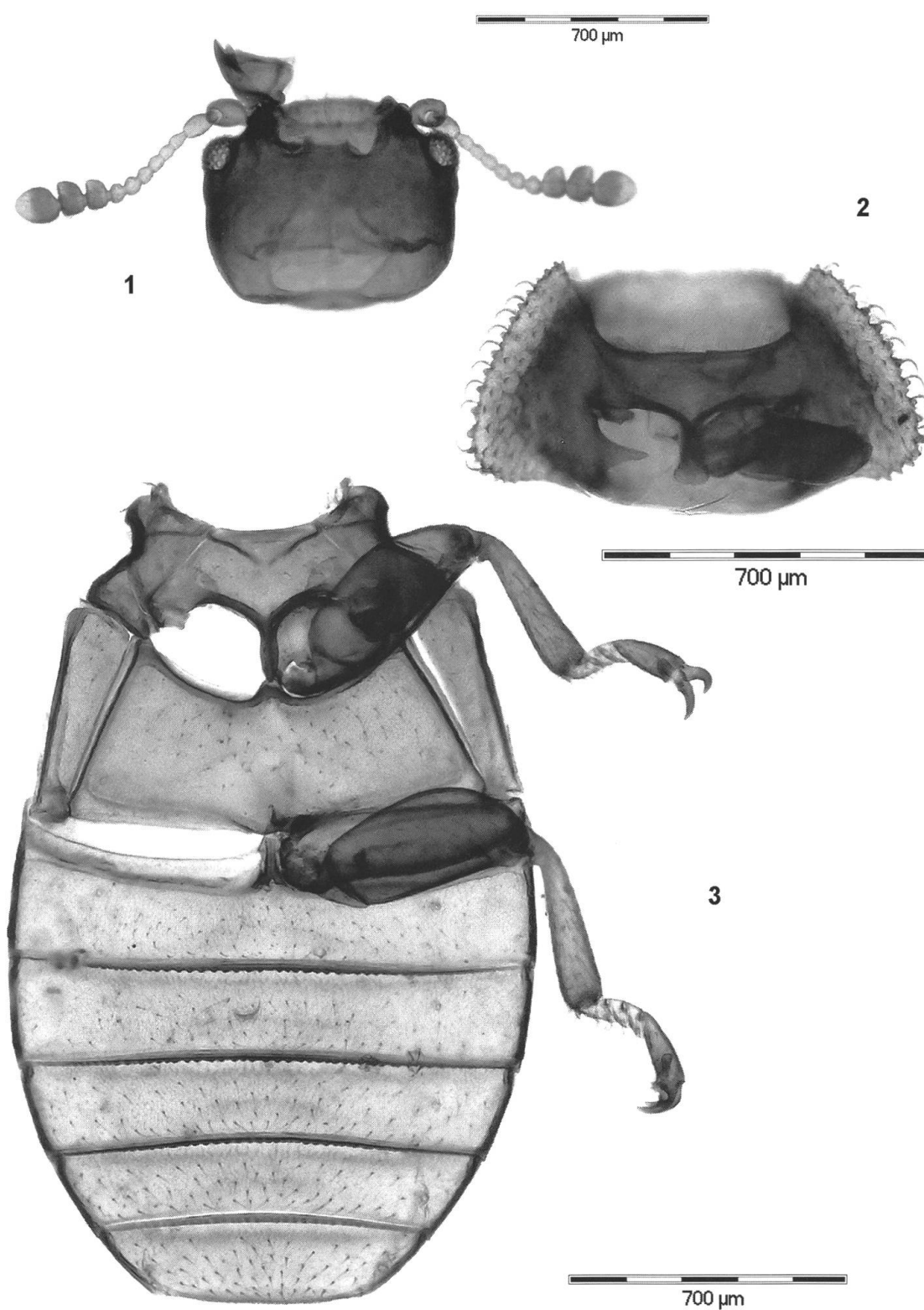
Pl. 4. *Afrocyrona ciskeiensis* sp. nov.: 1 – antenna, 2 – wing, 3 – front tibia and tarsus, 4 – female tergite VIII, 5 – female sternite VIII, 6 – ovipositor and internal copulatory organs.



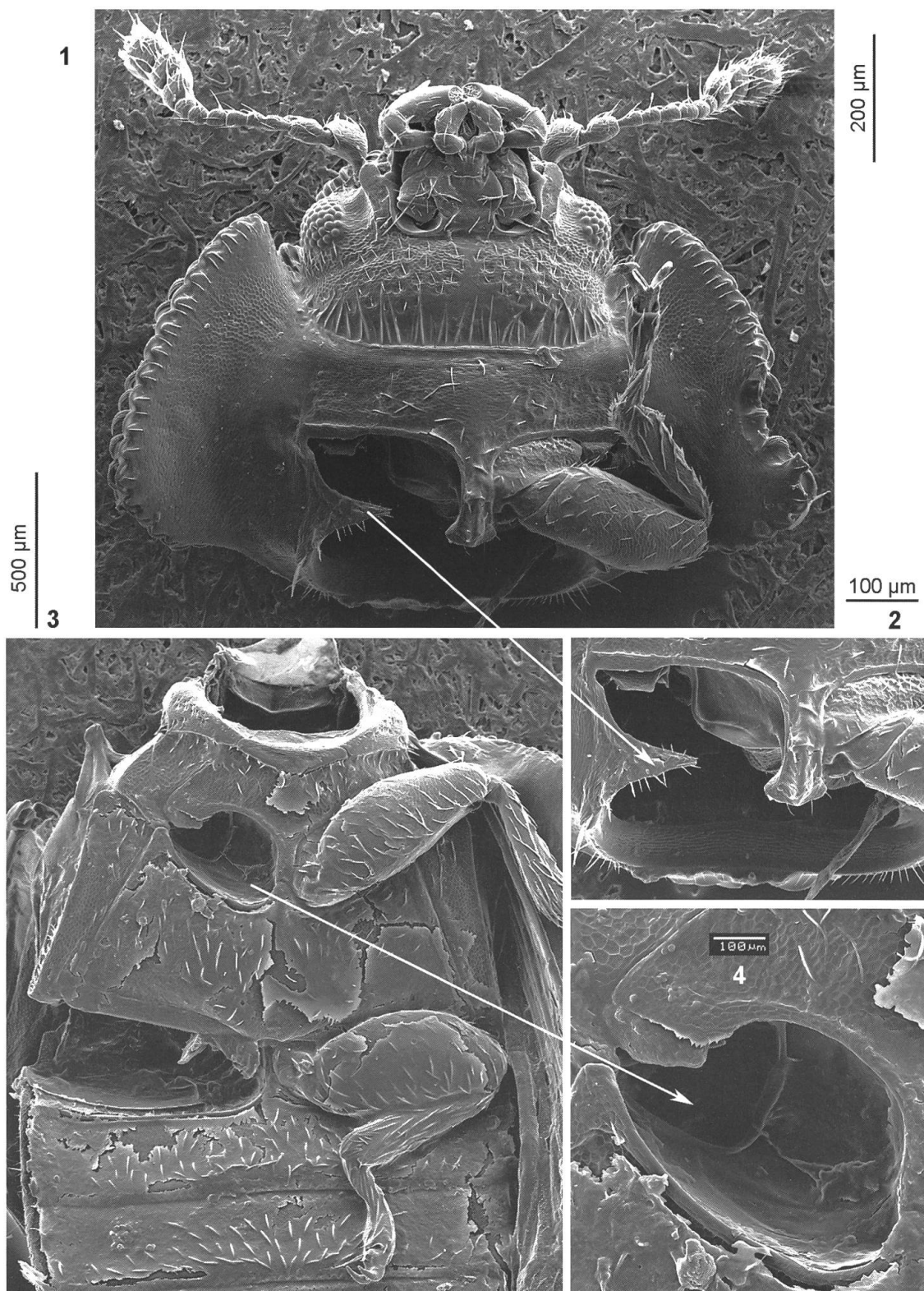
Pl. 5. *Afrocyrona dwesae* sp.nov.: 1 – labium, 2 – mandible ventrally, 3 – labrum, 4 – maxilla.



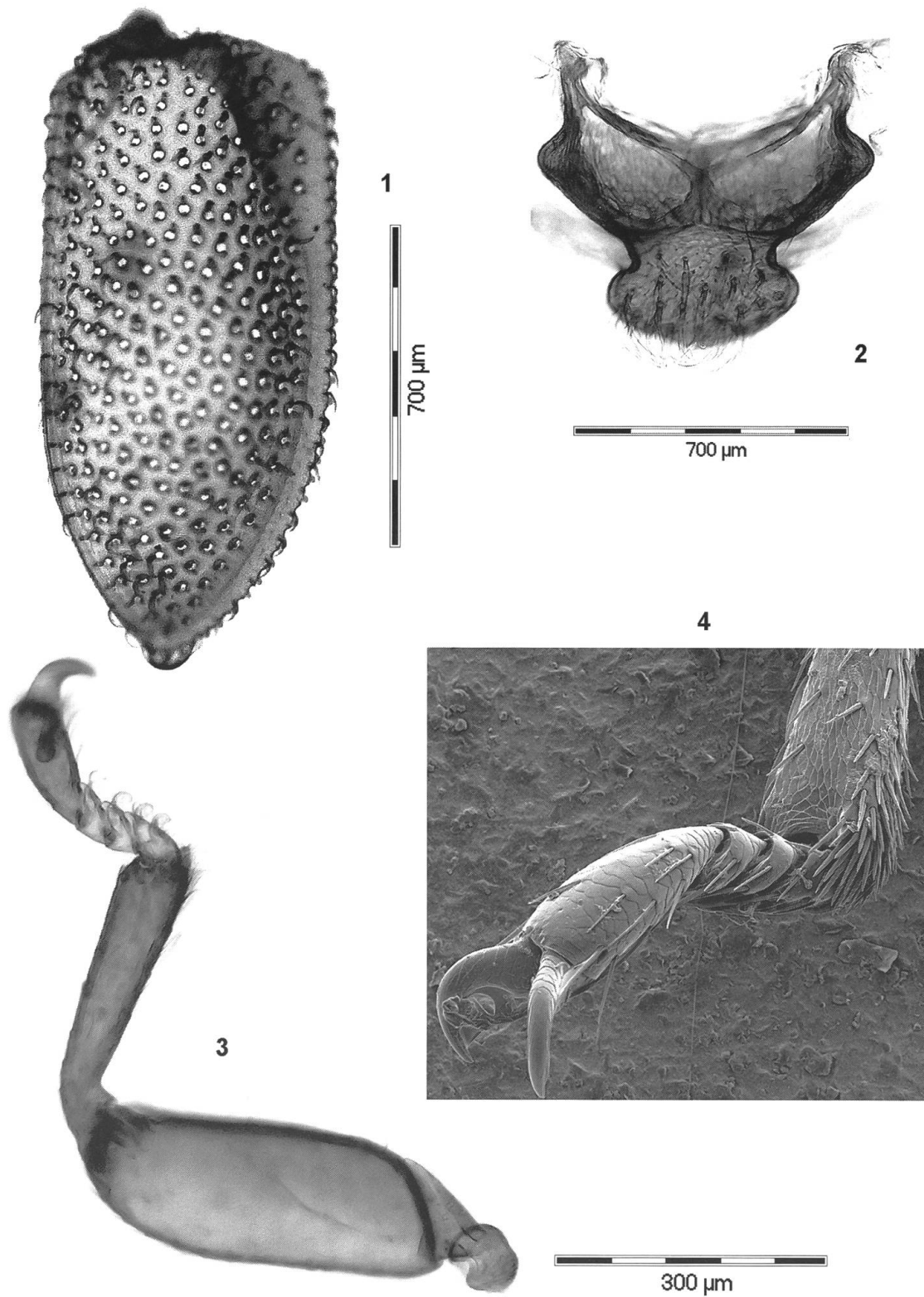
Pl. 6. *Afrocyrona dwesae* sp.nov.: 1 – wing, 2 – metendosternite, 3 – front leg, 4 – tegmen dorsally, 5 – phallus, 6 – male abdominal segments IX–X, 7 – female tergite VIII, 8 – female sternite VIII, 9 – ovipositor and internal copulatory organs.



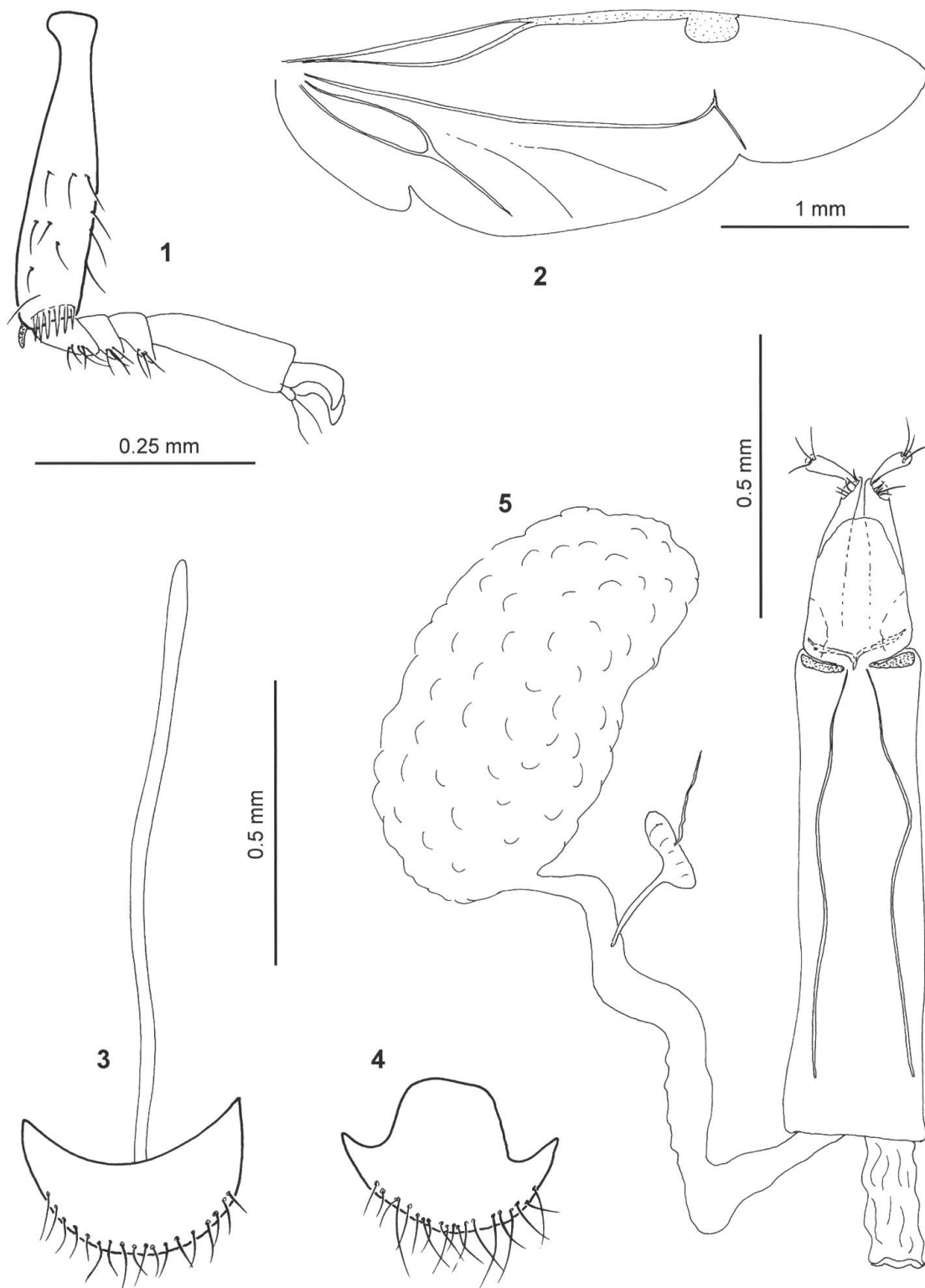
Pl. 7. *Afrocyrona dwesae* sp.nov.: 1 – head ventrally, 2 – prothorax ventrally, 3 – mesothorax, metathorax and abdominal sternites ventrally.



Pl. 8. *Afrocyrona dwesae* sp.nov.: 1 – ventral view on head and prothorax, 2 – detail of procoxal cavity and prosternal process, 3 – ventral view on meso- and metathorax, 4 – detail of mesocoxal cavity.



Pl. 9. *Afrocyrona dwesae* sp.nov.: 1 – elytron ventrally (internal view), 2 – mesonotum, 3 – front leg, 4 – middle tarsus and apex of tibia.



Pl. 10. *Afrocyrona gussmannae* sp.nov.: 1 – hind tibia and tarsus, 2 – wing, 3 – female sternite VIII, 4 – female tergite VIII, 5 – ovipositor and internal copulatory organs.