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A new species of *Oligota* (Coleoptera, Staphylinidae, Aleocharinae)  
from Switzerland

S.A. WILLIAMS

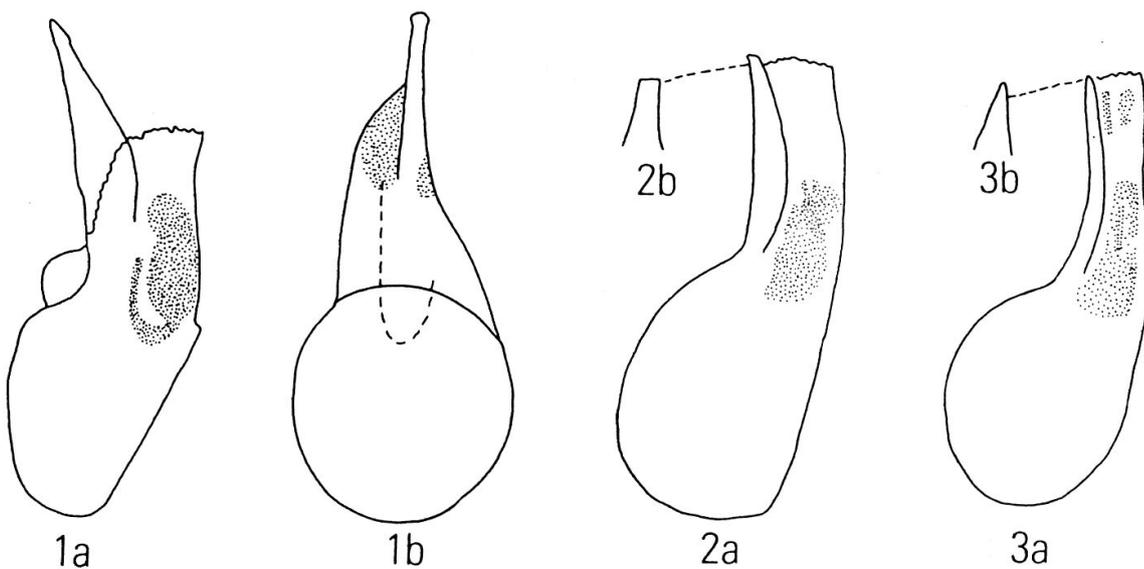
40 Preston Park, Faversham, Kent ME13 8LN, England

*Oligota inexpectata* n.sp. is described from specimens found at 3 places in western Switzerland.

Keywords: Staphylinidae, *Oligota inexpectata* n.sp., Switzerland.

INTRODUCTION

Amongst a collection of *Oligota* from the Muséum d'Histoire naturelle, Geneva, consisting mainly of *O. pusillima* (GRAVENHORST) and *O. pumilio* (KIESENWETTER) were many examples of a third, closely related species. It is believed to be new to science and is described here as *Oligota inexpectata* n.sp.



Figs 1-3. – Aedeagus of *Oligota* spp.: *O. inexpectata* n.sp., 1a, lateral view, 1b, ventral view. – *O. pumilio* (KIESENWETTER), 2a, lateral view, 2b, tip only, ventral view. – *O. pusillima* (GRAVENHORST), 3a, lateral view, 3b, tip only, ventral view.

RESULTS

*Oligota (Oligota) inexpectata* n.sp.

Description. Length 1 mm. Body reddish brown with paler apex. Elytra short, as long as the pronotum. Body sculpture and pubescence moderate. Legs and antennae reddish yellow. Antennae with a loosely defined 3-segmented club. Aedeagus (Fig. 1) flat sided and curved downwards to the apex which is expanded; viewed from below it is uniquely off centre. The 8th sternite is rounded at the hind edge in the male and slightly pointed in the female. No visible spermatheca.

Material. Holotype ♂: Switzerland, Geneva: Valley of Allondon, Malval; sifting of moss, lichens and short herbs in a very dry grassland; 22.X.1982, C. BESUCHET; deposited in Mus. Geneva. 40 ♂ ♀ paratypes; same data as holotype, and: Switzerland, Vaud: Aigle, 30.IX.1961, C. BESUCHET (1 ♂); Switzerland, Valais: Finges, débris accrued during flooding of Rhône, 28.IX.1993, C. BESUCHET; deposited in Mus. Geneva and Coll. WILLIAMS (2 paratypes).

Remarks. *O. inexpectata* is very similar to both *O. pumilio* and *O. pusillima* but males of the three species are readily separated by the shape of the aedeagus (Figs 1 to 3; see also Figs 8 and 9 in LOHSE, 1974). Females of *O. inexpectata* do not appear to possess a spermatheca, as do *O. pusillima* and *O. pumilio*. Sternite 6 in *O. inexpectata* is slightly pointed at the hind margin, similar to *O. pumilio*, whilst in *O. pusillima* it is rounded (see LOHSE, 1974). Lastly the elytra are shorter and the antennae are slightly longer with segments 7-9 not so strongly transverse as in the other two species.

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