

***Hyphydrus megas* n.sp. (Coleoptera: Dytiscidae), described from the Democratic Republic of Congo and Tanzania**

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Biström, O. 2000: *Hyphydrus megas* n.sp. (Coleoptera: Dytiscidae), described from the Democratic Republic of Congo and Tanzania. — Entomol. Fennica 11: 137–139.

Hyphydrus megas n.sp. is described from the Democratic Republic of Congo (formerly Zaire) and Tanzania on the basis of two male specimens. The new species belongs to the species group *H. grandis*, and including the new species it now contains five species. Distinguishing characteristics for the new species are presented. The occurrence of *H. residuus* Omer-Cooper in Tanzania was based on an incorrect determination and thus the species is here removed from the fauna of Tanzania.

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Received 14 June 1999, accepted 10 August 2000

During a recent trip to Brussels, Belgium I had an opportunity to visit the Royal Museum of Central Africa (Tervuren) to pick out further undetermined Hydrophorinae material for my taxonomic studies. Among the fresh material was a specimen of *Hyphydrus*, which undoubtedly belongs to the species group *H. grandis*, as defined by Biström (1982). The specimen was a male and immediately after dissection of the specimen it appeared that it must belong to an undescribed species. An additional male specimen, which also belongs to the new species, has earlier been incorrectly associated with *H. residuus* Omer-Cooper. This was the only record of *H. residuus* from Tanzania (Biström 1982) and thus the species is removed from the fauna of this country. The new species is described below.

***H. megas* n.sp.**

Type locality. Lulimbi, Rutshuru area, Democratic Republic of Congo (former Zaire).

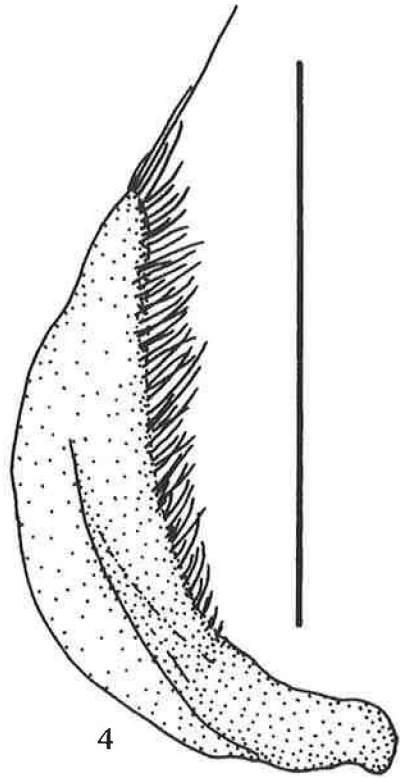
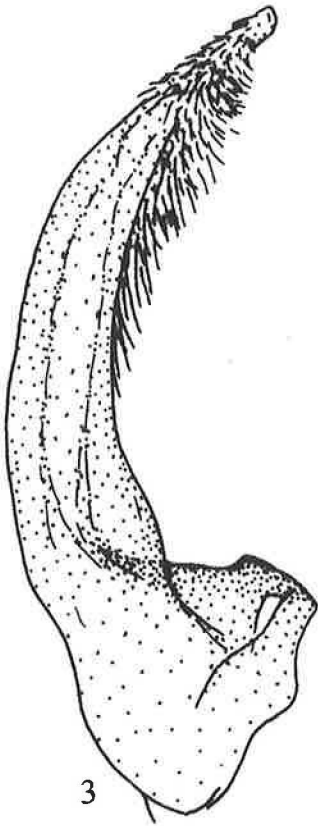
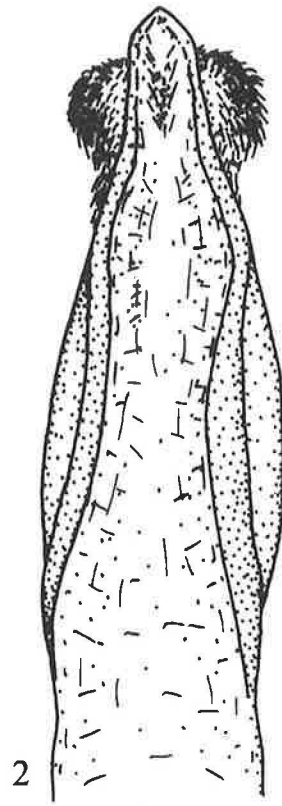
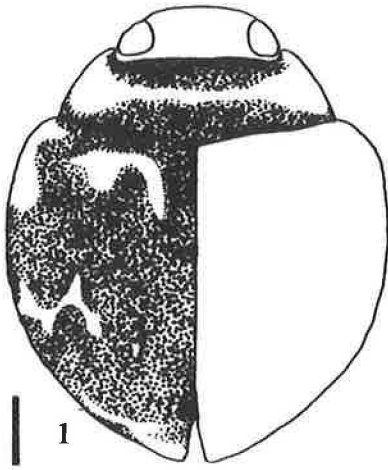
Type material. Holotype, male: Coll. Mus. Tervuren, Zaire: Lulimbi (Rutshuru) 1976 R.P. Lejeune (deposited in Tervuren). Paratype, male: Taboora Tang. 6. 1961 P.P. de Moor/*Hyphydrus residuus* Om.-C. O. Biström det. 1980 (deposited in Transvaal Museum, Pretoria, South Africa).

Etymology. The species name *megas* is Greek and it means large.

Diagnosis. *H. megas* is very closely related to *H. residuus*, described quite recently by Omer-Cooper (1971). The two species can with certain only be distinguished by examination of the male genitalia. Penis apicolaterally with bulb-like expansions, which are not found in *H. residuus*. For comparison, see illustrations in Biström (1982).

Description. When compared with specimens of *H. residuus* no external diagnostically impor-

*Contribution to the study of Dytiscidae 71.



Figs. 1-4. *H. megas* n.sp. (holotype). - 1, habitus; 2, penis, dorsal aspect; 3, penis, lateral aspect; 4, paramere. Scales 1 mm.

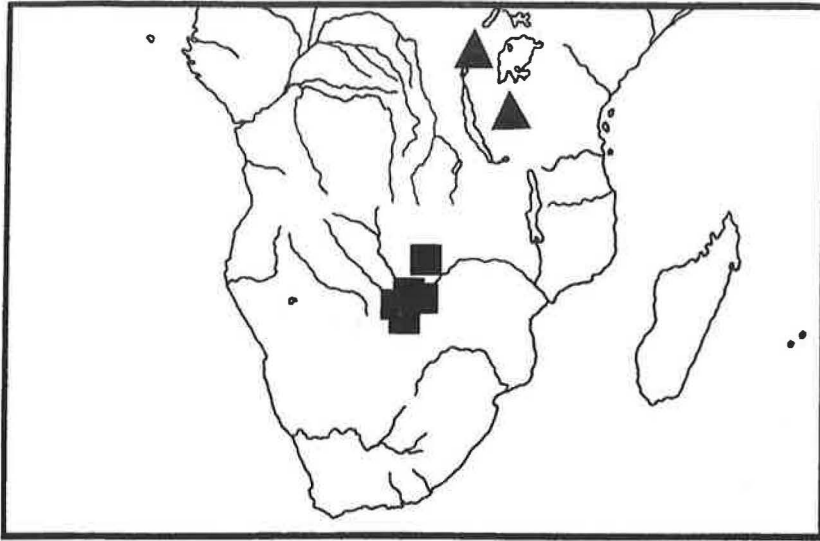


Fig. 5. Distribution map of *H. megas* (triangle) and *H. residuus* (square), based on verified records by the author of the article.

tant features were discovered.

Body length. (of *H. megas*) 6.50-6.83 mm, breadth 4.17-4.42 mm. Colour pattern of body (dorsal aspect) slightly variable; in holotype as in Fig. 1.

Male genitalia. As in Figs. 2-4. Note the apicolateral bulbs of the penis.

Female. Unknown.

Biology. Unknown.

Distribution. Eastern part of Democratic Republic of Congo and Tanzania (Fig. 5).

Acknowledgements. I express my sincere thanks to Dr. Chuch Bellamy (Pretoria) and Dr. Marc De Meyer (Tervuren) for kindly arranging the loan of the material for my studies.

References

- Biström, O. 1982: A revision of the genus *Hyphydrus* Illiger (Coleoptera, Dytiscidae). — *Acta Zoologica Fennica* 165:1-121.
- Omer-Cooper, J. 1971: Taxonomic studies on some African *Hyphydrus* (Coleoptera: Dytiscidae). — *Journal of the Entomological Society of South Africa* 34: 277-288.