Revision of the genus *Oedanomerus* Waterhouse (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae: Melolonthinae).

by

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The genus *Oedanomerus* Waterhouse is revised. Five species are currently recognized within the genus, including two species described as new: *O. capriviensis* and *O. bicoelar*. An illustrated key to all the known species is presented.

INTRODUCTION

The genus *Oedanomerus* was described by Waterhouse (1875) and included the single species *O. hirsutus* from Botswana. Arrow (1936) described a second species from Zaire. Frey (1960) was the last worker to consider the genus describing a new species from Mozambique. During the course of studies on the Afrotropical Pachydemini (sensu Dalla Torre, 1913), I had the opportunity to study nearly 300 specimens of this genus, including the types of *O. hirsutus* Waterhouse and *O. longicornis* Arrow.

The following abbreviations are used to denote the location of study material and indicate the depository of types. I express my sincerest thanks to the institutions and individuals listed below.

AVEC — A. V. Evans, University of Pretoria.

BMNH — British Museum (Natural History), Cromwell Road, London SW7 5BD, United Kingdom. Mr M. E. Bacchus.

SAM — South African Museum, P.O. Box 61, Cape Town 8000, Dr V. B. Whitehead.

SM — State Museum, P.O. Box 1203, Windhoek 9000, SWA/Namibia. Mrs H. Rust.

TM — Transvaal Museum, P.O. Box 413, Pretoria 0001, Dr S. Endrödy-Younga.

**Genus Oedanomerus** Waterhouse


Type-species: *Oedanomerus hirsutus* Waterhouse, by monotypy.

Diagnosis: *Oedanomerus* may be separated from all other Afrotropical Melolonthinae by the following combination of characters: reduced labrum, labral suture obscure; labial palps absent; antennae 8- or 9-segmented, club 3-segmented, subequal or twice the combined length of the adjacent segments; head with transverse frontal
and clypeal carinae, clypeal plate vertical; dorsum setose or scaled; metathoracic wings fully developed (Fig. 1); propygidium not fused to fifth visible sternite; pygidium strongly reflexed beneath abdomen; abdominal sterna constricted and carinate medially, sutures evident, sterna free; parameres simple, symmetrical; protibiae tridentate; claws simple; metafemora swollen, ovate; metatibiae short, triangular (Fig. 2).

Key to the species of Oedanomerus Waterhouse

1 Antennae 9-segmented; club twice the combined length of the adjacent 5 segments; clypeus with a subapical carina (Figs 3, 4) ................................................ 2
2 Antennae 8-segmented; club subequal to the combined length of the adjacent 4 segments; clypeus with apical margin reflexed (Figs 5, 7) ................................................ 3
3 Pronotum squamose ........................................... O. hirsutus Waterhouse
4 Pronotum setose ........................................................... 4
   3. Clypeus as in Fig. 3 ............................................ O. eapriviensis sp. nov.
   4. Clypeus as in Fig. 4 .............................................. O. longicornis Arrow

Oedanomerus capriviensis sp. nov., Figs 3, 8, 9

Diagnosis: 6,5-9,0 mm long; head and venter piceous; pronotum piceous medially, rufopiceous laterally; elytra fuscous, punctostriate, intervals not raised; dorsal surfaces squamose.

Description: head with mouthparts and antennae fuscous; antennae 9-segmented, club twice the combined length of the adjacent 5 segments; clypeal disc brunneus, coarsely, setigerously punctured, borders piceous with a subapical carina, apex pointed (Fig. 3). Pronotum with anterior angles obtuse, rounded; anterolateral margins straight; posterolateral margins rounded; posterior angles rounded; posterior margin straight medially; disc impunctate medially, remaining surface setigerously tuberculate, squamose, flavous. Elytra with lateral margins subparallel, gradually attenuated just behind middle. Pygidium fuscous; setigerous punctures shallow, setae sparse, white. Venter with thoracic sterna rufopiceous; abdominal sternites fuscous; moderately pilose, setae white. Male genitalia as in Figs 8 and 9.


Oedanomerus longicornis Arrow Figs 4, 10, 11, 16.

Oedanomerus longicornis Arrow, 1936: 258.

Diagnosis: 5,5-10,0 mm long; head and pronotum piceous or rufobrunneus, pronotum and elytra squamose, apical elytral scales not bifurcate; elytra rufobrunneus, punctostriate, intervals not distinctly raised.

Description: Head with mouthparts rufous; antennae fuscous, 9-segmented, club twice as long as the combined length of the adjacent 5 segments; clypeal disc pale brunneus, setigerously punctate, margins darker with a short subapical carina, apex rounded (Fig. 4). Pronotum with anterior angles obtuse, rounded; anterolateral margins straight; posterolateral margins rounded; posterior margin broadly arcuate; disc impunctate medially with a shallow longitudinal impression posteromedially; anterior and lateral portions setigerously tuberculate, scales lanceolate. Elytra with lateral margins subparallel, slightly amplicate medially; distinctly punctostriate, intervals not raised; surface with white lanceolate scales. Pygidium rufous; small, shallow setigerous punctures, sparsely pilose, setae white. Venter rufous; moderately clothed in white setae. Male genitalia as in Figs 10 and 11.

Season: January through February.

**Oedanomerus hirsutus** Waterhouse Figs 5, 12, 13.

**Oedanomerus hirsutus** Waterhouse, 1875: 408; Peringuey 1904: 170; Dalla Torre 1913: 310.

**Diagnosis:** 10.0 mm long; head piceous and setose, anterior clypeal margin reflexed; pronotum piceous, scaled; elytra with scales occasionally bifurcate; elytra rufobrunneus, striopunctate, intervals raised.

**Description:** Head with mouthparts rufous; antennae fuscous, 8-segmented, club subequal to the combined length of the adjacent 4 segments; clypeus piceous, anterior margin strongly reflexed and narrowly rounded (Fig. 5). Pronotum with anterior angles obtuse, angulate; anterolateral margins straight, slightly attenuated at anterior angles; posterolateral margins rounded; posterior angles broadly rounded; posterior margin slightly sinuate before median; disc impunctate posteriorly, setigerously tuberculate anteriorly and laterally, setae long, white, posterior moderately clothed with white lanceolate scales. Elytra with lateral margins parallel, gradually attenuated at distal 1/4; punctostriate with one distinct interval between suture and humerus; surface with broad white lanceolate scales often bifurcate. Pygidium rufous, punctures small, shallow, setigerous; moderately pilose at base, setae long, white. Venter with thoracic and abdominal sterna rufobrunneus, moderately pilose, setae white. Male genitalia as in Figs 12 and 13.

**MATERIAL EXAMINED:** Holotype male, [Botswana] Lake N’gami (BMNH). Additional material examined: 2 (SM). BOTSWANA: Kungveld/Botswana border, 20.17 S–21.00 E.

**Season:** June, July.

**Oedanomerus bicolor** sp. nov. Figs 6, 12, 13.

**Diagnosis:** 7.0 mm long; head and pronotum piceous, elytra fuscous, darker along suture; pronotum sparsely setose, elytra striopunctate, intervals not raised with white lanceolate scales sometimes bifurcate.

**Description:** Head with mouthparts fuscous; antennae fuscous, 8-segmented, club subequal to the combined length of the adjacent 4 segments; clypeus piceous, anterior margin reflexed (Fig. 6). Pronotum with anterior angles obtuse, angulate; anterolateral margins straight; posterolateral margins rounded; posterior angles rounded; posterior margin broadly arcuate; disc with medially impunctate, remainder setigerously tuberculate, setae long, pale. Elytra with lateral margins subparallel, gradually attenuated after middle. Pygidium rufous, longer than the basal width, setigerous punctures sparse, shallow; setae long, pale. Venter with thoracic sternum piceous, abdominal sternites fuscous; moderately pilose, setae long, pale. Male genitalia as in Figs 12 and 13.

**MATERIAL EXAMINED:** Holotype male, S. W. Protec. (SWA/Namibia), Nurgas, 1–1920, R. W. Tucker (SAM).

**Season:** January.
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Fig. 16. *Oedanomerus longicornis* Arrow, dorsal habitus. Actual length = 10.0 mm.
Oedanomerus pilosus Frey Figs 7, 14, 15.


Diagnosis: 5.5–7.0 mm long; dorsum setose, without scales; head and pronotum piceous; anterior clypeal margin broadly rounded; elytra fuscous, shallowly stropunctate, basal portion piceous, humeri and suture dark fuscous.

Description: Head with mentum piceous, labrum fuscous; antennae fulvous, 8-segmented, club subequal to the combined length of the adjacent 4 segments; clypeus piceous, lateral clypeal margins parallel, anterior margin broadly arcuate, strongly reflexed (Fig. 7), disc setigerously punctate. Pronotum with anterior angles obtuse, rounded; anterolateral margins straight; posterolateral margins slightly rounded; posterior angles broadly rounded; posterior margin broadly rounded; disc with setigerous tubercles. Elytra with lateral margins subparallel; one distinct stria from base to declivity; disc vaguely striate with scattered setigerous punctures. Pygidium piceous, longer than wide, with large shallow setigerous punctures. Venter piceous, moderately pilose, setae pale. Male genitalia as in Figs 14 and 15.


Season: August, September, May.

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References


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