A new species of *Eucyclophylla* Waterhouse (Coleoptera:Scarabaeidae: Melolonthinae)

by

ARTHUR V. EVANS

Department of Entomology, University of Pretoria, Pretoria 0002

*Eucyclophylla namaqua* sp. nov. is compared with *E. lata* Waterhouse. The genus *Eucyclophylla* is diagnosed and compared with related genera.

INTRODUCTION

The genus *Eucyclophylla* was described by Waterhouse (1875) to accommodate the species *E. lata* Waterhouse. During the course of a study of the Afrotropical Pachydemini sensu Dalla Torre (1913) I was afforded the opportunity to study the holotype of *E. lata* and additional material which proved to belong to a new species.

The following abbreviations are used to denote the location of study material:

ARHC – A. R. Hardy, California Department of Food and Agriculture, Sacramento.
AVEC – A. V. Evans, University of Pretoria.
BMNH – British Museum (Natural History), London.
NCI – National Collection of Insects, Pretoria.

Genus *Eucyclophylla* Waterhouse


Type-species: *E. lata* Waterhouse, by monotypy.

Description: Head with labial palps 3-segmented; maxillary palps 4-segmented; maxillae weakly developed, dentate externally; labrum transverse, broadly emarginate; antennae 10-segmented, club 7-segmented, strongly curved, 3-times the length of the pedicel; clypeus rounded, wider than long; clypeal suture never carinate; frons coarsely punctate; vertex impunctate medially. *Pronotum* transverse, convex, pilose, broadest posteriorly; anterior angles not produced. *Scutellum* large, rounded laterally, blunt apically. *Elytra* long, covering propygidium, subparallel. Metathoracic wings fully developed in male. *Pygidium* triangular, produced horizontally. *Thorax* with sterna pilose. *Legs* with protibiae bidentate or tridentate, spurs absent; inner protarsal claws strongly hooked, all claws toothed; femora pilose; metafemurae with incomplete setigerous carinae; metatibial corbulae without processes; metatibial apical spurs
broad. Abdomen pilose, without lateral ridges; broad membrane between visible sternites 5 and 6; propygidium not fused to fifth visible sternite. Male genitalia with parameres symmetrical, not fused basally.

I have examined one female of the genus, collected in SOUTH AFRICA: Cape Province: Namaqualand, Groenrivier Mouth, 30.52 S-17.35 E, 24–viii–1979, E-Y: 1593, singled, leg. Endrödy-Younga. I am reluctant to assign this individual to a species as it differs substantially from the known males in the following respects: body generally more robust; antennal club shorter than pedicel; dorsal surfaces glabrous.

Eucyclophylla is restricted to the coastal sand veld areas of the south-western Cape Province.

Eucyclophylla is most similar to Macrophylla Hope and Pleiophylla Périnquey by the long, curved antennal club (in the males), the broad labium, and by the lateral insertion of the labial palps. It may be readily distinguished from these genera by the 7-segmented club and anteriorly attenuated lateral pronotal margins. The antennal club of Macrophylla has 3 or 5 segments, while the club of Pleiophylla is 6-segmented.

Key to the males of species of Eucyclophylla Waterhouse

1 Elytra with pale setae; scutellum coarsely punctate, usually not impunctate medially; third antennal segment slightly produced (Fig. 1) .................. E. lata Waterhouse

→ Elytra with dark setae; scutellum finely punctate, usually narrowly impunctate medially; third antennal segment distinctly produced (Fig. 2) .................. E. namaqua sp. nov.

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Fig. 5. *Eucyclophylla lata* Waterhouse, dorsal habitus. Actual length = 15.0 mm.
**Eucyclophylla lata** Waterhouse, Figs 1, 3, 5

*Eucyclophylla lata* Waterhouse, 1875: 406; Phinguey 1904: 132.

**Description:** 15.0 mm long. **Head** with clypeal margin circular, coarsely, setigerously punctate; margins shallowly reflexed; clypeal suture broadly arcuate; frons coarsely, setigerously punctate, setae short, pale, erect; labrum not fused to clypeus; antennal segment 1 globose, segment 2 short, transverse, segment 3 broad, punctate, slightly produced anteriorly (Fig. 1). **Pronotum** densely, setigerously punctate; setae short, pale, suberect. **Scutellum** broad, setigerously punctate; setae short, pale, suberect. **Elytra** rufobrunneus, broadest medially, surface covered with short, pale, appressed setae; two striae vaguely evident between suture and humerus. **Pygidium** triangular, length shorter than basal width; disc with scattered setigerous punctures separated by 1/2 to 1 times their own widths; setae pale, recumbent. Male genitalia as in Fig. 3.


Remarks: Waterhouse (1875) records the type-locality as the Cape of Good Hope.

**Eucyclophylla namaqua** sp. nov., Figs 2, 4

**Description:** 12.5–15.5 mm in length. Same as for *E. lata*, but with the following exceptions: antennal segment 3 is more produced (Fig. 2); scutellum finely punctate, usually impunctate medially; elytra with dark setae; two distinct striae between suture and humerus; protibiae usually tridentate, occasionally bidentate. Male genitalia as in Fig. 4.


Remarks: *E. namaqua* may be distinguished from *E. lata* by the mixture of pale and dark elytral setae, distinct elytral costae, sharply produced third antennal segment, and by the male genitalia.

This species is diurnal and has been collected on flowers. I collected two living specimens at Kommandoskraal trapped in the webs of social spiders. The nest was littered with the remains of this species, as well as those of *Glyptoglossa* sp. (Melolonthinae).
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REFERENCES


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