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Description of a new species of *Thaumaglossa* REDTENBACHER,
1867 from southern Africa
(Coleoptera: Dermestidae: Megatominae)

JIŘÍ HÁVA¹, MARCIN KADEJ²

¹Private Entomological Laboratory and Collection, Branická 13, CZ – 147 00 Praha 4, Czech Republic, e-mail: jh.dermestidae@volny.cz

²Department of Biodiversity and Evolutionary Taxonomy, Zoological Institute, University of Wrocław, ul. Przybyszewskiego 63/77, 51-148 Wrocław, e-mail: entomol@biol.uni.wroc.pl

ABSTRACT. *Thaumaglossa mroczkowskii* is described from South Africa, Pretoria, and Zimbabwe, Harare.

Key words: entomology, taxonomy, morphology, Coleoptera, Dermestidae, Megatominae, *Thaumaglossa*, new species, adult, South Africa, Zimbabwe, description.

INTRODUCTION

This is the third paper of the senior author concerning study on the genus *Thaumaglossa* REDTENBACHER, 1867 from Afrotropical and Oriental regions (HÁVA 2002, 2003a). The genus *Thaumaglossa* REDTENBACHER, 1867 comprises 34 species, 13 of them were recorded from Africa: *Thaumaglossa arabuko* HÁVA, 2003 (Kenya), *T. basilewskyi* KALÍK, 1955 (Congo), *T. bimaculata* ARROW, 1915 (Liberia, South Africa), *T. conradti* PIC, 1927 (Cameroon, Congo, Guinea Equatorial, Ivory Coast, Togo, Uganda), *T. ghana* HÁVA, 2002 (Ghana, Ivory Coast, Nigeria), *T. ludgerschmidti* HÁVA, HERRMANN, 2002 (Uganda), *T. oothecobia* ARROW, 1915 (Nigeria), *T. pauliani* PIC in PAULIAN, 1953 (Madagascar), *T. rufiventris* PIC, 1927 (Benin, Cameroon, Guinea, Ivory Coast), *T. rufocapillata* REDTENBACHER, 1867 (Cameroon, Congo, Kenya, Madagascar, Nigeria, Tanzania, Zimbabwe), *T. rufocincta* ARROW, 1915 (Congo, Zimbabwe), *T. rufofasciata* (PIC, 1915) (Senegal) with an subspecies *T. rufofasciata* ssp. *postlimbata* (PIC, 1948) (Ethiopia: Neghelli)

(HÁVA 2003a, 2003b, 2005, HÁVA and KALÍK 2004). In material studied recently we found specimens representing a new species. Its description is given below.

MEASUREMENTS AND METHODS

Explanation of abbreviations:

BMNH - coll. British Museum, Natural History, London, England.

JHAC - coll. Jiří Háva, Private Entomological Laboratory and Collection, Prague, Czech Republic.

TM - Transvaal Museum, Pretoria, South Africa.

BL - body length (measured from the head anterior margin to the apex of elytra).

BW - body width (measured between two anterolateral humeral calli).

HW - head width (measured as the distance between two lateral head margins on the eyes level).

PL - pronotum length (measured from the top of the anterior margin to scutellum).

PW - pronotum width (measured between the two posterior angles of pronotum).

SL - sternites length (measured from the anterior margin to the apex of posterior margin).

SW - sternites width (measured between two lateral margins in the anterior part of sternites).

AFL - antennal fossa length (measured along the antennal fossa).

LMP - length of lateral margin of pronotum (measured as the distance between inferior part of pronotum and exterior angle).

All measurements are given in millimeters. The morphological structures (antenna, wing, leg, genitalia, galea and lacinia, pygidium, eighth sternite, ninth abdominal sternite, ninth abdominal tergite) were observed under phase contrast microscope Nikon Eclipse E 600 with a drawing attachment in transparent light in glycerin. All morphological structures were put into plastic micro vials with glycerin under the proper specimens. Photos were taken with the camera Nikon Coolpix 4500.

***Thaumaglossa mroczkowskii* n. sp.**

(Figs 1-20)

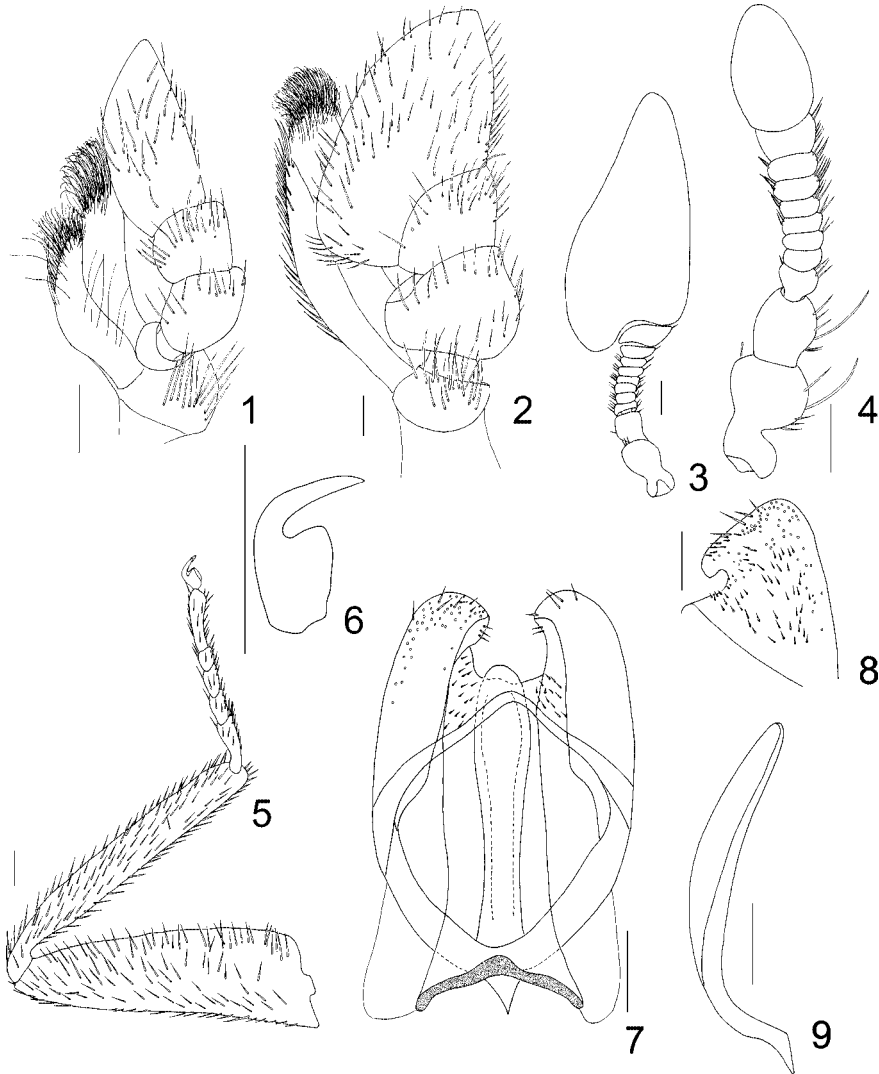
NAME DERIVATION

The species name is dedicated to professor Maciej MROCKOWSKI, an excellent specialist in Dermestidae.

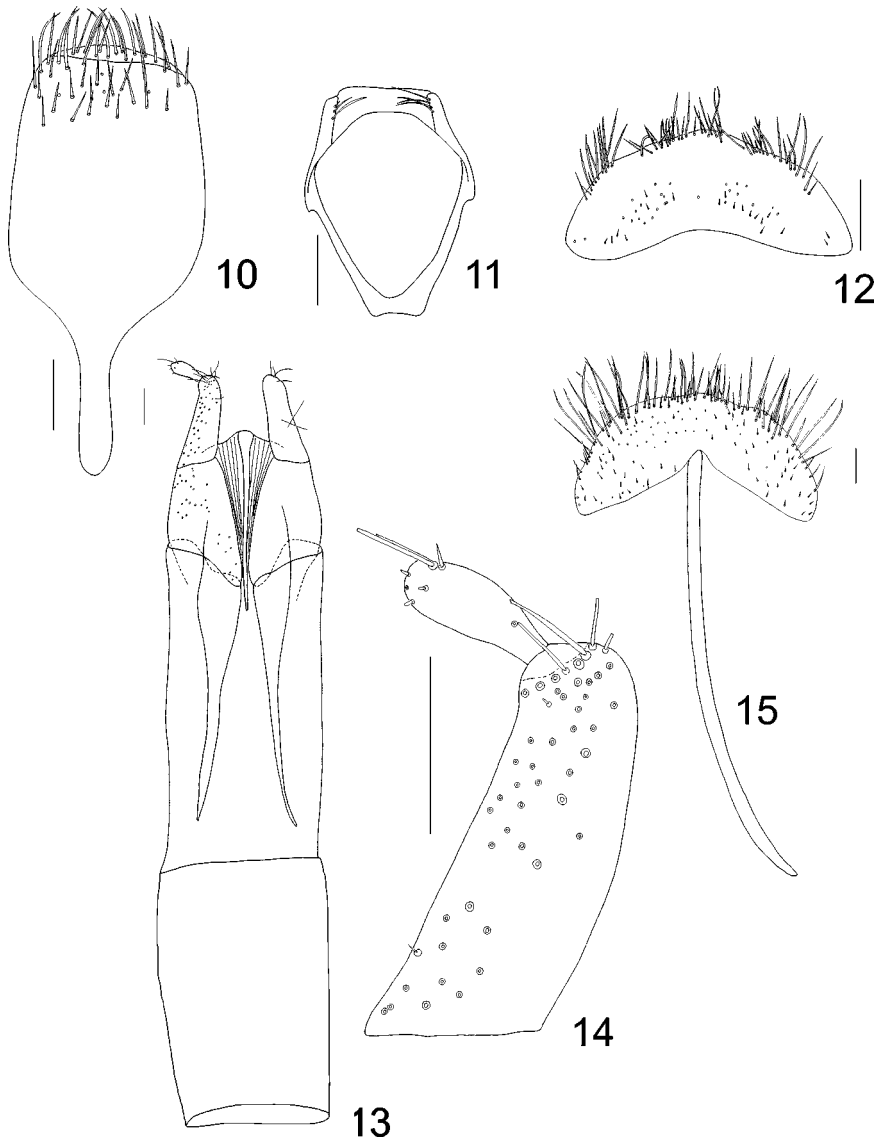
DIAGNOSIS

Thaumaglossa mroczkowskii n. sp. can be easily distinguished from allied species by the peculiar structure of male antennae and genitalia. *Thaumaglossa conradti* PIC, 1927 is the most similar but differs in abdomen black (brown in

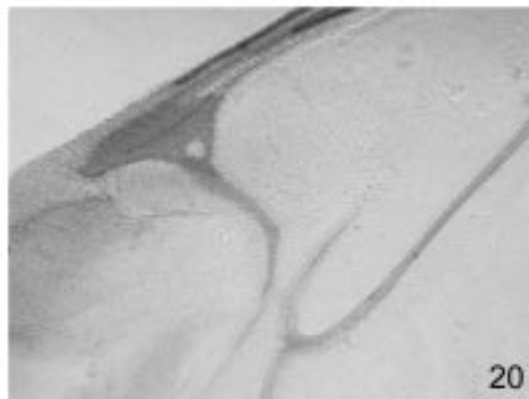
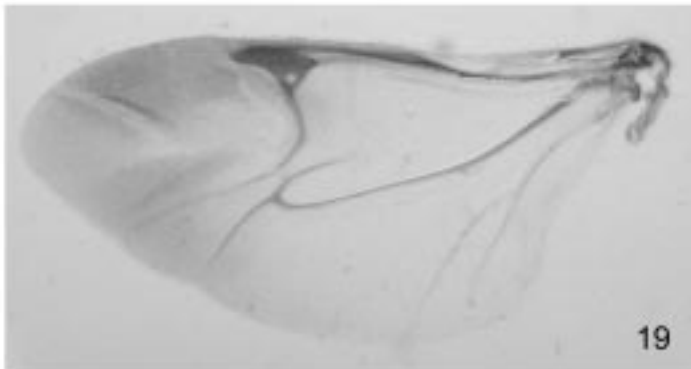
T. mroczkowskii), antennae dark brown to brown-black (light brown in *T. mroczkowskii*), and prosternal process narrow and long (broad and short in *T. mroczkowskii*).



1-9. *Thaumaglossa mroczkowskii* n. sp.: 1-2 - galea, lacinia and maxillary palp in male (1), female (2); 3 - male antenna; 4 - female antenna; 5 - third right leg (dorsal view); 6 - tarsal-claws; 7 - male genitalium (dorsal view); 8 - apex of paramers (lateral view); 9 - aedeagus (lateral view); scale 0.1 mm



10-15. *Thaumaglossa mroczkowskii* n. sp.: 10 - ninth abdominal sternite (male); 11 - ninth abdominal tergite (male); 12 - pygidium; 13 - female genitalium; 14 - stylus (female); 15 - eighth sternite (female); scale 0.1 mm



16-20. *Thaumaglossa mroczkowskii* n. sp.: 16 - dorsal side of male, 17 - ventral side of male, 18 - dorsal side of female, 19, 20 - wing

BIOLOGY AND ECOLOGY

Unknown.

DESCRIPTION

Body strongly convex, ovate, almost round, covered with black pubescence, gently but densely punctate. Female bigger (BL: 3.45-3.85; BW: 2.5-2.75) than male (BL: 3.4; BW: 2.35) (Figs 16-18).

Head (HW: 0.9) with big convex eyes. Frons with gentle punctation, covered with black pubescence.

Maxilla with galea and lacinia separate but overlapping. Both with dense setae on top. Maxillary palp 4-segmented, covered with numerous setae. Fourth segment twice broader than long in female and twice longer than wide in male (Figs 1, 2).

Antenna of both sexes light brown, 11-segmented. Male antenna with characteristic morphology: the last (11-th) segment leaf-shaped, covered densely with light-brown pubescence and measuring about half the antennae length (Fig. 3). The remaining segments of antenna narrow and oblate. Antenna occupies whole cavity of antennal fossa. Antennal fossa completely open (AFL: 0.78) along whole length (LMP: 0.87) of lateral margin of the pronotum. Female antenna (AFL: 0.25) shorter than male's one along almost whole cavity of antennal fossa (Fig. 4). Eleventh segment oval, twice longer than wider, covered densely with light-brown pubescence. Antennal fossa (LMP: 0.78) reach 1/3 length of the hypomerion and is completely opened.

Pronotum (PL: 0.9; PW: 2.2-2.35) and elytra black-brown, gently but densely punctated, covered with black pubescence which might seem to be grey in transparent light.

Wing as in photos 19, 20.

Prosternum punctate on disc, without impunctate median line. Mesosternal disc with punctation as that on the prosternum.

Abdominal sternites (SL: 1.55; SW: 2.1-2.5) light-brown, covered with light-yellow pubescence (Fig. 17).

Legs covered with dark colored pubescence on dorsal surface. Trochanter and femur with black-brown coloration, tibia and tarsus light-brown (Fig. 17).

Tarsus with two tarsal-claws deeply emarginated, gently curved (Figs 5, 6). Male genitalia as in figure 7. Paramers broad with curved apex, covered with numerous short setae (Fig. 8). Aedeagus wide, slightly curved with the apex straight (Fig. 9). Ninth abdominal sternit spatula-like with few long setae on top (Fig. 10). Ninth abdominal tergite as in figure 11. Pygidium light-brown, with two types of setae: longer at the posterior margin and shorter centrally in the anterior part of pygidium (Fig. 12).

Female genitalia as in figure 13. Styli as in figure 14. Eighth sternit with long marginal setae and short ones on plate surface (Fig. 15).

TYPE MATERIAL

Holotype male: "Pretoria, I.XI.1957, L. Vári"; Allotype female: "Pretoria, I.XI.1957, L. Vári"; paratype female: "Pretoria, I.XI.1957, L. Vári" (all deposited in TM); paratype male: "[Zimbabwe, Mashonaland, Harare] Mashonaland, Salisbury" "G.A.K. Marshall, 1913-48" (preserved in JHAC); paratype female: the same data (preserved in BMNH).

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