Additional Notes on the South African Acrocerid Fauna, with Descriptions of New Species of Acrocera Meigen and Psilodera Gray (Diptera).

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With 3 Text-figures.

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This paper is essentially an addendum to a recent article presented by the author on the South African Acroceridæ (1960a), and was brought about by the receipt of several large collections (representing 165 specimens) from the following persons and their institutions: Dr. G. van Son of the Transvaal Museum (T.M.), Pretoria; Dr. A. C. van Bruggen of the Pretoria Division of Entomology (P.D.E.), Pretoria; Dr. E. S. Ross of the California Academy of Sciences (C.A.S.), San Francisco, California; Mr. B. R. Stuckenberg of the Natal Museum (N.M.), Pietermaritzburg; Dr. E. McC. Callan of Rhodes University (R.U.) Grahamstown; and Dr. P. Basilewsky of the Musée Royal du Congo Belge (C.B.M.), Belgium. The help of these persons and their institutions is gratefully appreciated.

Keys, figures, important synonymy and diagnoses of the African acrocerids south of the equator were presented in the previous paper by the writer (1960a).

Further distributional data and notes on twenty species concerned with the collections noted above are given at this time. All species discussed in this article were reviewed in the previous paper with the exception of two new ones described herein.

Subfamily Panopinæ.

Pterodontia smithi Johnson.

Pterodontia smithi Johnson, 1899, Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci., Philadelphia, for 1898, p. 161.

As noted by the author (1960a), there was some doubt as to whether $P.\ smithi$ actually occurred in South Africa. The examination of four males from Umtali and Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia, and six males from Northern Rhodesia, and their comparison with the original description of $P.\ smithi$ leaves no doubt that they represent this species. Also, the female specimen from Salisbury, which was cited as probably this species in the earlier article, is definitely $P.\ smithi$.

Specimens examined.—(10 3). Southern Rhodesia: 1 3, Umtali, ii.1916; 1 3, Salisbury, vi.1894 (G. A. Marshall); 2 3, Salisbury, 12.ii.1915 (all in T.M. or E.I.S. collections). Northern Rhodesia: 1 3, 5 mi. N. Kapiri Mposhi, 1,320 m., 9.ii.1958 (E. S. Ross and R. E. Leech); 5 3, 8 miles SW. Ndola, 1,310 m., 9.ii.1958 (E. S. Ross and R. E. Leech, C.A.S., E.I.S.).

Subfamily Acrocerinae.

Acrocera Meigen.

This genus was known in South Africa by only a single species from Tanganyika up until 1960 when the writer described four new species from Southern Rhodesia, Orange Free State, Natal, and the Cape Province (1960a). Four more specimens have been examined which represented three species. One of these species is new and is described below.

Acrocera rhodesiensis Schlinger.

Acrocera rhodesiensis Schlinger, 1960a, Ann. Natal Mus., 14 (3): 472, fig. 6.

The first male specimen of this species has been examined. It agrees with the description of the type female except as follows: Length of entire specimen 4.5 mm., wing length 4.5 mm.; antenna dark brown; postalar callus almost black; humerus and spot on mesopleura, brownish-orange; abdomen with median black triangles present on tergites 2, 3 and 4; triangle on tergite 1 with posterior point confluent with base of triangle on tergite 3; genitalia dark brown.

New distribution record: 1 3, Grahamstown, Cape Province, 10.x.1956 (P. Omer-Cooper, E.I.S.).

Acrocera turneri Schlinger.

Acrocera turneri Schlinger, 1960a, Ann. Natal Mus., 14 (3): 473, figs. 7-8.

The first female specimen of this species was recently sent to me by Mr. Stuckenberg. It agrees with the description of the type male except as follows: Length of entire specimen 4 mm., wing length 4 mm.; antenna nearly black; vein R_{4+5} nearly straight; coxæ nearly black; abdomen black with yellowish-white maculations dorsally very similar to that figured for type male; sternum black with yellowish-white posterior fasciæ occupying sternites as follows: two-thirds of 1, one-third of 2, median one-half of 3 to 6; sternite 7 mostly yellowish-white; cercus black, short, acuminate, about twice as long as wide.

New distribution record: 1 ♀, Ngome, 4,600 ft., between Nongoma and Vryheid, Natal, 12.iv.1960 (B. R. Stuckenberg, N.M.).

Acrocera vansoni n. sp.

This species is a member of species group IV of Sabrosky (1944), and is closely related to A. pallidivena Schlinger (1960a).

Male.—Length of entire specimen 4 mm., wing length 3.5 mm.

Head black, ocelli and antenna dark brown; occiput covered with short, white pile; oral opening dark brown.

Thorax shining black except for yellow humerus and posterior one-half of postalar callus, entirely covered with short, white pile that is little longer than tarsal claw; squama nearly opaque white, covered with extremely short, dense, white hairs; squamal rim narrow, yellow; halter stem brownish-yellow, knob yellow; wing venation greatly reduced, similar to that described for A. pallidivena (1960a, Text-fig. 9) except that vein R_{4+5} is completely absent, cross-vein m-cu is absent, and vein M_1 nearly reaches wing margin; also cross-vein r-m is more strongly bowed posteriorly and not as strong; veins white and yellow, membrane hyaline; legs yellow except for dark brown coxæ and extreme apices of tarsi, and black tarsal claws.

Abdomen yellow and black above, similar to that described for A. pallidivena (1960a, Text-fig. 10), except that small median spot is present on tergite 4 as well as 3, and lateral black margins are more distinct on tergite 3, being more pointed and reaching nearly half-way to mid-line; sternites dark brown and yellow as described for A. pallidivena, except that sternite 5 is not visible; genitalia dark brown, only cerci yellow; pile short, white and sparse.

Female.—Unknown.

Type material.—Holotype 3, Cape Province, Willowmore, Dr. Brauns, and one paratopotype male (no dates). The holotype and paratopotype have been deposited in the Transvaal Museum collection.

The paratopotype differs from the holotype as follows: humerus and posterior one-half of postalar callus are brownish-yellow; cross-vein m-cu is

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present but extremely faint; all femora are tinged with brown. The antennæ are completely broken off.

I have also seen a female from north Transvaal (Njelele, R. "Joan" farm. ix.1939 (H. K. Munro, P.D.E.)), which possibly represents the female of A. vansoni, but the colour pattern so closely resembles A. pallidivena that its true status will have to await the study of more specimens.

In the author's key to the South African species of Acrocera (1960a). A. vansoni will key out with A. pallidivena at couplet 2b. A. vansoni can be most easily separated from A. pallidivena by the complete absence of vein R_{4+5} (as R_4), and by the colouration of the abdomen.

This species is named after Dr. G. van Son, who for many years has collected extensively in South Africa and found among other things some very interesting acrocerids.

Ogcodes Latreille.

Although this genus was revised by the author (1960b) and again discussed in the South African paper (1960a), the species of South Africa are still not well understood.

Ogcodes clavatus Becker (!).

Oncodes clavatus Becker, 1909, Bull. Mus. Hist. nat. Paris, 15: 113.

A male specimen has been seen from Kivu, Belgian Congo, which apparently is this species, but which differs from specimens previously discussed (Schlinger, 1960a) as follows: Only tergite 2 with pale spots; abdomen and thorax more shining; squama white with dark brown margin; wing veins darker brown, even r-m cross-vein dark. This specimen has the vittate thorax and incrassate hind tibiæ which are characteristic for O. clavatus, and it is felt that the colour variations noted fall within the limits of this species. A typical female has also been examined from the Belgian Congo.

New distribution records: Belgian Congo. 1 ♂, Kivu, Bukavu (km. 10^{rte} Goma), 13.iv.1953 (J. Verbeke—K.E.A., C.B.M.); 1 ♀, Parc National de la Garamba, 27.viii.1952 (Mission H. De Saeger, E.I.S.).

Ogcodes varius pallidimarginalis Brunetti.

Oncodes varius Latr., var. pallidimarginalis Brunetti, 1926, Ann. Mag. nat. Hist., 18: 602.

Although this species is not well known, the specimens examined appear to be typical ones and are conspecific with those cited previously (Schlinger 1960a: 479).

New distribution records: 1 & Melkboschstrand, Cape Province, 13.x.1948 (H. K. Munro, E.I.S.); 1 \(\rightharpoonup, Eala, Belgian Congo, 5.x.1936 (J. Ghesquière, C.B.M.).

Ogcodes congænsis Brunetti (?).

Oncodes congænsis Brunctti, 1926, Ann. Mag. nat. Hist., 18: 596.

One female specimen from Natal has been examined which is possibly this species. The coloration of the thorax and the vittate mesonotal pattern fit the original description, but the abdomen is too badly crushed to be of any diagnostic value. O. congænsis has not been reported outside of its type locality in the Belgian Congo, and if the female cited below represents this species, the distribution of O. congænsis will have been greatly extended.

Specimen examined.—Natal. 1 \, Durban, 14.xii.1906 (G. F. Leigh T.M.).

Ogcodes sorellus Brunetti or caffer Loew (?).

Oncodes caffer Loew, 1857, Öfvers, K. Vet. Akad. Förhandl., 14: 368. Oncodes sorellus Brunetti, 1926, Ann. Mag. nat. Hist., 18: 603.

The proper identity of both of these species is obscure. In my revision of Ogcodes (1960b), O. sorellus was placed as a probable synonym of O. caffer, and again in my South African paper (1960a) both species were discussed under O. caffer, but it was noted that two or possibly three species were involved in this name complex.

The examination of an excellent series of both sexes from Pretoria showed little variation among that population, yet due to the vagueness of the original descriptions of the two species, it is still not clear to which species that population belonged. Other specimens cited below from different localities fall into the same category. Hence, until the types of these species can be thoroughly studied, it seems best to discuss the specimens jointly. I might add that all specimens cited in my other papers (1960a, 1960b) and those cited below are now believed to belong to one species.

Ogcodes sp.

A male of what appears to be a distinct new species of *Ogcodes* was collected at Camp's Bay, Capetown, 9.x.1948 (H. K. Munro, P.D.E.), but its description will have to await the study of more specimens and a better understanding of the known South African species.

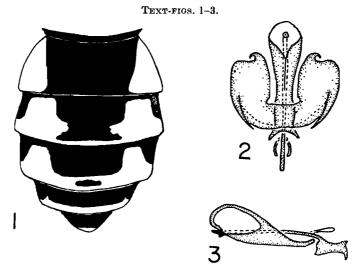
Sabroskya Schlinger.

This genus was recently described by the author (1960a) and has only one included species.

Sabroskya ogcodoides Schlinger. Text-figs. 1-3.

Sabroskya ogcodoides Schlinger, 1960a, Ann. Natal Mus. 14 (3): 480, figs. 12-13.

Among the specimens sent to me by Mr. Stuckenberg and Dr. E, McC. Callan were four males and another female of S. ogcodoides. Only the female has been described. The male is essentially the same as the female except as noted below.



Sabroskya ogcodoides Schlinger, topotype male.

1. Abdomen in dorsal view; 2. genitalia in ventral view; 3. aedeagus in lateral view.

Description of topotypic male.—Length of entire specimen 8 mm., wing length 5 mm. Colour black, brown and white; mesonotum entirely black, wing hyaline, veins white. Abdomen dark brown with white maculations as follows: tergites 2–4 each with a large white lateral spot, tergites 3–4 each with connecting white posterior fascia, and tergites 5–6 each with complete posterior, white fascia as shown in Text-fig. 1; sternum white except for median, anteriorly directed triangular brown spot on sternites 1–4; sternites 5–6 mostly brown, genitalia brown. Pile on scutellum and abdominal dorsum longer than on mesonotum, that on tergites 2–5 longest, and the longest pile is in small submedian clumps. Genitalia small, ædeagus swollen apically with a pronounced subapical notch (Text-fig. 3); ejaculatory apodeme weakly developed and its dorsal

apodemes ("wings") minute (Text-figs. 2-3); clasper with distinct apical hook (Text-fig. 2).

Specimen examined.—1 \Im , topotype, East Cape Province, Grahamstown, 14.iii.1954 (H. J. Myers, E.I.S.). The above description was based on this male. I have also recently examined $4\Im$, $1\Im$, all topotypic specimens as follows: $3\Im$, $1\Im$, 14.iii.1956, 23.iii.1956, 25.x.1959, and 2.xi.1959 (E. McC. Callan, R.U. and E.I.S.); $1\Im$, 2.iii.1954 (J. Mulligan, R.U.). It is of interest to note that all specimens of this species are known only from Grahamstown, the type locality, and Katberg.

Psilodera Gray.

With the description of a new species from the Drakensberg Mountains, Natal, this genus now contains nine African species.

Psilodera pallidiventris n. sp.

A member of the fasciata group.

Male.—Length of entire specimen 7 mm., wing length 5 mm. Colour black, yellow, brown and white. Black are occilar tubercle, antennal tubercle, eyes, anteclypeus, proboscis, labellum, mesonotum, pleuræ, apices of tarsal claws, most of wing veins, tergite 1, most of anterior two-thirds of tergites 2–5, and anterior one-half of tergite 6; dark brown are occili, antennal segment 3, subcostal vein, bases of tarsal claws, coxæ, most of trochanters, tips of posterior tarsi, halter knob, mediolateral spots just anterior to yellow tergal fascia on tergite 2 (less distinct on 3 and 4), genitalia, narrow anterior fascia on each of sternites 4–5, and most of sternite 6; yellow are tergal fasciæ occupying posterior one-third of tergites 2–5, spot occupying one-half of tergite 6, and remainder of legs; light brown are antennal segments 1–2, posterior margin of scutellum, squamal rim, and halter stem; white is the remainder of abdominal sternum, and the occiput is grey.

Pile long, brownish-white on mesonotum, yellow on legs, brown on anterior tergites, white on rest of abdomen, quite long and silvery on sternite 1; pile types as described for *Psilodera nhluzane* Schlinger (1960a).

Head about one and one-fourth times higher than long; anteclypeus about one-half of head height. flattened above, depressed medially, rounded and transversely ridge below; antennæ not much shorter than anteclypeus; antennal tubercle glabrous, not swollen, with distinct median depression, triangular in shape, about as high as wide.

Thorax about as long as abdomen; scutellum nearly three times wider than long; squama opaque white, upper corner sharply angled; wing hyaline, veins distinct, venation as shown in Text-fig. 17 (1960a) for P. hessei.

Abdomen no longer than wide, nearly as high as long, widest at segment 3; posterior lateral angles of tergites 3-4 swollen, but not pointed; sternites nearly flat, 1-3 longest and of about equal length, 4 and 6 somewhat shorter but sub-

equal in length, 5 is shortest in length; genitalia small, extruding from beneath tergite 6.

Type material.—Hedolotype &, Natal, Cathral Peak area, Drakensberg Mts., elevation 6,300 ft., iii. 1959 (B. R. Stuckenberg). There are also 3 & paratopotypes. The holotype and two paratopotypes will be deposited in the Natal Museum, and one paratopotype in the author's collection.

This species is closely related to *P. hessei* Schlinger (1960a) and keys to that species at couplet 4b. It can be distinguished from *P. hessei* as follows: tergites are shining black with even, bright yellow posterior fascia on each of tergites 3-5, fascia on 2 narrowed medially and contains dark brown area anteromediolaterally; sternites mostly creamy white, at least sternites 1-2 entirely white.

Psilodera nhluzane Schlinger.

Psilodera nhluzane Schlinger, 1960a, Ann. Natal Mus., 14 (3): 485, figs. 15-16.

This species was described from a unique female from Nhluzane Mountain in Natal. The two males cited below showed enough colour differences from the type female to warrant a partial description of the male.

Male.—Essentially the same as described for female except as follows: anteclypeus and most of pleura dark brown; legs mostly yellowish-white, only coxæ, trochanters and tips of tarsi dark brown; humerus, præpisternum, upper margin of postalar callus, mesopleural suture, narrow posterior tergal fasciæ and sternal spots all yellowish-white instead of yellow; antennal tubercle smooth and without median depression; abdomen a little longer than wide and a little longer than high; tergite 6 nearly as long as wide, genitalia small, brown and well concealed under tergite 6.

Specimens examined.—(3 \circlearrowleft , 1 \circlearrowleft). Cape Province: 2 \circlearrowleft , Port St. Johns, xi.1916 (H. H. Swinny, T.M., E.I.S.). Natal: 1 \circlearrowleft , 1 \circlearrowleft , Hilton Road, 21.xii. 1953 (P. Graham, N.M.).

Psilodera confusa Schlinger.

Psilodera confusa Schlinger, 1960a, Ann. Natal Mus., 14 (3): 487, fig. 18.

This species in known only from Natal, Transvaal, and Zululand.

Psilodera fasciata (Wiedemann).

Cyrtus fasciatus Wiedemann, 1819, Zool. Mag., 1:14.

This is probably the most common species of the genus and occurs mostly along the coast of the Cape Province with only individual records from Natal. Basutoland and Southern Rhodesia.

Specimens examined.—(23 \$\frac{1}{3}, 7 \hffarsignedents). Cape Province: 11 \$\frac{1}{3}, 1 \hffarsignedents, East London, 4.xi.1921, 6-12-29.x.1922, 10.iii.1924, 8.xii.1921, 4.iv.1924 (H. K. Munro, T.M.); 1 \$\hfightarrow\$, East London, 1915 (Lightfoot, T.M.); 1 \$\hfightarrow\$, Mowbray, iii.1885 (T.M.); 1 \$\frac{1}{3}\$, Willowmore (Dr. Brauns, T.M.); 6 \$\frac{1}{3}\$, 1 \$\hfightarrow\$, Port Elizabeth, 27-28.ii, 1.iii.1919 (H. K. Munro, T.M.); 1 \$\frac{1}{3}\$, Algoa Bay, 20.iii.1910 (Dr. Brauns, T.M.); 3 \$\frac{1}{3}\$, 2 \$\hfightarrow\$, Grahamstown, 3-10.x.1952, 27.ii.1954 (E. McC. Callan, R.U.). Basutoland: 2 \$\hfightarrow\$, Mamathes, 4-25.ii.1951 (C. Jacot-Guillarmod, N.M.). Southern Rhodesia: 1 \$\frac{1}{3}\$, Bulawayo, 12.ii.1957 (Felicity Lock, E.I.S.).

Psilodera hessei Schlinger.

Psilodera hessei Schlinger, 1960a, Ann. Natal Mus., 14 (3): 486, fig. 17.

P. hessei appears to be restricted in distribution to Southern Rhodesia, Transvaal and the Orange Free State, and is the only species commonly found a considerable distance from the coast of South Africa.

Specimens examined.—(26 \$\frac{1}{1}\$, 10 \$\pi\$). Southern Rhodesia: 4 \$\frac{1}{1}\$, Chirinda Forest, xii. 1937 (G. van Son, T.M.); 8 \$\frac{1}{1}\$, 2 \$\pi\$, same data except 15–26.i and 6–8.ii. 1959 (A. C. van Bruggen, P.D.E.); 6 \$\frac{1}{1}\$, Mt. Selinda, xii. 1935 and 1–17. vi. 1956 (G. van Son, T.M., E.I.S.). Transvaal: 1 \$\pi\$, Teaville, Johannesburg, xi. 1929 (G. van Son, T.M.); 1 \$\frac{1}{1}\$, 3 \$\pi\$, Pretoria, 15.i. 1929, 23.iii, 15.x. 1920, 1.i. 1933 (H. K. Munro, T.M., P.D.E.); 1 \$\pi\$, Pretoria, 13.ii. 1935 (G. van Son, T.M.); 1 \$\pi\$, Waterkloof, xii. 1914 (A. Roberts, T.M.); 1 \$\frac{1}{1}\$ Woodb. Vill., xii. 1914 (C. J. Swierstra, T.M.); 1 \$\frac{1}{1}\$, Pongola Riv., x. 1929 (Marley, T.M.); 2 \$\frac{1}{1}\$, \$\pi\$, Barberton, 8–12.x. 1919, 9.v. 1914 (H. K. Munro, T.M., P.D.E.); 1 \$\frac{1}{1}\$, Elandshoek, 25.xi. 1946 (A. L. Capener, T.M.); 1 \$\frac{1}{1}\$, Yeoville, Johannesburg, 10.i. 1930 (G. van Son, T.M.); 1 \$\frac{1}{1}\$, 1 \$\pi\$, in copula, L. Trichardt, 10.ii. 1941 (A. L. Capener, T.M.). All specimens from Southern Rhodesia and Transvaal were designated as homotypes, except for one female from Warmsbad Pietersburg District, iv. 1906 (A. J. T. Janse, T.M.), which appeared to be somewhat atypical in colour features.

I have also examined an atypical male specimen from Amatikulu, Zululand. 17.iv.1957 (Schofield, N.M.), which is possibly this species. It agrees with $P.\ hessei$ except in distribution, and in having vein R_4 well separated from vein R_{2+3} .

Psilodera bipunctata (Wiedemann).

Cyrtus bipunctatus Wiedemann, 1819, Zool. Mag., 1:15.

Even though rather widespread throughout the coastal area of the Cape Province, *P. bipunctata* does not appear to be very common. There is a single record of it from Natal, and the only other specimen I have seen since the earlier paper is 1 3, Mowbray, 1879 (T.M.).

Psilodera valida (Wiedemann).

Cyrtus validus Wiedemann, 1830, Ausser, Zweifig. Ins., 2:13.

This species is quite sympatric with *P. bipunctata* along the coast of Natal and the Cape Province.

Psilodera stuckenbergi Schlinger.

Psilodera stuckenbergi Schlinger, 1960a, Ann. Natal Mus., 14 (3): 491, figs. 20-21.

This large species is apparently restricted in distribution to the coast of the Cape Province.

Specimens examined.—(9 &, 3 \(\)). Cape Province: 3 \(\), Port St. Johns, xi.1917 (H. H. Swinny, T.M.); 1 \(\), East London, 16.xi.1922 (H. K. Munro, P.D.E.); 1 \(\), Uitenhage, 19.xii.1910 (H. K. Munro, P.D.E.); 1 \(\), Kasouga, 10.xii.1954 (M. J. A. Cooke, R.U.); 1 \(\), Van Stadens Pass, Port Elizabeth, 13.i.1942 (M. Todd, R.U.); 1 \(\), Groot River, Knysna Dist., 5.i.1954 (P. M. D. Martin, R.U.). The following specimens are all much darker than the type specimens and may represent another form or subspecies: 2 \(\), George, i.1920 (Brauns, T.M.); 1 \(\), Knysna Forest, i.1922 (Brauns, T.M.); 1 \(\) Tsitsikama, i.1924 (Brauns, T.M.).

Subfamily Philopotinæ.

Thyllis crassa (Fabricius).

Acrocera crassa Fabricius, 1805, Syst. Antl., p. 332.

This species is known only from the Cape Province.

Specimens examined.—(8 \circlearrowleft , 4 \circlearrowleft). Cape Province: 1 \circlearrowleft , Modderfontien. Willowmore, 1.xi.1920 (Brauns, T.M.); 1 \circlearrowleft , Salt Vlei, Port Alfred, 19.xi.1958 (C. Jacot-Guillarmod, N.M.); 1 \circlearrowleft , van Stadens Pass, 1.i.1924 (Brauns, T.M.); 1 \circlearrowleft , George, i.1920 (Brauns, T.M.); 1 \circlearrowleft Willowmore, 1.i.1920 (Brauns, T.M.); 4 \circlearrowleft , 2 \circlearrowleft , East London, 24.x.1924, 22.x.1921, 19.xi.1921, 30.xi.1923 (H. K. Munro, T.M. P.D.E.); 1 \circlearrowleft , Kologha Forest, Stutterheim, 16.ii.1954 (E. McC. Callan, R.U.).

Thyllis obesa Erichson.

Thyllis obesa Erichson, 1840, Entomographien, 1:151.

This rare species is known from only five or six specimens from Natal and the Cape Province. I have seen one female from East London, 1.v.1924 (H. K.

Munro, T.M.), and one female from Prospect, 19.iii.1923 (H. K. Munro, P.D.E.).

References.