



Reinstatement of the genus *Capicua* Navás with descriptions of two new species (Neuroptera, Myrmeleontidae)

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Abstract

The genus *Capicua* Navás, 1921, synonymised with *Geyria* Esben-Petersen, 1920 by Stange (2004), is reinstated and re-described. The unique specimen of *Capicua fulvicauda* Navás, 1921 kept in the Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris is designated as lectotype. Two new species of antlions from West Africa are described and tentatively included in *Capicua* pending more material of the type species *C. fulvicauda* to verify this placement. Holotypes and paratypes are deposited in the collection of CIRAD/CBGP in Montpellier, France.

Key words: antlion, Myrmeleontinae, Nemoleontini, Africa, Afrotropical Region

Introduction

To date, only few genera of Myrmeleontinae (i.e. *Cymothales* Gerstaecker, 1894, *Ganguilus* Navás, 1912 and *Jaya* Navás, 1912) occurring in the Sudano-Sahelian region have been revised (Mansell 1987; Michel & Mansell 2010; Prost 1996, 1998), and the identification of many species belonging to other genera remains uncertain (e.g. *Neuroleon* Navás, 1909, *Cueta* Navás, 1911, *Creoleon*, Tillyard, 1918, *Myrmeleon* L., 1767). This contribution to knowledge of antlions from the region deals with the genus *Capicua* Navás, 1921 which was described from Chad and based on monotypy. *Capicua* was synonymised with the genus *Geyria* Esben-Petersen, 1920 by Stange (2004). However, both examination of the unique specimen in the Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris and interpretation of the original description suggest that it should be reinstated as valid taxon. Moreover, two new species from southern Mali and Burkina Faso, whose characters do not match any other genus, are tentatively included in the genus *Capicua*. The missing abdomen of the type specimen and the superficial and imprecise description by Navás, require that more material of *Capicua fulvicauda* is needed to verify this placement.

Material and methods

Material in the following collections was examined: Natural History Museum (London), Institut Royal des Sciences Naturelles de Belgique (Bruxelles), Museo Civico di Storia Naturale Giacomo Doria (Genova), Museo Nacional de Ciencias Naturales (Madrid), Museum für Naturkunde Humboldt-Universität Berlin (Berlin), Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle (Paris), Muséum Royal de l'Afrique Centrale (Tervuren), Naturhistorisches Museum Wien (Vienna), Natural History Museum of the Netherlands Naturalis (Leiden), Leibniz-Zentrum für Agrarlandschaftsforschung (Müncheberg), Zoologisk Museum Københavns Universitet (Copenhagen), Zoologisch Museum Amsterdam (Amsterdam) and H. & U. Aspöck's private collection (Vienna).

Specimens of the new species described herein were collected with a hand net and in light-traps.