



Revision of *Saprinus (Saprinus) splendens* (Paykull, 1811) with description of *Saprinus (Saprinus) secchii* n. sp. (Coleoptera: Histeridae)

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Abstract

Saprinus (Saprinus) splendens (Paykull, 1811), a widely distributed species, is redescribed and a lectotype designated. Its synonyms are revised. *Saprinus (Saprinus) secchii* n. sp. is described as new from the Ivory Coast, Benin, Senegal, Sudan, Republic of Congo (Congo-Brazzaville) and Democratic Republic of Congo (Congo-Kinshasa). The distributions of both species are updated.

Key words: Coleoptera, Histeridae, Saprininae, *Saprinus splendens*, lectotype, new species, distribution

Résumé

Saprinus (Saprinus) splendens (Paykull, 1811), espèce à vaste répartition, est redécrite et un lectotype est désigné. Ses synonymes sont révisés. *Saprinus (Saprinus) secchii* n. sp. est décrit de Côte-d'Ivoire, Bénin, Sénégal, Soudan, République du Congo (Congo-Brazzaville) et de République Démocratique du Congo (Congo-Kinshasa). La distribution des deux espèces est mise à jour.

Mots-clefs: Coleoptera, Histeridae, Saprininae, *Saprinus splendens*, lectotype, nouvelle espèce, répartition géographique

Introduction

The saprinine histerid beetle *Saprinus (Saprinus) splendens* (Paykull, 1811) maintains an unusually expansive geographic range, extending from the Republic of South Africa (Type: "Capland") through tropical Africa, Arabia, Kashmir, Afghanistan, Pakistan, most of the Oriental Region, Japan and Australia (Mazur, 1997). As a result of this wide distribution, *S. splendens* shows a great deal of variation and was suspected by the second author to encompass multiple species. In this study, we redescribe *S. splendens*, verify the synonymies previously established by Blackburn (1903), Bickhardt (1921), G. Müller (1938), Dahlgren (1967) and Mazur (1976, 1997) and describe a new species, morphologically similar to *S. splendens* from central Africa.

Conventions

This study is based on material from the following collections: Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle (MNHN: Paris, France); Museum für Naturkunde der Humboldt-Universität (MNHU: Berlin, Germany); Naturhistoriska Riksmuseet (NHRS: Stockholm, Sweden); Australian National Insect Collection (ANIC: Canberra, Australia); Queensland's Primary Industries of Mareeba (QPIM: Mareeba, Australia); Institut Scientifique de Madagascar (ISM: Antananarivo, Madagascar); Systematic Entomology of Hokkaido's University (SEHU: Hokkaido, Japan); Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle de Genève (MHNG: Geneva,