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A new species of the genus *Anthaxia* (*Anthaxia*) (Coleoptera: Buprestidae) from Republic of South Africa

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Abstract

Anthaxia (*Anthaxia*) *kamieserrima* **sp. nov.**, a new endemic species from Republic of South Africa is described. New synonymy of *Anthaxia* (*Anthaxia*) *aterrima* Kerremans, 1903 (= *Anthaxia* (*Anthaxia*) *braunsi* Obenberger, 1922 syn. nov.) is proposed. Lectotypes and paralectotypes of *A. aterrima* and *A. braunsi* are designated.

Key words: taxonomy, Coleoptera, Buprestidae, *Anthaxia*, new species, new synonymy, lectotype designation, Republic of South Africa

Introduction

Kerremans (1903) described *Anthaxia* (*Anthaxia*) *aterrima* from Western Cape Province, Republic of South Africa ('Cap de Bonne-Esprance'). Two decades later, Obenberger (1922) described *Anthaxia* (*Anthaxia*) *braunsi* also from Western Cape Province ('Capland'). Both species share all external characters, as well as shape and size of aedeagus and are obviously conspecific. Hence, we propose the new synonymy of *Anthaxia* (*Anthaxia*) *braunsi* Obenberger, 1922 under *Anthaxia* (*Anthaxia*) *aterrima* Kerremans, 1903. Examining available material of *A. aterrima* we found among members of this species twenty two specimens of the both sexes belonging to undescribed species, with one exception collected in Northern Cape Province, erroneously determined as *A. aterrima*. This new species *Anthaxia* (*Anthaxia*) *kamieserrima* **sp. nov.** is described in this paper.

Material and methods

The term 'dorsal ocular index' refers to the ratio of the minimum width of the vertex to the maximum width of the eye; it is best calculated if measured as: (twice the minimum interocular distance) / (maximum width across the eyes, minus the minimum interocular distance). Measurements of head were taken from the front, when maximum width across eyes and minimum interocular distance is clearly visible.

All measurements were taken using the ocular scale on stereoscopic binocular MBS-10 (16x magnification for total body length and 32x magnification for the rest of measurements). Colour photographs were taken with a Leica MSV266. The uncoated specimen was examined with a Hitachi S-3700N environmental electron microscope at the Department of Palaeontology, National Museum, Praha.

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