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Libanasa kilomeni, a new species of East African Lutosinae (Orthoptera: Anostomatidae)

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Abstract

A new species of *Libanasa*, *L. kilomeni*, is described. In contrast to *L. brachyura*, an inhabitant of lowland wet to submontane forest along the Tanzanian coast and part of the Eastern Arc Mountains of Tanzania, this new species is found in montane forest in the North Pare Mountains. *L. kilomeni* n. sp. is restricted to a small forest reserve and due to forest clearing at lower elevations probably driven to its upper ecological border. Therefore this species is considered endangered and should be included in the IUCN red list.

Key words: Orthoptera, Anostomatidae, king cricket, weta, Lutosinae, new species, red list

Introduction

Five species of *Libanasa* are known. Two named species, *L. brachyura* Karny and *L. signatus* (Brunner v. Wattenwyl) are described from Tanzanian localities while the remaining three species occur in southern Africa. *L. brachyura* was recently re-described based on additional fresh material collected in Tanzania (Johns & Hemp 2015).

It is similar to *L. brachyura* as redescribed in Johns & Hemp (2015). Comparison with the description and figure of *Platysiagon signata* Brunner v. Wattenwyl, (1888) and the notes of Karny (1929) reinforces the opinion of Johns (1998) that *L. brachyura* and *L. kilomeni* and another undescribed species (1 specimen BMNH collection) from Tanganyika should be separated from both *Libanasa* and *Platysiagon*. Their similarity to *Onosandridus* species of central west Africa is intriguing.

Libanasa kilomeni n. sp. Hemp & Johns

(Figs. 1–9)

<http://lsid.speciesfile.org/urn:lsid:Orthoptera.speciesfile.org:TaxonName:471994>

Holotype male (Fig. 1). Tanzania, North Pare Mountains, Kindoroko forest reserve, 7°50'44.5"S 36°53'00.2"E, montane forest, 1750 m, January 2015; depository Museum für Naturkunde, Berlin, Germany.

Paratypes female (Fig. 2), 1 male nymph, 1 female nymph (Fig. 3), same data as holotype, depository Museum für Naturkunde, Berlin, Germany.

Description male. *Colour.* Living animals yellow to reddish-brown, dark brown on posterior margins of tergites; hind femora bright yellow in living animals, slightly darkening to yellow-brown on the dorsum and apex (Fig. 1) while preserved animals are of darker brown colour.

Body smooth, shining (Fig. 1); *Head and antennae.* Fastigium verticis laterally compressed where scapus is inserted, lateral ocelli bright white (Figs. 1, 4), medial ocellus, large and oval, creamy white. Antennae: scape