

**Two new species of the genus *Hesperus* (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae: Philonthina)
from the Afrotropical region**

**Dva nové druhy rodu *Hesperus* (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae: Philonthina)
z Afrotropické oblasti**

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Abstract. Two new species of the genus *Hesperus* Fauvel, 1874 from Democratic Republic of the Congo (*H. anas* sp. n.) and Republic of South Africa (*H. mylomys* sp. n.) are described and compared with closely related species.

INTRODUCTION

The genus *Hesperus* Fauvel, 1874 belongs to the tribe Staphylinini. It is distributed in all zoogeographical regions (except Madagascar) and contains 201 species. Only Bernhauer (1915, 1928) and Scheerpeltz (1956, 1971) dealt with the taxonomy of *Hesperus* in the Afrotropical region and altogether described 25 species from the area (Herman 2001).

Description. The genus was characterized in detail by Smetana (1995: 486): ‘Body usually more or less parallel-sided, sometimes large and robust. Head and pronotum glabrous, but with large setiferous punctures, head with distinctly punctate and pubescent tempora; or, more commonly, variably punctate and pubescent except for vertex of head and middle portion of pronotum; surface usually with microsculpture; elytra variably punctate and pubescent, surface between punctures without microsculpture; abdominal tergites variably punctate and pubescent; surface with exceedingly fine and dense microsculpture of transverse striae’.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

All specimens studied are deposited in the following collections:

LHPC – private collection of Lubomír Hromádka, Praha;

MNUB – Museum der Alexander-Humboldt-Universität, Berlin, Germany (Manfred Uhlig);

MRAT – Musée Royal de L’Afrique centrale, Tervuren, Belgium (Marc de Meyer).

The following abbreviations are used in the descriptions: L = length, W = width. All measurements were taken with extended abdomen. The ratios mentioned in the descriptions can be converted to lengths as 20 units = 1 mm.

TAXONOMIC PART

***Hesperus anas* sp. n.**

(Figs 1–6)

Type material. Holotype ♂, labelled: Democratic Republic of the Congo, Massif Ruwenzori, Kalonge, 2.100 m, Riv. Nyamwamba, aff. Butahu, (‘Congo Belge’): P.N.A., 25.-27.-viii.-1952, P. Vanschuytbroeck & J. Kekenbosch 902-03 // HOLOTYPUS *Hesperus anas* sp. n.