

DESCRIPTION OF A NEW GENUS OF MYRMECOPHILOUS
SCARABEIDAE (COLEOPTERA) OF INDIA.

By DR. F. SILVESTRI (*Portici, Italy*).

The late Dr. N. Annandale, Director of the Zoological Survey of India, whom I will remember always with the deepest sorrow and greatest admiration, sent me for study some specimens of a small coleopteron found by him under stones in a nest of *Ponera tesserinoda*. I describe the specimens as belonging to a new species for which it has been necessary to propose a new genus also.

Gen. **Ponerotrogus**, nov.

(Figs. I—III.)

Corpus contractum fere $\frac{1}{3}$ longius quam latius, latitudine majore ad elitrarum partem subanticam sistente, inter pronotum et elitrarum marginem posticum lateralem vixangulatum, praeter pronoti angulum anticum et elitrarum superficiem ad suturam bene convexum, nitidum.

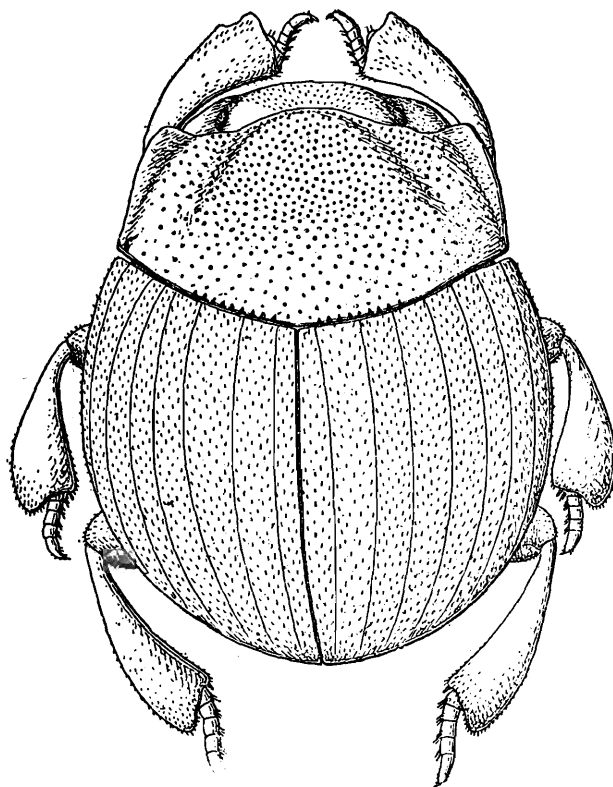


Fig. I.

Animalculum pronum et contractum.

Caput declive, postice breviter in prothorace inclusum, ab oculis extrorsum et antrorsum expansum margine laminari, circumlitione

(clypei incisura exclusa) transverse semiovale, clypeo profunde angulatim inciso et ad incisionis latera parum producto; oculis in partem superam angusta ovali et in partem inferam (pone antennarum radicem) parum majore ovali divisis; antennis inferis, 8-articulatis, clavaedia, 3-lamellata, quam articuli omnes praecedentes, simul sumpti, c. $\frac{1}{3}$ brevior; labro brevi, triangulari setis supramarginalibus longiusculis 9 + 9, setis aliis subtilioribus et superficie mediana infera, parum longe a margine antico, setis 3—4 robustis longiusculis nec non setis duabus robustis brevissimis et setis nonnullis submedianis robustioribus brevibus et brevissimis aucta, mandibulis parvis parte dentali inermi, laminari, laciniis numerosis perparvis setiformibus instructa, mola parva et mandibulae dexteræ postice serrata; maxillis primi paris lobo interno quam externum brevior apice parum clavato, papillis minimis, ad apicem setiformibus, vestito, lobo externo apice lato supra papillis setiformibus brevibus omnino vestito, subtus verrucoso, palpo maxillari articulo ultimo longo, fusiformi; labio stipilibus parvis, inter sese

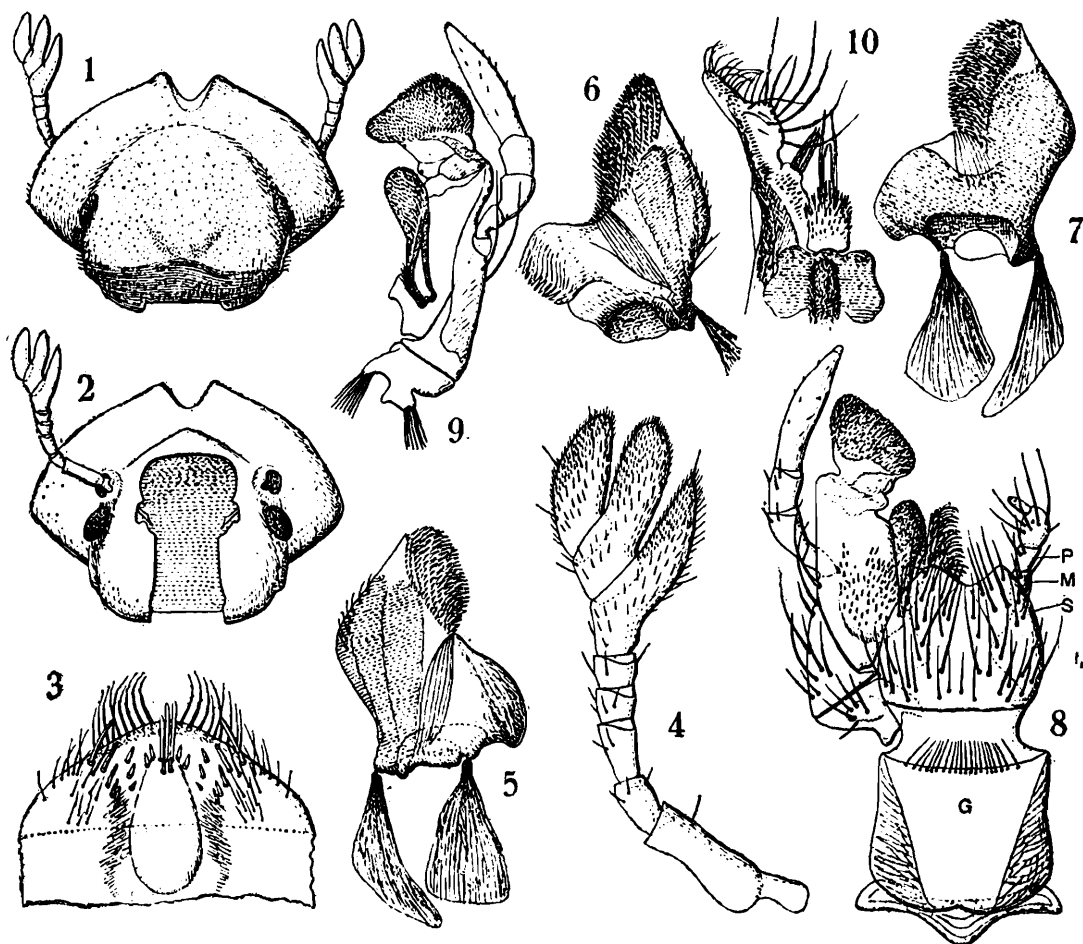


Fig. II.

1. Caput pronum; 2. idem supinum labro et appendicibus buccalibus abruptis; 3. labrum supinum; 4. antenna; 5—6. mandibula dextera prona et supina; 7. mandibula laeva supina; 8. labium cum maxilla primi paris et glossae parte dextera distalis: G gula, L glossa, M stipes labialis, P palpus labialis, S submentum; 9. maxilla primi paris dextera prona; 10. glossa prona (brachio dextero omisso).

late separatis, articuliformibus, submento magno antice sinuato, gula robusta longa et lata, palpis 3-articulatis brevioribus, articulo secundo longiore et crassiore, glossa basi mediana conice parum producta, setis duabus longiusculis et duabus brevibus instructa, lateraliter brachii instar producta, brachiis maxillae primis paris lobi interni apicem sub-

attingentibus setis longiusculis et brevibus instructis. Pronotum c. 4-9 latius quam longius angulo antico paullum producto; prosternum a pedum foramine ad partem medianam depressum ad pedum coxas continens, parte postica quam cetero parum magis elevata et media carinata. Scutellum elitris clausis haud visibile; mesosternum breve, postice profunde sinuatum, medium vix angulatum, opacum. Elytrae convexae, ad suturam antice subplanae, abdomen totum obtegentes, longitudinaliter, subtiliter 7-lineatae; metasternum magnum, paullum

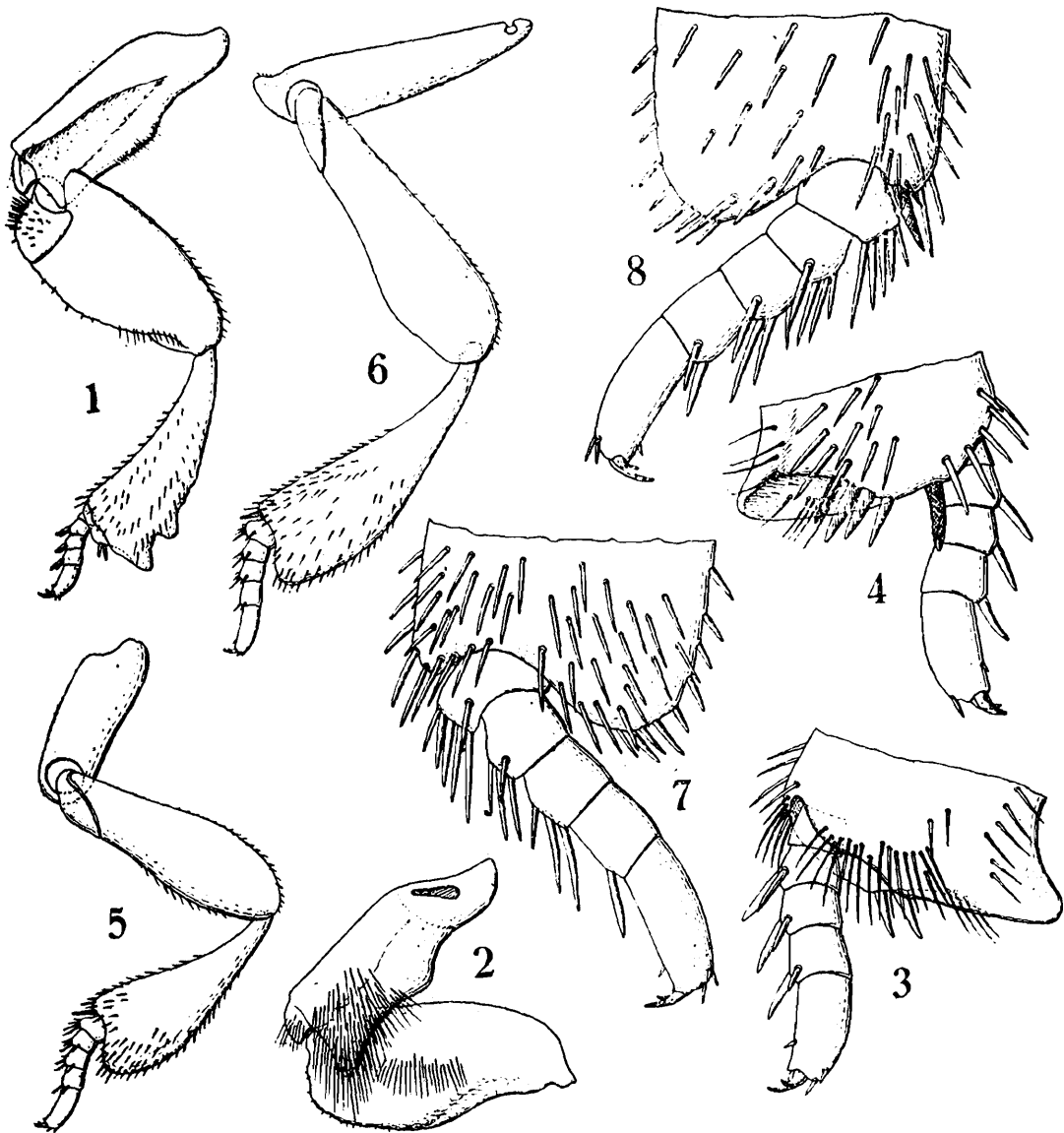


Fig. III.

1. Pes primi paris supinus; 2. ejusdem coxa, trochantere et femur supina; 3-4. pedis paris primi pars distalis a tibiae apice supra et subtus inspecta; 5. pes secundi paris et; 6. pes tertii paris subtus inspecti; 7-8. pedis paris tertii pars distalis a tibiae apice supra et subtus inspecta.

convexum, nitidum. Pedes breves, 1ⁱ, 2ⁱ et 3ⁱ paris forma vide fig. III, 1-8, tibiis omnibus calcare sat longo armatis¹, tarsis brevibus articulo ultimo quam ceteri singuli longiore, praetarsium unguibus brevioribus parum arcuatis.

¹ Clar. Collega E. Wasmann, novo examine, amicissime certiore me fecit de parvi calcaris praesentia etiam in *Cyclotrogi* speciebus.

Abdomen sternitis manifestis 6; pygidium breve et declive, postice et subtus tantum manifestum.

Species typica: *Ponerotrogus annandalei*, sp. nov.

Observatio. Genus hoc ad *Cyclotrogus* Wasm. valde affine, sed corpore longiore quam latiore, inter elytrarum basim et pronotum angulo parvo obtuso affecto, antennarum flagello longiore, tibiatarum secundi et tertii paris calcare longiore et angulo apicali externo brevior bene distinctum est.

***Ponerotrogus annandalei*, sp. nov.**

Corpus niger capite et pronoto sat crebre et subtiliter punctatis, punctis (saltem partim) setam brevissimam gerentibus, pronoti margine postico mediano breviter triangulari et margine postico submediano utrimque incisionibus triangularibus 8—9 impresso. Elytrae inter sulcos longitudinales setis brevissimis sat numerosis instructae sunt.

Long. corp. ad mm. 3.4, lat. maxima 2.5.

Habitat. Exempla nonnulla sub saxo in nido *Ponera tesserinoda*, Dr. N. Annandale, cui speciem dico animo dolente et grato, legit.

[According to the late Dr. Annandale's notes in the field station-book these beetles were found on two occasions in August and October, 1923 at Barkuda Island in the Chilka Lake in the nests of *Ponera tesserinoda* Mayr. The nests of this ant, according to the notes, consist of flat chambers immediately under stones with narrow passages going into the earth. In these passages *Ponerotrogus annandalei* was found with a wood-louse which has been identified by Dr. B. Chopra as *Cubaris granulatus* Collinge. (B. Prashad).]