

Two new species of *Anthaxia* from Yemen (Coleoptera: Buprestidae)

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Abstract. Two new species of the genus *Anthaxia* Eschscholtz, 1829 from Yemen are described, illustrated and compared with their relatives: *Anthaxia* (*Haplanthaxia*) *crotonivora* sp. nov. from the Island of Soqatra and *A.* (*Haplanthaxia*) *kabateki* sp. nov. from Central Yemen.

Key words. Taxonomy, new species, Coleoptera, Buprestidae, *Anthaxia*, Yemen

Introduction

In the course of the recent few years, several Czech zoological expeditions have been working in Yemen, specifically on the Island of Soqatra. The most recent expedition resulted in material of the family Buprestidae in which two undescribed species of the genus *Anthaxia* Eschscholtz, 1829 were discovered. The first species (*Anthaxia crotonivora* sp. nov.) is quite distinct from all known species-groups in the subgenus *Haplanthaxia* Reitter, 1911, while the second one (*A. kabateki* sp. nov.) belongs to the *A. armeniaca* Obenberger, 1929 species-group of *Haplanthaxia*. The *A. armeniaca* species-group was defined by RIKHTER (1949) as the subgenus *Cryptocratomerus* Rikhter, 1944 of the genus *Cratomerus* Solier, 1833. After the synonymy of the genera *Anthaxia* and *Cratomerus* and the subgenera *Haplanthaxia* and *Cryptocratomerus* by OBENBERGER (1958), the species originally included into *Cryptocratomerus* are now treated in the subgenus *Haplanthaxia* (BÍLÝ 1997). A number of species originally included by RIKHTER (1949) in *Cryptocratomerus* actually belong to the *A. armeniaca* group (see also BÍLÝ 1983).

The only abbreviation is used in the text: NMPC – National Museum, Prague; type localities are cited verbatim and data on individual labels are separated by double slash '//'.