

**On the genus *Rhagiosoma* and the identity
of *R. madagascariense* (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae:
Sagrinae: Megamerini)**

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Abstract. The genus *Rhagiosoma* Chapuis, 1878, is removed from the synonymy with *Megamerus* MacLeay, 1827. *Mecynodera madagascariensis* Heyden, 1877, is transferred to *Rhagiosoma*, its taxonomic status is revised and species rank restored. *Rhagiosoma chapuisi* nom. nov. is proposed as a substitute name for *R. madagascariense* Chapuis, 1878, nec Heyden, 1877. Lectotypes are designated for both species and their taxonomic status is discussed along with the position of *Prionesthis* Lacordaire, 1845. A list of all *Rhagiosoma* species is presented.

Key words. Coleoptera, Chrysomelidae, Sagrinae, *Rhagiosoma*, *Megamerus*, *Mecynodera*, *Prionesthis*, taxonomy, lectotype designation, revised status, new name, Madagascar, Australia

Introduction

CHAPUIS (1878) proposed the genus *Rhagiosoma* for a unique, cerambycid-like sagrine beetle and described a single species in it, *R. madagascariense* Chapuis, 1878. During subsequent decades four more species were described in this genus, all from Madagascar except *R. obscurithorax* Pic, 1914, from Eastern Africa. However, I have some doubts about the correctness of the locality given by Pic.

MONRÓS (1956) reviewed the Australian genus *Megamerus* MacLeay, 1827, synonymized *Rhagiosoma* with it, and described *M. alvarengai* from northern Brazil (Rio Grande do Norte). Consequently, eight valid species distributed in Australia, Madagascar, Brazil and Eastern Africa were placed in *Megamerus*. However, MONRÓS (1956) merely discussed the status of the species without touching upon the structure of male genitalia, although it had been reported as an important diagnostic character (REINECK 1913). This paper is aimed on