

**A new species of the genus *Cyrtonion*  
(Coleoptera: Hydrophilidae: Megasternini)  
from the Democratic Republic of the Congo**

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**Abstract.** *Cyrtonion moto* sp. nov. is described from northeastern part of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The species is compared with the remaining two representatives of the genus, *C. ghanense* Hansen, 1989 and *C. sculpticolle* (Régimbart, 1907). Distributions of all three species of the genus *Cyrtonion* Hansen, 1989 are mapped and discussed.

**Key words.** Coleoptera, Hydrophilidae, Sphaeridiinae, Megasternini, *Cyrtonion*, new species, taxonomy, distribution, Afrotropical region

### Introduction

Within the mainland part of the Afrotropical region (i.e. excluding Madagascar, Mascarenes, Seychelles and Cape Verde Islands), the tribe Megasternini is represented by 17 genera containing more than 90 described species (HANSEN 1999, HEBAUER 2006, FIKÁČEK 2007). Among these taxa, the *Megasternum* group of genera, i.e. the group of genera characterized by large antennal grooves of prosternum reaching laterally pronotal margins, is especially diverse in tropical Africa. This diversity especially concerns the external morphology, which is quite unusual within the otherwise largely externally-uniform representatives of the tribe. Eight genera are presently recognized in Afrotropical region, of which the last three are endemic: *Emmidolium* Orchymont, 1937, *Tectosternum* Balfour-Browne, 1958, *Megasternum* Mulsant, 1844, *Pachysternum* Motschulsky, 1863, *Cryptopleurum* Mulsant, 1844, *Cyrtonion* Hansen, 1989, *Cercillum* Knisch, 1921, and *Pyretus* Balfour-Browne, 1950. The actual diversity of this group of genera is much higher, as many taxa remain undescribed and some very distinct morphological groups of species are recently classified within the broadly understood genera *Cryptopleurum* and *Pachysternum* (M. Fikáček, unpubl. data). In comparison, the following number of genera of this group are known from the remaining zoogeographic regions: four in Palearctic as well as Nearctic regions, three in Oriental region including west-Pacific islands, two in Neotropical region and one in Australian region.