

Antilochus (Neaeretus) pterobrachys sp. nov.
and the correct name of the subgenus *Afroantilochus*
(Hemiptera: Heteroptera: Pyrrhocoridae)

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Abstract. *Neaeretus* Reuter, 1887 is recognized as a senior synonym of *Afroantilochus* Stehlík, 2009, syn. nov., and a valid name of this subgenus. A new species, *Antilochus (Neaeretus) pterobrachys* sp. nov., is described from Tanzania.

Keywords. Heteroptera, Pyrrhocoridae, nomenclature, new synonymy, new species, taxonomy, Afrotropical Region

Introduction and nomenclature

STEHLÍK (2009) recognized two monophyletic groups of species within *Antilochus* Stål, 1863. He established them as subgenera *Antilochus* s. str. (type species *Lygaeus coquebertii* Fabricius, 1803, subsequent designation by DISTANT (1903)), including 21 species distributed in the Oriental and Australian Regions; and *Afroantilochus* Stehlík, 2009 (type species *Lygaeus boerhaviae* Fabricius, 1794, by original designation), including five species from tropical Africa and *Antilochus distantii* (Reuter, 1887) from Madagascar. However, REUTER (1887) described the latter species as *Neaeretus distantii*, being the type species of *Neaeretus* Reuter, 1887, by monotypy. Later, *Neaeretus* was synonymized with *Antilochus* by BERGROTH (1894) and had been treated as its junior synonym until recently (see HUSSEY 1929, CACHAN 1952, KERZHNER 2001, ROBERTSON 2004). As long as *Antilochus boerhaviae* and *Antilochus distantii* are accommodated in a single subgenus, *Afroantilochus* Stehlík, 2009 must be regarded as a junior subjective synonym of *Neaeretus* Reuter, 1887. The resulting nomenclatural changes are summarized as follows:

Neaeretus Reuter, 1887

Neaeretus Reuter, 1887: 92. Type species: *Neaeretus distantii* Reuter, 1887, by monotypy.

= *Afroantilochus* Stehlík, 2009: 58–59 (as subgenus of *Antilochus* Stål, 1863). Type species: *Lygaeus boerhaviae* Fabricius, 1794, by original designation, **syn. nov.**

The following species are included into the subgenus *Neaeretus*:

- Antilochus (Neaeretus) boerhaviae* (Fabricius, 1794)
Antilochus (Neaeretus) distantii (Reuter, 1887)
Antilochus (Neaeretus) kmenti Stehlík, 2009
Antilochus (Neaeretus) nigrocruciatus (Stål, 1855)
Antilochus (Neaeretus) pterobrachys **sp. nov.**
Antilochus (Neaeretus) similis Stehlík, 2009
Antilochus (?Neaeretus) violaceus (Carlini, 1892)

Taxonomy

Antilochus (Neaeretus) pterobrachys **sp. nov.**

(Figs. 1–5)

Type locality. Tanzania, Bagamoyo (75 km north of Dar-es-Salaam at the coast of the Indian Ocean).

Type material. HOLOTYPE: ♂, ‘Bagamojo’ [handwritten] // ♂ [printed] // ‘HOLOTYPE’ [printed] / *Antilochus pterobrachys* [handwritten] / det. STEHLÍK & KMENT 2010 [printed, red label] (coll. Moravian Museum, Brno, Czech Republic).

Description. Colouration (Fig. 1). Head, antennomeres (except basal third of antennomere 4), tibiae, tarsi, posterior portion of pronotal collar (between anterior convex parts of callar lobe), callar and pronotal lobes, scutellum, clavus, wide transversal stripe at mid-length of corium, extreme apex of corium, membrane, pleuron I, and dorsal parts of pleura II and III all black. Pronotal collar (except the posterior portion), lateral and posterior pronotal margins, prosternal collar, proximal third of corium, and posterior pleural flanges I, II and III all reddish orange; a large, transversely oval subapical spot extending from anterior margin of corium to membrane whitish orange. Labium, ventral parts of pleura II and III, epicoxal lobes I–III, and trochanters orange red. Femora orange red, distally gradually blackened. Zygosternites, ventral and dorsal laterotergites and mesotergites red. Anterior margin of posterior whitish yellow spot on corium convex anteriorly.

Structure. Anterior portion of pronotal collar slightly gibbous. Callar lobe distinctly gibbous, much longer than flat pronotal lobe. Hemelytra submacropterous, membrane narrow and strongly shortened; membranes of both hemelytrae not overlapping in posterior half. Hind wings crypto-brachypterous.

Pygophore large (width 3.13 mm, length 2.86 mm) (Figs. 2–4). Base of ventral rim, in caudal view, medially arcuately elevated. Lateral rim, in lateral view, strongly gibbose towards dorsal rim, but depressed just before joining it (Fig. 4). In dorsal view, lateral walls of pygophore narrowed towards dorsal rim; lateral rim beyond its posterior third rectangularly bent anteriorly, lateral rim infolding apparent only behind this right angle and steeply sloping into genital chamber (Fig. 2). Folded part of ventral rim strongly pilose, apically incised, the incision internally emarginated by sharp edge; lateral rim and lateral rim infolding less pilose (Fig. 3).

Paramere (Fig. 5). Base wide, flat, with shallow round depression on inner side, narrowed towards apex ca. from two-thirds of its length. Apex of paramere sharply emarginated and

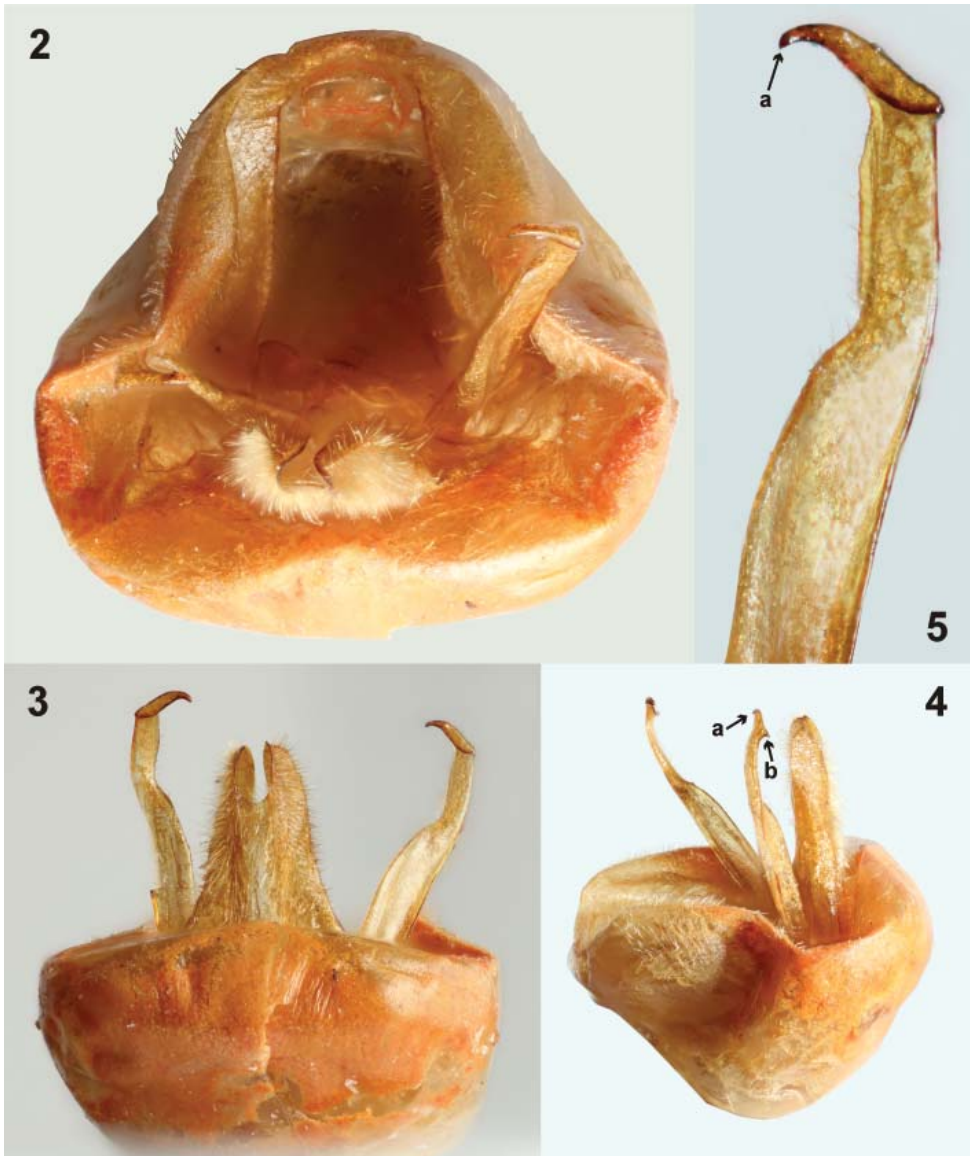
bent inwards, its tip attenuated and curved downwards (Figs. 4–5: arrow a); there is another small spine on outer side of the paramere apex, opposite to the tip (see Fig. 4: arrow b). Inner side of paramere covered with sparse long sensorial setae.

Puncturation. Anterior margin of pronotal collar without punctures, more posteriorly with small scattered punctures. Pronotal lobe (except posterior margin), scutellum, clavus, and corium with regularly distributed, rather distinct puncturation, punctures of equal size.

Measurements (in mm). Body length 13.23. Head: width (including eyes) 2.16, interocular width 1.13. Lengths of antennomeres: 1 – 2.70, 2 – 3.08, 3 – 2.48, 4 – 3.24. Pronotum: total length 3.19, width 4.59. Scutellum: length 1.94, width 2.11. Corium: length 7.45, width 2.65.



Fig. 1. *Antilochus (Neaeretus) pterobrachys* sp. nov., ♂ holotype. (Photo: L. Dembický).



Figs. 2–5. *Antilochus (Neaeretus) pterobrachys* sp. nov., ♂ holotype, male genitalia. 2 – pygophore, dorsal view; 3 – pygophore, posterior view; 4 – pygophore, lateral view; 5 – paramere, most exposed view (a – tip of paramere, b – small spine opposite the tip). (Photo: P. Kment).

Differential diagnosis. *Antilochus (N.) pterobrachys* sp. nov. is quite similar to *A. (N.) nigrocruciatus* in body size, colouration, and tendency to brachyptery. *Antilochus (N.) nigrocruciatus*, however, differs from *A. (N.) pterobrachys* sp. nov. in the following characters: antennomere 4 basally without pale ring; pronotal collar completely flat, without puncturation; callar lobe less gibbous, shorter; punctures on pronotal lobe, scutellum, clavus, and corium less distinct; legs black; ventrites and mesotergites anteriorly with white stripes; black transversal stripe on corium wider.

Etymology. Composed from the Greek noun *pteron* (= wing) and the Greek adjective *brachys* (= short), referring to the shortened hemelytra and wings of the species.

Distribution. Tanzania.

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