

Further jewel beetles (Coleoptera, Buprestidae) from Yemen, including new species of *Ankareus* Kerremans and *Agrilus* Curtis

by Svatopluk Bilý, Gianfranco Curletti and Antonius van Harten

Abstract. Nine known species of Buprestidae are recorded for the first time from Yemen. They were almost without exception collected with the help of Malaise- and light-traps. In addition, two species new to science, *Ankareus luciphilus* nov. sp. and *Agrilus filius* nov. sp., are described.

Kurzfassung. Neun bekannte Arten von Buprestidae werden zum ersten Mal von Jemen gemeldet. Fast ohne Ausnahme wurden die Tiere mit Hilfe von Malaise- und Licht-Fallen gesammelt. Außerdem werden zwei neue Arten, *Ankareus luciphilus* nov. sp. und *Agrilus filius* nov. sp., erstmals beschrieben.

Key words. Yemen, Buprestidae, new species, faunistics, taxonomy.

Introduction

The jewel beetles of Yemen are still very incompletely known. In a checklist of the arthropod fauna of the country, VAN HARTEN & WAGENER (1994) listed seven species recorded in old publications, but they were not aware of some more recent papers that had also recorded Buprestidae from Yemen, e.g. BECCARI (1971) and BILÝ (1973, 1984). Since then, the rhythm of publication of new records of Buprestidae has accelerated: BILÝ (1995), BRECHTEL (1998, 2000) and most recently CURLETTI & VAN HARTEN (2002), who dealt with five species of *Agrilus*. We estimate that in total about 20-25 valid species have been recorded from the country.

In the present paper nine more known species are recorded for the first time from Yemen and two new species are described.

Material and methods

As part of an attempt to gain better knowledge of the biological diversity of Yemen, insect traps, Malaise-traps as well as light-traps, have been put up at a number of localities. For reasons of security (theft, destruction), these traps have not been placed directly in the natural environment, but rather in tree nurseries (Al Lahima, NW of Manakhah) and gardens (Al Kowd, Suq Bani Mansour) belonging to the Ministry of Agriculture & Irrigation, as well as in the compound of a university (Lahj). With the exception of a single specimen, all jewel beetles dealt with here were collected in these traps.

The specimens will be deposited in the following collections: National Museum, Praha, Czech