

**A REVIEW OF THE EGYPTIAN ANT FLOWER BEETLES
(ANTHICIDAE, COLEOPTERA)
I- TRIBE ANTHICINI**

**By ASHRAF M. EL-TORKEY¹, HASSAN H. FADL², ALI A.
EL-GHARBAWY³ AND MAHMOUD S. ABDEL-DAYEM⁴**

¹ *Plant Protection Res. Inst., Agriculture Res. Cent., Giza, Egypt*

² *Entomology Dept., Fac. Science, Ain Shams Univ., Cairo, Egypt.*

³ *Zoology Dept., Faculty of Science, Al-Azhar Univ., Cairo, Egypt.*

⁴ *Entomology Dept., Faculty of Science, Cairo Univ., Giza, Egypt.*

(Received 5-12-2005)

INTRODUCTION

Members of the Anthicidae, the ant-flower beetles, are moderate-sized; the family comprises about 3000 species under 40 genera (Booth, 1990). The adults of these beetles are active on the soil surface or are found on flowers or with heaps of dead and decaying vegetables where they are said to feed mainly on dead beetles, though apparently they are omnivorous on a wide range of invertebrates. They are characteristically narrow-bodied beetles with a distinctive pronotum that is constricted posteriorly and are usually black or dark brown, sometimes with patches of dull red or yellow. Some species have an obvious horn on the anterior border of pronotum.

Members of the Anthicidae are most commonly residents of the coastal fringe, especially on sandy soils, or the sides of rivers. Others species are associated with compost or straw.

The fauna of ant-beetles is generally well treated in North America and Eurasia, and somewhat less so for Africa and South America. The Oriental, Australian, and New Zealand faunas have all been mainly neglected since the early 1900s (Werner and Chandler, 1995). Recently in 2004 Chandler, *et al.*, resolved many nomenclatural problems in the Anthicidae of the Palaearctic regions. Systematic work on the Egyptian Anthicidae undoubtedly reflects this pattern. Previous handling of Egyptian anthicids consists of sporadic species descriptions: La Ferte (2 species), Desbrochers (2 species), and Pic (5 species) from 1884 to 1935. Other than being treated in part (Schatzmayer and Koch, 1933) and listing in a catalogue (Alfieri, 1976), there is no subsequent paper dealing with the Egyptian anthicids. Accordingly a designed series dealing with the taxonomy and fauna of ant-beetles in Egypt is being issued.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The present taxonomic work started by examining specimens in the Egyptian Reference Insect Collections to give a general picture on the diversity and distribution of anthicid beetles in Egypt. These collections are: Ministry of Agriculture, Plant Protection Research Institute (MAC); Alfieri Collection, Faculty of Agriculture, Al-Azhar University (AZUC); Egyptian Entomological Society (EESC); Cairo University (CUC), Department of Entomology, Faculty of Science and Ain Shams University, Department of Entomology, Faculty of Science (ASUC); in addition to specimens preserved in the author's collection (AUC).

The specimens of anthicids species under investigation were collected by using various methods including sweeping net and pitfall traps in addition to light traps, where many species are frequently attracted to artificial light. A field survey of anthicids beetles was undertaken over a great area of the Egyptian territories and covered the main geographical zones, i.e.: Coastal strip, Lower Egypt, Upper Egypt, Western Desert, Eastern Desert, Sinai and Gabel Elba. All species which we have examined are represented by one or more figures that are simple line drawings. In the discussion following each taxon, all known records for the species in Egypt are cited.

RESULTS

Key to genera

- 1- Pronotum (fig. 1) attenuate in an oblique line towards the base *Anthicus*
- Pronotum (figs. 2, 3) attenuate sinuately towards the base 2

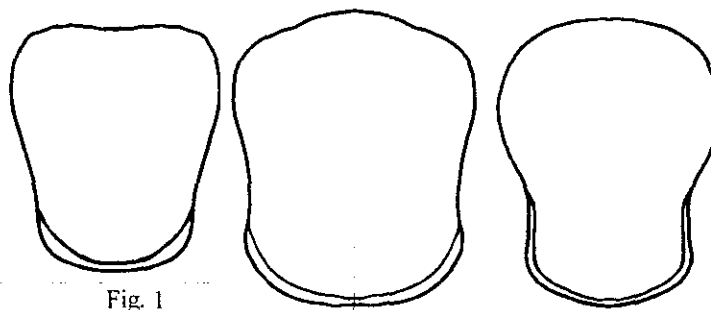


Fig. 1

Fig. 2

Fig. 3

- 2- Situation of pronotum strong, basal edge extended to the middle of the pronotum (fig. 3) *Stricticomus*
- Situation of pronotum moderate, basal edge not extended to the middle (fig. 2) *Omonadus*

I- Genus *Anthicus* (Paykull, 1798)

- Anthicus* Paykull, 1798: Insect (Coleoptera), 1: 253.
Eonius Thomson, 1864: Skandnaviens Coleoptera, synoptiskt bearbetade. 6: 366.
Cartolus Mulsant & Rey, 1866: Colligères, 17: 104.
Nodolinus Mulsant & Rey, 1866: Colligères, 17: 83.
Platylorus Mulsant & Rey, 1866: Colligères, 17: 84.
Birricollis Mrseul, 1879: L'Abeille, 17: 67.
Brevicollis Mrseul, 1879: L'Abeille, 17: 67.
Pubicollis Mrseul, 1879: L'Abeille, 17: 67.
Reticollis Mrseul, 1879: L'Abeille, 17: 66.
Curticullis Pic, 1892: L'Échange, Revue Linnéenne 8: 44.
Curticomus Pic, 1894: Revue Scientifique du Bourbonnais et du Centre de la France 7: 76.
Birricomus Pic, 1894: Revue Scientifique du Bourbonnais et du Centre de la France 7: 43.
Brevicomus Pic, 1894: Revue Scientifique du Bourbonnais et du Centre de la France 7: 46.
Pubicomus Pic, 1894: Revue Scientifique du Bourbonnais et du Centre de la France 7: 48.

Key to species

- 1- First antennal segment (fig. 4a) at the internal side extended into spiniform process *armatus*
 - First antennal segment (fig. 4b) without such process 2



- 2- Pronotum wider than long or as wide as long 3
 - Pronotum longer than wide 5
 3- Pronotum wider than long 4
 - Pronotum as wide as long. Basal part black, apical part testaceous (length 3-3.2) *brulieri*
 4- Head quadrate. Pronotum with very densely and slightly deep punctation *dimidiatipennis*
 - Head long. Pronotum with strong little compact punctation *demaisioni*
 5- Elytra without spot 6
 - Each elytron with one or 2 spots 7

- 6- Body entirely unicolour black *niger*
 - Body not as such 8
- 7- Body red ferruginous, elytra black or dark brown *genei*
 - Body entirely testaceous in colour 9
- 8- Head with rounded base *sinaiticus*
 - Head with truncate base *proximus*
- 9- Each elytron with one spot *fenestratus*
 - Each elytron with 2 spots 10
- 10- Dorsum with erect or semierect hairs 11
 - Dorsum coated with pubescence and without erect or semierect hairs 12
- 11- Elytral spots connected with suture. Head with a strong and spread punctation *crinitus*
 - Elytral spots widely separated from suture. Head with a fine and compact punctation *theryi*
- 12- Head nearly triangular. Punctuation of head and pronotum coarse; elytra moderately strong and little compact *lepaumi*
 - Head subquadrangle. Punctuation of head and pronotum fine; elytra strong *tristis*

1. *Anthicus armatus* Truqui, 1855

(Figure 5)

Anthicus armatus Truqui, Anthicini, 1855, p. 359, t. 16, f. 10.

Synonyms:

Anthicus lessepsi Marseul, Abeille V, 1868, p. 192.

Anthicus armatus var. *heluanensis* Pic, Rev. scient. Bourb. XII, 1903, p. 175.

Diagnosis:

Body length: 2.7 mm., width: 0.9 mm.; Head length: 0.5 mm., width: 0.6 mm.;
 Pronotal length: 0.6 mm., width: 0.5 mm.; Elytral length: 1.6 mm., width: 0.9 mm. Body black; antennae, palpi, tibiae, tarsi, and elytral bands testaceous. Pubescence grey on the pronotum, white and longer on the elytral bands and black on the rest of the body. Outer contour of the body provided with black

bristles. Head slightly broader than pronotum; truncate posteriorly with angles rounded; with fine sparse punctation. Antennae with first segment swollen and provided with blunt dent. Pronotum slightly elongate, provided in front with a narrow neck; fine, densely punctate. Elytra subparallel, truncate at end, densely punctate; ornated with two testaceous fascia, first one a little close to the shoulder, a little oblique, united at elytral suture; the second one located after middle, transverse, rounded toward the suture and not united with it.

Specimens Examined: Dissounes, Chackour (1) EESC; Helwan, 30.3.1933, (1) MAC; Kantara, 12.1911, Walter (1) EESC; Kharga Oasis, 27.3.1928, Alfieri (1) ALC; Maadi, 10.5.1912, (8) MAC; Maadia, 26.8.1934, Alfieri (1) ALC; Mex, 15.8.1934, (1) MAC; Toura, 6.3.1910, Ferrante (1) EESC; Toura, 3, Walter (1) EESC; Toura, 4, Walter (2) EESC; Toura, 8.7.1904, Ferrante (12) EESC; Toura, 18.7.1909, Ferrante (1) EESC; Toura, 7.1909, Alfieri (4) ALC; Toura, 10.10.1910, Ferrante (2) EESC; Toura, 10, Walter (2) EESC; Toura, 11, Chackour (1) EESC; Toura, 11, Alfieri (1) ALC; Toura, Ferrante (1) EESC.

Distribution: Palaearctic element, recorded from Cyprus, Iraq, and Egypt.

Local distribution: distributed along the Mediterranean coast from Mex to Edku Lake, dispersed southwardly through Eastern Desert and Western Desert, as well as Sinai Peninsula.

2. *Anthicus brulieri* Desbrochers, 1875

(Figure 6)

Anthicus brulieri Desbrochers, Op. Ent. I, 1875, p. 43.

Type locality: Port Said; Egypt.

Synonyms:

Anthicus honestus Marseul, Abeille XIV, 1878, Nouv. (2) nr. 13, p. 50.

Diagnosis

Body length: 3.2 mm, width: 1 mm.; Head length: 0.5 mm., width: 0.7 mm.; Pronotal length: 0.7 mm., width: 0.7 mm.; Elytral length: 2.2 mm., width: 1 mm. Pronotum, legs, base of antennae, elytral band and ventrum testaceous; head, basal third and apical part of elytra black. Punctation fine on the head, moderately strong on the pronotum and strong on the basal half of elytra, becoming finer posteriorly. Pubescence fine and short on the head and pronotum, rather long on the elytra. Head quadrate as wide as pronotum; base truncate notched at middle, rounded at

angles. Pronotum as wide as long, convex, rounded anteriorly, retracted posteriorly, base straightly curved. Elytra slightly convex, a little wider after middle, rounded at end; with a transverse band occupying nearly the posterior part of the elytra except the apex. Pygidium partly covered by elytra.

Local Distribution: Endemic species recorded in Mediterranean coast and Lower Nile Valley.

3. *Anthicus crinitus* La Ferte, 1848

(Figure 7)

Anthicus crinitus La Ferte, Monogr., 1848, p. 204, 303.

Type locality: Egypt and Senegal.

Synonyms:

Anthicus communimacula Fairmaire, Ann. Soc. Ent. Belg. XL, 1896, p. 47.

Anthicus communimacula var. *uninotatus* Pic, Ann. Soc. Ent. Fr. XXII, 1909, p. 350.

Anthicus crinitus var. *flavisternus* Marseul, Monogr., 1879, p. 149.

Anthicus crinitus var. *laevaticeps* Marseul, Monogr., 1879, p. 245.

Diagnosis

Body length: 2.9 mm, width: 0.8 mm.; Head length: 0.6 mm., width: 0.6 mm.; Pronotal length: 0.6 mm., width: 0.5 mm.; Elytral length: 1.7 mm., width: 0.8 mm. Palpi, antennae and legs testaceous; head shiny black; pronotum deep rufus; elytra shiny black except area of basal third and one maculation subapical testaceous. Head and pronotum covered with moderately sparse hairs, and dense on elytra. Head and pronotum with fine sparsely punctate; and regular, dense, and slightly deep punctuation on elytra, becoming feeble in terminal fourth. Head quadrate, convex, wider than pronotum; with straight basal margin, notched at middle. Pronotum trapezoidal, rather convex, longer than wide, anterior angles rounded, retracted posteriorly, base slightly convex. Elytra strongly convex, lateral margin curved, a little wider after middle. Pygidium exposed.

Specimens Examined: Abbasia, 12.8.1912, Alfieri (1) ALC; Abu Rawash, 5.6.1931, (1) MAC; Abu Rawash, 15.6.1909, Alfieri (5) ALC; Aslut, 2.11.1930, (1) MAC; Abu Rawash, 1.1.1912, Ferrante (1), EESC; Abu Rawash, 9.7.1911, Ferrante (3), EESC; Abu Rawash, 6.11.1932, Chackour (1) EESC; Alexandria, 27.4.1914, Ferrante (1) EESC; Alexandria, 13.8.1917, Ferrante (1) EESC; Alexandria, 12.12.1912, Ferrante (1) EESC; Alexandria, Ferrante (1) EESC; Anshas, 11.9.2003, El-Torkey (7) AUC; Belbis, 5.4.1998, Abdel-Dayem (1) AUC; Beni Mazar, 27.5.1915, Ferrante (2) EESC;

Beni Mazar, 27.6. 1915, Ferrante (2) EESC; Beni Mazar, 4.10.1895, Ferrante (1) EESC; Cairo, 6.4.1914, Ferrante (1) EESC; Cairo, 7.1909, Alfieri (4) ALC; Cairo, 15.7.1911, Alfieri (2) ALC; Cairo, 22.8.1932, Chackour (2) EESC; Cairo, 6.9.1907, Ferrante (1) EESC; Cairo, 15.9.1913, Alfieri (5) ALC; Cairo, 10. 9.1918, Ferrante (1) EESC; Cairo, 9. 10. 1911, Ferrante (1) EESC; Cairo, 12.10.1923. Dr.T.S. (1) ASUC; Cairo, 2.11.1932, Chackour (1) EESC; Cairo, 8.11.1953, Dr.T.S. (1) ASUC; Cairo, 12.1915, Ferrante (1) EESC; Cairo, 1912, Alfieri (1) ALC; Dahshour, 20.4.1912, Ferrante (1) EESC; Dekhiela, 8.6.1926, (1) MAC; Dokki, 23.9.1924, (83) MAC; El Eksas, 20.9.1913, Alfieri (6) ALC; El Eksas, 20.9.1915, Alfieri (24) ALC; Fayoum, 3.1907, Ferrante (3) EESC; Giza, 4.5.1914, Walter (2) EESC; Giza, 17.5.1926, (1) MAC; Giza, 5, Chackour (1) EESC; Giza, 20.7.1930, (1) MAC; Giza, 20.8.1918, Walter (1) EESC; Giza, 17.8.1932, Chackour (3) EESC; Hammam, 5.1904, Ferrante (11) EESC; Hammam, 5.1909, Ferrante (5) EESC; Hawamdiya, 9, Alfieri (1) ALC; Hawamdiya. 10, Alfieri (2) ALC; Helmia, 5, Walter (1) EESC; Helwan, 6.3.1916, Ferrante (1) EESC; Helwan, 4.10.1908, Ferrante (1) EESC; Helwan, 23.10.1930, (1) MAC; Kafr Bateikh, 27.7.1897, Ferrante (1) EESC; Kafr Gamous, 9, Chackour (1) EESC; Kafr Hakim, 13.7.1930, (1) MAC; Katta, 9.11.1910, Ferrante (11) EESC; Katta, 1.11.1910, Ferrante (10) EESC; Kerdasa, 11.4.1934, (1) MAC; Kerdasa, 5.12.1920, Alfieri (1) ALC; Kerdassa, 5, Chackour (6) EESC; Kharga Oasis, 12.6.1926, (1) MAC; Kom Ombo, 24.7.2004, Fadl (50) AUC; Koubeh, 9.1908, Alfieri (1) ALC; Luxor, 6.1908, Ferrante (8) EESC; Luxor, 6.1909, Ferrante (22) EESC; Luxor, 6.1911, Ferrante (2) EESC; Luxor, 7.7.1910, Ferrante (3) EESC; Maadi, 5, Walter (1) EESC; Maadi, 29.7.1931, (1) MAC; Maadi, 30.10.1910, Ferrante (1) EESC; Maamoura, 2.3.1955, S.H. (1) ASUC; Mafareq 15.6.1998, Abdel-Dayem (10) AUC; Marg, 20.8.1932, Chackour (3) EESC; Marg, 8, Walter (9) EESC; Marg, 13.12.1903, Ferrante (2) EESC; Mariout, 24.6.1911, Ferrante (1) EESC; Marsa Halaib, 20.1.1933, (1) MAC; Marsa Matrouh, 10.7.1927, (1) MAC; Massara, 16.5.1909, Ferrante (3) EESC; Massara, 20.5.1909, Alfieri (1) ALC; Massara, 4.7.1913, Alfieri (1) ALC; Massara, 31.8.1913, Walter (5) EESC; Mataana, 25.5.1933, (1) MAC; Matareyia, 2, Walter (1) EESC; Matareyia, 9, Chackour (1) EESC; Minia, 3.10.1925, (1) MAC; Paris Oasis, 27.8.1997, El-Torkey (3) AUC; Pyramids, 10.3.1907, Ferrante (1) EESC; Pyramids, 27.3.1933, (1) MAC; Pyramids, 24.5.1915, Ferrante (1) EESC; Pyramids, 4.9.1932, Chackour (1) EESC; Qosima, 23.5.1935, Alfieri (1) ALC; Roda, 2.9.1913, Walter (2) EESC; Sherbein, 5.4.1915, Ferrante (1) EESC; Shoubra, 15.4.1915, Ferrante (29) EESC; Shoubra, 29.4.1915, Ferrante (1) EESC; Shoubra, 25.7.1914, Ferrante (8) EESC; Shoubra, 25.7.1914, Ferrante (16) EESC; Shoubra, 23.7.1914, Ferrante (8) EESC; Shoubra, 28.8.1912, Ferrante (1) EESC; Shoubra, 15.8.1914, Ferrante (1)

EESC; Shoubra, 8, Chackour (5) EESC; Shoubra, 25.9.1912, Ferrante, (1) EESC; Shoubra, 28.9.1912, Ferrante (2) EESC; Shoubra, 25.9.1912, Ferrante (1) EESC; Shoubra, 7.9.1914, Ferrante (5) EESC; Shoubra, 20.9.1914, Ferrante (1) EESC; Shoubra, 28.9.1916, Ferrante (1) EESC; Shoubra, 28.9.1916, Ferrante (6) EESC; Shoubra, 19.10.1914, Ferrante (3) EESC; Sidi Gaber, 6.7.1915, Ferrante (1) EESC; Sinuris, 12.7.2003 Abdel-Dayem (20) AUC; Talbeyia, 19.11.1915, Alfieri (1) ALC; Thomas Island, 9.4.1931, (1) MAC; Toura, 7, Chackour (1) EESC; W. Bir Qena, 10.4.1925, (1) MAC; W. Gharageed, 10.5.1926, (1) MAC; W. Qena, 13.8.1933, (1) MAC.

Distribution: subcosmopolitan in distribution most probably through human commerce (Nardi and Mifsud, 2003). It is recorded from Southern Europe, Micronesia, Africa, Asia and America.

Local distribution: Widely distributed in all geomorphological zones in Egypt.

4. *Anthicus denaisoni* Pic, 1893

Anthicus denaisoni Pic, L'Change, Revue Linnéenne, 1893, 99: p. 27-28.

Type locality: Egypt (Luxor).

Diagnosis

Body length: 2 mm. Body small little brilliant, entirely testaceous reddish, with the posterior two third of elytra and abdomen blackish. Punctuation little compact on head; rather strong and little compact on pronotum; dense on elytra. Head long, straight laterally, little notched at middle of base. Pronotum short, very wide, rounded anteriorly, retracted posteriorly. Elytra short, nearly 2 times as wide as pronotum, slightly depressed, ornated with a long gray pubescence. Legs short.

Local Distribution: Endemic species recorded from Upper Nile Valley.

5. *Anthicus dimidiatipennis* Desbrochers, 1875

(Figure 8)

Anthicus dimidiatipennis Desbrochers, Op. Ent. I, 1875, p. 66.

Type locality: Egypt (Cairo).

Diagnosis

Body length: 2 mm, width: 0.7 mm.; Head length: 0.4 mm., width: 0.5 mm.;

Pronotal length: 0.4 mm., width: 0.5 mm.; Elytral length: 1.2 mm., width: 0.7 mm. Body brown ferruginous, antennae and legs pale brown. Pubescence regular, very dense on the body. Punctuation regular, very dense and slightly deep. Head quadrate, posterior edge slightly concave, notched at middle. Pronotum wider than long, strongly convex, basal margin slightly convex. Elytra strongly convex, subparallel. Pygidium covered by elytra.

Specimens Examined: Barrage, 3.9.1933, (3) MAC; Beni Mazar, 27.5.1915, (1) ALC; Cairo, 1.11.1937, (1) ASUC; Cairo, 12.1915, Ferrante (1) EESC; Luxor, 30.6.1908, Ferrante (2) EESC; Luxor, 7.7.1910, Ferrante (2) EESC; Maadi, 29.8.1935, Presiner (1) ASUC; Mansouriya, 13.8.1998, Kamel (1) AUC; Sherbein, 5.4.1915, Ferrante (1) EESC; Warak, 25.7.1909, Ferrante (1) EESC.

Local distribution: Endemic species restricted to Delta and Nile Valley, and Eastern Desert.

6. *Anthicus fenestratus* Schmidt, 1842

Anthicus fenestratus Schmidt, Stett. Ent. Zeit. III, 1842, p. 181.

Synonyms

Anthicus fenestratus var. *nigricans* Pic, Misc. Ent. VI, 1898, p. 98.

Anthicus fenestratus var. *submaculatus* Pic, Misc. Ent. VI, 1898, p. 98.

Diagnosis

Length 2.4-3 mm. Body black brown, with red brown shoulder spots on each elytron; femora and palpi brown; antennae, tibiae and tarsi clear brown. Head scarcely shining, finely punctate; pubescence fine, conspicuous, crosswise laid. Pronotum little shining, with fine punctuation and rather long gray pubescence. Elytra strongly punctate in the front and finely punctate backward; pubescence gray and extended backwardly.

Specimens Examined: there is no available specimen in Egyptian reference collections.

Distribution: Mediterranean element occurs in Algeria, Egypt, France, Greece, Italy, Libya, Malta, Morocco, Portugal, Spain, Tunisia, and Turkey, extending its distribution to Albania, Bulgaria and Yugoslavia.

Local distribution: distribution of this species is restricted to the Western Mediterranean coast of Egypt.

7. *Anthicus genei* La Ferte, 1848

Anthicus genei La Ferte, Monogr., 1848, p. 219.

Type locality: Egypt.

Diagnosis

Length: 1.5mm , width: 0.5mm. Body shining red ferruginous, elytra pitch black.

Punctuation dense on the head, compact and rather fine on the pronotum and elytra. Pubescence fine and grey. Head big, slightly wider than pronotum, rounded at posterior angles. Pronotum trapezoid, a little convex, rounded at anterior angles, attenuate in an oblique line towards the base that is feebly arched and finely edged. Elytra a little wider at base, widely rounded on shoulders, subparallel, rounded and scarcely retracted at end.

Specimens Examined: No specimens are available in Egyptian reference collections.

Distribution: Mediterranean component, recorded from Algeria, Corsica, France, Egypt, Italy, Libya, Portugal, Sardinia, Spain, and Turkey.

Local distribution: This species was recorded from the Mediterranean coast (King Mariout and Ramlah).

8. *Anthicus lepaumi* Pic, 1892

Anthicus lepaumi Pic, Ann. Soc. Ent. Fr. LXI, 1892 (1893), Bull. CCXXI.

Diagnosis

Length 3 mm. Brilliant reddish; head and bottom of elytra with black pitch.

Punctuation dense on the head and pronotum, moderately strong and little compact on elytral extremity. Head nearly triangular, scarcely rounded at base. Pronotum long, little dilated and rounded anteriorly. Elytra nearly parallel; ornated with 2 external spots more or less extended, the first one humeral, the second near the middle. Pygidium exposed.

Specimens Examined: No specimens are available in Egyptian reference collections.

Distribution: Mediterranean species recorded from Egypt and Syria.

9. *Anthicus niger* Olivier, 1811

(Figure 9)

Anthicus niger Olivier, Ent. Meth. VIII, 1811, p. 297.

Synonyms

Anthicus morio La Ferte, Monogr., 1848, p. 215.

Anthicus morio var. *differens* Pic, Feuille Jeun. Nat. (3) XXVI, 1895 (1896), p. 179.

Diagnosis

Body length : 3.1 mm, width : 1.1 mm.; Head length : 0.5 mm., width : 0.6 mm.; Pronotal length : 0.7 mm., width : 0.5 mm.; Elytral length : 1.9 mm., width : 1.1 mm. Body black; tibiae and tarsi dark brown. Punctuation strong on the head, pronotum and front of elytra, very fine on the rest of elytra. Pubescence fine, yellow on the body; crosswise laid on the head; extended backwardly on the pronotum; rather long and extended backwardly on the elytra. Head quadrate, wider than pronotum; base truncate, notched at middle, rounded at angles. Pronotum longer than wide, convex, rounded at anterior angles, slightly retracted posteriorly, base straightly curved. Elytra parallel, rounded at apex, slightly rounded at middle. Pygidium covered.

Specimens Examined: foreign specimens from Beyrouth, November, (3) EESC (Arab collection).

Distribution: Palearctic element, common in Mediterranean basin recorded from Cyprus, Egypt, France, Greece, Italy, Jordan, Spain, Syria; also distributed in Albania, Bulgaria, Iran, Iraq, Yugoslavia, and Turkey.

10. *Anthicus proximus* Marseul, 1879

Anthicus proximus Marseul, Monogr., 1879, p. 179.

Synonyms

Anthicus proximus var. *mellyi* Pic, L'Echange Revue Linnee X, 1894, p. 65.

Diagnosis

Length: 2 mm., Width: 0.5mm.. Body shining testaceous, elytra darkened posteriorly. Punctuation strong and spread on the head; fine and little compact on the pronotum and elytra. Pubescence fine and yellow. Head triangular, slightly convex, wider than pronotum, sinuous truncate at base. Pronotum oblong, trapezoid, widely convex, rounded anteriorly on the sides, attenuate in an oblique line towards the base, base edged. Elytra suboval, little convex, shoulders strongly rounded not prominent.

Specimens Examined: No specimens are available in Egyptian reference collections.

Distribution: Mediterranean species occurring in Egypt, Greece, and Turkey.

Local distribution: Upper Egypt.

11. *Anthicus siniticus* Schatzmayr & Koch, 1933

(Figure 10)

A. siniticus Schatzmayr & Koch, Bull. Soc. Ent. Egypt 17, 1933, 204 – 242.

Type locality: Wadi Isla, Sinai, Egypt.

Diagnosis

Body length: 2.2 mm, width: 0.7 mm.; Head length: 0.5 mm., width: 0.6 mm.; Pronotal length: 0.5 mm., width: 0.4 mm.; Elytral length: 1.2 mm., width: 0.7 mm. Body testaceous, antennae, mouth parts and legs lightly testaceous. Punctuation coarse and very spread on the head; dense and fine on the pronotum; nearly coarse and dense on elytra. Pubescence fine and yellow. Head quadrate, wider than pronotum, with rounded hind angles, base curved, notched at middle. Pronotum longer than wide, retracted posteriorly, base straightly curved. Elytra slightly convex, with little rounded subparallel sides and strongly projecting shoulders. Pygidium exposed.

Specimens Examined: Wadi Isla, 28.2.1933 (1) MAC.

Local distribution: this species is restricted to Sinai Peninsula.

Distribution: Endemic element confined in distribution to Sinai Peninsula.

Ecological notes: it occurs along the edge of fresh water streams.

12. *Anthicus theryi* Pic, 1892

Anthicus theryi Pic, L'Echange Revue Linnee VIII, 1898, p. 115.

Type locality: Algeria.

Synonyms

Anthicus theryi var. *batnensis* Pic, Misc. Ent. I, 1892 (1893), p. 53.

Anthicus theryi var. *mayeti* Chob., Rev. d'Ent. XVII, 1898, p. 84.

Diagnosis

Length 2 – 2.5 mm. Elytra ornated with two yellowish spots, first at shoulders, and the second postmedian, with pronotum varied from reddish to black, antennae long and slender.

Specimens Examined: No specimens are available in Egyptian reference collections.

Distribution: North African element, recorded from Algeria and Egypt.

Local distribution: this species was recorded from the western side of Mediterranean Coast

13. *Anthicus tristis* Schmidt, 1842

(Figure 11)

Anthicus tristis Schmidt, Stett. Ent. Zeit. III, 1842, p. 172.

Type locality: France (Marseille).

Synonyms

Anthicus ater Steph., Ill. Brit. V, 1852, p. 78.

Anthicus biffasciatus Kolenati, Met. Ent. III, 1846, p. 35, t. 13, f. 7.

Anthicus biffasciatus var. *elegans* Steph., Mem. Ent. Mosc. I, 1806, p. 161.

Anthicus biffasciatus var. *truquii* Desbr., Op. Ent. I, 1875, p. 44.

Anthicus schaumii Woll., Zoologist, 1857, p. 5721.

Anthicus tristiculus Reitt., Deutsche Ent. Zeitschr. XXVIII, 1884, p. 92.

Diagnosis

Body length: 2.5 mm, width: 0.8 mm.; Head length: 0.5 mm., width: 0.5 mm.; Pronotal length: 0.6 mm., width: 0.5 mm.; Elytral length: 1.4 mm., width: 0.8 mm. Pitch black color, antennae, base of pronotum, tibiae, tarsi, elytral bands testaceous. Punctuation fine on the head and pronotum, strong on elytra. Pubescence fine and short on the head and pronotum, rather long and directed backwardly on the elytra. Head triangular, as wide as pronotum, convex, with rounded posterior angles, base curved notched at middle. Pronotum longer than wide, convex, retracted posteriorly, anterior angles rounded, base curved. Elytra convex widely dilated in curve on the sides, widest part after the middle, rounded at apex; with two bands the first one nearly rounded at the shoulders, second one at the middle transverse and oblique. Pygidium covered by elytra.

Specimens Examined: Abu Mina, 8.4.1954, Priesener (1) ASUC; Abu Qir, 5. (1) ALC; Abu Qir, 7. Chackour (2) EESC; Alexandria, 22.6.1908, Ferrante (1) EESC; Alexandria, 23.8.1910, Ferrante (8) EESC; Alexandria, 9.1906, Ferrante (1) EESC; Amrieh, 17.4.1914, (1) ALC; Anshas, 11.9.2003, El-Torkey (3) AUC; Arish, 23.5.1925, (1) MAC; Barrage, 10.9.1933, (1) ALC; Belbis, 25.8.1914, (1) ALC; Cairo, Ferrante (2) EESC; Damietta, 25.6.1906, Ferrante (1) EESC; Gabal Asfar, 9.4.1923, (1) ALC; Hammam, 8.1908, Ferrante (1) EESC; Kerdassa, 7. Walter (1) EESC; King

Mariout, 29.8.1934, (1) ALC; Maadi, 13.6.1933, (1) ALC; Maadi, 13.6.1933, (1) MAC; Marg, 14.4.1912, (1) ALC; Mariout, 26.3.1932, (8) MAC; Mariout, 24.6.1911, Ferrante (1) EESC; Mariout, 11.1908, Ferrante (1) EESC; Pyramids, 25.10.1907, Ferrante (4) EESC; Wadi El Arbaein, 1.6.1998, Abdel-Dayem (6) AUC; Wadi Sahab, 12.7.1998, Abdel-Dayem (7) AUC; Without locality, Chackour, (1) EESC.

Distribution: Palaearctic species in Europe (Bulgaria, Cyprus, England, Georgia, Greece, France, Italy, Portugal, Spain, Sicily, and Turkey), Asia (Afghanistan, Arabia, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Palestine and Syria), North Africa (Algeria, Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia).

Local distribution: this species is distributed in Nile Delta, North Coast, and Sinai.

II. Genus *Omonadus* Mulsant & Rey, 1866

Omonadus Mulsant & Rey, 1866: Colligères, 17: 104.

Trapezicollis Marseul, 1879: L'Abeille, 17: 66.

Trapezicomus Pic, 1894: Revue Scientifique du Bourbonnais et du Centre de la France 7: 45.

Trapezonotus Sahlberg, 1913: Öfversigt af Finska Vetenskaps-Societätens Förhandlingar, Helsingfors, 55A (12): 19.

Key to species

1- Head with base wider than pronotum. Body testaceous *floralis*

- Head with base a little narrower than pronotum. Body more dark..... *formicarius*

1. *Omonadus floralis* (Linne, 1758)

(Figure 12)

Meloe floralis Linne, Syst. Nat. X, 1758, p. 142.

Synonyms

Anthicus basalis Villa, Cat. Col. Eur. Dupl. Suppl. 1838, p. 63.

Formicomus breviculus Philippi, Stett. Ent. Zeit. XXV, 1864, p. 353.

Anthicus formicoides Geoffroy, in Fourcroy, Ent. Paris, I, 1785, p. 156.

Anthicus fuscus Marsham, Ent. Brit. I, 1802, p. 486.

Anthicus pedicularius Schrank, Enum. Ins. 1781, p. 224.

Anthicus semirufus Fairmaire & Germain, Col. Chil. 1860, p. 3.

Anthicus fallax Broun, Gat. Grenier, 1863, p. 1168.

Hemantus floralis Casey, Ann. N. Y. Ac. sc., 1895, p. 683.

Notoxus bicolor Olivier (nec. Say), Enc. méth. 1811, p. 396.

Lagria floralis Fabricius, Syst. ent., 1775, p. 126.

Lytta floralis Marsham, Ent. Brit. I, 1802, p. 485.

Lytta fusca Marsham, Ent. Brit. I, 1802, p. 485.

Anthicus fuscus Stevens, III, Brit. ent., 1852, p. 75.

Meloe pedicularius Schrank, Enum. Ins., 1781, p. 224.

Notoxus myrmecocephalus Rossi, Fauna Etrusc., 1790, p. 87.

Notoxus calycinus Panzer, Ent. Germ. I, 1795, p. 87.

Notoxus formicarius Olivier, Enc. méth. 1811, p. 396.

Anthicus umbellatarum Dejean, Catalogue Col. 1821.

Anthicus linnei Sahlberg, Ins. Fenn., 1834, p. 340.

Diagnosis

Body length: 2.9 mm, width: 1 mm.; Head length: 0.6 mm., width: 0.7 mm.; Pronotal length: 0.7 mm., width: 0.6 mm.; Elytral length: 1.6 mm., width: 1 mm. Body testaceous, covered with fine short sparse hairs. Head slightly wider than pronotum, with posterior edge straight, notched at middle, finely punctated. Pronotum longer than wide, convex, retracted posteriorly, posterior margin curved, with small margin, with fine punctation. Elytra with coarse punctation at basal fourth, becoming distinctly finer towards the apex, nearly parallel sided, rounded at end. Elytra leave the last abdominal segment exposed.

Specimens Examined: Alexandria, 1.11.1924, (1) MAC; Arish, 22.5.1935, (1) ALC; Beni Mazar, 4.10.1895, Ferrante (1) EESC; Cairo, 13.10.1916, Ferrante (1) EESC; Cairo, 10, Walter (2) EESC; Gabal Asfar, 19. 3. 1933. (1) MAC; Gemiza, 6.8.1924, (1) MAC; Giza, 17.6.1926, (1) ALC; Giza, 5.8.1917, (1) MAC; Hadra, 7.11.1925, (1) ALC; Hammam, 8.1908, Ferrante (2) EESC; Hawamdiya, 10, (1) ALC; Hawamdiya, 11, (4) ALC; Heliopolis, 17.4.1930, (1) ALC; Helwan, 14.9.1916, (1) MAC; Katta, 19, 11, 1910, Ferrante, 1, EESC; Kharga Oasis, 1997, Abdel-Dayem (1) AUC; Maadi, 20.6.1916, (1) MAC; Mafareq, 1.6.1998, Abdel-Dayem (4) AUC; Maksama, 9, Walter (1) EESC; Mansourah, 15.10.1956, Sh.El.A. (3) ASUC; Marsa Matrouh, 15.9.1957, Aly (4) ASUC; Qantara, 8.19.18, (1) ALC; Ramleh, 18.8.1925, (1) ALC; Ras El Bar, 6.7.1916, (1) MAC; Sakha, 7.8.1924, (1) MAC; Shoubra, 15.7.1916, (1) MAC; Suze, 21.6.1936, (1) MAC; Talbeyia, 29.11.1915, (1) ALC; Toura, 7, Walter (2) EESC; Wadi El Ghodirate, 3.6.2004, Abdel Dayem (15) AUC; Wadi El Tib, 18.9.1923, (1) ALC; without locality, Chackour, (1), EESC.

Distribution: Cosmopolitan.

Local distribution: This species was recorded from all the geomorphological regions in Egypt except GabalElba.

2. *Omonadus formicarius* (Goeze, 1777)

(Figure 13)

Notoxus formicarius Goeze, Beitr., 1777, p. 706.

Synonyms

Anthicus quisquilius Thomson, Skand. Col., VI, 1864, p. 380.

Anthicus semirufus Fairmaire, Ann. Soc. Ent. Belg. XL, 1896, p. 49.

Hemantus enodis Casey, Ann. N.Y. Ac. Sc., 1895, p. 683.

Hemantus scenicus Casey, Ann. N.Y. Ac. Sc., 1895, p. 683.

Hemantus rixator Casey, Ann. N.Y. Ac. Sc., 1895, p. 683.

Omonadus scenicus Casey, Ann. N.Y. Ac. Sc., 1895, p. 683.

Omonadus rixator Casey, Ann. N.Y. Ac. Sc., 1895, p. 683.

Omonadus enodis Casey, Ann. N.Y. Ac. Sc., 1895, p. 683.

Diagnosis

Body length : 2.4 mm, width : 0.9 mm.; Head length : 0.4 mm., width : 0.5 mm.; Pronotal length : 0.5 mm., width : 0.5 mm.; Elytral length : 1.5 mm., width : 0.9 mm. It is very similar to *Omonadus floralis* (Linne, 1758), but it can be differentiated from it by the darker brown color of the head and elytra, and the base of the head a little narrower than pronotum.

Specimens Examined: Alexandria, 10.1.1909, Ferrante (3) EESC; Alexandria, 2.2.1906, Ferrante (1) EESC; Alexandria, 3.1910, Ferrante (1) EESC; Alexandria, 3.4.1917, Ferrante (2) EESC; Alexandria, 5.4.1917, Ferrante (1) EESC; Alexandria, 7.5.1909, Ferrante (5) EESC; Alexandria, 2.6.1910, Ferrante (5) EESC; Alexandria, 12.12.1912, Ferrante (1) EESC; Alexandria, 1915, Ferrante (1) EESC; Alexandria, Ferrante (1) EESC; Bir Odeib, 15.4.1927, (3) ALC; Bir Odeib, 17.4.1927, (1) ALC; Bir Odeib, 17.4.1927, (1) MAC; Cairo, 20.1.1937, (2) CUC; Cairo, 22.1.1937, (2) CUC; Cairo, 4.1909, Ferrante (1) EESC; Cairo, 4.1909, (13) ALC; Cairo, 4.4.1936, (1) CUC; Cairo, 20.4.1936, (2) CUC; Cairo, 20.4.1936, (1) CUC; Cairo, 16.6.1914, Ferrante (1) EESC; Cairo, 10.6.1936, (1) CUC; Cairo, 20.6.1936, (2) CUC; Cairo, 1.6.1936, (1) CUC; Cairo, 11.9.1910, Ferrante (3) EESC; Cairo, 20.9.1936, (1) CUC; Cairo, 9.10.1911, Ferrante (1) EESC; Cairo, 11, Walter (1) EESC; Cairo, Ferrante (4) EESC; Cairo, Ferrante (3) EESC; El Manashi, 10.9.1999, El-Torkey (6) AUC; Fayoum, 7.1908, Ferrante (1) EESC; Gabal Asfar, 7.6.1954, Aly 91) ASUC; Giza, 5, Walter (1) EESC;

Giza, 20.8.1913, Walter (1) EESC; Giza, 7.8.1932, Chackour (1) EESC; Hadra, 1.11.1925, (1) ALC; Hammam, 9.1908, Ferrante (1) EESC; Hammam, Ferrante (1) EESC; Heliopolis, 11.5.1930, (1) MAC; Ismailia, 3.8.1907 Ferrante (1) EESC; Kafr Hakim, 22.10.1933, (1) MAC; Kerdassa, 5, Chackour (2) EESC; Kharga Oasis, 21.8.1997, El-Torkey (10) AUC; King, Mariout, 9.6.1923, (1) MAC; Koubeh, 11, Walter (6) EESC; Mansouriya, 11.6.1999, Kamel (2) AUC; Marg, 4, Chackour (8) EESC; Mariout, 11.1908, Ferrante (1) EESC; Marsa Matrouh, 20.8.1955, Aly (1) ASUC; Matareyia, 12, Walter (2) EESC; Mazarita, 15.5.1914, (1) ALC; Mex, 24.1.1907, Ferrante (5) EESC; Mex, Carneri (1) ASUC; Nouzha, 18.4.1923, Carneri (1) ASUC; Pyramids, 10.2.1928, (1) MAC; Sherbein, 5.4.1915, Ferrante (1) EESC; Shoubra, 18.7.1916, (1) MAC; Shoubra, 25.9.1912, Ferrante (1) EESC; Shoubra, 7.9.1914, Ferrante (1) EESC; Sidi Gaber, 6.7.1915, Ferrante (1) EESC; Siwa Oasis, 6.8.2000, El-Torkey (3) AUC; Toura, 11.4.1909, Ferrante (1) EESC; Toura, 27.8.1906, Ferrante (6) EESC; Wadi Degla, 8.9.1923, (1) MAC; Wadi Telah, 1.7.1998, Abdel-Dayem (6) AUC; Zagazig, 13.1.1923, (1) MAC; without locality, Ferrante 1 EESC.

Distribution: Cosmopolitan species.

Local Distribution: the species was recorded from all geomorphological regions in Egypt.

III. Genus *Striticollis* Marseul, 1879

Striticollis Marseul, 1879: L'Abeille 17: 67.

Striticomus Pic, 1894: Revue Scientifique du Bourbonnais et du Centre de la France 7: 42.

Sulcicollus Marsuel, 1879: L'Abeille 17: 66.

Key to species

- 1- Each elytron with one fascia 2
 - Each elytron with 2 fascia 3
- 2- Posterior tarsi shorter than tibiae. Length 2-2.3 mm. *peyerimhoffi*
 - Posterior tarsi as long as tibiae. Length 3.5 mm. *megalops*
- 3- Basal fourth of elytra yellowish 4
 - Basal fourth of elytra not yellowish 5
- 4- Head subquadrate. Elytra with two large subapical separated bands..... *tobias*
 - Head quadrate. Elytra with two small subapical connected spots.... *ophthalmicus*
- 5- Suture of elytra between fascia yellowish; body with numerous rather long hairs

- *modestes*
- Suture of elytra black along, body with short fine hairs. *transversalis*

1- *Stricticollis megalops* (Marseul, 1879)

Anthicus megalops Marseul, Monogr., 1879, p. 127.

Type locality: El-Hedjas; Saudi Arabia

Diagnosis

Length 3.5 mm, width 1.3 mm. Shining red testaceous in color. Punctuation little compact, fine on the head and pronotum; very strong on the basal half of the elytra. Pubescence rather long, erect, little numerous. Head rounded, convex, widened posteriorly. Pronotum oblong, a little convex, as wide as the head, strongly dilated rounded anteriorly, base edged. Elytra much wider in front, curved squarely at the base, with shoulders marked and the humps visible, little prominent, they are slightly widened posteriorly, rounded at end; ornated with transverse black band postmedian, not attaining the lateral border, prolonged along the suture and countering the apical part. Posterior tarsi slender as long as tibiae.

Alfieri (1976) noted that *St. ophthalmicus* is synonym for *St. megalops*, when comparing the original description of *St. megalops* with the *St. ophthalmicus* specimens we found that both species are completely differentiated from each other. So *St. megalops* can be easily differentiated by its elytral black band not attaining the lateral board.

Specimens Examined: No specimens are available in all Egyptian Reference collections.

Distribution: Palaearctic component, found in Saudi Arabia and Egypt.

Local distribution: this species was recorded from Gabal Elba, Eastern Desert and Nile Delta.

2- *Stricticollis modestus* (La Ferté, 1848)

(Figure 14)

Anthicus modestus La Ferté, Monogr. 1848, p. 191.

Type locality: Egypt.

Diagnosis

Body length: 2.9 mm, width: 1 mm.; Head length: 0.5 mm., width: 0.6 mm.;

Pronotal length: 0.6 mm., width: 0.5 mm.; Elytral length: 1.8 mm., width: 1 mm. Head and elytra black; pronotum testaceous; suture and bands of the elytra with red clear color; antennae and legs testaceous yellow; body below with testaceous ferruginous color. Head triangularly rounded at angles, convex. Pronotum oblong, a little convex, as wide as the head, rounded at anterior angles, a little retracted obliquely and subsinuously towards the base that is curved straight and feebly edged. Elytra subparallel, retracted in curve backwardly, rounded at end, slightly convex on the back; anterior bands large, transverse, united at suture; posterior bands oblique and not united at the suture.

Specimens Examined: Aswan, 2.5.1921, Alfieri (1) ALC; Barrage, 26.8.1933, (1) MAC; Beni Mazar, 29.3.1918, Ferrante (1) EESC; Cairo, 2.8.1910, Alfieri (1) ALC; Cairo, 29.8.1921, Alfieri (1) ALC; Cairo, Priesner (1) ASUC; Dahshour, 4, Walter (1) EESC; Fayoum, 7.1908, Ferrante (1) EESC; Fayoum, 13.9.1934, (1) MAC; Giza, 23.7.1926, (1) MAC; Giza, 2.8.1926, Alfieri (1) ALC; Hawamdiya, 10, Alfieri (1) ALC; Ibrim, 7.4.1931, (1) MAC; Ibrim, 7. 4.1931, Alfieri (1) ALC; Luxor, 17.3.1926, (1) MAC; Luxor, 6.1908, Ferrante (1) EESC; Luxor, 6.1909, Ferrante, (5) EESC; Luxor, 7.7.1910, Ferrante (1) EESC; Maadi, 6.3.1931, Alfieri (1) ALC; Maadi, 14.4.1916 (1) MAC; Massara, 10.4.1908, Ferrante (1) EESC; Massara, 4, Walter (1) EESC; Massara, 25.5.1909, Ferrante (6) EESC; Minia, 3.10.1925, (1) MAC; Minia, 3.10.1925, Alfieri (1) ALC; Nagaa Hamadi, 17.8.1917, (1) MAC; North Sinai, 23.5.1935, (1) MAC; Qosima, 23.5.1935, Alfieri (1) ALC; Roda, 2.9.1913, Alfieri (2) ALC; Roda, 9, Chackour (5) EESC; Shoubra, 10.4.1915, Ferrante (1) EESC; Shoubra, 7.1909, Alfieri (1) ALC; Talbeyia, 19.5.1912, Ferrante (1) EESC; Thomas Island, 8.4.1931, (1) MAC; Toura, 7.5.1910, Alfieri (1) ALC; Wadi Ghodirate, 3.6.2004, Abdel-Dayem (8) AUC; Wadi Telah, 1.7.1998, Abdel-Dayem (15) AUC; Warak, 25.7.1909, Ferrante (2) EESC.

Distribution: Palaearctic species recorded from Arabia, Egypt and Libya.

Local distribution: widely distributed from Cairo to Aswan, also distributed in Kharga Oasis in Western Desert, and newly recorded from north and south Sinai.

Ecological notes: this species is common near fresh water habitats.

3- *Stricticollis ophthalmicus* (Rottenberg, 1870)

(Figure 15)

Anthicus ophthalmicus Rottenberg, 1870, Berl. Ent. Zeitschr. XIV, p. 259, f. 6, t. 2.

Type locality: Cattania (Sicily).

Diagnosis

Body length: 3.2 mm, width: 1.2 mm.; Head length: 0.6 mm., width: 0.6 mm.; Pronotal length: 0.7 mm., width: 0.5 mm.; Elytral length: 1.9 mm., width: 1.2 mm. Body reddish, elytra deep brown with one third subbasal and two small connected subapical spots testaceous. Punctuation fine and dense on the anterior part of frons, and sparse on the posterior part of the head, but strongly rather densely punctate on the elytra. Pubescence spread on the head, little compact on pronotum and dense on elytra. Head quadrate, a little wider than pronotum, base rounded. Pronotum a little longer than wide, with a little deep sinuation. Elytra subparallel and with maximum width after the middle, convex; omoplates a little bombed.

Specimens Examined: Helwan, 30.10.1930, (1) MAC.

Distribution: Afrotropico-Palaeartic element recorded from Sicily and Egypt, Sudan, Iran, Iraq, Algeria, Palestine, Senegal, and Saudi Arabia.

Local distribution: this species is restricted to Nile Delta.

4- *Stricticollis peyerimhoffi* (Pic, 1902)

(Figure 16)

Anthicus peyerimhoffi Pic, Bull. Soc. Ent. Fr., 1902, p. 187.

Diagnosis

Body length: 1.9 mm, width: 0.6 mm.; Head length: 0.4 mm., width: 0.4 mm.; Pronotal length: 0.4 mm., width: 0.3 mm.; Elytral length: 1 mm., width: 0.6 mm. Body very brilliant testaceous, elytral band dark brown. Punctuation strong and spread on the head and pronotum, a little compact on the elytra. Pubescence sparse and short on the head and pronotum, a little long on the elytra and become very numerous on the posterior half. Head nearly square and wider than pronotum, subtruncate posteriorly, base notched at middle. Genae long. Pronotum longer than wide, sinuate on the sides, rather strongly rounded anteriorly, nearly straight on the base. Elytra depressed, subparallel, subtruncate apically, ornated with dark straight bands, not attaining the suture, situated below the middle; not covering the last abdominal segment.

Specimens Examined: Wadi Degla, 28.10.1934, Alfieri (6) ALC; Wadi Degla, 13.8.1933, Alfieri (2) ALC; Wadi Degla, 28.10.1934, (10) MAC.

Distribution: Palaearctic species.

Local distribution: Sinai and Eastern desert.

5- *Stricticollis tobias* (Marseul, 1879)

(Figure 17)

Anthicus tobias Marseul, Mongr., 1879, p. 125.

Type locality: Iraq.

Synonyms

Anthicus mundulus Sharp & Blackb., Trans. R. Dublin Soc., 1885, p. 168.

Anthicus turanicus Reitter, Verh. Nat. Ver. Brünn XXVII, 1889, p. 118.

Anthicus postoculatus Fairmaire, Ann. Soc. Ent. Belg. XL, 1896, p. 48.

Anthicus tobias var. *mauritiensis* Pic, Bull. Soc. Ent. Fr., 1898, p. 182.

Anthicus parisiensis Saint-Albin, Bull. Soc. Ent. Fr., 1952, p. 21.

Anthicus tanakai Nomura, Ent. Rev. Japan, 1960, p. 47.

Anthicus daedalus Werner, in Frost, 1964, p. 140.

Diagnosis

Body length: 3 mm, width: 1 mm.; Head length: 0.6 mm., width: 0.6 mm.; Pronotal length: 0.6 mm., width: 0.5 mm.; Elytral length: 1.8 mm., width: 1 mm. Body testaceous, elytra black with basal fourth and two bands testaceous; legs yellowish. Punctuation rather small and dense on the head and pronotum, but on the elytra large and feebly spread on the basal half, and become fine and small on the apical half. Pubescence moderately dense, short and fine on the head and pronotum; decumbent, fine, directed obliquely laterally on the basal half of the elytra. Head subquadrate, a little wider than pronotum, base rounded and slightly notched at middle. Pronotum a little longer than wide. Elytra subparallel, flattened; omoplates slightly elevated.

Specimens Examined: Anshas, 11.9.2003, El-Torkey (3) AUC; Asiut, 9.1959, Alfieri (1) ALC; Gemiza, 25.6.1923, Alfieri (1) ALC; Hawamdiya, 11, Alfieri (1) ALC; Kom Ombo, 21.7.2004, Fadl (7) AUC; Mansouriya, 11.5.1998, Kamel (1) AUC; Mansouriya, 17.8.1998, Kamel (2) AUC; Minia, 3.10.1935, Alfieri (1) ALC; Wadi Degla, 29.7.1914, (8) MAC; Wadi Degla, 29.7.1934, Rabinovich (1) EESC; Wadi Degla, 29.7.1934, Alfieri (4) ALC.

Distribution: cosmopolitan species.

Local distribution: this species is distributed throughout Nile Delta and Valley, and Eastern Desert.

6- *Striticollis transversalis* (Villa & Villa, 1833)

(Figure 18)

Anthicus transversalis Villa and Villa, Col. Eur. Dupl., 1833, p. 35.

Anthicus ornatus Truqui, Mem. Real. Accad. Scien. Torino, 1855, 16 (2), p. 358.

Synonyms

Anthicus amoenus Schmidt, Stett. Ent. Zeit. III, 1842, p. 176.

Anthicus tenellus La Ferté-Senectère, Ann. Soc. Ent. Fr. XI, 1842, p. 251.

Anthicus ornatus Truqui, Mem. Re. Accad. Scie. Torino 16 (2), 1855, p. 358.

Anthicus tenellus var. *nigrovelutinus* Pic, L'Echange Revue Linnee VIII, 1892, p. 103.

Diagnosis

Body length: 2.7 mm, width: 0.9 mm.; Head length: 0.4 mm., width: 0.5 mm.; Pronotal length: 0.6 mm., width: 0.4 mm.; Elytral length: 1.5 mm., width: 0.9 mm. Dark brown color; antennae, tibiae, tarsi, elytral bands testaceous. Body covered with grey pubescence, which is dense on the apical half of the elytra. Head subquaderate, a little wider than pronotum, base notched at middle, rounded at angles. Pronotum oblong, convex, dilated rounded anteriorly. Elytra subparallel, depressed at base, convex at apical half, rounded at apex; omoplates slightly elevated; ornated with two bands, first one close to the shoulder, transverse united at the suture, posterior band at apical fourth, oblique not united at the suture. Pygidium exposed.

Specimens Examined: foreign specimen from Elbasan, Alb., Mader, EESC (Mediterranean collection)

Distribution: Palaearctic component, recorded from Europe: France Sardinia, Sicily, Dalmatia and Caucasus; North Africa: Algeria and Egypt.

SUMMARY

This is the first paper of a designed series dealing with the taxonomy of Egyptian Anthicidae. The present work treated 21 species of ant-beetles genera *Anthicus*, *Omonadus*, and *Striticomus* known to occur in Egypt. Keys were provided to separate the treated genera and species. All species are diagnosed and provided with detailed distribution, and some ecological notes.

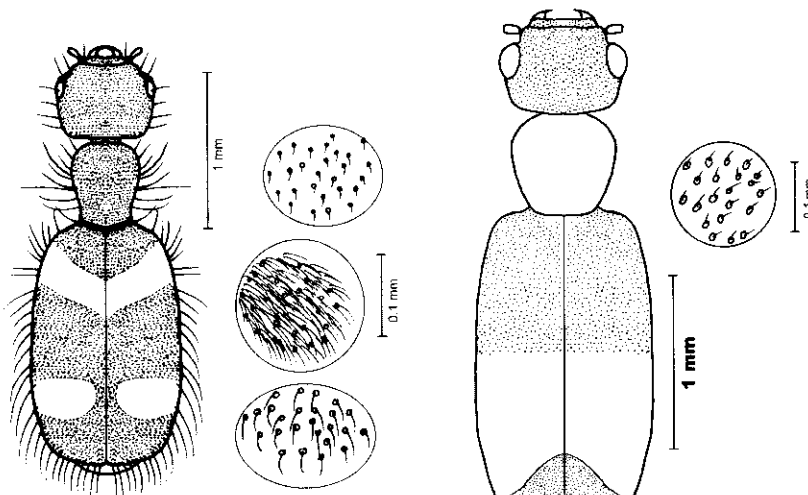


Fig. 5

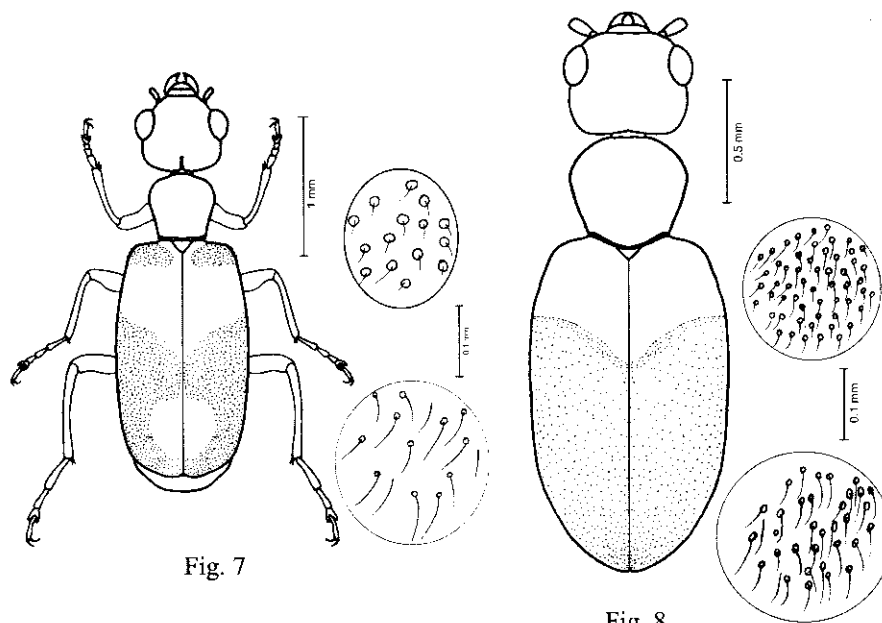


Fig. 7

Fig. 8

Figs. 5-8: dorsal view, punctation and pubescence of: 5, *Anthicus armatus*; 6, *Anthicus brulieri*; 7, *A. crinitus*; 8, *A. dimidiatipennis*.

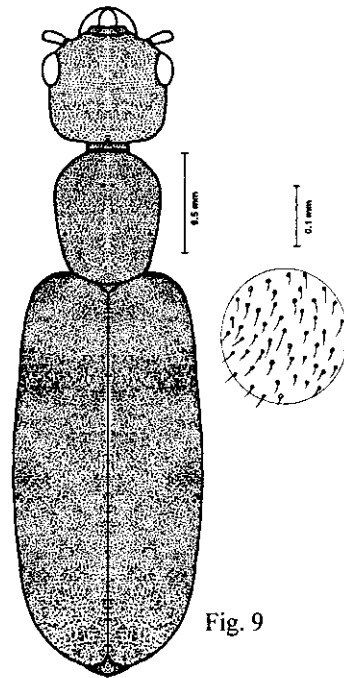


Fig. 9

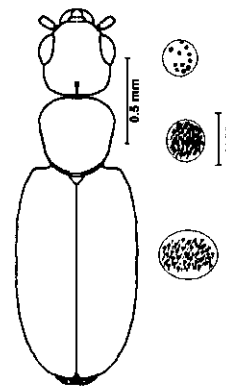


Fig. 10

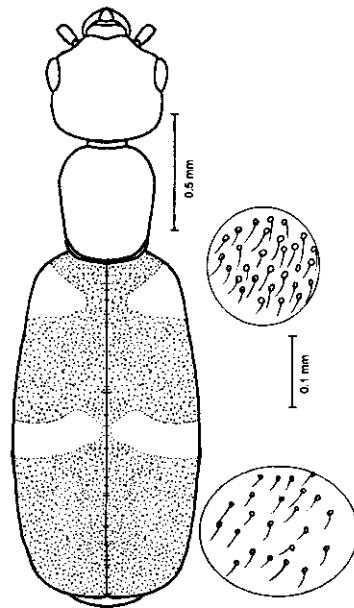


Fig. 11

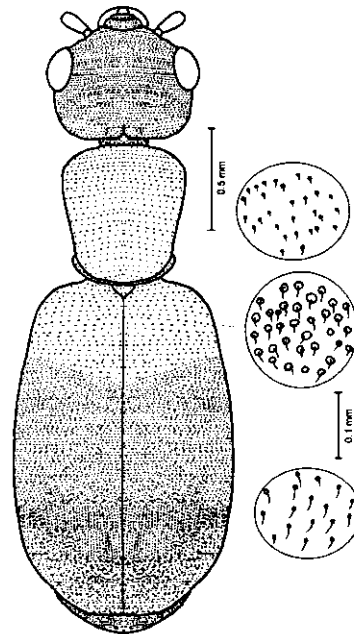


Fig. 12

Figs. 9-12: dorsal view, punctation and pubescence of: 9, *Anthicus niger*; 10, *A. sinaiticus*; 11, *A. tristis*; 12, *Omonadus floralis*.

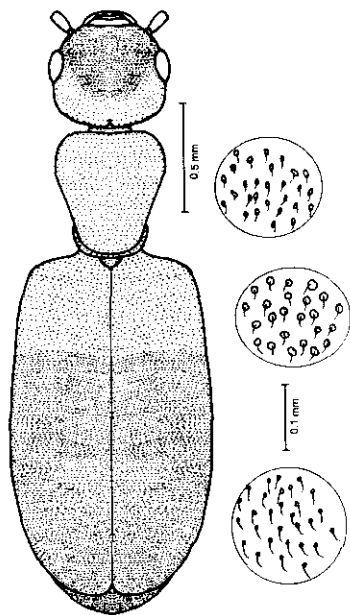


Fig. 13

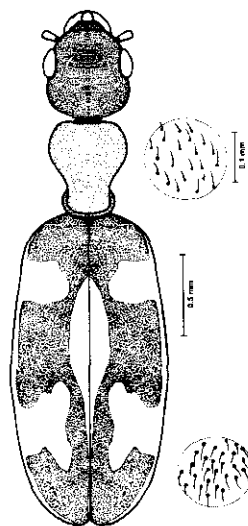


Fig. 14

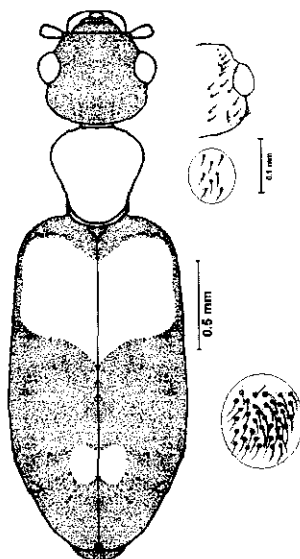


Fig. 15

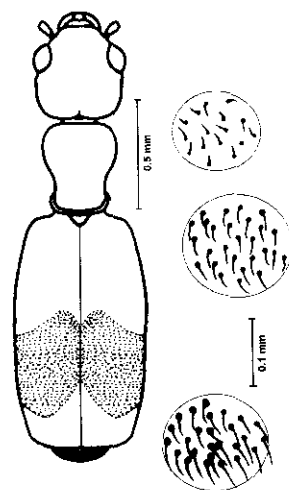


Fig. 16

Figs. 13-16: dorsal view, punctation and pubescence of: 13, *Omonadus formicarius*; 14, *Stricticomus modestus*; 15, *S. ophthalmicus*; 16, *S. peyerimhoffi*.

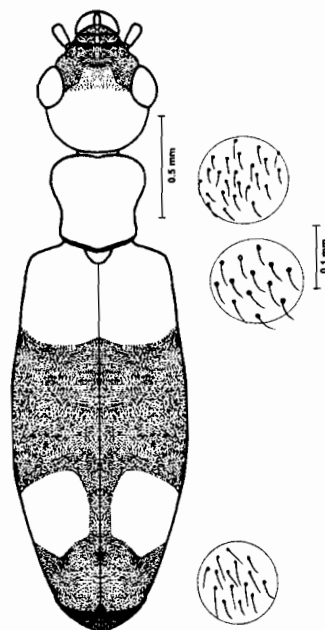


Fig. 17

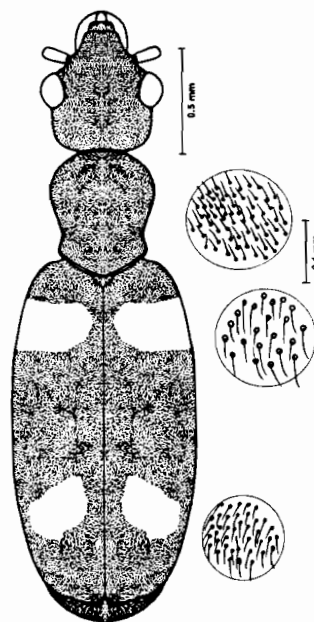


Fig. 18

Figs. 17-18: dorsal view, punctation and pubescence of: 17, *Stricticomus tobias*; 18, *S. transversalis*.

REFERENCES

- ALFIERI, A. (1976):** The Coleoptera of Egypt (Monograph). (*Mem. Soc. Ent. Egypte*, 5, 361 pp).
- BOOTH, G.; M. COX AND R. MADGE (1990):** The Guides to Insects of Importance to Man, (*III Coleoptera*, 310 pp).
- CHANDLER, D.S.; NARDI, G.; and TELNOV, D. (2004):** Nomenclatural notes on the Palearctic Anthicidae (Coleoptera). (*Mitt. internat. entomol. Ver.* 29 (4): 109-173).
- HANNA, H. M. (1969):** Studies on catches of Coleoptera in a light trap at Assiut. (*Bull. Soc. ent. Egypt*, 53: 591 – 613).
- JUNK, W. (1926):** Coleopterorum catalogue (*part 36, Anthicidae: 1-83*).
- LAFERTÉ- SÉNECTÈRE (1848):** Monographie des Anthicus et Genres voisins, (*Paris*, 340 pp).

- MARSEUL, S. (1879):** Monographie des Anthicides de l'Ancien Monde. (*L'Abeille*: 1-268).
- NARDI, G. AND D. MIFSUD (2003):** A review of the Anthicidae of the Maltese Islands (Central Mediterranean). (*Fragmenta Entomologica Roma*, 35 (2): 77-127).
- SCHATZMAYER AND KOCH, (1933):** Wissenschaftliche Ergebnisse der Entomologischen Exeditionen Senie Durchlaucht des Fuersten Alexander C. Della Torre E Tasso nach Aegypten und auf die halbinsel Sinai. II *Anthicus* (Anthicidae- Coleoptera). (*Bull. Soc. Ent. Egypt*, 17: 204 – 242).
- SCHEMBRI, S. (1991):** The Anthicidae of maltese Islands (Coleoptera). (*Boll. Soc. Ent. Italy, Genova*, 123(1):32-38).
- UHMANN, G. (1990):** Afrikanische Anthicidae aus der biogeographischen Sammlung der Universität Saarbrücken. (*Entomol. Blätter, Bd. 86, Heft 1-2*: 93-102).
- UHMANN, G. (1992):** Die Anthicidae der Iberischen Halbinsel. 22. Beitrag zur Kenntniss der Anthicidae (Coleoptera, Anthicidae). (*Mitt. Münch. Ent. Ges.*, 82: 87-180).
- UHMANN, G. (1998):** Anthicidae (Insecta: Coleoptera) from Saudi Arabia with the description of a new species. (*Fauna of Arabia*, 17: 93-105).
- WERNER, F. G. (1961):** *Anthicus tobias* Marseul, another tramp species (Coleoptera: Anthicidae). (*Ann. Ent. Soc. America*, 59 (1): 218 – 222).
- WERNER, F. G. AND D. S. CHANDLER (1995):** Anthicidae (Insecta: Coleoptera). (*Fauna of Newzeland*, 34: 59pp).