

***Graphipterus basilewskyi* sp. nov. from Northeastern Kenya  
(Coleoptera : Carabidae)**

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**Key words.** Carabidae, *Graphipterus*, taxonomy, new species, Kenya, Africa.

**Summary.** A new species of Carabidae from Kenya, *Graphipterus basilewskyi* sp. n., is described. Pictures of the new species and drawings of closely related species are presented. Their currently known distribution is shown in maps and new collecting records are cited.

**Zusammenfassung.** Eine neue Laufkäferart aus Kenia, *Graphipterus basilewskyi* sp. nov., wird beschrieben. Diese neue Art und nah verwandte Arten werden bildlich dargestellt, Verbreitungskarten gezeigt und Neumeldungen verzeichnet.

**Résumé.** Une nouvelle espèce de Carabidae du Kenya, *Graphipterus basilewskyi* sp. n., est décrite. La nouvelle espèce ainsi que les espèces proches sont représentées par des photos et des dessins. La distribution actuellement connue est présentée sur cartes et les nouvelles localités de capture sont citées.

## Introduction

The groundbeetle genus *Graphipterus* was revised by Pierre BASILEWSKY (1977 : 1 - 472). After this revision only two more publications with descriptions of eight further new species were published by the same author (1981 : 653 - 657; 1986 : 275 - 288), but LORENZ (1998) introduced a few nomenclatural and synonymical changes.

BASILEWSKY divided the genus in two sections, *Graphipteri similitarsi* (with 14 species-groups, males unmodified protarsi) and *Graphipteri diversitarsi* (28 species-groups, males with modified protarsi). Together with the herein described new species and changes by LORENZ (1998), 136 valid species are today known to science.

During a collecting trip in northeastern Kenya the author and his friend Petr SMRZ collected two specimens of a *Graphipterus* species seemingly not belonging to any of the known taxa. This new species is herein described and figured.

## Description

### ***Graphipterus basilewskyi* sp. nov.**

(Plate V, figures 1 & 2)

**Type locality.** between Modo Gashi and Wajir, northeastern Kenya.

**Holotype.** ♀, Kenya, Eastern, Modo Gashi to Wajir, 26.IV.2001, WERNER & SMRZ leg.; in Musée Royal de l'Afrique Centrale, Tervuren, Belgium

(MRAC). **Paratype.** ♂, Kenya, Eastern, Modo Gashi to Wajir, 26.IV.2001, WERNER & SMRZ leg.; in the collection of the author (KWC).

**Diagnosis.** A *Graphipterus*-species of the *patrizii*-group in the section *Graphipteri diversitarsi*. Similar in elytral design to four other species of the group (*G. patrizii*, *arrowi*, *omophractus*, *somereni*), but easily distinguishable by the different position of the dark areas on the posterior third of elytra.

### Description

Size : 7,6 – 8,2 mm (without labrum).

Color : a species with black ground color and yellowish-white scaly pubescence on dorsal sides of elytra, pronotum, head, and labrum; each elytron with a conspicuous dark central area situated in the apical third of elytra.

Head : shiny black. Frons and vertex not granulated. Supraorbital setae close to eyes. Labrum black with testaceous margins and six labral setae. Mandibles black with testaceous inner part near labrum. Maxillary and labial palpi black. Genae shiny black with dense pubescence of white scaly setae close to eyes. Antennomeres 1-4 black with testaceous parts, sparsely covered with white setae; antennomeres 5-11 dull dark, flattened and foliated.

Pronotum : shiny black, with an impressed median line, finely granulated in the female, more strongly granulated in the male, densely covered with decumbent white scaly setae along lateral margins. Proepisterna covered with decumbent white setae.

Elytra : black, punctured, surface densely covered with short white-yellowish scaly setae, the dark central areas on each elytron as shown in figures 1 and 2.

Legs : black with setae, more densely setose on profemora.

Underside : shiny black, covered with white setae all over.

### Habitat

The two specimens were collected on stony hillside with bushes and scattered acacia trees.

### Etymology

The new species is dedicated to the famous worker on Carabid beetles and revisor of the genus *Graphipterus* LATREILLE 1802, the late PIERRE BASILEWSKY (1913 – 1993; plate B/W VI, fig. 3).

### Discussion

*G. basilewskyi* sp. n. belongs to the *patrizii* group, BASILEWSKY's 15<sup>th</sup> species group, which is distributed in Ethiopia, Kenya, and Somalia only. The *patrizii* group includes 9 species of which 4 species have a similar elytral design with black enlarged markings : *G. patrizii* ALLUAUD 1923 (fig. 4), *G. arrowi* BURGEON 1928 (fig. 5), *G. omophractus* BASILEWSKY 1977 (fig. 6), and *G. somereni* BASILEWSKY 1977 (fig. 7). Out of these only *G. basilewskyi* sp. n. has the black dots situated on the apical third of elytrae. The other 5 species of the group (*G. clarkei* BASILEWSKY 1977, *G. erraticus* BASILEWSKY 1977, *G. gestroi* ALLUAUD 1923, *G. jubae* ALLUAUD 1923, *G.*

*tellini* G. MUELLER 1941) have an elytral design with longitudinal stripes. All members of BASILEWSKY's 15<sup>th</sup> group seem to have restricted geographical ranges and were rarely collected.

The currently known distributions of *G. basilewskyi* sp. n. and its four closely related species are shown in grid maps (fig. 8, a-e). New records of two of these species can be given :

***Graphipterus arrowi*** : Kenya : "Lereta, 00.47 N 37.30 E", 29 July-9 Aug.1980, M.GRIFFIN & J.U.M.JARVIS leg., 1 ex. in Mus. Windhoek, det. LORENZ. Kenya : "near Isiolo, Samburu", 18/22.IV.1999, WERNER & Lizler leg. 18/22.IV.1999, 1 ex. in coll. WERNER.

***Graphipterus omophractus*** : Kenya : "Garissa env.", 30.XI.1999, M.SNIZEK leg., 1 ex. in coll. WERNER; id. 11.V.2000, WERNER & LIZLER leg., 2 ex. in coll. WERNER. Kenya : "Hola", 12.V.01, WERNER & SMRZ leg., 1 ex. in coll. WERNER. Kenya : "Garsen-Hola, 9.V.00, WERNER & LIZLER leg., 8 ex. in coll. WERNER. Kenya : "near Bura", 11.V.00, WERNER & LIZLER leg., 17 ex. in coll. WERNER.

### Acknowledgements

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### Literature

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**Color Plate V.** Fig. 1. *Graphipterus basilewskyi* n. sp., female, holotype, (MRAC). Fig. 2. *Graphipterus basilewskyi* n. sp., male, paratype (KWC). Fig. 8. distribution maps (a-e).

**B/W Plate VI.** Fig. 3. PIERRE BASILEWSKY, 1913-1993 (ex WERNER 2000 : 39). Fig. 4. *Graphipterus patrizii* (ex BASILEWSKY 1977 : 220). Fig. 5. *Graphipterus arrowi* (ex BASILEWSKY 1977 : 223). Fig. 6. *Graphipterus omophractus* (ex BASILEWSKY 1977 : 225). Fig. 7. *Graphipterus somereni* (ex BASILEWSKY 1977 : 226).

# Planche V



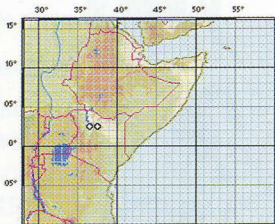
1



2

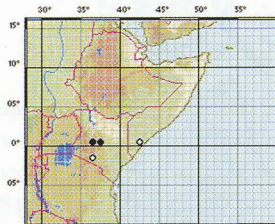


3



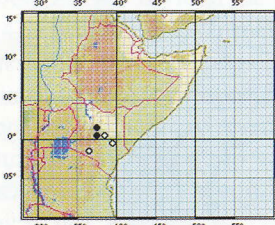
8a

*Graphipterus somereni*



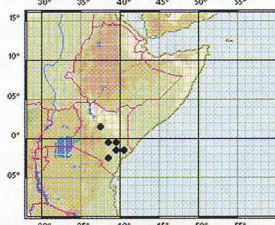
8b

*Graphipterus patrizii*



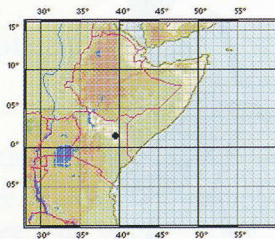
8c

*Graphipterus arrowi*



8d

*Graphipterus omphractus*



8e

*Graphipterus basilewskyi*

- collected before 1950
- collected after 1950

# Planche VI

