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Tanyproctus (*Tanyproctus*) *arher* (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae: Melolonthinae: Tanyproctini), a new species from the Socotra Island, Yemen

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Abstract

Tanyproctus (*Tanyproctus*) *arher* Bezděk, Sehnal & Král, new species, is described from Socotra Island (Yemen), based on external morphology including male genitalia.

Key words: Coleoptera, Scarabaeoidea, Scarabaeidae, Melolonthinae, Tanyproctini, *Tanyproctus*, taxonomy, new species, Socotra, Yemen

Introduction

Socotra is the largest island of the archipelago of the same name. It is situated in the northwest part of the Indian Ocean, closer to east Africa than to its place of origin – southern parts of Yemen and Oman. This island is of the east Gondwanan origin, like Seychelles and Madagascar (*e.g.*, Krause *et al.* 2006). Due to its geological history, geographical isolation, and climatic conditions, Socotra holds a remarkably diverse biota of high level of endemism. For example, Batelka (2012) listed 39 endemic insect genera and subgenera from the Socotra island. Members of the melolonthine tribe Tanyproctini (formerly Pachydemini, see Bouchard *et al.* (2011) for details) of the Socotra island have been revised quite recently (Král *et al.* 2012). Up to date, eight species belonging to three genera are known from the Socotra island: *Canudema homhil* Král, Sehnal & Bezděk, 2012; *C. socotrae* Lacroix, 1994; *Socotraproctus haghier* Král, Sehnal & Bezděk, 2012; *Tanyproctus* (*Tanyproctus*) *canui* Lacroix, 1999; *T.* (*T.*) *keithi* Král, Sehnal & Bezděk, 2012; *T.* (*T.*) *lacroixi* Král, Sehnal & Bezděk, 2012; *T.* (*T.*) *puncticeps* (Waterhouse, 1881); and *T.* (*T.*) *wraniki* Král, Sehnal & Bezděk 2012. All these species are considered endemic taxa of Socotra.

When the revision of Socotran Tanyproctini (Král *et al.* 2012) was already in press, we received specimens representing a new species collected in eastern part of the island. The purpose of this paper is to describe this additional new species.

Material and methods

Specimens were examined with an Olympus SZ61 stereomicroscope and measurements were taken with an ocular grid. The photographs were taken using a Canon MP-E 65mm/2.8 1-5x macro-lens on bellows attached to a Canon EOS 550D camera. Partially focused images of each specimen were stacked using Helicon Focus 3.20.2 Pro software. Specimens of the newly described species are provided with one printed red label: "Tanyproctus (Tanyproctus) / arher sp. nov., / HOLOTYPUS [or PARATYPUS], ♂ / Aleš Bezděk, Richard Sehnal / & David Král det. 2013". Exact label data are cited for the material examined. Separate labels are indicated by double slash

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Etymology. Derived from area of origin of the new species, the Arher freshwater spring, Socotra (Yemen); noun in appositon.

Collecting circumstances. Both specimens were captured at light at about 6 p.m. (J. Hájek, personal communication).

Geographical distribution. Endemic species to the Socotra Island; both so far known specimens originates from the coastal area of Haalla (E Socotra), for details see Bezděk *et al.* (2012).

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