

Studies in Afrotropical Cleomenini (Coleoptera, Cerambycidae, Cerambycinae). IV. Revision of the genus *Brachysarthron* Thomson, 1864

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The Afrotropical genus *Brachysarthron* Thomson, 1864 is revised. *B. bicoloripes* Aurivillius, 1925 is reduced to a subspecies of *B. antennatum* Thomson, 1864, *B. antennatum* ssp. *bicoloripes* Aurivillius, 1925 **stat. nov.** A lectotype is designated for *B. inerme* Aurivillius, 1925 from the original series of syntypes. Images of all taxa are published for the first time, and a generic key is provided.

Key words: Coleoptera, Cerambycidae, *Brachysarthron*, *B. antennatum* ssp. *bicoloripes* **stat. nov.**, tropical Africa.

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Introduction

The first part of the headline in this publication series has been titled “Studies in Afrotropical Sestyrini”. The African genera in this group have formerly been referred to the tribe Cleomenini Lacordaire, 1868. Bousquet et al. (2009) synonymized Cleomenini with Sestyrini Lacordaire, 1868, and therefore this was used in the preceding publications (Bjørnstad 2013a, b, c). Dan Heffern, one of the co-authors of the Bousquet- publication has kindly informed me that the synonymization was based on incomplete knowledge of the underlying publication history and advised that prevailing usage should be given priority until this taxonomic confusion is solved (Heffern 2014 pers.comm.). The prevailing usage for the African genera is Cleomenini Lacordaire, 1868. The forthcoming papers in this series will therefore be published under the heading “Studies in Afrotropical Cleomenini”.

Thomson (1864) described the genus *Brachysarthron*. He placed this genus in his

“Callichromitæ Veræ”. Lacordaire (1868) separated the genera with closed mesocoxal cavities (‘cavités cotyloïdes intermédiaires closes’) from this group and erected Cleomenides Lacordaire, 1868. The genus *Brachysarthron* was subsequently transferred to this group (Lacordaire 1869 : 105).

Thomson (1864) described *Brachysarthron antennatum* Thomson, 1864 from ‘Senegambia’ and designated it as the type species of the genus. It should be noted that when Lacordaire (1869) made his redescription of Thomson’s genus and species he made several mistakes: one minor thing is that he made an orthographical lapsus in treating it as “*Brachyarthron antennatus* J.Thoms.” More serious is that he describes the elytra as “arrondi en arriere”, when in fact each elytron apically is armed with a sharp tooth. This mistake in fact made Aurivillius (1925 : 488) doubt if Lacordaire really had examined the species.

In the same work Aurivillius described *B. bicoloripes* Aurivillius, 1925 (from Gabon) and *B. inerme* Aurivillius, 1925 (from Angola). However,