

Revision of the genus *Paralopus* Wagner (Heteroptera: Miridae, Phylinae)

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The genus *Paralopus* Wagner, 1957, is revised. New species: *P. edithae* sp.n. (Palestine).

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Introduction

The monotypic Phylinae genus *Paralopus* was described by Wagner (1957: 89) from Iran. Later on, the type species, *P. striatus* Wagner, was recorded from Saudi Arabia (Linnavuori 1986: 175). During my field trip to Palestine in 1986 another species, *P. edithae* sp.n., was found in the Negev desert. A description is published below.

Wagner (1957) regarded *Paralopus* as a relative of the Holarctic genus *Lopus* Hahn, 1831 (type species: *Cimex decolor* Fallén, 1807), basing the opinion on the voluminous pulvilli of the claws. But this character has independently evolved in several genera, and cannot alone be used as an evidence of a relationship. *Lopus*, in fact, differs from *Paralopus* in several basic characters (body much larger; color uniformly grayish; hair covering short; eyes removed from anterior margin of pronotum; tylus in lateral view vertical; antennae thicker; prosternal xyphus concave; vesica ending in two edentate processes, gonopore well-delimited) and certainly represents a separate evolutionary lineage. The closest relative of *Paralopus* is apparently *Stirophylus* Wagner, 1965 (type species: *S. aristidae* Wagner; revision in Linnavuori 1971: 131-133). Both of them display the following characters: Pale ground coloring; gracile, similarly shaped body; long pale hair covering; long and gracile extremities; delicate pale tibial spines; vesica gracile, broadly arcuate, with spiny apical portion and poorly delimited gonopore. *Stirophylus* has even a tendency to a striated appearance, which is best visible in *S. lineatus* Linnavuori, 1971. Both genera also inhabit sandy areas of the Eremian subregion. *Paralopus* is readily dis-

tinguished from *Stirophylus* in the coloring, shorter head and large pulvilli.

Depository. – All specimens are deposited in Coll. Linnavuori, Raisio, Finland.

Genus *Paralopus* Wagner

Paralopus Wagner 1957: 89. Type species: *P. striatus* Wagner.

Diagnosis. – Gracile, striated species (Fig. 1). Pulvilli (Fig. 2c) very large.

Description. – Subopaque. Ground color pale fulvous. Striated; median stripe from head to tip of scutellum, sublateral bands on pronotum, and longitudinal bands on clavus and corium, whitish; claval suture and stripe along claval vein dark brown. Membranes of elytra with dense fuscous mottling. Under surface and extremities uniformly pale; tibiae in *P. edithae* with small dark setigerous dots; tibial spines delicate, pale.

Body small, gracile, parallel-sided. Upper surface with semierect long pale hairs. Head small, about 0.7 × as broad as basal width of pronotum, in apical view about 1.2 × as broad as high, upper margin curved, part below eyes bluntly triangular; in lateral view higher than long, dorsal margin of vertex and frons evenly curved, tylus prominent, antennal pits close to lower corners of eyes; in dorsal view vertex moderately convex, posterior margin ecarinate. Eyes small, touching anterolateral corners of pronotum. Antennae gracile, with short pale hairs, 2nd joint longer than diatone, shorter than basal width of pronotum. Rostrum extending to near hind coxae. Pronotum about 2.35 × as