

semicircular neck which only narrowly touches the anterior margin of the pronotum; upper margin of head in lateral view arcuate, frons relatively weakly convex, gradually merging into the weakly prominent tylus apically; eyes relatively small, setose; vertex broad, roundedly declining caudad; sides of under surface roundedly concave. Antennal pits near lower corners of eyes; antennae long and gracile, 1st joint with a few pale bristles, other joints with fine adpressed pubescence. Rostrum short, extending to fore coxae or slightly beyond. Anterior portion of pronotum narrow, collar-like, basal part strongly widened, globose. Scutellum with long erect horn-like process. Elytra in ♂ longer than abdomen, costal margins shallowly insinuated, in ♀ short, strap-like, apically upcurved, claval suture not indicated. Abdomen strongly constricted basally, in ♂ elongately ovate, in ♀ ant-like with apical portion broadly ovate, tip of ovipositor extending distinctly beyond apex of abdomen. Legs gracile, tibial spines in African species short. 3rd joint of hind tarsus longer than 2nd.

Male genitalia: Pygofer and styles of usual type. Theca with a claw-like or blade-like lateral process. Vesica ending in a falcate apical portion.

Biology: The African species were found in association with ants on acacias and bushes such as *Guiera senegalensis* in sandy habitats. Distribution: Northern parts of the Sudanese subregion, one species in Turkestan.

Key to the species of *Aspidacanthus*

Males

1. 3rd antennal joint bicolored, base whitish, apical two-thirds dark fuscous. Setae on hind tibia distinctly longer than tibial diameter *myrmecoides*
- 3rd antennal joint uniformly pale ochraceous. Setae on hind tibia shorter than tibial diameter 2
2. Pale spot on elytra (Fig. 31h) narrowly triangular. Hind tibia (Fig. 32n) shortish, distinctly clavate *clavipes*
- Pale spot on elytra much broader. Hind tibia long and gracile 3
3. Pale spot on elytra (Fig. 22i) divided by dark fuscous band along claval suture *globoicollis*
- Pale spot on elytra entire 4
4. Whitish spot on elytra (Fig. 31d) large, bordered by narrowish black ring, area delimiting this figure basally pale ochraceous, rest of base of elytra reddish brown with dark infumation *tithonos*

- Whitish spot on elytra (Fig. 32i) narrower, both this spot and an adjacent small ochraceous macula broadly encircled by black *bambeyi*

Females

1. Pale spot on elytra (Fig. 31i) narrow, band-like *clavipes*
- Pale spot on elytra much larger 2
2. Pale spot on elytra (Fig. 31j-k) relatively small, broadly triangular *globoicollis*
- Pale spot on elytra (Fig. 31f-g) very large, ± ovate *tithonos*

A. myrmecoides Reuter

Aspidacanthus myrmecoides Reuter 1901:170, Linnavuori 1975:70.

Material studied: USSR: Buchara mer. Termez, 4 ♂♂, 17.VI.1912, Kiritschenko; Turmenia, 1♂, J. Sahlberg, in coll. Linnavuori.

Distribution: Turkestan.

A. clavipes sp. n.

Figs. 31h-i, 32n, 33g-h

Material studied: The Sudan: Kassala, Erkowit, male holotype, 5-10.VII.1961, Linnavuori. Eritrea: Asmara - Decamere, 1♀ paratype, 25-26.V.1963, Linnavuori, in coll. Linnavuori.

Length ♂ 4.5 mm, ♀ 4.75 mm. ♂: Shiny. Golden brown. Eyes gray. 1st and 3rd antennal joints yellow-brown, others dark brown. Basal two-thirds of elytra opaquely shiny, reddish brown, transverse spot narrowly triangular, yellow-ochraceous, surrounded by fuscous; apical third of elytra shiny, dark brown; membrane brown. Legs dark brown, apical thirds of tibiae yellow-ochraceous. ♀: Shiny. Reddish brown. Eyes brownish. Antennae as in ♂. Elytra opaque, reddish brown with narrow whitish subapical spot. Abdomen shiny black. Fore legs (other legs missing in the specimen studied) dark brown.

♂: General structure as in *A. globoicollis*. Head nearly as broad as pronotum, ocular index 2.6. Proportions between antennal joints 15:57:40:30, 2nd joint 0.83 × as long as diatone, 0.80 × as long as basal width of pronotum. Legs relatively short and incrassate; hind tibia 1.62 × as long as basal width of pronotum, distinctly clavate, setae