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# A new homonymy and new combination in the myrmecophilous beetle genus *Thorictus* Germar, 1834 (Coleoptera: Dermestidae: Thorictinae)

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## Abstract

The myrmecophilous species *Thorictus dobrni* John, 1965 **stat. nov.** is newly stated as a species independent of *Thorictus orientalis* Peyron, 1857. *Thorictus orientalis* ssp. *dobrni* John, 1966 is a new homonym of *Thorictus orientalis* ssp. *dobrni* John, 1965.

**Key words:** Taxonomy, new homonymy, new status, Coleoptera, Dermestidae, Thorictinae, *Thorictus*, Ethiopia.

## Resumen

**Una nueva homonimia y una nueva combinación en el género de escarabajos mirmecófilos *Thorictus* Germar, 1834 (Coleoptera: Dermestidae: Thorictinae)**

Se establece la especie mirmecófila *Thorictus dobrni* John, 1965 **stat. nov.** como especie independiente de *Thorictus orientalis* Peyron, 1857. *Thorictus orientalis* ssp. *dobrni* John, 1966 es un nuevo homónimo de *Thorictus orientalis* ssp. *dobrni* John, 1965.

**Palabras clave:** Taxonomía, nueva homonimia, nuevo estatus, Coleoptera, Dermestidae, Thorictinae, *Thorictus*, Etiopía.

## Laburpena

**Homonimia berri bat eta konbinazio berri bat *Thorictus* Germar, 1834 kakalardo mirmekofiloen generoan (Coleoptera: Dermestidae: Thorictinae)**

Espezie mirmekofiloa den *Thorictus dobrni* John, 1965 **stat. nov.** espezie independentetzat jotzen da *Thorictus orientalis* Peyron, 1857 delakoarekiko. *Thorictus orientalis* ssp. *dobrni* John, 1966 *Thorictus orientalis* ssp. *dobrni* John, 1965 delakoaren homonimo berria da.

**Gako-hitzak:** Taxonomia, homonimia berria, estatus berria, Coleoptera, Dermestidae, Thorictinae, *Thorictus*, Etiopia.

## Introduction

The myrmecophilous dermestid genus *Thorictus* Germar, 1834 currently includes 165 species and subspecies known from the Palaearctic, Oriental and Afrotropical Regions (Háva, 2003, 2013; Löbl, 2007). Host ants are known for 43 species and all these species are myrmecophiles and hosts of various ant genera (Háva, 2003, 2013).

## Methods

Male genitalia have not yet been studied. Differential diagnoses of aedeagi are often problematical and the interspecific variation is currently very poorly defined (John, 1963). Two species groups belonging to the genus *Thorictus* were defined by John (1963). John's types are equipped with labels «Type» (= Holotype) or «Paratype».

## Results

### *Thorictus dohrni* John, 1965 **stat. nov.**

*Thorictus orientalis* ssp. *dohrni* John, 1965: 341.

*Thorictus orientalis* ssp. *dohrni* John, 1966: 20 **homonym nov.**

MATERIAL EXAMINED: Holotype: «Abbyssinia, leg. Dohrn». Holotype deposited in Hope Entomological Collections, University Museum, Oxford, United Kingdom.

DISTRIBUTION: Species known from Ethiopia only.

REMARKS: The taxon *dohrni* John, 1965 is originally described as a subspecies of the species *Thorictus orientalis*. The same taxon was described by John in 1966, and the name is a new homonym of the same species described in 1965.

The species *Thorictus dohrni* John, 1965 **stat. nov.** is an independent species and differs from the species *Thorictus orientalis* Peyron, 1857 by the structure of lateral eyes on head, pubescence on epipleuron and metepisternum and striation of first visible abdominal sternite (compare Figs. 1 and 2).

## Acknowledgements

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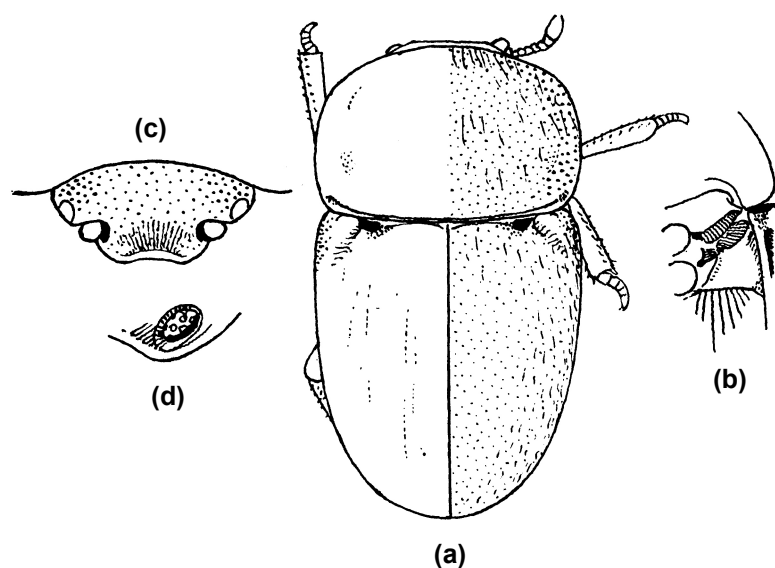


FIGURE 1. *Thorictus dohrni* John, 1965 **stat. nov.**: (a) Habitus, dorsal aspect; (b) Pubescence on epipleuron and metepisternum and striation of first visible abdominal sternite (ventral aspect); (c) Head; (d) Lateral eyes on head (according to John, 1966).

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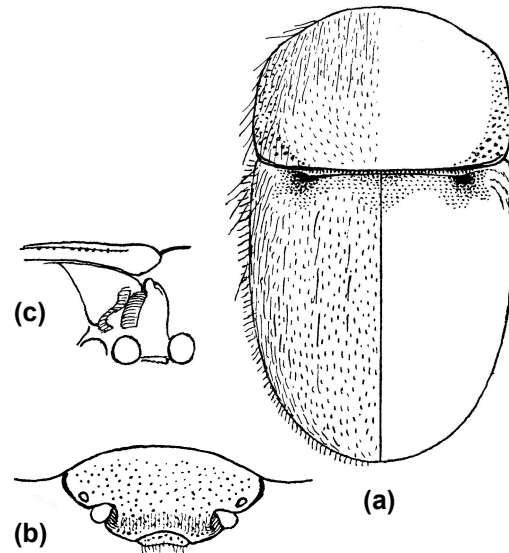


FIGURE 2. *Thorictus orientalis* Peyron, 1857: (a) Habitus, dorsal aspect; (b) Head; (c) Pubescence on epipleuron and metepisternum (according to John, 1963).

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