

## Notes on the genus *Eblisia* Lewis, 1889 in relation to *Platysomatini*, with description of four new genera (Coleoptera: Histeridae)

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### Taxonomy, new genera, Coleoptera, Histeridae, *Platysomatini*

**Abstract.** A systematic and taxonomical status of the genus *Eblisia* Lewis, 1889 and the tribe *Platysomatini* is analyzed. Four new genera for some species wrongly placed among *Eblisia* Lewis, 1889 and *Silinus* Lewis, 1907 are described: *Sibelia* gen. n. for *Eblisia coreana* Ôhara et Paik, 1998, *Pacifister* gen. n. for *Hololepta urvillei* Le Guillou, 1844 and *Platylister anatahanensis* Ôhara, 1994, *Eurosoma* gen. n. for *Hister minor* Rossi, 1792 and *Sunilis* gen. n. for *Platysoma robustum* Schmidt, 1892. A key to the genera of *Platysomatini* is compiled.

### INTRODUCTION

The genus *Eblisia* was originally erected to include the species “which have no frontal depression such as would authorize their inclusion in *Platysoma*, and yet at the same time the mesosternum is emarginate in front, a salient character which must exclude them from *Phelister* (Lewis, 1889: 280).

Lewis placed *Eblisia* among *Platysoma* section: in his catalogue it is located between *Idister* Marseul and *Cylistix* Marseul (Lewis, 1905: 18-19) but Schmidt (1897: 292) did not agree with such a placement, joining all the species of *Eblisia* again with *Phelister* and this conception was repeated by Bickhardt (1910: 28-29) in his catalogue. Later Bickhardt (1912: 124) first recognized, indeed, *Eblisia* as a subgenus *Platysoma* but shortly after that he synonymized *Eblisia* with *Nicotikis* (Bickhardt, 1912b: 224), finally placing this genus among the tribe *Histerini* (Bickhardt, 1917: 156). Such a statement was followed also by Desbordes (1919: 377).

Cooman (1941: 319-320) divided again *Eblisia* and *Nicotikis* and gave more characteristics separating both these genera and since these definitions a general recognition of the genus *Eblisia* was established.

In 1920 Bickhardt (1920: 213) created a new genus *Eurylister* for the species classified till that time as belonging to *Platysoma*, having the oval and convex body as well as the marginal stria of prosternal lobe lying close to the margin and parallel to it. He placed here, among others, “*urvillei*” Le Guillou and “*sequistriatum*” Marseul (now in *Diister*).

Considering the convex and oval body Mazur (1972: 138-139) transferred *Hister minor* Rossi from *Platysoma* to *Eurylistera*, ignoring the presence and shape of marginal stria of prosternal lobe.

Wenzel (1955: 628), however, did not recognize *Eurylistera* as a separate genus: "I do not feel the genus can be recognized or that it can even be treated as a subgenus [of *Platysoma*]".

Anyway, in the first edition of the world catalogue of *Histeridae* (Mazur, 1984: 236, 237) *Platysoma minor* and *P. urvillei* were placed into *Eurylistera*, treated as a subgenus of *Platysoma*.

Same author (Mazur, 1990: 748-750) synonymized *Eurylistera*, *Eblisia* and *Chronus* [the genus erected for the species which superficially resemble small *Platysoma* but the tarsal grooves agree better with those of *Phelister* (Lewis, 1914: 285), rejecting simultaneously *Platysoma urvillei* from *Eblisia*, because of its sternal structure.

Consequently, in the second edition of the world catalogue (Mazur, 1997: 66, 80) *Hister minor* was placed into the genus *Eblisia* whereas *Hololepta urvillei* into the subgenus *Platylister* Lewis (genus *Platysoma* Leach).

Such a treatment of these three genera seems, however, to be going too far and finally Mazur (2007: 73) separated again the genera *Eblisia* (with *Chronus* as a subgenus) and *Eurylistera* giving more precise definitions.

In sight of this definition *Eblisia coreana* and *E. minor* can be not longer treated as *Eblisia* species and should be transferred to new genera, proposed here.

For *Eurylistera urvillei* and *Platylister anahatanensis* a new genus is also needed.

*Eblisia guinense* Mazur, 1898 is a typical *Eurylistera* species, *Platysoma sundae* Schmidt, 1889, transferred by Mazur (1999: 3) to *Eblisia*, belongs to the subgenus *Popinus* (*Platylister*).

## DESCRIPTION OF NEW GENERA

### ***Sibelia* gen. n.**

(Figs 13-14)

**Description.** Body oval, depressed. Frontal stria present. Pronotum punctate at antero-lateral angles. Marginal pronotal stria complete at sides, absent anteriorly. Lateral stria complete, carinate at sides. Elytra with dorsal striation and with two subhumeral striae (Fig. 13). Pygidium without elevated margin. Prosternal lobe margined. Prosternum without carinal striae. One lateral stria present. Mesosternum emarginate, margined anteriorly. Mesocoxa without cariniform stria. Post mesocoxal striae absent. Metasternum with lateral striae at sides (Fig. 14).

**Type species:** *Eblisia coreana* Ôhara et Paik, 1998.

**Differential diagnosis.** See following key.

**Derivatio nominis.** An anagram of *Eblisia*. Feminine gender.

***Pacifister* gen. n.**

(Figs 22-26)

**Description.** Body oblong, somewhat convex. Forehead flat, frontal stria present. Pronotum without coarse punctation. Marginal pronotal stria present at sides. Lateral stria marked, interrupted apically, not replaced by apical stria. Elytral striation reduced to two complete dorsal striae. Both subhumeral and sutural striae absent. Prosternal lobe margined, the marginal stria lying close to margin. Prosternum of moderate width, without carinal striae. Both lateral striae present. Mesosternum emarginate at anterior margin, marginal mesosternal stria present, interrupted or complete. Mesocoxa without longitudinal cariniform stria. Post mesocoxal striae absent or strongly reduced. Lateral metasternal striae present. Second abdominal sternite with a transverse stria at sides (Fig. 22). Parameres longer than basal piece, convergent apically (Figs. 23-25). Eight sternite not extending inwardly (Fig. 26).

**Type species.** *Hololepta urvillei* Le Guillou, 1844.

**Differential diagnosis.** See following key.

**Derivatio nominis.** *Pacifister*, masculine gender, indicates the general distribution of the species.

**Catalogue:**

*anatahanensis* Ôhara, 1994

*urvillei* Le Guillou, 1844

*madecassum* Desbordes, 1923

Mariana Is.

Mariana Is., Moluccas, New Guinea,

Vanuatu, New Caledonia, Fiji, Tahiti,

Madagascar (introduced?)

***Sunilis* gen. n.**

(Figs 27-28)

**Description.** Body oblong, somewhat cylindrical. Frontal stria present. Mandibles incised basally, with one dent at inner margin. Pronotum impunctate. Marginal stria complete. Lateral stria broadly interrupted behind the head, prolonged on pronotal base and margining it. Elytral striation present, dorsal striae connected by a transverse line (Fig. 27). Subhumeral striae wanting. Prosternal lobe margined. Prosternum narrow, with carinal striae margining the base. Both lateral striae present. Mesosternum emarginate anteriorly, with complete marginal stria only. Mesocoxa without carina. Metasternum margined laterally, post mesocoxal striae absent (Fig. 28).

**Type species:** *Platysoma robustum* Schmidt, 1892

**Differential diagnosis.** See following key.

**Derivatio nominis.** *Sunilis* is an anagram of *Silinus*. Masculine gender.

***Eurosoma* gen. n.**

(Figs 61-66)

**Description.** Body oval, moderately convex. Frontal stria present. Mandibles with longitudinal stria at base. Pronotum densely and rugosely punctured at sides. Marginal stria complete, lateral stria marked at sides only, parallel to margin. Dorsal striation present (Fig. 61). Subhumeral striae absent. Prosternal lobe anteriorly margined. Prosternum with carinal striae at base. Both lateral striae present. Mesosternum deeply emarginate, marginal stria present as well as two transverse, short fragments of additional striae at anterolateral angles. Mesocoxa with longitudinal striiform carina. Metasternum flat, distinctly margined laterally. Post mesocoxal stria absent (Fig. 62). Parameres a little longer than basal piece, arcuately convergent at apical 1/3 (Figs 63-65). Eighth sternum wider than long (Fig. 66).

**Type species:** *Hister minor* Rossi, 1792 (= *H. frontalis* Paykull, 1798).

**Differential diagnosis.** See following key.

**Derivatio nominis.** The name refers to Europe where *Eurosoma minor* commonly occurs. Neuter gender.

SYSTEMATIC STATUS OF PLATYSOMATINI

As primarily defined (Bickhardt, 1917: 121) the S-shaped tarsal grooves on foretibia are the main character distinguishing the tribe Platysomatini among Histerinae. According to this definition the genus *Omalodes* Erichson, 1834 and allied genera were also placed here.

This conception was followed by other coleopterologists (Wenzel, 1962: 376). Kryzhanovskij (1972: 20) gave a more precise definition of the tribe when establishing a new tribe Omalodini. The tribe Platysomatini may be separated, among others, from Omalodini by lateral metasternal stria being never curved, extending or not, to the apical margin whereas the outwardly curved lateral metasternal stria, extending to the anterior part of metasternal-metepisternal suture is a typical feature of the tribe Omalodini (Fig. 77). Next De Marzo & Vienna (1982: 80-88) pointed out the antennal structure (V-shaped sutures) as a character typical for "Platysoma-Hololepta-Omalodes complex". Adopting this solution Mazur (1990: 751) presented a new conception of a tribal subdivision among Histerinae, emphasizing the antennal sutures from which at least one of them being interrupted on underside as a feature discriminating Platysomatini from Omalodini.

Ślipiński & Mazur (1999: 229) rejected the tribal subdivision among Histerinae because, according to their analysis, the tribe Omalodini, as compared with Platysomatini and Hololeptini, represents plesiomorphic status and cannot be defined as a monophyletic taxon. On contrary, Caterino & Vogler (2002: 408) did not find in their studies on the phylogeny of Histeridae, based on DNA analysis, any reason supporting this solution and they recommended to keep more traditional taxonomy (as presented in Mazur, 1997) until a truly comprehensive phylogeny can be established.

Not resolving definitely phylogenetic relationships among Histerinae we recognize Platysomatini as a well separated tribe which may be defined as follows:

Body more or less depressed, sometimes very flat, often subparallel or parallel. Antennal club with two V-shaped sutures which may be complete (Figs. 2, 20) or interrupted (Figs. 39, 41, 53). Foretibia with more or less S-shaped (Figs. 3, 12, 19, 41, 49) or straight tarsal groove, with dents (Figs. 3, 7), spiny dents (Figs. 12, 42, 44) or spines (Fig. 19) at anterior margin. Lateral metasternal stria not curved outwardly, extending (Figs. 1, 11, 14, 28, 34, 56, 68, 75) or not (Fig. 50) to the metacoxa.

One can separate three distinct groups:

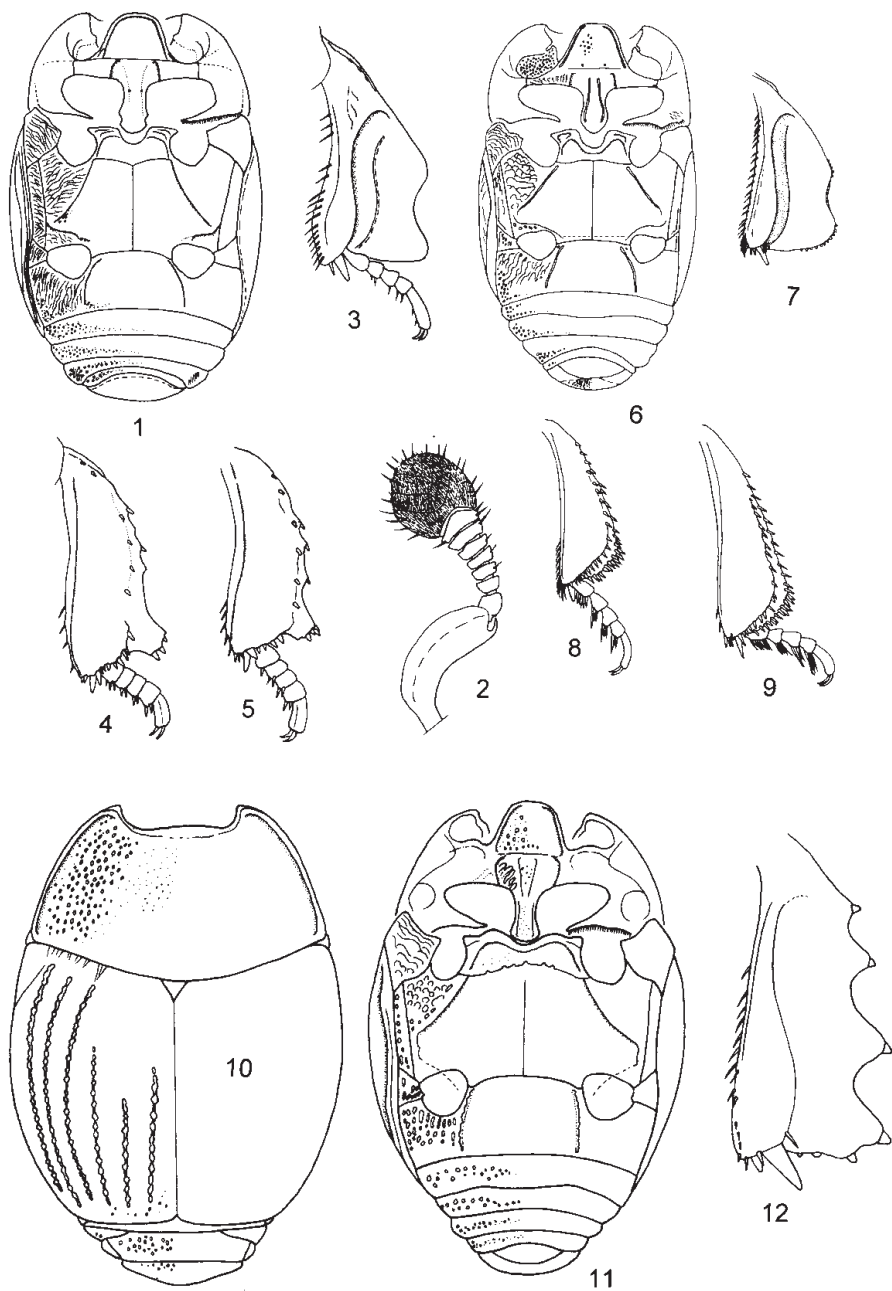
1. species with one lateral prosternal stria. A very heterogeneous group in which a systematic position of some genera remains still unclear.
2. species without longitudinal carina on mesocoxa. So called "Eblisia section".
3. species with longitudinal carina on mesocoxa. So called "Platysoma section".

An examination of *Platysoma robustum* Schmidt, 1892 showed that this species did not belong to the genus *Silinus* Lewis because of the lack of mesocoxal carina, presence of carinal striae and one simple dent at outer margin of mandibles, completely margined pronotal base and body form (Figs. 27-28). This species belongs to the "Eblisia section" and a new genus, *Sunilis*, is proposed for it.

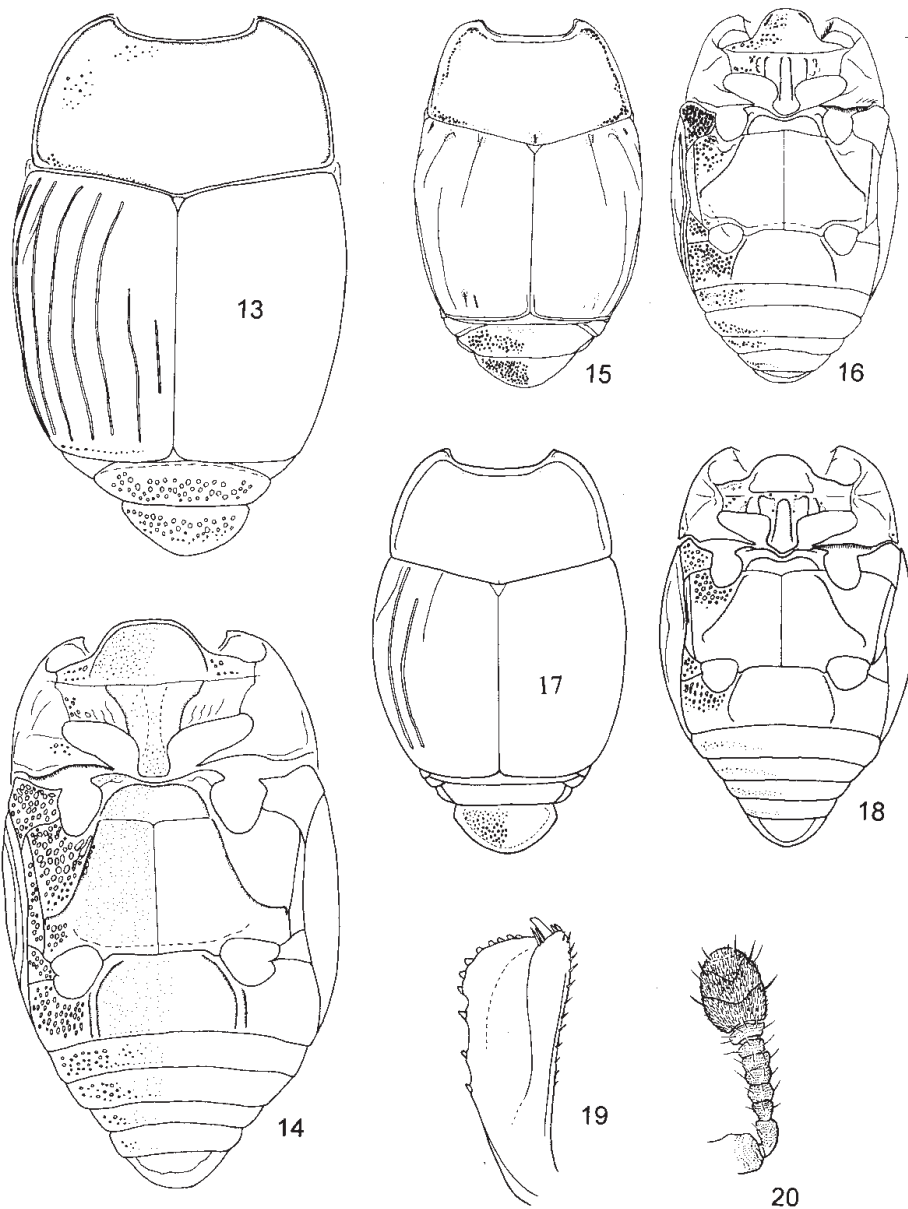
Detailed studies conducted within last 10 years showed that some genera classified previously among Platysomatini should have been removed from it. This is true for *Macrosternus* Marseul, 1853 (Exosternini), *Sternoglyphus* Desbordes, 1916 (most probably Histerini) [Mazur & Ôhara, 2000: 53-54], *Theropatina* Mazur, 1984 (Histerini or Omalodini), *Platybletes* Théron, 1952 (Exosternini) [Mazur & Ôhara, 2000b: 327, 332], *Caenolister* Bickhardt, 1921 (Exosternini, Ôhara & Mazur, 2000: 7) and *Heudister* Cooman, 1940 (Exosternini, Ôhara & Mazur, 2002: 2).

There are also four next genera that have been originally classified among Platysomatini: *Epuraeosoma* Ślipiński & Mazur (1999: 210-212), *Gomyoscelis* Degallier (2001: 9-10), *Blyptehus* Vienna (2000: 80) and *Perfidolenus* Vienna (2000: 85-86). All these genera differ markedly from those of *Platysomatini* in common sense and the further studies are needed to explain their final tribal (or subfamilial) status. Anyway, at present we hesitate to keep them in Platysomatini.

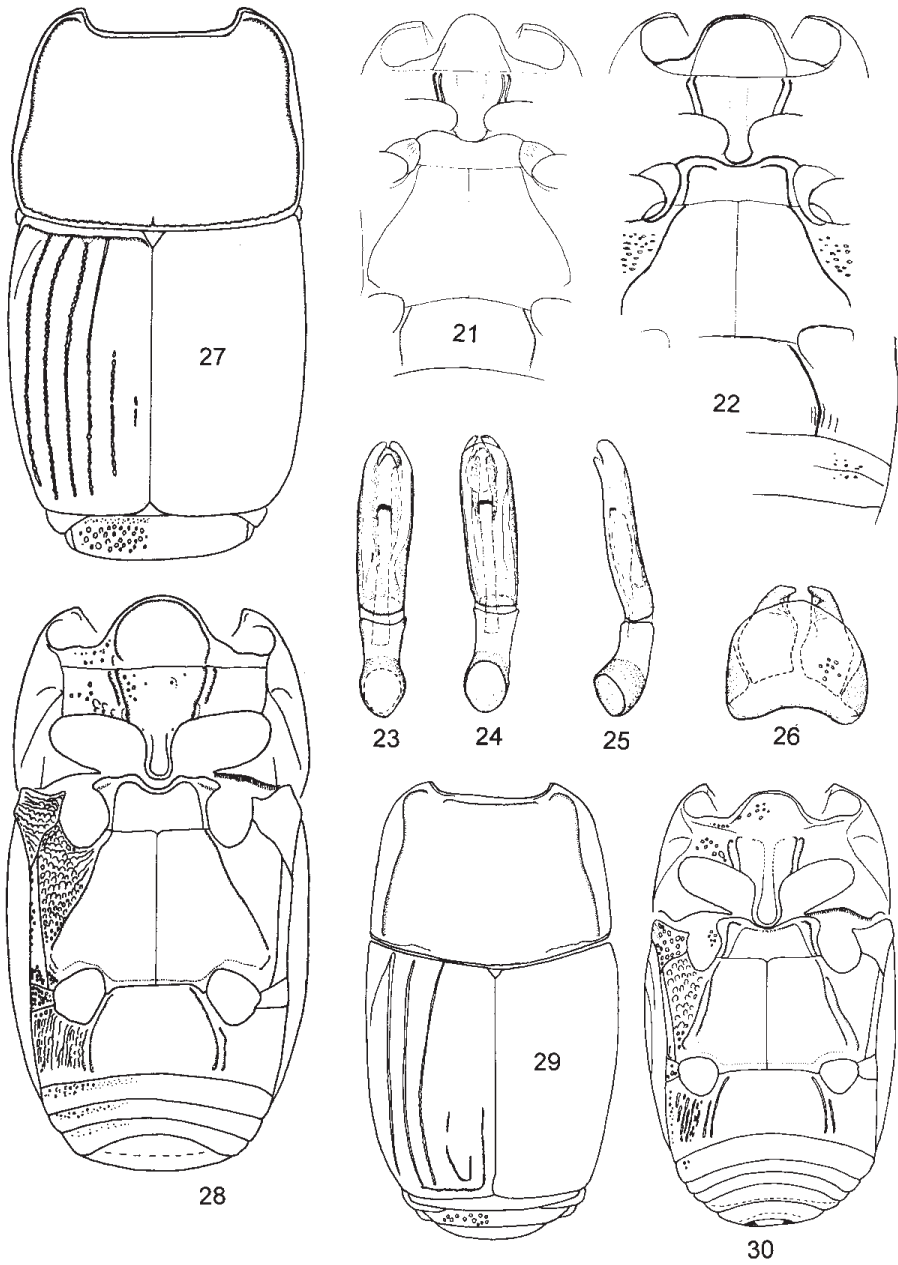
The remaining genera of this tribe may be separated as follows:



Figs 1-12. 1-5: *Placodes senegalensis*; 6-9: *Plaesius (Hyposolenus) laevigatus*; 10-12: *Microlister coronatus*. 1,6,11- upper side; 2- antenna; 3, 7, 12- foretibia; 4,8- mesotibia; 5,9- metatibia; 10- upper side.

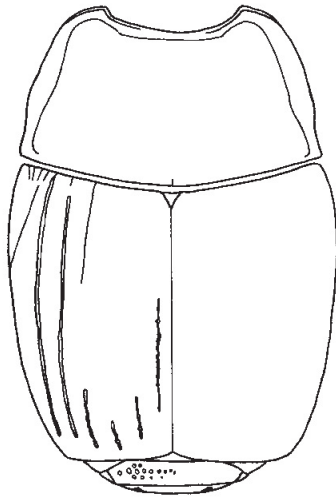


Figs 13-20. 13-14: *Sibelia*; 15-16: *Aulacosternus zelandicus*; 17-20: *Idister morphon*; 13,15,17- upper side; 14,16,18- under side; 19- foretibia; 20- antenna.

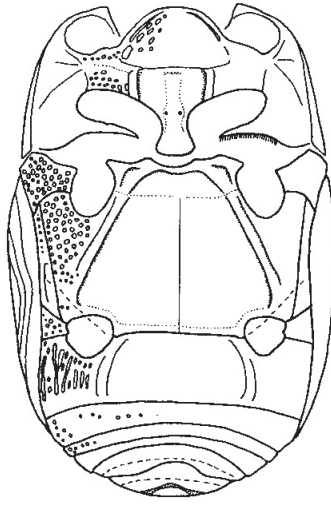


Figs 21-30. 21: *Placodister nudisternus*, under side; 22-26: *Pacifister urvillei*: 22- under side; 23- edeagus, dorsal; 24- edeagus, ventral; 25- edeagus, lateral; 26 - 8<sup>th</sup> segment; 27-28: *Sunilis robustus*, 29-30: *Nicotikis incisipyge*; 27, 29- upper side; 28, 30- under side.

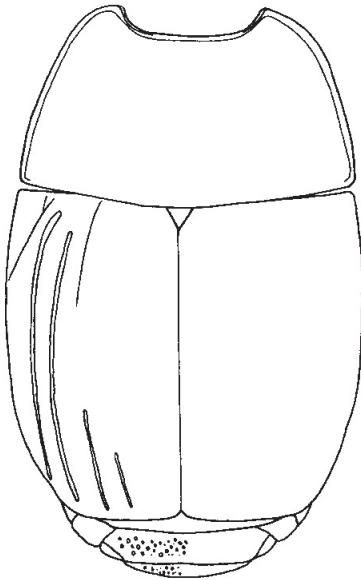




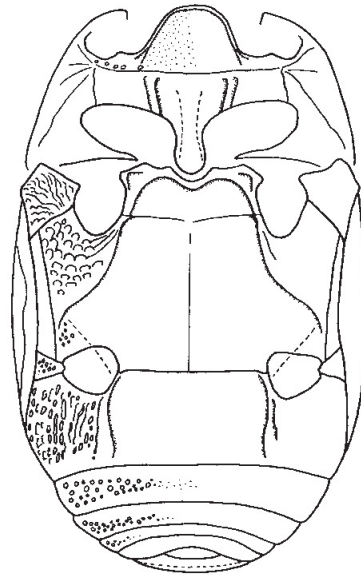
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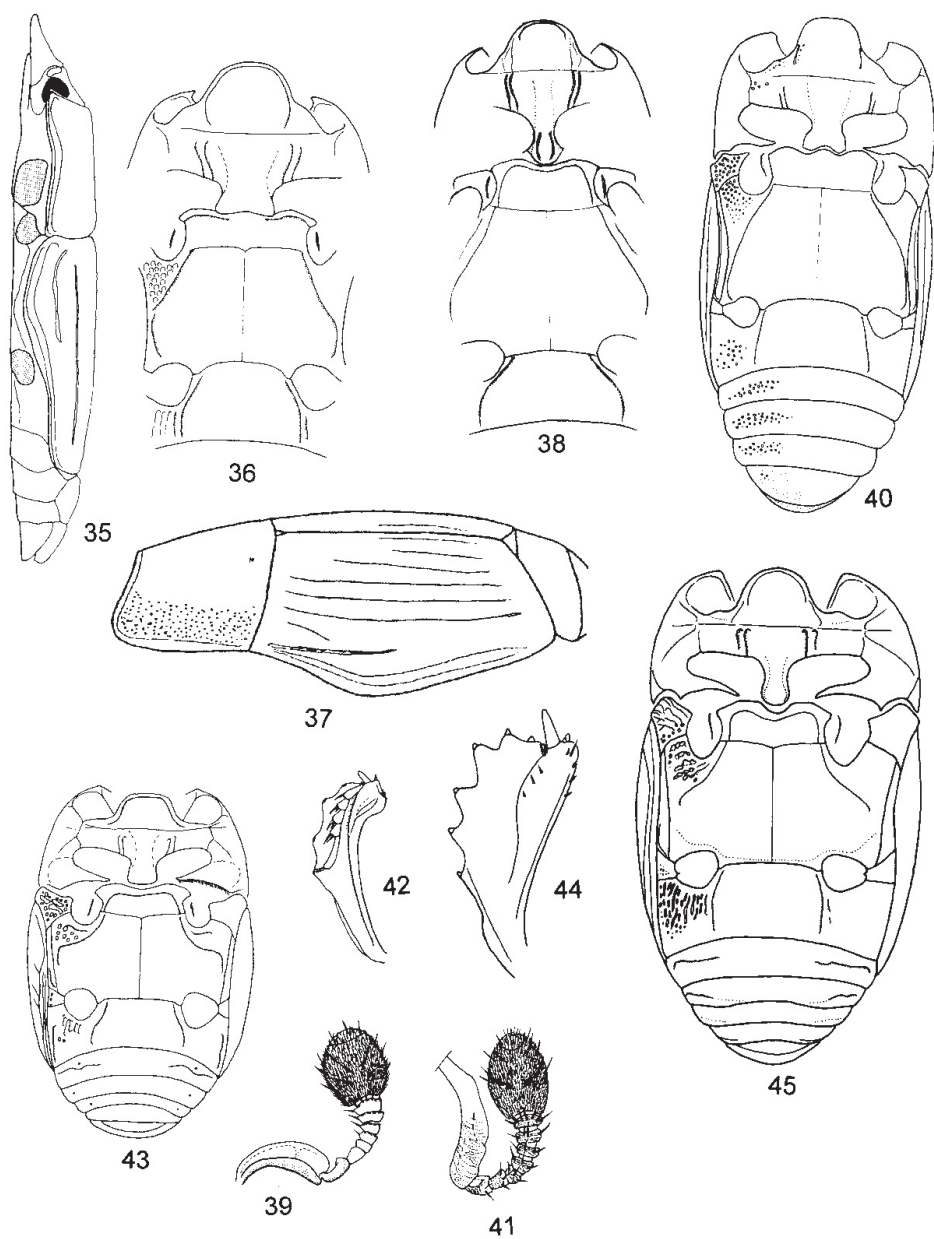


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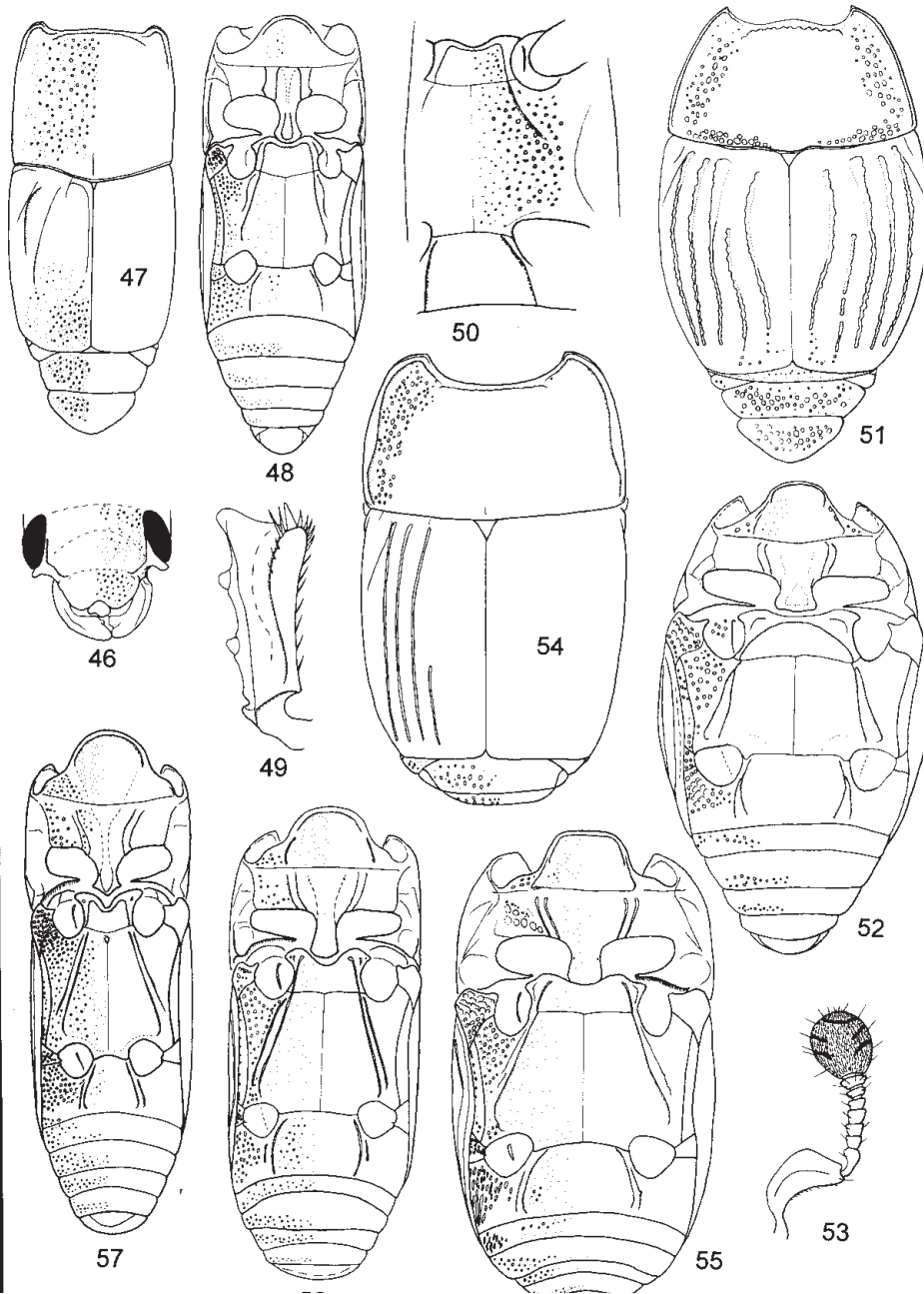


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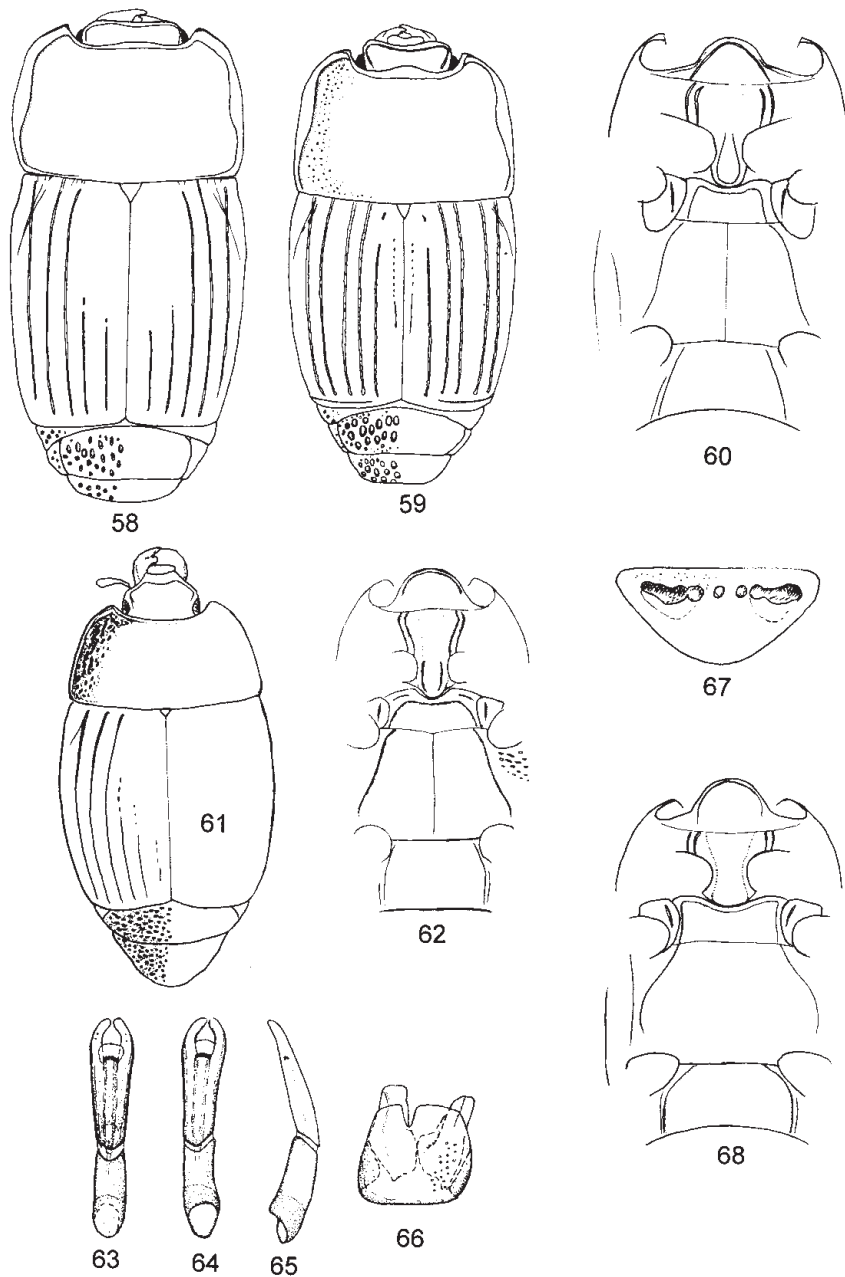
Figs 31-34. *Eblisia* sp.: 31- upper side; 32- under side; *Eurylister* sp.: 33- upper side; 34- under side.



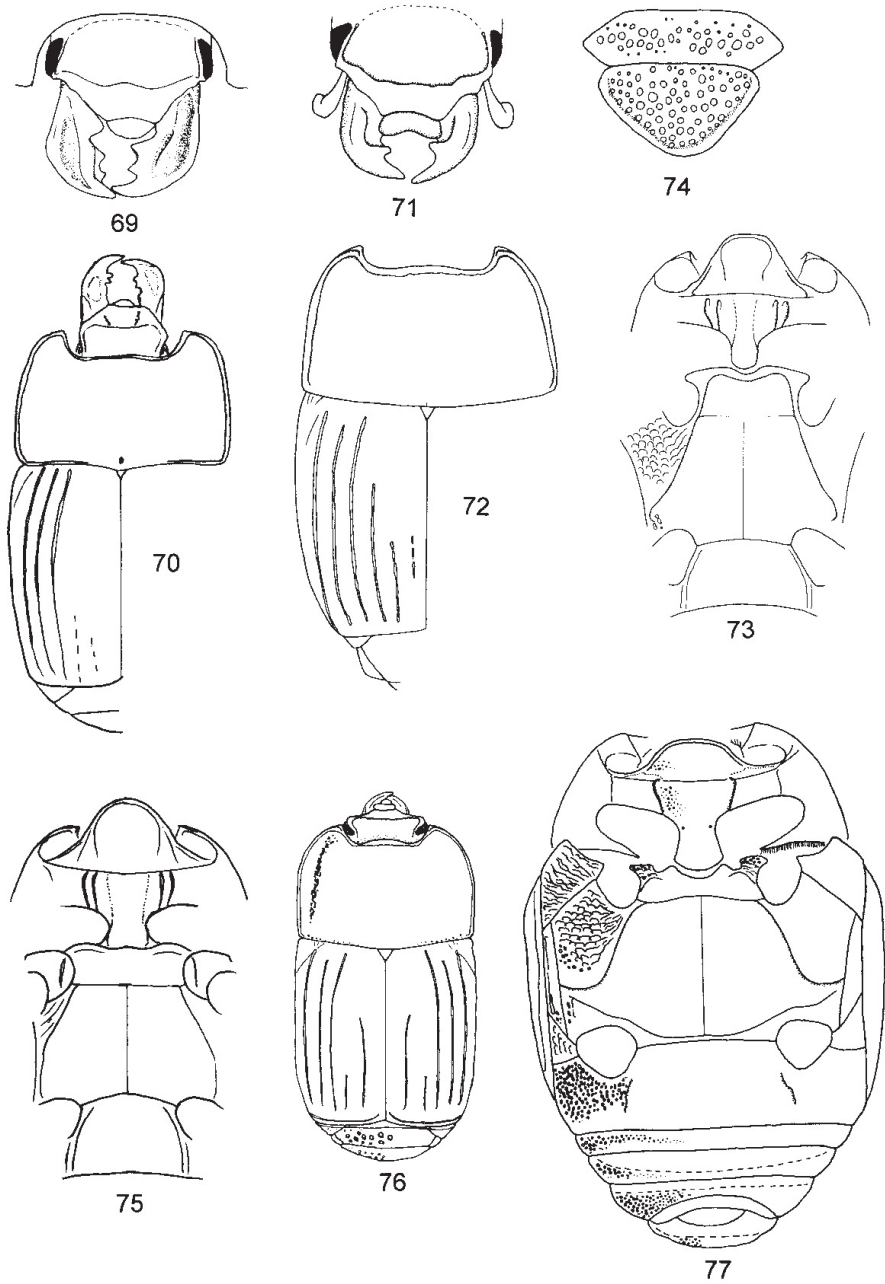
Figs 35-45. 35-36: *Apobletes schauemei*; 37-38: *Afrosoma capense*; 39-40: *Desbordesia maindroni*; 41-43: *Diister omalodellus*; 44-45: *D. platysomoides*; 35,37- lateral view; 36,38,40,43,45- under side; 39,41- antenna; 42,43- foretibia.



Figs 46-57. 46-49: *Althamus teretrioides*; *Latinolister cylindroids*: 50- meso- and metasternum, latero-ventral view; 51-52: *Mesostrix pentatoma*; 53-55: *Platysoma (Platysoma) compressum*; 56: *P. (Cylister) filiforme*; 57: *P. (Cylister) cylindricum*; 46- head; 47,51,54- upper side; 48,52,55-57- under side; 49- foretibia; 53 - antenna.



Figs 58-68. 58: *Niposoma vegans*; 59: *N. lewisi*; 60: *N. schenklingi*; 61-66: *Eurosoma minor*; 67: *Liopygus diopsipygus*; 68: *Kanaarister latisternus*; 58,59,61- upper side; 60,62,68- upper side; 63-66- genital structure of the male: 63- dorsal; 64- ventral; 65- lateral; 66- 8<sup>th</sup> segment.



Figs 69-77. 69-70: *Silinus* sp.; 71-74: *Platylister* (*Platylister*) sp.; 75: *P. (Ricinodendrus) foliaceus*; 76: *P. (Popinus) unicus*; 77: *Omalodes* sp.; 69,71- head; 70,72,76- upper side; 73,75,77- under side; 74- pro- and pygidium.

## KEY TO THE GENERA OF PLATYSOMATINI

1. Prosternum with one lateral stria (Figs 1, 6, 11, 14, 18) ..... 2.
- Prosternum with two lateral striae (Figs 22, 28, 34, 36, 52, 68) ..... 6.
2. Foretibia with two large dents (Figs 3, 7) ..... 3.
- Foretibia with another armature (Figs 12, 19) ..... 4.
3. Meso- and metatibia with a large tooth at apical angle (Figs 4, 5) ..... *Placodes* Erichson, 1834
- Meso- and metatibia without such an armature (Figs 8, 9) ..... *Plaesius* Erichson, 1834
- a) marginal mesosternal stria broadly interrupted at middle ..... subgen. *Plaesius* s. str.
- b) marginal mesosternal stria complete ..... subgen. *Hyposolenus* Lewis, 1907
4. External subhumeral stria present (Figs 13, 15) ..... 5.
- Both subhumeral striae absent ..... *Microlister* Lewis, 1905
5. Prosternum without carinal striae (Fig. 14). Each elytron with more than 3 dorsal striae. *Sibelia* gen. n.
- Prosternum with carinal striae (Fig. 16). Elytra at most with three incomplete dorsal striae .....  
..... *Aulacosternus* Marseul, 1853
6. Mesocoxa without a cariniform stria (Figs 21, 22, 30, 34) [*Eblisia* section] ..... 7.
- Mesocoxa with a distinct cariniform stria (Figs 38, 48, 50, 52, 55) [*Platysoma* section] ..... 13.
7. Carinal striae of prosternum complete, united apically (Fig. 18). Outer margin of foretibia with numerous spinules only (Fig. 19)..... *Idister* Marseul, 1880
- Carinal striae absent or abbreviated apically (Figs 21, 28, 30) ..... 8.
8. Frontal and mesosternal marginal striae absent (Fig. 21) ..... *Placodister* Bickhardt, 1918
- Frontal stria usually present. Mesosternum more or less margined (Figs 22, 28). ..... 9.
9. Second sternite with a transverse stria laterally (Fig. 22) ..... *Pacifister* gen. n.
- Second sternite without such a stria ..... 10.
10. Pronotal base margined by a complete strongly incised stria. All the dorsal striae connected by transverse line (Fig. 27). Mesosternum only with marginal stria (Fig. 28) ..... *Sumilis* gen. n.
- Pronotum usually not margined (Figs 31, 33), sometimes with weak traces of marginal stria (Fig. 29). Elytral base without such a line (Figs 29, 33). Mesosternum with additional striae (Figs 39, 32, 34) ..... 11.
11. Body oblong. Pronotal base more or less margined laterally (Fig. 29). Median mesosternal stria situated between basal ends of lateral metasternal striae, replacing the marginal mesosternal stria (Fig. 30).....  
..... *Nicotikis* Marseul, 1883
- Body oval. Pronotal base not margined (Figs 31, 33). Marginal mesosternal stria connected with the basal ends of the lateral metasternal striae (Figs 32, 34) ..... 12.
12. Lateral pronotal stria lying close to margin (Fig. 33). Lateral metasternal stria arcuate inwardly, terminating at a point on a line with outer edge of metacoxa, so that its end is much closer to metepisternum than to inner edge of metacoxa (Fig. 34). Foretibia not modified ..... *Eurylister* Bickhardt, 1920
- Lateral pronotal stria distant from margin (Fig. 31). Lateral metasternal stria usually straight, terminating at a point about midway between inner edge of metacoxa and metepisternal suture (Fig. 32). Foretibia mostly enlarged and irregularly toothed ..... *Eblisia* Lewis, 1889
- a) pygidium sulcate or foveate, sometimes very coarsely punctate ..... subgen. *Eblisia* s. str.
- b) pygidium covered by minute and dense punctulation ..... subgen. *Chronus* Lewis, 1914
13. Outer subhumeral stria present (Figs 35, 37) ..... 14.
- Elytra without subhumeral striae (Figs 47, 51, 61, 76) ..... 15.
14. Marginal pronotal stria present (Fig. 35). Prosternum broad and flat. Mesosternum weakly bisinuate (Fig. 36) ..  
..... *Apobletes* Marseul, 1860
- Marginal pronotal stria absent (Fig. 37). Prosternum of moderate width, mesosternum emarginate anteriorly (Fig. 38)..... *Afrosoma* Mazur, 1999
15. Prosternal lobe and mesosternum not margined (Fig. 40). ..... *Desbordesia* Mazur, 1999
- Prosternal lobe and mesosternum more or less margined (Figs 45, 52, 68, 75) ..... 16.
16. Second sternite with a transverse stria laterally (Figs 43, 45) ..... *Diister* Mazur, 1989
- Second sternite without such a stria (Fig. 48, 56) ..... 17.
17. Elytral striation reduced (Fig. 47), labrum asymmetrical (Fig. 46), foretibia with strong angle at the basal inner edge (Fig. 49) ..... *Althamus* Lewis, 1903
- At least one dorsal stria complete (Figs 51, 54, 61, 72), labrum symmetrical (Fig. 69, 71), Protibia without strong angle ..... 18.

18. Lateral metasternal striae strongly abbreviated (Fig. 50) ..... *Latinolister* Mazur, 1999  
 -. Lateral metasternal stria complete (Figs 52, 55, 62, 68, 75)..... 19.
19. Lateral pronotal stria interrupted behind the head, replaced by an apical stria (Figs 51, 54). Postmesocoxal stria long, almost parallel to lateral metasternal stria (Figs 52, 55-57) ..... 20.  
 -. Not such a combination ..... 21.
20. Prosternal base triangularly incised. Mesosternum with arcuate mesosternal stria (Fig. 52) .....  
 ..... *Mesostrix* Mazur, 1994  
 -. Prosternal base flat. Mesosternum without arcuate mesosternal stria (Figs 55-57) ..... *Platysoma* Leach, 1817  
 a) mesosternum wide, twice as wide as long (Fig. 55) ..... subgen. *Platysoma* s. str.  
 b) mesosternum narrower, at most 1.5 times as wide as long (Fig. 56)..... subgen. *Cylister* Cooman, 1941  
 c) mesosternum nearly as wide as long (Fig. 57)..... subgen. *Cylister* Dejean, 1833
21. Prosternum with carinal striae (Figs 60, 62) ..... 22.  
 -. Prosternum without carinal striae (Figs 68, 73) ..... 23.
22. Body elongate. Lateral pronotal stria distant from margin, sinuous (Figs 58, 59) ..... *Niposoma* Mazur, 1999  
 -. Body oval. Lateral pronotal stria parallel to margin (Fig. 61) ..... *Eurosoma* gen. n.
23. Pygidium almost impunctate, with two large and deep excavations near the outer edge (Fig. 67) .....  
 ..... *Liopygus* Lewis, 1891  
 -. Pygidium with another sculpture (Fig. 74) ..... 24.
24. Pronotum distinctly punctured at sides. Mesosternum feebly, widely sinuate anteriorly (Fig. 68)  
 ..... *Kanaarister* Mazur, 1999  
 -. Pronotum smooth or indistinctly punctulate (Figs 70, 72), sometimes with irregular row of elongate punctures (Fig. 76). Mesosternum deeply emarginate or bisinuate (Figs 73, 75) ..... 25.
25. Mandibles deeply canaliculated basally, with large, bifid dent at inner margin (Fig. 69). Lateral pronotal stria more or less prolonged along the pronotal base (Fig. 70) ..... *Silinus* Lewis, 1907  
 -. Mandibles with one simple dent at inner margin, at most with striiform incision (Fig. 71). Pronotal base usually not margined (Fig. 72) ..... *Platylister* Lewis, 1892  
 a) prosternum broadened, weakly narrowed at middle, its basal margin emarginate, mesosternum bisinuate (Fig. 75) ..... subgen. *Ricinodendrus* Mazur, 1999  
 b) pygidium more or less incised laterally, its margin elevated (Fig. 74)..... subgen. *Platylister* s. str.  
 c) pygidium flat or convex, without elevated margin ..... subgen. *Popinus* Mazur, 1999

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Received: 9.2.2009  
Accepted: 28.2.2009