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**Further consideration of the subtribe Thomassetiina
Bellamy: a new species, new records and placement in
the contemporary classification (Coleoptera: Buprestidae)**

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FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF THE SUBTRIBE THOMASSETIINA BELLAMY: A NEW SPECIES, NEW RECORDS AND PLACEMENT IN THE CONTEMPORARY CLASSIFICATION (COLEOPTERA: BUPRESTIDAE)

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A new species of *Thomassetia* Théry, *T. parva*, is described from the Western Cape Province, and new distribution records are presented for *T. crassa* (Waterhouse), *Jakovleviola oresibata* Obenberger and *J. strandi* Obenberger. A cladistic analysis of genera from the buprestid subtribes Thomassetiina, Bubastina, and Polyctesina was carried out to allow some confirmation of generic placement within the subtribes. The subtribal name Bulisina Bellamy, 1995, is emended to Bulina and Curidina Holyński, 1988, is emended to Curina.

Keywords: Coleoptera, Buprestidae, Buprestinae, *Thomassetia*, *Jakovleviola*, Southern Africa, Taxonomy.

INTRODUCTION

When originally defined, the buprestid subtribe Thomassetiina Bellamy (Bellamy, d'Hotman and Holm, 1987) was proposed to contain four African genera: *Thomassetia* Théry, *Jakovleviola* Obenberger, *Senegalisia* Bellamy and *Augrabies* Bellamy. In a subsequent paper (Bellamy, 1991), I suggested that the subtribal parameters be expanded to include the new Mexican genus *Oaxacanthaxia* Bellamy, and the Oriental genera *Philanthaxia* Deyrolle and *Pagdeniella* Théry. *Kurosawaia* Toyama and Ohmomo may also be placed here although it might have some relationship to the Australasian genus *Melobasis* Laporte and Gory.

Of many intriguing and interesting proposals in his familial 'reassessment,' Holyński (1993) suggested that two Nearctic genera, *Chrysophana* LeConte and *Beerellus* Nelson, traditionally placed in the Polyctesina Cobos (Thrincopygini LeConte), be grouped with the thomassetiine genera and combined within a reconstituted Bubastina Obenberger, a group previously comprising mostly Australian and a few northern African species. This is perhaps the most controversial of all the ideas presented in Holyński's 1993 paper. With the recent revisions of *Philanthaxia* and *Pagdeniella* (Bilý, 1993), and additional species referred to both *Oaxacanthaxia* (see Nelson and MacRae, 1994) and *Beerellus* (see Bellamy 1995a), as well as the need to describe a new South African species of *Thomassetia*, it is an appropriate time to seek a phylogenetic perspective on these relationships and previous unsubstantiated predictions.

Complete synonymies for the previously described taxa discussed below were provided by Bellamy *et al.* (1987). Label data are presented verbatim with a slash (/) to indicate data from separate labels; additional comments are contained within square brackets. All material of new species or records is deposited in the Transvaal Museum (TMSA) or the collections of A. Joubert, Somerset West (AJCS); D. S. Verity, Los Angeles, (DSVC); Naturhistorisches Museum, Basel, Switzerland (NHMB); National Museum, Prague, (NMPC); R. L. Westcott, Oregon Department of Agriculture, Salem (RLWE); and the South African National Collection of Insects, Pretoria (SANC); these abbreviations are listed in Arnett, Samuelson and Nishida (1993) or are in the same style.

Genus *THOMASSETIA* Théry

This genus was revised by Bellamy *et al.* (1987) and at that time included four species: the type species *T. natalensis* Théry, *T. anniae* Obenberger, both from Natal, *T. strandi* Obenberger from the Eastern Cape Province and *T. crassa* (Waterhouse) from the Western Cape Province.

Thomassetia crassa (Waterhouse), Figs 1, 3

Aristosoma crassum Waterhouse, 1887: 291.

Thomassetia crassa: Bellamy, d'Hotman and Holm, 1987: 228.

This is the common species in Namaqualand, generally associated with *Rhus undulata* Jacq., and has now been collected from the Gifberg south of Vanrhynsdorp and northwards to the

southern Richtersveld.

New locality and host records (*R. undulata* unless otherwise listed) are: N. Cape, Dermbergsdraai, W. of Garies, along the Green River course, 30.46S 17.41E; 2.5 km W Kommandokraal, 31.29S 18.11E, beaten from foliage of *Euclea racemosa* Murray (Ebenaceae); base of Vanrhynspas, 36 km E Vanrhynsdorp; Kamieskroon, 30.12S 17.52E; Wildeperdehoekpas, 29.54S 17.42E, beaten from foliage of *Euclea tomentosa* E. Mey. ex A. DC. x *E. natalensis* A. DC.; Richtersveld, Eksteenfonteinvallei, 28.47S 17.12E, beating *Acacia* sp. and beating 'false olive' [*Euclea* sp.]. The records of plants other than *Rhus* possibly represent coincidental adult resting sites, unless this species is polyphagous.

With the number of specimens now available, a brief discussion of variation is possible. There is a tendency in several populations for the colour, especially of the head and pronotum, to become a more iridescent aeneocupreous and is possibly related to a difference in host plants. This variation in colour is present in specimens listed above from Kommandokraal and Eksteenfonteinvallei. Another variable feature observed in specimens from Eksteenfonteinvallei is that the elytral disk has somewhat irregular transverse elevations between the more lateral longitudinal carinae (Fig. 1). Despite this variation, *T. crassa* exhibits the autapomorphic character state of the male genitalia throughout its range, i.e., the bilobed apex of the medium lobe (Fig. 3), a feature unique to the species of *Thomassetia*.

***Thomassetia parva* spec. nov.**, Figs 2, 4, 5

DESCRIPTION. HOLOTYPE ♂. 6,8 × 2,7 mm; flattened above and below; nitid black with faint aeneous tint; frontoclypeus, narrow mediobasal portion of elytra, margin of epipleuron, entire underside, femora and tibiae red cupreous; surface punctate, pronotum coarsely so; frons, antennae, underside and legs with sparse setal vestiture.

Head: frontovertex more or less evenly transverse, when viewed from above; frons only slightly narrowed above frontoclypeal margin; frontoclypeus feebly, transversely depressed between antennae, distal margin carinate, biangulately emarginate. Antennae: scape longer than antennomeres 2+3, 3 subserrate, 4–10 serrate; 11 shorter, slightly narrower than 10.

Pronotum: width 1,80 times the length, widest at about midpoint; anterior margin arcuate medially, straight on either side; posterior margin arcuate on either side of narrow prescutellar median

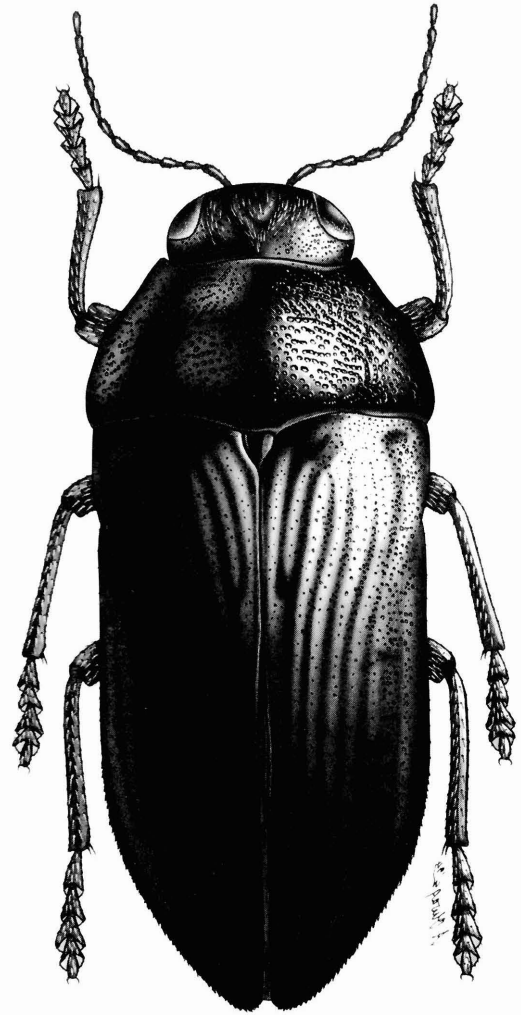


Fig. 1

Thomassetia crassa (Waterhouse), dorsal habitus.

truncation; lateral margins broadly, evenly arcuate, carinate, marginal carinae entire; posterolateral angles obtuse; disc flattened posteromedially, slightly transversely convex laterally; narrow impunctate longitudinal stripe present medially. Scutellum: small, triangular, longer than wide, posterior angle somewhat produced, acuminate; disc with central depression.

Elytra: length 1,82 times the width, widest before posterior third; basal margin somewhat swollen, costate; disc longitudinally costate, lateral costae feebly elevated; humeri short, moderately elevated, slightly oblique to orientation of costae; lateral

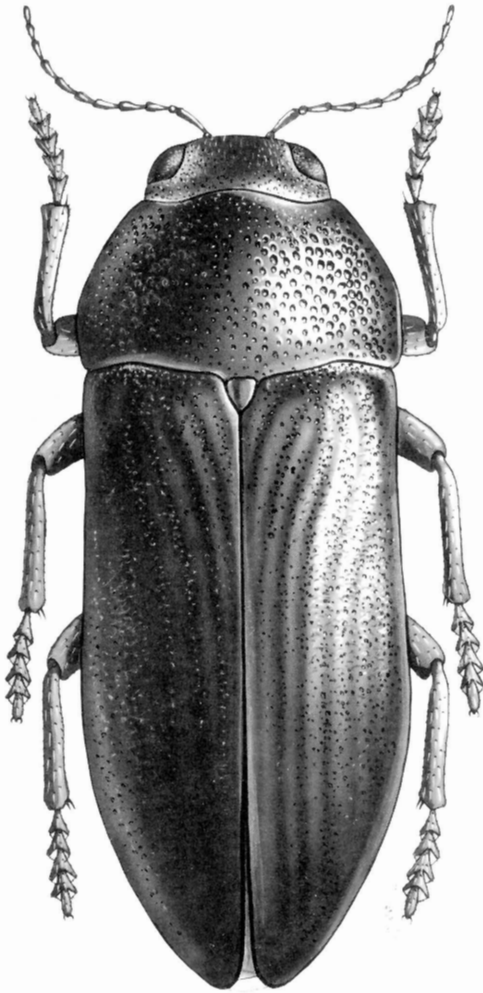
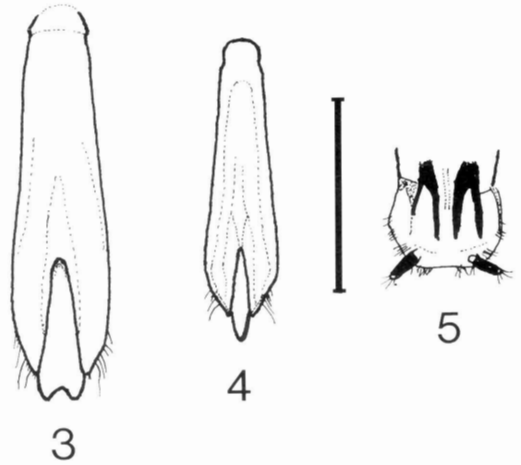


Fig. 2

Thomassetia parva spec. nov., dorsal habitus.

margins from base slightly narrowing to opposite humeri, then gradually widening to maximum width before posterior third, thereafter converging arcuately to separately rounded apices; lateral margins finely serrate from about widest point until before apical rounding; epipleuron short, extending to posterior metacoxal margin, narrow, only separated from disc by short carina which extends from base to opposite humerus; pygidium not visible from above.

Underside: surface mainly areolate, very large shallow cells, each with internal surface shagreened and one addressed long white seta;



Figs 3-5

Thomassetia genitalia. 3: *T. crassa*, aedeagus, dorsal aspect; 4-5: *T. parva*. 4: aedeagus, dorsal aspect; 5: ovipositor, dorsal aspect (scale bar = 1 mm).

surface between cells finely shagreened; cells generally with residue of white pulverulence; prosternum with anterior margin straight, process broadly attenuate; metacoxal plate with posterior margin arcuate in lateral half; lengths of abdominal sterna as follows: 1+2>3+4+5, 2>3+4, 3-5 each subequal; 5 narrowing caudad to broad, feebly arcuate apex, with a narrow premarginal groove present on all sterna.

Legs: femora fusiform; tibiae slightly expanded apically; tarsomeres 1-4 slightly progressively shorter, each with ventral pulvillus; 5 elongate, narrow, claws simple.

Genitalia: as in Fig. 4.

Allotype ♀: 9,6 × 3,8 mm; slightly more robust than holotype: pronotal width 1,65 times the length; elytral length 1,86 times the width; dorsal coloration more sombre black with no reflected tint; tarsal pulvilli wider and narrower. Ovipositor as in Fig. 5.

Variation: ♂ ($n = 11$), 6,7-7,2 × 2,5-2,9 mm; ($n = 11$), 7,6-9,7 × 3,1-3,9 mm; dorsal coloration is variable, especially in males, some having the elytral costae with a cupreous tint in the basal half and one specimen having the costae rather with a faint blue tint. Otherwise the variation observed in the type series is limited to size and proportional differences.

MATERIAL EXAMINED. Holotype ♂ (TMSA): SOUTH AFRICA: Western Cape, 3,5 km W. Clanwilliam, [200m] 32.11S 18.52E / 24.IX.1994 E-Y:3038, beating *Rhus incisa* [L. f. var. *incisa*,

Table 1

Taxa examined and used to construct character state matrix. Classification and order suggested by results of cladistic analysis.

BUPRESTINAE Leach
THRINCOPYGINI LeConte
 Thrincopygina LeConte
Thrincopyge alacris LeConte
 Polycetesina Cobos
Polycetesia rhois Marseul
Chrysofana conicola Chamberlin
Beerellus taxodii Nelson
BUPRESTINI Leach
 Buprestina Leach
Aristosoma suturalis (Thunberg)
 Bubastina Obenberger
Bubastes obscurus Obenberger
Neobubastes flavovittata Carter
Euryspilus chalcodes Laporte and Gory
Paratassa coraebiformis Fairmaire
 Thomassetiina Bellamy
Thomassetia crassa (Waterhouse)
Jakovleviola strandi Obenberger
Augrabies schotiaphaga Bellamy
Philanthaxia ohmomoii Bílý
Pagdeniella nigroviolacea (Théry)
Kurosawaia yanoi (Kurosawa)
Oaxacanthaxia viridis Bellamy
 Anthaxiina Gory and Laporte
Trachykele blondeli Marseul

Anacardiaceae] C. L. Bellamy; allotype ♀ (TMSA), same data as holotype; 36 paratypes: 5♂, 8♀, same data; 8♂, 8♀, same data except 8.IX.1995, 3♀, same data except R. L. Westcott; 1♂, same data except 9.IX.1986, C. L. Bellamy and D. S. Verity; 3 ex. [1♀, 2♂?], Clanwilliam, 12.IX.1989, W. Wittmer and S. Gussmann. Paratypes in TMSA (22), SAMC (2), SANC (2), GHNC (1), NHMB (3), NMPC (1), DSVC (1) and RLWE (4).

REMARKS. The specific epithet comes from the Latin root for small, as this is the smallest species in the genus. This species can be easily distinguished from *T. crassa* by its smaller size, lack of oblique supra-antennal carina, shape of the frontoclypeal emargination, cupreous ventral surface and male genitalia. This species originates from the same locality as that of an unrelated buprestid, *Embrikillium cupriventre* Bellamy, 1988, which also has a cupreous venter, a feature by which both, in part, differ from their respective congeners.

Genus *JAKOVLEVIOLA* Obenberger

This genus was reviewed by Bellamy *et al.* (1987). A new locality record for one species is as follows.

Table 2

Characters and character states of examined taxa: p = plesiomorphic; a, a¹, a² = apomorphic.

-
1. Body shape: flattened (p), sub-, cylindrical (a).
 2. Body shape: elongate (p), more compact, ovoid (a).
 3. Eyes in proportion to head: small (p), large (a).
 4. Eyes: longitudinal (p), ovoid (a).
 5. Antennal insertions: close together, distant from eye (p), widely separated, close to eye (a).
 6. Mandibles: entire, arcuate laterally (p), with angulate lateral projection (a).
 7. Anteclypeus: visible (p), not visible (a).
 8. Antenna: serrate from antennomere 3 (p), from 4 (a), from 5 (a¹), from 6(a²).
 9. Last antennomere: truncate (p), oblong, rounded (a).
 10. Pronotum, widest portion: median (p), base (a).
 11. Pronotal basal foveae: present, deep (p), absent (a).
 12. Pronotal basal foveae: one medial, two lateral (p), only one medial (a).
 13. Pronotal basal margin: concave on either side of middle (p), convex posteriorly (a).
 14. Pronotal lateral carina: entire from base to apex (p), partial, not reaching apical margin (a).
 15. Pronotal lateral carina: visible from above (p), more ventrad, not visible from above (a).
 16. Pronotal basolateral angle: acute (p), obtuse (a).
 17. Scutellum: absent, not visible (p), present, visible (a).
 18. Scutellum: small, round or ovoid (p), larger, triangular or cordiform (a).
 19. Elytral surface: punctate (p), costate with interstitial punctures (a), carinate (a¹).
 20. Elytral punctures: without setae (p), with single seta projecting (a).
 21. Elytral apices: simple, truncate, or rounded (p), with sutural spine (a), bispinose (a¹).
 22. Epipleural lobe: rounded distally (p), with sharp angulate posterior margin (a).
 23. Pygidium: apex hidden beneath elytral apex (p), projecting well beyond elytral apex (a).
 24. Prosternal disc: compressed, medially gibbose (p), evenly transverse, flattened (a).
 25. Sternal cavity: projecting into base of metasternum (p), within mesosternal lobes (a).
 26. Metacoxal posterior margin: angulate laterally (p), entire (a).
 27. Suture between first and second abdominal sterna: visible (p), fused, not visible (a).
 28. Abdominal sternum 5: entire (p), with entire premarginal groove (a), with premarginal groove only apically (a¹).
 29. Metatibiae, apical spines: two (p), one (a).
 30. Metatarsi: elongate, 1>2+3 (p), compressed, 2+3>1 (a).
 31. Metatarsomere 1, ventral pulvillus: only present apically (p), along entire ventral length (a).
 32. Tarsal pulvilli: sexually equal (p), sexually dimorphic (a).
 33. Tarsal claws: simple, slender (p), simple, swollen basally (a), appendiculate (a¹).
-

Jakovleviola strandi Obenberger

This species is known from only four specimens collected after the original type series of eight specimens and is recorded from only three

Table 4
Number of changes of state, consistency index and retention index values for 33 characters used in Hennig86 analysis for two equally parsimonious trees of length 241, CI 79, RI 88.

Tree 1																			
Character	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Steps	4	2	4	1	2	1	4	7	6	3	3	1	1	3	3	4	1	1	4
CI	25	50	23	100	50	100	25	42	16	55	33	100	100	33	33	25	100	100	50
RI	40	66	40	100	80	100	40	0	28	50	60	100	100	71	50	40	100	100	60
Character	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33					
Steps	4	2	3	1	1	1	2	4	4	1	6	1	1	2					
CI	25	100	33	100	100	100	30	50	50	100	16	100	100	100					
RI	50	100	60	100	100	100	50	0	0	100	0	100	100	100					
Tree 2																			
Character	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Steps	4	2	4	1	2	1	5	6	6	3	3	1	1	3	3	4	1	1	4
CI	25	50	23	100	50	100	20	50	16	55	33	100	100	33	33	25	100	100	50
RI	40	66	40	100	80	100	20	25	28	50	60	100	100	71	50	40	100	100	60
Character	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33					
Steps	4	2	3	1	1	1	2	4	4	1	6	1	1	2					
CI	25	100	33	100	100	100	30	50	50	100	16	100	100	100					
RI	50	100	60	100	100	100	50	0	0	100	0	100	100	100					
Best Fits																			
Character	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Steps	4	2	4	1	2	1	5	6	6	3	3	1	1	3	3	4	1	1	4
CI	25	50	23	100	50	100	20	50	16	55	33	100	100	33	33	25	100	100	50
RI	40	66	40	100	80	100	20	25	28	50	60	100	100	71	50	40	100	100	60
Character	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33					
Steps	4	2	3	1	1	1	2	4	4	1	6	1	1	2					
CI	25	100	33	100	100	100	30	50	50	100	16	100	100	100					
RI	50	100	60	100	100	100	50	0	0	100	0	100	100	100					
Worst Fits																			
Character	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Steps	4	2	4	1	2	1	4	7	6	3	3	1	1	3	3	4	1	1	4
CI	25	50	23	100	50	100	25	42	16	55	33	100	100	33	33	25	100	100	50
RI	40	66	40	100	80	100	40	0	28	50	60	100	100	71	50	40	100	100	60
Character	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33					
Steps	4	2	3	1	1	1	2	4	4	1	6	1	1	2					
CI	25	100	33	100	100	100	30	50	50	100	16	100	100	100					
RI	50	100	60	100	100	100	50	0	0	100	0	100	100	100					

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crassa and *Jakovleviola oresibata*; Rick Westcott and Dave Verity who joined me in field work and helped to further expand our knowledge about the distribution of *T. crassa* and also collected examples of *T. parva*; A. Joubert for donating one specimen of *J. strandi* to the Transvaal Museum; André Olwage for the excellent habitus drawings in Figs 1 and 2, and two anonymous referees for their comments that improved this paper.

CORRIGENDA

In a recent paper in this same journal (Bellamy 1995b), I stated that while Holyński (1993) preferred the spelling *Astraeina*, I saw no reason to

change it from the original *Astraeusina* of Cobos; clearly Cobos was in error in the formation of this name and Holyński is correct. Likewise, the

subtribal name *Acherusina* must be corrected to *Acherusiina*, being based on the generic name *Acherusia*. Furthermore, in that same work I proposed the new subtribe *Bulisina* for the genus *Bulis* Laporte and Gory. The Latin name *Bulis*, indicated to be feminine in gender like the majority of buprestid generic names, forms its genitive singular according to the third declension as *Bul-is*, which yields a family-group name *Bul-idae* (masculine names ending in *-is* generally take a connecting consonant such as *-d-* to form their genitive singular, e.g. *lapis*, *lapidis*). In addition, the name *Bulis* has the Greek origin βουλή (Gemminger and Von Harold 1869:1380), which ends in a latinized *-ē* and gives the genitive singu-

lar *Bul-ēs* and the stem *Bul-*. Therefore, the appropriate family-group names based on *Bulis* are *Bulidae*, *Bulina* etc., analogous to *Buprestidae* (based on *Buprestis*). Likewise, the similar generic name *Curis* Gory and Laporte, even though not apparently Greek in origin (Gemminger and Von Harold 1869:1392), is treated as a feminine name and therefore also yields a subtribal name *Curina*, not *Curidina* as given by Holyński (1988).

The subtribal name *Bulisina* Bellamy, 1995 is therefore here emended to *Bulina* and *Curidina* Holyński, 1988, is emended to *Curina*.

I thank Rolf Oberprieler, (SANC), local Latin and entomological expert for pointing out the need for these emendations.

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Spelling should follow the *Oxford English Dictionary* and Lincoln, Boxshall and Clark's (1983) *A dictionary of ecology, evolution and systematics*.

The metric system of SI units and their symbols and abbreviations should be used. The decimal comma must be used.

Time should be referred to in terms of the '24-hour clock' (13:00) and dates should be in the form '1 January 1949'.

A specific name should not stand alone. It should be preceded by the generic name or its abbreviation.

Title

In the case of zoological papers, the title should include the higher classification of the group being studied. The preferred abridged title for use as a running head should be indicated.

Abstract

Abstracts should be concise and not exceed 3% of the total length of the article.

Text

Do not right-justify text or hyphenate a word at the end of a line. Footnotes should be kept to a minimum.

All headings should be in lower case. Paragraphs should be indented.

References

All references in the text, using the author-date system, e.g., (Taylor, 1987) or (Taylor, 1987: 243–49), must appear in the References section. The full titles of scientific journals must be given. Volume numbers must be in bold, and when required, preceded by series or followed by part numbers in parentheses. If more than one publication by the same author is cited, the name must be given with each reference, and if they were published in the same year, these should be distinguished by adding 'a', 'b' etc. after the date.

The following examples show the method of reference citation (note spacing and punctuation):

Journal articles

- DUARTE-RODRIGUES, P., 1987. New species and records of lacebugs (Heteroptera: Tingidae) from southern Africa. *Annals of the Transvaal Museum* **34**(16): 349–369.
- DIPPENAAR, N. J. and RAUTENBACH, I. L., 1986. Morphometrics and karyology of the southern African species of the genus *Acomys* I. Geoffroy Saint-Hilaire, 1838 (Rodentia: Muridae). *Annals of the Transvaal Museum* **34**(6): 129–183.

Books

- ANSELL, W. F. H., 1978. *The mammals of Zambia*. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Chilanga.
- HONACKI, J. H., KINMAN, K. E. and KOEPL, J. W., eds, 1982. *Mammal species of the world*. Allen Press, Association of Systematic Collections, Lawrence, Kansas.

Articles in a book

- VRBA, E. S., 1985. Introductory comments on species and speciation. In: VRBA, E. S., ed., *Species and speciation*, pp. ix–xviii. Transvaal Museum Monograph No. 4. Transvaal Museum, Pretoria.

Tables

Each table should be typed on a separate page and should have a self-explanatory heading. Vertical rules must not be used. Table headings appear at the top of the table and should be arranged as follows:

Table 1
Cranial measurements of *Crocidura lucina*.

The approximate position in which each table should appear in the text should be indicated in pencil on the manuscript.

Illustrations

All illustrations (line drawings, graphs, maps, half-tones) will be called figures (Fig. or Figs) and are to be numbered consecutively in Arabic numerals. The original figures must be submitted. Examples of figure captions are:

- Fig. 23
Representative karyotype of *Acomys spinosissimus* from the Huwi Private Nature Reserve.

Figs 23--25

Male genitalia of *Anomalipus* species. 23: *A. braini*. 24: *A. haackei*. 25: *A. liesellotei*.

The *Annals* are produced in a double-column format. Each column is 69 mm wide and 196 mm deep. A figure should be reducible to a maximum of 142 × 196 without loss of clarity. If possible, figures should be drawn to fit into a single column. The reduced size of lettering (preferably in Helvetica) should be 10 pt or smaller and the reduced width of lines in line-drawings should not exceed 0,3 mm. Typed labelling is unacceptable.

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