

# Article

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## A new genus and species of Tentyriini (Coleoptera: Tenebrionidae) from sand dunes in Namaqualand, South Africa

WOLFGANG SCHAWALLER<sup>1,2</sup><sup>1</sup>*Staatliches Museum für Naturkunde, Rosenstein 1, D-70191 Stuttgart, Germany. E-Mail: wolfgang.schawaller@smns-bw.de*<sup>2</sup>*Contributions to Tenebrionidae, no. 103. – For no. 102 see: Biodiversität und Naturausstattung im Himalaya (Erfurt), vol. 4, 2012*

### Abstract

**Archinamaqua gen. n. lyleae sp. n.** (*Pimeliinae* Latreille, 1802, *Tentyriini* Eschscholtz, 1831) is described from the sand dunes of Namaqualand in northwestern South Africa. It is related to the genera *Broomium* Koch, 1950 and *Archinamibia* Koch, 1952. All these taxa are wingless and highly adapted nocturnal sand dwellers in dry habitats of the same area in northwestern South Africa and southern Namibia.

**Key words:** Tenebrionidae, Tentyriini, taxonomy, new genus, new species, *Broomium*, *Archinamibia*, *Archinamaqua*, dunes, Namaqualand, South Africa

### Introduction

The tenebrionid tribe Tentyriini Eschscholtz, 1831 (subfamily Pimeliinae Latreille, 1802) is most speciose in the Palaearctic Region, where it is one of the indicator groups of arid and semiarid habitats. In contrast, Tentyriini are not so abundant in same habitats of Southern Africa. A key to the few genera and subgenera of this tribe in southern Africa was published by Koch (1950). Two genera contain wingless species with nocturnal, highly adapted psammophilous habits. *Broomium* Koch, 1950 consists of a couple of species endemic to dry Namaqualand and the Little Karroo in South Africa. *Archinamibia* Koch, 1952 is monotypic, with *A. peezi* Koch, 1952, living on shifting sand dunes of the southern Namib desert.

During comparative studies at the Ditsong National Museum of Natural History in Pretoria, a large series of a striking tenebrionid was found, which was recently collected in pitfall traps by Mrs. Robin Lyle in the course of arachnological field work in Namaqualand (northwestern South Africa). After a detailed study, these specimens turned out to represent an unknown taxon of Tentyriini, described herein as *Archinamaqua lyleae* gen. n. and sp. n. This new genus shares with species of *Broomium* and *Archinamibia* the same nocturnal psammophilous habits and is also wingless. According to Koch (1952) these genera represent ancient, endemic forms of the Namib/Namaqua Deserts, which no longer show any direct relationship to other South African Tentyriini.

### Depositories

HNHM	Hungarian Natural History Museum, Budapest, Hungary
SMNS	Staatliches Museum für Naturkunde in Stuttgart, Germany
TMSA	Ditsong National Museum of Natural History Pretoria, South Africa