The identity of *Anthribus heros* Fabricius (Coleoptera: Anthribidae), and lectotype designation

Ten of the eleven valid species of *Phloeotragus* Schönherr 1823 occur in subsaharan Africa, where they include the largest anthribids on that continent; the eleventh is from Madagascar. The type species is *Anthribus heros* Fabricius 1801, by original designation and monotypy.

Examination of three syntypes of *A. heros* in The Zoological Museum in Copenhagen revealed all three specimens have been repaired at the pro-mesothoracic joint, and some body parts of at least four individuals of three different species are present.

The specimens are all in the Sehstedt & Tonder-Lund collection, and have square, hand-written labels reading “Guinea / Mus. S. & T.L. / Heros / Fabr.” Two are marked as males, one as a female, and each has a small square green pin label. One male bears a red printed “TYPE” label; however, it is not *A. heros* as currently understood. It is *Phloeotragus hottentotus* Schönherr 1839 (described from the Cape of Good Hope), “subspecies” *P. h. imhoffi* Boheman, 1845 (described from Guinea). The second specimen, a female, is *A. heros* of almost all authors and is hereby designated lectotype. The third specimen is a composite: head and prothorax are male *P. gigas* Fabricius, and the rest of the body is a female *P. heros*.

The three species are distinguished as follows: *P. heros* has no pre-apical elytral tubercle, no extension of the lateral carina past the supracoxal suture, no extension of the lateral carina into a subcarinal dark stripe, no lateral carinula, males lack rounded sex tufts on the hind coxae, and have short recumbent setae on the antennae; *P. hottentotus* has a pre-apical elytral tubercle, the lateral carina continues forward almost to the pre-apical groove, the lateral carinula is present and isolated from lateral carina, males have a trichobothrium (a rounded tuft of setae in a pit) on each hind coxa, and short recumbent setae on the antennae; *P. gigas* fits the description of *P. heros* above, except male antennae have densely spaced, small, rounded scales dorsally, becoming weakly peg-like ventrally, and in both sexes, the lateral carina of the prothorax extends into the dark lateral stripe.

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