

**A NEW AULACOCYCLUS (COLEOPTERA,
PASSALIDAE) FROM THE ISLAND OF CELEBES**

by

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***Aulacocyclus laevipennis* nov. spec.**

Description. Lamellae of antennae rather short and stout. Labrum about twice as broad as long, with long, dark red hairs, strongly and closely punctured, anterior margin concave, angles rounded, sides slightly convergent behind. No groove between clypeus and frons. Central tubercle very robust, somewhat square in section, seen from the side its basal vertical part as broad as the whole hind half of the head, strongly elevated and regularly bent forward, excavated in front, seen from behind the base is a little narrower than the apex, the latter a little excavated. Surface of head and basal sides of central tubercle with coarse, hair-bearing punctures. Supra-orbital ridges straight, parallel, somewhat thickened in front. Mentum with a small, smooth, triangular central part, the rest coarsely punctured with dark red hairs. Mandibles with 3 terminal teeth, anterior lower tooth of the right mandible conical, pointed, that of the left mandible very broad, at the outer side with 3 teeth, at the inner side deeply excavated.

The angles of pronotum prominent and rounded. The median groove is deep but incomplete in front. The marginal grooves are narrow, scarcely punctured, the anterior marginal groove moderately broader and deeper behind the head. Scars are smooth, small and oval. Anterior part of scutellum coarsely punctured.

Elytrae smooth, glossy, only the grooves near the suture distinct, the other grooves towards the sides become more and more indistinct, the lateral grooves have disappeared and are only recognizable by the vaulting of the ribs and the rows of small, obscure punctures. Epipleurae densely punctured, rugose, with long hairs. Shoulders with a tuft of hair.

Anterior middle of mesosternum smooth, the rest coarsely punctured and thinly haired. Episternae coarsely punctured, bare.

Metasternal plate indefinite, smooth. Metasternal episternae broad, broader behind than in front, densely punctured and hairy, just as the anterior part of the intermediate area; the posterior part less densely but more coarsely punctured.

The hind part of hind coxae and the 1st and 2nd abdominal sternite with coarse, hair-bearing punctures, sternite III-VI smooth and glossy, sternite VI emarginated behind with a deep apical groove.

Legs with a few long hairs. The middle tibiae are armed with a strong spine.

Length 30-33 mm.

Holotype in the collection of the Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie at Leiden, labelled: W. Kaudern, Soeroepahi, N. Celebes, 24/5 1917.

3 paratypes with the same data in the same collection and 1 in my collection.

This species, the largest hitherto known from the Dutch East Indies, shows relationship to the Australian *Aulacocyclus*-species by the short and stout lamellae of the antennae, to *A. teres* Perch. by the very broad metasternal epimerae, to *A. edentulus* McLeay by the strongly elevated, central tubercle, to *A. zangi* Dibb by the complete fusion of clypeus and frons. It is distinguished by the characters mentioned above, the size and the almost ungrooved elytrae.
