FIVE NEW SPECIES OF AUSTRALIAN BUPRESTIDAE (COLEOPTERA)

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Summary

Four new species of Astraeus are described: A. hanloni, A. goldingi, A. mayoi, A. sundholmi and a revised key for their identification presented; also one new species of Stanwatkinsius is described: S. amanda.

KEY WORDS; Coleoptera, Buprestidae, New species, Astraeus, Stanwatkinsius.

Introduction

The buprestid genus Astraeus was revised by Barker (1975) with a key for identification of sub-genera (p. 107). Additional species were described by Barker (1977, 1989, 1995, 1999, 2004). New material has become available and four new species are described. The key for identification of Astraeus (s.str.) species (Barker, 1975 p. 114) is updated and corrected. With additional collecting and more biological information available, it is apparent that the genus is not as confined to association with Casuarina and Allocasuarina as was thought earlier. Described herein is a species, so far only collected on the flowers of Myrtaceae, the first such record in the genus. It has long been suspected that A. navarchis is associated with a Hakea species. Modern collections of that species are virtually non-existent, as it occurred in areas of Victoria cleared for agriculture. Two other species are associated with Hakea; one a well known species, the other not previously described.

The genus Stanwatkinsius was described by Barker & Bellamy (2001). Most of the known species occur in Western Australia. They are found on the leaves of Hakea sp., Grevillea sp., Casuarina sp. and Allocasuarina sp. A new species has been collected recently in Central Australia on the leaves of Grevillea. It is hoped that more collecting in isolated areas in the future will shed more light on the distribution of this interesting genus.

Materials and Methods

Specimens examined were borrowed from or are deposited in the following private collections and one institution:

ASSA – A. Sundholm, Sydney.
MGWA – M. Golding, Perth.
MHSA – M. Hanlon, Sydney.
MPWA – M. Powell, Perth.
RMQA – R. Mayo, Pomona, Queensland.

Abbreviations used in the text for museum and private collections follow Watt (1979). Male genitalia were dissected, mounted on cards and photographed with a digital camera. The images were transmitted to a computer then manipulated to form an illustration. Holotypes were mounted on pins and photographed with a digital camera and an illustration created using the same process.
**Astraeus sundholmi** sp. nov.  
(Figs 1b, 2b)

**Holotype**

♂, 50 km SE Kimba on Cowell rd, S.Aust., on *Callitris* sp., 25.x.1993, S. Barker SAMA I 21 716.

**Allotype**

♀, Round Hill Nature Reserve: The Round Hill (summit area) ~ 32°57’ 50.7” S, 146°08’ 54.4” E. Elev. ~ 266 m, 25.x.2005, on leaves of *Callitris glaucophylla* (white pine), A. Sundholm, SAMA I 21 717.

**Paratypes**


**Size:** Holotype, 7.4 x 3.1 mm. Males, 7.1 x 2.8 - 8.0 x 3.3 mm. Females, 6.7 x 2.6 – 8.2 x 3.4 mm.

**Colour:** head coppery. Antennomeres: 1-2 coppery: 3-11 blue. Pronotum coppery. Elytra black with purple and blue reflections with the following yellow marks on each elytron: basal spot; mark beneath humeral callus along lateral margin from anterior margin just covering humeral fold; pre-medial fascia commencing on second interval from suture reaching margin, constricted medially; post-medial fascia commencing on fourth interval from suture, reaching margin, constricted medially, sometimes forming two spots; pre-apical mark. Ventral surface coppery. Legs: femora and tibiae coppery, first tarsomere mostly coppery, distal end pale blue, remaining tarsomeres pale blue. Setae silver.

**Shape & sculpture:** head punctured, setose, without median keel. Pronotum punctured, laterally rounded and narrowed from base to apex, median glabrous line free of punctuations from apex to base ending in a very small basal crypt. Elytra costate, intervals flat dorsally, rounded ventrally, each with single row of punctures; laterally straight from base, angled inwards, rounded post-medially and narrowed to apex; small, sharp marginal spine, sutural spine larger, sharp, rounded inner margin; humeral fold poorly developed, slightly angled (sensu Barker 1975). Ventral surface shallowly punctured, moderately setose, setae short but longer and denser on pro-sternum than on abdomen. Legs moderately setose.

**Aedeagus:** slightly rounded from basal piece to pointed apex (Fig. 2 b).

**Remarks**

Resembles *A. badeni* but not as broad as that species. Associated with *Callitris* sp. Two other species also associated with *Callitris* are *A. crockerae* Barker and *A. jansoni* van de Poll.

**Etymology**

This species is named for A. Sundholm, Sydney.

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**Astraeus hanloni** sp. nov.  
(Figs 1d, 2d)

**Holotype**

♂, 6 km NW Yathong H.S., Yathong N.R., NSW, 17.x.2004, T.M. Hanlon, on flowers of *Micromyrtus sessilis*, SAMA I 21 718.
Allotype
♀, same data as holotype, SAMA I 21 719.

Paratypes
NSW: 2 ♀♂, 14 km W of Euabalong W., on stems of *Baeckea* sp., 10.x.1992, T.M.S. Hanlon, MHSA; ♀, Keginni Range 32° 41’ 55.7” S 145° 32’ 29.4” E. Elev. ~268 m., 8.ix.2003, A. Scott & A. Sundholm, on flowers of *Kunzea ambigua* on side of ridge, ASSA; ♀, vicinity of Shepherd’s Hill 33° 03’ 35.5” S 146° 15’ 03.5” E. Elev. ~161 m, 4.x.2003, A. Scott, on flowers of *Baeckea* sp. ASSA; ♀, nr Shepherds Hill : 32° 02’ 51.7” S 146° 12’ 9.9” E. Elevation ~ 163 m., 19.x.2004, on flowering *Eucalyptus gracilis*, R. de Keyzer, A. Scott, A. Sundholm, ASSA; of 7 ♂♀, 13 ♀♂, Shepherds Hill at NE base of hill: 33° 12’ 2.1” S. 146° 14’ 28.6” E. Elevation ~ 191 m., 24.x.2004, on post-flowering stems and leaves of *Micromyrtus sessilis*, R. de Keyzer, A. Scott, S. Sundholm, ASSA; 8 ♂♂, 6 ♀♀, same data as holotype, MHSA; ♀, Shepherds Hill ~ 33° 03’ 19.9” S, 146° 13’ 59.1” E. ix.2004. On flowers of *Micromyrtus sessilis* in peak bloom. J. Forman, ASSA; ♀, 4 km E Matakana rail siding: 33° 00’ 20.1” S, 146° 00’ 03.0” E. 2.ix.2005. On flowers of *Micromyrtus sessilis* in peak bloom. A. Sundholm, A. Scott, J. Forman, ASSA; 6 ♂♂, 4 ♀♀, 4 km E Matakana, NSW, 2.x.2005, on *Micromyrtus sessilis*, T. M. Hanlon, MHSA; 3 ♂♂, 16 km E Matakana, NSW, 2.x.2005, on *Micromyrtus sessilis*, T. M. Hanlon, MHSA; 3 ♂♂, 4 ♀♀, 14 km W Euabalong W, NSW, 2.x.2005, on *Micromyrtus sessilis*, T. M. Hanlon, MHSA; 3 ♀♀, Nombinnie Nature Reserve, 9.8 km E of Matakana Rail Siding: 33° 00’ 22.5 “ S. 146° 00’ 30.3” E. 25.x.2005. On freshly dead flowers of *Micromyrtus sessilis*, A. Sundholm, ASSA; 7 ♀♀, Nombinnie Nature Reserve 16.3 km E Matakana Rail Siding: 33° 01’ 21.5 S. 146° 04’ 34.5” E. 25.x.05. On freshly dead flowers of *Micromyrtus sessilis*, A. Sundholm, ASSA.

Size: Holotype, 7.6 x 3.4 mm. Males, 5.5 x 2.4 – 8.1 x 3.5 mm. Females, 6.0 x 2.7 – 7.8 x 3.5 mm.

Colour: head black with coppery reflections. Antennae black with blue reflections. Pronotum black with coppery reflections. Elytra black with purple and blue reflections and the following yellow marks on each elytron: basal spot; pre-medial fascia broken into two spots, one on margin, one near suture; post-medial fascia commencing two intervals from suture reaching margin; pre-apical spot. Ventral surface coppery. Legs: femora and tibiae coppery; dorsal surface of tarsi blue. Setae silver.

Shape & sculpture: head punctured, setose, without median keel. Pronotum punctured, setose laterally, basal crypt present, laterally more or less parallel-sided from base, rounded before middle and narrowed to apex. Elytra costate, intervals flat with irregular punctures; laterally straight from base and slightly angled inwards, rounded and concave from pre-apical area to small, sharp marginal spine, very large sharp sutural spine; humeral fold moderately developed, angled. Ventral surface shallowly punctured, moderately setose, setae moderately long. Legs moderately setose.

Aedeagus: narrow, slightly rounded from basal piece to pointed apex (Fig. 2 d).

Remarks
Resembles *A. crockerae* but is a larger species and not associated with *Callitris* sp. So far this is the only species of *Astraeus* collected exclusively on flowers.

Etymology
This species is named for T.M. Hanlon, indefatigable collector of Buprestidae.
**Astraeus goldingi** sp. nov.
(Figs 1a, 2a)

**Holotype**
♂, 12 km N Galena Bridge, WA, 30.ix.1992, on *Hakea* foliage, Golding & Powell, SAMA I 21 720.

**Allotype**

**Paratypes**

**Size:** Holotype, 10.6 x 3.9 mm. Males, 9.0 x 3.3 – 10.9 x 3.9 mm. Females, 10.6 x 3.9 – 14.2 x 12.0 mm.

**Colour:** head, antennae and pronotum coppery. Elytra black with coppery reflections and the following yellow markings on each elytron: basal medial spot; pre-medial fascia reaching margin and covering humeral fold, not quite reaching suture and slightly concave anteriorly; small post-medial spot on margin; short pre-apical fascia reaching margin and slightly concave anteriorly, not reaching suture; pre-apical spot in middle. Ventral surface coppery. Legs coppery. Setae silver.

**Shape & sculpture:** head punctured, setose, without medial keel. Pronotum punctured; with long setae laterally, much shorter setae medially; laterally more or less parallel-sided from base to middle, rounded and tapered to apex; small basal crypt. Elytra costate, intervals flat with single row of punctures; laterally more or less parallel-sided from base, rounded post-medially and tapered to small marginal spine, margin rounded to thick, blunt apical spine; humeral fold poorly developed, slightly angled. Ventral surface punctured; with long setae. Legs moderately setose.

**Aedeagus:** laterally straight sided, diverging slightly from basal piece to pointed apex (Fig. 2a)

**Remarks**
This species superficially resembles *A. oberthuri* van de Poll. However male genitalia are different, the lateral shape is different and the species is associated with different plants. *A. oberthuri* is mostly associated with *Allocasuarina huegelliana*. *A. fraterculus* van de Poll is another species associated with *Hakea* sp.

**Etymology**
Named for M Golding, Willagee, W.A..

**Astraeus mayoi** sp. nov.
(Figs 1c, 2c)

**Holotype**

**Allotype**
♀, same data as holotype, SAMA I 21 723.
Paratypes

NSW: ♂, same data as holotype, MHSA; 4 ♂♂ & 6 ♀♀, same data as holotype, RMQA; 8 ♂♂ & 3 ♀♀, 5 km SW Yarrawa, 11.xi.98, R. Mayo, RMQA; 2 ♂♂, 5 km SW Yarrawa, 26.xi.98, R. Mayo, RMQA; 4 ♂♂ & 3 ♀♀, 5 km SW Yarrawa, 19.xii.98, R. Mayo, RMQA; 3 ♂♂ & ♀, 5 km SW Yarrawa, 22.xii.98, R. Mayo, RMQA; 2 ♂♂, 5 km SW Yarrawa, 7.i.99, R. Mayo, RMQA; ♂, 5 km SW Yarrawa, 23.xii.99, R. Mayo, RMQA; 9 ♂♂, 11 ♀♀, 9 km S Sandy Hollow, NSW, on Allocasuarina verticillata, 6.xi.2005, T. M. Hanlon, MHSA.

Size: Holotype, 8.9 x 3.3 mm. Males, 7.9 x 3.1 – 9.7 x 3.7 mm. Females, 8.3 x 3.2 – 11.3 x 4.3 mm.

Colour: head apically bronze, basally dark blue. Antennomeres 1-3 bronze; 4-11 dark blue. Pronotum light blue along apical margin, remainder dark blue with purple reflections. Elytra dark blue with the following seven yellow spots on each elytron; basal, pre and post-medial, pre-apical near suture, three along the margin, the first extending beneath the humeral callus the third in the form of a short fascia. Ventral surface and legs dark blue with purple reflections. Setae silver.

Shape & sculpture: head punctured and setose, without a median keel. Antennae, as in all Astraeus (s.str.), antennomeres same length in males, becoming progressively shorter in females. Pronotum heavily punctured and setose; laterally rounded and narrowed from base to apex; small basal crypt. Elytra costate, intervals flat, punctured and wrinkled; laterally rounded from base, rounded post-medially and tapered to marginal spine, both spines well developed; humeral fold poorly developed, slightly angled. Ventral surface and legs setose.

Aedeagus: rounded from basal piece to pointed apex (Fig. 2 c).

Remarks
Superficially this species resembles A. kitchini Barker as the yellow marks are similar, however it is a slightly smaller species and the male genitalia differ.

Etymology
Named after the collector R. Mayo, Pomona, Qld.

New locality record
A male specimen of A. princeps Barker was collected at Mt Garnet, Qld on 16.i.1989 by J. Olive (MHSA). The only previous record of this species was from Prince of Wales Island, Arafura Sea.

Correction to host plant identification
In Barker (1975) under Astraeus simulator van de Poll p.119, A. mastersi Macleay p.122 and A. adamsi Barker p.124, I identified Casuarina equisetifolia occurring at Edungalba. The identity of the tree is C. cristata; C. equisetifolia does not occur at Edungalba.

Key to the species of Astraeus (sensu stricto)*

*see (Barker, 1977 p. 108) for different states of humeral fold.

1 Head with median keel 2
Head without median keel 22
2. Setae silver
   Setae yellow

3. Part or all of anterior ventral surface red-brown
   None of anterior ventral surface red-brown

4. Gular, prosternum, meso- and metasternum, coxae two & three, abdominal segment one red-brown
   A. bakeri Barker
   Less of ventral surface red-brown

5. Prosternum, coxae red-brown
   A. minutus Barker
   Red-brown area on either side of prosternal process

6. Shorter than 7.5 mm; humeral fold well developed, acutely angled
   A. fraseriensis Barker
   Longer than 7.5 mm; humeral fold moderately developed, angled
   A. obscurus Barker

7. Most or part of leg testaceous
   None of leg testaceous

8. Legs one & two testaceous except for outer margin of femora, hind leg testaceous except for femur
   A. dilutipes van de Poll
   Legs less testaceous than above

9. Tibiae, tarsomerones one & two testaceous
   A. smythi Barker
   Legs less testaceous than above

10. Tibiae testaceous, distal tips blue, tarsomere one testaceous
    A. yarrattensis Barker
    Legs less testaceous than above

11. Distal tips of tibiae testaceous, tarsomerones one & two testaceous, distal tips blue
    A. williamsi Barker
    Legs less testaceous than above

12. Tips of tibiae & tarsomere one testaceous
    A. mourangeensis Barker
    Tarsomere one testaceous
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Species/Author</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Length usually &lt; 7 mm</td>
<td><em>A. pygmaeus</em> van de Poll</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Length usually &gt; 7 mm</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Humeral fold well developed, acutely angled</td>
<td><em>A. mastersi</em> Macleay</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Humeral fold well developed, angled</td>
<td><em>A. samouelli</em> Saunders</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Humeral fold moderately developed, angled</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Humeral fold poorly developed, slightly angled</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Head green &amp; coppery purple or blue-green</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Head black</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Head, pronotum green &amp; coppery purple</td>
<td><em>A. intricatus</em> Carter</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Head blue-green, pronotum with medial, cordiform purple mark, anteriorly green laterally blue</td>
<td><em>A. blackdownensis</em> Barker</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Head &amp; pronotum blue-green</td>
<td><em>A. kitchini</em> Barker</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Elongate species</td>
<td><em>A. watsoni</em> Barker</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Rounded species, elytra laterally</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>narrowed in pre-apical area</td>
<td><em>A. acaciae</em> Barker</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>broad, rounded species</td>
<td><em>A. globosus</em> Barker</td>
</tr>
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<td>19</td>
<td>Body blue; elytra with two yellow fascia</td>
<td><em>A. fraterculus</em> van de Poll</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Body black or coppery-bronze</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>Body black; elytra with numerous yellow spots</td>
<td><em>A. crassus</em> van de Poll</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Body coppery-bronze; each elytron with yellow fascia, four or five yellow spots</td>
<td><em>A. occidentalis</em> Barker</td>
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<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Elytra with three yellow fascia, red areas</td>
<td><em>A. major</em> Blackburn</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Elytra with two yellow fascia</td>
<td><em>A. navarchis</em> Thomson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Body elongate &amp; cylindrical</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Body tear-drop shaped</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Pronotum conically elevated medially</td>
<td><em>A. prothoracicus</em> van de Poll</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pronotum convex medially</td>
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<td>24</td>
<td></td>
<td><em>A. elongatus</em> van de Poll</td>
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<td>Description</td>
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<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Sutural spine with rounded inner margin</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sutural spine with straight inner margin</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Legs red-brown colour</td>
<td>26</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Legs other than red-brown colour</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Elytral marks spots &amp; one fascia</td>
<td>A. <em>macmillani</em> Barker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Elytral marks vittae</td>
<td>A. <em>vittatus</em> van de Poll</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Head, pronotum, legs metallic brown or bronze</td>
<td>A. <em>flavopictus</em> Gory &amp; Laporte</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Head, pronotum, legs other than brown or bronze</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Humeral fold well developed, angled</td>
<td>29</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Humeral fold moderately or poorly developed</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Head black or coppery purple; ventral surface coppery-purple</td>
<td>A. <em>adamsi</em> Barker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Head blue or green; ventral surface blue-green</td>
<td>A. <em>simulator</em> van de Poll</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Humeral fold moderately developed, angled</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Humeral fold poorly developed, slightly angled</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Pronotum laterally rounded from base to apex</td>
<td>A. <em>crockerae</em> Barker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pronotum parallel-sided at base, rounded, indented to apex</td>
<td>A. <em>badeni</em> van de Poll</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pronotum parallel-sided from base, rounded</td>
<td>A. <em>hanloni</em> sp. nov.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>before middle and narrowed to apex</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>Basal spot touching margin of elytron</td>
<td>A. <em>carnabyi</em> Barker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Basal spot not touching margin of elytron</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>Elytron with one, two or three spots; one or two fascia; or four spots and one fascia</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Elytron with six spots and one fascia; or seven or eight spots and no fascia</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>Elytron with one spot &amp; two fascia or three spots &amp; one fascia</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Elytron with three spots &amp; two fascia</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>Head, pronotum &amp; elytra black</td>
<td>A. <em>meyricki</em> Blackburn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Head, pronotum &amp; elytra black with blue &amp; purple reflections</td>
<td>A. <em>aridus</em> Barker</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
36 Pronotum laterally rounded & narrowed from base to apex  
   Pronotum laterally more or less parallel-sided from base to middle,  
   rounded and narrowed to apex  
      A. sundholmi sp.nov.

37 Each elytron with six spots & one fascia; or eight spots  
   Each elytron with seven spots  
      38  

38 Head & pronotum bronze-green or black  
   with green or purple reflections  
      A. jansoni van de Poll  
   Head bronze apically, dark blue basally; pronotum light blue apically, 
   remainder dark blue with purple reflections  
      A. mayoi sp. nov.

39 Pronotum parallel-sided from base to middle, strongly rounded  
   and narrowed to apex; dorsally convex in lateral profile  
      A. oberthuri van de Poll  
   Pronotum gradually rounded laterally, narrowed from  
   base to apex; dorsally flattened in lateral profile  
      A. carteri Barker

40 Head with frontal spot  
   Head without frontal spot  
      A. princeps Barker  
      41

41 Head with shallow median sulcus  
   Head with deep median sulcus  
      A. goerlingi Barker  
      42

42 Head with basal median sulcus; pronotum laterally inflated, 
   medial oval patch of hexagonal cells  
      A. cyaneous Kerremans  
   Head with apical median sulcus; pronotum laterally rounded, 
   without medial hexagonal cells  
      A. caledonicus Fauvel
Figure 1. Habitus photographs of a. *Astraeus goldingi* sp. nov. b. *A. sundholmi* sp. nov. c. *A. mayoi* sp. nov. d. *A. hanloni* sp. nov. e. *Stanwatkinsius amanda* sp. nov. male f. *S. amanda* sp. nov. female. Scale bar = 5 mm.
Stan watkinsius amanda sp. nov.

Figs 1e, 1f, 2e

Holotype


Allotype

♀, same data as holotype, SAMA I 21 000.

Paratypes

N.T.: 9 ♂♂, 4 ♀♀, same data as holotype, MHSA.

Size: Holotype, 7.6 x 2.8 mm. Males, 7.3 x 2.8 – 8.1 x 3.1 mm. Females, 6.5 x 2.3 – 7.9 x 3.0 mm.

Male


Shape & sculpture: Head deeply punctured, apical median sulcus. Antennomeres: 1-4 obconic; 5-11 triangular. Pronotum deeply striolate, apical margin broadly projecting medially, basal
margin bisinuate, dorsal carina separated widely from margin except at base, not reaching apical margin, space between deeply punctured, without setae. Scutellum scutiform, flat, unpunctured. Elytra striolate, laterally parallel-sided from base, concave, rounded postmedially then narrowed to rounded, subserrate apices. Ventral surface striolate, with moderately long, mainly medial setae, edges of abdominal sternites not sculptured, glabrous.

Aedeagus: similar to other species in the genus (Fig. 2e).

Female


Shape & sculpture: As in male.

Remarks
The colour combination of the sexes does not match of any other known species in the genus. This is the first species collected in Central Australia.

Etymology
This species is named for Mrs Amanda Hanlon, one of its collectors.

Acknowledgements
I thank the following for their assistance: Mr A. Sundholm, Sydney; Mr M Golding, Willagee; Mr T.M.S. Hanlon, Perth; Mr T. Lander, Brussels, for providing images of the holotype of Astraeus badeni van de Poll; Mr M. Powell, Applecross; Mr R. Mayo, Pomona; Ms J. Forrest & Mr A. McArthur, SAMA.

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