Beetles (Coleoptera) of the Rogów region.  
Part IV – clown beetles (Histeridae)  
and false clown beetles (Sphaeritidae)

Jerzy Borowski, Sławomir Mazur

Department of Forest Protection and Ecology, Warsaw University of Life Sciences,  
SGGW, ul. Nowoursynowska 159/34, 02-776 Warsaw, Poland  
E-mail address: jerzy_borowski@sggw.pl; slawomir.mazur@wl.sggw.pl

Keywords: Insecta; Coleoptera; Histeridae; Sphaeritidae; Rogów region; faunistic data; bionomy

ABSTRACT  
In the fourth part of the series entitled “Beetles (Coleoptera) of the Rogów region” the next two families, clown beetles (Histeridae) and false clown beetles (Sphaeritidae) are presented, as the better-known families of beetles occurring in the Rogów area. The faunistic data of the listed species is supplemented by bionomical information.

1. INTRODUCTION


This part presents a list of the species of clown and false clown beetles known to occur in the Rogów region. Almost all species have been collected by the authors, only a small part of specimens was taken from the collection of J. Dominik and J. Sawoniewicz. All the specimens mentioned are kept in the collection of Department of Forest Protection and Ecology in Rogów. All the latin names have been checked according to “A concise catalogue of the Histeridae (Insecta: Coleoptera)” (Mazur 2012) and “Catalogue of Palearctic Coleoptera” (Löbl & Smetana 2004). All the species have been identified or verified by the authors of the work.

2. RESULTS – REVIEW OF THE SPECIES

2.1. Histeridae

2.1.1. Chaetabraeus (Chaetabraeus) globulus (Creutzer, 1799)  

   In the Rogów region very rare species. During more than 20 years of researches in this area and using of various traps, only 2 specimens of this species were caught.

2.1.2. Abraeus (Abraeus) perpusillus (Marsham, 1802)  

   A quite rare saproxylic species. In the Rogów region collected during wintering in dry hollow in the lower part of live and old beech.

2.1.3. Plegaderus (Plegaderus) caesus (Herbst, 1791)  
- Rogów, „Zimna Woda and Wilczy Dół” range, „Zimna Woda” reserve, UTM: DC24, 20.IV.1997, 1 ex., under bark of lying old oak;
- Rogów, „Jasień” range, UTM: DC24, 01.VIII.1997, a hollow of standing poplar;

This paper is an open access paper published under the terms and conditions of the Creative Commons Attribution license (CC BY)  
(https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0)
For the first time from the Rogów region reported by Burakowski & al. (1978). In the Rogów region quite common species, usually collected under the thick bark of deciduous trees.

2.1.4. Plegaderus (Plegaderus) vulneratus (Panzer, 1797)
- Rogów, „Zimna Woda and Wilczy Dół” range, UTM: DC24, 24.VI.1997, 1 ex., under bark of Scots pine;
- Rogów, dendrological garden, UTM: DC24, 21.IX.2000, 1 ex., under bark of Pinus sibirica (Du Tour)
- Głuchów, UTM: DC33, 28.IV.2007, 1 ex., under bark of spruce.

For the first time from the Rogów region reported by Burakowski & al. (1978). In the Rogów region quite rare species, collected under bark of coniferous trees.

2.1.5. Acritus (Acritus) nigricornis (Hoffmann, 1803)
- Rogów, UTM: DC24, 01.VII.2005, 1 ex., on the side necrosis of cherry trunk;
- Popień, UTM DC:23, 1-31.VII.2010, 3 exx., on the side necrosis of hornbeam trunk inhabited by Ptilinus pectinicornis (L.)

A quite rare species in the Rogów region. Specimens were found in different environments but already on the side necrosis of deciduous trees inhabited by death watch beetles from the Ptilinus Geoffroy genus.

2.1.6. Teretrius (Teretrius) fabricii Mazur, 1972
- Gutkowice, UTM: DC33, 15.VI.1999, 1 ex., on the side necrosis of Salix alba L. trunk; 21-22.VII.1999, 4 exx., on the side necrosis of elm trunk;
- Rogów, UTM: DC24, 15.VI.2003, 1 ex., on the side necrosis of oak trunk; 30.V.2010, on the side necrosis of oak trunk inhabited by Ptilinus pectinicornis (L.);
- Rogów, dendrological garden, UTM: DC24, 01.VII.2005, 1 ex., on the side necrosis of cherry trunk;
- Popień, UTM DC:23, 1-31.VII.2010, 3 exx., on the side necrosis of hornbeam trunk inhabited by Ptilinus pectinicornis (L.)

A quite rare species in the Rogów region. Specimens were found in different environments but already on the side necrosis of deciduous trees inhabited by death watch beetles from the Ptilinus Geoffroy genus.

2.1.7. Saprinus (Saprinus) aeneus (Fabricius, 1775)
- Rogów, „Górki” range, UTM: DC24, 23.V.1997, 1 ex., agricultural field, the horse excrement;

For the first time from the Rogów region reported by Burakowski & al. (1978). In the Rogów area most common species of the Saprinus Er. genus. Usually found in warm and xerothermic environments, on excrement and carrion of animals.

2.1.8. Saprinus (Saprinus) laetus Erichson, 1839
The first and new data on this species in the Rogów region are given by Byk & al. 2014. It is a rare species associated with the mushrooms especially form the Agaricaceae family. However, it may occur in large numbers.

2.1.9. Saprinus (Saprinus) planiusculus Motschulsky, 1849

Common species found in various environments, but prefers warm and xerothermic localities.

2.1.10. Saprinus (Saprinus) semistriatus (Scriba, 1790)
- Rogów, UTM: DC24, 22.IX.2003, 1 ex., the dead bird;
For the first time from the Rogów region reported by Burakowski & al. (1978). A very common species found in various environments, but prefers warm and xerothermic localities. Usually collected together with *S. planiscustus* and *S. aeneus*.

### 2.1.11. *Saprinus (Saprinus) subnitescens* Bickhardt, 1909

- Gutkowice, UTM: DC33, 15.VIII.2010, 1 ex., pitfall trap with a pig liver.

A very rare species in the Rogów region. For the first time reported by Mazur (1972). Since this observation, only one specimen was collected on xerothermic and sandy field.

### 2.1.12. *Dendrophilus (Dendrophilus) punctatus* (Herbst, 1791)

- Rogów, „Zimna Woda and Wilczy Dół” range, „Zimna Woda” reserve, UTM: DC24, 02.V.1998, 2 exx., rotten wood of oak;
- Rogów, UTM: DC24, 1 ex., rotten wood of poplar.

For the first time from the Rogów region reported by Piętka (2013). A common species found in rotten wood of various deciduous trees.

### 2.1.13. *Dendrophilus (Dendrophilus) pygmaeus* (Linnaeus, 1758)

- Rogów, dendrological garden, UTM: DC24, 09.XI.1998, 5 exx., within the *Formica* sp. nest; 15.V.2001, 1 ex., caught in flight.

The species lives in a specific environment, namely the nests of large ants. It may occur in large numbers.

### 2.1.14. *Gnathoncus buyssoni* Auzat, 1917

- Rogów, „Zimna Woda and Wilczy Dół” range, UTM: DC24, 16.VIII.1999, 6 exx., in the shelter for birds, nest of tit;
- Rogów, dendrological garden, UTM: DC24, 05.VI-5.VII.2001, 1 ex., window trap on *Salix* sp.;
- Rogów, UTM: DC24, 12.VI.2003, 1 ex., indoor the building.

The evidence of this species in the Rogów region was noted by Szujecki & Zaborowski (1968) as *G. nanus* (Sriba) and later by Mazur (1970). Most frequently collected species from the *Gnathoncus* Jacquelin du Val genus. In addition to the presence in the nests of birds is sometimes found on rotting fungi e.g. *Laetiporus sulphureus* (Bull.: Fr.) Murrill.

### 2.1.15. *Gnathoncus communis* (Marseul, 1862)

- Rogów, UTM: DC24, 04.VI.2010, 1 ex., indoor the building.

A very rare species in the Rogów region. During more than 20 years of researches in this area and using of various traps, only 1 specimen of this species was caught.

### 2.1.16. *Gnathoncus nidorum* Stockmann, 1957

- Rogów, UTM: DC24, 05.XII.2011, 2 exx., sifting, indoor the old barn;
- Rogów, „lasień” range, UTM: DC24, 04.XI.2011, 1 ex., sifting, indoor the old barn.

The occurrence of this species in the Rogów region was given by Szujecki & Zaborowski (1968) as *G. nanus* (Sriba) and later by Mazur (1970). A rare species associated with the bird nests on which it may occur in large numbers.

### 2.1.17. *Gnathoncus rotundatus* (Kugelann, 1792)

- Rogów, dendrological garden, UTM: DC24, 12.VII.1999, 2 exx., the dead chicken;
- Rogów, „Zimna Woda and Wilczy Dół” range, UTM: DC24, 15.IV.1999, 1 ex., the dead chicken.

A rare species in the Rogów region. All the specimens were found in the forest under carrion of chicken.

### 2.1.18. *Hypocaccus (Hypocaccus) metallicus* (Herbst, 1791)

A very rare species in the Rogów region. During more than 20 years of research in this area and using of various traps, only 3 specimens of this species were caught. All the specimens were collected in the agricultural, sandy and xerothermic fields.

2.1.19. *Chalcionellus decemstriatus* (Rossi, 1792)
- Gutkowice, UTM: DC33, 10.V.2009, 2 exx., sandy road, the cow excrement;
- Rogów, UTM: DC24, 10.V.2009, 1 ex., the horse excrement.

A very rare species in the Rogów region, discovered in 2009 on two localities. All the specimens were collected under excrement of livestock.

2.1.20. *Myrmetes paykulli* Kanaar, 1979
- Rogów, UTM: DC24, 23.V.2007, 1 ex., in the barrel with water.

A very rare species in the Rogów region. During 20 years of researches in this area and using of various traps, only 1 specimen of this species was caught.

2.1.21. *Carcinops (Carcinops) pumilio* (Erichson, 1834)
- Rogów, „Zimna Woda and Wilczy Dół” range, UTM: DC24, 01.VIII.1995, 1 ex., Moericke trap;
- Głuchów, UTM: DC33, 30.IV.2005, 1 ex., an agricultural field, under manure;
- Rogów, „Górki” range, UTM: DC24, 22.VIII.2009, 2 exx., rotting straw;
- Rogów, „Jasień” range, UTM: DC24, 04.XI.2011, 1 ex., indoor the old barn;
- Rogów, UTM: DC24, 01.VII.1997, 1 ex., window trap near lying poplar; 12.VI.2006, 1 ex., indoor the building.

For the first time from the Rogów region reported by Szuecki & Zaborowski (1968). A common species found in various environments, especially under rotten hay sometimes in large numbers.

2.1.22. *Paromalus (Paromalus) flavicornis* (Herbst, 1791)
- Lipce, UTM: DC25, „Bukowiec” reserve, 10.IX.1999, 2 exx., under bark of beech.

A common species often collected under bark of deciduous trees.

2.1.22. *Paromalus (Paromalus) parallelepipedus* (Herbst, 1791)
- Rogów, dendrological garden, UTM: DC24, 02.VI.1997, 2 exx., under bark of Scots pine in galleries of *Ips acuminatus* (Gyll.);
- Rogów, „Zimna Woda and Wilczy Dół” range, UTM: DC24, 24.VI.1997, 1 ex., under bark of Scots pine; 07.IV.1998, 3 exx., under bark of *Quercus* sp.;
- Lipce, UTM: DC25, 06.IX.2003, 2 exx., under bark of dead Scots pine;
- Rogów, „Doliska” range, UTM DC:24, 22.IX.2003, 3 exx., under bark of oak.

A very common species in the Rogów area. For the first time from the Rogów region reported by Wiąckowski (1957) and next by Byk & al. (2013). The species occurs under bark, especially coniferous trees.

2.1.23. *Onthophilus punctatus* (Müller, 1776)
- Rogów, UTM: DC24, 10.X.1993, 1 ex., in the garden, Moericke trap, leg. J. Sawoniewicz;
- Rogów, „Górki” range, UTM: DC24, 08.X.2005, 1 ex., sandy fossa;
- Gutkowice, UTM: DC33, 01.XI.2010, 1 ex., sandy fossa.

A very rare species in the Rogów region. During 20 years of researches in this area and using of various traps, only 3 specimen of this species were caught.

2.1.24. *Hololepta (Hololepta) plana* (Sulzer, 1776)
- Rogów, „Zimna Woda and Wilczy Dół” range, UTM: DC24, 05.VI.1997, 1 ex., under bark of elm; 03.VI.1998, 1 ex., under bark of poplar;
- Popień-Parcela, UTM: DC23, 19.III.2004, 2 exx., under bark of poplar;
- Rogów, UTM: DC24, 24.IV.2004, 2 exx., under bark of poplar;
- Gutkowice, UTM: DC33, 08.VI.2007, 1 ex., under bark of poplar.

Quite rare species, collected on spring, especially under bark of poplars.
2.1.25. *Eurosoma minor* (Rossi, 1792)
- Gutkowice, UTM: DC33, 02.VIII.1997, 1 ex., caught in flight;
- Lipce, UTM: DC25, 10.VII.1999, 1 ex., under bark of beech;
- Głuchów, UTM: DC33, 01.V.2004, 2 exx., under bark of birch-tree; 08.IV.2014, 2 exx., under bark of oak.

For the first time from the Rogów region reported by Burakowski *et al.* (1978) and next by Mokrzycki (2011). A quite common species occurs under bark of deciduous trees in very warm environments.

2.1.26. *Platysoma (Cylister) angustatum* (Hoffmann, 1803)
For the first time from the Rogów region reported by Burakowski *et al.* (1978). In the collection there are 7 specimens collected 11.VII.1970, leg. S. Mazur. Since this time there is any further information considering this species.

2.1.27. *Platysoma (Cylister) lineare* Erichson, 1834
- Strzelna, UTM: DC24, 24.VI.1953, 1 ex., under bark of pine, leg. J. Dominik;
- Rogów, dendrological garden, UTM: DC24, 29.V.1997, 1 ex., under bark of *Pinus cembra* L.; 02.VI.1997, 1 ex., under bark of Scots pine in galleries of *Ips acuminatus* (Gyll.);
- Rogów, UTM: DC24, 24.V.2001, 1 ex., on the wall of building;

For the first time from the Rogów region reported by Burakowski *et al.* (1978). A quite rare species collected under bark of coniferous trees.

2.1.28. *Haeterius ferrugineus* (Olivier, 1789)

For the first time from the Rogów region reported by Szujecki & Kinelski (1959). A rare species in the Rogów area, collected in or near the ant nests especially on the sandy ground.

2.1.29. *Hister helluo* Truqui, 1852
- Gutkowice, UTM: DC33, 22.VII.1997, 6 exx., on leaves of *Alnus glutinosa* Gaertn.

A very rare species in the Rogów region. During 20 years of researches in this area and using of various traps, only once 6 specimens of this species were caught on the leaves of young alders together with numerous larvae of *Agelastica alni* (L.) (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae).

2.1.30. *Hister quadrinotatus* Scriba, 1790
- Gutkowice, UTM: DC33, 22-26.V.1997, 5 exx., the cow excrement; 03.VI.2004, 1 ex., the horse excrement; 01.IV.1999, 1 ex., the dead chicken;
- Rogów, „Górki” range, UTM: DC24, 23.V.1995, 2 exx., the horse excrement;
- Rogów, „Doliska” range, UTM: DC24, 21.V.2012, 1 ex., the horse excrement.

A quite common species in the Rogów region. The species was caught in the spring time, especially on sandy and warm habitats and usually in the excrement of livestock.

2.1.31. *Hister unicolor* Linnaeus, 1758
- Rogów, UTM: DC24, V.1966, 1 ex., leg. R. Korczeski; 2.IX.2004, 1 ex., the human excrement; 20.2004, 1 ex., the human excrement; 17.VIII.2010, 1 ex., the pig liver;
- Rogów, „Górki” range, UTM: DC24, 17.V.1999, 1 ex., the horse excrement;
- Gutkowice, UTM: DC33, 22.V.1997, 1 ex., and 26.V.1997, 1 ex., the cow excrement; 02.X.1998, 1 ex., the cow bones;

A quite common species in the Rogów area. The species occurs in various environments, but collected in individual specimens.
2.1.32. *Margarinotus (Ptomister) brunneus* (Fabricius, 1775)
- Rogów, UTM: DC24, 17.VIII.2010, 1 ex., the pig liver.

For the first time from the Rogów region reported by Burakowski & al. (1978). A quite rare species, collected in various environments.

2.1.33. *Margarinotus (Ptomister) merdarius* (Hoffmann, 1803)

For the first time from the Rogów region reported by Burakowski & al. (1978) and later by Mazur (1972). A rare species, occurs in the bird and mammal’ nests and, on a lesser degree, on carrion.

2.1.34. *Margarinotus (Ptomister) striola succicola* (Thomson, 1862)
- Rogów, „Górki” range, UTM: DC24, 23.V.1995, 3 exx., the horse excrement;
- Rogów, „Doliska” range, UTM: DC24, 26.IV.1995, 1 ex., in the forest;
- Rogów, dendrological garden, UTM: DC24, 11.V.1997, 1 ex., the dog excrement; 16.VII.1997, 1 ex., Moericke trap; 02.V.1998, 2 exx., the dead mole; 02.V.1998, 3 exx., juice exuding from the cut-off tree stump;
- Gutkowice, UTM: DC33, 02.X.1998, 1 ex., the cow bones;
- Rogów, „Zimna Woda and Wilczy Dół” range, UTM: DC24, 15-19.IV.1999, 4 exx., the in forest, the dead chicken.

For the first time from the Rogów region reported by Burakowski & al. (1978) and by Nunberg (1986). A very common species, occurs in various environments. One of the commonest clown beetles in a forest zone.

2.1.35. *Margarinotus (Ptomister) terricola* (Germar, 1824)

A very rare species in Poland. In the Rogów region 1 specimen of this species was collected in 1967 (Mazur 1972). Since this time there is any information considering this species.

2.1.36. *Margarinotus (Paralister) carbonarius* (Hoffmann, 1803)
- Rogów, „Górki” range, UTM: DC24, 03.VIII.1997, 1 ex., the mammal pellet; 8-14.VIII.1997, Moericke trap;

For the first time from the Rogów region reported by Nunberg (1986). A very common species, occurs in various environments. One of the commonest clown beetles in an agricultural zone.

2.1.37. *Margarinotus (Paralister) purpurascens* (Herbst, 1791)
- Rogów, dendrological garden, UTM: DC24, 30.V.1995, 1 ex., the horse excrement;
- Rogów, UTM: DC24, 04.X.2003, 1 ex., in the ground; 31.V.2004, 1 ex., on the road;
- Rogów, „Doliska” range, UTM: DC24, 28.V.2012, 1 ex., the dead mouse.

A quite common species in the Rogów area. The species was collected in the spring and autumn time, always as individual specimens.

2.1.38. *Margarinotus (Paralister) ventralis* (Marseul, 1854)
- Rogów, „Zimna Woda and Wilczy Dół” range, UTM: DC24, 15.VI.2000, 1 ex., the rotting fungi;
- Rogów, „Górki” range, UTM: DC24, 23.V.1997, 4 exx., the horse excrement;
- Rogów, „Doliska” range, UTM: DC24, 28.V.2012, 1 ex., the horse excrement.

For the first time from the Rogów region reported by Burakowski & al. (1978). A common species in the Rogów region. The species occurs in various habitats. All specimens of this species were caught in spring time.

2.1.39. **Margarinotus (Promethister) marginatus** (Erichson, 1834)
- Rogów, dendrological garden, UTM: DC24, 01.V.1998, 1 ex., the dead mole;
- Głuchów, UTM: DC33, 01.V.2004, 1 ex., the fox burrow.

For the first time from the Rogów region reported by Burakowski & al. (1978). A common species in the Rogów region. The species occurs in various habitats. All specimens of this species were collected in the spring time.

2.1.40. **Margarinotus (Eucalohister) bipustulatus** (Schrank, 1781)
- Rogów, „Górki” range, UTM: DC24, 07.X.1995, 1 ex., sandy road.

A quite common psammophilous and xerothermic species, most frequently collected in early spring time.

2.1.41. **Atholus bimaculatus** (Linnaeus, 1758)
- Popień, UTM: DC23, 24.V.1995, 1 ex., the cow excrement;
- Gutkowice, UTM: DC33, 09.V.1998, 1 ex., sandy road; 07.VI.2009, the cow excrement.

A rare species, sporadically collected in the excrements of livestock.

2.1.42. **Atholus duodecimstriatus** (Schrank, 1781)
- Popień, UTM: DC23, 24.V.1995, 2 exx., the cow excrement;
- Rogów, „Górki” range, UTM: DC24, 22.VIII.2009, 2 exx., rotten hay;

A quite rare species, occurs in agricultural environments. Sometimes, collected with *A. bimaculatus* but in the Rogów region its more rare species than the previous one.

2.2. **Sphaeritidae**

2.2.1. **Sphaerites glabratus** (Fabricius, 1792)

For the first time from the Rogów region reported by Mazur (1972). A rare species, accidentally collected in single specimens. In the dendrological garden has been observed on dead slug from *Limax* L. genus.

3. **CONCLUSIONS**

From the Rogów region 42 species of clown beetles were collected representing approx. 54% of all species in the Polish fauna. Most species collected in the 60s and 70s of the twentieth century are being collected nowadays. However, two species, *Margarinotus terricola* and *Platysoma angustatum*, despite the using of various traps and collecting methods by many entomologists and students have not been discovered again. In the Rogów area we can expect the occurrence of several more (5-6) new species of clown beetles, especially those that being met in hidden places. However, they are all very rare species for the Polish fauna.

In the Rogów region was collected one species of false clown beetles. *Sphaerites glabratus* is the only representative of Sphaeritidae family in the Polish fauna.

**Acknowledgements**

We would like to thank Dr. J. Sawoniewicz for the material being used in this work.
References


(Received 19 March 2015; accepted 31 March 2015)