

Curriculum Vitae:

Name: Christian Michel Deschodt Pr. Nat. Sci.

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EDUCATION

High School: Matriculated, Hartbeespoort High School, 1992, with University admission.

University: Have completed an MSc in Entomology **with distinction** from Rhodes University under supervision of Professor Martin Villet (m.villet@ru.ac.za).

Currently I am a PhD (Entomology) student at the University of Pretoria under the supervision of Professor Catherine Sole (catherine.sole@up.ac.za) and Emeritus Professor Clarke Scholtz.

My PhD deals with the molecular and morphological systematics, phylogeny and biogeography of the newly described tribe Byrrhidiini and with its unique breeding habits.

SKILLS AND EXPERTISE

Systematics, Molecular Biology, Taxonomy, Biodiversity, Species Diversity, Invasive Species, Conservation Biology, Evolution, Ecology, Biodiversity Monitoring.

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

August 2002 to December 2018

I was a Senior Laboratory Technician for the Scarab Research Group at the Department of Zoology and Entomology, University of Pretoria under Professor Clarke Scholtz. My tenure at the Scarab group ended when the Scarab Research Group dissolved.

My responsibilities were:

As the curator of the Scarab collection:

- Writing and reviewing of scientific papers;
- Going on field trips all over Southern Africa (alone or accompanied) and working the collected specimens into the collection;
- Identifying and processing newly collected specimens and keeping general taxonomic order in the collection;
- Training and education of visitors (local and international) in the museum and field;
- Liaise with the public (scholars to professionals) by giving talks;
- Recording the collection in an access database; Safeguarding the collection against pests;
- Preparing and receiving loan packages;
- And keeping track of loaned specimens.

I was responsible for expanding the collection from one to 12 cabinets. I curated about 14000 data based specimens including type specimens of several species.

As technical assistant:

- Working in the molecular lab of the Zoology and Entomology Department. This includes every process, from extracting the DNA of collected material to final analysing of sequences;
- Keeping the vehicle fleet in good running order including control, repairs and services;
- Helping to supervise students from honours to post-doctoral level with project planning, protocol, logistics and field work;
- Making scanning electron microscopy images of beetles;
- Managing the installation and fitting of the breeding lab;
- Collecting from the field and keeping laboratory beetle colonies in the breeding lab and running dung toxicity experiments;
- Storing and maintaining the other assets of the Scarab group. Ordering of new equipment and/or chemicals as needed.

January 2019 to present:

I am a PhD candidate in the Department of Zoology and Entomology, at the University of Pretoria.

PUBLICATION LIST

BOOKS

Davis, A.L.V., **Deschodt, C.M.** and Scholtz, C.H. (2020) Conservation assessment of Scarabaeine dung beetles in South Africa, Botswana and Namibia: IUCN Red List categories, atlas and ecological notes. *Suricata* 6. South African National Biodiversity Institute, Pretoria, pp i–800.

PUBLICATIONS

Davis, A.L.V., Scholtz, C.H. and **Deschodt, C.M.** (2005) A dung beetle survey of selected Gauteng nature reserves: implications for conservation of the provincial Scarabaeinae fauna. *African Entomology*. 13(1):1–16.

Kryger, U., **Deschodt, C.** and Scholtz, C.H. (2005) Effects of fluazuron and ivermectin treatment of cattle on the structure of dung beetle communities. *Agriculture, Ecosystems and Environment*. 105(4):649–656.

Kryger, U., **Deschodt, C.**, Davis, A.L. and Scholtz, C.H. (2006) Effects of cattle treatment with a cypermethrin/cymiazol spray on survival and reproduction of the dung beetle species *Euoniticellus intermedius* (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae). *Bulletin of Entomological Research*. 96:597–603.

Deschodt, C.M., Kryger, U. and Scholtz, C.H. (2007) New taxa of relictual Canthonini dung beetles (Scarabaeidae: Scarabaeinae) utilizing rock hyrax middens as refuges in south-western Africa. *Insect Systematics and Evolution*. 38:361–376.

Kryger, U., **Deschodt, C.**, Davis, A.L. and Scholtz, C.H. (2007) Effects of cattle treatment with a fluazuron pour-on on survival and reproduction of the dung beetle species *Onthophagus gazella* (Fabricius). *Veterinary Parasitology*. 143:380–384.

Deschodt, C.M. and Scholtz, C.H. (2008) Systematics of South African forest-endemic dung beetles: new genera and species of small Canthonini (Scarabaeidae: Scarabaeinae). *African Entomology*. 16(1):91–106.

Davis, A.L.V., Brink, D.J., Scholtz, C.H., Prinsloo, L.C. and **Deschodt, C.M.** (2008) Functional implications of temperature-correlated colour polymorphism in an iridescent, Scarabaeinae dung beetle. *Ecological Entomology*. 33:771–779.

Davis, A.L.V., Scholtz, C.H. and **Deschodt, C.** (2008) Multi-scale determinants of dung beetle assemblage structure across abiotic gradients of the Kalahari-Nama Karoo ecotone, South Africa. *Journal of Biogeography*. 35:1465–1480.

Deschodt, C.M., Scholtz, C.H. and Kryger, U. (2009) Description of the larva and pupa of *Ichnestoma stobbiai* Holm 1992 (Scarabaeidae: Cetoniinae), a range-restricted species of conservation concern. *African Entomology*. 17(1):43–50.

Davis, A.L.V., Scholtz, C.H., Kryger, U., **Deschodt, C.M.** and Strümpher, W.P. (2010) Dung beetle assemblage structure in Tswalu Kalahari Reserve: responses to a mosaic of landscape types, vegetation communities, and dung types. *Environmental Entomology*. 39(3):811–820.

Deschodt, C.M., Davis, A.L.V. and Scholtz, C.H. (2011) New dung beetle (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae: Scarabaeinae) taxa from arid south-western Africa. *Insect Systematics and Evolution*. 42(3):277–294.

Davis, A.L.V., van Aarde, R.J., Scholtz, C.H., Guldmond, R.A.R., Fourie, J. and **Deschodt, C.M.** (2013) Is microclimate-driven turnover of dung beetle assemblage structure in regenerating coastal vegetation a precursor to re-establishment of a forest fauna? *Journal of Insect Conservation*. 17:565–576.

Davis, A.L.V., Swemmer, A.M., Scholtz, C.H., **Deschodt, C.M.** and Tshikae, B.P. (2014) Roles of environmental variables and land usage as drivers of dung beetle assemblage structure in Mopane woodland. *Austral Ecology*. 39:313–327.

Deschodt, C.M., Davis, A.L.V. and Scholtz, C.H. (2015) Status changes, new synonymies, key and descriptions of seven new species in the subgenus *Scarabaeus* (*Scarabaeolus*) Balthasar 1965 (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae: Scarabaeinae). *Zootaxa*. 3931(4):505–527.

Deschodt, C.M., Davis, A.L.V. and Scholtz, C.H. (2015) A new synonymy in the *fidius* group of *Copris* Müller 1764 (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae: Scarabaeinae) and a new species from the highland grasslands of South Africa. *Zootaxa*. 3949(3):431–438.

Davis, A.L.V., Stals, R. and **Deschodt, C.M.** (2015) New replacement name for the species *Scarabaeus (Scarabaeolus) nitidus* Davis & Deschodt, 2015 (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae: Scarabaeinae) – not an American pest. *Zootaxa*. 4057(4):582–582.

Davis, A.L.V., Scholtz, C.H., **Deschodt, C.M.** and Strümpher, W.P. (2016) Edaphic and climatic history has driven current dung beetle species pool and assemblage structure across a transition zone in central South Africa. *Biological Journal of the Linnean Society*. 119:329–347.

Deschodt, C.M., Davis, A.L.V. and Scholtz, C.H. (2016) A new monotypic genus, a species synonymy and nomenclatural corrections in the arid-adapted Canthonini (Scarabaeidae, Scarabaeinae) from the Succulent Karoo Biome of south-western Africa. *Zootaxa*. 4147(4):490–500.

Deschodt, C.M., Davis, A.L.V. and Scholtz, C.H. (2017) Three new species, a synonymy and taxonomic notes on southern African members of the dung beetle genera *Scarabaeus* s. str. Linnaeus, 1758 and *Escarabaeus* Zidek & Pokorný, 2011 (Scarabaeidae: Scarabaeinae). *Journal of Natural History*. 51(5-6):299–316.

Deschodt, C.M. and Davis, A.L.V. (2017) Transfer of three species of *Namakwanus* Scholtz & Howden to *Versicorpus* Deschodt, Davis & Scholtz or to *Namaphilus* gen. nov., with descriptions of two new species (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae: Scarabaeinae). *Annals of the Ditsong National Museum of Natural History*. 7:109–114.

Deschodt, C.M. and Davis, A.L.V. (2018) New deltochiline (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae: Scarabaeinae) taxa associated with hyrax dung in arid south western Namibia. *Zootaxa*. 4450(1):066–076.

Davis, A.L.V. and **Deschodt, C.M.** (2018) Two new species of *Garreta* Janssens, 1940 (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae: Scarabaeinae) from rocky mountain habitats in Namibia or the southeast lowlands of Africa. *Zootaxa*. 4450(2):242–248.

Abdalla, I.H., **Deschodt, C.M.**, Scholtz, C.H. and Sole, C.L. (2018) Descriptions of new species, and redescription of one, in the genus *Macroderes* Westwood 1842 (Coleoptera, Scarabaeidae, Scarabaeinae) from South Africa. *Zootaxa*. 4504(1):041–075.

Mlambo, S., Scholtz, C.H. and **Deschodt, C.M.** (2019) *Grebennikovius*, a new genus to accommodate *Epactoides basilewskyi* (Balthasar, 1960) (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae: Deltochilini). *Zootaxa*. 4544(1):113–118.

Deschodt, C.M., Davis, A.L.V. and Daniel, G.M. (2019) The endemic Southern African genus *Epirinus* Dejean, 1833 (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae: Scarabaeinae) revisited: five new species and two new synonyms. *Zootaxa*. 4603(2):327–340.

Davis, A.L.V., **Deschodt, C.M.** and Scholtz, C.H. (2019) Defining new dung beetle tribes to resolve discrepancies between phylogeny and tribal classification in the subfamily Scarabaeinae (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae). *Zootaxa*. 4608(1):131–144.

Deschodt, C.M. and Davis, A.L.V. (2019) New or revalidated Southern African species in the dung beetle genus *Gyronotus* van Lansberge, 1874 (Scarabaeidae: Scarabaeinae) with an updated key. *Zootaxa*. 4624(2):275–282.

Deschodt, C.M., Davis, A.L.V. and Sole, C.L. (2019) A beautiful new species of *Hyalonthophagus* Palestrini & Giacone, 1988 (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae: Scarabaeinae), from the Northern Cape Province, South Africa. *Zootaxa*. 4648(1):194–200.

Deschodt, C.M. and Sole, C.L. (2019) A new species of *Versicorpus* Deschodt, Davis & Scholtz, 2011 (Scarabaeinae: Byrrhidiini) from the Brandberg Mountain, Namibia. *Zootaxa*. 4671(1):139–144.

Deschodt, C.M., Sole, C.L. and Scholtz, C.H. (2020) *Upsa centennial* new genus and species (Scarabaeinae: Endroedyolini) from a Southern Mistbelt forest in South Africa: celebrating 100 years of entomology at the University of Pretoria. *Zootaxa*. 4728(3):357–362.

Daniel, G.M., **Deschodt, C.M.**, Davis, A.L.V. and Sole, C.L. (2020) The enigmatic dung beetle genus, *Stiptopodius* Harold, 1871 (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae: Scarabaeinae) revisited: new species descriptions from southern Africa. *Zootaxa*. 4763(3):394–404.

PUBLICATIONS CURRENTLY UNDER PEER REVIEW

Escobar, F., Davis, A.L.V., **Deschodt, C.M.**, and Scholtz, C.H. Maputo Special Reserve and dung beetle conservation in the heterogeneous landscape of the Maputaland Centre of Endemism. Submitted to *Bothalia*.

Deschodt, C.M., Davis, A.L.V. and Sole, C.L. Revalidation and redescription of a previously synonymized species of *Phalops* Erichson, 1847 (Scarabaeinae, Onthophagini). Submitted to *Zootaxa*.

Deschodt, C.M., Harrison, J. Du. G. and Sole, C.L. On the rediscovery of *Scarabaeus sevoistra* Alluaud, 1902 with new biological notes learned from the iNaturalist website. Submitted to *Bothalia*.

PUBLICATIONS IN PREPARATION (Titles subject to slight changes)

Daniel, G.M., Noriega, J.A., da Silva, P.G., **Deschodt, C.M.**, Sole, C.L., Scholtz, C.H. and Davis, A.L.V. Soil type, vegetation cover, and temperature conditioning the diversity and functional structure of dung beetle assemblages in South African open woodland and closed canopy mosaic.

Deschodt, C.M. Key to all the Dung beetles in the Southern African Subregion as defined by Davis, A.L.V., Deschodt, C.M. and Scholtz, C.H. in Conservation Assessment of Scarabaeine Dung Beetles in South Africa, Botswana and Namibia: IUCN Red List Categories, Atlas and Ecological Notes.

Deschodt, C.M., Davis, A.L.V. and Sole, C.L. Taxonomic review of the *Gymnopleurus* Illiger, 1803 (Scarabaeinae, Gymnopleurini) species complex with a revalidation and new synonymy.

Zaayman, J., **Deschodt, C.M.** and Sole, C.L. Taxonomy of *Scarabaeolus bohemani* (Harold, 1868).

PUBLICATIONS IN PLANNING (Titles subject to changes)

Davis, A.L.V. and **Deschodt, C.M.** Two new Onitini (Scarabaeidae: Scarabaeinae) species from South and East Africa.

Deschodt, C.M. and Davis, A.L.V. Revisiting the sensitive generic classification of the Scarabaeini (Scarabaeidae: Scarabaeinae) with taxonomic corrections.

Deschodt, C.M., Davis, A.L.V. and Sole, C.L. Taxonomy of *Scarabaeus galenus* Westwood, 1847.

Deschodt, C.M. and Jessnitz, V. The biology of the inquiline beetle *Caccobiomorphus megaponerae* (Brauns, 1914) and its association with *Megaponera analis* (Latreille, 1802).

STUDENTS

Honours:

Taxonomic study on *Scarabaeolus bohemani*; has speciation occurred?

This is a study that combines molecular and classical taxonomic methods to reach a taxonomic conclusion.

JOURNALS THAT I HAVE REVIEWED PAPERS FOR

Zootaxa, African Entomology and The Coleopterists Bulletin.

RESEARCH RATING AND ACCREDITATIONS

ORCID ID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-3886-1813>

Current citation record (h-index): **10**.

Current Research Gate score: **22.46** (05 March 2021).

Completed the morphometric online course **Analyses of Organismal Form** (course code BIOL50111) from the University of Manchester in 2010.

Participated in a **SABIF Biodiversity Geo-referencing training workshop** that was held at the University of Pretoria from 25 - 27 June 2013 that was presented by SANBI.

Participated in a **Geometric Morphometrics Workshop** presented at the Department of Zoology & Entomology, University of Pretoria from 26 - 27 June 2017.

Participated in a **Specify training course** presented by The Natural Science Collections Facility at the Department of Zoology & Entomology, University of Pretoria on the 4th November 2019.

Attended the **Tenebrionidae Identification and Classification Virtual Workshop** from 17 - 19 May 2021.

Attended the **International Tenebrionoidea Virtual Symposium VI** from 21 - 22 May 2021.

Registered to attend the 24th annual **SOLA Scarab Workers Symposium**, Online on 28 May 2021.

Currently an active member of the **South African Council of the Natural Scientific Professions (SACNASP)** as a Professional Natural Scientist in Zoological Science. Also awaiting approval for Ecological Science.

Computer Skills:

Good understanding of ArcGis and all Microsoft Office suite of software. I have used various other statistical programs including PRIMER and PAUP. I am self-taught and very proficient using the Photoshop and GIMP photo editing software packages. I have used and mastered various other software to find research answers.

COMMITTEES THAT I AM SERVING ON

Currently a member of the school governing body for the school that my children is attending.

Sovereign Interim Forum, as member of this committee I am the connection with local residents and a chicken abettor. I am thus the front between an angry community and a big industrial business.

REFERENCE CONTACT INFORMATION

Previous employer: Emeritus Professor Clarke H. Scholtz: +27 (82) 884 8594
chscholtz@zoology.up.ac.za

Colleague: Doctor Adrian L. V. Davis: +27 (78) 175 8441
adrian.davis04@gmail.com

Colleague: Mister Lukas J. Niemand:

+27 (83) 978 0817

lukas@pachnoda.co.za

INTERNET SCARABAEINAE SITES

I regularly identify Scarabs on Inaturalist.org which replaced the discontinued ISpot website.

I Currently serve on the expert panel of species identifiers for the Atlas of Dung Beetles in southern Africa [Virtual Museum](#) on behalf of the Animal Demography Unit in the Department of Biological Sciences - University of Cape Town.

I am creator and an administrator of the Facebook group [Scarabs of Southern Africa](#) where I identify Scarabaeidae images to species level that are posted by members of the public.

PERSONAL INFORMATION AND INTERESTS

Date of Birth: 12 March 1974

Citizenship: South African

Sex: Male

Marital Status: Married

Spouse's Name: Ermiena Deschodt

Children: Kara Elizabeth Deschodt and Christian Remi Deschodt

Drivers licence: Code 08 EB

Macro- and Extreme macro photography:

I have built my own setup to create high resolution habitus invertebrate images, some of my images were used as the front cover page of the international journals "*Insect Systematics and Evolution*" (once) and "*Zootaxa*" (twice). A total of 747 of my images have been used in the abovementioned Scarab atlas.

Beekeeper and part time farmer:

No Entomologist is a proper Entomologist without doing beekeeping, so I have 15 bee hives that I extract honey from for personal use. I have even built and installed an observation hive in my house! I also professionally remove problem bee swarms.

Ornithology and Tree spotting:

I have “ticked” over 600 bird species in the South African sub-region. I enjoy identifying the tree species in the areas where I go for fieldwork. I also maintain a small greenhouse with indigenous trees and geophytes.

Book collecting:

I own an extensive collection of books on the Natural history of South - and Southern Africa.