Hispa tarsata, a new species from Iran  
(Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae: Hispinae)

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ABSTRACT. A new species Hispa tarsata is described from Iran. It is the second Palaeartic species of the genus Hispa L., close to widespread H. atra L., but well distinguished by its peculiar structure of tarsi.

Key words: entomology, taxonomy, new species, Coleoptera, Chrysomelidae, Hispinae, Hispa, Iran.

The genus Hispa L. comprises only four species, one known from western Palaeartic, and three from the Oriental Region. They were revised by WÜRMLI (1976). I had a possibility to study Hispinae material collected in Iran during Czechoslovakian-Iranian scientific expeditions in 1973-1977. The material was identified and partly published by LOPATIN (1984, 1985). In the material there is a series of specimens identified by LOPATIN as Hispa atra L., but in my opinion representing a new species. Its description is given below.

Hispa tarsata n. sp.

ETYMOLOGY  
Named after its peculiar structure of tarsi.

DIAGNOSIS  
Oriental species of the genus Hispa L., H. ramosa GYLL., H. stygia CHAP. and H. brachycera (GESTRO) distinctly differ in a long spine on the first antennomere
with additional small spines, or bifurcate, or multispinose, and in the second antennomere with a long spine ventrally, at least twice longer than the antennomere. Both Palaearctic species, *H. atra* L. and *H. tarsata* n. sp., have the long spine on the first antennomere simple, and the second antennomere ventrally with a short spine, not longer than length of the antennomere (fig. 2). *Hispa atra* is, at first glance, very similar, especially in the same number and arrangement of pronotal and elytral spines, but distinctly differs in unmodified tarsi with the last tarsomere not elongated, only slightly extending behind the distal margin of the third tarsomere (figs 5, 6), while in *H. tarsata* the last tarsomere is very long, twice as long as the third tarsomere (figs 3, 4). *H. tarsata* is slightly larger, with the body length of 3.8-4.5 mm (mean 4.12, n = 10), while in *H. atra* the length is 2.7-3.3 mm (mean 3.12, n = 30). The elytral punctuation in *H. tarsata* is very coarse, approximately twice coarser than in *H. atra* (figs 7, 8).

**DESCRIPTION**

Length (from anterior margin of pronotum to apex of elytra without spines): 3.8-4.5 mm, width (without spines): 1.7-2.1 mm, distance between posterior pronotal spines: 2.2-2.6 mm.

Body elongate, uniformly black, including legs and antennae.

Antennae: stout, segments 1-6 distinctly asymmetrical. First segment on inner margin with long, single and simple spine, no additional spines; second tarsomere transverse, inner margin protruding anteriorly into short spine, not longer than the tarsomere; inner margins of segments 3-6 protruding into short spines; segments 7-10 transverse, symmetrical.

Pronotum: anterior margin with a pair of bifurcate spines, each lateral margin with three long spines, approximately equal in length, first two spines with common stem, third at a short distance from two anterior spines; no spine with additional spines or branches. Disc before base with deep transverse impression, slightly deeper than in related *H. atra*. Surface of pronotum bare, with fine granulation and folds, dull.

Elytra: with a number of spines, their size and arrangement as in *H. atra* (fig. 1), only marginal spines of elytron more numerous: 22-24 (mean 23, n = 10) in *H. tarsata*, 16-22 (mean 20, n = 30) in *H. atra*. Punctuation of elytra regular, punctures very coarse, approximately twice coarser than in *H. atra*, thus intervals are hardly marked, linear (figs 7, 9). Surface of elytra from slightly dull to slightly glabrous.

Legs: femora and tibiae as in *H. atra*. Ventral surface of pro- and midfemora with a number of small spines. Tibiae with distinct lateral angulation, armed with small spine. Apical part of ventral surface of midtibiae with a number of small spines. Tarsi strongly modified, ventral surface of third segment without sole, only on margins with dense setae (in *H. atra* third segment of tarsi has a distinct sole, like in two precedent segments); last segment elongated, twice longer than the third segment (in *H. atra* last segment is as long as third).
TYPES

1-4, 7. Hispa tarsata, 5, 6, 8. Hispa atra: 1 – body dorsal, 2 – antennae, 3-6 – tarsus (3, 5 – dorsal, 4, 6 – lateral), 7, 8 – punctuation of elytra

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REFERENCES