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A new species of *Stylosomus* Suffrian from Afghanistan (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae: Cryptocephalinae)

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Abstract. A new species of *Stylosomus* Suffrian, 1848 is described, *S. warchalowskii* sp. nov. from Afghanistan. The male genitalia are illustrated.

Key words: entomology, taxonomy, Coleoptera, Chrysomelidae, Cryptocephalinae, *Stylosomina*, Palaearctic Region

INTRODUCTION

The genus *Stylosomus* Suffrian, 1848 is of Palaearctic distribution and comprises about 30 described species (Petitpierre 2000). It is the only genus in the subtribe Stylosomina of Cryptocephalini (Reid 1991). Many species were described from the Mediterranean, and 10 only from the Central and East Asian areas of the Palaearctic region. In this study, a new species from Afghanistan is described.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The eye length was measured in lateral view, the interocular space in frontal view. Abbreviation: ZMHUB = Museum für Naturkunde der Humboldt-Universität, Berlin (J. Frisch, M. Uhlig).

RESULTS

Stylosomus (*Stylosomus*) *warchalowskii* sp. nov.

(Figs. 1-3)

Locus typicus: Afghanistan, Badaghšan Dehgul SO Zebak

Type specimens

Labeling: Holotypus (male, MZHUB): Afghanistan, Badaghšan Dehgul SO Zebak, 3000 m, 15.VII.1973, O. Kabakov [white] / (my label) Holotypus *Stylosomus warchalowskii*, des. Matthias Schöller [red] /.

Diagnosis

A pale species with fulvous prothorax and blackish brown meso- and metathorax, abdomen, tarsi and suture, elytra 2.6 x longer than pronotum

Description

Holotype (male)

Habitus: Colour yellow, prothorax reddish yellow with a pair of weakly defined transverse dark spots in apical half, basal margin and suture of elytra, basal margin of pronotum, meso- and metanotum and abdomen black; elytral punctation strong, in regular rows of punctures, interstices not broader than diameter of punctures, punctures dark at base, dorsal surfaces covered with white setae; body cylindrical, size [mm]: length 1.90, width of elytra at humeri 0.80, length of pronotum 0.55, width 0.70.

Head: Head as wide as pronotum, punctation fine and dense, much finer than on pronotum, interstices smooth, covered with white adpressed setae, black with gena, clypeus and labrum yellow, ratio eye length : minimum distance between upper lobes of eyes 1.3 : 2.8, i. e. interocular space 2.15 times eye length, eye without canthus; frontoclypeal suture absent; maxillary and labial palpi brown, last maxillary palp segment narrowing apically, concave; antennae filiform, long, surpassing basal margin of pronotum by three segments, antenna yellowish brown, antennal segments 1-5 dorsally blackish brown, segments 1-2 inflated, segments 6-7 black and sligthly dilated.

Thorax: Pronotum transverse, surface even, length 0.8 times width, in dorsal view lateral margins of pronotum concave, pronotum pubescent with white setae, surface of pronotum matt, punctation coarse and very dense, anterior and lateral margins narrow, front edge of pronotum ridged, sides of front margin not projecting beyond prosternum, posterior angles of pronotum rounded, basal margin elevated, unbordered, with long narrow teeth, pronotum narrower than elytral base; prothorax fulvous, meso- and metathorax black; elytra with basal margin broad, finely dashed, only moderately bend up, elytra with nine regular rows of strong punctures, plus scutellar and lateral row, punctures confused at apex of humeral callus only, and some additional punctures on apex of elytra, elytra with adpressed short white setae on interstices, as long as setae on pronotum, interstices approximately as wide as diameter of punctures, all interstices elevated, apex of elytra regularly convexed, punctation of epipleura coarse and dense, epipleura glabrous, strongly attenuate posterior to metathorax; legs yellow, tarsi blackish brown, fore tibia almost straight, all femora of same width, tibial spurs absent, external edge of tibia excavate, excavation with fringe of strong setae, fore tarsi simple, not wider than mid- and hind tarsi, hind tarsi longer than hind tibia, first tarsomere of hind tarsi as long as second, twice as long as third, claw segment 1.6 times first tarsomere, claws blackish brown, large and simple.

Abdomen: Tergites soft, weakly sclerotised, punctation of sternites and pygidium dense and coarse, densely covered with short white setae, black except for brown lateral lobe at base of abdomen that is acute-triangular, intercoxal abdominal process of ventrite I narrow, bordered, sternite VII slightly convex, apex of abdomen without hollow; aedeagus straight, with apex gradually recurved (Fig. 1), apex straigth in dorsal view, orificium narrow (Fig. 2), apex slightly concave in frontal view, ventral side with an almost circular impression basal of tip (Fig. 3), length of aedeagus 0.55 mm.

Female and immature stages unknown.

Etymology

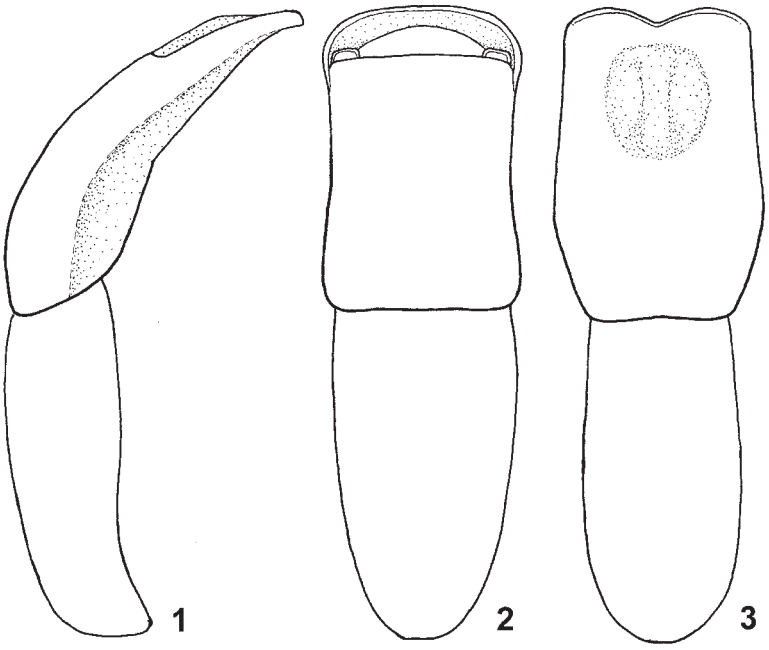
This species is dedicated to Prof. Andrzej Warchalowski, Wrocław, specialist in Palaearctic Chrysomelidae.

Distribution

Only known from type locality, no information on the biology available.

Differential diagnosis

S. warchalowskii differs from *S. subelongatus* Pic, 1913 sensu Warchałowski (2003) in the shape of the aedeagus apex, and differs from the remaining species with pale elytra in that interstices 4-6 are in the middle of elytron not broader than diameter of punctures.



1-3: Aedeagus *Stylosomus warchalowskii* sp. nov., 1 – lateral 2 – dorsal 3 – ventral

Discussion

The study of aedeagus-characters in Cryptocephalinae started in the 19th century (e.g. Weise, 1886), and its value for determination of taxa of the species group has been shown for many genera. In the case of *Stylosomus* it has been largely neglected. An exception is Petitpierre (2000) who figured Iberian species in detail, however, no type studies have been conducted. In the course of this study, the study of the aedeagus in ventral and fronto-ventral view was found to be important. Ventral ridges and the three-dimensional structure of the tip can only be evaluated in these views.

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