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On the Staphylinidae of Israel (Insecta: Coleoptera)

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A b s t r a c t : A study of material of Staphylinidae collected in Israel in March 2011 yielded at least 102 species, among them 27 new country records. *Mimogonus fumator* (FAUVEL 1889) (Osoriini), is recorded from the Palaearctic region for the first time, illustrated, and redescribed. *Zoosetha discolor* ASSING nov.sp., the twelfth representative of the genus, is described and illustrated. Records of six additional species are reported, among them four new country records.

K e y w o r d s : Coleoptera, Staphylinidae, Palaearctic region, Mediterranean, Israel, taxonomy, new species, new records.

Introduction

The staphylinid fauna of Israel has received little attention in the past. According to the Palaearctic catalogue (SMETANA 2004) and an updated version of this catalogue (SCHÜLKE unpubl.), only some 270 species have been reported from this country (Scydmaeninae not included). Thus, the known diversity is less than half of that of Luxemburg, a country that covers only approximately one tenth of the area of Israel, has been affected by several ice ages, has a much less diverse topology, and whose staphylinid fauna comprises some 560 species (GEREND 2006). Few articles have dealt exclusively with the Staphylinidae of Israel (e.g., DRUGMAND 1989, FELDMANN 2010, KAPP 2004, PUTHZ 1975, SMETANA 1978). The vast majority of records from this country are contained in more comprehensive works such as taxonomic revisions and keys to staphylinid groups of the West Palaearctic region.

The present paper is based primarily on 920 specimens of Staphylinidae (exclusive of Pselaphinae, Scydmaeninae, Dasycterinae and Scaphidiinae) collected by Andreas Hetzel (Darmstadt), Heinrich Meybohm (Großhansdorf) and Werner Starke (Warendorf) in Israel in March, 2011. In addition, material collected on other occasions is reported.

Material and measurements

The material is deposited in the National Collection of Insects, Tel Aviv University (TAU; A.L.L. Friedman), the private collection of W. Starke and the authors' private collections (cAss, cFel).

The morphological studies were conducted using a Stemi SV 11 microscope (Zeiss Germany) and a Jenalab compound microscope (Carl Zeiss Jena). A digital camera (Nikon Coolpix 995) was used for the photographs.

Head length was measured from the anterior margin of the labrum to the posterior margin of the head, elytral length at the suture from the apex of the scutellum to the posterior margin of the elytra, and the length of the aedeagus from the apex of the ventral process to the base of the aedeagus.

Results

In all, 102 species were distinguished (Tab. 1). In several cases, a positive identification at the species level was not possible, either because revisionary work is required (e.g., *Carpelimus* spp., *Mycetoporus* sp., *Atheta* (*Microdota*) sp.) or because the respective species was represented in the material exclusively by females. A reliable identification of Mediterranean species of the taxonomically unresolved subgenus *Mocyta* MULSANT & REY 1874 of the genus *Atheta* THOMSON 1858 is currently impossible. *Stenus callidus*, *S. orientis*, *S. piscator*, and *S. planifrons robustus* were identified by Volker Puthz (Schlitz), *Dialycera aspera* by Adriano Zanetti (Verona); *Carpelimus* spp., *Anotylus complanatus*, and *Mycetoporus* sp. were examined by Michael Schülke (Berlin).

27 of the recorded species are neither listed for Israel in the Palaearctic catalogue, nor have they been reported from there after 2004 (Tab. 1). The fact that many of these species are common and widespread in the Mediterranean region (e.g., *Megarthritis depressus*, *Omalium rivulare*, *Carpelimus corticinus*, *Anotylus inustus*, *Sepedophilus obtusus*, *Aloconota gregaria*, *A. sulcifrons*, *Liogluta longiuscula*, *Atheta atramentaria*) confirms the poor state of knowledge of the staphylinid fauna of Israel. One species, *Mimogonus fumator*, is recorded from the whole of the Palaearctic region for the first time.

Tab. 1: Staphylinidae (exclusive of Pselaphinae, Scydmaeninae, Dasycerinae and Scaphidiinae) collected in Israel in March, 2011 (leg. Hetzel, Meybohm, Starke). Species recorded from Israel neither in the Palaearctic catalogue nor in other publications after 2004 are marked with an "X" in the "nr" [= new record] column. In the localities column, the number of specimens is given in parentheses behind the locality number.

Localities: **1:** En Prat Nature Reserve, 31°50'N, 35°19'E, 230 m, stream bank, 13.III.; **2:** Beit Zayit Reservoir, 31°47'N, 35°10'E, 560 m, grass and leaf litter beneath shrubs sifted, 15.III.; **3:** Wadi Kelt, St. George Monastery, 31°50'N, 35°24'E, -110 m, moist spots on sandy soil, 15.III.; **4:** Upper Galilee, Meron Mts., 33°00'N, 35°25'E, 1130 m, leaf litter in deciduous forest and beneath shrubs sifted, 17.III.; **5:** Upper Galilee, Har Ziv, valley, 33°03'N, 35°13'E, 215 m, deciduous forest, leaf litter sifted, 18.III.; **6:** Upper Galilee, Har Ziv, Montfort, 33°03'N, 35°14'E, 320 m, N-slope, grassy deciduous forest, leaf litter sifted, 18.III.; **7:** Lake Genezareth, Jordan river, 32°54'N, 35°37'E, -215 m, in wet vegetation beneath shrubs, 19.III.; **8:** Hermon, Névé Ativ, 33°15'N, 35°42'E, 380 m, sandy river bank, 20.III.; **9:** Hermon, 33°17'N, 35°45'E, 1470 m, under stones, 20.III.; **10:** Golan, Merom Golan, 33°08'N, 35°48'E, 950 m, old oak forest, leaf litter sifted, 20.III.; **11:** Upper Galilee, Harashim, 32°57'N, 35°20'E, 830 m, road margin, leaf litter and grass beneath shrubs sifted, 21.III.; **12:** Upper Galilee, Nahal Betzet, 33°04'N, 35°15'E, 370 m, mixed forest, leaf litter sifted, 22.III.; **13:** Upper Galilee, Ya'ar Bar'am, 33°02'N, 35°25'E, 680 m, old oak forest, leaf litter sifted, 23.III.; **14:** En Gedi Wadi Arugot, 31°27'N, 35°22'E, -240 m, moist spots, hand-collected, 25.III.; **15:** En Gedi Wadi Mishmar, 31°23'N, 35°20'E, 25 m, moist spots, hand-collected, 26.III.; **16:** Dead Sea region, Wadi Boqeq, 31°12'N, 35°21'E, -370 m, stream bank, 27.III.; **17:** Negev desert, Wadi En Avdat, 30°36'N, 34°47'E, 850 m, moist spots, flood debris sifted, 30.III.

species	nr	localities
<i>Phloeocharis longipennis</i> (FAUVEL 1875)		13(1)
<i>Megarthritis depressus</i> (PAYKULL 1789)	X	2(1)
<i>Omalius rivulare</i> (PAYKULL 1789)	X	4(1)
<i>Dialycera aspera</i> (EPELSHEIM 1889)	X	11(7)
<i>Boreaphilus velox</i> (HEER 1839)		13(1)
<i>Mimogonus fumator</i> (FAUVEL 1889)	X	3(1)
<i>Thinodromus transversalis</i> (WOLLASTON 1857)		3(9), 14(1), 15(26), 16(6), 17(12)
<i>Carpelimus corticinus</i> (GRAVENHORST 1806)	X	7(2)
<i>Carpelimus</i> sp. 1		3(14), 16(1)
<i>Carpelimus</i> sp. 2		3(1)
<i>Carpelimus</i> sp. 3		16(8)
<i>Platystethus degener</i> MULSANT & REY 1878		3(12)
<i>Platystethus nitens</i> MULSANT & REY 1878		17(2)
<i>Platystethus spinosus</i> ERICHSON 1840	X	2(1), 8(1)
<i>Anotylus complanatus</i> (ERICHSON 1839)	X	15(1), 17(1)
<i>Anotylus inustus</i> (GRAVENHORST 1806)	X	4(1), 5(1), 7(1), 10(4)
<i>Bledius angustus</i> MULSANT & REY 1861	X	17(1)
<i>Stenus alienigenus</i> PUTHZ 1964		7(7)
<i>Stenus callidus</i> BAUDI DI SELVE 1848		7(6)
<i>Stenus cyaneus</i> BAUDI DI SELVE 1848		5(1), 11(2)
<i>Stenus guttula guttula</i> MÜLLER 1821		1(2), 3(14), 15(1)
<i>Stenus israel</i> PUTHZ 1972		7(7)
<i>Stenus orientis</i> PUTHZ 1967		7(3)
<i>Stenus piscator</i> SAULCY 1865		13(1)
<i>Stenus planifrons robustus</i> BENICK 1914		7(1)
<i>Stenus turbulentus</i> BONDROIT 1912	X	11(1)
<i>Mimopinophilus zarudnyi</i> (SEMENOV 1909)	X	7(6)
<i>Oedichirus simoni</i> EPELSHEIM 1889		12(1)
<i>Procirrus saulcyi</i> FAUVEL 1873		5(1), 13(1)
<i>Paederus fuscipes</i> CURTIS 1826		7(3)
<i>Paederus littoralis</i> GRAVENHORST 1802		7(1)
<i>Domene stilicina</i> (ERICHSON 1840)		10(1), 13(1)
<i>Pseudobium richteri</i> (SCHEERPELTZ 1961)	X	14(1)
<i>Astenus bimaculatus</i> (ERICHSON 1840)		1(2), 3(2), 7(2)

species	nr	localities
<i>Astenus lyonessius</i> (JOY 1908)	X	3(1)
<i>Astenus cf. nigromaculatus</i> (MOTSCHULSKY 1858) (♀)		3(1)
<i>Leptobium drusiicum</i> COIFFAIT 1969		9(5)
<i>Leptobium syriacum</i> (SAULCY 1865)		2(1), 9(1)
<i>Leptobium venustum</i> (BAUDI DI SELVE 1848)		1(1)
<i>Medon semiobscurus</i> (FAUVEL 1875)		5(2), 6(2), 12(6), 13(15)
<i>Medon cf. fuscus</i> (MANNERHEIM 1830) (♀)		5(1), 12(4)
<i>Medon maronitus</i> (SAULCY 1865)		12(1)
<i>Hypomedon galilaeus</i> (BORDONI 1980)		3(18), 7(11)
<i>Luzea infirma</i> (ERICHSON 1840)		7(2)
<i>Sunius falsus</i> ASSING 2008		12(1)
<i>Nazeris ammonita</i> (SAULCY 1865)		4(4), 5(1), 6(2), 11(3), 12(7), 13(2)
<i>Scopaeus signifer</i> FAUVEL 1899		7(12)
<i>Ochtheophilum turkestanicum</i> (KORGE 1968)		7(1)
<i>Gauropterus fulgidus</i> (FABRICIUS 1787)		15(1), 17(2)
<i>Xantholinus gridellii</i> COIFFAIT 1956		7(3)
<i>Xantholinus rufipennis</i> ERICHSON 1839		10(1)
<i>Xantholinus</i> sp. (♀)		8(1), 9(1), 13(1)
<i>Megalimus flavocinctus</i> (HOCHHUTH 1849)		7(1)
<i>Gabronthus maritimus</i> (MOTSCHULSKY 1858)		3(1), 16(2), 17(2)
<i>Philonthus berytensis</i> JARRIGE 1951		2(9)
<i>Philonthus turbidus</i> ERICHSON 1840	X	17(1)
<i>Philonthus</i> sp. (♀)		7(1)
<i>Gabrieus latro</i> JOY 1913		3(1), 7(9)
<i>Ocypus excisus</i> (J. MÜLLER 1950)		9(1)
<i>Ocypus mus</i> (BRULLE 1832)		4(1), 9(1), 10(1), 13(3)
<i>Ocypus orientis</i> SMETANA & DAVIES 2000		4(2)
<i>Heterothops cf. minutus</i> WOLLASTON 1860		17(2)
<i>Quedius cf. humeralis</i> STEPHENS 1832 (♀)		10(2), 12(1)
<i>Quedius scintillans</i> (GRAVENHORST 1806)		1(1), 3(1), 10(1), 12(1)
<i>Quedius vicinus</i> (MENETRIES 1832)		7(1)
<i>Quedius</i> sp. (♀)		7(1)
<i>Mycetoporus imperialis</i> BERNHAUER 1902	X	10(5)

species	nr	localities
<i>Mycetoporus reichei</i> (PANDELLÉ 1869)	X	2(1), 4(1), 5(1)
<i>Mycetoporus</i> sp. (<i>baudueri</i> group)		10(1), 13(1)
<i>Ischnosoma loebli</i> KOCIAN 1997		10(1)
<i>Sepedophilus obtusus</i> (LUZE 1902)	X	2(1), 3(14), 4(1), 7(26), 11(5), 13(2)
<i>Sepedophilus</i> cf. <i>testaceus</i> (FABRICIUS 1793) (♀)		13(1)
<i>Sepedophilus</i> sp. (♀)		7(1)
<i>Tachyporus caucasicus</i> KOLENATI 1846		4(2)
<i>Tachyporus nitidulus</i> (FABRICIUS 1781)		1(1)
<i>Myllaena infuscata</i> KRAATZ 1853	X	7(3)
<i>Anaulacaspis elegans</i> BAUDI DI SELVE 1857		1(1), 3(17), 7(10), 14(1), 16(2), 17(30)
<i>Myrmecopora publicana</i> SAULCY 1865		8(3)
<i>Tachyusa rabinovitchi</i> KOCH 1936	X	14(1), 17(1)
<i>Aloconota gregaria</i> (ERICHSON 1839)	X	1(1), 2(2), 3(3), 14(1), 17(10)
<i>Aloconota sulcifrons</i> (STEPHENS 1832)	X	11(1)
<i>Aloconota</i> sp. aff. <i>debilicornis</i> (ERICHSON 1839)		3(1), 14(8), 15(3)
<i>Nehemitropia lividipennis</i> (MANNERHEIM 1830)		14(1), 17(1)
<i>Tomoglossa</i> sp. (♀)		3(1)
<i>Alevonota libanotica</i> FAGEL 1965		10(2), 13(2)
<i>Alevonota rufotestacea</i> (KRAATZ 1856)		4(1)
<i>Lioghuta longiuscula</i> (GRAVENHORST 1802)	X	4(7), 10(1)
<i>Atheta aeneicollis</i> (SHARP 1869)		2(4), 4(4), 5(2), 6(1), 10(8), 11(1), 12(14), 13(17), 17(3)
<i>Atheta atramentaria</i> (GYLLENHAL 1810)	X	7(4)
<i>Atheta triangulum</i> (KRAATZ 1856)		10(1)
<i>Atheta</i> (<i>Microdota</i>) sp.		10(1)
<i>Atheta</i> (<i>Mocyta</i>) spp.		2(4), 3(13), 4(2), 5(5), 7(93), 10(4), 11(3), 12(17), 13(4), 14(1), 15(11), 16(15), 17(38)
<i>Tetralaucopora longitarsis</i> (ERICHSON 1839)		1(1), 3(2)
<i>Zoosetha discolor</i> nov.sp.		11(2)
<i>Oxypoda exoleta</i> ERICHSON 1839	X	3(1), 7(42), 15(8)
<i>Oxypoda haemorrhoea</i> (MANNERHEIM 1830)	X	2(3)
<i>Oxypoda hatayana</i> ASSING 2004	X	4(4), 11(1)

species	nr	localities
<i>Oxypoda vicina</i> KRAATZ 1858	X	2(4)
<i>Aleochara crassa</i> BAUDI DI SELVE 1848		7(5)
<i>Aleochara libanica</i> EPPELSHEIM 1889		12(1)
<i>Aleochara tenuicornis</i> KRAATZ 1856		2(1)
<i>Aleochara tristis</i> GRAVENHORST 1806		7(9)

Notes on records of special zoogeographic interest

Mimogonus fumator (FAUVEL 1889) (Figs 1-10)

Comment: The tribe Osoriini is represented in the Mediterranean region by numerous species. The vast majority, however, is anophthalmous. Only three of the previously recorded species have fully developed eyes. Two of them, *Mimogonia europaea* COIFFAIT 1978 and *Holotrochus lusitanicus* COIFFAIT 1978, were described from Portugal by COIFFAIT (1978) and are not listed in the Palaearctic catalogue. The third species, the widespread *Neosorius rufipes* (MOTSCHULSKY 1858), which was - apparently erroneously - attributed to *Indosorius* COIFFAIT 1978 by ROUGEMONT (2001), has been reported from Egypt and - under the junior synonym *Osorius syriacus* FAUVEL 1875 - from Lebanon (FAUVEL 1875, 1902).

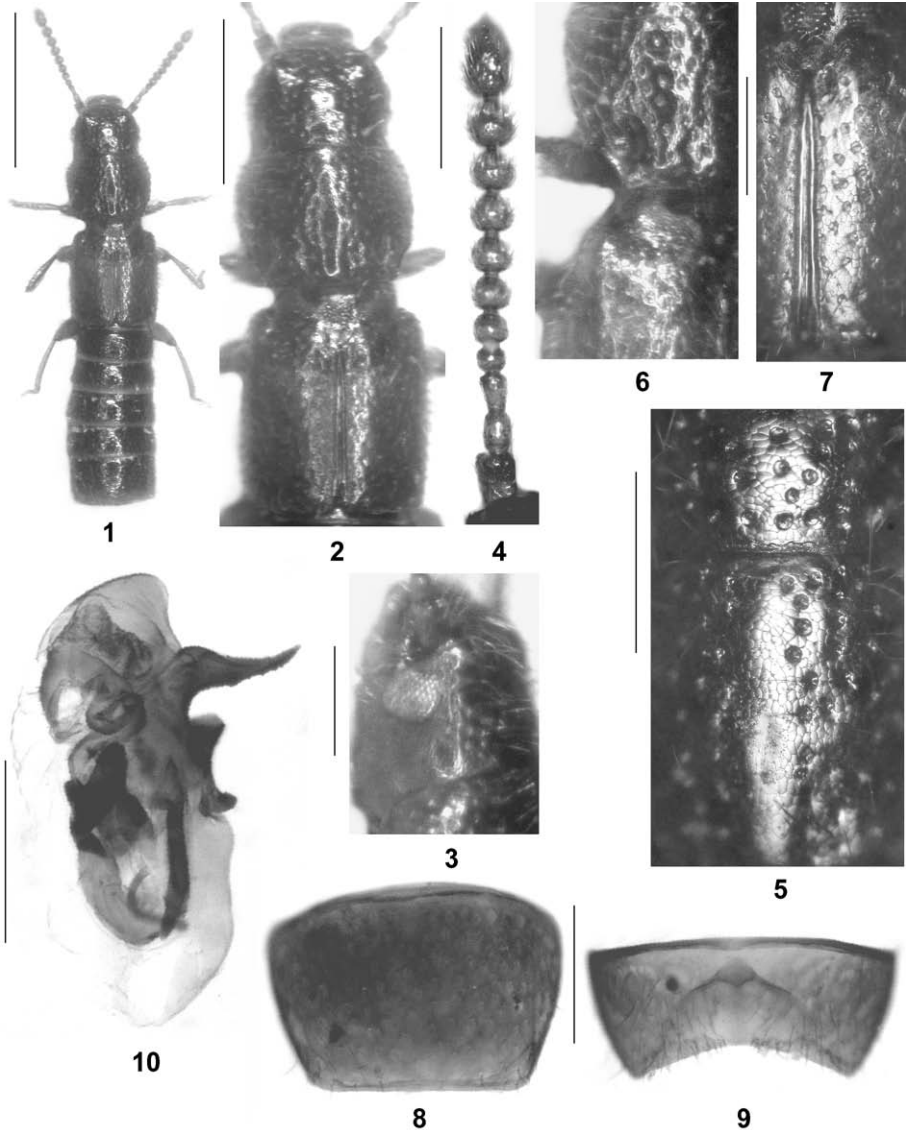
Mimogonus fumator was originally described from New Caledonia and Sumatra by FAUVEL (1889) and subsequently recorded from various localities in the Oriental, Afrotropical (including Madagascar), and Neotropical regions (HERMAN 2002). The species was illustrated by IRMLER (1981). Based on these illustrations, particularly on that of the aedeagus, there is no doubt that the specimen from Israel refers to *M. fumator*, which thus represents the first record of this species from the Palaearctic region.

Redescription: Body length approximately 3 mm. Habitus as in Fig. 1. Coloration: head and pronotum dark-brown; elytra dark-reddish; abdomen blackish-brown, with segments VIII-X and the posterior margin of segment VII dark-reddish; legs and antennae reddish.

Head (Fig. 2) parallel behind eyes; punctuation coarse and not very dense; interstices with shallow, but distinct microsculpture, in median dorsal portion distinctly wider than diameter of punctures. Eyes projecting from lateral contours of head in dorsal view, almost as long as postocular region in lateral view (Fig. 3). Maxillary palpus rather stout, apical palpomere subulate, much narrower and shorter than preapical palpomere. Antenna moderately long, gradually incrassate apically (Fig. 4).

Pronotum (Figs 2, 5) 1.25-1.30 times as wide as long and 1.2 times as wide as head across eyes, maximal width in anterior half; posterior third of lateral margins distinctly concave, close to this concavity with distinct subcircular impression; posterior angles obtuse, but sharply marked (Fig. 6); punctuation coarse and rather dense, interstices on average narrower than diameter of punctures; midline broadly impunctate; microsculpture similar to that of head.

Elytra 1.15 times as long as pronotum (Fig. 2); punctation coarse, but shallower than that of head and pronotum (Fig. 7). Hind wings present. Apical tarsomeres of all legs longer than the combined length of the remaining tarsomeres. Protibia with stout spines, but not dentate.



Figs 1-10: *Mimogonus fumator* (FAUVEL) from Israel: (1) habitus; (2) forebody; (3) head in lateral view; (4) antenna; (5) posterior median portion of head and median portion of pronotum; (6) pronotum in dorso-lateral view; (7) sutural portion of elytra; (8) male tergite VIII; (9) male sternite VIII; (10) aedeagus in lateral view. Scale bars: 1: 1.0 mm; 2: 0.5 mm; 3-10: 0.2 mm.

Abdomen as broad as elytra, widest at segment VI; punctation fine, moderately dense on anterior, and very sparse on posterior tergites; interstices with very shallow, barely noticeable microsculpture.

♂: tergite VIII without modifications, posterior margin weakly convex (Fig. 8); sternite VIII broadly and triangularly impressed, posterior margin broadly concave (Fig. 9); aedeagus (Fig. 10) with long, slightly asymmetric, strongly sclerotised, almost straight, and apically very acute ventral process; internal sac with numerous sclerotised structures.

Oxypoda hatayana ASSING 2004

Comment: This species was previously known only from Kahramanmaraş and Hatay provinces in central southern Anatolia (ASSING 2004, 2006). The records from Israel suggest that it may be widespread in the Middle East.

Description of new species

Zoosetha discolor ASSING nov.sp. (Figs 11-18)

Type material: Holotype ♂: "N32°57'20 E035°19'55, Israel Upper Galiläa [sic], Harashim 830 m, Meybohm 21.3.2011 / Holotypus ♂ *Zoosetha discolor* sp.n. det. V. Assing 2011" (cAss). Paratype ♀: same data as holotype (cAss).

Description: 2.2-2.4 mm. Habitus as in Fig. 11. Coloration: head blackish; pronotum bright reddish; elytra reddish-yellow; abdomen blackish-brown to blackish, with segments VIII-X and posterior margin of segment VII dark-yellowish; legs yellowish; antennae blackish-brown, with antennomeres I-II dark-brown; maxillary palpi brown.

Head (Figs 12-13) approximately as long as wide; punctation coarse, dense (interstices narrower than diameter of punctures) in lateral and posterior dorsal portions, sparser (interstices approximately as wide as diameter of punctures) in median dorsal portion; interstices with very shallow microsculpture and glossy. Eyes distinctly projecting from lateral contours of head and rather larger, as long as postocular region in lateral view. Antennae (Fig. 14) distinctly incrassate apically; antennomere IV weakly transverse, X approximately twice as wide as long.

Pronotum (Figs 12, 15) 1.25-1.30 times as wide as long and 1.25-1.30 times as wide as head, maximal width in or slightly behind the middle; punctation similar to that of lateral dorsal portions of head; interstices with very shallow microsculpture and glossy.

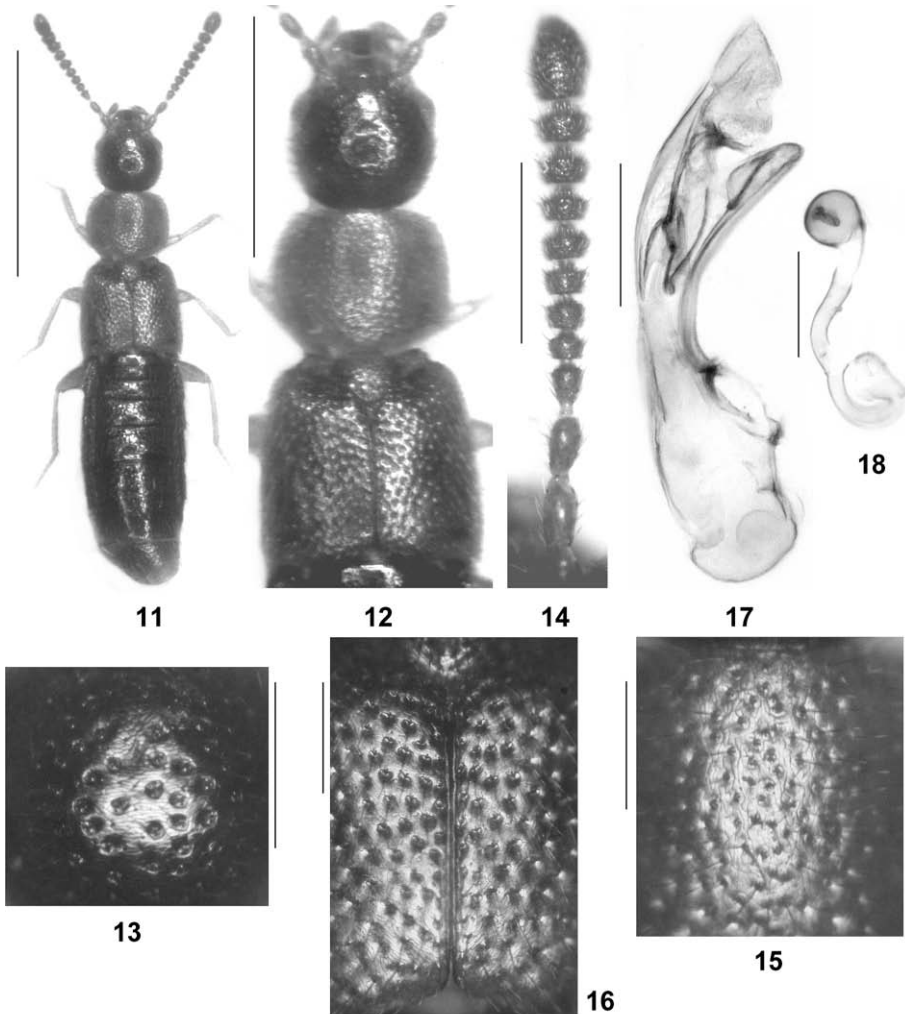
Elytra (Figs 12, 16) approximately as long as, and somewhat broader than pronotum; posterior margin weakly sinuate near postero-lateral angles; punctation similar to that of head and pronotum or even coarser; interstices glossy. Hind wings fully developed. Metatarsomere I almost as long as the combined length of II and III.

Abdomen approximately as wide as elytra, widest at segments V/VI; tergites III-V with rather shallow anterior impressions; punctation fine, but distinct, that of anterior tergites moderately dense, that of posterior tergites much sparser; microsculpture very shallow, barely visible at lower magnifications; posterior margin of tergite VII with palisade fringe; posterior margin of tergite VIII convex.

♂: posterior margin of sternite VIII strongly produced, almost pointed in the middle; median lobe of aedeagus 0.3 mm long, shaped as in Fig. 17; apex of ventral process bifid.

♀: posterior margin of sternite VIII weakly convex and with rather thin long marginal setae; spermatheca as in Fig. 18.

E t y m o l o g y : The name (Latin, adjective: colourful) refers to the distinctive coloration of the species.



Figs 11-18: *Zoosetha discolor* nov.sp.: (11) habitus; (12) forebody; (13) posterior median portion of head; (14) antenna; (15) median portion of pronotum; (16) sutural portion of elytra; (17) median lobe of aedeagus in lateral view; (18) spermatheca (proximal portion of capsule damaged). Scale bars: 11: 1.0 mm; 12: 0.5 mm; 14: 0.2 mm; 13, 15-18: 0.1 mm.

Comparative notes: The oxypodine genus *Zoosetha* MULSANT & REY 1874 previously included eleven species (ASSING 1998, 2003, 2004). *Zoosetha discolor* is readily distinguished from all of them by the conspicuous coloration alone, as well as by the morphology of the aedeagus. From *Z. salomonis* (SAULCY 1865), a species of doubtful generic assignment and the only other *Zoosetha* species previously recorded from Israel, it is additionally separated by smaller size, the shallow microsculpture on head and pronotum (*Z. salomonis*: microsculpture pronounced), and the broader abdomen. For illustrations of *Z. salomonis* see ASSING (1998).

Distribution and natural history: The species is currently known only from one locality in Upper Galilee, northern Israel, where the type specimens were collected at a road margin by sifting grass and leaf litter beneath shrubs at an altitude of 830 m.

Additional records from Israel

Hesperus auricomus SCHILLHAMMER et al. 2007

Material examined: 1 ex., Upper Galilee, Meron, Field School Junction, N 33°01'N, 35°23'E, flight interception trap, 6.-27.VI.2007, leg. Buse (cFel); 1 ex., same data, but 16.V.-6.VI.2007 (cFel); 1 ex., Upper Galilee, Meron, Field School, 33°01'N, 35°23'E, flight interception trap, 15.V.-5.VI.2007, leg. Buse (cFel); 1 ex., Upper Galilee, near Meron, "Appleplot", 33°01'N, 35°24'E, flight interception trap, 5.-25.VI.2007, leg. Buse (cFel); 1 ex., Upper Galilee, Bar'am env., 33°02'N, 35°25'E, flight interception trap, 8.-25.VI.2007, leg. Buse (cAss).

Comment: This recently described species was newly recorded from Israel by BUSE et al. (2008).

Typhloponemys hypogaea (REY 1886)

Material examined: 1♂ [det. D. Kistner based on photos], Upper Galilee, Hurfeish, 33°01'N, 35°21'E, ca. 675 m, pitfall trap, 13.X.2005 (TAU).

Comment: According to KISTNER (1958), only two specimens of this very distinctive species had been known, the male holotype from Ramleh and a male from Ben Schemen. Since then, no additional material has become available (KISTNER e-mail 29 May, 2006). The host of this extremely rare myrmecophile is *Dorylus* (*Typhlopone*) *fulvus* (WESTWOOD 1839). For a redescription of *T. hypogaea* and additional information see KISTNER (1958).

The genus *Typhloponemys* REY 1886 belongs to the tribe Pygostenini. According to the Palaearctic catalogue (SMETANA 2004) this tribe is represented in the Palaearctic region by six genera and thirteen species; only one of these species is distributed in the West Palaearctic. Neither the genus *Typhloponemys* nor *T. hypogaea* are listed in the catalogue, although the species was described and subsequently re-recorded from Israel (KISTNER 1958).

Brachyusa concolor (ERICHSON 1839)

Material examined: 1♂, 1♀, Golan Heights, Bental reservoir, near Merom Golan, 33°08'N, 35°47'E, 940 m, 25.III.2008, leg. Assmann (cFel).

C o m m e n t : According to the Palaearctic catalogue (SMETANA 2004), this species was previously unknown from Israel.

***Atheta (Philhygra) sequanica* (BRISOUT DE BARNEVILLE 1860)**

M a t e r i a l e x a m i n e d : 1♂, Golan Heights, Bental reservoir, near Merom Golan, 33°08'N, 35°47'E, 940 m, 25.III.2008, leg. Assmann (cFel).

C o m m e n t : According to the Palaearctic catalogue (SMETANA 2004), *A. sequanica* had not been reported from Israel.

***Stichoglossa semirufa* (ERICHSON 1839)**

M a t e r i a l e x a m i n e d : 1♂, 10 km E Haifa, "Fourties", 32°45'N, E 35°02'E, flight interception trap, 18.V-8.VI.2007, leg. Buse (cFel).

C o m m e n t : The above specimen represents the first record from Israel.

***Piochardia schaumii* (KRAATZ 1857)**

M a t e r i a l e x a m i n e d : 1 ex., Adullam, 3.IV.2003, leg. Columbus & Levanony (TAU); 1 ex, same data, but 16.VIII.2003 (TAU); 3 exs., same data, but 17.VIII.2003 (TAU, cFel); 1 ex., same data, but 17.XI.2003 (TAU); 1 ex., same data, but 16.XI.2001, leg. Mandelik (TAU); 1 ex., same data, but 22.III.2002, leg. Mandelik (TAU); 1 ex., same data, but 17.V.2002, leg. Mandelik & Chikatunov (TAU) 1 ex., Zekharya, 16.XI.2001 (TAU).

C o m m e n t : *Piochardia schaumii* is a myrmecophile generally associated with ants of the genus *Cataglyphis* FÖRSTER 1850 (ASSING 1999). It had been recorded from North Africa and Jordan, but was unknown from Israel.

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Zusammenfassung

Die Bearbeitung von im März 2011 in Israel gesammeltem Staphylinidenmaterial ergab mindestens 102 Arten, von denen 27 erstmals aus Israel nachgewiesen werden. Bei einer dieser Arten, *Mimogonus fumator* (FAUVEL 1889) (Osoriini), handelt es sich gleichzeitig um den Erstnachweis aus der paläarktischen Region; die Art wird redeskribiert und abgebildet. *Zoosetha discolor* ASSING nov.sp., die zwölfte Art der Gattung, wird beschrieben und abgebildet. Nachweise von sechs weiteren Arten, darunter vier Erstnachweise, werden für Israel gemeldet.

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