

New longicorn beetles (Coleoptera, Cerambycidae) from Caucasus

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Abstract: *Cortodera alpina prosvirovi* **ssp. n.** is described from north-west Abkhazia (Mt. Khvansha, 43°19'30"N, 40°38'40"E, 2200-2400 m). The new taxon is similar to *C. a. rosti* Pic, 1892, but differs by dense erect elytral pubescence. *Mesosa (Aplocnemia) obscuricornis petrovi* **ssp. n.** is described from south Dagestan (Samur Forest near Samur Delta). The species is indicated for the first time for Russia. The new subspecies differs from Azerbaijani *M. o. obscuricornis* Pic, 1894 (also known from North Iran) by small elytral punctation without black spots around each puncture.

Introduction

Several new taxa were recently discovered among old specimens in Cerambycidae collection of Viktor Gazanchidis (Moscow). Two new subspecies are described below.

Results

Cortodera alpina prosvirovi **ssp. n.**

Figs 1-4

Cortodera alpina rosti, Danilevsky, 2014: 199, part. - Mt. Elbrus, Teberda Natural Reserve, Beshtau Mt. near Pyatigorsk, mountains above Sukhumy.

Type locality. Abkhazia, Mt. Khvansha, 43°19'30"N, 40°38'40"E, 2200-2400 m.

Description. The new taxon is amphigenetic: males and females are known. The geographically closest *C. a. starcki* Reitter, 1888 is parthenogentic.

Body black; head with very dense, conjugating punctation; apical segment of maxillari palpi moderately elongated, more triangular in specimens from "Sochi"; temples well developed; antennae always

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totally black, reaching last elytral third in males, or surpassing elytral middle in females; 1st antennal joint is a little shorter than 3rd, but longer than 4th; prothorax transverse, in males and in females about 1.3-1.4 times shorter than basal width; in males with sides evenly diverging backwards, while in females considerably widened at middle and here slightly angulated; pronotum regularly convex with very dense conjugating punctation, with shallow central depression and here with very narrow short smooth longitudinal line; pronotal pubescence consists of very dense mixed oblique and erect pale setae; scutellum small, semicircular, slightly transverse or slightly elongated; elytra in males and in females black or yellow, rounded apically, but internal apical angles slightly pronounced; in males with sides slightly converging posteriorly, in females - slightly diverging; yellow elytra with black suture, and usually with partly darkened curved elytral margin anteriorly and here can be with black epipleurae; posterior half of epipleurae always yellow; elytra in males about 2.0-2.1 times longer than basal width, in females - about 1.9-2.0 times; with long dense oblique pale setae all along elytral length, getting shorter from elytral base to the apex; elytral punctation small and dense; all legs usually totally black, or in males anterior tibiae can be slightly yellowish; or in males from "Sochi" anterior tibiae can be nearly totally yellow as well as anterior femora; ventral body side shining with mixed scattered pale recumbent and long erect setae; pygidium in males widely rounded, postpygidium slightly emarginated; last abdominal sternite in males shortly truncated, last abdominal segment in females widely rounded; body length in males: 8.2-10.2 mm, width: 2.7-3.4 mm; body length in females: 8.8-11.0 mm, width: 3.1-3.8 mm.

Differential diagnosis. The new taxon is geographically close to *C. alpina starcki* Reitter, 1888, which is very numerous along high mountains from Adygea and Northern Abkhazia to Western Karachay-Cherkessia. According to Danilevsky (2014), several localities of *C. a. starcki* were known: Aishkha Mt. near Krasnaya Polyana, plateau Abago and Mt. Chugush in Adygea, Avadkhara in Abkhazia, Arkhyz and Zagedan in Karachay-Cherkessia. But *C. a. starcki* is generally parthenogenetic. Many hundreds of totally black females are represented in collections (very rare males are also known). Black females of *C. a. prosvirovi* **ssp. n.** differ from *C. a. starcki* by the main character of the new subspecies - long erect

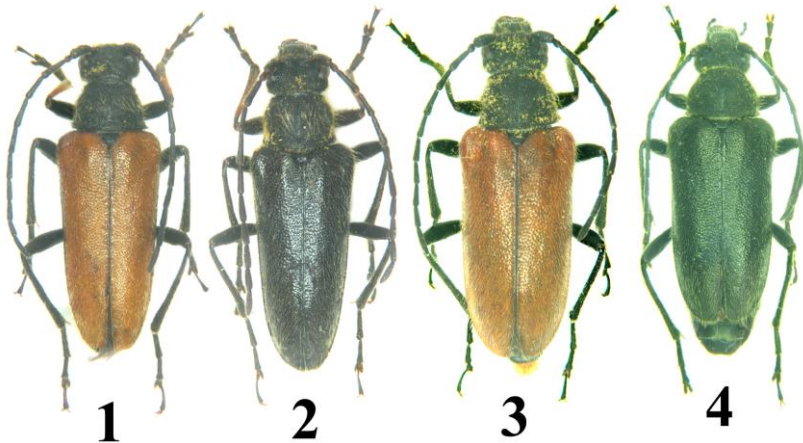
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elytral setae along whole elytral length, while erect setae in *C. a. starcki* concentrate near elytral bases only. Pygidium in *C. a. starcki* is narrowly rounded.

Another similar taxon *C. alpina rosti* Pic, 1892 described from Mt. Elbrus (and distributed eastwards to Teberda and Pyatigorsk) is rather distant from the new subspecies, but also amphigenetic and with several color forms: about totally black or with bicolored elytra and legs. It also differs from the new taxon by the absence of numerous long erect elytral setae. Besides anterior legs about always red.

Material. Holotype, male, Abkhazia, Mt. Khvansha, 43°19'30"N, 40°38'40"E, 2200-2400 m, 1.8.2010, A. Prosvirov leg. - author's collection (Moscow, Russia); 11 paratypes; 3 males, 4 females with same data, authors collection (Moscow, Russia) and collection of V.Yu. Gazanchidis (Moscow, Russia); 2 males, 2 females, Sochi, "12.09.85", "15.06.86", "19.06.86", "21.06.95", Filippov leg. - author's collection (Moscow, Russia) and collection of V.Yu. Gazanchidis (Moscow, Russia).

Etymology. The new taxon is dedicated to Alexander Sergeevich Prosvirov (Department of Entomology, Faculty of Biology, Moscow State University), a specialist on Elateridae, who collected the most part of the type series.



Figs 1-4. *Cortodera alpina prosvirovi* ssp. n.: 1 - holotype; 2 - male, paratype; 3-4 - females, paratypes.

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Mesosa (Aplocnemia) obscuricornis petrovi **ssp. n.**

Fig. 5

Type locality. Russia, south Dagestan, Samur Forest near Samur Delta.

Description. Only three males available; the new taxon differs from the nominative subspecies by small size and paler general color; antennae surpassing elytral apices by 5 apical joints, as in the nominative subspecies; antennal setae similarly dense and much denser than in *M. (A.) nebulosa* (Fabricius, 1781); elytral punctation small, smaller than in *M. o. obscuricornis* Pic, 1894 (Fig. 6) or in *M. (A.) nebulosa* (Fig. 7); each elytral seta without black spot around its base; such spots are typical for *M. (A.) o. obscuricornis*; central white elytral band is strongly reduced similar to the nominative subspecies, while in *M. (A.) nebulosa* white elytral band is wide and usually complete; body length: 8.5-10.3 mm, body width: 3.5-3.7 mm.

Materials. Holotype, male, Russia, south Dagestan, Samur Forest near Samur Delta, June 1994, A. Petrov leg. - authors collection (Moscow, Russia); 2 paratypes, males with same label - collection of V.Yu. Gazanchidis (Moscow, Russia).

Comments. A discovery of Talysh-Iranian endemic in Russia was quite unexpected, though such cases were known before. *Acanthocinus elegans* Ganglbauer, 1884 was also collected near Samur Delta.

Etymology. The new taxon is dedicated to Alexander Valentinovich Petrov (the Chair of Ecology and Forest Protection, Moscow Forest University), a specialist on Scolytidae, who collected the type series.

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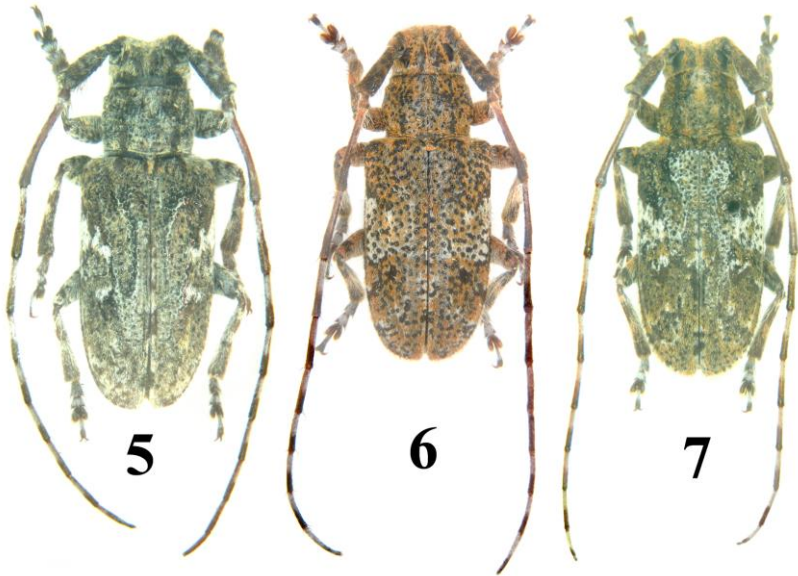


Fig. 5. *Mesosa (Aplocnemis) obscuricornis petrovi* ssp. n. holotype.

Fig. 6. *M. o. obscuricornis* Pic, 1894 - male, Azerbaijan, Talysh, Avrora, 24.7.1972, M. Danilevsky leg.

Fig. 7. *Mesosa (A.) nebulosa* (Fabricius, 1781) - male, North Caucasus, Krasnodar, Elizavetinskaya.

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