

Giuseppe Platia & Ivo Gudenzi

**DESCRIPTION OF ELEVEN NEW SPECIES OF CLICK-
BEETLES OF THE PALEARCTIC REGION,
A CASE OF LEGS TERATOLOGY AND NEW RECORDS
OF SOME SPECIES OF THE ITALIAN FAUNA**
(Insecta Coleoptera Elateridae)

Riassunto

[Descrizione di undici nuove specie di elateridi della regione paleartica, un caso di teratologia delle zampe e nuovi dati su alcune specie della fauna italiana]

Nel presente lavoro sono descritte undici nuove specie di elateridi della regione paleartica appartenenti ai generi *Hypnoidus*, *Elathous*, *Megathous*, *Athous*, *Ampedus*, *Melanotus*. Viene raffigurata una teratologia delle zampe anteriori in un esemplare di *Agriotes modestus* Kiesenwetter del Marocco e vengono forniti nuovi dati geonemici su dieci specie della fauna italiana.

Abstract

Eleven new species of click-beetles of the palearctic region, belonging to genera *Hypnoidus*, *Elathous*, *Megathous*, *Athous*, *Ampedus*, *Melanotus*, are described. A case of teratology of the anterior legs in a specimen of *Agriotes modestus* Kiesenwetter from Morocco is figured. New geonemic data on ten species of Italian fauna are given.

Key words: Coleoptera, Elateridae, *Hypnoidus*, *Elathous*, *Megathous*, *Athous*, *Ampedus*, *Melanotus*, *Agriotes*, new species, teratology, geonemy, palearctic region.

Material and methods

Body measurements. Body length is measured along the midline from the anterior margin of frons to apex of the elytra; the width is measured across the broadest part.

Pronotal measurements. The pronotal length is measured along the midline; the width at the broadest part, usually at hind angles.

Abbreviations. The names of institutions, museums and collections containing study material are abbreviated as follows:

CDZ	Zabreh na Morave, Kralove, Dusanek coll.
CFA	Francavilla Fontana, Angelini coll.
CMHK	Hradec Kralove, Mertlik coll
CPG	Gatteo, Platia coll.
CRG	Genoa, Riese coll.
CWH	Heilbronn, Wurst coll.
MCSN	Genoa, Museo Civico di Storia Naturale
MNCN	Madrid, Museo Nacional de Ciencias Naturales
MZB	Barcelona, Museu de Zoologia
TM	Budapest, Termesztudományi Múzeum

Introduction

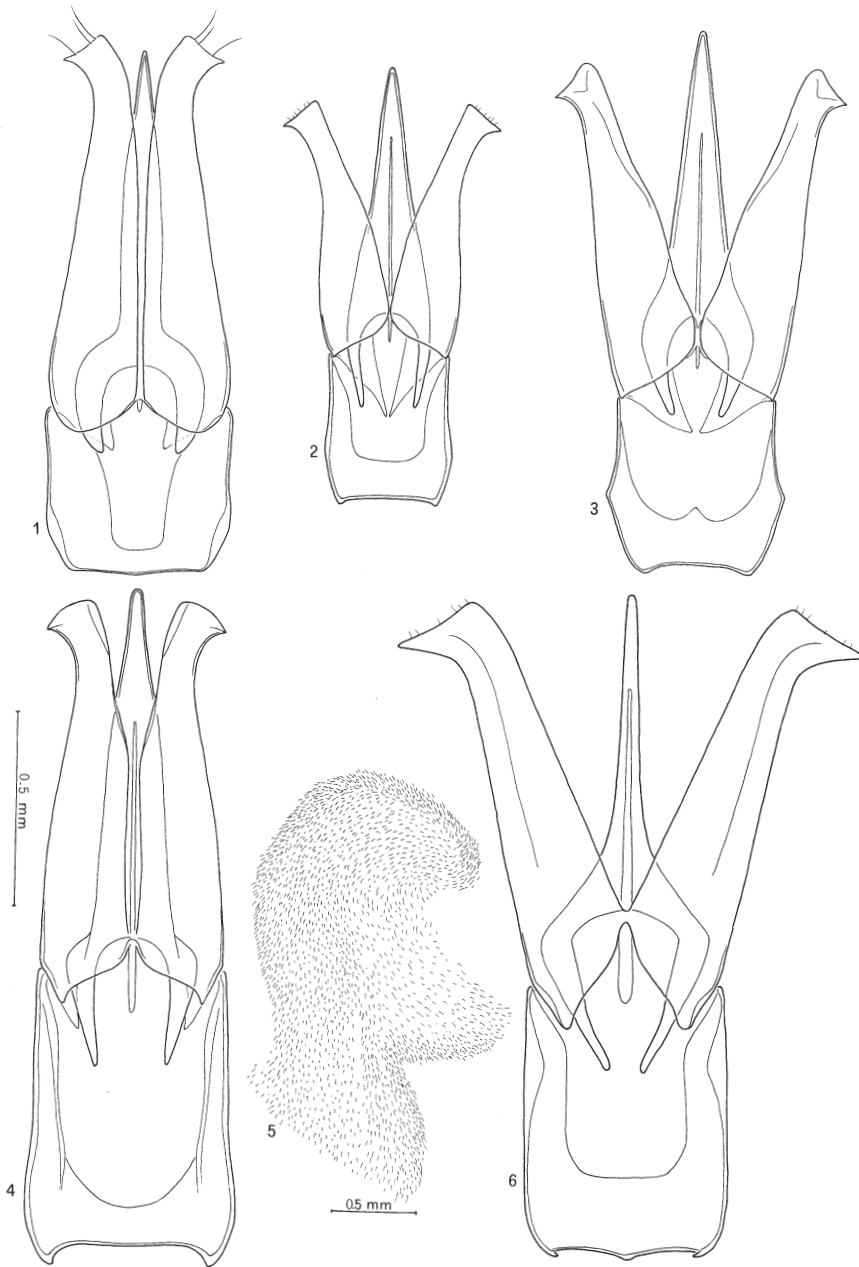
Recently we had the opportunity to study new material of click-beetles of the palearctic region kindly sent us for study by public institutions, as the Museums of Madrid, Barcelona and Budapest, and by some colleagues. The material dealt with in this study consists of 24 species, 11 of them yet undescribed, belonging to 12 genera. The new described species belong to the genera *Hypnoidus* Dillwyn with one species from Kurile Islands (the second species of the genus recorded from the islands) and one species from Caucasus, particularly interesting as only one species was previously recorded from this important mountain chain; the genus *Hypnoidus* was poorly represented in west palearctic region by four species, one of them recently described from East Anatolia (PLATIA & GUDENZI, 2000). The remaining new species belong to the genera *Elathous* Reitter, *Megathous* Reitter, recorded for the first time from Spain, *Athous* Eschscholtz, *Ampedus* Dejean, and *Melanotus* Eschscholtz. An interesting teratology of the anterior right leg with perfectly developed double tibiae and tarsi, is reported and drawn for a specimen of *Agriotes modestus* Kiesenwetter from Morocco. At the end, new interesting records of ten species of the elaterid fauna of Italy are reported.

Description of new species

Tribe **Hypnoidini** Schwarz, 1906

Hypnoidus caucasicus n. sp. (Fig. 24).

Material examined. Holotype ♀ - Russia: Central Caucasus, N Ossetia, Kasbegi, Orzweri Gletscher, m 2500-3600, 1.6.VII.1988, Wrase. (CPG).



Figs. 1 - 4, 6. Male genitalia in dorsal view: 1. *Athous (Orthathous) hajeki* n. sp.; 2. *Athous (Neonomopleus) lopezcoloni* n. sp.; 3. *Athous (Neonomopleus) suarezi* n. sp.; 4. *Athous (Haplathous) oromii* n. sp.; 6. *Athous (Haplathous) vivesi* n. sp..
 Fig. 5. Sclerified copulatrix bursa of *Melanotus loudai* n. sp.

Diagnosis. Second species after *H. rivulorius* (Gyllenhal) (Stibick, 1979) of genus *Hypnoidus* Dillwyn recorded from Caucasus; the nearest species is *H. anatolicus* Platia & Gudenzi, 2000 (see literature); it is very similar for the general outline of pronotum but differs for the bronzed colour, a little shagreened surface of pronotum with subovate punctures and elytral interstriae, flat with subrugose surface.

Description. Female. Moderately shining, body colour entirely bronze except for apices of hind angles of pronotum, last elytral interval at apical third and apex of elytra ferruginous; antennae with first four articles ferruginous, the following darkened; legs ferruginous; covered with fine, sparse, yellow-fulvous pubescence.

Frons convex at middle, flat at sides, anterior margin subarcuate, very shiny, just thickened and slightly protruding above clypeus; punctures subovate, with shortest interval, at sides a little shagreened.

Antennae short, just exceeding the middle of pronotum; second and third articles subcylindrical, subequal, more twice longer than broad, taken together notably longer than fourth; fourth-tenth triangular; fourth-sixth longer than wide, the following as long as broad; last flattened, ellipsoidal.

Pronotum as long as wide strongly convex, abruptly sloping at base with a very short median depression; widest behind the middle and at hind angles; sides strongly narrowing from behind the middle toward apex, sinuose before the posterior angles, the latter acuminate and converging at tips; carina moderate, short, running parallel to lateral margins. Punctation uneven; punctures subovate, deep, simple on disk with intervals on average equal to their own diameters a little shagreened; sparser on the basal sloping, round and denser at sides with shortest interstices.

Scutellum quadrangular, flat, punctured. Elytra ovate, widest at middle, convex on disk, 2,2 times longer than pronotum; striae well marked, shallowly punctured; interstriae flat, densely punctured with subrugose surface.

Wings reduced, shorter than elytra.

Male unknown.

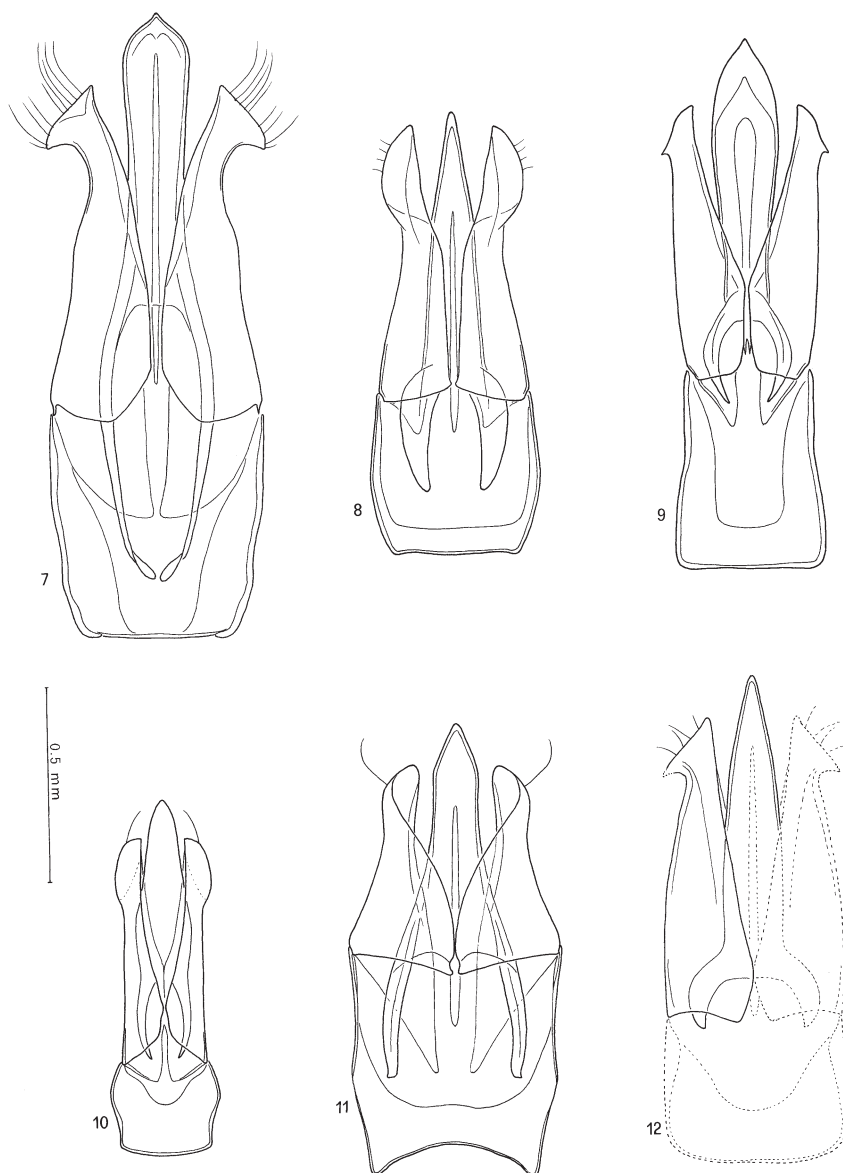
Size. Length 5.5 mm; width 1.85 mm.

Etymology. The species is named after the mountains of origin.

Hypnoidus iturupensis n. sp. (Figs. 10, 21).

Material examined. Holotype ♂ - Russia: Kurile Islands, Iturup, 16.VI.1980. (CPG). 5 Paratypes (1 ♂ and 5 ♀♀) – same data as Ht. (CMHK; CPG).

Diagnosis. Second species of the genus *Hypnoidus* Dillwyn known from Kurile Islands; the only recorded species of the isles was *H. nocturnus* (Eschscholtz, 1829)(GURJEVA & KRIVOLUCHKAJA, 1968); the new species is immediately separated by a combination of characters: apterous, lighter bronze colour, shorter elytra compared to pronotum.



Figs. 7-12. Male genitalia in dorsal view: 7. *Melanotus loudai* n. sp.; 8. *Megathous hispanicus* n. sp.; 9. *Agriotes modestus* Kiesenwetter; 10. *Hypnoidus iturupensis* n. sp.; 11. *Elathous turcicus* n. sp.; 12. *Ampedus yakutianus* n. sp..

Description. Male. Colour variable; entirely ferrugineous with bronze shades to bicoloured with head and pronotum darker than elytra, blackish, also with bronze shadings; covered with yellow fulvous, recumbent pubescence.

Frons flat on vertex, feebly convex at middle and slightly impressed at anterior margin; the latter regularly arcuate, just thickened; punctures coarse, deep, simple to vaguely umbilicate, with short and feebly shagreened interstices.

Antennae short, not reaching for about two articles the apice of posterior angles of pronotum; second article subcylindrical, longer than wide, third subconical as long as second; taken together notably longer than fourth; fourth-tenth triangular, fourth slender, a little longer than wide, fifth-tenth as long as wide; last ellipsoidal, just longer than wide.

Pronotum wider than long, convex on disk, at middle with a vestige of a very narrow median longitudinal line, at sides and base abruptly sloping; sides moderately and regularly arcuate, only near the posterior angles, the latter acuminate, diverging, with a short carina running parallel to lateral margins, the latter entire and apparent in dorsal view; punctures deep, simple on all the surface with interstices feebly shagreened on average equal to larger than own diameters.

Scutellum quadrangular, flat, rounded at apex, punctured. Elytra 2.2 times longer than pronotum, ovate, widest at middle and strongly narrowing toward apex; striae well marked and punctured; interstriae flat to weakly convex, finely punctured.

Wings absent.

Male genitalia as in fig. 10.

Female. Very similar to male, body a little larger and generally more arcuate, pronotal surface shinier.

Size. Length 5-6 mm; width 1.8-2.2 mm.

Etymology. The species is named after the island of origin.

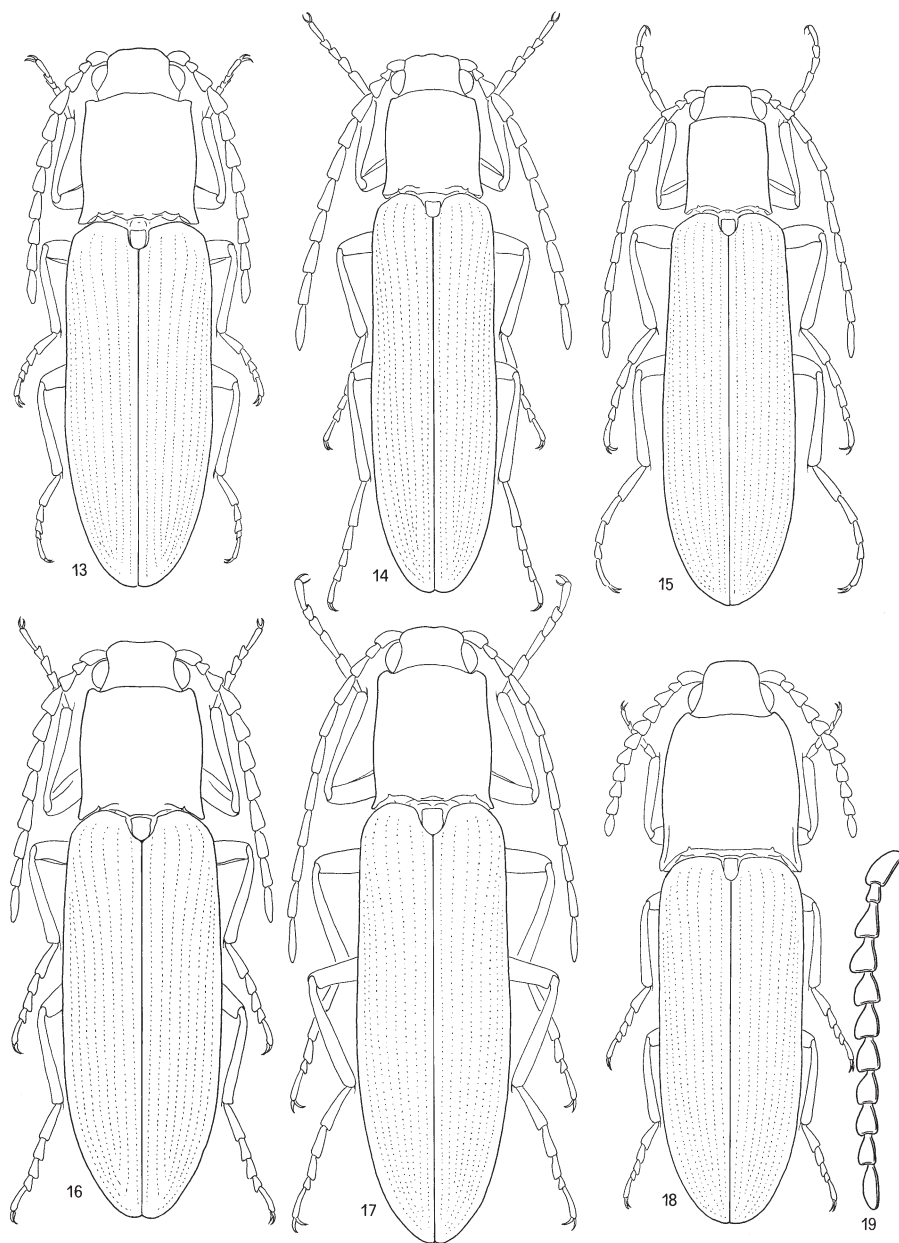
Tribe **Dendrometrini** Gistel, 1856

Elathous turcicus n. sp. (Figs. 11, 25)

Material examined. Holotype ♂ - Turkey: Manisa, N side of pass, m 800, 4.VIII.1973, C.R. Fraser & Jenkins. (CPG).

Diagnosis. The species resembles *E. rufobasalis* Wurst, 1994 (see literature) of western Anatolia for the general outline of body, particularly the shape and punctuation of pronotum; it differs for the lighter colour, anterior margin of frons arcuate, enlarged elytral sides.

Description. Male. Head and pronotum ferrugineous with blackish shadings at base and around margins; elytra lighter, yellow ferrugineous with blackish shadings on apical third; antennae and legs yellowish; covered with fulvous, semierect at sides of body, pubescence .



Figs. 13-18. Dorsal habitus: 13. *Athous (Orthathous) hajeki* n. sp.; 14. *Athous (Neonomopleus) lopezcoloni* n. sp.; 15. *Athous (Neonomopleus) suarezi* n. sp.; 16. *Athous (Haplathous) oromii* n. sp.; 17. *Athous (Haplathous) vivesi* n. sp.; 18. *Megathous hispanicus* n. sp.
 Fig. 19. Antenna of *Megathous hispanicus* n. sp..

Frons flat on vertex, shallowly impressed before anterior margin, the latter regularly and moderately curved, a little thickened, just protruding above clypeus; punctures coarse, umbilicate, with shortest, shining intervals.

Antennae short, not reaching for about two segments the apices of posterior angles of prootum; second and third articles subequal, more twice longer than broad; taken together nearly twice longer than fourth; fourth-tenth serrate, subtriangular, fourth a little longer than following; last as long as penultimate, regularly ellipsoidal.

Pronotum as long as wide, convex, suddenly sloping at base and sides, gradually anteriorly; sides regularly curved, sinuose before hind angles, the latter rather acuminate, diverging at tips, with short carina directed inside; lateral margins very fine, only effaced at anterior extremity; punctation evenly distributed, punctures on disk deep, simple, intervals variable equal to half or one times punctures diameters; at sides and anterior margin a little denser and partially umbilicate.

Scutellum smaller than interelytral space, subrectangular, slightly convex, punctured.

Elytra as broad as pronotum across hind angles and 2.7 times longer than the latter; sides gradually enlarged from base to apex, widest behind the middle; striae well marked with coarser punctures at sides; interstriae subconvex with subrugose surface.

Hind tarsal articles decreasing regularly in length.

Male genitalia as in fig. 11.

Female unknown.

Size. Length 9.4 mm; width 3 mm.

Etymology. The species is named after the country of origin.

Megathous hispanicus n. sp. (Figs. 8, 18, 19)

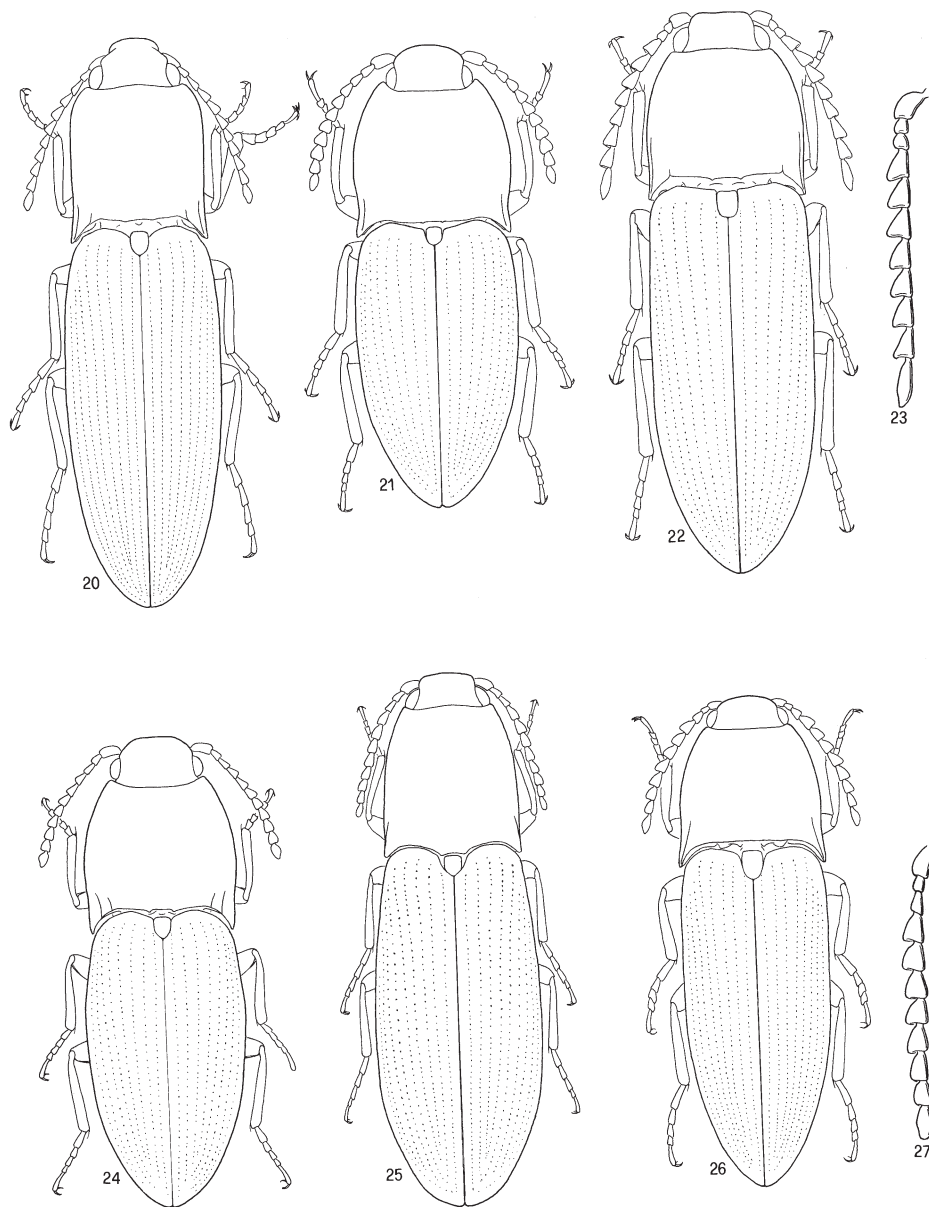
Material examined. Holotype ♂ - Spain: Ayora (Valencia), "Casa Honrubia", Paraje de la Veja, m 700, 15.IV.1979, J.I. Lopez-Colon. (CPG).

Diagnosis. First species of the genus known from Spain (SÁNCHEZ-RUIZ, 1996); it can be separated by *M. barrosi* Mequignon, 1932 (see literature) of Portugal, by the frons deeply impressed from middle and moderate punctures of pronotum with short, shining intervals also on sides.

Description. Male. Entirely brown-ferruginous, moderately shiny, covered with short, yellow-fulvous pubescence.

Head with eyes a little narrower than anterior margin of pronotum; frons deeply and triangularly impressed in the middle; anterior margin straight, notably thickened and protruding above clypeus; punctures coarse, umbilicate, with shortest shining intervals.

Antennae just reaching the apices of hind angles of pronotum, serrate from third



Figs. 20-22, 24-26. Dorsal habitus: 20. *Agriotes modestus* Kiesenwetter (teratology); 21. *Hypnoidus iturupensis* n. sp.; 22. *Melanotus loudai* n. sp.; 24. *Hypnoidus caucasicus* n. sp.; 25. *Elathous turcicus* n. sp.; 26. *Ampedus yakutianus* n. sp.
 Figs. 23, 27. Antenna: 23. *Melanotus loudai* n. sp.; 27. *Ampedus yakutianus* n. sp..

article; second subcylindrical, a little longer than wide; third-tenth serrate, triangular; third twice longer than wide, the following shorter, just longer than wide; last as long as the previous, regularly ellipsoidal.

Pronotum as long as wide, moderately and regularly convex, widest at middle and tips of hind angles; sides regularly curved, sinuose before hind angles, the latter truncate and converging at tips; carina short, not departing from vertex of angles and running parallel to lateral margins, the latter entire and in the first half well apparent in dorsal view; punctation rather uniformly distributed, punctures moderate, on disk deep, simple, with shortest, shining interstices; on sides a little denser and slightly umbilicate.

Scutellum rectangular, feebly convex, punctured with a little shagreened surface. Elytra as wide as pronotum and 2.6 times longer than the latter, moderately convex on disk; sides nearly parallel in the first half, then gradually tapering toward apex; striae well marked, more coarsely punctured at sides; interstriae flat more finely punctured.

Male genitalia as in fig. 8.

Female unknown.

Size. Length 12 mm; width 3.2 mm.

Etymology. The species is named after the country of origin.

Athous (Haplathous) vivesi n. sp. (Figs. 6, 17)

Material examined. Holotype ♂ - Spain: Cataluña, Las (Lérida), V.1956, J. Vives. (Cobos coll., MNCN).

Diagnosis. The new species is allied to *A. filicornis* Dufour, 1851 (LESEIGNEUR, 1972) but can be distinguished by the shallow conduit of lateral margins of pronotum and different shape of male genitalia.

Description. Male. Head, pronotum and scutellum, except for the ferruginous margins, dark brown; elytra lighter, yellow-brown; antennae blackish with the first three articles lighter; covered with dense, yellow-fulvous pubescence.

Head with eyes narrower than anterior part of pronotum; frons deeply impressed from middle to anterior margin, the latter substraight, not protruding, touching clypeus; punctures coarse, umbilicate, nearly contiguous.

Antennae long, exceeding apices of hind angles of pronotum by more of four articles; second article subcylindrical, less than twice longer than wide; third subconical, twice longer than wide and less twice longer than second; taken together just longer than fourth; fourth with subparallel sides about three times longer than wide, the following very long but narrower; last subellipsoidal.

Pronotum 1.15 times longer than wide, rather flat on disk with trace of short median longitudinal smooth carina in the basal part; sides subparallel to feebly arcuate, widest just behind the middle, weakly sinuate near posterior angles; the latter acuminate, at tips with short spine directed upwards and outwards; punc-

tures on disk deep, simple to vaguely umbilicate with intervals variable, equal to half their diameters or smaller, a little denser at sides; lateral margins completely apparent on dorsal view and forming a shallow conduit for all its length.

Scutellum roundish, flat, punctured, edged at base. Elytra 3.3 times longer than pronotum and 3 times longer than broad; sides subparallel, feebly dilated behind the middle; striae punctured; interstriae flat with rough surface.

Fourth tarsal article in dorsal view just narrower than third, and half shorter.

Male genitalia as in fig. 6.

Female unknown.

Size. Length 13 mm ; width 3.1 mm.

Etymology. The species is dedicated to the entomologist J. Vives who collected the holotype.

Athous (Haplathous) oromii n. sp. (Figs. 4, 16)

Material examined. Holotype ♂ - Spain: Huesca, Jaca, VII.1969, P. Oromí (ex Cobos coll., MNCN). 14 Paratypes ♂♂ - Huesca, Valle de Ansó, m 850, 28.30.VI.1943, Exp. Inst. de Entomologia (MNCN); Huesca, La Peña, V.1962, F. Espanol (MNCN); Huesca, La Peña, VI.1966, J. A. Peciña, ex J.I. Lopez-Colon coll. (CPG); San Joan del Herve, 16.VII.1916, ex A. Codina coll. (det. *Athous castanescens* by Fleutiaux) (MZB); Zaragoza, Sigués, 8.VI.1987, Podlussány (TM); Navarra, 1 km of Irurzun, 20.VI.2005, V. Dusanek. (CDZ; CPG).

Diagnosis. Extremely similar for general outline and colour to the Pyrenean *A. (Euplathous) iablokoffi* Leseigneur, 1972; we have included the new species into subgenus *Haplathous* Reitter, because of shape of scutellum, moderately convex and as wide as interelytral space.

Description. Male. Entirely ferrugineous, sometimes the disk of pronotum darker, brown with blackish shades; covered with dense, yellow-fulvous pubescence.

Head with eyes narrower than anterior margin of pronotum; frons deeply impressed from middle; anterior margin slightly thickened, regularly arcuate, in the middle touching clypeus; punctures coarse, umbilicate with short interstices. Antennae exceeding apices of hind angles of pronotum by three articles; second article subcylindrical, just longer than broad; third subconical, nearly twice longer than second and longer than wide; taken together just longer than fourth; fourth with subparallel sides, twice longer than wide; the following longer and narrower; the last longer than previous and longely ellipsoidal.

Pronotum as long as wide to a little longer, convex, at middle of disk flat, sometimes with trace of short median longitudinal line; sides arcuate, from behind the middle regularly narrowing in front, sinuate before the posterior angles, the latter short, feebly diverging, at tips with very short spine directed upwards; punc-

ture on disk deep, simple or slightly umbilicate; interstices variable, on average equal to less half than their diameters to smaller; at sides more superficial and umbilicate; lateral margins entire, totally evident in dorsal view.

Scutellum a little narrower than interelytral space, subrectangular, feebly convex, sometimes with vestige of median longitudinal carina, punctured, weakly edged at base.

Elytra 3.3 times longer than pronotum and 2.7 times longer than wide; sides just but regularly arcuate from base towards middle, narrowed posteriorly; striae punctured, interstriae flat with rough surface.

Tarsal articles regularly decreasing in length.

Male genitalia very elongate as in fig. 4.

Female unknown.

Size. Length 12-13.4 mm; width 3.1-3.4 mm.

Etymology. The species is dedicated to the entomologist P. Oromí who collected the holotype.

Athous (Orthathous) hajeki n. sp. (Figs. 1, 13)

Material examined. Holotype ♂ - Turkey: Yagmurdere (Trabzon), 24.VI.1997, J. Hájek (CMHK).

Diagnosis. By the shape of male genitalia the new species is close to *A. anaticus* Platia, 1989 (see literature); it can be separated by smaller size, shorter elytra, anterior angles of pronotum with rounded, outwards turned vertex.

Description. Male. Head, pronotum, scutellum, sixth to ninth elytral intervals darker, brown ferruginous with blackish shadings; disk and sides of elytra, antennae and legs lighter, yellow ferruginous; covered with dense, semierect, yellow fulvous pubescence.

Head with eyes a little narrower than anterior margin of pronotum; frons slightly impressed in the anterior half, margin arcuate, just thickened, directed downwards and in the middle reaching clypeus; punctures close and umbilicate.

Antennae long, exceeding by three article the apices of hind angles of pronotum; second article subcylindrical, less than twice longer than wide; third-tenth conical, with dull surface, elongate, more than three times longer than wide; last narrow, longer than the previous, with subparallel sides, distal third tapering to apex.

Pronotum a little longer than wide, moderately and regularly convex, widest at hind angles; sides regularly arcuate, sinuate at hind angles, the latter acuminate and divergent; anterior angles rounded at tips and turned outwards; punctation evenly distributed, on disk with punctures umbilicate and variable, shortest and shining intervals, denser at sides, umbilicate, with a little shagreened surface; lateral margins entire, completely apparent in dorsal view.

Scutellum smaller than interelytral space, convex, densely punctured. Elytra 2.9 times longer than pronotum; widest at middle; sides subparallel in the first half,

gradually tapering to apex; striae well marked with shallow punctures; interstriae flat with denser punctures and subrugose surface.

Fourth tarsal article in dorsal view much more shorter and narrower than third.

Male genitalia as in fig. 1.

Female unknown.

Size. Length 10 mm; width 2.68 mm.

Etymology. The species is dedicated to the entomologist J. Hájek, curator of Prague Museum, who collected the holotype.

Athous (Neonomopleus) lopezcoloni n. sp. (Figs. 2, 14)

Material examined. Holotype ♂ - Spain: Montarco (Madrid), 30.IV.1950, J. Suarez, ex Cobos coll. (MNCN). 1 Paratype ♂ - Villaviciosa de Odón (Madrid), Careañas del rio Guadarrama, 27.V.1977, J.I. Lopez-Colon. (CPG).

Diagnosis. Species allied to *A. (Neonomopleus) elongatus* Ch. Brisout, 1866 by the shape of frons but can essentially be distinguished by longer elytra compared with pronotum and paramera of male genitalia.

Description. Male. Entirely yellow-ferruginous with only some blackish shadings at base and sides of pronotum and on abdominal sternites; covered with short, yellowish pubescence.

Frons deeply impressed in the anterior half; anterior margin gently thickened, in the middle touching clypeus; punctures broad, strongly umbilicate, contiguous. Antennae long, exceeding the apices of hind angles of pronotum by 4.5 articles; second article shiny, subcylindrical, just longer than wide; third and following with dull surface; third triangular, less twice longer than wide; second and third taken together just longer than fourth; fourth-tenth subrectangular, fourth-seventh about 2.5 times longer than wide; eighth-tenth more 3 times longer than wide; last longer than penultimate, very slender and rounded at apex.

Pronotum as long as broad, strongly convex with trace of very feeble depression on the disk; sides subparallel, more or less sinuate before posterior angles, the latter, short, more or less diverging, at tips with very short spine directed upwards; punctuation uniform on all the surface; punctures strongly umbilicate with shortest intervals to contiguous at sides.

Scutellum smaller than interelytral space, gently convex and punctured. Elytra wider than pronotum and 4-4.3 times longer than the latter; sides perfectly parallel for about the two third its length; striae well marked and punctured from base to apex; intervals flat to subconvex at sides with dense and finer punctures.

Male genitalia as in fig. 2.

Female unknown.

Size. Length 11.5-12 mm (Ht); width 2.55-3 mm (Ht).

Etymology. The new species is dedicated to the entomologist J. Ignacio Lopez-Colon, who collected one of the specimens.

Athous (Neonomopleus) suarezi n. sp. (Figs. 3, 15)

Material examined. Holotype ♂ - Spain: Puebla del Rio (Sevilla), 23.IV.1979, P. Oromí, ex. Lopez-Colon coll. (CPG). 2 Paratypes ♂♂: Miajadas (Cáceres), 4.V.1992, P. Poot (CPG; CWH).

Diagnosis. Species allied to *A. (Neonomopleus) discors* Reitter, 1904 by the shape of anterior margin of frons and the long antennae, it can be separated by the larger size, frons deeply impressed and paramera of male genitalia.

Description. Male. Head and pronotum ferruginous; elytra, antennae and legs lighter, yellow-ferruginous; blackish shadings around scutellum and abdominal sternites; covered with short, yellow pubescence.

Head with eyes very prominent, as wide as anterior margin of pronotum; frons deeply impressed in the anterior half, anterior margin regularly curved, in the middle touching clypeus; punctures broad, simple or umbilicate, contiguous.

Antennae very long, exceeding the apices of hind angles of pronotum by five articles; second article shiny, subcylindrical, a little longer than wide; third and following with dull surface; third subtriangular, twice longer than second and twice longer than wide; second and third taken together as long as fourth; fourth-tenth subrectangular, more than three times longer than wide; last as long as penultimate, more or less narrowed at apical third.

Pronotum just longer than wide, convex, with trace of short and very narrow median longitudinal depression; sides subparallel to gently curved, sinuate before posterior angles, the latter short, just divergent with a very short spine directed upwards. Punctuation uniform, punctures deep, simple to slightly umbilicate on disk, with shortest and shiny intervals, at sides more dense and umbilicate, sometimes contiguous. Lateral margins entire and completely apparent in dorsal view. Scutellum smaller than interelytral space, tongue-shaped, flat, densely punctured. Elytra wider than pronotum and 4 times longer than the latter; sides subparallel for about two third of its length; striae well marked and punctured; interstriae flat, densely and finely punctured.

Male genitalia as in fig. 3.

Female unknown.

Size. Length 13.8 (Ht)-15 mm; width 3.1 (Ht)-3.4 mm.

Etymology. The new species is dedicated to the entomologist J. Suarez.

Tribù **Ampedini** Gistel, 1856

Ampedus yakutianus n. sp. (Figs. 12, 26, 27)

Material examined. Holotype ♂ - Russia: Sakha Republik (Yakutia), Agajakan, 5.VII.1990. (CPG).

Diagnosis. Species of the *sanguinolentus* group of species (GURJEVA, 1977;

1979) because of the punctation of pronotum; it is an intermediate species between *A. sanguinolentus* (Schrank, 1776) and *A. pomonae* (Stephens, 1830) but differing from both these species for the subconical third article of antennae, very convex pronotum and more convex elytral interstriae.

Description. Bicoloured. Head, pronotum and scutellum black shiny; elytra red-orange; antennae black not shiny; legs black except for tarsi lighter; covered with short, blackish, pubescence.

Frons convex, anterior margin regularly curved, in the middle touching clypeus; punctures coarse, umbilicate, with shorter intervals or contiguous.

Antennae not reaching for about one article the apices of hind angles of pronotum; second segment subcylindrical just longer than wide; third subconical, about twice longer than second and less than twice longer than broad; second and third taken together much longer than fourth; fourth-tenth serrate, triangular, just longer than wide; last longer than penultimate, subellipsoidal.

Pronotum 1.25 times wider than long, strongly convex with trace of a median furrow on basal declivity; sides from middle to anterior margin gradually narrowing, subparallel toward base and only gently sinuose before hind angles, the latter converging at tips; carina short, prominent, directed inside; lateral margins entire; punctures on disk deep and simple or slightly umbilicate with variable intervals, on average smaller or equal to their own diameters, at sides round, denser, umbilicate with shorter, shining interstices, more rarely contiguous.

Scutellum tongue-shaped, flat, densely punctured.

Elytra 3 times longer than pronotum, moderately convex; sides subparallel for about the two third of the length; striae well distinct and punctured, coarser punctured at sides; interstriae gently convex, with finer punctures.

Male genitalia as in fig. 12

Female unknown.

Size. Length 10.3 mm; width 3.1 mm.

Etymology. The species is named after the country of origin.

Tribe **Melanotini** Candèze, 1859

Melanotus loudai n. sp. (Figs. 5, 7, 21, 23)

Material examined: Holotype ♂- Afghanistan: Panshir Valley, Kotal-e-Schaba, m 3200, VI.2003, J. Louda. (CRG don. MCSN). 7 Paratypes: 2 ♂♂ and 1 ♀- same data as Ht (CPG; CRG); 1 ♂ - Iran: N Khorasan, 50 km NE Mashhad, m 2000, 24.IV.2000, J. Kalab (CRG); 2 ♂♂ - Iran: N Khorasan, pass 55 km N Ghuchan, m 2200, 25-26.IV.2000, J. Kalab (CMHK); 1 ♂ - Iran: Khorasan, Sandiz W Mashhad, m 1546, 15.V.2003, S. Kadlec (CPG).

Diagnosis. Very similar to *M. afghanicus* Gurjeva, 1990 (see literature), it can

be separated by anterior margin of frons not regularly curved, shape of pronotum with sides gradually narrowing from middle toward apex and acuminate paramera in male genitalia.

Description. Male. Entirely black, moderately shining, except for antennae and legs brown ferruginous; covered with long, hirsute, yellowish pubescence.

Frons flat on vertex, just impressed near anterior margin, the latter feebly thickened, substraight in the middle, not protruding above clypeus; punctures coarse, umbilicate, with shortest interstices.

Antennae reaching or just exceeding the apices of hind angles of pronotum; second and third articles, small, globous, taken together as long as fourth; fourth-tenth serrate, triangular, a little longer than wide; last article ellipsoidal, narrowing at apical third.

Pronotum a little wider than long, convex, with trace of median depression on the basal declivity, widest at middle and apices of posterior angles; sides gradually narrowing from middle to anterior margin, slightly sinuate before hind angles, the latter truncate and converging at tips, carina feeble running subparallel to lateral margins; punctation rather uniformly distributed, on disk punctures deep, slightly umbilicate with short and very shiny intervals, at sides denser, often contiguous and subovate, giving to the surface a subrugose appearance. Scutellum rectangular, flat, densely punctured. Elytra 2.9 times longer than pronotum, rather flat on the disk; sides subparallel for about the two third of its length; striae well marked and punctured; interstriae flat with finer and denser punctures.

Male genitalia as in fig. 7.

Female. The unique female examined is much larger, with shorter antennae not reaching for about two segments the apices of posterior angles of pronotum, it shows more convex body and elytral sides notably enlarged in the second half. Copulatrix bursa sclerified, as in fig. 5.

Size. Length 10.5-12.5 mm; width 3.1-3.6 mm. (♂♂); length 15 mm; width 4.6 mm (♀).

Etymology. The species is dedicated to the entomologist J. Louda who collected the holotype.

New records

***Melanotus admirabilis* Dolin, 1994**

Material examined. 1 ♂ - Iran: Mazandaran, 20 km S of Amol, 16.17.VI.2005, P. Prudek. (CRG).

Described from Turkmenistan (Kopet-dagh).

New for Iran. (CATE, PLATIA & SCHIMMEL, 2002).

***Melanotus matsumurai* Schenkling, 1927.**

Material examined. 1 ♂ - Russia: Kuriles Isl., Kunashir Is., Bubovoe,

8.VIII.1986, J. Louda. (CRG). 1 ♀ - Kuriles Isl., Sikotan Isl., Malokurilsk env.,
20.25.VII.1986, J. Louda. (CRG).
New for Kuriles Islands.(GURJEVA & KRIVOLUCHKAJA, 1968).

Teratology

Tribe Agriotini Champion, 1896

Agriotes modestus Kiesenwetter, 1858 (Figs. 9, 20)

Material examined. 1 ♂ - Morocco: Embouchure de la Moulouya, 7.III.1992, G. Chavaron (ex Lopez-Colon coll.) (CPG).

We report a case of legs teratology in this species. The specimen we have examined shows perfectly developed double tibiae and tarsi, in the anterior right leg. One of tarsi has three claws.

The species was known so far from central, south, and east Europe and Algeria. It is recorded for the first time from Morocco (KOCHER, 1956).

New records of some species of the Italian fauna

(see PEDRONI & PLATIA, 2002; PLATIA, 1994 & 1995)

Ctenicera cuprea (Fabricius, 1781)

Material examined. 2 ♂♂ - Italy: Basilicata, Mt Sirino (PZ), m 1900, 25.V.1986, A. Pennisi. (CPG).

New for Basilicata region and southernmost Italian locality.

Cidnopus pilosus (Leske, 1785)

Material examined. 1 ♂ - Italy: Campania, Cilento, Sansa (SA), Bosco Centaurino, m 500, 12.V.2003, F. Angelini. (CFA).

New for Campania region.

Athous subfuscus (O.F. Müller, 1767)

Material examined. 1 ♂ - Italy: Campania, Cilento, Mt Sacro (SA), m 1600, 12.V.2003, F. Angelini. (CFA).

New for Campania region.

Ampedus cinnaberinus (Eschscholtz, 1829)

Material examined. 1 ♂ - Italy: Valle d'Aosta, Aymavilles, Pondel, m 880, 30.V.2002, G. Agnoli & P. Rosa. (CPG).

New for Aosta Valley region.

Ampedus pomonae (Stephens, 1830)

Material examined. 1 ♂ - Italy: Umbria, Lago di Piediluco (TR), 7.III.2001, A. Pennisi. (CPG).

New for Umbria region and Italian southernmost locality.

Ampedus quercicola (Buysson, 1887)

Material examined. 1 ♀ - Italy: Umbria, Lago di Piediluco (TR), 7.III.2001, A. Pennisi.(CPG).

New for Umbria region .

Ampedus sanguinolentus (Schränk, 1776)

Material examined. 3 ♀♀ - Italy: Umbria, Mt La Pelosa (TR), 13.VI.1983, A. Pennisi; Lago di Piediluco (TR), 7.III.2001, A. Pennisi. (CPG).

New for Umbria region.

Harminius spiniger (Candèze, 1860)

Material examined. 1 ♂ - Italy: Emilia Romagna, Casalfiumanese (BO), m 300, 27.VII.2005, A. Degiovanni. (CPG).

New for Emilia-Romagna region.

Isidus moreli Mulsant & Rey, 1874

Material examined. 1 ♂ - Italy: Calabria, Le Castella (KR), 2.16.VII.1988, A. Pennisi. (CPG).

New for Calabria region.

Cardiophorus castillanus Buysson, 1902

Material examined. 1 ♀ - Italy: Campania, Cilento, Mt Sacro (SA), m 1600, 12.V.2003, F. Angelini. (CFA).

New for Campania region.

Acknowledgements

We are indebted to the following persons for the loan of types and other material preserved in public institutions or private collections: Drsa C. Martin (MNCN); Drsa G. Masó (MZB); Dr O. Merkl (TM); J. I. Lopez-Colon, Rivas-Vaciamadrid (Madrid); F. Angelini, Francavilla Fontana; A. Degiovanni, Bubano (BO); A. Pennisi, Foligno; S. Riese, Genova; C. Wurst, Heilbronn; J. Mertlik, Hradec Kralove, V. Dusanek, Zabreh na Morave, Kralove.

Literature

CATE P.C., PLATIA G. & SCHIMMEL R., 2002 - New species and records of click beetles (Coleoptera: Elateridae) from Iran, with a checklist of known species. *Folia Heyrovskyana*, 10 (1): 25-68.

GURJEVA E.L., 1977 - Sistematike zhulkov-shchelkunov roda *Ampedus* Dej. (Coleoptera, Elateridae). - On the systematics of click beetles of the genus *Ampedus* (Coleoptera,

- Elateridae). *Entomologicheskoe Obozrenie*, 56(4): 795-804. (English translation: *Entomological Review*, Washington, 56(4): 60-66).
- GURJEVA E.L., 1979 - Zhuki-shchelkuny (Elateridae). Podsemeystvo Elaterinae. Tribu Megapenthini, Physorhinini, Ampedini, Elaterini, Pomachilini. - Click beetles (Elateridae). Subfamily Elaterinae. Tribes Megapenthini, Physorhinini, Ampedini, Elaterini, Pomachilini. Fauna SSSR, Novaya seriya, No. 118. Zhestkokrylye. Vol 12(4). *Izdatel'stvo "Nauka"*, Leningrad. 1979. 452 pp.
- GURJEVA E.L., 1990 - Novye vidy zhukov-shchelkunov roda *Melanotus* (Coleoptera, Elateridae) iz Afganistana. - New species of click beetles of the genus *Melanotus* (Coleoptera, Elateridae) from Afghanistan. (In: Problemy sistematiki zheskokrylykh nasekomykh). *Trudy Zoologicheskogo Instituta Akademiyi Nauk SSSR*, 211: 40-49.
- GURJEVA E.L. & KRIVOLUCHKAJA G.O., 1968 - Fauna zhukov-shchelkunov (Coleoptera, Elateridae) Kuril'skix ostrovov. In: Fauna i ekologiya nasekomix Dalnego Vostoka. Sb. materialov BPI DVNC SO AN SSSR. Vladivostok. pp. 42-49.
- KOCHER L., 1956 - Catalogue commenté des Coléoptères du Maroc. Fascicule III: Malacodermes-Serricornes. *Travaux Institut Scientifique Chérifien, Série Zoologie*, 8 (3): 153 pp. (Elateridae: pp. 87-104).
- LESEIGNEUR L., 1972 - Coléoptères Elateridae de la Faune de France Continentale et de Corse. *Bulletin mensuel de la Société Linnéenne de Lyon (Supplément au numéro de Février 1972)*, 41: 381 pp.
- MÉQUIGNON A., 1932 - Description d'un *Harminius* nouveau du Portugal et remarques sur quelques Élatérides de même provenance [Col., Elateridae]. *Bulletin de la Société Entomologique de France*, 37: 123-125.
- PEDRONI G. & PLATIA G., 2002 - La fauna a Elateridi della Valle d'Aosta (Coleoptera, Elateridae). *Revue Valdôtaine d'Histoire Naturelle*, 56: 67-98.
- PLATIA G., 1989 - Descrizione di nuove specie di Elateridi della Grecia e della Turchia (Coleoptera Elateridae). *Lavori - Società Veneziana di Scienze Naturali*, 14(1): 79-86.
- PLATIA G., 1994 - Coleoptera, Elateridae. In: Fauna d'Italia, vol. 33. *Calderini*. Bologna. XIV + 429 pp.
- PLATIA G., 1995 - Checklist delle specie della fauna italiana, Coleoptera Polyphaga VII (Elateridae), 52: 1-9. In: MINELLI A., RUFFO S. & LA POSTA S. [eds.]. *Calderini*, Bologna.
- PLATIA G. & GUDENZI I., 2000 - Descrizione di un nuovo genere e tredici nuove specie di elateridi della regione paleartica con note geonemiche (Insecta Coleoptera Elateridae). *Quaderno di Studi e Notizie di Storia Naturale della Romagna*, 13, suppl.: 65-83.
- SÁNCHEZ-RUIZ A., 1996 - Catálogo bibliográfico de las especies de la familia Elateridae (Coleoptera) de la Península Ibérica e Islas Baleares.-Documentos Fauna Ibérica, 2. Ramos, M. A. [Ed.]. Museo Nacional de Ciencias Naturales, Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas. Madrid. 265 pp.
- STIBICK J.N.L., 1979 - A revision of the Hypnoidinae of the world (Col. Elateridae). Part 3. The Hypnoidinae of Eurasia. *Eos, Revista Española de Entomología*, 1977 [1979], 53: 223-307.

WURST C., 1994 - Neue Schnellkäfer der Unterfamilie Athoinae aus dem Taurusgebirge, Südtürkei (Coleoptera: Elateridae). *Mitteilungen Entomologischer Verein Stuttgart* 1869 e. V., 29: 59-63.

Addresses of the authors:

Giuseppe Platia
via Molino Vecchio, 21
I - 47030 Gatteo (FC)
e-mail: pinoplatia-@tele2.it

Ivo Gudenzi
via Corbari, 32
I - 47100 Forlì
e-mail: ivogudenzi@libero.it