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A revision of Othiini. XIX. Two new species of *Othius*, the first record of the genus from Vietnam, and additional records (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae: Staphylininae)

Volker ASSING

A b s t r a c t : *Othius bihamatus* nov.sp. (Pakistan: North-West Frontier Province), a close relative of *O. sinuosus* ASSING, 1998, and *O. auster* nov.sp. (North Vietnam), the first representative of the genus from the Oriental region and the southernmost record of the genus known at present, are described and illustrated. Additional records of 21 species of *Othius* STEPHENS, 1829 and two of *Atrecus* JACQUELIN DU VAL, 1856 are reported, among them the first record of *Atrecus brevicornis* SMETANA, 1967 since the original description. The distribution of *Othius* in the East Palaearctic region east of the Himalaya and the individual distributions of eight species are mapped. *Othius* and the Othiini now include a total of 128 and 145 species and subspecies, respectively.

K e y w o r d s : Coleoptera, Staphylinidae, Othiini, *Othius*, *Atrecus*, Palaearctic region, Oriental region, Pakistan, Vietnam, taxonomy, new species, new records, distribution maps.

Introduction

The Palaearctic genus *Othius* STEPHENS, 1829 previously included 126 species and subspecies (ASSING 2013). It is by far the most speciose of the four genera of the Holarctic tribe Othiini (total: 143 species and subspecies). Only a single species was known from Pakistan and none from Vietnam. Except for the recent discoveries of two adventive species, *O. subuliformis* STEPHENS, 1833 and *O. punctulatus* (GOEZE, 1777), in North America (ASSING 2003b, ROOD et al. 2015), all previous records of *Othius* have been reported from within the Palaearctic region sensu SMETANA (2004). An updated checklist of the *Othius* species known from China and Taiwan was provided by ASSING (2013).

In material from the collection of the late Horst Korge, which is now deposited in the Museum für Naturkunde in Berlin, four specimens of an undescribed *Othius* from Pakistan were discovered. A second undescribed species was collected during a recent field trip to Vietnam. This species represents not only the first record from Vietnam, but also the first record from the Oriental region sensu SMETANA (2004), as well as the southernmost record of the genus as a whole.

Material and methods

The material treated in this study is deposited in the following public and private collections:

HNHM Hungarian Natural History Museum, Budapest (Gy. Makranczy)
 MNHUB..... Museum für Naturkunde der Humboldt-Universität, Berlin (J. Frisch, J. Willers)
 NME Naturkundemuseum Erfurt (M. Hartmann, assisted by W. Apfel)
 cAss..... author's private collection
 cKoc..... private collection Matúš Kocian, Praha
 cPüt private collection Andreas Pütz, Eisenhüttenstadt
 cSch..... private collection Michael Schülke, Berlin
 cSha..... private collection Alexey Shavrin, Daugavpils
 cWun..... private collection Paul Wunderle, Mönchengladbach

The morphological studies were conducted using a Stemi SV 11 microscope (Zeiss Germany) and a Jenalab compound microscope (Carl Zeiss Jena) with a drawing tube. Figures 1-2, 10, 12, 14-15, 17 were created using a photographing device constructed by Arved Lompe (Nienburg) and CombineZ software, the remaining images with a digital camera (Nikon Coolpix 995). The maps were created using MapCreator 2.0 (primap) software.

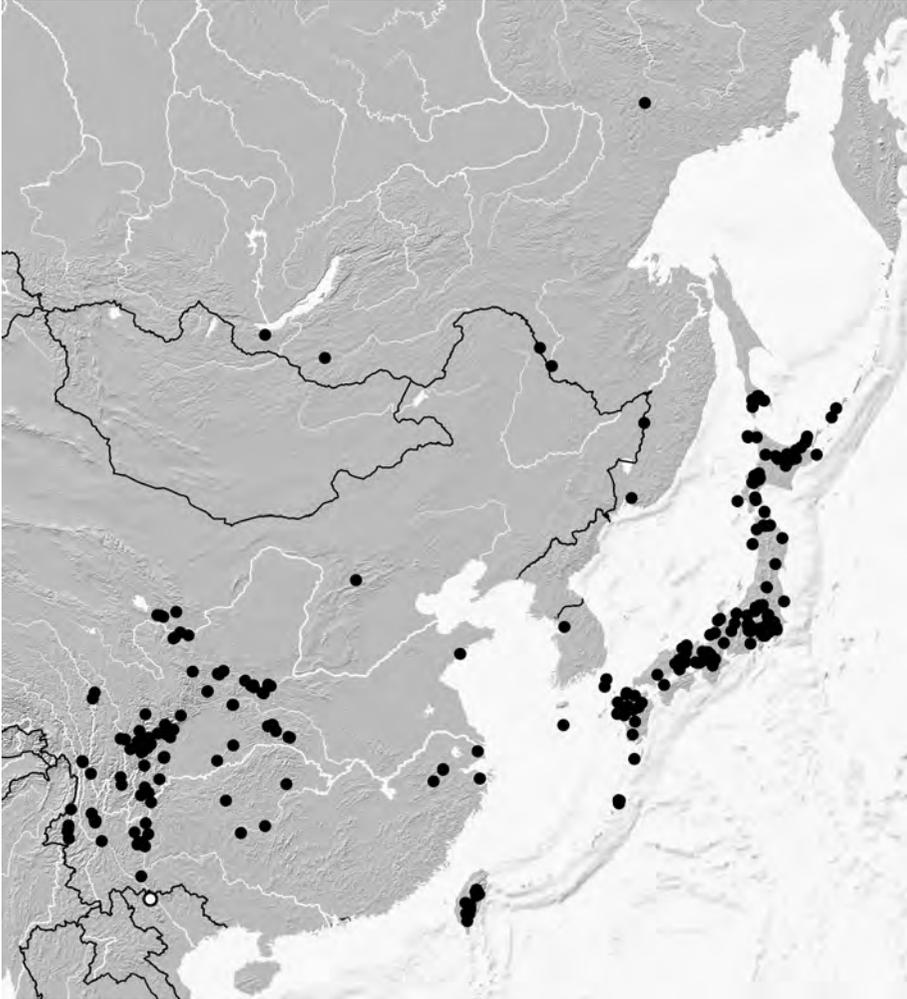
The measurements in the descriptions are given in mm and abbreviated as follows: HW: maximal head width; HL: head length from anterior margin of frons to neck; PW: maximal width of pronotum; PL: length of pronotum along middle; EL: length of elytra from apex of scutellum to elytral hind margin; TiL: length of metatibia (external aspect, from knee to insertion of first metatarsomere); TaL: length of metatarsi (claws not included); TL: total length from apex of mandibles to posterior margin of tergite VIII. The length of the aedeagus was measured from the apex of the median lobe to the base of the aedeagal capsule. The "parameral" side (i.e., the side where the sperm duct enters) is referred to as the ventral, the opposite side as the dorsal aspect.

Additional records and species descriptions

Records of well-known species from the West Palaearctic region are only listed and not commented on. For detailed accounts of the distributions of these species see ASSING (1997a, 1997b, 2013). An updated distribution map of all the records of *Othius* species from the East Palaearctic region east of the Himalaya examined so far is presented in Map 1.

Othius lapidicola MÄRKEL & KIESENWETTER, 1848

Material examined: Georgia: 1♂, Algeti National Park, Manglisi-Tsalka, 41°40'N, 44°18'E, 1580 m, 12.VII.2015, leg. Brachat & Meybohm (cAss); 1♂, Zerno Svanetia, Ushguli env., 42°02'N, 42°49'E, 1910 m, pitfall trap, 4.VII.2015, leg. Pütz (cPüt). Armenia: 1♂, Jermuk env., 39.81°N, 45.64°E, 2060 m, deciduous forest, sifted, 19.V.2015, leg. Kocian (cKoc); 1♂, Goris, 39.52°N, 46.32°E, 1700 m, deciduous forest, sifted, 245.V.2015, leg. Kocian (cAss).



Map 1: Distribution of *Othius* in the East Palearctic region east of the Himalaya, based on examined records (all records pooled). White circle: type locality of *Othius auster* nov.sp.

***Othius stenocephalus* EPELSHEIM, 1881**

Material examined: Georgia: 2♂♂, 1♀, Shatili-Gudani, 42°32'N, 45°01'E, 1960 m, 16.VII.2015, leg. Brachat & Meybohm (cAss); 2♂♂, 2♀♀, Gudani, 42°32'N, 44°59'E, 1710 m, 18.VII.2015, leg. Brachat & Meybohm (cAss); 1♂, Stepanzmindia, 42°40'N, 44°37'E, 2120 m, 20.VII.2015, leg. Brachat & Meybohm (cAss); 1♀, Sno valley, 42°36'N, 44°39'E, 1800 m, 21.VII.2015, leg. Brachat & Meybohm (cAss); 1♂, Sno valley, 42°35'N, 44°45'E, 2210 m, 21.VII.2015, leg. Brachat & Meybohm (cAss); 3 exs., Svaneti, Mazeri env., 23.09°N, 42.59°E, 1640 m, beech forest, sifted, 6.VII.2015, leg. Kocian (cKoc); 1 ex., Svaneti, Mestia env., Hatsvali, 43.02°N, 42.74°E, 2300 m, 5.VII.2015, leg. Kocian (cAss).

***Othius brevipennis* KRAATZ, 1857**

Material examined: Hungary: 1 ♀, Vas m., Bozsok, 13.VI.2009, leg. Zoltán (HNHM).

***Othius permutatus* ASSING, 1997**

Material examined: Romania: 1 ♂, 1 ♀, jud. Harghita, Gheorgeni, Hegyes-havas, 1000 m, spruce forest, 7.VIII.1991, leg. Szél & Ladár (HNHM, cAss).

***Othius hebes* ASSING & SOLODOVNIKOV, 1998**

Material examined: Georgia: 2 ♂♂, 2 ♀♀, Borjomi-Kh. National Park, near Zekari pass, 41°50'N, 42°49'E, 2280 m, 22.VI.2013, leg. Kocian (cKoc, cAss); 2 ♀♀, Kakheti, Tetrtsklebi env., 41°52'N, 45°20'E, 1300 m, deciduous forest, 15.VII.2015, leg. Kocian (cKoc, cAss); 3 ♂♂, 1 ♀, Gudani-Zhinvali, 42°27'N, 44°56'E, 1200 m, 19.VII.2015, leg. Brachat & Meybohm (cAss); 1 ♂, Gudani-Zhinvali, 42°19'N, 44°53'E, 980 m, 19.VII.2015, leg. Brachat & Meybohm (cAss); 1 ♂, 2 ♀♀, SW Pasanauri, 42°22'N, 44°40'E, 1220 m, 23.VII.2015, leg. Brachat & Meybohm (cAss).

***Othius punctulatus* (GOEZE, 1777)**

Material examined: Georgia: 1 ♂, Algeti National Park, Manglisi, 41°42'N, 44°23'E, 1190 m, 12.VII.2015, leg. Brachat & Meybohm (cAss); 8 exs., Zerno Svanetia, Ushguli env., 42°02'N, 42°49'E, 1910 m, pitfall traps, 4.VII.2015, leg. Pütz (cPüt).

***Othius grandis* HOCHHUTH, 1849**

Material examined: Georgia: 1 ♂, Mtskheta-Mtianeti region, Khevsureti, gorge of Zalikos tzkaro valley between Khone and Khoniochala, 42.567°N, 45.222°E, 1890 m, 10.-11.IX.2009, leg. Walther (NME); 1 ♂, same data, but 1900 m (cAss); 2 ♂♂, Svaneti, Mazeri, 43°06'N, 42°36'E, 1700 m, 27.VI.2013, leg. Kocian (cKoc, cAss).

***Othius chrysurus* REITTER, 1891**

Material examined: Tajikistan: 1 ♀, Varzob district, 48 km N Dushanbe, Khodja obi Garm, 1900 m, 3.-4.VII.2012, leg. Valainis (cSha); 2 ♂♂, 2 ♀♀, Varzob district, Khodja obi Garm, 2000 m, 21.-24.III.2015, leg. Barševskis (cSha, cAss).

***Othius laeviusculus* STEPHENS, 1833**

Material examined: Iran: 1 ex., Fars province, 50 km SW Shiraz, 10 km S Richi, Islamabad, 29°25'N, 52°11'E, 1410 m, 9.IV.2006, leg. Frisch & Serri (MNHUB).

***Othius philonthoides* WOLLASTON, 1864**

Material examined: Spain: Canary Islands: 1 ex., La Palma, Caldera de Taburiente, 1700 m, 11.II.1964, leg. Heinz (MNHUB); 1 ex., La Palma, Tijarafe, 700 m, 15.II.1964, leg. Heinz (MNHUB).

***Othius caecitubus* ASSING, 2003**

Material examined: Nepal: 1 ♂, Kaski, S-Annapurna, Seti Khola valley, above Kabre, 28°22'N, 84°00'E, 2500 m, 9.IX.2013, leg. Hage & Schmidt (NME).

C o m m e n t : The above specimen represents the first records since the original description, which is based on material from several localities in the Annapurna range in Nepal (ASSING 2003b).

***Othius hartmanni* ASSING, 2008**

M a t e r i a l e x a m i n e d : Nepal: 1♂, Mahakali province, Darchula district, 10 km NE Ghusa, 29°54'N, 80°57'E, 2850 m, 10.VI.2005, leg. Weigel (NME).

C o m m e n t : The original description of this recently described species is based on five specimens from a locality close to where the above male was collected (ASSING 2008).

***Othius virgifer* ASSING, 1998**

M a t e r i a l e x a m i n e d : Nepal: 6♂♂, 3♀♀, Arun valley to Makalu, Bawala pass, 27°43'N, 87°15'E, 4100-4300 m, leg. Tamang (NME, cAss).

C o m m e n t : Previously, only the two type specimens from the eastern Makalu range were known (ASSING 1998).

***Othius pokharensis* COIFFAIT, 1983**

M a t e r i a l e x a m i n e d : Nepal: 1♀, SW-Dhaulagiri, Dhara Khola valley, 28°31'N, 83°18'E, 1900 m, 21.-22.V.2012, leg. Schmidt (cAss); 1♀, Koshi, forest 1 km SW Chichila, 1800 m, pitfall, 18.X.2002, leg. Weipert (NME).

C o m m e n t : *Othius pokharensis* is the most widespread *Othius* species in the Himalaya, its distribution ranging from Himachal Pradesh to Sikkim (ASSING 1998, 2003a, 2005).

***Othius apicalis* CAMERON, 1926**

M a t e r i a l e x a m i n e d : Nepal: 1♀, SW-Dhaulagiri, Dhara Khola valley, 28°31'N, 83°18'E, 1900 m, 21.-22.V.2012, leg. Schmidt (NME).

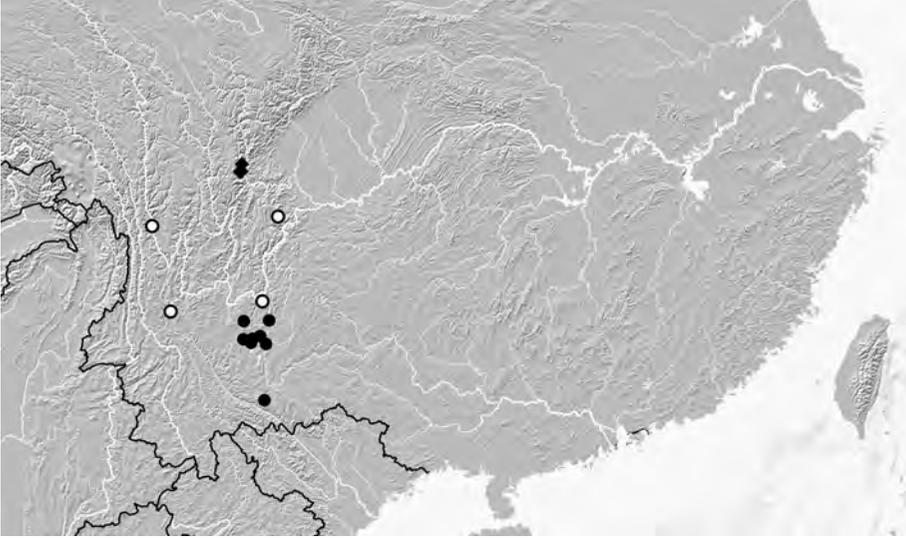
C o m m e n t : The known distribution of this widespread Himalayan species ranges from central northern India in the west to Sikkim and Meghalaya in the east (ASSING 1998, 2003a, 2008).

***Othius lubricus* ASSING, 1999 (Map 2)**

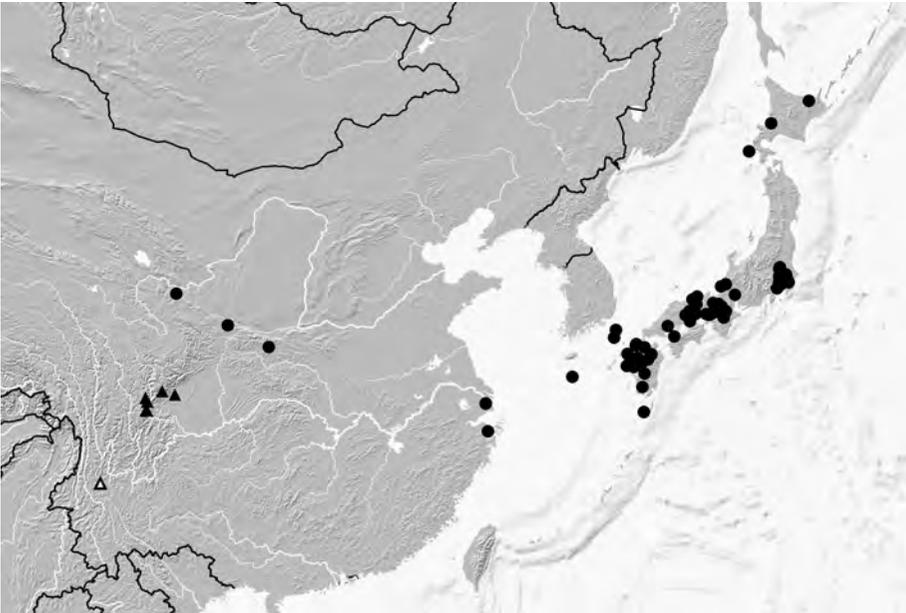
M a t e r i a l e x a m i n e d : China: Y u n n a n : 4♂♂, 7♀♀, E Kunming, Xiaobailong Forest Park, 24°56'N, 103°05'E, 2110 m, secondary pine forest, pine litter and litter at trail margin sifted, 10.VIII.2014, leg. Assing & Schülke (cAss, cSch); 4♂♂, 3♀♀, NE Kunming, 25°09'N, 102°54'E, 2280 m, secondary pine forest with scattered old alder, litter sifted, 11.VIII.2014, leg. Assing & Schülke (cAss, cSch); 4♂♂, 3♀♀, mountain W Xundian, 25°35'N, 103°09'E, 2300 m, mixed forest with alder, pine, and shrub undergrowth, litter, twigs, and roots of herbs sifted, 15.VIII.2014, leg. Assing & Schülke (cAss, cSch); 12♂♂, 10♀♀, same data, but 16.VIII.2014 (cAss, cSch); 1♂, 1♀, Wuding, Lion Mountain Scenic Area, 25°32'N, 102°23'E, 2200 m, stream valley with deciduous forest, moist litter sifted, 17.VIII.2014, leg. Schülke (cAss, cSch); 1♂, mountain W Gejiu, 23°24'N, 103°07'E, 1990 m, mixed forest, litter and various debris sifted, 25.VIII.2014, leg. Schülke (cAss).

C o m m e n t : This species was previously known only from the environs of Kunming

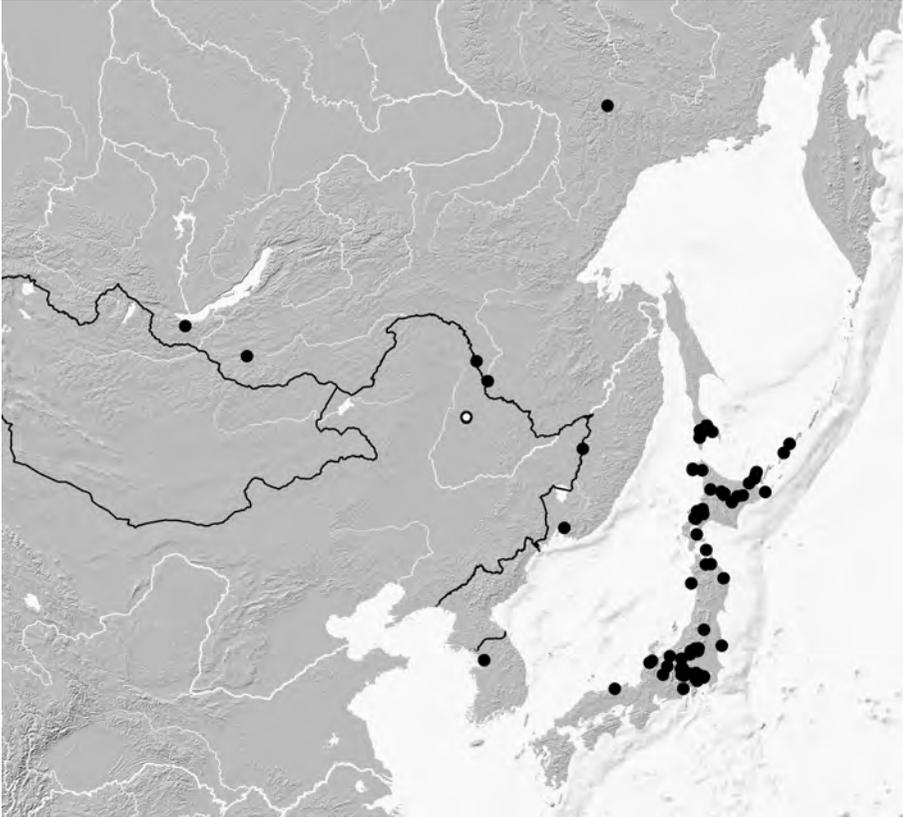
(ASSING 1999a, 2003a). The above records suggest that *O. lubricus* is rather widespread and not uncommon in eastern Yunnan. The currently known distribution is illustrated in Map 2.



Map 2: Distributions of *Othius wrasei* (black diamonds), *O. opacipennis* (white circles), and *O. lubricus* (black circles) in South China, based on examined records.



Map 3: Distributions of *Othius medius* (black circles) and *O. maculiventris* (triangles; black triangles: male-based records; white triangle: female-based record) in the East Palaearctic region, based on examined records.



Map 4: Distribution of *Othius rosti* in the East Palaearctic region, based on examined records (black circles) and one literature record (white circle).

***Othius wrasei* ASSING, 1999 (Map 2)**

Material examined: China: Sichuan: 1♂, Gongga Shan, 29°48'N, 102°04'E, 2680 m, sifted, 14.VI.2011, leg. Gebrennikov (cAss).

Comment: This species is apparently endemic to the Gongga Shan in Sichuan (ASSING 1999a, 2013) (Map 2).

***Othius opacipennis* CAMERON, 1939 (Map 2)**

Material examined: China: Yunnan: 1♂, 1♀, mountains W Dongchuan, Sedan Snow Mountain Scenic Resort, 26°06'N, 102°55'E, 2620 m, secondary pine forest, litter, moss, and roots of herbs sifted, 14.VIII.2014, leg. Assing (cAss).

Comment: This winged species is apparently very rare. Previously, only four specimens from four localities in Yunnan (one of them unspecified) and southern Sichuan were known (ASSING 1999a, 1999b, 2005) (Map 2).

***Othius medius* SHARP, 1874 (Map 3)**

Material examined: Japan: 2 exs., Kanagawa Pref., Hiratsuka, 28.IX.1958, leg. Kawabe (MNHUB, cAss).

Comment: *Othius medius* is one of the most widespread species in the East Palaearctic region. Its currently known distribution is illustrated in Map 3.

***Othius rosti* BERNHAUER, 1907 (Map 4)**

Material examined: Japan: 2 exs., Hokkaido, Kamikawa, Sōunkyō, 4.VIII.1962, Tsukaguchi (MNHUB, cAss).

Comment: *Othius rosti* is the most widespread species in the East Palaearctic region. Its distribution is somewhat more northern than that of *O. medius* (Map 4). Recently, the species was reported also from China (Heilongjiang) for the first time (WANG et al. 2012).

***Othius maculiventris* ZHENG, 1995 (Map 3)**

Material examined: China: 1♂, Sichuan, 110 km W Chengdu, Dayi Dafeishui Forest, Dayi env., 22.VII.1993, leg. Jinda (cKoc).

Comment: The known distribution of *O. maculiventris* is confined to Sichuan, with one female-based record from Yunnan (ASSING 1999a, 1999b, 2003a, 2008) (Map 3).

***Othius bihamatus* nov.sp. (Figs 1-10)**

Type material: Holotype ♂ [slightly teneral]: "Pakistan: Prov. Swāt: Umg. Kalām [35°31'N, 72°35'E], 25.-28.VIII.1979, 2200-3000 m, Heinz leg. / coll. Korge / Holotypus ♂ *Othius bihamatus* sp. n. det. V. Assing 2014" (MNHUB). **Paratypes:** 2♀♀: "Pakistan (Kāgān-Tal), Umg. Naran [34°54'N, 73°38'E], 2400-2700 m, 22.-26.VII.1981, Heinz leg. / coll. Korge" (MNHUB, cAss); 1♀: "Pakistan; Kāgān-Tal: Umg. Nārān, 2400-3200 m, 6.-8.VIII.1979, Heinz leg / coll. Korge" (MNHUB).

Etymology: The specific epithet (Latin, adjective: with two hooks) alludes to the apically hook-shaped basal median and apical median internal structures of the aedeagus.

Description: Measurements (mm) and ratios (holotype; paratypes, range): HL: 2.04; 1.62-1.74; HW: 1.92; 1.48-1.65; PW: 2.04; 1.69-1.80; PL: 2.41; 1.89-2.07; EL: 1.71; 1.40-1.59; TiL: 1.68; 1.37-1.53; TaL: 1.37; 1.01-1.19; TL: 13.4; 10.9-11.6; HL/HW: 1.06; 1.06-1.08; HW/PW: 0.94; 0.89-0.92; PL/PW: 1.18; 1.13-1.15; EL/PL: 0.71; 0.74-0.79; TaL/TiL: 0.82; 0.73-0.78.

Large species (see measurements). Coloration: body black, with the elytra bright reddish (holotype) to dark reddish-brown (paratypes); legs reddish-brown to blackish, with the tibial bases and the tarsi reddish; antennae blackish-brown.

Head (Fig. 1) weakly widened posteriorly, oblong, and somewhat narrower than pronotum (see ratios HL/HW and HW/PW); anterior pair of frontal punctures distinct, with additional smaller punctures; posterior pair of frontal punctures absent; median dorsal portion impunctate, except for sparse micropunctuation; lateral portions with coarse and rather dense punctation; integument with distinct transverse microsculpture. Eyes of moderate size, slightly less than half the length of postocular region in dorsal view.

Pronotum (Fig. 1) oblong (see ratio PL/PW); discal punctation pattern similar to that of most other Eastern Palearctic congeners; posterior discal puncture (i. e., puncture near posterior angle) separated from lateral margin by a distance of approximately its diameter (Fig. 2); microsculpture finely transverse.

Elytra (Fig. 1) shorter than pronotum (see ratio EL/PL); punctation rather sparse, shallow and fine (Fig. 3); interstices with very dense micropunctation (Fig. 3) rendering the surface matt. Hind wings present. Protarsomeres I-IV with pronounced sexual dimorphism.

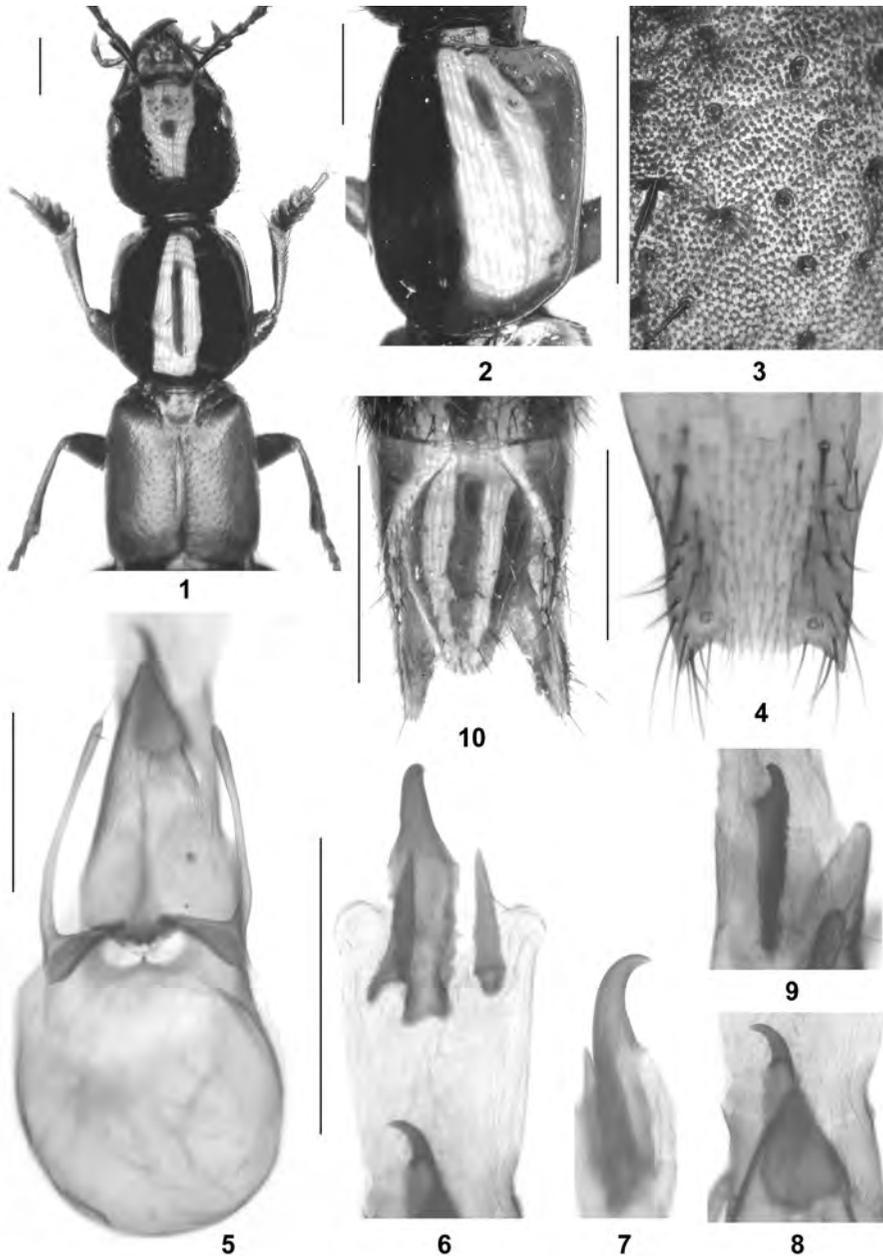
Abdomen slightly narrower than elytra; punctation fine, rather dense on tergites III-VI, somewhat sparser on tergites VII-VIII; interstices with fine transverse microsculpture; posterior margin of tergite VII with palisade fringe.

♂: protarsomeres I-IV strongly dilated (Fig. 1); sternites V-VII unmodified; sternite VIII posteriorly shallowly impressed, posterior margin weakly concave; posterior processes of hemitergites IX short, apically without tooth-like processes, not reaching posterior margin of tergite X; sternite IX broad, anteriorly shallowly bifid, posterior margin bisinuate, postero-lateral angles without spine-like processes (Fig. 4); aedeagus 1.6 mm long, ventral process of nearly triangular shape in ventral view (Fig. 5); parameres apically weakly dilated, each with 4 apical setae (Figs 5); internal sac (Figs 6-9) with 4 sclerotized internal structures: a long asymmetric median basal structure with an asymmetrically hook-shaped apex (pointing to the left in ventral view), a slightly longer median apical structure with a hook-shaped apex (pointing ventrad), and a pair of short, stout, straight, and apically acute lateral structures.

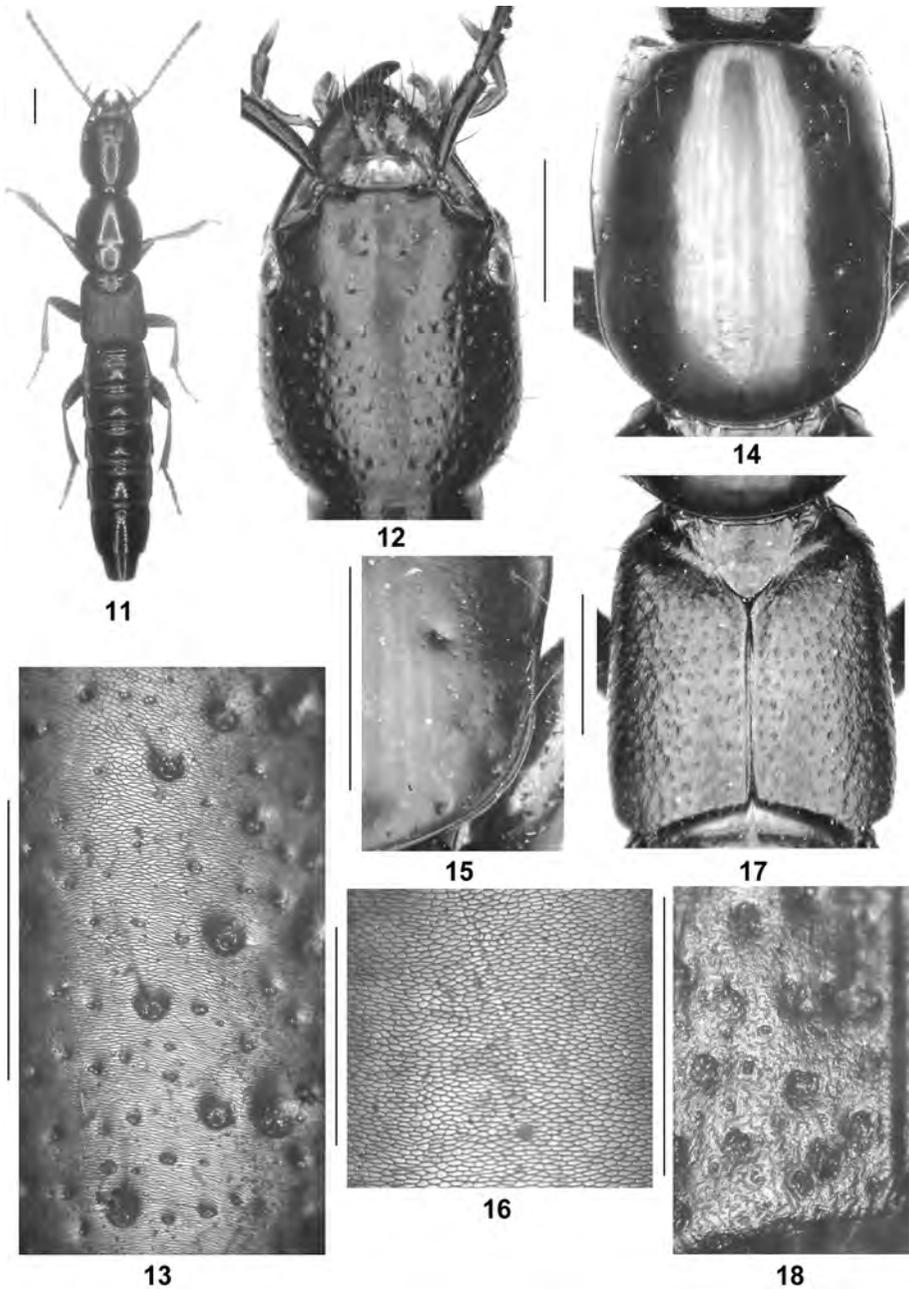
♀: protarsomeres I-IV dilated, but distinctly less so than in ♂; tergite X (Fig. 10) with weakly modified submarginal setae, these setae long, slightly stouter than the other setae of the tergal surface, and apically weakly curved.

Intraspecific variation: The holotype is distinguished from the three female paratypes by somewhat paler coloration, larger size (see measurements), and a broader head. The specimen is evidently slightly teneral, which explains the different coloration. In other external characters, the holotype and the paratypes are similar. Moreover, the type locality is separated from the locality where the paratypes were found by only some 120 km. Therefore, the observed differences are attributed to intra- rather than interspecific variation. However, males from the environs of Naran would be needed to confirm this hypothesis.

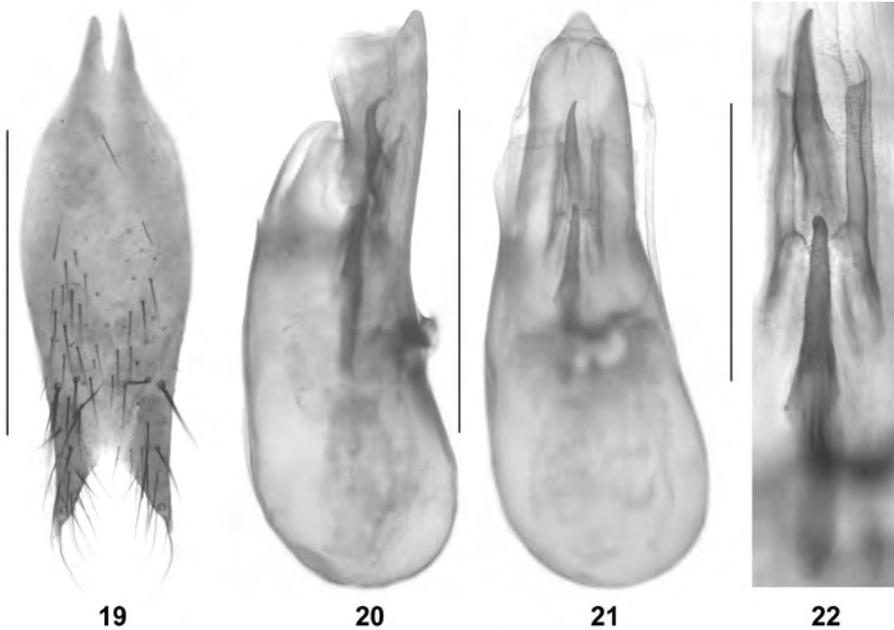
Comparative notes: Previously, the sole known representative of the genus in Pakistan (Karakorum: Haramosh; Azad Jammu & Kashmir) was *O. sinuosus* ASSING, 1998. *Othius bihamatus* is evidently closely related to this species, as can be inferred particularly from the similarly modified elytra (with extremely dense micropunctation) and the bisinuate posterior margin of the male sternite IX. The new species differs from *O. sinuosus* by larger average size and by the number and shapes of the internal structures of the aedeagus. In *O. sinuosus*, the median apical structure is more slender, relatively longer, and apically not hooked, the basal median structure is apically not hooked, and there are two pairs of somewhat curved lateral structures. For a detailed description and illustrations of *O. sinuosus* see ASSING (1998).



Figs 1-10: *Othius bihamatus* nov.sp.: (1) forebody; (2) pronotum in lateral view; (3) median portion of elytra; (4) male sternite IX; (5) aedeagus in ventral view (without extruded internal sac); (6) extruded internal sac with internal structures in ventral view; (7) apical internal structures in lateral view; (8) basal internal structure in ventral view; (9) basal internal structure in lateral view; (10) female tergites IX and X. Scale bars: 1-2: 1.0 mm; 3-10: 0.5 mm.



Figs 11-18: *Othius auster* nov.sp.: (11) habitus; (12) head; (13) median portion of head; (14) pronotum; (15) postero-lateral portion of pronotum; (16) median portion of pronotum; (17) elytra; (18) postero-sutural portion of left elytron. Scale bars: 11-12, 14-15, 17: 1.0 mm; 13, 18: 0.5 mm; 16: 0.2 mm.



Figs 19-22: *Othius auster* nov.sp.: (19) male sternite IX; (20-21) aedeagus in lateral and in ventral view; (22) internal structures of aedeagus in ventral view. Scale bars: 19-21: 1.0 mm; 22: 0.5 mm.

Distribution and bionomics: The type specimens were collected in two localities in North-West Frontier Province, North Pakistan, at altitudes between 2400 and 3200 m. The holotype is apparently somewhat teneral.

***Othius auster* nov.sp. (Figs 11-23, Map 1)**

Type material: Holotype ♂: "N-Vietnam - pass 8 km NW Sa Pa, 22°21'10"N, 103°46'01"E, 2010 m, second. forest, 13.VIII.2013, V. Assing [7c+2] / Holotypus ♂ *Othius auster* sp. n. det. V. Assing 2014" (cAss). Paratypes: 1♂: "N-Vietnam - pass 8 km NW Sa Pa, 22°21'10"N, 103°46'01"E, 2010 m, second. forest, 12.VIII.2013, V. Assing [7b+2]" (cAss); 1♂: same data, but leg. Wunderle (cWun).

Etymology: The specific epithet (Latin, adjective: southern) alludes to the fact that this species currently represents the southernmost record of the genus.

Description: Measurements (mm) and ratios (range): HL: 1.98-2.14; HW: 1.71-1.83; PW: 1.89-2.10; PL: 2.38-2.64; EL: 1.28-1.49; TiL: 1.86-2.01; TaL: 1.43-1.53; TL: 13.4-15.1; HL/HW: 1.16-1.17; HW/PW: 0.87-0.90; PL/PW: 1.25-1.27; EL/PL: 0.54-0.58; TaL/TiL: 0.75-0.77.

Large species (see measurements). Habitus as in Fig. 11. Coloration: body black, with the apex of the abdomen (segments IX-X; posterior portion of segment VIII) brown to dark-brown; legs with blackish-brown femora and reddish-brown tibiae and tarsi; antennae blackish-brown; maxillary palpi reddish-brown to dark-brown.

Head (Fig. 12) conspicuously oblong (see ratio HL/HW), with subparallel lateral margins (dorsal view), and distinctly narrower than pronotum (see ratio HW/PW); anterior pair of

frontal punctures distinct; dorsal surface in posterior half and in lateral portions with double punctation, i.e., with irregularly spaced coarse macropunctures and with moderately dense micropunctation; micropunctures present also, though more sparsely, in anterior half of dorsal surface; interstices with distinct fine microreticulation composed of short transverse meshes anteriorly and transverse striae posteriorly (Fig. 13). Eyes (Fig. 12) small and weakly convex, approximately one-fourth as long as postocular region in dorsal view.

Pronotum (Fig. 14) distinctly oblong (see ratio PL/PW); discal punctation pattern distinctive: 1+2 discal punctures situated laterally, i.e., about halfway between middle of pronotum and lateral margin; posterior puncture situated practically in posterior angle, separated from margin by a distance of approximately its diameter (Fig. 15); surface with fine and distinct microreticulation composed of short transverse meshes (Fig. 16).

Elytra (Fig. 17) short, little more than half as long as pronotum (see ratio EL/PL); punctures (Fig. 18) moderately dense, large, but very shallow; interstices with distinct irregular microsculpture (Fig. 18) rendering the surface nearly matt. Hind wings completely reduced.

Abdomen approximately as broad as elytra; punctation shallow, moderately dense on tergites III-VI, sparse on tergites VII-VIII; interstices with fine transverse microsculpture; posterior margin of tergite VII without palisade fringe.

♂: protarsomeres I-IV strongly dilated (Fig. 11); sternites V-VII unmodified; sternite VIII posteriorly shallowly impressed, posterior margin weakly concave; posterior processes of hemitergites IX apically acute, but without tooth-like processes, barely reaching posterior margin of tergite X; sternite IX (Fig. 19) broad, anteriorly deeply bifid, posterior margin deeply excised, aedeagus (Figs 20-21) 1.8-2.0 mm long; parameres apically weakly dilated, far from reaching apex of median lobe, each with 4 apical setae; internal sac with 6 sclerotized internal structures (Fig. 22): a long (0.4 mm) and apically acute median basal structure, a shorter (0.33 mm) median apical structure with a hook-shaped apex (pointing ventrad), and two pairs of slender and straight lateral structures (length: approximately 0.4 mm), the inner pair apically obliquely truncate.

♀: unknown.

Comparative notes: This distinctive species is characterized not only by the morphology of the median lobe (particularly the internal structures), but also by the combination of large body size, a strongly oblong head, double punctation of the head, the characteristic microsculpture and punctation of the elytra, reduced hind wings, and the absence of a palisade fringe at the posterior margin of tergite VII. It additionally differs from the geographically closest congener, *O. lubricus*, by the more oblong pronotum and the much deeper posterior excision of the male sternite IX.

Distribution and bionomics: The type locality is situated at a pass 8 km to the northwest of Sa Pa. The discovery of *O. auster* is remarkable in that it represents the first record from Vietnam, the first record from the Oriental region, and the southernmost record of the genus as a whole (Map 1). The previous record in this respect was held by *Othius smetanai* ASSING, 1999 from Peitawushan in Pingtung Hsien, southern Taiwan (approximately 22°37'N, 120°46'E).



Fig. 23: Type locality of *Othius auster*. Photo: Paul Wunderle.

The type specimens were sifted from deep leaf litter in a secondary deciduous forest at an altitude of 2010-2030 m (Fig. 23).

***Atrecus pilicornis* (PAYKULL, 1790)**

Material examined: Russia: 1♂, 1♀, Buryat Rep., "Boľšaja Čeremšana", 460 m, 20.-25.VII.1992, leg. Trýzna (cKoc); 1♂, Primorskiy Kray, 5 km E Kraskino, 13.-16.VII.1992, leg. Boukal (cKoc).

***Atrecus brevicornis* SMETANA, 1967**

Type material examined: Holotype ♂: "MONGOLIA, Central aimak, 12 km SO v. Ulan-Baator, Nucht i. Bogdo ul, 1500 m, Exp. Dr. Z. Kaszab, 1964 / Nr. 123, 12.VI.1964 / Holotypus *Atrecus brevicornis* m. / 1966, Smetana det. / Holotypus 1966 ♂, *Atrecus brevicornis* Smetana" (HNHM). Paratype ♀: same data as holotype (HNHM).

A d d i t i o n a l m a t e r i a l e x a m i n e d : Russia: 5♂♂, 3♀♀, East Siberia, Chita region, Kalarskiy district, Udokan Mountains, valley of Baronka river, 56°27'59"N, 117°08'45"E, 1230 m, alder thickets near stream, leg. Enushchenko (cSha, cAss).

C o m m e n t : *Atrecus brevicornis* was described from two males and one female collected near Ulan Bator, Mongolia (SMETANA 1967). The above additional material represents the first record since the original description and the first record from Russia.

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Zusammenfassung

Othius bihamatus nov.sp. (Pakistan: North-West Frontier Province), eine mit *O. sinuosus* ASSING, 1998 nah verwandte Art, sowie *O. auster* nov.sp. (Nord-Vietnam), die erste aus der Orientalis nachgewiesene Art und der südlichste Nachweis der Gattung überhaupt, werden beschrieben und abgebildet. Weitere Nachweise von 18 Arten der Gattung *Othius* STEPHENS, 1829 und zwei Arten der Gattung *Atrecus* JACQUELIN DU VAL, 1856 werden gemeldet, darunter der erste Nachweis von *Atrecus brevicornis* SMETANA, 1967 seit der Originalbeschreibung. Die Gesamtverbreitung von *Othius* in der Ostpaläarktis östlich des Himalaya und die derzeit bekannten Verbreitungsgebiete von acht *Othius*-Arten werden anhand von Karten illustriert. *Othius* und die Tribus Othiini enthalten nunmehr insgesamt 128 bzw. 145 Arten und Unterarten.

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