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A new species of the genus *Ebaeus* ERICHSON, 1840 (Coleoptera, Malachiidae) from Kyrgyzstan

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Abstract

A new species, *Ebaeus milkoi* sp.n. (Coleoptera, Malachiidae), from Southern Kyrgyzstan (Alaj Mountain Range) is described. Diagnosis, figures of male genitalia and urites, and a distribution map are provided.

Zusammenfassung

Eine neue Art, *Ebaeus milkoi* sp.n. (Coleoptera, Malachiidae), wird aus Südkirgisien beschrieben. Die wesentlichen Merkmale werden grafisch wiedergegeben, zusätzlich eine Verbreitungskarte.

Introduction

The genus *Ebaeus* is represented in Kyrgyzstan by 7 species, most of which have more or less colored bodies, but a few species are almost completely dark. Detailed reviews of Central Asian and Siberian species of *Ebaeus* are provided by DOWGAILO (1997) and TSHERNYSHEV (2003, 2006).

A new dark *Ebaeus* species has been found amongst the beetles collected by D.A. Milko in Alaj mountains of Southern Kyrgyzstan. From the other species, it differs in the male by the white in colour and flat in shape lamella of the external appendage with slight impression at the external surface and the structure of the genitalia. Its small sizes, about 2 mm in length, also differentiate new species from the all known dark coloured species of *Ebaeus* in Central Asia, which are much larger.

For the description and diagnosis of the species, some special male characters (appendages in the apex of elytra, genitalia and urites) have been studied. Once the genitalia had been studied, they were attached onto label paper using water soluble glue and pinned under the specimen. All specimens are kept in the Siberian Zoological Museum, Institute of Animal Systematics and Ecology, Siberian Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Novosibirsk.

Ebaeus milko TSHERNYSHEV sp.n. (figs 1-7)

Description: Holotype, male (fig. 1).

Head black with the 1st, 2nd and 3rd antennal segments yellow, the remaining ones dark. Pronotum black, elytra black with light-yellow external appendages, ventral side black, fore- and intermediate legs yellow except for black basal half of femora, hind legs black-brown, with slightly lighter external sides of tibiae and tarsi. Dorsal surface with dense short adpressed dark pubescence, shining. Vesicles yellow, trochanters and thorax mesepimers black.

Head narrower than the pronotum, front flat, genae short and straight, clypeus narrow, straight and transverse, labrum short, transverse; palpi elongate, 1st and 2nd segments transversal, less than half the length of the 3rd; apical segment thin, cylindrical, sinuate at the apex; surface of head shining, punctures sparse, microsculpture smoothed, pubescent with sparse fine adpressed brownish hairs.

Antennae extending to the middle of the elytra, the 1st segment slightly swollen, oblongo-clavate, the 2nd segment the shortest, less than half of the length of the previous segment, intermediate segments 3-6, slightly triangular, remainings cylindrical, all intermediate joints are equal in their length, the apical evenly sinuate, the same length as the 1st. All segments evenly covered with whitish semi-erect pubescence.

Pronotum almost quadrate, 1.3 times wider than long, anterior and posterior margins slightly pronounced; all angles rounded; surface densely punctured, with smoothed microsculpture, shining.

Scutellum short, triangular, almost hidden by the pronotum, with smoothed punctures, shining.

Elytra parallel, slightly widening posteriorly, at the base slightly wider than the pronotum; shoulders distinct, not protruding; apices with angular impression at the suture, each one possessing a pair of appendages (fig. 2); surface shining, densely punctured, with smoothed microsculpture. Inner appendage black, with narrow semi-pellucid grey head, thin; external (fig. 2) light-yellow, slightly elongate and oval, curved and flattened from outer side, with medial impression.

Legs of moderate size, posterior femora almost completely reaching the elytral apices; tibiae thin, rounded, straight, only posterior tibiae slightly curved; all tarsi 5-segmented, narrow; claw segment the longest, somewhat longer than 1, and 2 taken together for the anterior and intermediate legs, and slightly longer the length of the 1 segment for posterior legs; 2nd segment of anterior tarsi with a small comb above; claws narrow, small, with distinct lamella at the base.

Ventral surface of body sparsely punctured, shining, with sparse light adpressed pubescence; apical sternite transverse, strongly emarginate in the middle (fig. 3), with saw-toothed distal side; apical tergite elongate, with thin and long apodemes, slightly narrowed to the apex and emarginate at the middle (Fig. 4); tegmen narrow with thin strongly elongate processes (fig. 5); aedeagus elongate, simple, with two strong and straight spines internal near the tip (fig. 6).

Length 2.1 mm, width (at elytral base) 0.8 mm.

Female. Similar to the male, except as follows: elytra more strongly widened posteriorly, abdomen twice as long as the elytra, apex of elytra simple, rounded, lacking appendages; surface and legs darker; antennae finer and shorter, segments narrower; tarsal comb on anterior legs absent, apical segments of abdomen simple.

Length 3.5 mm, width (at elytral base) 1.0 mm.

E t y m o l o g y : The new species is dedicated to my colleague, Dr Dmitry Milko, who collected specimens of this new species.

D i s t r i b u t i o n : High altitudes of Alaj Mountains (fig. 7).

M a t e r i a l : Holotype, ♂, Southern Kyrgyzstan, Alaj Mountain Range, Chon-Byuleolyu Ravine, ~2050 m, 40°10'N 73°37'E, 07.07.2000, D. Milko leg. (SZMN); paratypes, 1 ♂, 1 ♀, idem (SZMN).

D i a g n o s i s : Of all the Kirghizian species of *Ebaeus*, this newly described one can be easily distinguished by the following characters: the shape of outer appendages in the male elytra, the shape of aedeagus and urites, melanistic coloration of dorsal surface and small size.

Acknowledgments

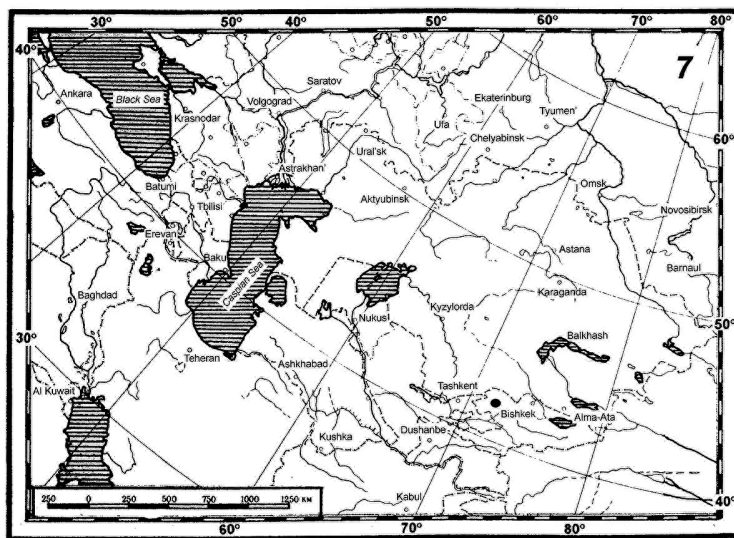
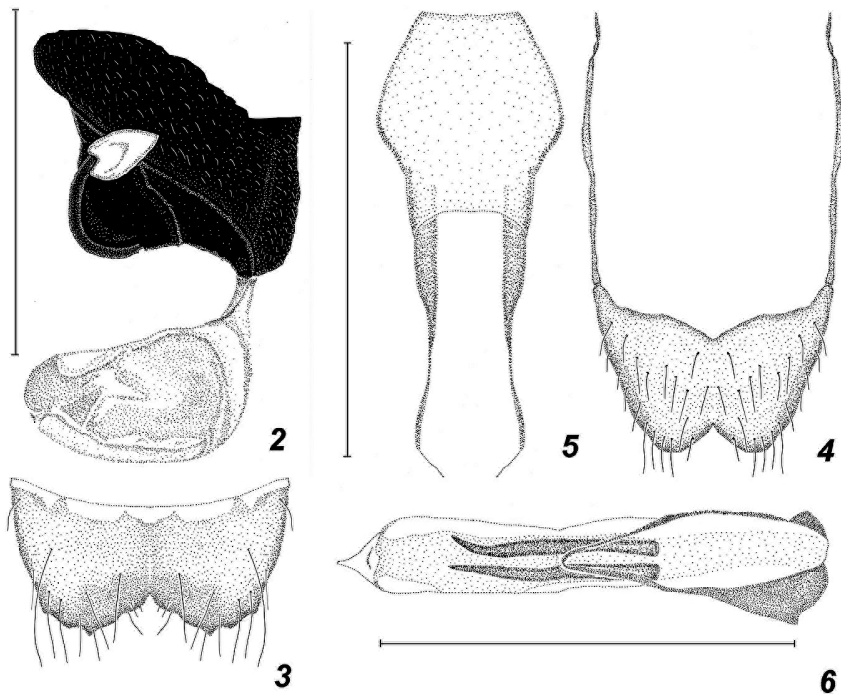
I am sincerely grateful to my colleague D.A. Milko from Institute of Biology and Pedology, Kyrgyz National Academy of Sciences, Bishkek for collecting of Malachiidae beetles in Middle and Central Asia and valuable comments about history, localities and landscapes of Kyrgyzstan. I am also grateful to Jonathan Cooter, Manchester, Great Britain, for his kind help with a final correction of the manuscript.

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Fig. 1: *Ebaeus* (s.str.) *milkoii* sp.n., habitus of the holotypus.



Figs 2-6: *Ebaeus (s.str.) milkoii* sp.n.: (2) apex of right elytron of male; (3) apical sternite of male; (4) apical tergite of male; (5) tegmen; (6) aedeagus, dorsally; (7) distribution map. Scale bar 0.5 mm.

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