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Koleopterologische Rundschau	70	65 – 67	Wien, Juni 2000

Revision of the Palearctic species of the genus *Ochthebius* LEACH XVIII. Description of two new species from the Balearic Islands, Spain (Coleoptera: Hydraenidae)

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Abstract

Ochthebius pedroi sp.n. and *O. javieri* sp.n. (Coleoptera: Hydraenidae), two members of the *Ochthebius metallescens* group, are described from the Balearic Islands.

Key words: Coleoptera, Hydraenidae, *Ochthebius metallescens* group, new species, Spain, Balearic Islands, Mallorca, Menorca.

Introduction

The *Ochthebius* (s.str.) *metallescens* ROSENHAUER species group was treated in a paper very recently (JÄCH 1999). When the manuscript was in press, L.F. Valladares and P. Aguilera sent some additional specimens, collected by P. Aguilera and J. García-Avilés in the Balearic Islands and which had been identified earlier as *Ochthebius poweri* RYE (VALLADARES & GARCÍA-AVILÉS 1999). These specimens turned out to represent two new species belonging to the *O. metallescens* species group. These two species are described herein.

Acronyms:

CAB: Coll. Aguilera, Barcelona; CGM: Coll. García-Avilés, Madrid; CRB: Coll. Ribera, Barcelona; CVL: Coll. Valladares, Universidad de León; NMW: Naturhistorisches Museum, Wien; PL projected length of aedeagus (sensu JÄCH 1998)

Ochthebius pedroi sp.n.

Ochthebius poweri sensu VALLADARES & GARCÍA-AVILÉS 1999 (partim).

TYPE LOCALITY: Sa Mata [spring], near Sa Calobra, 700 m a.s.l., northwestern Mallorca, Balearic Islands, Spain.

TYPE MATERIAL: **Holotype** ♂ (NMW): "MALLORCA: 2.8.1993 Sa Calobra, 700m Font de Sa Mata leg. P. Aguilera". **Paratypes**: 2 ♂♂ (CAB): labelled as holotype; 1 ♀ (CVL, in alcohol): "Embalse [= dam] de Cúber - - Mallorca 06.02.88 J.García-Avilés, leg.".

Additional material (not examined): 1 ♂ (CGM), 1 ♀ (CVL): Mallorca, Cúber dam. The female is partly damaged (e-mail message from L.F. Valladares, 5.I.1997 [= faulty computer date, in fact this e-mail arrived in June 1999]).

DIAGNOSIS: 1.35 - 1.50 mm long. Externally, this species resembles *Ochthebius viganoi* in the elytral disc being rather smooth and glabrous between punctures, by the pronotal "ears" being not gibbose posteriorly, by the deep postocular emargination (thus anterior pronotal angles being

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rather acute), by the parallel-sided elytra, and by the metasternal disc being almost entirely glabrous. *Ochthebius pedroi* can be distinguished from *O. poweri* and its allies (*O. morettii* PIRISINU, *O. latinorum* IENIŞTEA) by the less densely punctate, rather distinctly shining pronotal disc.

Aedeagus (Fig. 1): Main piece rather short (PL: 270 - 300 µm), ventrally evenly curved (lateral view); with ca. 7 - 11 micropores near base of distal lobe; subapical setae very short and inconspicuous; phallobase asymmetrical (ventral view). Distal lobe crescentic; apex slightly upturned, not knobby; dorsal hiatus long, elongate U-shaped. Parameres more or less symmetrical, close to main piece, inserted ventrally near basal 0.45 of main piece; apices slightly widened, with moderately long setae.

The aedeagus of *Ochthebius pedroi* differs significantly from other species of the group by the rather typical shape of the apex of the distal lobe and by the comparatively long and U-shaped dorsal hiatus.

DISTRIBUTION: This species is obviously endemic to Mallorca (Balearic Islands, Spain). It has been recorded from Mallorca by VALLADARES & GARCÍA-AVILÉS (1999) under the name *Ochthebius poweri*.

ETYMOLOGY: Named for Pedro Aguilera.

Ochthebius javieri sp.n.

Ochthebius poweri sensu VALLADARES & GARCÍA-AVILÉS 1999 (partim).

TYPE LOCALITY: Slightly brackish pond at Cabo de Favàritx, U.T.M.: 31SFE073284, 2 m a.s.l., northwestern Menorca, Balearic Islands, Spain.

TYPE MATERIAL: **Holotype** ♂ (NMW): "E-Menorca '88 Favàritx,31.V. leg. García-Avilés".

DIAGNOSIS: 1.6 mm long. Head and pronotum with faint metallic lustre. Pronotal disc densely punctate. Externally, this species resembles *Ochthebius morettii* but differs from it in the interstices of the pronotal disc being not microreticulate. Pronotal disc more densely punctate and pronotal "ears" less strongly deflexed than in *O. pedroi*.

Aedeagus (Fig. 2): Very similar to that of *Ochthebius pedroi* and *O. morettii*. It can be distinguished from *O. pedroi* by the following characters: Main piece distinctly longer (PL: 370 µm); Dorsal hiatus of distal lobe much wider, V-shaped; Parameres inserted near 0.5 of main piece. It differs from *O. morettii* in the shape of the apex of the distal lobe and in the dorsal hiatus of the distal lobe being much longer.

DISTRIBUTION: This species is obviously endemic to Menorca (Balearic Islands, Spain). It has been recorded from Menorca by VALLADARES & GARCÍA-AVILÉS (1999) under the name *Ochthebius poweri*.

ETYMOLOGY: Named for Javier García-Avilés.

Acknowledgements

I am grateful to P. Aguilera, J. García-Avilés and L.F. Valladares for sending these valuable specimens.

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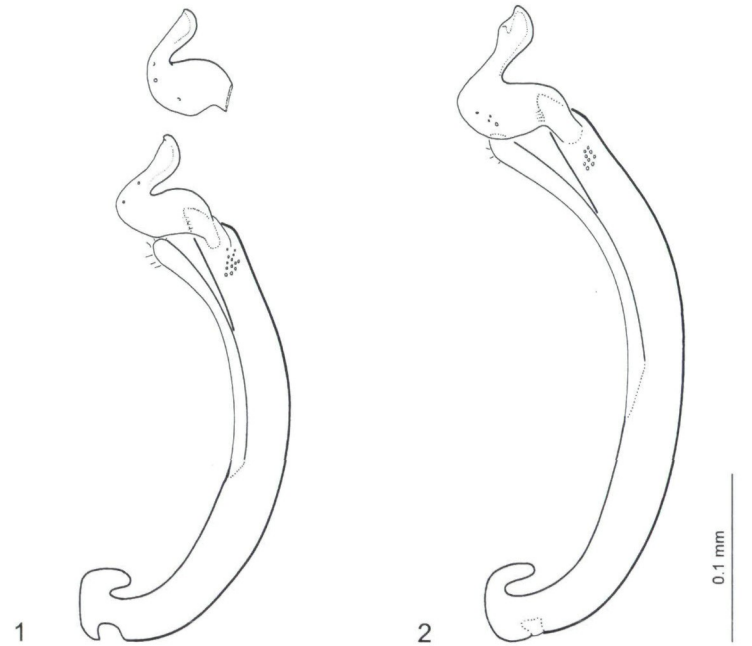

Figs. 1 - 2: Aedeagus, lateral view, 1) *Ochthebius pedroi* (inset: distal lobe of different specimen), 2) *O. javieri*.

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Zeitschrift/Journal: Koleopterologische Rundschau

Jahr/Year: 2000

Band/Volume: 70_2000

Autor(en)/Author(s): Jäch Manfred A.

Artikel/Article: Revision of the Palearctic species of the genus Ochthebius XVIII. (Hydraenidae). 65-67