©Wiener Coleopterologenverein (WCV), download unter www.biologiezentrum.at

Koleopterologische Rundschau	72	159 – 160	Wien, Juni 2002

Revison of the Palearctic species of the genus *Ochthebius* LEACH XXI. Taxonomic notes on the *O. andraei* species group (Coleoptera: Hydraenidae)

M.A. JÄCH

Abstract

New taxonomic notes on the *Ochthebius andraei* species group (Coleoptera: Hydraenidae) are presented: *Ochthebius inelegans* sp.n. is described from northeastern Turkey (Kars) and northwestern Iran (Azarbaijan); *O. elegans* JANSSENS, 1969 is synonymized with *O. cupricollis* SAHLBERG, 1903. The distal lobe of the aedeagus of *O. cupricollis* is illustrated for the first time.

Key words: Coleoptera, Hydraenidae, *Ochthebius andraei* species group, new species, taxonomy.

Introduction

The *Ochthebius andraei* species group was revised by JÄCH (1992). However, examination of additional material, including males, from the type locality of *Ochthebius elegans* JANSSENS revealed a new synonymy and enabled description of a new species.

Sincere thanks are due to P. Cate (Wien) and A. Dostal (Wien) for the gift of valuable specimens, which they collected during their excursion to Turkmenistan. I am obliged to A. Atamehr (Tabriz) for sending specimens of the new species.

Acronyms: ISNB (Institut royal des Sciences naturelles de Belgique, Bruxelles), NMW (Naturhistorisches Museum, Wien), PL (Projected Length of aedeagus, sensu JÄCH 1998), ZMH (Eläinmuseo (Zoologiska museet), Helsinki).

Ochthebius cupricollis SAHLBERG

Ochthebius cupricollis SAHLBERG 1903: 6.
Ochthebius elegans JANSSENS 1969: 299 - **syn.n.**

TYPE LOCALITY: Kopetdag [Mountain Range], southern Turkmenistan.

TYPE MATERIAL: I have examined all four female syntypes (ISNB) of *O. elegans* and the male holotype (ZMH) of *O. cupricollis*.

ADDITIONAL MATERIAL: 23 exs.: Badchys Reserve, Eroilanduz, Mary District, southern Turkmenistan, 18.-20.IV.1993, leg. Cate & Dostal (NMW).

SYNONYMY: Although the aedeagus of the holotype of *Ochthebius cupricollis* is damaged (see JÄCH 1992: Fig. 5), there remains little doubt that the 23 specimens from the Badchys Reserve (type locality of *O. elegans*) belong to *O. cupricollis*.

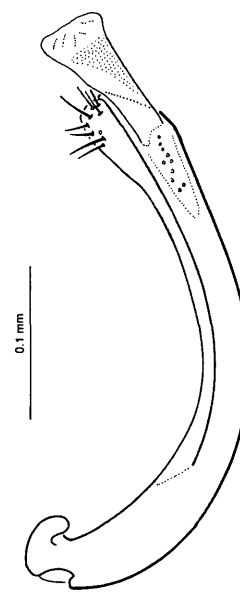

Fig. 1: *Ochthebius cupricollis*, aedeagus

©Wiener Coleopterologenverein (WCV), download unter www.biologiezentrum.at

DIAGNOIS: 1.5 – 1.7 mm long. Colouration brownish, head and pronotum with distinct cupreous sheen; anterior margin of male labrum distinctly upturned; pronotal disc (foveae and interfoveal area) densely micropunctate or shagreened.

Aedeagus (Fig. 1): The distal lobe of the aedeagus has not been depicted before; it is about 0.1 mm long, more or less flattened laterally, gradually widened towards apex, apically truncate. The aedeagus vaguely resembles that of *O. andraei*, from which it can be distinguished by the smaller size and the main piece being more strongly curved in lateral view.

DISTRIBUTION: Known only from southern Turkmenistan.

Ochthebius inelegans sp.n.

Ochthebius elegans sensu JÄCH 1992: 12.

TYPE LOCALITY: Small saline stream, east of Tuzluca, province of Kars, northeastern Turkey.

TYPE MATERIAL: **Holotype** ♂ (NMW): "TR-KARS 7.6.89 Ö.Tuzluca leg.Jäch (66)". **Paratypes** (NMW, ISNB): 15 exs., same label data as holotype; 7 exs.: "IRAN (05), 1400 m Varkhesh River, 7 km NW Tabriz, 4.XI.2000 leg. A. Atamehr".

ADDITIONAL MATERIAL: 13 exs. from the Varkhesh River (same locality, date and collector as for the paratypes) are deposited in the Tehran Azad University, Iran.

DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS: 1.6 - 1.8 mm long. *Ochthebius inelegans* and *O. cupricollis* are easily distinguished from other related species (e.g. *O. andraei*, *O. caspius*, *O. madli*) by the shallow (sometimes almost obsolete) pronotal impressions. Externally, *O. inelegans* can be distinguished from *O. cupricollis* by several characters: colouration black, head and pronotum with very faint metallic lustre; labrum more strongly excised, anterior margin not upturned in male; interfoveal area of pronotal disc smooth and glabrous, superficially punctate; female elytra more widely explanate laterally and more strongly produced apically.

Aedeagus (see JÄCH 1992: Fig. 2): Main piece long and straight, apex almost truncate; distal lobe large and conspicuously shaped. The aedeagus differs significantly from all other known species of the group in the shape of main piece and distal lobe.

DISTRIBUTION: So far known only from northeastern Turkey (Kars) and northwestern Iran (Azarbaijan).

ETYMOLOGY: inelegans (Latin, not elegant); in reference to the fact that the type specimens had earlier been identified as *Ochthebius elegans* (see JÄCH 1992).

References

JÄCH, M.A. 1992: Revision of the Palearctic species of the genus *Ochthebius* Leach, 1815. IX. The *andraei* and *notabilis* species groups (Coleoptera, Hydraenidae). - Nachrichtenblatt Bayerischer Entomologen 41 (1): 7-21.

Jäch, M. A. 1998: Revision of the Palearctic species of the genus *Ochthebius* Leach XX. The *O.* (*Asiobates*) *rugulosus* Wollaston species complex (Coleoptera: Hydraenidae). – Koleopterologische Rundschau 68: 175-187.

JANSSENS, E. 1969: Contribution á l'étude des *Ochthebius* (Col.Hydraenidae) du Turkmenistan. - Bulletin et Annales de la Société royale belge de l'Entomologie 105: 299-304.

SAHLBERG, J. 1903: Coleoptera mediterranea et rosso-asiatica. - Öfversigt af Finska Vetenskaps-Societetens Förhandlingar XLV (10): 1-7.

Dr. Manfred A. JÄCH
Naturhistorisches Museum, Burgring 7, A - 1014 Wien, Austria (manfred.jaech@nhm-wien.ac.at)

ZOBODAT - www.zobodat.at

Zoologisch-Botanische Datenbank/Zoological-Botanical Database

Digitale Literatur/Digital Literature

Zeitschrift/Journal: Koleopterologische Rundschau

Jahr/Year: 2002

Band/Volume: 72_2002

Autor(en)/Author(s): Jäch Manfred A.

Artikel/Article: Revison of the Palearctic species of the genus Ochthebius LEACH XXI. Taxonomic notes on the O. andraei species group (Coleoptera: Hydraenidae). 159-160