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A revision of Western Palearctic *Medon*. V. A new species from Iran and additional records (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae, Paederinae)

V. ASSING

A b s t r a c t : *Medon serriae* nov.sp. of the *M. fuscus* group is described and illustrated. Additional records of Western Palearctic *Medon* species are reported. *Medon paradisiacus* ASSING is recorded from Iran for the first time. The distributions of 4 species are mapped.

K e y w o r d s : Coleoptera, Staphylinidae, Paederinae, *Medon*, Palearctic region, Iran, taxonomy, new species, new records.

Introduction

According to recent revisions and two supplements, the genus *Medon* STEPHENS is represented in the Western Palearctic region by 53 species, disregarding five nomina dubia (ASSING 2004a, 2004b, 2005, 2006). A synonymic catalogue was provided by ASSING (2005). Only recently, another species was described from Western Turkey (ASSING in press), so that the genus currently comprises Western Palearctic 54 (sub-) species.

In the meantime, more material has become available especially from Turkey, Israel, and Iran, but also from several European countries and from North Africa. An examination of this material yielded not only a new species from Iran, but also various additional records of zoogeographic interest.

Material, methods, and measurements

The material referred to in this study is deposited in the following public institutions and private collections:

- DEI..... Deutsches Entomologisches Institut, Müncheberg (L. Zerche)
- MNHUB..... Museum für Naturkunde der Humboldt-Universität Berlin (J. Frisch)
- NHMW Naturhistorisches Museum Wien (H. Schillhammer)
- SMNS..... Staatliches Museum für Naturkunde, Stuttgart (W. Schawaller, K. Wolf-Schwenninger)

TAU National Museum of Natural History, Tel Aviv University (A. Freidberg)
 TLMFI Tiroler Landesmuseum Ferdinandeum, Innsbruck (M. Kahlen)
 cAss..... author's private collection
 cAnl..... private collection Sinan Anlaş, Turgutlu
 cApf private collection Wolfgang Apfel, Eisenach
 cFel private collection Benedikt Feldmann, Münster
 cSch..... private collection Michael Schülke, Berlin

The morphological studies were carried out using a Stemi SV 11 microscope (Zeiss Germany) and a Jenalab compound microscope (Carl Zeiss Jena) with a drawing tube. For the photographs a digital camera (Nikon Coolpix 995) was used.

Head length was measured from the anterior margin of the clypeus to the posterior margin of the head, elytral length at suture from the apex of the scutellum to the posterior margin of the elytra.

The maps were generated using the online generic mapping tool (GMT) of the Geomar website at www.aquarius.ifm-geomar.de/omc.

Species description and additional records

Medon maronitus (SAULCY 1864)

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 : Greece: 3 exs., Kápathos, Spoa, 500 m, 23.IV.1994, leg. Frisch (MNHUB); 4 exs., Rhódos, Petaloudes (Butterfly valley), 15.IV.1994, leg. Frisch (MNHUB, cAss). Turkey: I z m i r : 2 exs., Karaburun, 38°35N, 26°29E, 550 m, 26.IV.2006, leg. Brachat & Meybohm (cAss); A y d i n : 3 exs., Dilek Dağı, Kanyon, 37°41N, 27°10E, 100 m, 27.IV.2006, leg. leg. Brachat & Meybohm (cAss). Iran: 1 ex., Azarbayjan-e Sharqi, Aras valley at Qara Dagh, Mardanghem, 38°50N, 46°33E, 500 m, 10.VIII.2005, leg. Frisch & Serri (MNHUB).

C o m m e n t : The presence of this widespread species in Iran was previously uncertain (ASSING 2004a). For a map illustrating the distribution see ASSING (2004a).

Medon caricus FAGEL 1970

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 : Turkey: I z m i r : 2 exs., Kemalpaşa, light trap in cherry orchard, 28.VII.2005, leg. Anlaş (cFel).

C o m m e n t : The species is known only from the Turkish provinces Izmir and Muğla, as well as from the Greek island Nikariá (ASSING 2004a).

Medon impar ASSING 2004

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 : Greece: R h ó d o s : 3 exs., Petaloudes (Butterfly valley), 15.IV.1994, leg. Frisch (MNHUB, cAss); 2 exs., Apollona, 16.IV.1994, leg. Frisch (MNHUB).

C o m m e n t : The known distribution of this species is confined to the Greek island Rhódos (ASSING 2004a, 2005).

***Medon cerrutii* COIFFAIT 1976**

Additional material examined: Greece: Kárpáthos: 6 exs., Spoa, 500 m, 23.IV.1994, leg. Frisch (MNHUB, cAss); 14 exs., Olympos, 300 m, 26.IV.1994, leg. Frisch (MNHUB, cAss).

Comment: The species was previously known only from Crete (ASSING 2004a, 2005); it is here reported from Kárpáthos for the first time.

***Medon brunneus* (ERICHSON 1839)**

Additional material examined: Greece: Pelopónnisos: 1 ex., Olympia, Ladzoi, 100 m, 22.III.1992, leg. Frisch (MNHUB); 1 ex., Taygetos, Kalamata-Sparta, 1300 m, 1.IV.1992, leg. Frisch (MNHUB).

Comment: In Greece, *M. brunneus* is by far the most common species of the genus; an updated distribution map is provided by ASSING (2006).

***Medon ferrugineus* (ERICHSON 1837)**

Additional material examined: Austria: Burgenland: 2 exs., Halbthum, 2.V.1953, leg. Schubert (NHMW, cAss); 1 ex., Jois, 3.V.1953, leg. Schubert (NHMW). Turkey: 1 ex., Gümüşhane, ca. 80 km SW Trabzon, Zigana pass, 40°37'N, 39°24'E, 2050 m, roots of grass, moss, and shrubs sifted, 23.VII.2006, leg. Schülke (cSch).

Comment: For a map illustrating the Ponto-Mediterranean distribution of this species see ASSING (2004a).

***Medon cauchoisi* JARRIGE 1949**

Additional material examined: Spain: Andalucía: 1 ex., 15 km S Jaen, Sierra de la Pandera, 37°39'N, 3°44'W, 720 m, 8.X.2005, leg. Behne (DEI).

Comment: For a map illustrating the Atlanto-Mediterranean distribution of this species see ASSING (2006).

***Medon piceus* (KRAATZ 1858)**

Additional material examined: Spain: Andalucía: 1 ex., 15 km S Jaen, Sierra de la Pandera, 37°39'N, 3°44'W, 720 m, 8.X.2005, leg. Behne (DEI).

Comment: A map illustrating the Atlanto-Mediterranean distribution of this species is provided by ASSING (2006).

***Medon semiobscurus* (FAUVEL 1875)**

Additional material examined: Turkey: Aydın: 1 ex., Dilek Dağı, Kanyon, 37°41'N, 27°10'E, pine litter, 25.III.2006, leg. Martens (cAss); 3 exs., Dilek Dağı, Kanyon, 37°41'N, 27°10'E, 70-370 m, 16.IV.2006, leg. Brachat & Meybohm (cAss); 1 ex., Dilek Dağı, S Kanyon, 37°40'N, 27°11'E, 670 m, 17.IV.2006, leg. Brachat & Meybohm (cAss); 5 exs., Dilek Dağı, S Güzelçamlı, 37°41'N, 27°14'E, 410 m, 28.IV.2006, leg. Brachat & Meybohm (cAss); 2 exs., Dilek Dağı, Kanyon, 37°41'N, 27°10'E, 70-200 m, 29.IV.2006, leg. Brachat & Meybohm (cAss); Muğla: 3 exs., Bafa lake, southern shore, 37°29'N, 27°29'E, ca. 20 m, *Mastix* litter, 19-29.III.2006, leg. Meybohm (cAss); 3 exs., Bafa lake, Kapikiri, 37°30'N, 37°32'E, 120 m, 20.III.2006, leg. Meybohm (cAss); Antalya: 3 exs., 16 km NE Demirtas, 36°30'N, 32°20'E, 800-1100 m, 26.V.2006, leg. Weigel (cApf); 1 ex., 18 km NE Demirtas, 36°29'N, 32°23'E, 1550 m,

26.-28.V.2006, leg. Skale (cApf). Israel: 1 ex., Golan Heights, Merom Golan, 33°08N, 35°48E, 936 m, oak forest, 23./30.IV.2006, leg. Wrase (cSch); 2 exs. [det. Feldmann], Golan Heights, Merom Golan, 33°08N, 35°47E, 2.II.2007, 830 m, oak forest, leg. Feldmann (cFel); 1 ex., North District, Upper Galilee, Tanur reserve, Tanur river, 33°16N, 35°35E, floodplain forest, gravel bank, 1.V.2006, leg. Wrase (cAss); 6 exs. [det. Feldmann], Upper Galilee, Meron Mts, Ya'ar Bar'am, 33°02N, 35°25E, 22.II.2005, leg. Abmann & Starke (cFel); 2 exs. [det. Feldmann], same data, but 3.II.2007 (cFel); 1 ex. [det. Feldmann], Upper Galilee, Hurfeish, 33°00N 35°22E, 3.II.2007, leg. Feldmann (cFel); 1 ex. [det. Feldmann], same data, but 3.II.2007, leg. Starke (cFel); 1 ex. [det. Feldmann], Montfort env., Nakhal Kziv, 12.XII.1998, leg. Finkel (TAU); 1 ex. [det. Feldmann], same data, but 8.V.1999 (TAU).

C o m m e n t : In the Eastern Mediterranean, this species is one of the most common representatives of the genus (ASSING 2004a, 2004b, 2005, 2006). For a map illustrating its distribution see ASSING (2004a)

***Medon rufiventris* (NORDMANN 1837)**

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 : Hungary: 1 ex., Matty, 15.IV.1995, leg. Eifler (cAss). Romania: 1 ex., Băile Herculane, 28.V.1931 (MNHUB). Greece: 11 exs., Metsovon, 1200 m, 8.IV.1993, leg. Frisch (MNHUB, cAss); 1 ex., Ipiros, Urosina, 400 m, 9.IV.1992, leg. Frisch (MNHUB); 4 exs., Pelopónnisos, Olympia, Ladzoi, 100 m, 25.III.1992, leg. Frisch (MNHUB, cAss); 3 exs., Pelopónnisos, SE Zakháro, 10 km W Néa Figalía, 100 m, 2.X.2004, leg. Bense (SMNS, cAss); 1 ex., Pelopónnisos, Taygetos, 1300 m, 7.VII.2005, leg. Eifler (cAss).

C o m m e n t : An updated map illustrating the distribution of this widespread, but rare species is provided by Assing (2006).

***Medon dilutus dilutus* (ERICHSON 1839)**

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 : Germany: 1 ♀, Nordrhein-Westfalen, Kreis Wesel, Diersfordter Forst, 8.V.2003, leg. Mehring (cFel).

C o m m e n t : Since the distributions of *M. dilutus dilutus* and *M. dilutus cephalus* KOCH are only insufficiently known, the subspecific identity of the above female must be regarded as uncertain. Only few confirmed records of *M. dilutus* have become known from western Germany (ASSING 2006).

***Medon dilutus pythonissa* (SAULCY 1864)**

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 : Greece, mainland: 1 ex., Pieria, W Katerini, Moschochori env., oak forest, 18.IV.2006, leg. Vit (cAss); Pelopónnisos: 5 exs., Gythio, 1.VII.2005, leg. Eifler (cAss); Kárpáthos: 2 exs., Spoa, 500 m, 23.IV.1994, leg. Frisch (MNHUB, cAss); 1 ex., Olympos, 300 m, 26.IV.1994, leg. Frisch (MNHUB); Crete: 1 ex., Rethimni, Ida range, 7.5 km S Anogia, 35°15N, 24°53E, 1200 m, 21.X.2006, leg. Schülke (cSch); 5 exs., Irakleio, Ida range, 6 km S Analipsis, 35°11N, 24°50E, 1260 m, oak forest, 21.X.2006, leg. Schülke (cSch, cAss); 2 exs., Rethimni, ca. 1.5 km S Kanevos, Kotsifos cleft, 35°14N, 24°24E, 440 m, 20.X.2006, leg. Schülke (cSch); 1 ex., Chania, ca. 1.5 km SW Platanos, 35°27N, 23°36E, 365 m, *Platanus* litter, 18.X.2006, leg. Schülke (cAss); 1 ex., Rethimni, beach near Dramia, 35°21N, 24°20E, 22.X.2006, leg. Schülke (cSch). Turkey: Aydin: 1 ex., ca. 5 km WSW Karakasu, Karınçalı Dağı, 37°43N, 28°35E, 790 m, creek valley, *Platanus* and chestnut litter sifted, 8.IV.2006, leg. Assing (cAss); 4 exs., Dilek Dağı, Kanyon, 37°41N, 27°10E, 70-370 m, 16.IV.2006, leg. Brachat & Meybohm (cAss); 1 ex., Dilek Dağı, S Kanyon, 37°40N, 27°11E, 670 m, 17.IV.2006, leg. Brachat & Meybohm (cAss); Muğla: 1 ex., Bafa lake, southern shore, 37°29N, 27°29E, ca. 20 m, *Mastix* litter, 19.-29.III.2006, leg. Meybohm (cAss); 1 ex., Bafa lake, Kapikiri, 37°30N, 37°32E, 120 m, 20.III.2006, leg. Meybohm (cAss); 1 ex., Bafa lake, Yediler monastery, 37°30N, 27°33E, 230 m, 24.III.2006, leg. Meybohm (cAss); 2 exs., Labranda, 37°25N, 27°49E, 550-660 m, 18.IV.2006, leg. Brachat & Meybohm (cAss); Ankara: 1 ex., Gölbaşı,

29.X.1995, leg. Vit (cAss). Israel: 1 ex., Golan Heights, Merom Golan, 33°08N, 35°48E, 936 m, oak forest, 23./30.IV.2006, leg. Wrase (cSch); 1 ex., North District, Upper Galilee, Meron Mts., Har Meron, 1135 m, oak forest, 29.IV.2006, leg. Wrase (cSch); 1 ex., North District, Upper Galilee, Alma cave S Alma vill., 33°02N, 35°31E, 630 m, cave entrance, 29.IV.2006, leg. Wrase (cAss); 1 ex. [det. Feldmann], Upper Galilee, Ya'ar Bar'am, 33°02N, 35°25E, 22.II.2005, leg. Starke (cFel)

C o m m e n t: This subspecies is common and widespread in the Eastern Mediterranean region; for maps illustrating its distribution see ASSING (2004a, 2006).

***Medon ripicola* (KRAATZ 1854)**

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: Spain: 1 ex., Cataluña, P. Vent. Vidreras, VII.1988, leg. Eifler (cAss). Italy: 1 ex., Liguria, Genova, Lumarzo/Pannesi, 350 m, chestnut litter, 23.V.1993, leg. Kahlen (TLMFI); 1 ex., Veneto, Treviso, Montello, 18.X.1987, leg. Kahlen (cAss). Germany: 1 ex. [with teratological aedeagus], Hessen, Dutenhofen near Wetzlar, NSG Lahnaue, flood debris, 24.I.2007, leg. Hetzel (cFel).

C o m m e n t: An updated map illustrating the expansive Atlanto-Mediterranean distribution of this species is provided by ASSING (2006).

***Medon fuscus* (MANNERHEIM 1830)**

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: Austria: Niederösterreich: 4 exs., Moosbrunn, 28.II.1953, leg. Schubert (NHMW); 1 ex., same data, but 6.IV.1953 (NHMW). Greece: 1 ex., Sithonia, Sarti, 40°05N, 23°59E, 10 m, 6.VII.2006, leg. Frisch (MNHUB); 8 exs., Sithonia, 5 km N Sarti, 40°07N, 23°58E, 20 m, 20.VII.2006, leg. Frisch (MNHUB); 5 exs., Sithonia, road Armenistis-Sarti, 5 m, 10.VII.2006, leg. Frisch (MNHUB); 3 exs., 5 km NW Kalambaka, 39°44N, 21°36E, 250 m, 14.VII.2006, leg. Frisch (MNHUB); 1 ex., Pelopónnisos, Taygetos, Meligalás, Dhervónion, 600 m, 26.III.1992, leg. Frisch (MNHUB). Turkey: I z m i r: 1 ex., Kemalpaşa, light trap in cherry orchard, 28.VII.2005, leg. S. Anlaş (cFel); A y d i n: 3 exs., Bozdoğan, 37°44N, 28°20E, 80 m, 19.IV.2006, leg. Brachat & Meybohm (cAss); 3 exs., Dilek Dağı, S Güzelçamlı, 37°41N, 27°14E, 440 m, leg. Brachat & Meybohm (cAss); A n k a r a: 4 exs., SE Ankara, N-Elma Dağı, 1300 m, hollow *Salix* trunk, 31.X.1995, leg. Vit (cAss). Israel: 6 exs. [det. Feldmann], Hevron env., cave Nuba-Beit Aula, 21.V.1969, leg. M. Warburg (TAU, cFel)

C o m m e n t: For an updated map of the expansive Ponto-Mediterranean distribution of this species see ASSING (2006).

***Medon lydicus* BORDONI 1980**

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: Greece: R h ó d o s: 83 exs., Petaloudes (Butterfly valley), 15.&19.IV.1994, leg. Frisch (MNHUB, cAss). Turkey: M a n i s a: 3 exs., Turgutlu, Çatalköprü, 5.VIII.2005, leg. Anlaş (cAnl, cAss). A y d i n: 1 ex., ca. 5 km WSW Karakasu, Karınçalı Dağı, 37°43N, 28°35E, 790 m, creek valley, *Platanus* and chestnut sifted, 8.IV.2006, leg. Assing (cAss); 1 ex., Dilek Dağı, Kanyon, 37°41N, 27°10E, pine litter, 25.III.2006, leg. Martens (cAss); 3 exs., Dilek Dağı, Kanyon, 37°41N, 27°10E, 70-370 m, 16.IV.2006, leg. Brachat & Meybohm (cAss); 1 ex., Dilek Dağı, S Kanyon, 37°40N, 27°11E, 670 m, 17.IV.2006, leg. Brachat & Meybohm (cAss); 2 exs., Dilek Dağı, S Güzelçamlı, 37°41N, 27°14E, 410 m, 28.IV.2006, leg. Brachat & Meybohm (cAss); 1 ex., Dilek Dağı, Kanyon, 37°41N, 27°10E, 70-200 m, 29.IV.2006, leg. Brachat & Meybohm (cAss); 3 exs., Dilek Dağı, Kanyon, 37°41N, 27°10E, 100 m, 27.IV.2006, leg. Brachat & Meybohm (cAss).

C o m m e n t: The known distribution of *M. lydicus* includes southeastern Bulgaria, western Anatolia, and the Greek islands Rhódos, Sámos, Ikária, and the Dhodhekánisos (ASSING 2004a, 2005).

***Medon abantensis* BORDONI 1980**

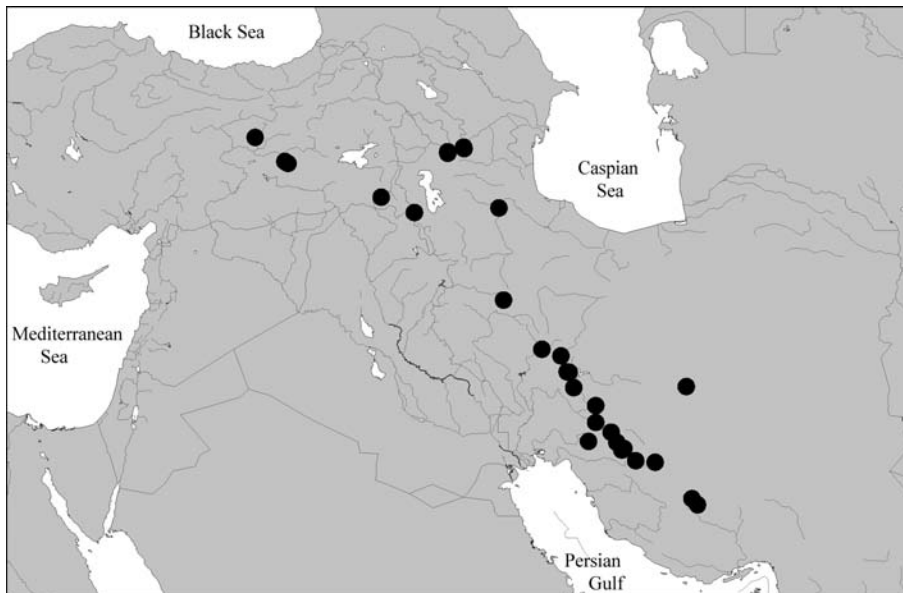
A d d i t i o n a l m a t e r i a l e x a m i n e d : Turkey: Izmir: 1 ex., Boz Dağlar, above Bozdağ, road to ski resort, 38°21N, 28°06E, 1480 m, N-slope with grass and stones, sifted, 3.IV.2006, leg. Assing (cAss).

C o m m e n t : The previously known distribution of this species ranges from northern Anatolia to the western Caucasus region (ASSING 2004a, 2004b); it is here reported from western Anatolia for the first time.

***Medon lindbergi* SCHEERPELTZ 1958**

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 : Turkey: Kahramanmaraş: 1 ex., Nurhak D., 2.VII.2006 (cAnl). Gaziantep: 1 ex., Şahinbey, Sofalıcı creek, 7.VI.2006 (cAnl). Adıyaman: 1 ex., Uçgöz, 8.VII.2006 (cAss). Israel: 1 ex., North District, Upper Galilee, Kfar Nakhum (Capernaum), 32°53N, 35°35E, 200 m, shore with stones and gravel, 22.IV.2006, leg. Wrase (cSch); 1 ex. [det. Feldmann], Golan Heights, Merom Golan, 33°08N, 35°47E, 830 m, oak forest, 2.II.2007, leg. Feldmann (cFel).

C o m m e n t : The distribution of this species is confined to the Middle East from central southern Anatolia to Israel. In Turkey, the species was previously known only from Adana and Antakya provinces (ASSING 2004a, 2004b, 2005).



Map 1: Distribution of *Medon fusculoides* COIFFAIT in Turkey, Armenia, and Iran, based on revised records.

***Medon fuscoides* COIFFAIT 1969 (Map 1)**

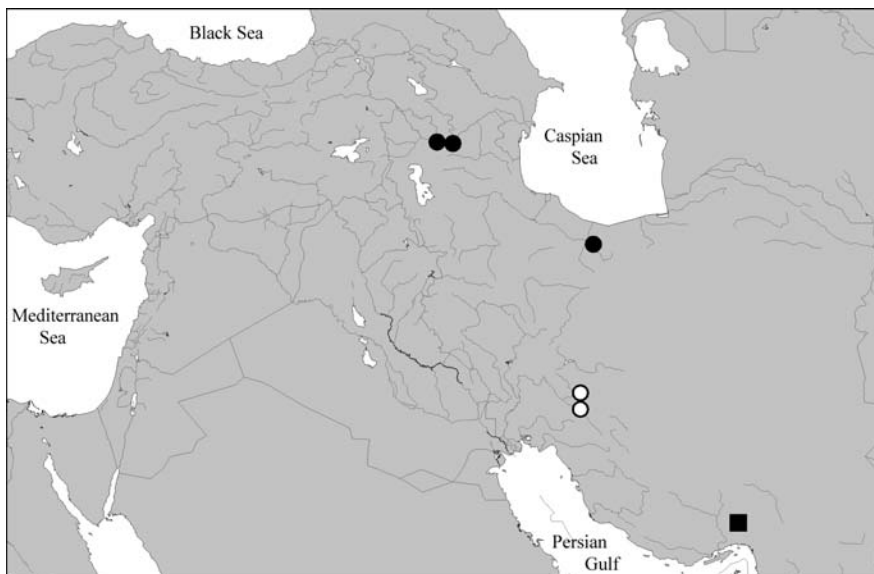
A d d i t i o n a l m a t e r i a l e x a m i n e d : Iran: Fars province: 1 ex., Fars, S Kakan, Dasht-e Khoshk, 30°29'N, 51°51'E, 2400 m, 7.VII.2004, leg. Frisch (MNHUB); 5 exs. [1 ♂ with teratological aedeagus], Margun river, 30°32'E, 51°55'E, 2040 m, 9.VI.2004, leg. Frisch et al. (MNHUB); 9 exs. [partly teneral], Estahban–Darab road, 23 km NW Darab, 28°53'N, 54°24'E, 1340 m, 24.IV.2006, leg. Frisch & Serri (MNHUB, cAss); 19 exs. [partly teneral], road Estahban–Darab, Ij, 29°03', 54°13'E, 1630 m, 24.IV.2006, leg. Frisch & Serri (MNHUB, cAss); A z a r b a y j a n - e S h a r q i: 91 exs., Aras valley at Qara Dagh, Mardanghem, 38°50'N, 46°33'E, 500 m, 10.VIII.2005, leg. Frisch & Serri (MNHUB, cAss); 28 exs., Aras valley at Qara Dagh, Marzabad, 38°52'N, 46°32'E, 400 m, 10.VIII.2005, leg. Frisch & Serri (MNHUB, cAss); 7 exs., Komar Olih, Kiyamaki Dagh, 38°43'N, 46°00'E, 1320 m, 11.VIII.2005, leg. Frisch & Serri (MNHUB, cAss); 23 exs., Komar Olih, Kiyamaki Dagh, 38°44'N, 46°00'E, 1230 m, 11.VIII.2005, leg. Frisch & Serri (MNHUB, cAss); C h a h a r m a h a l & B a k h t i a r i: 3 exs., Lordegan, Atashgah, 31°17'N, 50°58'E, 1500 m, 5.VII.2004, leg. Frisch et al. (MNHUB, cAss); 1 ex., Chelgerd-Abbarik, Sardab, 32°17'N, 50°14'E, 2250 m, leg. Frisch et al. (MNHUB); L o r e s t a n p r o v i n c e: 3 exs., SE Dorud, Saravand (Oshtoran Kuh), 2000 m, 33°23'N, 49°10'E, 26.VI.2004, leg. Frisch (MNHUB, cAss).

C o m m e n t : This species is apparently rather common in Iran; its distribution is illustrated in Map 1. Teneral adults were collected in April.

***Medon paradisiacus* ASSING 2004 (Map 2)**

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 : Iran: Azarbaijan-e Sharqi: 2 exs., Aras valley at Qara Dagh, Mardanghem, 38°50'N, 46°33'E, 500 m, 10.VIII.2005, leg. Frisch & Serri (MNHUB, cAss); T e h r a n p r o v i n c e: 1 ex. [teneral], Dizin, Darband Sar, 36°03'N, 51°25'E, 2710 m, 17.VIII.2005, leg. Frisch & Serri (MNHUB).

C o m m e n t : The previously known distribution was confined to Azerbaijan (ASSING 2004a, 2005). The species is here reported from Iran for the first time (Map 2). A teneral specimen was collected in August.



Map 2: Distributions of *Medon paradisiacus* ASSING (filled circles), *M. frischeri* ASSING (open circles), and *M. serriae* sp.nov. (square) in Azerbaijan and Iran.

***Medon frischi* ASSING 2005** (Map 2)

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 : Iran: 5 exs., Chaharmahal & Bakhtiari, Lordegan, Atashgah, 31°17'N, 50°58'E, 1500 m, 5.VII.2004, leg. Frisch et al. (MNHUB, cAss).

C o m m e n t : The distribution of this recently described species is confined to Iran (Map 2).

***Medon serriae* nov.sp.** (Figs 1-8, Map 2)

H o l o t y p e ♂ : Iran, Hormozgan Province, 6 km NE Tall-e Gerdu, 880 m (Bakhun Mts), N 27°50'05", E 056°28'24", 19.04.2006, lg. Frisch & Serri / Holotypus ♂ *Medon serriae* sp.n. det. V. Assing 2007 (MNHUB).

D e s c r i p t i o n : 5.5 mm. Coloration: Head blackish; pronotum castaneous brown; elytra reddish brown; abdomen blackish brown, with the apex (segments VII and following) reddish brown; legs reddish brown; antenna brown.

Head approximately 1.05 times as long as wide; eyes moderately large (Fig. 2) and weakly projecting from lateral outline of head, slightly more than half the length of post-ocular region in dorsal view; integument matt; puncturation very dense, moderately coarse, shallow, and areolate, in central dorsal area mostly well-defined, in lateral areas partly confluent; interstices mostly reduced to very narrow ridges (Fig. 1).

Pronotum approximately as wide as long and 0.93 times as wide as head (Fig. 1); puncturation very fine, very dense, and well-defined; midline with narrow impunctate area not reaching anterior and posterior margins; interstices without microsculpture (Fig. 3).

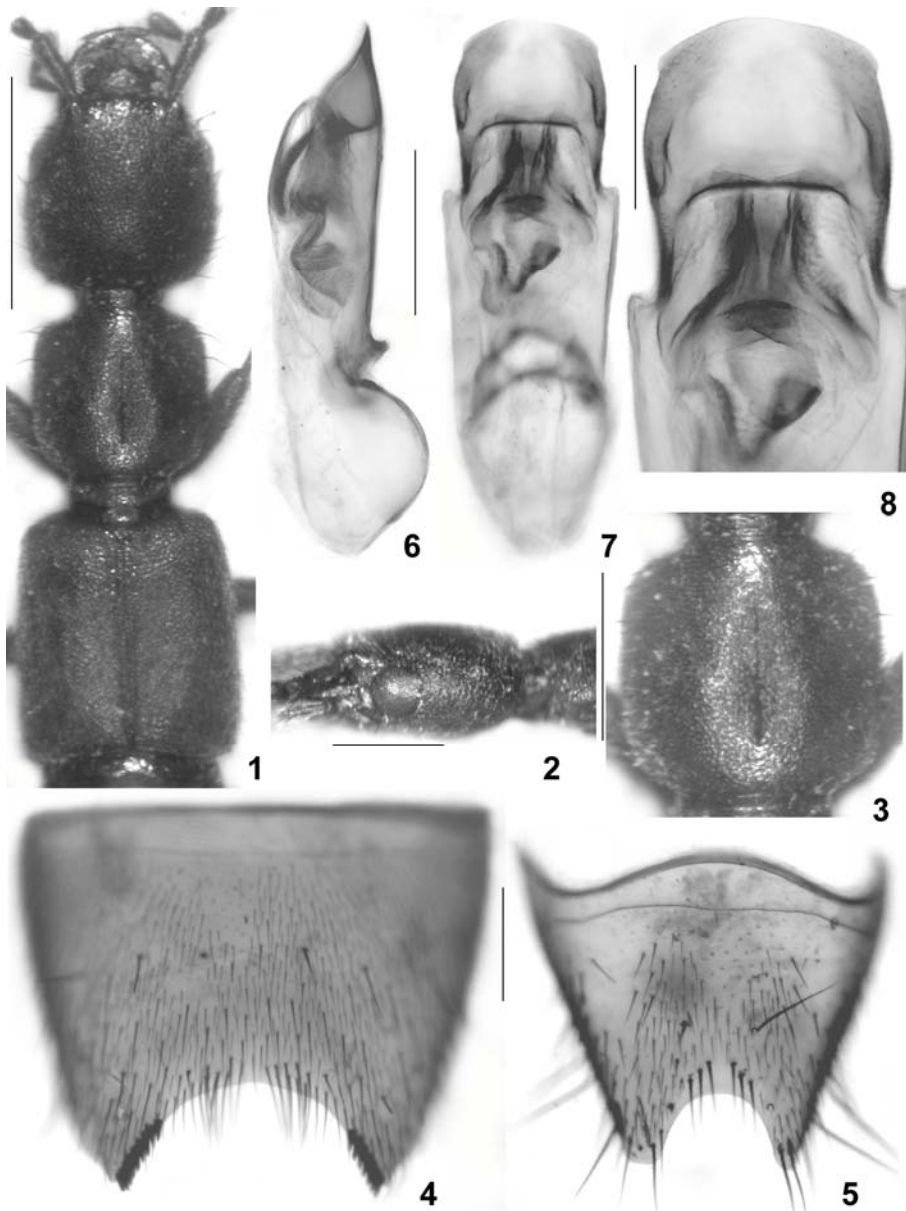
Elytra large, 1.25 times as wide and at suture 1.2 times as long as pronotum; surface matt; puncturation very fine, very dense, and weakly defined. Hind wings evidently fully developed. Legs, antennae, and abdomen of similar morphology as in other species of the *M. fuscus* group.

♂: posterior excavation of sternite VII deep and of almost semicircular (not trapezoid) shape, on either side with a cluster of long thin setae and with a lateral comb of 7-9 palisade setae (Fig. 4); posterior excision of sternite VIII deep and of semicircular shape (Fig. 5); aedeagus with apex of distinctive shape, in lateral view acute and in ventral view almost truncate (Figs 6-8).

C o m p a r a t i v e n o t e s : Based on the morphology of the aedeagus, as well as on the synapomorphic shape and chaetotaxy of the male sternite VII, the new species is doubtlessly a member of the *M. fuscus* group. From other representatives of this group, *M. serriae* is distinguished especially by the shape of the aedeagus, from most species also by the following character combination: puncturation of the pronotum very fine and dense, elytra long and large, and posterior excision of the male sternite VII of almost semicircular shape. For illustrations of the male primary and secondary sexual characters of other species of the *M. fuscus* group see ASSING (2004a, 2005, 2006).

E t y m o l o g y : The species is dedicated to Sayeh Serri, curator of the Coleoptera collection at the Hayk Mirzayans Insect Museum in Tehran, one of the collectors of the holotype and of additional *Medon* material from Iran.

D i s t r i b u t i o n a n d b i o n o m i c s : The type locality is situated in Hormozgan province, southern Iran (Map 2), at an altitude of 880 m. According to FRISCH (pers. comm.), the holotype was collected on a sandy river bank with scattered tamarisk vegetation.



Figs 1-8: *Medon serriae* nov.sp.: (1) forebody; (2) head in lateral view; (3) pronotum; (4) male sternite VII; (5) male sternite VIII; (6-7) aedeagus in lateral and in ventral view; (8) apical part of aedeagus in ventral view. Scale bars: 1: 1.0 mm; 2-3: 0.5 mm; 4-7: 0.2 mm; 8: 0.1 mm.

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Zusammenfassung

Medon serriae nov.sp. aus der *M. fusculus*-Gruppe wird beschrieben und abgebildet. Weitere Nachweise westpaläarktischer *Medon*-Arten werden gemeldet. *Medon paradisiacus* ASSING wird erstmals aus dem Iran nachgewiesen. Für 4 Arten werden Verbreitungskarten erstellt.

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