Reicheiodes jaegeri sp. n.,
a new Scaritinae from the Himalayas

(Coleoptera, Carabidae, Scaritinae)

Michael BALKENHOHL and Joachim SCHMIDT

Abstract

Reicheiodes jaegeri sp. n. from Nepal is described and compared to the next related species known from the Himalayas.

Introduction

Some progress has been made recently in the knowledge of Reicheiodes species from the Himalayas with the description of four new species and a key to the species from East Asia (DOSTAL 1993, BALKENHOHL 1994, 1995). However, with respect to the Scaritinae the Himalayas are still very poorly explored.

As a result of several expeditions carried out in central Nepal by the second author between 1991 and 1996 it was possible to collect 15 specimens of a new Reicheiodes species described here.
Reicheiodes jaegeri sp. n.
(Figs. 1, 2)


Description

Measurements: Length 2.40-2.80 mm (x = 2.65 mm*; including closed mandibles), width 0.85-0.99 mm (x = 0.91 mm*), ratio length/width of pronotum 0.97-1.06 (x = 1.02*), ratio length/width of elytra 1.49-1.60 (x = 1.55*); (*n = 15).
Colour: Head, pronotum, elytra dark brown, very shiny; elytra of some specimens slightly paler to apex; clypeus, posterior part of supraantennal plates and mouthparts paler; first three to four segments of antennae and legs yellow brown; ventral surface dark brown.

Head: A third smaller than pronotum. Clypeus finely margined anteriorly, without median tooth, lateral teeths projecting. Clypeal field square, convex, separated from frons by deep, straight transverse suture. Frons convex, nearly smooth. Supraantennal plates vaulted, with weak carina and some fine rugae on eye level. Frontal furrows deep, broad, diverging anteriorly and posteriorly of transverse suture. Neck constriction absent, few conspicuous longitudinal rugae laterally posterior eyes. Antennae extending beyond posterior setigerous punctures of pronotum by one segment; scapus with one apical seta situated dorsally. Eyes well developed, genae small dorsally.

Pronotum: Globose, nearly equally convex at median line. Outline subcircular, as long as wide, maximum width at middle. Lateral border evenly rounded, reflexed margin reaching from anterior angles slightly over posterior setigerous puncture. Lateral channel moderately developed in anterior half, much finer up to posterior setigerous puncture. Median line distinct, deeper and broader at posterior half, joining anterior transverse line. Anterior transverse line distinct, joining conspicuously lateral margin at extremity. Surface with scattered finely stuck punctures and few fine transverse wrinkles. Proepisternum impunctate, with fine superficial transverse wrinkles, submarginal furrow complete.

Elytron: Moderately convex from base to apex. Outline elliptical, maximum width before middle, margined from pedunculus to apex. Humerus invisible. Basal granula absent. Basal setigerous puncture conspicuous, situated in projected extension of 2nd interval. One subhumeral setigerous puncture, three umbilical setigerous punctures apically, one preapical setigerous puncture situated laterally to furrow of 8th stria, two (anterior) dorsal setigerous punctures. Suture impressed at base. Stria 1 distinctly impressed, 2nd and 3rd not deep, all three punctate, other striae developed as partly connected rows of punctures, striae 2 to 7 complete. Stria 1 and 8 adjoining at apex, all other striae ending before basal declivity. Stria 8 starting posteriorly to level of subhumeral setigerous puncture. Distance between punctures of all striae somewhat irregular. Intervals feebly convex, laterally flattened.

Aila: Atrophied.

Protibia: Lateral upper spine curved moderately lateral and ventral. Movable spur nearly as long as lateral spine, curved feebly. Preapical lateral denticle conspicuously strong, 2nd much smaller, not sharp but clearly visible.

Aedeagus (Fig. 2): Median lobe conspicuously arcuate. Endophallus with some bristles. Dorsal paramere much finer than ventral one, both with one fine seta at apex.

Habitat: The specimens were collected in a very small area on a plateau at the top of a mountain widely deforested, at an altitude of 3750 m. The vegetation form naturally occurring here would be a dense bushy Rhododendron forest. The species was found very locally as single specimens under deeply embedded rocks at the edge of erosion furrows. The ground is pebbly and light almost entirely without roots and humus.

Derivation of name: The species is dedicated to Mr. Olaf JÄGER, Staatliches Museum für Naturkunde, Dresden, who has supported intensively the investigations on Himalayan carabid beetles.

Relationship: Reicheiodes jaegeri sp. n. is next related to the Himalayan species R. ellipsoideus BALKENOHL 1995 and has some similarities to R. loebli BALKENOHL 1994. It differs from R. ellipsoideus mainly in the complete number of umbilical setigerous punctures, the much finer margin of the clypeus, the weekly developed genae, and the weaker convexity of the elytra. In R. loebli the lateral channel of the pronotum is more distinct and more prolonged over the posterior setigerous puncture. Moreover, R. loebli exhibits only one dorsal and 2 umbilical setigerous punctures.
Acknowledgement

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Zusammenfassung

*Reicheiodes jaegeri* sp. n. aus Nepal wird beschrieben und mit den nächstverwandten Arten verglichen.

Literature


Authors’ addresses:

Dr. Michael BALKENOHL
Kirchstrasse 5/2
D-79211 Denzingen

Joachim SCHMIDT
Kuphalstrasse 4
D-18069 Rostock

**Scythis taygeticola** sp.n.,

*Scythis taygeticola* sp.n., is described from Greece. The adult and the male genitalia are figured and a diagnosis is given.

Axel SCHOLZ

Abstract

Einleitung

Bekanntlich zeichnet sich die Familie Scythrididae durch zahlreiche, habituell schwer oder nicht zu unterscheidende Taxa aus. Erst die routinemässig angewandte Technik der Genitalpräparation führte in den letzten zwanzig Jahren zu einer eingehenderen Kenntnis der Familie mit zahlreichen Synonymisierungen und Neubeschreibungen.