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Stenus (Parastenus) capitulatus spec. nov., a new species of *Stenus* LATREILLE from Greece (Insecta: Coleoptera: Staphylinidae: Steninae)

With 3 Figures

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Abstract. *Stenus (Parastenus) capitulatus* spec. nov. is described from the Peloponnesos, Greece. Differential characters allowing separation from *S. cibratus* KIES. and allied species are pointed out and illustrated.

Introduction

Staphylinid material collected by ANDREAS SCHULZ, Leverkusen, during his myrmecological excursions in Southern Europe contained a ♂ of a new species of the subgenus *Parastenus* from the Peloponnesos. It is related to *Stenus cibratus* KIES., *S. hospes* ER. and allied species, several of which occur in the Mediterranean, Asia Minor, Iran and the Caucasus (PUTHZ, 1981; RYVKIN, 1990).

I am indebted to Dr. V. PUTHZ, Schlitz, who kindly examined the specimen, for his valuable advice, and to Andreas SCHULZ for providing me with his staphylinid by-catches.

Stenus (Parastenus) capitulatus spec. nov. (Figs. 1–2)

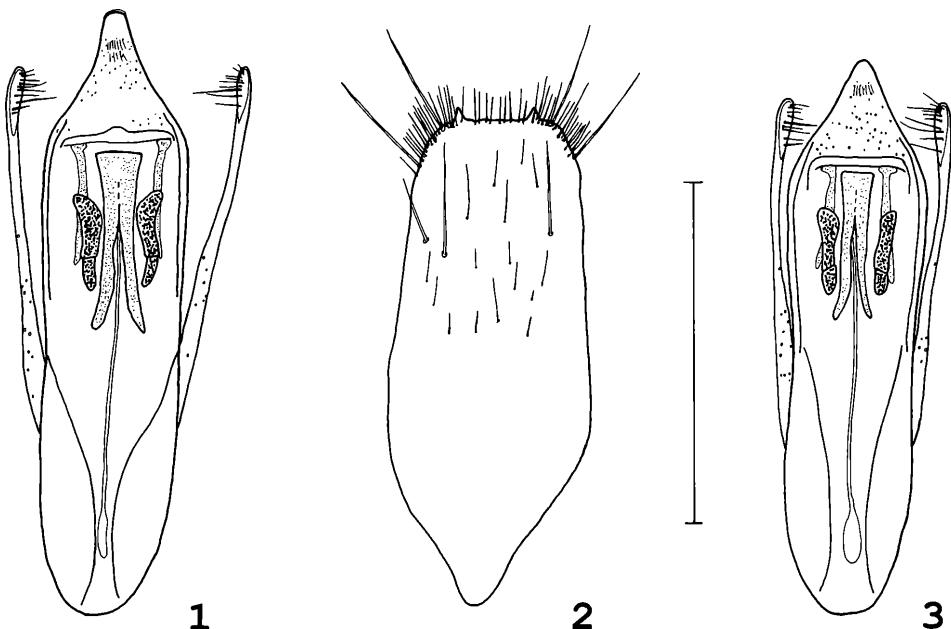
Type material: Holotype: ♂, GREECE – Peloponnisos, Teigetos Oros, unterhalb des Profitis Ilias, 1800–2000 m, 2. VI. 1994, leg. SCHULZ & VOCH (author's collection).

Description:

S. capitulatus spec. nov. possesses the typical characters of the *cibratus-hospes* species group (see PUTHZ, 1981): the lack of microsculpture, the form of the sternite IX (Fig. 2) as well as the shape and internal structure of the aedeagus (Fig. 1). Since the overall appearance is rather similar to that of *S. cibratus*, the description will focus on differential characters.

Measurements of holotype (in mm): body length (with abdomen fully extracted): 5.85; head width: 0.74; head length (from front margin of clypeus to hind margin of head): 0.47; maximal width of eyes (in dorsal view; the position of the head was adjusted until equal measurements for both eyes were obtained): 0.11; eye length (in dorsal view): 0.35; pronotal width: 0.79; pronotal length: 0.82; length of elytra at suture: 0.95.

Dorsal surface very shiny, without microsculpture and with even more widely spaced punctuation on forebody than in *S. cibratus*. *S. capitulatus* can readily be identified by its – relatively – small head (name!), which is narrower (0.93×) than the pronotum (see measurements), a character not shared by



Figs. 1–2: *S. capitulatus* spec. nov. (holotype): aedeagus (1) and ♂ sternite IX (2). – Fig. 3: *S. cibratus* (from the same locality as the holotype of *S. capitulatus*): aedeagus. Scale: 0.5 mm.

any of the other members of the *cibratus-hospes* species group. Moreover, the eyes are distinctly smaller and less bulging than in *cibratus*. (For comparison note the corresponding measurements of a ♂ of *S. cibratus* collected at the same locality as the holotype of *S. capitulatus*: head width: 0.82; head length: 0.53; maximal width of eyes: 0.17; eye length: 0.44; pronotal width: 0.72; pronotal length: 0.76; length of elytra at suture: 0.98). *S. capitulatus* also differs from the related species in that the dorso-central area of the head is elevated, in lateral view projecting over the eyes, and that the lateral furrows are very indistinct. Antennae and maxillary palpi entirely yellow; the former very slender with particularly segments 3–8 more slender than in *S. cibratus*. Pubescence long, on pronotum and first abdominal tergites slightly and on elytra and last tergites clearly suberect; on tergites III–V converging. (Pubescence of pronotum, elytra and first abdominal tergites not erect in *S. cibratus*).

♂: Sternite VIII as in *S. cibratus*; sternite IX as in Fig. 2; aedeagus with rather long and pointed apex and comparatively long sclerotized structures ("Ausstülpfalten") in internal sac (Fig. 1). For comparison with the aedeagi of related species see Fig. 3 (*S. cibratus* from same locality), DAUPHIN (1994) (*S. cibratus* and *S. hospes*), PUTHZ (1981) (*S. medus* PUTHZ, *S. incibratus* PUTHZ, *S. cibratus*, *S. hospes*, *S. persicus* PUTHZ, *S. schah* PUTHZ) and RYVKIN (1990) (*S. alanorum* RYVKIN).

♀: Unknown.

Comments: The holotype, as well as a ♂ of *S. cibratus* and a ♂ of *S. cordatoides* PUTHZ were all collected in the same locality on the Taygetos Oros at an altitude of 1800–2000 m under stones in grassy vegetation, possibly together with ants. It is interesting to note that also two specimens of *S. cibratus* in coll. PUTHZ were found together with *Messor* spec.

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