A new species of *Thraustocolus* Kraatz from Iran (Insecta: Coleoptera: Tenebrionidae: Tentyriini)

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Abstract

Thraustocolus hormozganus n. sp. is described from Iran. It is similar to the Iranian species *T*. (*Prothraustocola*) *belutschistanicus* Kaszab, 1957 and is distinguished from that species by the pronotal lateral margin completely beaded, the pronotal punctuation denser and coarser, the punctures larger and often distinctly elongate. Of *T*. (*P*.) *belutschistanicus* only the female is known, thus the aedeagi cannot be compared.

Zusammenfassung

Thraustocolus hormozganus n. sp. aus dem Iran wird beschrieben und mit der ebenfalls im Iran vorkommenden Art *T*. (*Prothraustocola*) *belutschistanicus* Kaszab, 1957 verglichen. *T. hormozganus* n. sp. unterscheidet sich von *T*. (*P*.) *belutschistanicus* durch rundum deutlich gerandetes Pronotum, gröbere, dichtere und oft deutlich längliche Punktierung des Pronotum. Von *T*. (*P*.) *belutschistanicus* ist nur das Weibchen bekannt, so dass ein Vergleich der Aedoeagi nicht möglich ist.

Key words: Insecta, Coleoptera, Tenebrionidae, Tentyriini, *Thraustcolus*, new species, Iran

Introduction

In the identification key of the tenebrionid genus *Thraustocolus* Kraatz, 1865 (subfamily Pimeliinae Latreille, 1802) Kaszab (1979) distinguished three subgenera and eight species. Further species were described by Kaszab (1981) and Johnson (1989), and according to Kaszab (1981) the genus *Ibnsaudia* Koch, 1941 is a synonym of *Thraustocolus*. So at the moment eleven species are known, distributed in the western Palaearctic Region (Afghanistan, Egypt incl. Sinai, Iran, Israel, Saudi Arabia) (Löbl & al. 2008). Until now one species, *T*. (*Prothraustocola*) *belutschistanicus* Kaszab, 1957 was known from Iran (Kaszab 1957), but an additional similar species new for science was found in Hormozgan Province, southern Iran, which is described in the present paper.

Acronyms of depositories:

CRG – Collection Dr. Roland Grimm, Neuenbürg, Germany
HNHM – Hungarian Natural Museum, Budapest, Hungary
NME – Naturkundemuseum Erfurt, Germany

Description

***Thraustocolus hormozganus* n. sp.** Figs 1, 2a, b

Holotype ♂: S-Iran, Prov. Hormozgan, S Ziyarat Ali, Hochebene und Bachlauf, 585 m, 27°41'0"N/57°09'33", 5.III.2014, leg. D. Frenzel (NME).

Paratypes: Same data as holotype, 3 ♂♂ (CRG), 1 ♂ (HNHM), 8 ♂♂ (NME). – S-Iran, Prov. Hormozgan, Gur Band, Berghänge und Tal mit Staubecken, 70 m, 27°18'05"N/57°00'22"E, 4.III.2014, leg. D. Frenzel, 1 ♀ (CRG), 1 ♀ (HNHM), 2 ♂♂, 1 ♀ (NME). – Same locality, but 4.III.2014, leg. J. Weipert, 1 ♂, 1 ♀ (NME). – S-Iran, Prov. Hormozgan, Sarhanaian, Sarhanaian Mts., Ort und Umgebung, 410 m, 27°38'39"N/56°44'06"E, 6.–7.III.2014, leg. D. Frenzel, 1 ♀ (CRG), 1 ♂ (NME). – Same locality, but 6.III.2014, leg. J. Weipert, 1 ♂ (NME). – S-Iran, Prov. Hormozgan, Isine, steiniges Flußtal m. Salzwasser, 220 m, 27°30'26"N/56°15'37"E, 11.III.2014. leg. D. Frenzel, 1 ♂, (HNHM). – S-Iran, Prov. Hormozgan, 2 km E Hajiabad, Hochebene mit Wasserkanal, 1000 m, 28°19'03"N/55°57'28"E, 12.III.2014. leg. D. Frenzel, 1 ♀ (CRG).

Etymology: This species is named after the Iranian province Hormozgan where the type specimens were found.

Description: Black, with greasy sheen; body shape elongate (Fig. 1), length 7.1–10.5 mm, width 2.4–4.4 mm.

Head finely punctured, interspaces microreticulated, widest across middle of eyes and genae, strongly convex transversely, less convex longitudinally. Clypeus subtrapezoidal, apex weakly emarginate. Frons wide, weakly arched, flattened in middle; laterally impressed,

apically somewhat wider than basally. Eyes flat, nearly round, somewhat extended ventrally, supraocular ridge weak. Antennae as in Fig. 1, extending to mesocoxae when directed backwards. Genae on underside coarsely punctured and weakly rugulose. Submentum vertically inclined basally, gular groove forming deep transverse pit extended and flattened in the middle.

Pronotum of males quadrate to subquadrate, length/width ratio 0.93–1.00, of females definitely transverse, length/width ratio 0.77–0.86, widest in middle, barely wider than head, slightly arcuately converging apically and basally, apex straight, base shallowly bisinuate to straight, all margins beaded, anterior and posterior corners obtusely rounded; punctures somewhat coarser than on head, many punctures distinctly elongate. Propleura coarsely punctured, sometimes slightly raspy, interspaces microreticulated. Prosternal apophysis declivous behind, not protruding beyond procoxae.

Elytra oval, inflated, ventricose in females, widest in middle, length/width ratio ♂♂ 1.64–1.9, ♀♀ 1.48–1.56; transversely convex, somewhat flattened dorsally; base laterally beaded; lateral margin in dorsal view visible only basally and in posterior third; punctuation somewhat rasp-like in part, becoming somewhat denser apically, interspaces shagreened. Abdominal ventrites punctured, distinctly coarser on last ventrite than on basal ventrites.

Legs long, narrow; femora slightly clavate; male metatarsomere 1 shorter than metatarsomere 4.

Aedeagus narrow, basale much shorter than apicale, inverted (Figs 2a, b).

Diagnosis: With the completely beaded lateral margin of pronotum *Thraustocolus hormozganus* n. sp. would run in the key of Kaszab (1979) to the subgenus *Thraustocolus* s. str., but otherwise it is very similar to the likewise Iranian *T.* (*P.*) *belutschistanicus* Kaszab, 1957.

Apart from the pronotal lateral margin lacking bead in the anterior half, *T.* (*P.*) *belutschistanicus* has the pronotal shape nearly quadrate in female, the pronotal punctation sparser and finer than in *T. hormozganus* n. sp., and the pronotal punctures are smaller and not elongate. Kaszab (1957) mentions the pit-like gular groove as one of the diagnostic features for *Prothraustocola*, which both *T. (P.) belutschistanicus* and *T. hormozganus* n. sp. have; however, *T. (Thraustocolus) leptoderus* Kraatz, 1865 has a much similar gular pit. The aedeagi cannot be compared because the male of *T.* (*P.*) *belutschistanicus* is unknown.

Acknowledgements

The authors thank Dipl.-Biol. Matthias Hartmann (Erfurt) for providing the material studied and we are also grateful to Johannes Reibnitz (Stuttgart) for producing the photographs.

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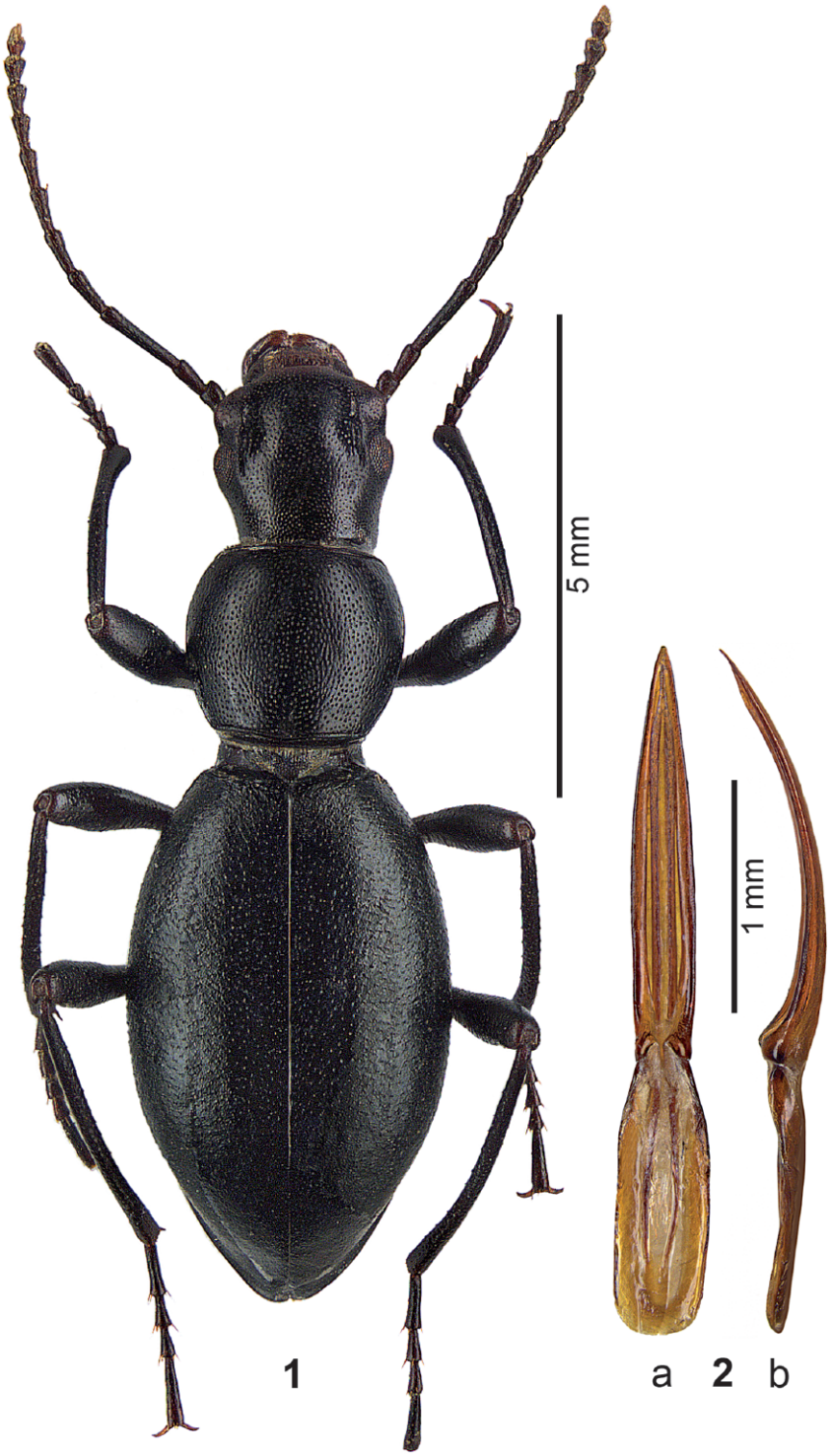

Fig 1-3. *Thraustocolus* (*Prothraustocola*) *hormozganus* **n. sp.**, holotype, dorsal view (1), aedeagus ventral (2a), lateral (2b).

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Jahr/Year: 2018

Band/Volume: 37

Autor(en)/Author(s): Merkl Otto, Grimm Roland

Artikel/Article: A new species of Thraustocolus Kraatz from Iran (Insecta: Coleoptera: Tenebrionidae: Tentyriini) 317-319