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Malthinus moravicus sp. n. (Coleoptera: Cantharidae) - surprising discovery of new species in Central Europe

Malthinus moravicus sp. n. (Coleoptera: Cantharidae) - neočekávaný objev nového druhu ve střední Evropě

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Taxonomy, Coleoptera, Cantharidae, *Malthinus*, new species, Palaearctic region

Abstract. *Malthinus moravicus* sp.n. from southern Moravia (Czech Republic) is described, illustrated, and compared with closely related European species *M. bulgaricus* Švihla, 1990 and *M. danielssoni* Witmmer, 1995.

The new species was collected during the research organized by the Mendel University of Forestry and Agriculture, Brno, in the Pálava Biosphere Reserve of UNESCO. I am very obliged to Mgr. Pavel Drozd (Mendel Univ., Brno) for submitting of the type material.

Malthinus moravicus sp. n.

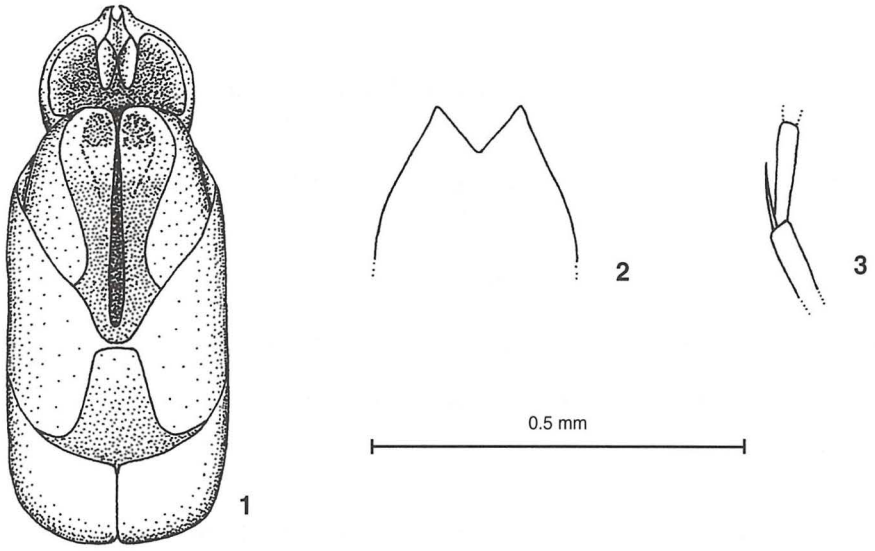
Description. Male. Head honey yellow, vertex from midlength of eyes posteriorly chestnut to sepia. Antenna sepia, first two antennal segments honey yellow. Prothorax honey yellow, wide mediolongitudinal stripe on pronotum chestnut brown. Elytra honey yellow, basal and praeapical thirds chestnut brown, this darker colouration is not sharply delimited, apex of each elytron with yellow spot. Ventral part of body and legs honey yellow.

Eyes large and prominent, head across eyes distinctly wider than pronotum. Antenna slightly exceeding elytral midlength. Surface of head very sparsely punctate and yellow pubescent, lustrous, punctuation on vertex denser and rugose, surface semilustrous. Pronotum by about 1/3 wider than long, anterior margin straight, anterior angles obtuse, lateral margins diverging posteriorly up to midlength of pronotum, then nearly parallel-sided, posterior angles obtuse, posterior margin sinuate. Surface of pronotum punctate and pubescent like that of vertex, semilustrous. Anterior tibia with long terminal spine, which slightly exceeds midlength of basal tarsomere as in Fig. 3. Hind tibia simple. Elytra with lines of punctures, which reaching 2/3 of elytral length, apical third finely coriaceous. Interspaces between punctures very finely scabriculous, with sparse yellow pubescence, surface of elytra semilustrous. Aedeagus and apical portion of last sternite as in Figs 1-2. Length: 3.0 - 3.8 mm.

Female unknown.

Type material. Holotype: ♂, "CZ, S. Mor., Jihomor. úval, Lednice - Horní les (7166), floodplain forest, light trap, 30.vii.1991, J. Vaňhara lgt."; paratypes: 2 ♂♂, the same data, 8.vii.1991. Type material is deposited in author's collection, National Museum, Praha.

Name derivation. Derived from Moravia, the country of the origin.



Figs 1-3. *Malthinus moravicus* sp. n.: 1 - aedeagus, 2 - apical portion of last sternite, 3 - terminal apex of anterior tibia.
Obr. 1-3. *Malthinus moravicus* sp. n.: 1 - aedeagus, 2 - apikální část posledního sternitu, 3 - terminální konec přední tibie.

Differential diagnosis. *Malthinus moravicus* sp. n. belongs to the group of *Malthinus* Latreille, 1806 species with striatopunctate elytra, with simple hind tibia in male and with long terminal spine on anterior tibia. According to the prolonged median lobe of the aedeagus, it is most closely related to *M. bulgaricus* Švihla, 1990 and *M. danielssoni* Wittmer, 1995, but median lobe including laterophysae is different (cf. Švihla 1990, Wittmer 1995). The closest relative of the new species, occuring in Central Europe, is *M. seriepunctatus* Kiesenwetter, 1851, aedeagus of which is of a quite different type (cf. Wittmer 1974).

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SOUHRN

Malthinus moravicus sp. n. je popsán z jižní Moravy a odlišen od podobného středoevropského druhu *M. seriepunctatus* Kiesenwetter, 1851 a příbuzných balkánských druhů *M. bulgaricus* Švihla, 1990 a *M. danielssoni* Wittmer, 1995.