

***Oreodytes angelinii*, a new species from north-eastern Greece  
(Coleoptera: Dytiscidae: Hydroporinae)**

***Oreodytes angelinii*, nový druh ze severovýchodního Řecka  
(Coleoptera: Dytiscidae: Hydroporinae)**

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**Coleoptera, Dytiscidae, Hydroporinae, *Oreodytes*, new species, first record, Greece**

**Abstract.** *Oreodytes angelinii* sp. nov. is described from Epirus in north-western Greece, close to the border with Albania. It resembles at first glance *Oreodytes sanmarkii* (C.R. Sahlberg, 1826), but can be easily separated from the latter by its considerably larger size; differences in the genitalia and other characters are recognisable, but less obvious. The new species is described in detail and its habitus and male and female genitalia are illustrated and compared with those of *O. sanmarkii*. At the collecting site the new species was found together with *Oreodytes septentrionalis* (Gyllenhal, 1826), which is here recorded from Greece for the first time.

INTRODUCTION

The genus *Oreodytes* Seidlitz, 1887 is distributed in the Palearctic and Nearctic zoogeographic regions. *Oreodytes sanmarkii* (C.R. Sahlberg, 1826) and *O. dauricus* (Motschulsky, 1860) are the only species which are distributed in both regions. Whilst the latter has a rather restricted distribution area (eastern Russia, south-eastern Alaska and Yukon Territory in north-western Canada; see Larson et al. 2000, and Fery et al. 2007), *O. sanmarkii* is distributed over large parts of the Palearctic, from the Iberian Peninsula – here represented by the subspecies *O. sanmarkii alienus* (Sharp, 1873) – to the Russian Far East, and in the Nearctic in the northern parts of Canada. In southern Europe, the species is only known from the northern provinces of Italy (Franciscolo 1979, under the name *Oreodytes rivalis* (Gyllenhal, 1827)). It is also known from the Balkans (Bulgaria, Macedonia, Serbia, Bosnia Herzegovina, Montenegro), but so far it has never been recorded from Greece and Albania (cf. Nilsson & Hájek 2015).

Recently, Fernando Angelini (Francavilla Fontana, Italy) put large series of two *Oreodytes* at my disposal, which were at first determined as *O. s. sanmarkii* and *O. septentrionalis* (Gyllenhal, 1826), but the unusually large size of the former left some doubt about its identity. By study of the male genitalia and direct comparison with specimens of *O. s. sanmarkii* from other regions I recognised that these belong to a new species, which is described in detail and illustrated below. The number of known *Oreodytes* species increases with the new one to 30, four of them split into two subspecies (cf. Nilsson 2015).

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Types and other material are stored in coll. F. Angelini, Francavilla Fontana, Brindisi, Italy (CFA), in the Národní Muzeum, Prague, Czech Republic (NMPC) and in the coll. H. Fery, Berlin, Germany (CHF), which is property of the Naturhistorisches Museum Wien, Vienna, Austria (NMW). Other abbreviations of terms used in the text are TL (total length) and MW (maximum width). The specimens were studied with an Olympus SZX16 stereomicroscope, their

genitalia were studied wet. Photos were made with a Nikon Coolpix 995 camera attached to the stereomicroscope. Image stacks were produced by hand and processed by CombineZP Image Stacking Software. Finally, the figures as well as the ink drawings were touched up with Adobe Photoshop CS5 software. The description relates to the male holotype only; the variability of some characters is given in an extra section. Comments on label text are given in square brackets.

## TAXONOMY

### *Oreodytes angelinii* sp. nov.

(Figs 1, 3–5, 9–10)

**Type locality.** Greece, Epirus, Ioannina district, ca. 10 km SW Konitsa, SSW Kleidonia, ca. 39.971N 20.657E. The collecting site is situated near the bridge of road “E20” (connecting Kónitsa and Ioannina) over the Viodomatis River (Βοϊδομάτης ποταμός); it is situated ca. 800m SSW of the village of Kleidonia, ca. 4.5 km S of junction of the River Viodomatis with the River Aoos (Αώος in Greek and Vjosë in Albanian) and only about 15 km from the border with Albania.

**Type material.** HOLOTYPE. ♂, “GRECIA, EPIRO, Ioannina, ca. 10 km SW Konitsa, SSW Kleidonia, ca. 39.971N 20.657E, F. [= Fiume = river] Viodomatis, 20.V.2007, leg. F. Angelini”, “Holotype, *Oreodytes angelinii* sp. n., Fery det. 2015” [red, printed] (NMW). PARATYPES: 27 ♂♂, 22 ♀♀, same label data as the holotype except red paratype labels (CFA, CHF, NMPC).

### Description.

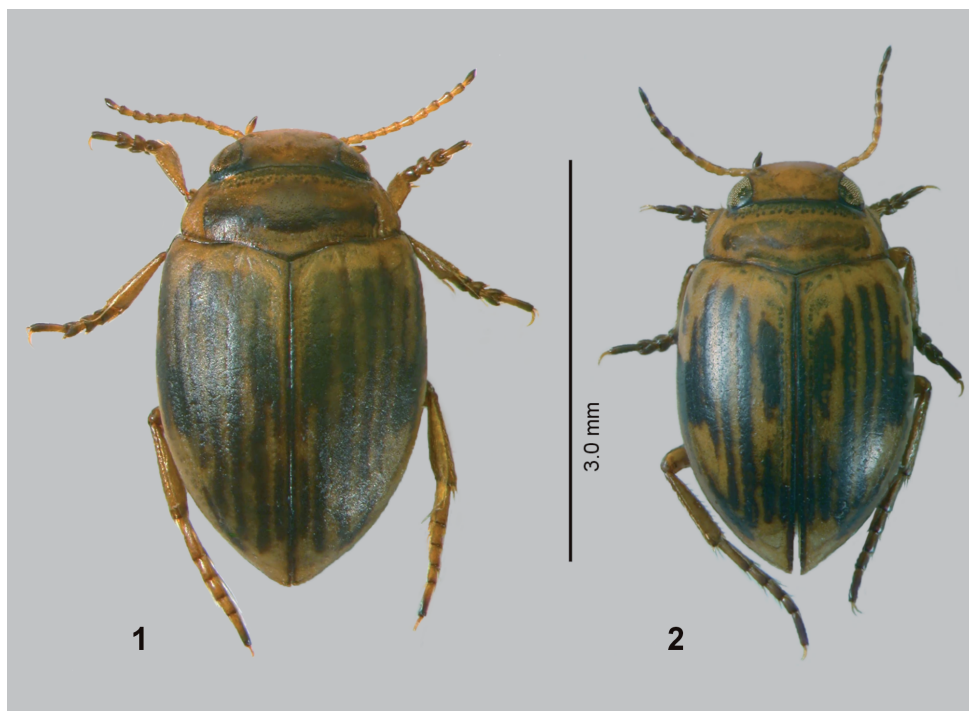
**Habitus and coloration.** Body shape oval (Fig. 1); maximum width situated near elytral midlength; body outline with distinct discontinuity at bases of pronotum and elytra. Upper surface brownish yellow with blackish spots and vittae. Elytra appearing silky-matt, not shiny; pronotum and particularly head more shiny.

Head near inner sides of eyes diffusely darkened, on vertex blackish brown. Antennomeres yellowish, eighth to tenth weakly infusate in distal fourth, eleventh distinctly darkened in distal two thirds. Last segment of palpomeres weakly infusate distally.

Anterior margin of pronotum appearing dark brownish due to vertex of head shining through. Behind middle of pronotum with transverse somewhat curved dark brownish stripe, reaching to sublateral longitudinal striae on each side; posterior fourth of pronotum (before base) not darkened. On centre of disc, stripe extending forwards into diffusely delimited large spot. Lateral rim of pronotum slightly darkened.

Elytron with seven distinct blackish vittae, none of them reaching elytral base; suture narrowly darkened; first vitta (next to suture) thin, ending far before elytral base and apex; anteriorly fused with second vitta and shortly interrupted more or less in middle; second and sixth vittae also ending rather far before base, others reaching further forward; fourth vitta a little shorter than third and fifth; sixth and seventh vittae not reaching much behind middle, posteriorly fused; seventh vitta with forward directed extension to elytral margin; behind third to fifth vittae with oblique additional vitta.

Ventral surface chiefly black; mouthparts anteriorly more brownish; prosternum between procoxae (the “file”), prosternal process (blade) centrally and lobes of metacoxal processes also brownish; legs more yellowish, although pro- and mesotarsomeres slightly brownish, femora



Figs 1–2: Habitus of *Oreodytes angelinii* sp. nov. (1) (holotype) and *Oreodytes s. sanmarkii* (2) (specimen from Romania).

Obr. 1–2: Habitus druhu *Oreodytes angelinii* sp. nov. (1) (holotypus) a *Oreodytes s. sanmarkii* (2) (jedinec z Rumunska).

partially darkened; pro and mesocoxae as well as metatrochanter darker brownish. Epipleuron brownish yellow (slightly darker than neighbouring upper side of elytron), on inner half broadly brownish darkened, but appearing almost black due to black venter shining through.

**Structure and microsculpture.** Head with anterior margin of clypeus almost straight, truncate, very slightly emarginated (only visible if anterior part of clypeus observed perpendicularly to its surface; if entire beetle observed in normal dorsal view, head appearing evenly rounded anteriorly); margin without rim, at sides shortly turned back- and downwards. Clypeal grooves (above antennal insertion) shallow but distinct. Entire surface of head rather shiny although reticulate; meshes small, polygonal, anteriorly elongate and transverse; elsewhere less so, irregular in shape; cells of reticulation (= interior of meshes) flat; surface very sparsely interspersed with small punctures with diameter subequal to that of meshes, few punctures slightly larger; very few intersections of meshes with a very small puncture. Close to inner side of eyes with puncture line, here surface impressed parallel to eye. In clypeal grooves punctures rather coarse and very dense. Setae present only at puncture line near eyes and in grooves. Antennomeres three and four slightly shorter than two and five.

Pronotum with sides very weakly rounded in anterior two thirds, distinctly rounded behind, thus posterior angles broadly rounded. Marginal rim distinct in part, but thinner anteriorly and vanishing in rounded posterior angles. Sublateral longitudinal impressions (striae) very

distinct, reaching from shortly before pronotal midlength until base, becoming progressively deeper posteriad; base of pronotum right and left of each stria with several rather distinct short wrinkles. Pronotum sub-basally somewhat impressed; thus, disc of pronotum and space between pronotal margin and sublateral stria appearing vaulted. Pronotum slightly less shiny than head, meshes of reticulation slightly smaller, more roundish and slightly more impressed than those of centre of head; punctuation similar to that of head; irregular lines of coarser punctures present behind anterior margin, before base and also close to sides. A very few of these coarse punctures with a seta; elsewhere setae absent. Centre of disc without longitudinal scratch or elongate puncture.

Elytra in dorsal view with pronounced shoulders, mainly because posterior angles of pronotum strongly rounded; behind shoulders sides of elytra in anterior half weakly rounded, in posterior half more strongly rounded to apex; elytral margin only visible near shoulders and at apex. In lateral view sides of elytron anteriorly slightly ascending to shoulders; epipleuron not visible until shoulders, without subhumeral oblique carina. Elytral reticulation even on entire surface, cells roundish, slightly smaller than on pronotum, more or less all of same diameter. Meshes more deeply engraved than on pronotum and still more than on head; thus, sum of areas of shiny cells almost comparable to sum of areas of non-shiny engraved meshes. Additionally cells vaulted (convex) and thus not entire area of each cell reflecting light. These features underlying the silky-matt appearance of elytral surface. Surface almost without small punctures in intersections of meshes. Two puncture lines on disc weakly indicated, but first line reaching almost to elytral base and deeply impressed shortly before base; sublaterally another line indistinctly indicated; another puncture line present near to suture (usually called sutural line), first discal vitta situated between this line and suture; in posterior fourth a second puncture line present, still closer to suture; both sutural lines rather indistinct. Several very shallow wrinkles present on elytral disc, in part forming almost zigzag lines; these however only visible if adequately illuminated. Elsewhere elytral punctuation sparse and very fine, punctures as large as reticulation cells; distance between punctures about ten cell diameters. Setae very few and very short, mostly only in punctures of lines.

Ventral surface entirely reticulated, except very small area near centre of metaventrite; surface not dull, but with silky shine. Head on genae with shallow transverse impression behind eyes, but without distinct crease. Between mouthparts and eyes with sharp carina. Gula with very few punctures.

Prosternum before procoxae distinctly vaulted, strongly punctate and sculptured; between procoxae (the “file”) almost straight, without protuberance; continued in even curve to prosternal process; angle between file and process small (ca. 25–30°). Prosternal process not really lanceolate, appearing more sub-quadrate, but not as distinctly as in *O. sanmarkii* (cf. Zimmerman 1985: 112 for the term “quadrate”); longitudinal carina vaulted in cross-section, but rather flatly; process beside carina strongly excavated and with long setae; laterally centrally sharply bordered over half-length; this border rather straight and underlining almost sub-quadrate outline of process.

Mesepisternum and mesepimeron reticulate, but impunctate. Anteromedial metaventral process provided with short furrow for reception of tip of prosternal process. Metaventral process contacting mesoventral fork; mesocoxal cavities closed (cf. Zimmerman 1985: 112). Distance between mesocoxae rather large, about one third of transverse extension of mesocoxal cavity. Metepisternum almost L-shaped due to strongly forward reaching metaventral “wings”;

along anterior margin deeply excavated, here with some punctures; elsewhere impunctate. Metaventral wings narrow, ratio between width of metaventrite and width of metacoxa ca. 1:4 (cf. Nilsson 1984: 186 and Prokin et al. 2013: 155); laterally strongly curved backwards, here very narrow and more or less straight. Suture between metaventrite and metacoxae almost straight until shortly before metepisternum, here strongly curved.

Metacoxal lines slightly diverging anteriorly. Space between metacoxal lines rather densely punctate, lobes impunctate. Metacoxal processes incised, each obliquely cut; interlaminary bridge exposed. Punctuation on metaventrite, metacoxae and first two abdominal ventrites rather coarse, on metacoxae laterally still coarser and elongate, in part almost confused and forming shallow oblique wrinkles. Third to fifth abdominal ventrite with punctures less coarse; centrally with tuft of long setae; punctures near posterior margins provided with seta; on apical ventrite all punctures with seta. Posterior margin of last ventrite on each side straight and converging backwards, apex rounded, not pointed. Setation on ventral surface sparse, mainly present on prosternum (especially prominent on prosternal process), along midline of metaventrite, on space between metacoxal lines and on abdomen as described above. Submarginal carina on inner (ventral) surface of elytra weakly elevated sub-apically, but without ligula.

Protibiae simple, not especially broadened distally. First three pro- and mesotarsomeres slightly broadened; first pro- and mesotarsomere distally with two pairs of more or less circular sucker cups. Anterior protarsal claw somewhat prolonged, centrally almost straight; posterior claw slightly less straight centrally; mesotarsal claws also prolonged, but more or less equal and evenly curved. Metafemur with several setiferous punctures, some of them arranged in a row short before midline. Ventral surface of metatrochanter reticulate with elongate meshes, in posterior two thirds with coarse punctures and distinct long setae; still more posteriorly reticulation very strongly impressed. First metatarsomere as long as second and third together, fourth shorter than third, fifth as long as third and fourth together.

**Males.** Median lobe of aedeagus in ventral and lateral view as in Figs 3–4; left paramere as in Fig. 5. For comparison, same structures given for *O. s. sanmarkii* in Figs 6–8 (specimen from Romania, Bacău county, near Mănăstirea Cașin). In distal half median lobe in lateral view less curved and thinner; apically rather thin. Parameres hooked as in most *Oreodytes* and having a lamella on distal part of inner face (named “subapical membranous sac” in Larson et al. 2000: 452).

**Females.** Externally, females similar to males, except pro- and mesotarsomeres being not broadened (differences to males not very distinct), lack of sucker cups, and pro- and mesotarsal claws being shorter and evenly curved. Metatrochanter bearing same setose punctuation as males. Gonocoxosternum and gonocoxae as in Figs 9 and 10 (specimen from Romania, Bacău county, near Mănăstirea Cașin); posterior margin of gonocoxosternum with a few longer setae; between these setae margin provided with row of very short bristles, these rather densely and equally spaced.

**Measurements.** Holotype: TL: 3.4 mm, MW: 2.0 mm, TL/MW: 1.70; Paratypes: TL: 3.3–3.5 mm, MW: 1.85–2.05 mm, TL/MW: 1.62–1.78. Differences between males and females not significant.

**Variability.** I did not observe considerably varying features; the elytral pattern varies weakly, some specimens have the posterior margin of the third to sixth abdominal segments somewhat

brownish; some specimens have none of the antennomeres infusate, some others with only eleventh darkened. Palpomeres sometimes uniformly yellowish. Not all paratypes have the posterior angles of the pronotum as distinctly rounded as the holotype. The shape of the prosternal process is in some specimens less quadrate. The length and shape of the male protarsal claws varies also a little. The row of bristles at the posterior margin of the gonocoxosterna is in several specimens in part interrupted, particularly in proximal part. **Notes:** the corrugated membrane of the median lobe is especially strongly developed in the holotype (Fig. 4); this feature varies strongly and depends also on whether the lobe is studied wet or not.

According to Zimmerman (1985: 100) species of *Oreodytes* have each first tarsomere of the pro- and mesotarsi provided with two pairs of sucker cups (Larson et al. 2000: 452 incorrectly states only the protarsi). *Oreodytes okulovi* Lafer, 1988 is an exception (see Fery & Petrov 2014), but otherwise I can confirm Zimmerman's statement. I must concede, however, that these cups are difficult to study with a light microscope, in particular if the specimens are mounted dry and the cups rather distorted. Moreover, the cups can often be lost due to mechanical damage pre or post mortem.

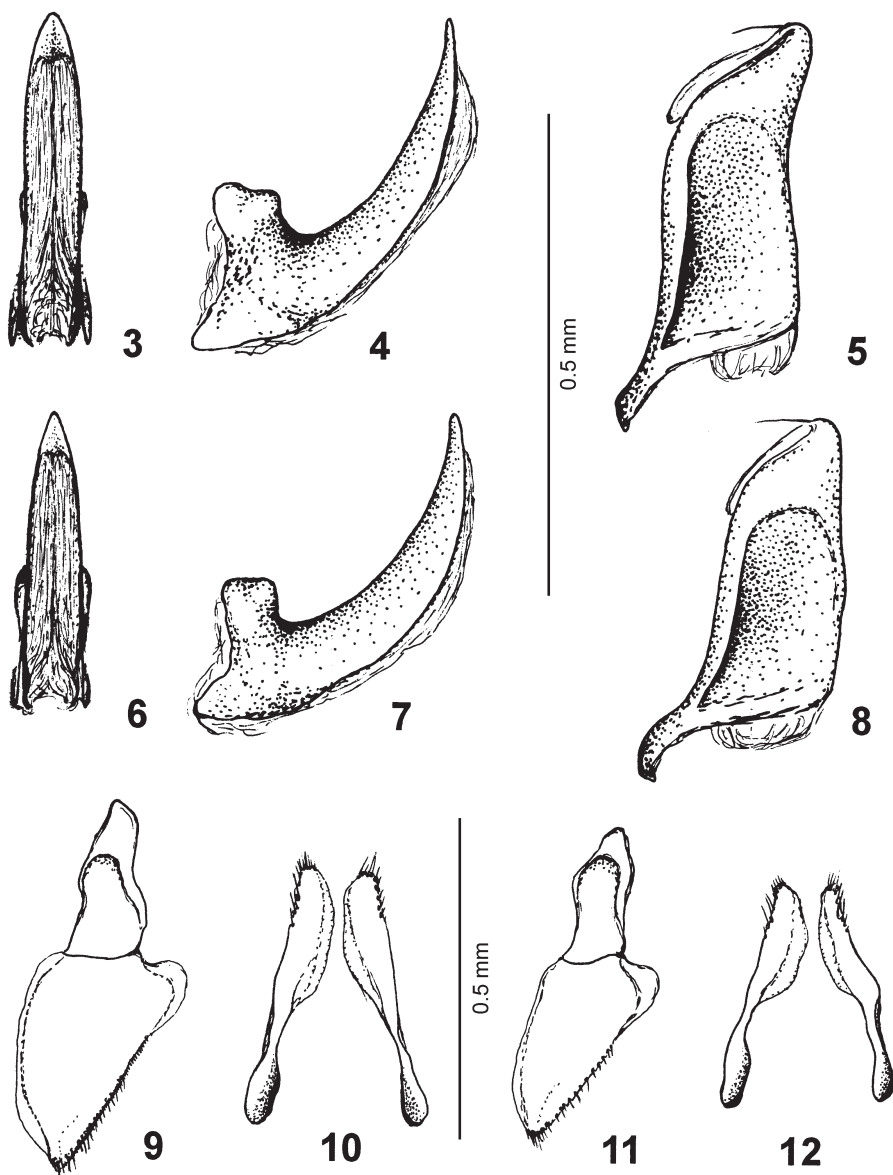
**Observation.** I have studied the development of the hind-wings of one male of the new species and found that they only reach slightly behind the abdomen. Thus, I assume that these wings are reduced and suspect that at least this specimen was incapable of flight. I refrained from studying the wings of other specimens so as not to risk their destruction. I have also studied the hind-wings of one male and one female of *O. sanmarkii* from Romania—both which have distinctly more developed wings with a length which equals more or less the TL of the specimens, thus reaching far past the apex of the elytra (as also in specimens from Russian Far East, cf. Fery & Petrov 2014: 1246).

**Etymology.** The new species is named after the well-known Italian entomologist Fernando Angelini. The specific name is a noun in the genitive case.

**Distribution.** So far *O. angelinii* sp. nov. is only known from the type locality in north-western Greece. The Viodomatis River (Βοϊδομάτης ποταμός) is a confluent of the River Aoos (Αώος) which continues into Albania where it is called River Vjosë. Thus, one might suspect that the new species occurs in that country too. **Notes:** *Oreodytes s. sanmarkii* is recorded by Guéorguiev (1971: 15; under *O. rivalis sanmarkii*) from Slovenia, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Macedonia; *Oreodytes septentrionalis* is given from Slovenia. Nilsson & Hájek (2015: 30) give *O. s. sanmarkii* additionally from Serbia and Montenegro, and *O. septentrionalis* from Montenegro. Neither species has ever been reported from Albania or Greece.

**Ecology.** There is not much known about the ecology of the new species. It was found at the sandy side of the Viodomatis River. The new species was found together with several specimens of *O. septentrionalis*, a species which is new for Greece (**first record**); it is likely that it occurs also in Albania.

**Differential diagnosis with *O. sanmarkii*.** The close relationship between *O. sanmarkii* and the new species is evident (see Figs 1 and 2), particularly underlined by the joint structure of the metatrochanter (strong and setose punctuation) which is not known from any other species of the genus. On the other hand, there exist several differences which are given below. The new species is compared with specimens of *O. sanmarkii* in my collection from some Balkan states (Romania, Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Montenegro) because these populations are more closely situated to that of the new species than other ones from Germany,



Figs 3-12: *Oreodytes angelinii* sp. nov.: Median lobe in ventral (3) and lateral (4) view, left paramere (5) (all holotype), gonocoxosternum (9) and gonocoxae (10) (paratype); *Oreodytes s. sanmarkii* (specimens from Romania): Median lobe in ventral (6) and lateral (7) view, left paramere (8), gonocoxosternum (11) and gonocoxae (12).

Obr. 3-12: *Oreodytes angelinii* sp. nov.: mediální lobus (penis) z ventrálního (3) a laterálního (4) pohledu, levá paramera (5) (vše holotyp), gonocoxosternum (9) a gonocoxy (10) (paratyp); *Oreodytes s. sanmarkii* (jedinec z Rumunska): mediální lobus (penis) z ventrálního (6) a laterálního (7) pohledu, levá paramera (8), gonocoxosternum (11) a gonocoxy (12).

France, Sweden etc. (see also the remarks at the end of this section).

The characters which are helpful to distinguish between both species are:

- size: TL: 3.3–3.5 mm in the new species, 2.5–3.3 mm in *O. sanmarkii*. Schaefflein (1979: 52; under *O. rivalis*) provides for *O. sanmarkii* values for the TL of 2.5–3.0 mm and Nilsson & Holmen (1995: 74) values of 2.9–3.3 mm. Personally I have never seen specimens shorter than 2.7 mm or longer than 3.2 mm.
- dorsal surface structure: new species with a silky-matt sheen, distinctly less shiny than *O. s. sanmarkii* (but see notes on *O. s. alienus* below);
- shape of median lobe in lateral view: in *O. angelinii* sp. nov. rather thin apically, centrally dorsal surface (concave side) more straight, less curved near basal part (cf. Figs 4 and 7);
- shape of median lobe in ventral view: more evenly tapering to tip in *O. sanmarkii* (in distal third), in *O. angelinii* sp. nov. only in distal fifth tapering to tip and tip more rounded (cf. Figs 3 and 6);
- shape of parameres: in *O. angelinii* sp. nov. more or less distal third bent upwards (to the right in Fig. 5); in *O. sanmarkii* only about one fourth bent (cf. Figs. 5 and 8);
- shape of gonocoxosterna: broader in *O. angelinii* sp. nov.; size considerably greater than in *O. sanmarkii* (cf. Figs 9 and 11); however, differences in size are insignificant if sizes of gonocoxosterna and total length of specimens used for drawings are considered in relation; same argument holds for gonocoxae (cf. Figs 10 and 12);
- posterior margin of gonocoxosterna of *O. angelinii* sp. nov. (right side in Fig. 9) with row of short bristles (although often not complete); such bristles absent in *O. sanmarkii* or only a few present in distal part;
- colouration of antennomeres: only last four antennomeres (sometimes less or even none) distally infuscate in the new species; in *O. sanmarkii* often five or six antennomeres infuscate;
- in *O. sanmarkii* first puncture line on elytral disc not reaching so far anteriorly and not impressed in anterior part;
- neither the holotype nor any of the paratypes have the centre of the pronotum provided with a longitudinal scratch or elongate puncture; however, such a scratch can be found in some *O. sanmarkii* (although rarely) as well as in many other Hydrotorinae.

Here I want to emphasise again that the comparison above is done with specimens of *O. sanmarkii* from a relatively small number of localities and not of the entire area of distribution. All the features of *O. sanmarkii* may be found to vary much more if specimens from the entire area of distribution are compared (cf. the shapes of the median lobe of *O. s. sanmarkii* in Fery & Petrov 2014: 1250, figs 6 and 7 (specimen from Russian Far East), in Nilsson & Holmen 1995: 76, fig. 340 (specimen most probably from Sweden), and in Larson et al. 2000: 469, figs 120 E-G (specimen most probably from Canada)). Additionally, it may be found that the characters of *O. angelinii* sp. nov. will vary more strongly if material from other localities becomes available. Thus, the features given as helpful for distinguishing between *O. angelinii* sp. nov. and *O. sanmarkii* may not hold true in all cases.

To conclude, I want to state that the definitive distinguishing feature of *Oreodytes angelinii* sp. nov. are its size and the distinct silky-matt sheen of the dorsal surface. All other features can be helpful, but should not be used alone to produce a reliable identification.

**Notes on *Oreodytes sanmarkii alienus*.** This subspecies is endemic to the Iberian Peninsula south of the Pyrenees. Its present status as a subspecies was introduced by Balke (1989). It is

usually mainly characterised by the paler colouration of the dorsal and ventral surfaces. The darker spots on head and pronotum and the vittae on the elytra are not dark brownish or black, but reddish brown and always very diffusely limited, the vittae fused to a large extent. To my great surprise in none of the publications dealing with this taxon is it noted that the upper surface is distinctly more matt than in non-Iberian specimens. I have about 550 specimens from diverse Iberian localities in my collection, but none of them is as shiny as specimens in my collection from the rest of Europe (including the Spanish part of the Pyrenees) or from Russia and the Nearctic. With respect to this feature *O. s. alienus* resembles *O. angelinii* n. sp., but in all other features (in particular in size) the two taxa are clearly different.

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## SOUHRN

Potápník *Oreodytes angelinii* je popsán z řeky Viodomatis v Epiru v severozápadním Řecku, poblíž albánské hranice. Nový druh je na první pohled nápadně podobný široce rozšířenému holarktickému druhu *Oreodytes sanmarkii* (C.R. Sahlberg, 1826), od něhož se odlišuje zejména větší velikostí; rozdíly ve tvaru genitálií a v dalších znacích, které jsou rovněž pozorovatelné, ale méně nápadné. Habitus a samčí a samičí genitálie obou druhů jsou zobrazeny a porovnány. Na typové lokalitě byl *Oreodytes angelinii* chytán společně s druhem *O. septentrionalis* (Gyllenhal, 1826), který je tímto poprvé hlášen z území Řecka.