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On the *Anthicus giganteus* LaFerté-Sénectère, 1849 species-group (Coleoptera: Anthicidae)

O druzích ze skupiny *Anthicus giganteus* LaFerté-Sénectère, 1849 (Coleoptera: Anthicidae)

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Coleoptera, Anthicidae, *Anthicus*, taxonomy, new species, new combination, Palaearctic Region

Abstract. An informal *Anthicus giganteus* species-group is established for seven Palaearctic species of *Anthicus* Paykull, 1879. *Anthicus giganteus* LaFerté-Sénectère, 1849 and *A. notabilis* Krekich-Strassoldo, 1914 are redescribed. Five species are newly described: *Anthicus fihaka* sp. nov. (Turkey), *A. khorgas* sp. nov. (Kazakhstan), *A. lobularis* sp. nov. (Iran, Pakistan), *A. manas* sp. nov. (Kyrgyzstan), and *A. pindos* sp. nov. (Albania, Greece).

INTRODUCTION

Anthicus giganteus LaFerté-Sénectère, 1849 is a very conspicuous species. It was described from the collections of the Czech surgeon and amateur entomologist Jan Vilém Helfer in "Mesopotamia", and placed by LaFerté-Sénectère (1849) as the single species of the ninth group of his subdivision of the large genus *Anthicus* Paykull, 1878. This group was characterized by the strongly constricted pronotum ("corselet fortement bisinué sur les côtes"), oval head, and the very large body size. Similarly, Marseul (1879) pointed out its special position by placement in a separate group he termed Sulcicolles. Despite its conspicuous appearance, there were only a few records known in the 20th century, and the species was considered rather rare by Bonadona (1960).

While sorting through the material from expeditions of the National Museum in Prague to Iran, I came across a rather extensive series of *Anthicus giganteus* specimens, partly identified by G. Uhmann, and noted differently shaped elytral apices and anterior collar of pronotum. This fact led me to examination of my own collection and surprising discovery of five unknown species. They are described below, forming a rather distinct species-group, together with *A. giganteus*, and *A. notabilis* Krekich-Strassoldo, 1914 from the Himalaya.

Both known species, *A. giganteus* and *A. notabilis*, are currently listed under *Stricticollis* Marseul, 1879 (Chandler et al. 2008), however it seems to be more justified to preserve their original placement in *Anthicus*. *Stricticollis* is undoubtedly a poorly defined genus, whose status should be revised. It is traditionally distinguished from *Anthicus* by distinctly laterally impressed pronotum (constricted in dorsal view), and should also display a different form of mesosternum (Telnov 1999, 2010). The pronotal shape in my opinion is hardly useful as a genus level character, as is further demonstrated herein by the variation of this character within this group of close species. As for the mesosternum, I failed to find any substantial

differences in morphology of mesothorax generally between the type species of the genus, *Stricticollis longicollis* (W. L. E. Schmidt, 1842) and *Anthicus antherinus* (Linnaeus, 1760). The present situation is, moreover, complicated by nomenclatural problems and different opinions on the status of *Stricticomus* Pic, 1894, see Alonso-Zarazaga (2013).

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Specimens were examined with a Leica MZ 9.5 stereomicroscope; morphological measurements were taken by using an ocular graticule. Male genitalia were examined after being cleared in a hot 10% KOH solution and then placed on the same card in water-soluble dimethyl hydantoin formaldehyde resin (DMHF). Illustrations were made using a drawing tube attached to an Olympus CH-2 compound microscope. Photographs were taken using a Nikon Coolpix 4500 digital camera attached to a Leica MZ 9.5 trinocular stereomicroscope; images of the same specimen at different focal planes were combined with Helicon Focus 5.2 Pro and edited with Adobe Photoshop 9.0.2. software.

Separate labels are indicated by double slashes (//) and comments on specimens and label data are placed in square brackets. Locality data of the specimens from Iran collected by the expeditions of the National Museum in Prague are specified and/or supplemented by coordinates according to Hoberlandt (1981, 1983). The terminology of body setae follows Werner & Chandler (1995).

The following abbreviations are used in the text: [h] – handwritten; [p] – printed; env. – environs of; rec. – record from; lgt. – collected by; prov. – province; Exped. lgt. – collected by members of the Czechoslovak-Iranian Entomological expeditions to Iran (1970, 1973 and 1977) organized by the National Museum in Prague (Czech Republic).

Acronyms of collections (in round brackets): BMNH – The Natural History Museum, London, United Kingdom; DCDC – Donald S. Chandler Collection, Durham, New Hampshire, USA; MNHN – Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris, France; NMPC – National Museum, Prague, Czech Republic; ZKDC – Zbyněk Kejval Collection, Domažlice, Czech Republic; ZMHB – Museum für Naturkunde der Humboldt Universität, Berlin, Germany; ZSMC – Zoologische Staatssammlung München, Germany.

SYSTEMATIC PART

Anthicus giganteus species-group

Diagnosis. Large body size (4.6–6.0 mm); head distinctly wider than pronotum, produced basally in lateral view; short median basal line of head indicated, at most slightly impressed; elytral apices in both sexes more or less distinctly modified, produced or excavated (Figs 11–16); body setae rather uniformly short, mostly coarse and appressed, distinct tactile setae absent; male protibiae with short apical protrusion on inner side; male protrochanters with small denticle; tegmen of aedeagus usually with distinct subapical setae (in *A. notabilis*, present but inconspicuous).

Remark. The *Anthicus giganteus* species-group is established as an informal group of convenience. It is comprised of seven species: *Anthicus fihaka* sp. nov., *A. giganteus* LaFerté-Sénectère, 1849, *A. khorgas* sp. nov., *A. lobularis* sp. nov., *A. manas* sp. nov., *A. notabilis* Krekich-Strassoldo, 1914, and *A. pindos* sp. nov. They all appear to be confined to riverine habitats, as most of the specimens examined (if not all) were collected near rivers or streams, mainly by using light traps, particularly the material collected in Iran.

A key to species

1(8) Elytral apices more or less produced apically (Figs 11, 13, 16).
2(3) Anterior collar of pronotum modified, distinctly lobed ventro-laterally (Fig. 10). .....***A. pindos* sp. nov.**
3(2) Anterior collar of pronotum simple, at most somewhat unevenly developed, narrower ventrally, but never lobed (Fig. 9).

4(5) Elytral apices conspicuously produced (Fig. 13); pronotum at most moderately constricted posteriorly in dorsal view (Fig. 6); pronotal disc evenly convex; body setae silvery, lustrous. ..... ***A. fihaka* sp. nov.**

5(4) Elytral apices at most moderately produced (Figs 11, 16); pronotum rather strongly constricted posteriorly in dorsal view (Figs 5, 8); pronotal disc with more or less distinct median longitudinal impression; body setae whitish, matt.

6(7) Pronotal disc with rather sharp median longitudinal impression; male mesotibiae with minute apical protrusion on inner side; black granules on inner side of male metatibiae rather numerous and distinct; apex of tegmen (Fig. 1). ..... ***A. giganteus* LaFerté-Sénectère**

7(6) Pronotal disc with shallow median longitudinal impression; male mesotibiae simple; black granules on inner side of male metatibiae inconspicuous; apex of tegmen (Fig. 3). ..... ***A. manas* sp. nov.**

8(1) Elytral apices distinctly excavated, with more or less prominent median projetion (Figs 12, 14, 15).

9(10) Pronotal disc with rather sharp median longitudinal impression; anterior collar of pronotum modified, distinctly lobed ventro-laterally, as in Fig. 10; apex of tegmen (Fig. 4). ..... ***A. lobularis* sp. nov.**

10(9) Pronotal disc convex or at most shallowly impressed medially; anterior collar of pronotum simple.

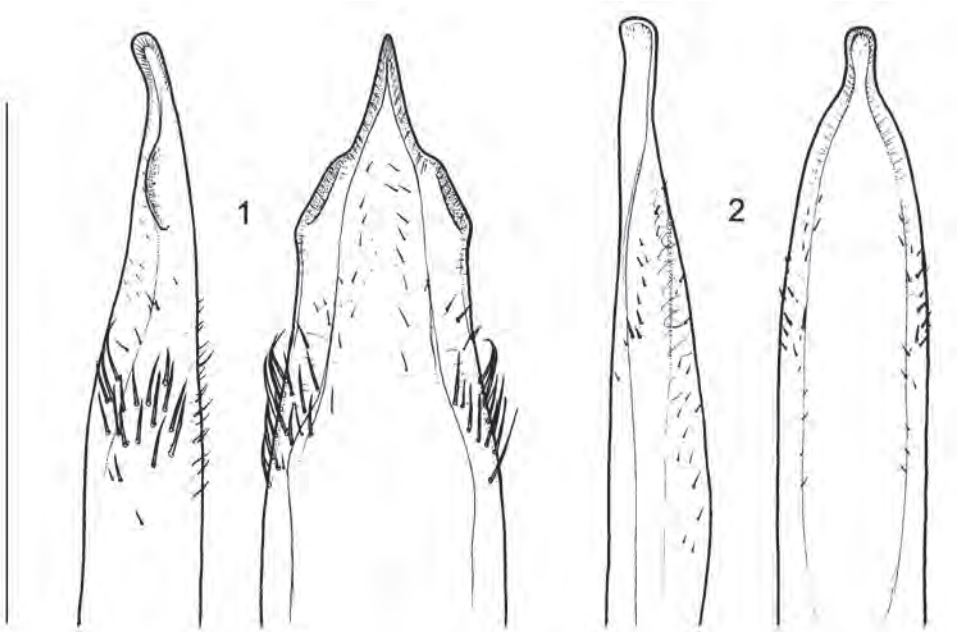
11(12) Head evenly rounded posteriorly (Fig. 18); body punctation generally rather coarse; setae of the head and pronotum coarse and appressed; apical median projection of elytra slender (Fig. 12); apex of tegmen (Fig. 2). ..... ***A. notabilis* Krekich-Strassoldo**

12(11) Head widely rounded posteriorly (Fig. 20); body punctation comparatively fine; setae of the head and pronotum fine, distinctly raised; apical median projection of elytra more robust (Fig. 15). ..... ***A. khorgas* sp. nov.**

Anthicus giganteus LaFerté-Sénectère, 1849
(Figs 1, 5, 9, 11, 17)

Anthicus giganteus LaFerté-Sénectère, 1849: 60, Figs 1a–c.
Anthicus giganteus: Marseul (1879): 77 (redescription); Pic (1896): 178 (rec. "Caucase"); Pic (1911): 50 (catalogue); Winkler (1927): 837 (catalogue); Bonadona (1960): 53 (rec. Afghanistan); Bonadona (1970): 381 (rec. Iran).
Stricticomus giganteus: Uhmann (1985): 191 (rec. Uzbekistan); Uhmann (1996): 30 (rec. Iran); Telnov (1998): 95 (rec. Turkmenistan); Telnov (2002): 23 (check-list).
Stricticollis giganteus: Uhmann et al. (2005): 52 (distribution); Telnov (2005): 171 (distribution, rec. Tajikistan); Chandler et al. (2008): 446 (catalogue, distribution); Telnov (2010): 26 (key, rec. Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan).

Type locality. "Mesopotamia, bords de l'Euphrate."
Material examined. 2 ♀♀, "Helfer [lgt., see Remarks]" (NMPC). **IRAN:** 1 ♀, "Persia" (BMNH); 2 ♂♂, Baluchistan prov., 10 km E of Bampur, Ghasemabad, Bampur river valley, 27°10′N 60°20′E, 11.–12.iv.73, Exped. lgt. (NMPC); 41 ♂♂ 36 ♀♀, Baluchistan prov., 13 km SSE of Nikshahr, Nikshahr river valley, 26°08′N 60°11′E, 8.–9.iv.1973, Exped. lgt. (NMPC, ZSMC, ZKDC, BMNH, DCDC); 2 ♀♀, Baluchistan prov., about 3 km N of Rask, Sarbáz river valley, 26°13′N 61°25′E, 3.–4.iv.1973, Exped. lgt. (NMPC); 1 ♂ 1 ♀, Baluchistan prov., 68 km S of Rask, Bahu-Kalat, 25°44′N 61°32′E, 3.–4.iv.1973, Exped. lgt. (NMPC); 1 ♂, Baluchistan prov., 25 km W of Ghasre-Ghand, 26°12′N 60°31′E, 9.–10.iv.1973, Exped. lgt. (NMPC); 1 ♀, Baluchistan prov., Sarbaz, Sarbaz river valley, 26°39′N 61°15′E, 1.–2.iv.1973, Exped. lgt. (NMPC); 3 ♂♂ 3 ♀♀, Hormozgan prov., SE of Minab, Angohran, 24.iv.2002, S. Kadlec lgt. (ZKDC); 1 ♂, 1 ♀, same data, except: P. Kabátek lgt. (ZKDC); 1 ♂, Hormozgan prov., 62 km E of Bandar-e Abbas, Hasan Langi, 26.iv.2002, S. Kadlec lgt. (ZKDC); 3 ♀♀, Hormozgan prov., 30 km N of Bandar-e Abbas, Genu, 23.iv.2002, S. Kadlec lgt. (ZKDC); 1 ♂, same data, except: P. Kabátek lgt. (ZKDC); 1 ♂ 2 ♀♀, Kerman prov., 35 km NNW of Sabzevaran, Mohammadabad, 28°57′N 57°55′E, 1600 m, 3.–5.v.1973, Exped. lgt. (NMPC); 4 ♂♂, Kerman prov., 7 km W of Kahkom, 28°12′N 55°46′E, 27.–28.v.73, Exped. lgt. (NMPC); 1 ♀, Kerman



Figs 1, 2. Apex of tegmen of aedeagus in dorsal (right) and lateral (left) view: 1 – *Anthicus giganteus* LaFerté-Sénectère, 1849; 2 – *A. notabilis* Krekich-Strassoldo, 1914. Scale 0.5 mm.
Obr. 1, 2. Apex tegmenu aedeagu z horního (vpravo) a bočního (vlevo) pohledu: 1 – *Anthicus giganteus* LaFerté-Sénectère, 1849; 2 – *A. notabilis* Krekich-Strassoldo, 1914. Měřítko 0,5 mm.

prov., 30 km NNE of Sabzevaran, Saghdar, 28°54′N 57°55′E, 1650 m, 17.–19.v.1977, Exped. lgt. (NMPC); 1 ♂, Kerman prov., 50 km NW of Dowlatabad, Posht-e kuh, 29°01′N 56°53′E, 1700 m, 21.–22.v.1977, Exped. lgt. (NMPC); 1 ♀, Kerman prov., 35 km S of Kahnuj, Bargah, 27°38′N 57°42′E, 650 m, 15.–16.v.1977, Exped. lgt. (NMPC); 1 ♀, Kerman prov., 43 km N of Kahnuj, road Minab – Sabzevaran, 28°21′N 57°46′E, 540 m, 16.–17.v.1977, Exped. lgt. (NMPC); 1 ♀, Khorassan prov., 36 km N of Gonabad, 34°40′N 58°47′E, 830 m, 7.–8. vi.1977, Exped. lgt. (NMPC). **IRAQ:** 1 ♂, "Mesopot." [Sharp Coll. 1905-313.] (BMNH). **PAKISTAN:** 1 ♂, Sulaiman Mountains, Zhob valley [ca. 31°21′N 69°27′E], 1700 m, viii.2005 [no collector] (ZKDC). **TURKMENISTAN:** 2 ♂♂ 1 ♀, 5 km N of Kuschka, Badkhyz, 5.–8. vii.1994, D. Hauck & L. Čížek lgt. (ZKDC).

Redescription. Female (topotype, NMPC, Fig. 17). Body length 5.6 mm. Head and pronotum reddish brown; elytra reddish, with large, darker, vaguely outlined brown spot mesally, moderately extending along suture and laterally; legs and antennae reddish.

Head 1.2 times as long as wide, tempora moderately narrowing posteriorly, base nearly evenly rounded (Fig. 5). Eyes medium-sized, moderately convex. Surface matt, densely punctate and slightly shagreened; impunctate median line indicated in anterior half; punctures narrowly spaced. Setae coarse, whitish and appressed (no erect tactile setae), with several finer, more raised setae anteriorly on clypeus. Antennae short, at most slightly enlarged in terminal third; antennomere X 1.2 times, XI 2.2 times as long as wide.

Pronotum nearly 1.3 times as long as wide, distinctly narrower than head including eyes, moderately widely rounded anteriorly, strongly constricted posteriorly in dorsal view (Fig. 5), its anterior collar simple (Fig. 9). Pronotal disc with distinct median longitudinal impression, most prominent mesally, its outline nearly flattened in lateral view. Surface matt, densely and coarsely punctate; punctures contiguous, larger than those on head. Setae as on head.

Elytra 1.9 times as long as wide; omoplates slightly indicated; humeri distinctly protruding; elytra apices slightly produced and bluntly pointed (Fig. 11). Surface moderately glossy, distinctly punctate; punctures about as large as those on head, but deeper and sparser, distinctly separated. Setae moderately longer than those on head and pronotum, whitish, uniformly coarse and appressed, tactile setae absent.

Legs moderately long, simple. Setae whitish, very short, mostly appressed, somewhat longer, finer, and subdecumbent on inner side of tibiae (especially mesotibiae).

Abdominal sternum and tergum VII simple, tergum subtriangular and rounded apically.

Male (Iran, Nikshahr). Externally identical with female, differing as follows: protibiae moderately sinuous and with distinct, curved apical protrusion on inner side; mesotibiae with minute apical protrusion on inner side; metatibiae moderately sinuous, with distinct black granules on inner side; protrochanters with minute denticle; abdominal tergum VII truncate posteriorly, sternum VIII rather deeply emarginate posteriorly.

Aedeagus as in Fig. 1; apical portion of tegmen 1.6 times as long as basal-piece, rather wide near base and moderately sinuously narrowing towards apex.

Variation. Body length 4.7–5.2 mm; dark marking of elytra varying from small median spot to wider, transverse band, mostly inconspicuous to absent, always very vaguely outlined; apex of elytra more or less distinctly produced.

Differential diagnosis. *Anthicus giganteus* at first sight can be easily confused with the sympatric *A. lobularis* sp. nov., but differs clearly by the simple anterior collar of the pronotum, nearly simple, at most moderately produced apices of elytra, and by the shape of the tegmen of the aedeagus (cf. Figs 1 *versus* 4).

Distribution. Afghanistan, Iran, Israel, Iraq, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Turkey, Uzbekistan, and "Caucasus" (Pic 1896).

Remarks. LaFerté-Sénectére (1849) described *Anthicus giganteus* from three female specimens collected by J. V. Helfer in "Mesopotamia" in 1836 (probably the territory of the present Iraq or Syria, but also the environs of Birecik in SE Turkey, see remarks under *Anthelephila nemrod* LaFerté-Sénectére, 1849 by Kejval (2006)). The original description contains the following additional details: the species was collected by Helfer on /near banks of the Euphrates River. Helfer's collections included large series of specimens, with two of the three syntypes being deposited in the Collection of LaFerté-Sénectére (MNHN), and other topotypic specimens are present in various collections (especially ZMHB and probably ZSMC, the latter holds a part of the collection of J. Sturm).

I have not seen the type specimens, but have examined the two topotypic females discovered in the Collection of J. V. Helfer (NMPC). They agree perfectly with the rather detailed original description, especially in the shape of the pronotum (distinctly constricted laterally, prominent median longitudinal impression on disc), and the nearly simple elytral apices (described by Laferté-Sénectére as conjointly rounded). Nevertheless, it is probable that the material collected by Helfer included two different species, *A. giganteus* and possibly the

species herein described as *A. lobularis* sp. n. These species are sympatric, known from the same localities in Iran (Ghasemabad, Nikshahr, Sarbaz, Bahu-Kalat, Mohammadabad,…). Also, Marseul's redescription of the elytral apices of *A. giganteus*, based probably on topotypic specimens, appears to be identical with those of *A. lobularis* sp. nov. (Fig. 14): "♂ extrémité des élytres échancree et formant de chaque côte une petite épince en dedans de l'échancrure suturale et une forte dent en dehors" (Marseul 1879).

The record of *Anthicus giganteus* from Kyrgyzstan by Telnov (2010) undoubtedly belongs to *A. manas* sp. nov., as the respective specimen is most probably topotypic, bearing the same label data.

Anthicus notabilis Krekich-Strassoldo, 1914
(Figs 2, 12, 18)

Anthicus notabilis Krekich-Strassoldo, 1914: 225.
Anthicus notabilis: Krekich-Strassoldo (1928): 102 (rec. India).
Stricticomus notabilis: Telnov (1999): 14, Figs 1–3 (new combination, redescription, rec. Nepal); Telnov (2003): 290 (check-list).
Stricticollis notabilis: Chandler et al. (2008): 447 (catalogue, distribution); Telnov (2010): 27 (key, rec. Nepal).

Type locality. Western Himalaya.
Material examined. INDIA: 12 specimens, Uttarakhand, Haldwani Division, Kumaon [no date] H. G. Champion lgt. (BMNH, ZKDC). **NEPAL:** 1♂ 2♀♀, Arun valley, Sobae-Kohla/ Kokuwa, 400–600 m, 20.–25.vi.1992, J. & J. Probst lgt. (ZKDC).
Redescription. Male (Kumaon, Fig. 18). Body length 4.8 mm. Body largely black to brownish black, ventral side distinctly paler, reddish brown to brownish black; elytra black; legs black, tarsi slightly paler; antennae dark brown.

Head 1.2 times as long as wide, tempora moderately narrowing posteriorly, base evenly rounded (Fig. 18). Eyes comparatively small, moderately convex. Surface moderately glossy, densely punctate; impunctate median line distinct over the whole length; punctures large, shallow, narrowly spaced to contiguous. Setae moderately coarse, silvery, nearly appressed (no erect tactile setae), with several finer, more raised setae anteriorly on clypeus. Antennae moderately long, slightly enlarged in terminal third; antennomere X 1.9 times, XI 2.9 times as long as wide.

Pronotum nearly 1.3 times as long as wide, distinctly narrower than head including eyes, nearly evenly rounded anteriorly, only moderately constricted posteriorly in dorsal view (Fig. 18), its anterior collar evenly developed. Pronotal disc evenly convex (no median impression), moderately convex in lateral view. Surface at most moderately glossy, distinctly and densely punctate; punctation and setae as on head, evenly developed.

Elytra nearly 1.9 times as long as wide; omoplates slightly indicated; humeri distinctly protruding; elytral apices moderately excavate with acute median projection (Fig. 12). Surface rather glossy, distinctly punctate; punctures deeper and sparser than those of head, distinctly separated. Setae distinctly longer and finer than on head and pronotum, pale brownish, subdecumbent, uniform, tactile setae absent.

Legs moderately long; protibiae slightly sinuous and with distinct, moderately curved apical protrusion on inner side; protrochanters with minute denticle. Setae silvery to whitish, very short, mostly appressed, somewhat longer, coarser, and subdecumbent on inner side of tibiae (especially mesotibiae).

Abdominal sternum and tergum VII simple, tergum truncate posteriorly; sternum VIII moderately emarginate posteriorly. Aedeagus as in Fig. 2; apical portion of tegmen 1.8 times as long as basal-piece, narrow and parallel sided in dorsal view.

Female. Externally identical with male, except simple protibiae and protrochanters, and tergum VII subtriangular, rounded apically.

Variation. Body length 4.7–5.5 mm; apical median process of elytra more or less sharply pointed.

Differential diagnosis. *Anthicus notabilis* may slightly resemble *A. khorgas* sp. nov. by its dark colouration and finely setose elytra, however it differs clearly by the narrower, posteriorly evenly rounded head, generally coarser body punctation, appressed setae of the head and pronotum, and the less prominent apical projection of elytra (cf. Figs 12 *versus* 15).

Distribution. India (Uttarakhand), Nepal.

Remarks. Krekich-Strassoldo (1914) described *Anthicus notabilis* from a single female specimen of larger body size (4.7 mm) that had modified elytral apices ("die Spitzen breit und vereinigt abgestutzt"). The specimens examined fully agree with the original description and display also the male characters given by Telnov (1999).

Anthicus fihaka sp. nov.

(Figs 6, 13, 19)

Type locality. Turkey, Antalya Province, 5 km NEE of Antalya, Sagirin env., 37°00′N, 31°13′E, riverbank, 85 m a.s.l.

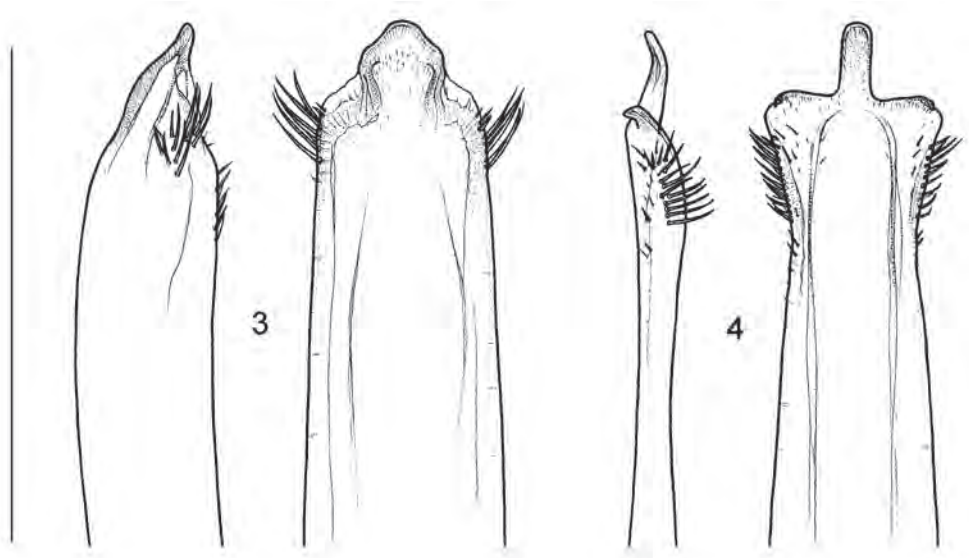
Type material. Holotype ♀ labelled: "TURCIA, 19.VI.2001 Antalya vil. (45 km NEE) SAĞIRIN env. (river) [p] // Turkey 2001 Expedition (37°00′N, 31°13′E); 85 m M. Fikáček, J. Hájek & J. Straka leg. [p]" (NMPC). Paratype ♀, "E Turkey Söylemez 50 km SE Erzurum 3945N 4149E 24.VI.1999 lgt. P. Kabátek [p]" (ZKDC).

Description. Female (holotype, Fig. 19). Body length 5.2 mm. Head and pronotum largely black, ventral side distictly paler, reddish brown to brownish black; elytra reddish brown, with large, longitudinal, vaguely outlined brownish black spot mesally; legs and antennae reddish brown.

Head 1.2 times as long as wide, tempora moderately narrowing posteriorly, base widely rounded (Fig. 6). Eyes medium-sized, moderately convex. Surface matt, very densely punctate and shagreened; impunctate median line indicated in anterior half; punctures large, shallow, narrowly spaced to contiguous. Setae coarse, silvery, appressed (no erect tactile setae), with several finer, more raised setae anteriorly on clypeus. Antennae moderately long, slightly enlarged in terminal third; antennomere X 1.2 times, XI 2.1 times as long as wide.

Pronotum nearly 1.2 times as long as wide, moderately narrower than head including eyes, widely rounded anteriorly, only moderately constricted posteriorly in dorsal view (Fig. 6), its anterior collar evenly developed. Pronotal disc evenly convex (no median impression), moderately convex in lateral view. Surface matt, distinctly and densely punctate and shagreened; punctation and setae as on head, evenly developed.

Elytra nearly 1.9 times as long as wide; omoplates slightly indicated; humeri distinctly protruding; elytra apices with prominent, bluntly pointed median projection (Fig. 13). Surface matt, distinctly punctate and shagreened; punctures deeper and sparser than those of head, distinctly separated. Setae slightly longer than on head and pronotum, silvery, appressed to subdecumbent, uniform, tactile setae absent.



Figs 3, 4. Apex of tegmen of aedeagus in dorsal (right) and lateral (left) view: 3 – *Anthicus manas* sp. nov.; 4 – *A. lobularis* sp. nov. Scale 0.5 mm.
Obr. 3, 4. Apex tegmenu aedeagu z horního (vpravo) a bočního (vlevo) pohledu: 3 – *Anthicus manas* sp. nov.; 4 – *A. lobularis* sp. nov. Měřítko 0,5 mm.

Legs moderately long. Setae silvery, short, mostly appressed, somewhat longer, coarser, and subdecumbent on inner side of tibiae (especially mesotibiae).

Abdominal sternum and tergum VII simple, rounded apically.

Male. Unknown.

Variation. Body length 5.2–6.0 mm.

Differential diagnosis. *Anthicus fihaka* sp. nov. resembles *A. giganteus* by the simply produced (not excavate) elytral apices. However, it differs clearly by the moderately widely rounded base of the head, pronotal characters (moderate lateral impressions, evenly convex disc, lacking a median impression), and by the silvery, glossy setae of the body surface (cf. Figs 6 *versus* 5).

Distribution. Turkey.

Etymology. Composed from portions of the surnames of the collectors of the holotype, Martin Fikáček, Jiří Hájek, and Jakub Straka. Noun in apposition.

Anthicus khorgas sp. nov.

(Figs 15, 20)

Type locality. SE Kazakhstan, 30 km E of Panfilov, Khorgas [= Korgas, Horgos].

Type material. Holotype, ♂ labelled: "SU Kazachstan m.or. 30 km E Panfilov HORGOS 9.–10. VII.1991 Jaroslav Turna leg. [p]" (NMPC). Paratypes: 1 ♀, "SE Kazakhstan, 1991 KORGAS 9 – 10.VII S. Bečvář legit. [p]" (ZKDC); 1 ♀, "Kazakhstan mer. or., Korgas, 10.7.1991, M. Snížek lgt. [p]" (ZKDC).

Description. **Female** (holotype). Body length 5.5 mm. Body largely brownish black, pronotum brownish anteriorly and ventrally, elytra brownish along lateral margins, lacking any dorsal markings. legs and antennae reddish brown.

Head 1.2 times as long as wide, tempora slightly narrowing posteriorly, base rather widely rounded (Fig. 20). Eyes medium-sized, moderately convex. Surface moderately glossy, densely punctate; median impunctate line rather wide and distinct in apical half; punctures narrowly separated. Setae comparatively fine, whitish to silvery, subdecumbent (no erect tactile setae), with several finer, more raised setae anteriorly on clypeus. Antennae moderately long and enlarged in terminal third; antennomere X 1.3 times, XI 2.4 times as long as wide.

Pronotum 1.2 times as long as wide, distinctly narrower than head including eyes, moderately and widely rounded anteriorly, distinctly constricted posteriorly in dorsal view (Fig. 20), its anterior collar evenly developed. Pronotal disc with slight indication of median longitudinal impression anteriorly, its dorsal outline slightly convex in lateral view. Surface moderately glossy, densely punctate; punctures narrowly but distinctly separated, slightly larger than those on head. Setae as on head.

Elytra 1.9 times as long as wide; omoplates slightly indicated; humeri distinctly protruding; elytra apices distinctly excavate and with robust median projection (Fig. 15). Surface moderately glossy, distinctly punctate, interspaces smooth; punctures about as large and coarse as those of pronotum, more widely separated. Setae distinctly longer than on head and pronotum, whitish to silvery, subdecument, tactile setae absent.

Legs moderately long, simple. Setae whitish, short, finer and appressed on femora, subdecumbent on tibiae.

Abdominal sternum and tergum VII simple, rounded apically.

Male. Unknown.

Variation. Body length 5.2–5.8 mm; median longitudinal impression of pronotal disc more or less distinct in anterior two thirds (always shallow).

Differential diagnosis. *A. khorgas* sp. nov. is well characterized by combination of the nearly unicolorous elytra (lacking dorsal markings), widely rounded base of head, comparatively glossy elytra, generally finer and more raised setae of the body surface (including head and pronotum), and distinctly excavate and strongly produced elytral apices.

Distribution. Kazakhstan.

Etymology. Named after the type locality. Noun in apposition.

Anthicus lobularis sp. nov.

(Figs 4, 7, 14, 21)

Type locality. SE Iran, Baluchistan, 10 km E of Bampur, valley of the river Bampur (Rud-e Bampur), 27°10′N, 60°20′E.

Type material. Holotype ♂ labelled: "SE Iran, 11-12.4.73 Ghasemabad, 10 km Bampur (vall) [p] // Loc. no. 157 Exped. Nat. Mus. Praha [p]" (NMPC). Paratypes: 22 ♂♂ 26 ♀♀, same data as holotype (NMPC, ZKDC, ZSMC, BMNH, DCDC); 5 ♂♂ 8 ♀♀, same data, in addition: "Stricticomus giganteus (Laferté) det.G.Uhmann 1985 [p]" (NMPC); 11 ♂♂ 12 ♀♀, "SE Iran, 13 km SSE Nikshahr (riv.) 8-9.4.1973 [p; 26°08′N 60°11′E] // Loc. no 152 Exp. Nat. Mus. Praha [p]" (NMPC); 13 ♂♂ 9 ♀♀, "SE Iran, 1.-2.4.1973 env. Sarbaz, valley of river Sarbaz [p; 26°39′N 61°15′E] // Loc. no. 145 Exped. Nat. Mus. Praha [p] // Stricticomus giganteus

(Laferté) det. G. Uhmann 1992 [p]" (NMPC, ZSMC); 6 ♂♂ 2 ♀♀, same data, but lacking identification label (NMPC); 1 ♀, "SE Iran, Sekand 27 km ENE Sarbáz 31.3.-1.4.1973 [p; 26°43′N 61°31′E] // Loc. no. 144 Exp. Nat. Mus. Praha [p] // Stricticomus giganteus (Laferté) det. G. Uhmann 1985 [p]" (NMPC); 7 ♂♂ 9 ♀♀, "S E. Iran Bahu-Kalat 3-4.4.1973 [p; 25°44′N 61°32′E] // Loc. no 147 Exp. Nat. Mus. Praha [p]" (NMPC, ZSMC); 1 ♂ 4 ♀♀, "SE Iran 30 km N Bampur 12-13.4.1973 [p; 27°27′N 60°25′E] // Loc. no. 159 Exp. Nat. Mus. Praha [p] Stricticomus giganteus (Laferté) det. G. Uhmann 1985 [p]" (NMPC); 1 ♂ 3 ♀♀, "SE Iran, Rask vall r. Sarbáz 3-4.4.1973 [p; 26°13′N 61°25′E] // Loc. No. 146 Exp. Nat. Mus. Praha [p]" (NMPC); 2 ♀♀, "S. Iran, Jashak 60 km SE Khormuj 20.-21.4.1977 [p; 28°11′N 51°42′E] // Loc. no. 304 Exped. Nat. Mus. Praha [p] // Stricticomus giganteus (Laferté) det. G. Uhmann 1986 [p]" (NMPC); 2 ♀♀, "S. Iran Hassan Langi 9-10.5.1977 [p; 27°22′N 56°52′E] // Loc. no. 324 Exped. Nat. Mus. Praha [p]" (NMPC); 1 ♀, "E Iran, 1600 m Mohammadabad 3-5.5.1973 [p; 28°57′N 57°55′E] // Loc. No. 187 Exp. Nat. Mus. Praha [p]" (NMPC); 1 ♂, "S Iran, 7 km W Kahkom 27-28.5.73 [p; 28°12′N 55°46′E] // Loc. no 215 Exp. Nat. Mus. Praha [p]" (NMPC); 1 ♂ 1 ♀, "IRAN, Hormozgan prov., 10 km E of TUJAK 10 m 26°04′N 57°18′E, 14-15.iv.2000, at light [p] // Iran 2000 Czech Biol. Expedition J. Hájek & M. Mikát lgt. [p]" (ZKDC); 1 ♀, "SW-PAKISTAN, 1993 Baluchestan, Avaran, 4-7.iv., S. Bečvář lgt. [p]" (ZKDC); 1 ♂, "PAKISTAN, Sulaiman Mts, Zhob valley 1700 m, viii.2005 [p]" (ZKDC).

Description. Male (holotype, Fig. 21). Body length 4.9 mm. Head and pronotum reddish brown; elytra reddish, with large, vaguely outlined brownish black spot mesally, moderately extending along suture and laterally; legs and antennae reddish.

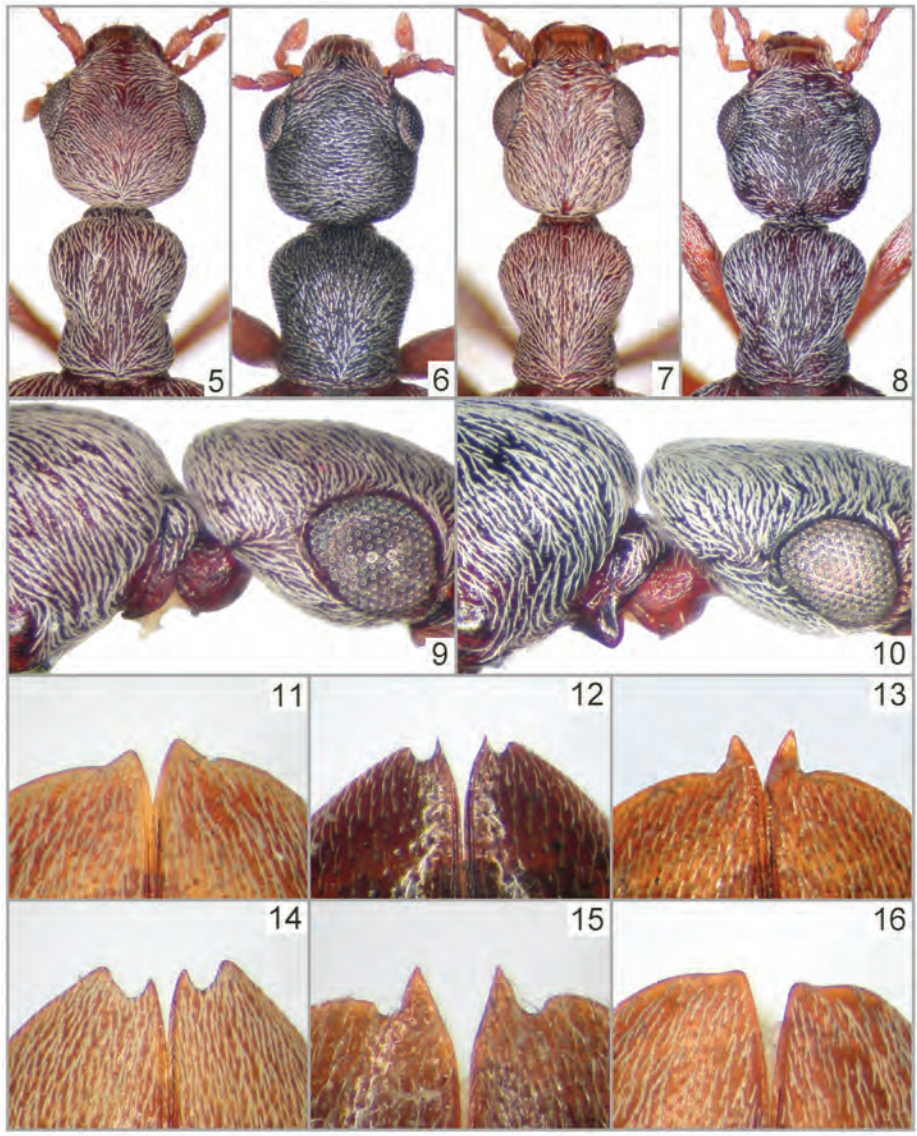
Head 1.3 times as long as wide, somewhat flattened posteriorly in lateral view, tempora subparallel, base widely rounded in dorsal view (Fig. 7). Eyes prominent, large and rather convex. Surface matt, densely punctate and at places slightly shagreened; impunctate median line indicated in anterior half; punctures narrowly spaced. Setae coarse, whitish and appressed (no erect tactile setae), with several finer, more raised setae anteriorly on clypeus. Antennae short, at most slightly enlarged in terminal third; antennomere X 1.3 times, XI twice as long as wide.

Pronotum nearly 1.3 times as long as wide, distinctly narrower than head including eyes, moderately widely rounded anteriorly, strongly constricted posteriorly in dorsal view (Fig. 7), its anterior collar modified, conspicuously lobed ventro-laterally, similarly as in Fig. 10. Pronotal disc with distinct median longitudinal impression, most prominent mesally, its outline nearly flattened in lateral view. Surface matt, densely and coarsely punctate; punctures nearly contiguous, larger than those on head. Setae as on head.

Elytra twice as long as wide; omoplates slightly indicated; humeri distinctly protruding; elytra apices excavate and with acute median projection (Fig. 14). Surface moderately glossy, distinctly punctate; punctures about as large as those on head, but deeper and sparser, narrowly but distinctly separated. Setae moderately longer than those on head and pronotum, whitish, uniformly coarse and appressed, tactile setae absent.

Legs moderately long; protibiae moderately sinuous and with distinct, curved apical protrusion on inner side; mesotibiae simple; protrochanters with minute denticle. Setae whitish, very short, mostly appressed, somewhat longer, finer, and subdecumbent on inner side of tibiae (especially mesotibiae).

Abdominal sternum and tergum VII simple, tergum truncate posteriorly; sternum VIII rather deeply emarginate posteriorly. Aedeagus as in Fig. 4; apical portion of tegmen nearly as long as basal-piece, largely subparallel in dorsal view.



Figs 5–16. 5–8. Head and pronotum in dorsal view: 5 – *Anthicus giganteus* LaFerté-Sénectère, 1849; 6 – *A. fihaka* sp. nov.; 7 – *A. lobularis* sp. nov.; 8 – *A. manas* sp. nov. 9, 10. Head and apical part of pronotum in lateral view: 9 – *A. giganteus* LaFerté-Sénectère, 1849; 10 – *A. pindos* sp. nov. 11–16. Apex of elytra: 11 – *A. giganteus* LaFerté-Sénectère, 1849; 12 – *A. notabilis* Krekich-Strassoldo, 1914; 13 – *A. fihaka* sp. nov.; 14 – *A. lobularis* sp. nov.; 15 – *A. khorgas* sp. nov.; 16 – *A. manas* sp. nov.

Obr. 5–16. 5–8. Hlava a pronotum z horního pohledu: 5 – *Anthicus giganteus* LaFerté-Sénectère, 1849; 6 – *A. fihaka* sp. nov.; 7 – *A. lobularis* sp. nov.; 8 – *A. manas* sp. nov. 9, 10. Hlava a apikální část pronota z bočního pohledu: 9 – *A. giganteus* LaFerté-Sénectère, 1849; 10 – *A. pindos* sp. nov. 11–16. Apex krovek: 11 – *A. giganteus* LaFerté-Sénectère, 1849; 12 – *A. notabilis* Krekich-Strassoldo, 1914; 13 – *A. fihaka* sp. nov.; 14 – *A. lobularis* sp. nov.; 15 – *A. khorgas* sp. nov.; 16 – *A. manas* sp. nov.

Female. Externally identical with male, differing by simple protibiae and subtringular, apically rounded tergum VII.
Variation. Body length 4.6–5.5 mm; darker marking of elytra varying from small median spot to wider, transverse band, mostly inconspicuous to absent, always very vaguely outlined; tempora subparallel to moderately narrowing towards base; median apical process of elytra more or less prominent.
Differential diagnosis. *Anthicus lobularis* sp. nov. is undoubtedly close to the sympatric *A. giganteus*, but differs by the conspicuously lobed anterior collar of pronotum, excavate elytral apices, simple mesotibiae in males (lacking any distinct protrusion on inner side), and by the shape and setae of tegmen. Most specimens also display a rather widely rounded base of head and subparallel tempora, but these characters are not quite stable.

A. lobularis sp. nov. shares the peculiar modification of the anterior collar of the pronotum with *A. pindos* sp. nov. from Albania and Greece, but differs clearly by the sharply excavate elytral apices, rather widely rounded base of head, and larger eyes (cf. Figs 7 *versus* 24).
Distribution. Iran, Pakistan.
Etymology. Composed from Latin words *lobulus* (small lobe) and *collar* (collar), refering to the peculiar modification of the anterior collar of the pronotum.

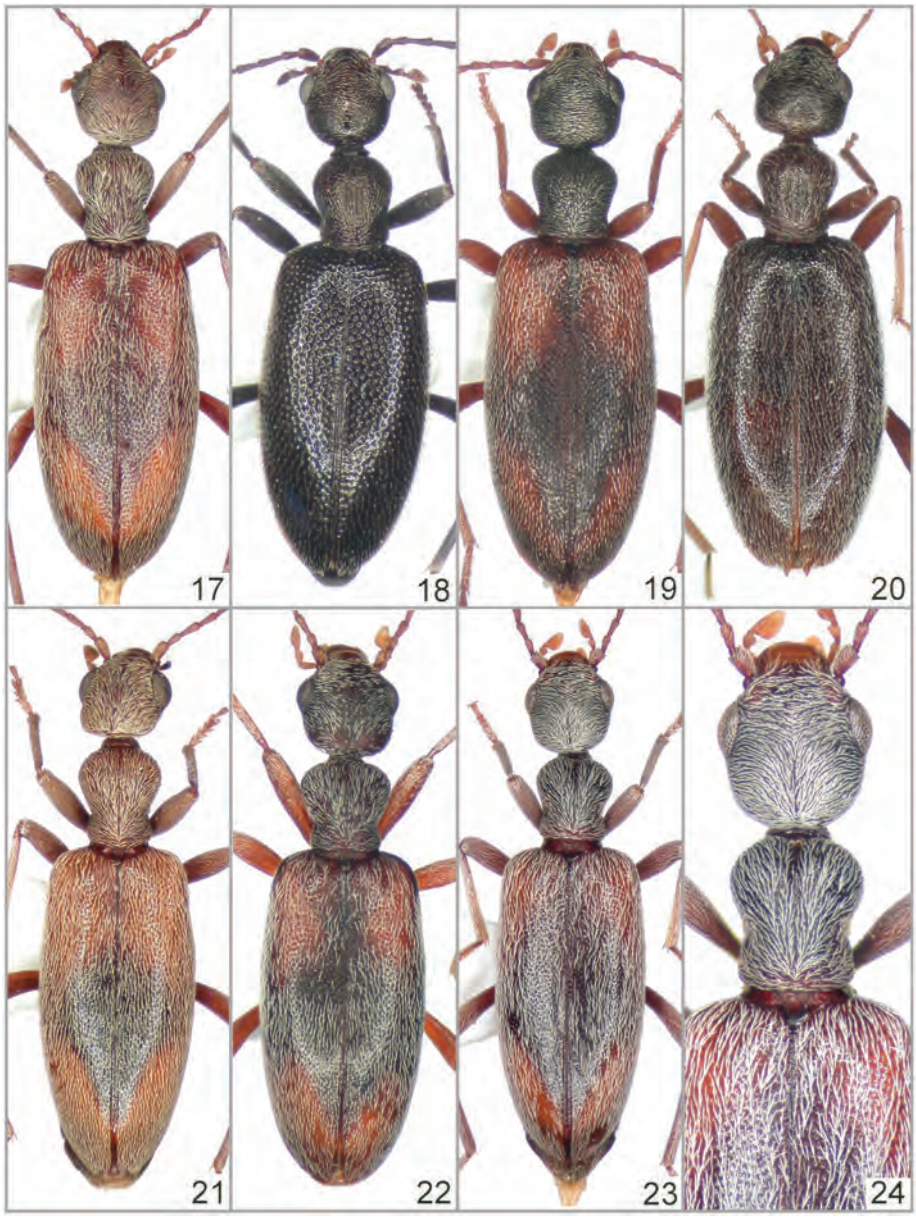
Anthicus manas sp. nov.
(Figs 3, 8, 16, 22)

Type locality. Kyrgyzstan, Alay Mountains, 35 km S of Maidan, Uch Kurgan, 2100 m a.s.l.
Type material. Holotype ♂ labelled: "Kyrgyzstan, Alaj, Uch Kurgan, 35 km S Maidan, 2100 m, 23.07.96. [p]" (NMPC). Paratypes: 1 ♂ 3 ♀♀, same data as holotype (ZKDC, NMPC); 2 ♀♀, "Kyrgyzstan, Alaj, Isfajram-saj Tal, 1900 13/14.07.99, Dolin leg [p]" (ZKDC); 1 ♀, "W. Tien-Shan, Chatkal mg., Karaterek riv., H-2700 18 km SE Kanyshkyja 23.06.97. Putchkov leg. [p]" (ZKDC).
Description. Male (holotype, Fig. 22). Body length 4.8 mm. Head and pronotum dark brown, at places with reddish tinge; elytra reddish, with large, darker, vaguely outlined transverse band at mid-length, extending on suture; legs and antennae reddish.

Head 1.2 times as long as wide, tempora moderately narrowing posteriorly, base unevenly rounded (Fig. 8). Eyes medium-sized, moderately convex. Surface matt, densely punctate and shagreened; impunctate median line indicated in anterior half; punctures narrowly spaced. Setae coarse, whitish and appressed (no erect tactile setae), with several finer, more raised setae anteriorly on clypeus. Antennae short, at most slightly enlarged in terminal third; antennomere X 1.3 times, XI 2.3 times as long as wide.

Pronotum 1.1 times as long as wide, narrower than head including eyes, widely rounded anteriorly, strongly constricted posteriorly in dorsal view (Fig. 8), its anterior collar simple. Pronotal disc with shallow median longitudinal impression, its outline slightly convex in lateral view. Surface matt, densely and coarsely punctate; punctures contiguous, larger than those on head. Setae as on head.

Elytra 1.9 times as long as wide; omoplates slightly indicated; humeri distinctly protruding; elytra apices nearly simple, bluntly pointed (Fig. 16). Surface matt, distinctly punctate and shagreened; punctures about as large as those on head, but deeper and sparser, distinctly separated. Setae moderately longer than those on head and pronotum, whitish, uniformly coarse and appressed, tactile setae absent.



Figs 17–24. 17–23. Habitus: 17 – *Anthicus giganteus* LaFerté-Sénectère, 1849; 18 – *A. notabilis* Krekich-Strassoldo, 1914; 19 – *A. fihaka* sp. nov.; 20 – *A. khorgas* sp. nov. (paratype); 21 – *A. lobularis* sp. nov.; 22 – *A. manas* sp. nov.; 23 – *A. pindos* sp. nov. 24 – *A. pindos* sp. nov., head, pronotum and base of elytra in dorsal view.
Obr. 17–24. 17–23. Habitus: 17 – *Anthicus giganteus* LaFerté-Sénectère, 1849; 18 – *A. notabilis* Krekich-Strassoldo, 1914; 19 – *A. fihaka* sp. nov.; 20 – *A. khorgas* sp. nov. (paratype); 21 – *A. lobularis* sp. nov.; 22 – *A. manas* sp. nov.; 23 – *A. pindos* sp. nov. 24 – *A. pindos* sp. nov., hlava, pronotum a báze krovek z horního pohledu.

Legs moderately long, simple; protibiae with distinct apical protrusion on inner side; mesotibiae simple apically (lacking any distinct apical protrusion on inner side); protrochanters with minute denticle; metatibiae nearly straight, with slight black granules on inner side. Setae whitish, very short, mostly appressed, somewhat longer and subdecumbent on inner side of mesotibiae.

Abdominal sternum and tergum VII simple, tergum truncate posteriorly; sternum VIII moderately emarginate posteriorly. Aedeagus as in Fig. 3; apical portion of tegmen about as long as basal-piece, largely parallel-sided, moderately widened near base in dorsal view.

Female. Externally identical with male, differing by simple protibiae and subtriangular, apically rounded tergum VII.

Variation. Body length 4.3–5.0 mm; median longitudinal impression of pronotal disc indistinct to weakly developed over nearly whole length (except base); dark spot of elytra forming mostly rather wide transverse band; specimen West Tien-Shan (Karaterek River) with black body.

Differential diagnosis. *Anthicus manas* sp. nov. is very similar to *A. giganteus*, but differs by somewhat darker body colouration, shallow median longitudinal impression of pronotum, simple mesotibiae in males, and mainly by the shape of tegmen of aedeagus (cf. Figs 3 *versus* 1).

Distribution. Kyrgyzstan.

Etymology. Named after Manas, the hero of a traditional epic poem of the Kyrgyz people. Noun in apposition.

Anthicus pindos sp. nov.

(Figs 10, 23, 24)

Type locality. Greece, Thessalia, Pindos Mountains, Ambelia, near Klinovitiko river, 350 m a.s.l.

Type material. Holotype ♀, labelled: "Greece centr. Thessalia Ambelia, near Klinovitiko riv., Pindos mts, E part, 350 m Tomáš Sitek lgt. 14.6.2010 [p]" (NMPC). Paratype, ♀, "ALBANIA mer. Bogovë pr. Çorovoda, Osum-river, 4.7.2012, P. Vonička lgt., at light [p]" (ZKDC).

Description. Female (holotype, Fig. 23). Body length 5.6 mm. Head and pronotum largely brown black; elytra reddish, with large, vaguely outlined brownish black spot mesally, moderately extending along suture and laterally; legs and antennae reddish brown.

Head 1.4 times as long as wide, tempora moderately narrowing posteriorly, base nearly evenly rounded (Fig. 24). Eyes medium-sized, moderately convex. Surface matt, densely punctate and slightly shagreened; impunctate median line indistinct; punctures narrowly spaced. Setae coarse, whitish and appressed (no erect tactile setae), with several finer, more raised setae anteriorly on clypeus. Antennae short, at most slightly enlarged in terminal third; antennomere X 1.1 times, XI twice as long as wide.

Pronotum 1.2 times as long as wide, distinctly narrower than head including eyes, moderately widely rounded anteriorly, strongly constricted posteriorly in dorsal view (Fig. 24), its anterior collar modified, conspicuously lobed ventro-laterally (Fig. 10). Pronotal disc with distinct median longitudinal impression, most prominent mesally, its outline nearly flattened in lateral view. Surface slightly glossy, densely and coarsely punctate; punctures contiguous, larger than those on head. Setae as on head.

Elytra twice as long as wide; omoplates slightly indicated; humeri distinctly protruding; elytra apices slightly produced and bluntly pointed, similarly as in Fig. 11. Surface moderately

glossy, distinctly punctate; punctures about as large as those on head, but deeper and sparser, distinctly separated. Setae moderately longer than those on head and pronotum, whitish, uniformly coarse and appressed, tactile setae absent.

Legs moderately long, simple. Setae whitish, very short, mostly appressed, somewhat longer, finer, and subdecumbent on inner side of tibiae (especially mesotibiae).

Abdominal sternum and tergum VII simple, tergum subtriangular and rounded apically.

Male. Unknown.

Variation. Body length 5.5–5.6 mm.

Differential diagnosis. *Anthicus pindos* sp. nov. is very conspicuous in having the modified, ventro-laterally lobed anterior collar of the pronotum. It shares this character only with *A. lobularis* sp. nov. from Iran and Pakistan, but differs by the nearly simple, moderately produced elytral apices (as in Figs 11, 16), smaller eyes, and narrower, evenly rounded base of head (cf. Figs 24 *versus* 7).

Distribution. Albania, Greece.

Etymology. Named after the Pindos Mountains. Noun in apposition.

Remark. Both type specimens were collected near a river by using an UV light.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS. I am grateful to Jiří Hájek (NMPC), Maxwell V. L. Barclay (BMNH), Michael Balke and Katja Neven (both ZSMC) for the loan of the specimens in their care, and to all colleagues who provided me with material from their collections. My thanks are due also to Donald S. Chandler (University of New Hampshire, Durham, USA), Aleš Bezděk (Institute of Entomology, České Budějovice, CZ), and Maxwell V. L. Barclay (BMNH) for their critical comments on the manuscript and/or linguistic revision.

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SOUHRN

Anthicus giganteus LaFerté-Sénectère, 1849 je nápadný druh, který byl popsán ze sběrů českého lékaře a amatérského entomologa Jana Viléma Helfera na březích Eufratu v "Mesopotamii" z roku 1836. Práce se zabývá taxonomií celé skupiny příbuzných druhů, které mají společné následující znaky: větší velikostí těla (4,6–6,0 mm), hlava zřetelně širší než pronotum protažená dozadu a s náznakem krátké mediální linie na bázi (nanejvýš nepatrně vtlačená v tomto místě); krovky u obou pohlaví na vrcholu více méně modifikované, protažené nebo vykousnuté (obr. 11–16); ochlupení těla jednotvárně krátké, většinou hrubé a přilehlé, nápadné vztyčené séty chybí; přední holeně samce s krátkým apikálním výběžkem na vnitřní straně; přední příkyčlí samce s malým zoubkem; tegmen aedeagu obvykle s nápadným subapikálním ochlupením (méně nápadné jen u *A. notabilis*).

Skupina zahrnuje, kromě *A. giganteus* a *A. notabilis* Krekich-Strassoldo, 1914, také pět nově popsaných druhů: *Anthicus fihaka* sp. nov., *A. khorgas* sp. nov., *A. lobularis* sp. nov., *A. manas* sp. nov. a *A. pindos* sp. nov. Všechny mají pravděpodobně vazbu na říční ekosystémy, protože většina kusů (pokud ne všechny) byla sebrána v blízkosti řek a potoků, hlavně pomocí světelných pastí.

Oba dříve známé druhy, *A. giganteus* a *A. notabilis*, jsou v posledním palearktickém katalogu uvedené pod rodovým jménem *Stricticollis* Marseul, 1879 (Chandler et al. 2008). Přesto je v této práci zachována původní kombinace s *Anthicus*, která se jeví jako správnější. *Stricticollis* není jasně definovaný rod a jeho status by měl být revidován. Je tradičně odlišován od *Anthicus* na základě tvaru pronota, které je silně vtlačené na bocích a vypadá proto zaškrcené z horního pohledu. Zároveň by se oba rody měly lišit tvarem mesosterna, jak neurčitě

uvádí Telnov (1999, 2010). Tvar pronota je podle názoru autora stěží použitelný jako rodový znak, což je doloženo i v této práci variabilitou v rámci skupiny blízkých druhů. Pokud jde o mesosternum, autor neshledal podstatné rozdíly v morfologii mesothoraxu mezi typovými druhy, *Stricticollis longicollis* (W. L. E. Schmidt, 1842) a *Anthicus antherinus* (Linnaeus, 1760). Současná situace je navíc komplikovaná problémy s nomenklaturou a rozdílnými názory na status rodu *Stricticomus* Pic, 1894, viz Alonso-Zarazaga (2013).