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New and interesting finds of darkling beetles (Coleoptera: Tenebrionidae) from North Macedonia and Albania

Nové a zajímavé nálezy potemníků (Coleoptera: Tenebrionidae) ze Severní Makedonie a Albánie

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Abstract. New distributional data and confirmed occurrence of six species of darkling beetles (Tenebrionidae) from North Macedonia and Albania are given. *Adelina turcica* (Reitter, 1877), *Allecula morio* Fabricius, 1787, *Crypticus quisquilius quisquilius* (Linnaeus, 1760), and *Pedinus oblongus* Mulsant et Rey, 1853 are recorded from North Macedonia for the first time. The presence of *Euboeus mimonti* Boieldieu, 1865 in North Macedonia and *Omophlus lepturoides* (Fabricius, 1787) in Albania is confirmed.

INTRODUCTION

The Balkan Peninsula, as part of the Mediterranean Basin, represents one of the main biodiversity hot spots in Europe (Griffiths et al. 2004). This is also true for the family Tenebrionidae, which is extraordinarily rich in this region. However, in particular countries of the area, the tenebrionid fauna is inconsistently and inadequately studied. For example, the Palaearctic Catalogue of Coleoptera (Iwan et al. 2020) lists 459 Tenebrionidae species from Greece, but only 62 from North Macedonia and 92 from Albania. Although the area of Greece is larger than that of the other two countries, and includes Mediterranean islands as well as mainland, it is still evident that the knowledge of the tenebrionid fauna of some Balkan countries is highly incomplete. This remains true despite the fact that recently several new faunistic records from various Balkan countries have been published (e.g., Kovács et al. 2014, Novák 2014a, Sivilov & Cvetkovska-Gorgievska 2014, Chehlarov et al. 2016). Here, we present new faunistic records of four species (*Adelina turcica*, *Allecula morio*, *Crypticus quisquilius quisquilius*, *Pedinus oblongus*) from North Macedonia. Furthermore, the occurrence of *Euboeus mimonti* in North Macedonia and *Omophlus lepturoides* in Albania is confirmed. All specimens are deposited in the collection of Tomáš Vendl (Praha, Czech Republic), unless stated otherwise.

RESULTS

Tenebrioninae

Euboeus mimonti Boieldieu, 1865 (Fig. 1)
Material examined. North Macedonia: Vardar region, 1500 m S of Gradsko village – Stobi archaeological site, 41°33.06′N 21°58.48′E, 8.vi.2019, 1 spec., O. Kouklík & T. Vendl lgt.
Distribution. The species is distributed in Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece and West Turkey (Nabozhenko et al. 2017, Löbl et al. 2020). From North Macedonia, the species was reported by Andres (1921) from Kaluckova village. The village no longer exists, but was probably to the east of Udovo village (Kryštufek 1993), roughly 50 km SW of the recent find. However, this country of occurrence is not listed in some recent catalogues (e.g. Iwan et al. 2020). Our record thus confirms the presence of this species in North Macedonia.

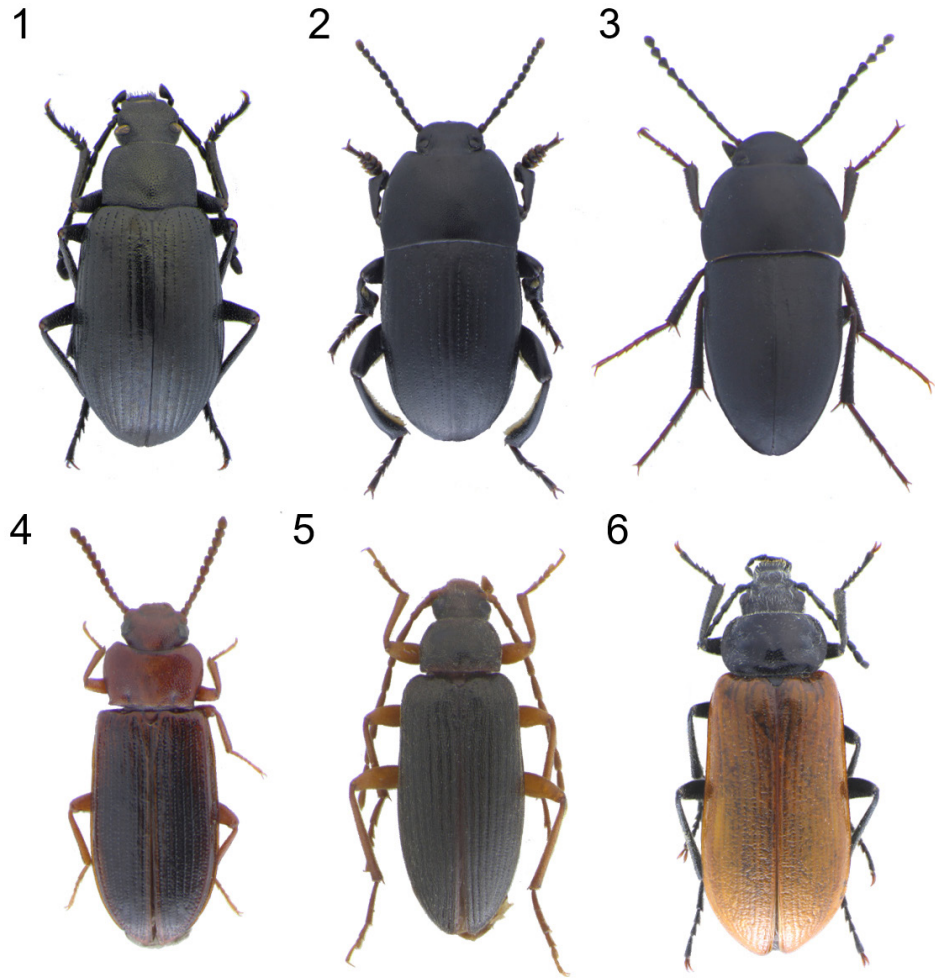
Blaptinae

Pedinus oblongus Mulsant et Rey, 1853 (Fig. 2)
Material examined. North Macedonia: Vardar region, 1500 m S of Gradsko village – Stobi archaeological site, 41°33.06′N 21°58.48′E, 8.vi.2019, 2 ♂♂, O. Kouklík & T. Vendl lgt.
Distribution. The species is distributed in Albania, Bulgaria and Greece (Kaszab 1967, Iwan et al. 2020). New record for North Macedonia.
Systematic position. Recently, the genus *Pedinus* Latreille, 1796 as well as all Pedinini has been placed in the resurrected subfamily Blaptinae (Kamińsky et al. 2021).

Diaperinae

Crypticus quisquilius quisquilius (Linnaeus, 1760) (Fig. 3)
Material examined. North Macedonia: Vardar region, 1500 m S of Gradsko village – Stobi archaeological site, 41°33.06′N 21°58.48′E, 8.vi.2019, 3 spec., O. Kouklík & T.Vendl lgt.
Distribution. Common species distributed over almost all of Europe to the Far East of Russia (Novák 2014b, Iwan et al. 2020). From the Balkans, it is known from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece and Romania (Iwan et al. 2020). In Greece, it occurs in the northern part of the Greek mainland (Soldati & Kakiopoulos 2010), so its presence in North Macedonia was expected. New record for North Macedonia.

Adelina turcica (Reitter, 1877) (Fig. 4)
Material examined. North Macedonia: Vardar region, foot of Orlovo Brdo hill, 1200 m N of Pepelishte village, 41°32.37′N 22°8.27′E, 150 m a.s.l., 9.vi.2019, 1 spec., at UV light, O. Kouklík & T. Vendl lgt.
Distribution. Very rare species, conspicuous for its extremely flattened body, suggesting an association with the loose bark of dead trees (Merkl 1992). The species is currently known from Greece, Romania and Turkey (Kaszab 1967: as *Doliema turcica*, Ferrer & Soldati 1999). New record for North Macedonia.



Figs 1–6: Habitus (dorsal) of (1) *Euboeus mimonti* Boieldieu, 1865, (2) *Pedinus oblongus* Mulsant et Rey, 1853, (3) *Crypticus quisquilius quisquilius* (Linnaeus, 1760), (4) *Adelina turcica* (Reitter, 1877), (5) *Allecula morio* Fabricius, 1787 and (6) *Omophlus lepturoides* (Fabricius, 1787). Figures not to scale. Photographs by Tomáš Vendl.
Obr. 1–6: Habitus (dorsálně): (1) *Euboeus mimonti* Boieldieu, 1865, (2) *Pedinus oblongus* Mulsant et Rey, 1853, (3) *Crypticus quisquilius quisquilius* (Linnaeus, 1760), (4) *Adelina turcica* (Reitter, 1877), (5) *Allecula morio* Fabricius, 1787 and (6) *Omophlus lepturoides* (Fabricius, 1787). Bez měřítka. Fotografie Tomáš Vendl.

Alleculinae

Allecula morio Fabricius, 1787 (Fig. 5)
Material examined. North Macedonia: Vardar region, foot of Orlovo Brdo hill, 1200 m N of Pepelishte village, 41°32.37′N 22°8.27′E, 150 m a.s.l., 9.vi.2019, 1 ♀, at UV light, O. Kouklík & T. Vendl lgt., coll. Crop Research Institute, Prague, Czech Republic.
Distribution. Widely distributed species, from the Balkan Peninsula reported from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece, Romania and Slovenia (Novák 2014a, Iwan et al. 2020). Due to its commonness, the species has been predicted to also occur in other countries (Novák 2014a). New record for North Macedonia.

Omophlus lepturoides (Fabricius, 1787) (Fig. 6)
Material examined. Albania: Gjirokastër county, 4 km N of Petran village, Përmet municipality, 40°14′34.18″N, 20°25′49.91″E, 350 m a.s.l., 5.–6.vi.2019, 1 ♀, O. Kouklík & T. Vendl lgt.
Distribution. In the Balkan Peninsula, the species is known from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Romania and Slovenia (Novák 2014a). Csiki (1940) reported the species from Albania (from 1917). Nevertheless, we were not able to trace any record more recent than that from 1917, our find thus confirms the occurrence of the species in Albania.

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SHRNUTÍ

Článek uvádí nové nálezy a potvrzené výskyty šesti druhů potemníků (Tenebrionidae) ze Severní Makedonie a Albánie. V případě druhů *Adelina turcica* (Reitter, 1877), *Allecula morio* Fabricius, 1787, *Crypticus quisquilius quisquilius* (Linnaeus, 1760) a *Pedinus oblongus* Mulsant et Rey, 1853 se jedná o nové nálezy pro území Severní Makedonie. Výskyt *Euboeus mimonti* Boieldieu, 1865 byl potvrzen v Severní Makedonii, zatímco *Omophlus lepturoides* (Fabricius, 1787) v Albánii.