

## A New Species of *Scaphosoma* Leach (Coleoptera, Scaphidiidae) from Afghanistan

By I. LÖBL, Bratislava\*

Thanks to the kindness of Dr. Z. KASZAB, I had the opportunity to study three *Scaphosoma* specimens collected in North Afghanistan. The study of these specimens has shown that they belong to a new species not closely related to any Central Asiatic or Mediterranean taxon known up till now. This new species is very striking, differing from the others mainly by the colouring of the elytra, the form of the antennae and the sutural stria.

### *Scaphosoma kaszabi* sp. n.

Total length; 1.7–1.85 mm, holotype 1.7 mm.

Black, distal third of elytra yellow, under surface brownish, last abdominal segments yellowish-brown, antennae and tibiae yellow, femur brown.

Head short and narrow, very finely and densely punctate. Antennae long. Scapus short, somewhat curved, at base very narrow, thickening towards distal end and thickest at end, more than twice as long as wide, dorsal side straight, ventral side convex. Pedicel at base slightly narrower than scapus at end, towards distal end somewhat slender, scarcely shorter than scapus, on outer side convex. Segment 3 very narrow, at base very slender, one and half times as long as wide; segment 4 very slender, cylindrical, slenderer than segment 3 at distal end and more than three times longer than wide; segment 5 somewhat shorter than 3 and 4 together, on inner side

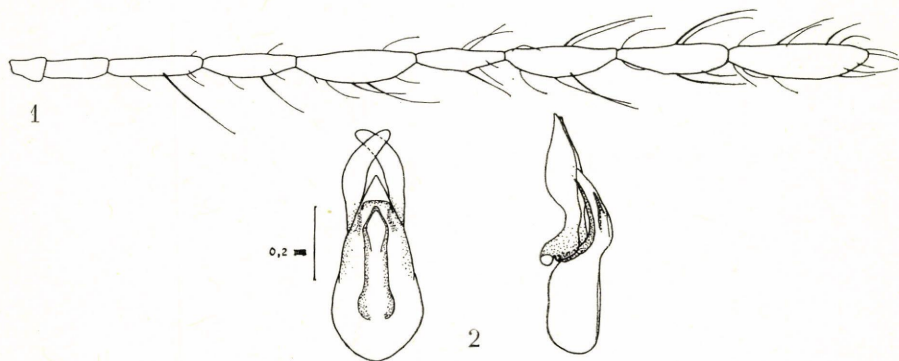


Fig. 1–2. *Scaphosoma kaszabi* sp.n. — Antenna (1) and Aedoeagus of ♂

\* Slovakian National Museum in Bratislava, Czechoslovakia

scarcely widened and nearly as wide as 3 at end; segment 6 as long as 5, distinctly wider than 5, widened towards middle, from middle towards distal end gradually more slender; segment 7 approx.  $\frac{1}{5}$  longer than 6, on margin strongly widened, in distal half widest and nearly twice as wide here as segment 4; segment 8 somewhat shorter than 6, slender, widest in middle and somewhat wider here than 6, from middle towards distal end strongly attenuate; segment 9 slightly shorter and scarcely slenderer than 7; segment 10 approx. as long as 9, towards distal end slightly more slender; segment 11 approx.  $\frac{1}{5}$  longer than 10, at base wide, towards distal and slightly widened, widest beyond middle.

Pronotum convex, in middle 0.75 mm long, at base 0.95 mm wide, sides slightly attenuating, on anterior margin 0.5 mm wide. Sparsely punctate, more densely than on head.

Male: metasternum between hind and middle coxae flat and very slightly impressed, here and in front of hind coxae densely and coarsely punctate, in front and on margin sparsely and more finely punctate. Microsculpture very finely ridged, between hind and middle coxae more distinct and visible at already  $\times 50$  enlargement. On hind margin of both sides between coxae and episternum a line of coarser points. Episterna very sparsely punctate. Sternites with a distinctly more coarsely ridged microsculpture, opaque, approx. as densely punctate as margins of metasternum. Sternite 1 nine times longer in middle than very short sternite 2, and somewhat longer than following 4 segments together. Sternite 3 more than twice as long as 2.

Female: metasternum approx. as sternite 1, rather sparsely punctate, in front of hind coxae not more densely and coarsely punctate than on margins, without microsculpture. Sternites with a most finely ridged microsculpture.

Elytra wider than length of suture, length at margins exceeding width. Sutural stria rather deeply impressed, near apex extending very close to suture and diverging forwards, curving more strongly before base and ending closely before base without running parallel to it. Densely and rather finely punctate.

Aedoeagus 0.62 mm long, 0.25 mm wide, basal capsule slightly sclerotic, rather flat, median part wide at base, nearly as wide as basal capsule at its widest point, towards distal end gradually pointed and ventrally curved. Paramerae long, flattened, behind base tapering and converging, behind basal third sharply widened ventrally and from here towards apex gradually tapering (lateral view) curved inwards, right paramera crossing left one before apex. Lobus internus weakly sclerotic distinct only on sides at base widened, in median third cylindrical, on end tapering to a blunt point.

Holotype ♂, allotype ♀, and paratype ♂: Afghanistan, Nuristan, Kamu, Bashgultal 1500 m, 26. 4. 53, J. KLAPPERICH. In the Zoological department of the Hungarian Natural History Museum. Named in honor of Dr. Z. KASZAB, Budapest.