

**New or noteworthy records of Scarabaeoidea
(Coleoptera) from the Middle East**

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Abstract – New records and additional faunistic data for some Middle-Eastern Scarabaeoidea species are provided.

Key words – Scarabaeoidea, faunistic notes, new records, Middle East.

INTRODUCTION

In the past decade our knowledge of the Middle East Scarabaeoidea fauna was improved a lot through research and studies undertaken by Middle Eastern and European zoologists and collectors. It is particularly true for the coprophagous groups for which not only new data on distribution and biology of many taxa were provided (i.e. BARARI 2001, DELLACASA & DELLACASA 2002, KABAKOV 2006, ZIANI & GUDENZI 2000, 2007, 2009), but also several new species were described (MONTREUIL 2006, 2009, MORADI GHARAKHLOO & ZIANI 2010, PITTINO 2004, ZIANI 2006, ZIANI & GUDENZI 2006). The present work, a further contribution, treats eleven scarabaeoid species, for which new Middle Eastern records and/or interesting geographic data are given.

Abbreviations of collections – pcLM = LUIGI MELLONI private collection, Bagnara di Romagna, Ravenna (Italy); pcLN = LÁSZLÓ NÁDAI private collection, Budapest (Hungary); pcSZ = STEFANO ZIANI private collection, Meldola, Forlè (Italy); pcVT = VÁCLAV TÝR private collection, Žihle (Czech Republic); pcOM = OLIVIER MONTREUIL private collection, Fleury-les-Aubrais (France); HMIM = Hayk Mirzayans Insects Museum, Tehran (Iran); HNHM = Hungarian Natural History Museum, Budapest (Hungary).

LIST OF SPECIES

Eubolbitus radoszkowskii (SOLSKY, 1876)

Important reference – NIKOLAJEV (2003: 195).

Type locality – “Khokands Khanate” [South Kyrgyzstan/Uzbekistan].

Material examined – **Iran**: Khorasan, Binalud Mt., Moghan, ~2000 m, at light, 6–7.VI.2010, B. BENEDEK & T. HÁCZ leg. (1, pcLN).

Distribution – Afghanistan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, India (Himachal Pradesh) (KRÁL *et al.* 2006). New record for Iran.

Mendidaphodius linearis (REICHE & SAULCY, 1856)

Important reference – DELLACASA & DELLACASA (2002: 275).

Type locality – “Environs de Naplouse” [Nablus, West Bank, Palestinian Territories].

Material examined – **Iran**: Fars, Zagros mts., Komehr, wet meadows, ~2700 m, N30°20.489' E51°56.994', from donkey dung, 27.IV.2006, T. HÁCZ, K. SZÉKELY & K. VIG leg. (4, pcLN).

Distribution – Ukraine, Russia; Turkey, Cyprus (?), Israel, Egypt (DELLACASA & DELLACASA 2002). Syria (DELLACASA & DELLACASA 2006). New record for Iran.

Bubas bubaloides A. JANSSENS, 1938

Important reference – ZUNINO (1974: 19).

Type locality – “Iran: Suse. Mésopotamie. Palestine: Jérusalem. Syrie. Liban. Asie Mineure: Smyrne. Chypre. Grèce. Egypte. Tunisie. Algérie. Maroc”.

Material examined – **Jordan**: Petra, archaeological site, from donkey dung, 1.I.2010, L. MELLONI leg. (1, pcLM). **Lebanon**: Mchaikha, 8.V.2005, O. MONTREUIL leg. (3, pcOM). **Irak**: Aban, 11.V.1983, L. DARNAI leg. (1, pcLN). **Iran**: Kermanshah, Ghaleh Shahin, 670 m, 26.V.2007, O. MONTREUIL leg. (2, pcOM); several specimens: Hormozgan, Jazireh-e Qheshm, Suza, 29.II.1999 (HMIM); Grovk, 7.III.1995 (HMIM); Minab, 14.IV.1994 (HMIM); Bandar Abbas, 2.IV.1973 (HMIM); Khuzestan, Khoramshahr, 1.II.1951 (HMIM); Busher, Kangan, Jam, 7.I.1996 (HMIM).

Distribution – Greece, Cyprus, Turkey, Israel, Syria, Lebanon, Iraq, Iran; Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia (JANSSENS 1938). Libya (ZUNINO 1974). New record for Jordan and confirmation for Lebanon, Iraq and Iran.

Onitis ezechias REICHE et SAULCY, 1856

Important reference – KABAKOV (2006: 104).

Type locality – “Environs de Damas” [Damascus, Syria].

Material examined – **Lebanon**: Bekaa, Mashghara, 1000 m, 13.IV.2001, S. ZIANI leg. (3, pcSZ); Tripoli, Caza Tripoli–Al Mina, 60 m, 7.III.2009, G. SABATINELLI leg. (3, pcSZ); Tripoli, Caza Tripoli, Terbol, 600 m, 7.III.2009, G. SABATINELLI leg. (3, pcSZ); Masser Ech Chouf, 10.V.2005, O. MONTREUIL leg. (1, pcOM); Aachiyé, 11.V.2005, O. MONTREUIL leg. (4, pcOM). **Iran**: Fars, 3 km W Sangar, ~2000 m, N52°1'8", E30°11'41", 18.IV.1999, L. NÁDAI leg. (5, pcLN, 2, HNHM); Kermanshah, Sar Khedizeh, 24.V.2007, O. MONTREUIL leg. (1, pcOM); Kermanshah, Paveh, 28.V.2007, O. MONTREUIL leg. (10, pcOM); Ilam, Kebir Kuh, pass 20 km S. Darehshahr, 6.V.2008, O. MONTREUIL leg. (1, pcOM).

Distribution – Turkey, Syria, Israel; Egypt (BALTHASAR 1963). Jordan (BEZDĚK & KRELL 2006). Iran (KABAKOV 2006). New record for Lebanon and further data for Iran.

Onthophagus (Eremonthophagus) heydeni HAROLD, 1875

Important reference – ZIANI & GUDENZI (2000: 24).

Type locality – “Samaua am Euphrat” [Iraq].

Material examined – **Syria**: Dayr az-Zawr, 10 km SE, Euphrates riv. bank, 26.V.2009, M. ŠÁROVEC leg. (2, pcVT); Ar Raqqah, 5 km E Ath Thadyayn, Euphrates riv. bank, 27.V.2009, M. ŠÁROVEC leg. (1, pcVT). **Iran**: several specimens: Hormozgan, Issin, 130 m, 06.V.1977 (HMIM); Minab, Ravang, 24.V.2001 (HMIM); Minab, 20.V.1973 (HMIM); Busher, Busher, Ahram, Tangestan, 05.V.1995 (HMIM); Khuzestan, Susangerd, Bostan, Chazzebah, 30.IV.1995 (HMIM); Haft Tappeh (HMIM); Dezful, Shahiun, Salenkuh, 8.V.2001 (HMIM);

Behbahan, 3.V.1995 (HMIM); Kesht-o Sanat-e Karun, 24.IV.1995 (HMIM); Ahvaz, 27.V.1915 (HMIM), 4.V.1974 (HMIM), 11.V.1972 (HMIM), 6.VII.1976 (HMIM), 11.V.1972 (HMIM); Ahvaz, Hamidiyeh, Sadd-e Karkheh, 1.V.1995 (HMIM); Ahvaz, Koataabdollah, 16.VII.1976 (HMIM); Dezful, Baladieh, 400 m, 1.IV.1998 (HMIM); Abadan, Kuteshahunf, 11.V.1994 (HMIM); Abadan, Jazireh-e Minu, 12 m, 27.IV.1976 (HMIM), 29.IV.1976 (HMIM), 11.V.1975 (HMIM); Abadan, Hayer, 8.V.2002 (HMIM); Ramhormoz, 10.V.1974 (HMIM); Kerman, Kahnuj, Dosary, 10.IV.1997 (HMIM); Jiroft, 1.IX.1967 (HMIM); Fars, Kazerun, Lake Parishan, 5.VI.1990 (HMIM).

Distribution – Iraq (HAROLD 1875). Iran (BARAUD 1968). New record for Syria and further data for Iran.

Onthophagus (Eremonthophagus) transcaspicus KÖNIG, 1889

Important reference – ZUNINO (1981: 409).

Type locality – “Transcaspia (As-chabad)” [Turkmenistan].

Material examined – **Turkey:** Mardin, 1.VI.1990, S. PREPSL leg. (1, pcSZ). **Oman:** Wadi al Muadin, 670 m, 22.IX.2005, M. STROHLE leg. (1, pcSZ); Ad Dakhiliyah, Al Ayn, 2100 m, 19.III.2008, S. ZIANI leg. (18, pcSZ). **Iran:** several specimens: Kerman, Jiroft, Esfandagheh, 20.IV.1971 (HMIM), 22.IV.1971 (HMIM); Jiroft, 43 km N. Kohnuj, 540 m, 16.V.1977 (HMIM); Baft, Dareh-Pahn, 1750 m, 21.V.1977 (HMIM); Jiroft, Kohnuj Marz, Gowe Niska, 880–1000 m, 12.III.1978 (HMIM); 16 km SO Jiroft, 820 m, 19.V.1977 (HMIM); Sirjan (HMIM); Sirjan, Soghan, 8.V.1973 (HMIM); Khuzestan, Abadan, Romeyleh, 10.V.2002 (HMIM); Hormozgan, Bashagerd, Gru, 150 m, 30.IV.1996 (HMIM); Issin, Geno, 750 m, 25.IV.1986 (HMIM); 21 km O Rudan, Sarze, 200 m, 4.III.1978 (HMIM); Rudan, 7.III.1972 (HMIM); Bandar Abass, Ostan-Saheli, 900 m, 27.V.1973 (HMIM); 10 km S Kahurestan, 60 m, 26.IV.1977 (HMIM); N Kuh-e Geno, Bagh Tang, 410 m, 8.V.1977 (HMIM); Bandar-Lengeh, 23.III.1965 (HMIM); Kuh-e Geno, 650 m, 27.IV.1977 (HMIM); Minab, Gurband, 50 m, 31.XII.1999 (HMIM); 36 km E Gowbadni Kanardan, 210 m, 23.IV.1977 (HMIM); Geno, 320 m, 14.IV.1992 (HMIM); Gohreh, 9.III.1971 (HMIM); Golestan, Gorgan, 5.VI.1948 (HMIM), 4.VII.1948 (HMIM); Dashtgorgan, 7.VII.1948 (HMIM); Khorasan, Mesh-Torogh, 8.V.1972 (HMIM), 23–24.IV.1972 (HMIM); 10 km S Sabzevar, Hores Abad, 940 m, 15.VI.1977 (HMIM); Mashad, 30.V.1968 (HMIM); Yazd, Ardestan, 1550 m, 30.VI.1981 (HMIM); Fars, Darab, Rostagh, 1250 m, 23.IV.1992 (HMIM); Shiraz, 24.III.1973 (HMIM); Esfahan, Karkas, 4.VI.1970 (HMIM); Niasar, 24.V.1970 (HMIM); Busher, 25 km S Taheri Shirin, 20 m, 22.IV.1977 (HMIM); Sistan o Balutshestan, Saravan, Dozack, 1100 m, 12.IV.1997 (HMIM); Bashagerd, 20 km E Senderk, 300 m, 11.V.1977 (HMIM); Qasr-e Qand, 25.IX.1997 (HMIM); Pishin, Suldan, 150 m, 14.V.1992 (HMIM); Nikshahr, 8.X.1973 (HMIM); Nikshahr, Qasr-Qand, 10.IV.1973 (HMIM); Sarvan-Zaboli, 29.III.1973 (HMIM); Iranshahr, 25.IV.1945 (HMIM); Khash, 13.V.1972 (HMIM); Dashtiari Bahukalat, 22.XI.1972 (HMIM); Khash, 29.IV.1949

(HMIM); Zaboli-Sarbaz, 21.III.1973 (HMIM); Pishin, IV.1950 (HMIM); Sarbaz, 30.III.1949 (HMIM), Sarbaz, 4.IV.1949 (HMIM); Karvandar, 15.V.1972 (HMIM).

Distribution – Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Egypt; Israel, Iraq, Iran, Saudi Arabia, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan (LÖBL *et al.* 2006). New records for Turkey and Oman and further data for Iran.

Onthophagus (Palaeonthophagus) dacatrai PITTINO, 2004

Important reference – PITTINO (2004: 180).

Type locality – “Antalya, N of Manavgat, 10-20 km SW of Gündoğmuş” [Turkey].

Material examined – **Turkey:** Mugla, Üzümlü, N-E Fethije, 8.V.1997, D. PRUNIER leg. (1, pcOM); Mugla, Kargi, N Fethije, 8.V.1997, D. PRUNIER leg. (1, pcOM). **Jordan:** Irbid, Ajluun, S Angara, oak forest, 27.IV.2002, V. KRIVAN leg. (1, pcSZ).

Distribution – Turkey (PITTINO 2004). New record for Jordan and further data from Turkey.

Onthophagus (Palaeonthophagus) formaneki REITTER, 1897

Important reference – KABAKOV (2006: 229).

Type locality – “Transkaukasus, Araxesthal” [Armenia].

Material examined – **Iran:** Tehran, Gachsar, 2100 m, 9.VI.2002, O. MONTREUIL leg. (2, pcOM); Mazanderan, Kandovan pass, 2100 m, 15.VI.2008, O. MONTREUIL leg. (3, pcOM), same locality, 8.VI.2011, O. MONTREUIL leg. (3, pcOM); Mazanderan, Surk, Vandorbon, 7.VI.2011, O. MONTREUIL leg. (1, pcOM), same locality, 8.VI.2011, O. MONTREUIL leg. (33, pcOM, HMIM).

Distribution – Armenia, Azerbaidjan; Turkey, Syria (KABAKOV 2006). New record for Iran.

Onthophagus (Palaeonthophagus) ponticus HAROLD, 1883

Important reference – ZIANI & GUDENZI (2006: 217).

Type locality – “Mzchet (Grusien)” [Georgia].

Material examined – **Israel**: Golan Heights, Bashanit ridge, 1050 m, 3.IV.2010, S. ZIANI leg. (1, pcSZ); North Galilee, Netu’a, 567 m, 1.I.2010, G. SABATINELLI leg. (1, pcSZ). **Iran**: Kermanshah, Jalilvand, Panjsavar, 23.V.2007, O. MONTREUIL leg. (1, pcOM).

Distribution – Greece, Romania, Ukraine, South Russia, Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan; Turkey, Lebanon, Iraq, Iran (ZIANI & GUDENZI 2006). New record for Israel and further datum for Iran.

Remarks – *O. ponticus* is a species associated with burrows of rodents (MORADI GHARAKHLOO & ZIANI 2010). The specimen from Golan Heights was collected in a burrow of an unidentified rodent. The specimen from North Galilee was found in a ground beetle trap baited with vinegar and salt.

Onthophagus (Palaeonthophagus) rechingeri PETROVITZ, 1980

Important reference – ZIANI & GUDENZI (2000: 22).

Type locality – “Evine-Tehran” [Iran].

Material examined – **Turkey**: Siirt, 10 km N Sirnak, 1500 m, 16.IV.2006, S. ZIANI leg. (1, pcSZ). **Iran**: Kermanshah, Jalilvand, Panjsavar, 23.V.2007, O. MONTREUIL leg. (3, pcOM); Kermanshah, Bidsorkh, 1790 m, 21.V.2007 O. MONTREUIL leg. (1, pcOM); Hamedan, Gyan, 2.VI.2007, O. MONTREUIL leg. (1, pcOM); Zanjan, 5 km N Zanjan, 20.V.2008, O. MONTREUIL leg (2, pcOM).

Distribution – Iran (PETROVITZ 1980). Afghanistan, Turkmenistan (KABAKOV 2006). New record for Turkey and further data for Iran.

Onthophagus (Palaeonthophagus) suermelii PETROVITZ, 1963

Important reference – KABAKOV (2006: 291).

Type locality – “Anatolien, Namrum am Südhang des Bulghardağ” [Turkey].

Material examined – **Armenia**: Kotayk, Garni, 1780 m, 15.IV.2000, A. AMYRIAN leg. (1, pcSZ). **Iran**: Lorestān, 10 km SW Dorud 1400 m, 10.V.2002, D. GIANASSO leg. (3, pcSZ); Lorestān, 10 km SW Dorud, 1500 m, 2.V.2006, G. SAMA leg. (1, pcSZ); Lorestān, Zagros Mts., Nehāvand, Kosio Āb, 1860 m, 6.V.2008, T. HÁ CZ, K. SZÉKELY & K. VIG leg. (4, pcLN); Kermanshah, Chaharzebar, 22.V.2007, O. MONTREUIL leg. (1, pcOM).

Distribution – Turkey (PETROVITZ 1963). Armenia (KABAKOV 2006). New record for Iran and confirmation for Armenia.

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