

***Orienteicheia* gen. n., and *O. caucasica rousi* subsp. n., new taxa of subtribe
Reicheiina from the West Caucasus (Coleoptera: Carabidae: Clivinini)**

¹⁾Petr BULIRSCH & ²⁾Karel HŮRKA

¹⁾Wolkerova 18, CZ-410 02 Lovosice, Czech Republic

²⁾Department of Zoology, Charles University, Viničná 7, CZ-128 44 Praha 2, Czech Republic

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Abstract. *Orienteicheia* gen. n., type species *Reicheia caucasica* Fleischer and *Orienteicheia caucasica rousi* subsp. n. are described, illustrated and differentiated from related taxa. *O. caucasica caucasica* (Fleischer) is redescribed. Notes on the taxonomy of the subtribe Reicheiina are given.

Jeannel (1957) revised the genus *Reicheia* Saulcy and the related genera. A subtribe Reicheiina Jeannel, 1957 has been established in his monograph for two phyletic lines based on the genera *Reicheia* and *Trilophidius* respectively. The phyletic line of the genus *Reicheia* includes three groups of genera. In the "genres égéidiens" the pronotum is provided with a praebasal groove, the posterior part of pronotal discus is flat and the median line of pronotum is connected with the praebasal groove in the middle. In group called "genres tyrrhéniens" the pronotum lacks the praebasal groove and the posterior part of pronotal discus is globose with an abruptly terminated median line. In addition to these two groups of Mediterranean genera Jeannel also separated the group of "genres africains" with outer elytral striae lost entirely.

Basilewsky (1980) established a new subtribe Reicheiina, for the Jeannel's "série phylétique de *Reicheia*". According to Article II(f) of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature (Third Edition) Jeannel (1957) remains the author of the subtribe Reicheiina sensu Basilewsky (1980). Recently some new species and genera of the subtribe have been described. More importantly Basilewsky (1980) and Sciaky (1985, 1989) demonstrated that the characters given by Jeannel for the distinction of his three groups of genera are not reliable.

Basilewsky (1980) presumed a very old (possibly Jurassic) origin of the subtribe, due to its present relict, discontinuous range, which includes some parts of the Mediterranean region and high Afrotropical mountains. Due to their ancient origin the genera of subtribe retained a homogenous general appearance and they are difficult to distinguish.

Consequently, it is at present impossible to establish groups of genera characterized by morphological and phyletic features within the subtribe Reicheiina and the same conclusion was reached by Sciaky (1985).

Reicheia caucasica was based on one female described by Fleischer (1921) from the vicinity of Sukhumi (Abkhazia, West Caucasus). Jeannel (1957) classified this taxon as incertae sedis, because he was not able to examine any specimens and the original description is insufficient. Nevertheless, Jeannel included the species in his group of "genres égéidiens". Through the

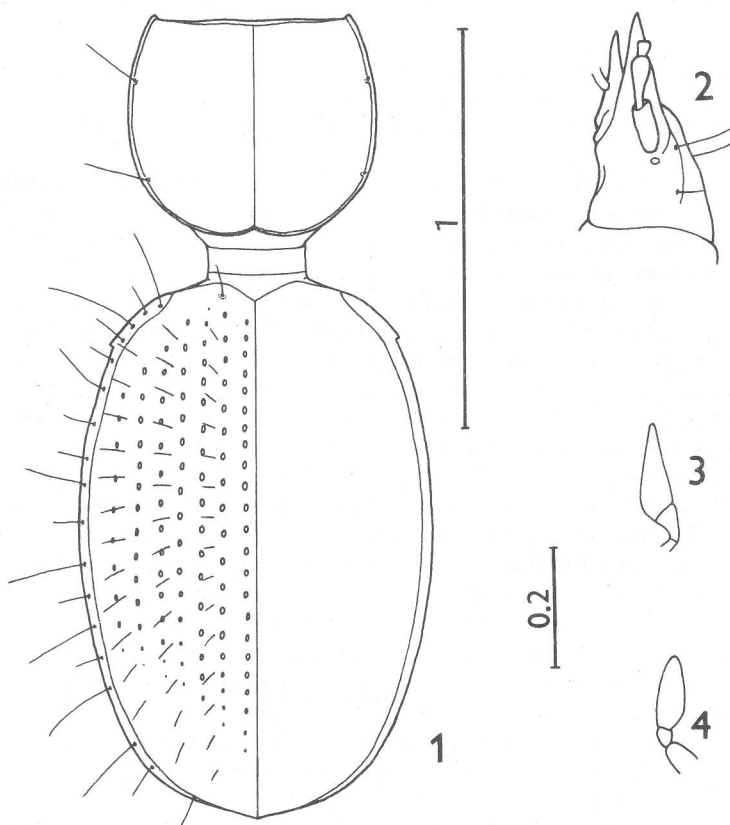
kindness of Dr J. Jelínek (Department of Entomology, National Museum, Praha) we were able to examine the holotype. In addition, we have also studied 39 specimens of *Reicheia caucasica* originating from the collections of P. Bulirsch, R. Rous and B. Zvarič from 7 different localities in the west Caucasus. In our opinion, this species must be classified in a new genus

Orientoreicheia gen. n.

TYPE SPECIES. *Reicheia caucasica* Fleischer, 1921

DESCRIPTION. Body rusty yellow-brown, antennae, mouth parts and legs yellow. Length of body, 2.00-2.55 mm.

Head relatively large, frons with oblique impressions and with a short longitudinal keel between them in some specimens. Eyes strongly reduced, perceptible only as a small, oval unfacetted field (in the original description of *R. caucasica* wrongly "augenlos" = eyes absent) (Fig. 2). Antennae relatively long, second antennomere as long as the third and fourth together, fifth to tenth nearly square (as long as wide), ultimate longer than wide. Ultimate maxillary palpomere long, hatchet-like (Fig. 3).



Figs 1-4. 1 - *Orientoreicheia caucasica rousi* subsp. n., pronotum and elytra; 2 - head, lateral view; 3 - maxillary palpus; 4 - *Reicheidius frondicola* (Reitter), maxillary palpus (after Jeannel, 1957). Scales in mm.

Pronotum subcircular, smooth, microsculpture faint and irregular, lateral border entire, extended from the slightly protruding anterior angle to the connection with the median line at the base of pronotum as a praebasal groove (Fig. 1). Median line becoming slightly deeper anteriorly, markedly so towards the base. Distal tooth of protibia slightly bent outward in dorsal view, distal spur of almost equal length, curved slightly. Ventral little tooth of protibia obtuse, but distinct, dorsal one indistinct, very obtuse.

Elytra globose, almost oval (Fig. 1); base often with distinct granula near parascutellar setiferous puncture. Shoulders rounded but distinct. Lateral margin very wide, extended at base almost to the beginning of the fourth stria. Lateral border of elytra connected with the very distinct basal border in moderate obtuse angle. Elytral striae distinctly punctate and, only at the apex and laterally, are they not impressed clearly, inner striae at base very slightly shortened. First stria entire, second to seventh not visible on the distal third or half of elytra. Intervals almost flat, third, fifth and seventh with a row of setae; one row of longer setae in the lateral margin of the elytra.

Aedeagus as in Figs 5-7 (left lateral view).

DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS. *Orienteicheia* gen. n. differs distinctly from *Reicheia* Saulcy, 1862 by the course of the median line of the pronotum. *Reicheia* has a shortened median line and not extending to the praebasal groove, which is interrupted distinctly (Jeannel, 1957) or indistinctly (Sciaky, 1985, 1989) in the baso-medial region of the pronotum. However that of *Orienteicheia* is connected distinctly with the praebasal groove, which is formed by the elongated lateral borders (Fig. 1). The genus *Reicheidius* Jeannel, 1957, with a single species *R. frondicola* (Reitter, 1881) from southern Dalmatia, is a close relative to the new genus. It differs from *Orienteicheia* by its greater, partly faceted eyes, the shape of maxillary palps (Fig. 4), the markedly different structure of the median lobe of aedeagus, the different shape of parameres, its less impressed, laterally, and, basally, more shortened elytral striae and by the finer basal border of elytra. The last mentioned is connected with the lateral border at a very obtuse angle; this connection lies (front view) distinctly below the level of basal setiferous punctures. The basal border of the elytra in *Orienteicheia* is more distinct and connected with the lateral border in moderate obtuse angle; this connection lying almost at the level of the basal setiferous punctures. Three other genera possess a median line of pronotum which is connected with the praebasal groove. *Typhloreicheia* Holdhaus, 1924 includes species without eyes, with much longer elytra which are bordered indistinctly at base. *Reicheadella* Reitter, 1913 differs from the new genus by the presence of two triads of setae along the median line of the pronotum. *Speleodytes* Miller, 1863 differs in its much longer body, longer antennae and longer hind tarsi. The latter two genera have no trace of eyes. *Orienteicheia* gen. n. is isolated considerably from all the known genera which live more westward, the nearest being from the environs of the Adriatic Sea.

Orienteicheia caucasica caucasica (Fleischer, 1921)

Reicheia caucasica Fleischer, 1921: 145.

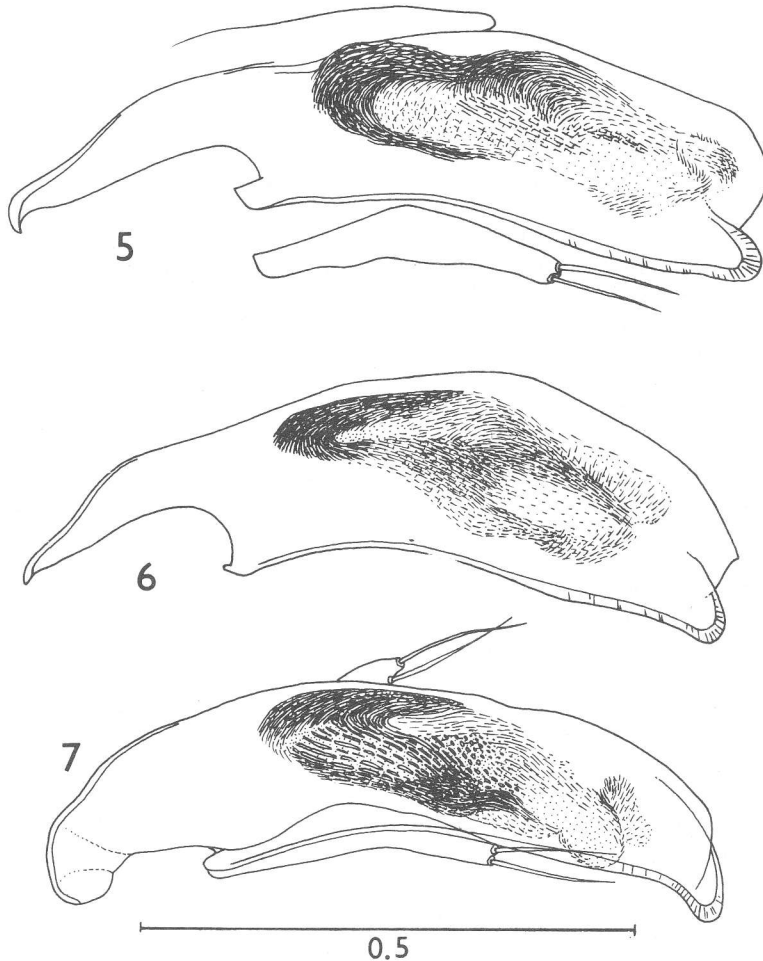
HOLOTYPE. Female, Caucasus occ., Abkhasia, Suchum env., Dr. W. Eichler lgt., in Coll. Nat. Mus. Praha.

FURTHER MATERIAL. SU, Abkhasia, Caucasus occ., Gumista vall., 50-200 m, Achadara p. Suchumi, 29.iv., 3.v.1992, P. Bulirsch lgt., in Coll. Bulirsch and Hürka, 10 spec.; SU, Abkhasia, Caucasus occ., Gumista Fluss, ca. 600 m, vi 1979, R. Rous lgt., in Coll. Bulirsch and Hürka, 9 spec.; SU, Caucasus occ., Agrba p. Picunda, ca. 10 m, vi 1969, R. Rous lgt., in Coll. Bulirsch and Hürka, 8 spec.; SU, Caucasus occ., Krasnaja Poljana, vi 1967, R. Rous lgt., in Coll. Bulirsch, 2 spec.; SU, Gruzia, Caucasus occ., Tschipschira Mt., vi. 1979, R. Rous lgt., in Coll. Bulirsch, 1 spec.; SU, Caucasus occ., Gagra env., ca 50 m., vi. 1971, R. Rous lgt., in Coll. Bulirsch, 2 spec.

Body length - 2.00-2.55 mm, mean of 33 specimens 2.30 mm. Holotype 2.20 mm, Gumista (Rous) 2.00-2.35 mm (mean of 9 spec. 2.22 mm), Gumista (Bulirsch) 2.30-2.40 mm (mean of 10 spec. 2.37 mm), Agrba 2.15-2.35 mm (mean of 8 spec. 2.30 mm), Gagra 2.45 and 2.55 mm,

Krasnaja Poljana 2.25 and 2.40 mm, Tschipschira 2.35 mm. Specimens from Gagra are the largest.

Pronotum width/length ratio 1.03-1.08 (mean of 32 spec. 1.05). Elytra length/width ratio 1.46-1.61 (mean of 32 spec 1.54); elytra width/pronotum width ratio 1.32-1.43 (mean of 32 spec. 1.38); elytra length/pronotum length ratio 2.14-2.24 (mean of 32 spec. 2.20).



Figs 5-7. Median lobe and parameres of aedeagus 5,6 - *Orientoreicheia caucasica caucasica* (Fleischer) from Achadara; 7 - *O. caucasica rousi* subsp. n., holotype. Scale in mm.

Both the length and the depth of punctation of the elytral striae vary in specimens from the same population. Nevertheless, the punctation of elytral striae in specimens from the vicinity of the river Gumista are shallower than that in specimens from Agrba.

Aedeagus (13 specimens examined) as in Figs 5 and 6.

DISTRIBUTION. Abkhazia, north west of the river Kelasuri (Bzybskiy khrebet, Gagrinskiy khrebet, coastal region).

Orientoreicheia caucasica rousi subsp. n.

HOLOTYPE. Male, Caucasus occ., Abkhazia, Jampal vall., Amtkel, 450-700 m, 30.iv.1990, leg. B. Zvarič; in Coll.P. Bulirsch. PARATYPES. 3 males, 2 females, the same locality, in Coll. National Museum Praha, B. Zvarič (Most) and P. Bulirsch; one female, the same locality, leg. P. Bulirsch, in Coll. P. Bulirsch. All specimens were found in a limited area under dead leaves in the litter of a deciduous wood.

Body length. 2.2-2.4 mm (mean of 7 spec. 2.3 mm). Pronotum width/length ratio 1.05-1.06 (mean of 7 spec. 1.05). Elytra length/width ratio 1.54-1.61 (mean of 7 spec. 1.57); elytra width/pronotum width ratio 1.35-1.40 (mean of 7 spec. 1.37); elytra length/pronotum length ratio 2.25-2.30 (mean of 7 spec. 2.28).

The length and punctation of elytral striae vary similarly as in the nominotypical subspecies and are similar to that found in specimens from the vicinity of the river Gumista.

Aedeagus (3 specimens examined) as in Fig. 7, its apex bent downward distinctly in lateral view.

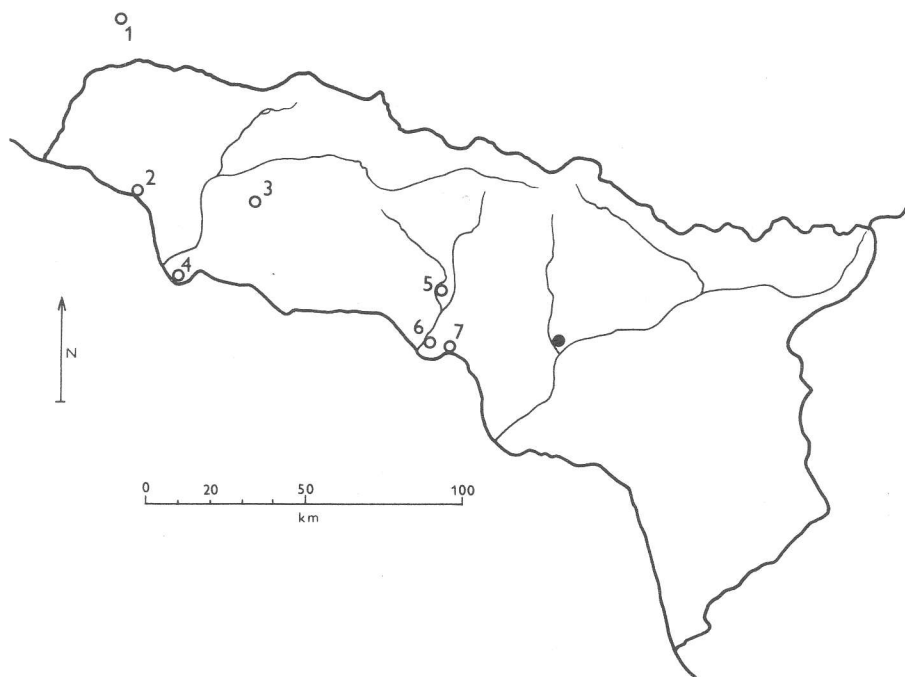


Fig. 8. Map of Abkhazia with the localities of *Orientoreicheia caucasica* (Fleischer) o - *O. c. caucasica*, ● - *O. c. rousi* subsp. n.; 1 - Krasnaya Polyana; 2 - Gagra; 3 - Tschipschira Mt.; 4 - Agrba n. Picunda; 5 - the river Gumista n. Akhalcheni; 6 - Achadara n. Sukhumi; 7 - Sukhumi env. (the holotype).

DISTRIBUTION. Abkhazia, east of the river Kelasuri (Kodorskiy khrebet).

DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS. *O. caucasica rousi* subsp. n. differs from the nominotypical subspecies mainly in the shape of the apex of aedeagal median lobe bent downward (straight in *O. c. caucasica*) and by relatively longer elytra in the ratio to pronotum, index 2.25-2.30 (aver. 2.28) (2.14-2.24, aver. 2.20 in nominotypical subspecies). This represents the most easterly population of the species (Fig. 8) recorded so far.

DERIVATIO NOMINIS. The new subspecies is dedicated to the collector of much of the material examined of *O. caucasica*, Rudolf Rous, a Czech entomologist.

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