CEPHALOTA DESERTICOLA SIVASHENSIS SSP. N. FROM SOUTH UKRAINE (Coleoptera, Cicindelidae)

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Résumé. *Cephalota deserticola sivashensis* ssp. n. est décrite des environs du village de Sivashskoe en Région de Kherson d'Ukraine du Sud. Le taxon nouveau est caractérisé par le dessin élytral fortement foncé. Le localité typique de *C. deserticola* ainsi que le statut taxonomique des *C. kutshumi* (Putchkov, 1993) et *C. kutshumi susanneae* Gebert, 1994 sont discutés.
Abstract. *Cephalota deserticola sivashensis* ssp. n. is described from Sivashskoe village in Kherson District of South Ukraine. The new taxon is characterized by strongly darkened elytral design. The type locality of *C. deserticola* as well as taxonomic status of *C. kutshumi* (Putchkov, 1993) and *C. kutshumi susanneae* Gebert, 1994 are discussed.

Cephalota deserticola (Faldermann, 1836) was described without designation of type locality (but with a good colour picture). Further authors payed no attention to this problem, though a well known area of this rather common and variable species was extreamly large, from south east part of European Russia, North-East Caucasus and East Transcaucasia (Armenia and Azerbaidzhan) to Turkmenia, Uzbekistan, Tadzhikistan and nearly whole Khazakhstan (seems to be not known from north-easten Kazakhstan). J. WIESNER (1992) indicated also Iran, Afghanistan, China and Mongolia. K.WERNER (1992) mentioned the species for Kirgizia. I do not know *C. deserticola* from the territory of Republic of Kirgizia, though its occurence here in the north plane areas looks possible (but may be the record was based on old data for "Kirgizen Steppe", that meens - North Kazakhstan).

Unfortunately two closely related to *C. deserticola* taxa, recently discovered in Kazakhstan: *C. kutshumi* (Putchkov, 1993) from Akmola (now Astana) Region in North Kazakhstan and *C. kutshumi susanneae* Gebert, 1994 from Ily River Valley in South-East Kazakhstan were described without any considerations on the type locality of *C. deserticola*.

S.M. IABLOKOFF-KHNZORIAN (1976) mentioned, that the description of *C. deserticola* was based on the materials from Turkmenia collected in 1833 by G. KARELIN. F. FALDERMANN (1836) also attributed his new species to Karelin's materials collected in 1833, though without special record of Turkmenia for *C. deserticola*.

Following these data I accept Republic of Turkmenia as type locality of *Cicindela deserticola* Faldermann, 1836.

C. deserticola is rather numerous in Turkmenia. Known to me materials from Turkmenia, as well as colour photograph of the male of *C. deserticola* from Tedzhen in South Turkmenia (Werner, 1992) well agree with the colour picture in the original description.

The variability range of *C. deserticola* is rather considerable. Forms with pale elytra - ab. *albonubila* Tschitscherine, 1903 (dark elytral design is strongly redused) are known from South Russia (Astrakhan environs). I collected pale aberrations of *C. deserticola* near Inder Lake in Ural River Valley (West Kazakhstan). In general specimens from Kazakhstan (Ural River Valley, East of Uralsk Region, Kazalinsk, Kzyl-Orda, Ily River Valley near Bakanas) are rather small. The biggest specimens were traditionally known from the south part of the species area: Turkmenia (Chardzhou, Khauz-Khan), Uzbekistan (Karshi), Tadzhikistan (Tigrovaia Balka).

C. kutshumi kutshumi is also characterized by relatively small size and pale elytral design (only four specimens known), that is rather common for populations of

C. deserticola in North Kazakhstan. In fact all characters of *C. k. kutshumi* can be found in certain specimens of *C. deserticola*. The main distinguishing character of *C. k. kutshumi* is the structure of relatively elongated labrum with round anterior margin and very smooth surface. Similar labrum I know only in one male of *C. deserticola* from Kazalinsk. The difference in the shape of aedeagus is not considerable and is inside species variability of *C. deserticola*. In all three type specimens of *C. kutshumi*, investigated by me, hind tarsi are about 1.1 times longer than hind femora. In *C. deserticola* the proportions of hind tarsi to hind tibiae are following (in males tarsi usually relatively longer than in females): in female from Karshi (Turkmenia) - 1.04, in female from Tigrovaia Balka (Tadzhikistan) - 1.1, in male from Chardzhou (Turkmenia) - 1.2, in females from Khauz-Khan (Turkmenia) - 1.1, in a big series from Kzyl-Orda (Kazakhstan) - 1.0-1.2, in specimens from Kazalinsk (Kazakhstan) - 1.1-1.2, in specimens from Inder Lake (Kazakhstan) - 1.0-1.2, in female from west bank of Balkhash Lake - 1.1 (Kazakhstan), in series from Bakanas (Kazakhstan) - 1.0-1.2. I can not understand the data of my colleagues A. Putchkov (1993) and J. Gebert (1993), that in *C. deserticola* (without references to materials) hind tarsi longer than hind tibiae in 1.5 times. I do not know such specimens.

So the status of *C. kutshumi* is not clear. More specimens from the type locality and neighbour populations must be investigated. May be this name could be attributed to the subspecies of *C. deserticola* distributed all along North Kazakhstan to South Russia consisting of small specimens with often pale elytra. I do not know specimens of *C. deserticola* with reduced dark elytral design from South Kazakhstan or Central Asia.

Two very small males described as *C. kutshumi susanneae* Gebert, 1994 from Ily River Valley (Nurly near Kapchagai water reserve) differs from my *C. deserticola* from Ily River Valley (Bakanas - about 250km north-westwards from Nurly) only by very special structure of 1st antennal joint - relatively short with three setae. All my specimens of *C. deserticola* are with 1st antennal joint longer, with only one seta. Until new materials will be collected in the region I prefer to regard this taxon as local subspecies of *C. deserticola*.

Recently a new unusual population of *C. deserticola* was discovered in South Ukraine in Azov Sea coast eastwards Crimea Peninsula. It is very far westwards from the western most population of the species in South Russia.

***Cephalota deserticola* sivashensis ssp. n.** (Figs 1-2)

Description. Body relatively big. May be it is the biggest known form of *C. deserticola*. In general the north part of *C. deserticola* area in South Russia and North Kazakhstan is occupied by populations with small specimens.

Body length in males (including mandibulae): 12.8-13.4mm; body width: 4.1-4.3mm; in females: 13.8-14.4mm, width: 4.6-4.8mm.

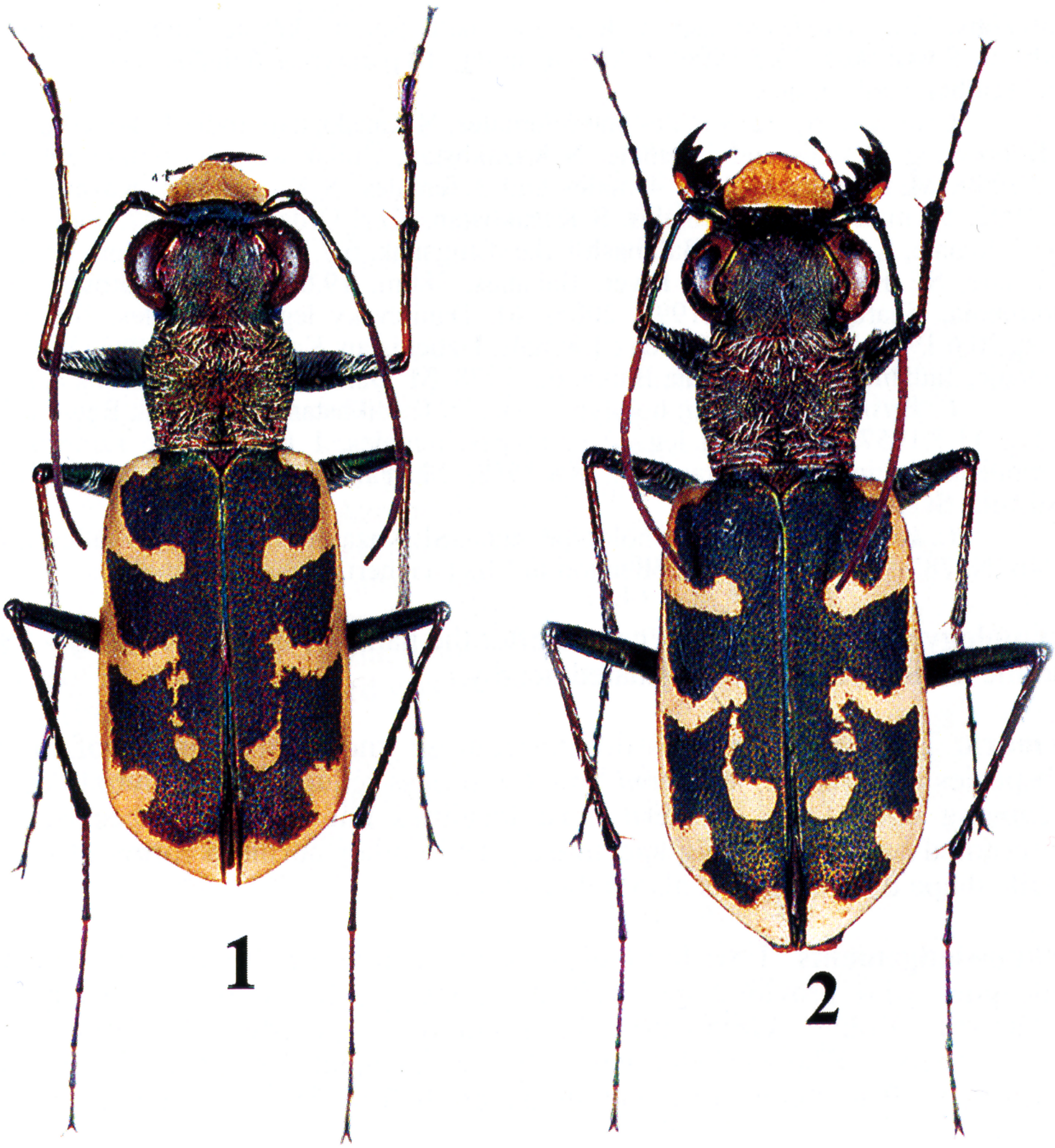
Labrum relatively short, the length in males: 1.0-1.1mm, in females 1.2-1.25mm (in *C. k. kutshumi* from 1.0mm in small male to 1.3mm in females), about 1.6-1.7 times wider than long (in *C. k. kutshumi* about 1.5-1.6 times); with poorly developed central longitudinal elevation, with undulating anterior margin bearing a row of 4-8 setae.

Head with typical for *C. deserticola* sculpture, with two setae on each side along interior eye margin.

Antennae with elongated 1st joint bearing one seta; four basal joints metallic green and usually partly bronze; other joints brown.

Prothorax about 1.2-1.3 times wider than long; pronotum with typical sculpture and pubescence.

Elytra in males about 1.7-1.8 times longer than wide, in females - about 1.6-1.7 times; nearly parallelsided both in males and in females; with more or less reduced pale design, white stripes narrow, central transverse stripe in the middle often interrupted or represented by small spots; apical suture spines always distinct.



Figs 1-2. *Cephalota deserticola sivashensis* ssp. n.: 1 - holotype, male; 2 - paratype, female

Legs typically coloured; hind tarsi a little longer than hind tibiae in males in about 1.1-1.2 times, in females in about 1.1 times or about equal in length.

Dorsal body surface metallic-green or metallic-brownish; sometimes head and pronotum green, but elytra brownish; lateral sides of prothorax red-bronze, or sometimes green; ventral body side dark with more or less distinct green lustre.

Aedeagus narrow, much narrower than in *C. kutshumi*, and narrower than in all investigated by me forms of *C. d. deseticola*; apical attenuation very short (like in *C.kutshumi*), nearly absent, with small, but distinct sharp angle, which I do not know in any other *C. deserticola* or *C. kutshumi*.

Materials. *C. d. sivashensis* ssp. n.: holotype, male, South Ukraine, Kherson Region, Genichesk environs, Sivashskoe, 25.5.1996, R. Mishustin leg; 10 paratypes, 6 males and 4 females with same label (author's collection).

C. d. deserticola: 9 males and 5 females, N Kazakhstan, Inder Lake, 20m, 13-17.7.1992, S. Bobrov leg.; 1 male and 1 female, N Kazakhstan, Uralsk Region, 200km SE Uralsk, 100m, 12.7.1999, M. Danilevsky leg.; 4 males and 3 females, S Kazakhstan, Kazalinsk, 50-60m, 5-6.7.1992, 57 males and 26 females, S Kazakhstan, Kzyl-Orda, 130m, 9.7.1999, M. Danilevsky leg.; 1 female, Kazakhstan, E Balkhash Lake, Chiganak, 6.7.1986, A.Kondratiev leg; 3 males and 1 female, SE Kazakhstan, Ily River, Bakanas, 380m, 19.6.1991, O. Gorbunov leg.; 1 male, Turkmenia, Chardzhou, 16.6.1992, 200m, M. Danilevsky leg.; 2 females, Turkmenia, Khauz-Khan, 20.6.1992, M. Danilevsky leg.; 1 female, Uzbekistan, Karshi, 20.5.1982, A. Kondratiev leg.; 1 female, Tadzhikistan, Tigrovaia Balka, 6.5.1978, M. Danilevsky leg. (author's collection).

C. kutshumi kutshumi: holotype, male, N Kazakhstan, Akmolinsk Region, Basaga-Ozek Valley, 11.7.1957, L. Arnoldi leg.; 2 paratypes, females, 1 female with same label, another - Akmolinsk Region, Kokshetau Mt., 8.8.1958, M. Falkovitch leg. (collection of Zoological Instistute, St.-Petersburg).

C. kutshumi susanneae: holotype, male, SE Kazakhstan, Ily River Valley, 20km N Nurly, 43'46"N, 78'35"E, 26.6.1993 (collection of Mr. J. Gebert; Rohne, Germany).

Etymology. The subspecies is named after the name of the type locality - "Sivashskoe" and the name of Sivash Bay situated nearby.

Remark. The new subspecies differs from all known populations of the nominative subspecies and from *C. kutshumi* by more or less reduced white elytral design; besides, occupying one of the northern most localities known in the species, the taxon is represented by relatively big specimens, while other northern forms of the species are small; shape of aedeagus is also rather special.

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