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**FIRST RECORD OF THE MONOTYPIC GENUS *PAKTOXOTUS*  
HOLZSCHUH, 1974 (COLEOPTERA: CERAMBYCIDAE:  
LEPTURINAE) FROM AFGHANISTAN, WITH DESCRIPTION  
OF FEMALE OF *P. PALLIDUS* HOLZSCHUH, 1974**

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**Summary.** The monotypic genus *Paktoxotus* Holzschuh, 1974 is recorded from Afghanistan for the first time. The previously unknown female of *P. pallidus* Holzschuh, 1974 is described. Some features of male are given also.

**Key words:** Coleoptera, longicorn beetles, *Paktoxotus*, female description, fauna, new record, Afghanistan.

**А. И. Мирошников. Первая находка монотипического рода *Paktoxotus* Holzschuh, 1974 (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae: Lepturinae) в Афганистане с описанием самки *P. pallidus* Holzschuh, 1974 // Дальневосточный энтомолог. 2019. N 395. С. 1-6.**

**Резюме.** Впервые в Афганистане отмечен монотипический род *Paktoxotus* Holzschuh, 1974. Дано описание ранее неизвестной самки *P. pallidus* Holzschuh, 1974. Дополнительно указаны некоторые признаки самца.

## INTRODUCTION

In the late 1980's to early 1990's, in Leningrad (St. Petersburg), I was privileged to meet several times the late Oleg Nikolaevich Kabakov, a famous Russian coleopterist. At one of these meetings, when we exchanged material, I received from him a morphologically peculiar unidentified female of Lepturinae collected in Afghanistan. Later, when working through Kabakov's collection, I was able to determine one male of *Paktoxotus pallidus* Holzschuh, 1974 also collected in Afghanistan, and now kept in the Zoological Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences, St. Petersburg. The above female, still at my disposal, unfortunately remained unfairly forgotten in one of my boxes with undetermined material. Only relatively recently, comparing it with the male of *P. pallidus*, I have come to the conclusion that this female, almost without any doubt, belongs to the same species, yet being characterized by several unique features and differing strongly from the male in the robust and large body.

*Paktoxotus pallidus* has been described from a single male stemming from Pakistan (Holzschuh, 1974). No other information concerning this taxon seems to be available. It is simply mentioned from this country in the latest catalogue by Weigel (2010) and nothing more.

In this paper, *P. pallidus* is recorded from Afghanistan for the first time, and preliminary description of the above-mentioned female, as well as some features of the male, including Afghan specimen, are given.

The material treated in this work belongs to the following institutional and private collections: ZIN – Zoological Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences (St. Petersburg, Russia); cAM – collection of Alexandr Miroshnikov (Krasnodar, Russia); cCH – collection of Carolus Holzschuh (Villach, Austria).

## RESULTS

### Genus *Paktoxotus* Holzschuh, 1974

*Paktoxotus* Holzschuh, 1974: 84. Weigel, 2010: 127.

Type species: *Paktoxotus pallidus* Holzschuh, 1974.

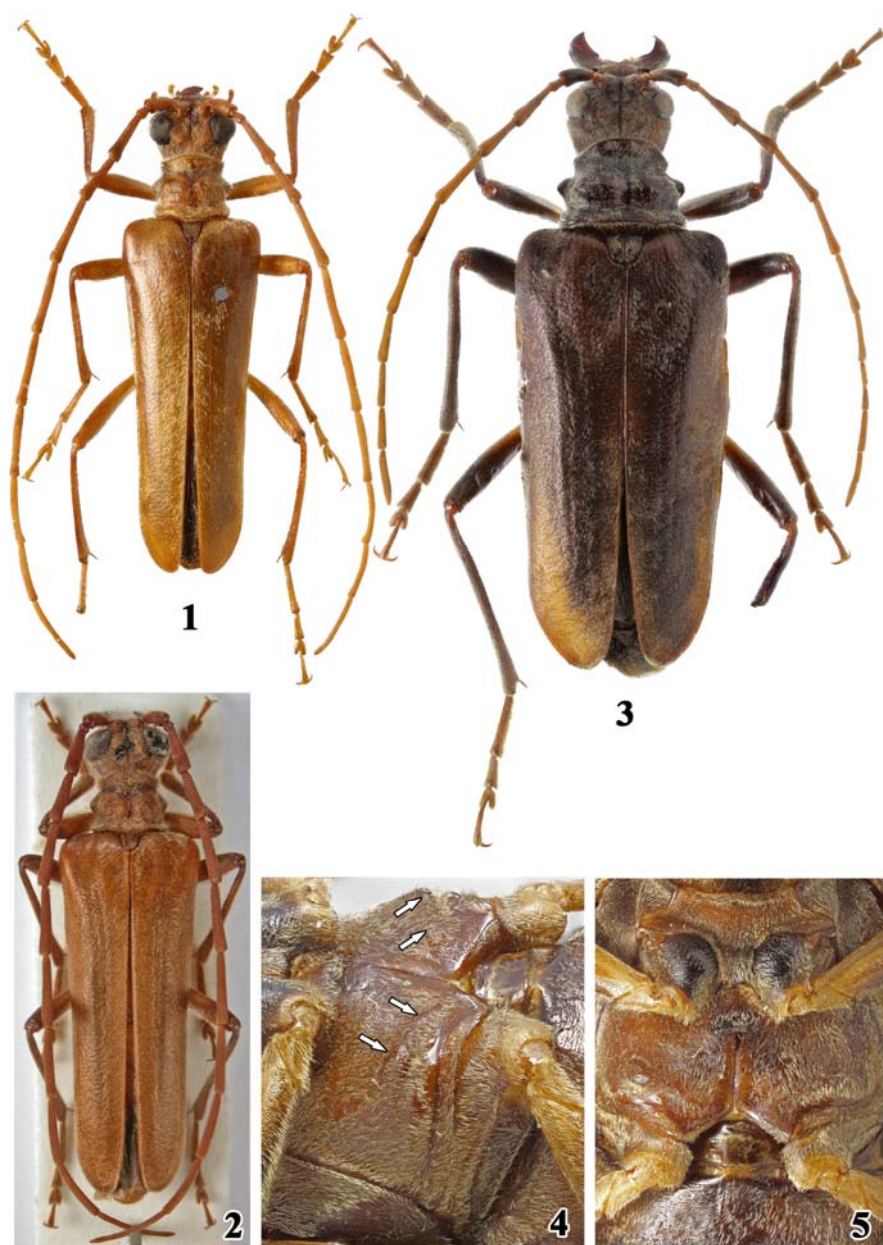
COMPOSITION. The genus includes a single species.

### *Paktoxotus pallidus* Holzschuh, 1974

Figs 1–8

*Paktoxotus pallidus* Holzschuh, 1974: 86 (Type locality: NW Pakistan, Swat Prov., Madyan, 1400 m); Weigel, 2010: 127.

MATERIAL EXAMINED. **Afghanistan:** 1♂ (ZIN) (Fig. 1), “Afghan. Nurestan. Upp. Waygal riv., 2800 m, 8.7.1972, Kabakov” [NE Afghanistan, Nuristan Province, upper reaches of Waygal River, 2800 m, 8.07.1972, leg. O.N. Kabakov] / *Paktoxotus pallidus* Holzschuh, 1974 ♂ det. A. Miroshnikov; 1♀ (cAM) (Fig. 3), same label, but taken on 6.07.1972 / *Paktoxotus pallidus* Holzschuh, 1974 ♀ det. A. Miroshnikov 2017 (preliminary identification!); **Pakistan:** holotype ♂ (cCH) (photograph; Fig. 2).



Figs 1–5. Habitus and morphological details of *Paktoxotus pallidus*. 1 – male from Afghanistan; 2 – holotype male (photograph by Luboš Dembický); 3–5 – female; 4 – metasternum, dorsolateral view; 5 – meso- and metasternum and protrusion of first (visible) sternite, dorsal view.

MORPHOLOGICAL NOTES TO THE MALE. The body length of the holotype is 19.1 mm (Holzschuh, 1974). Afghan male is smaller. Its body length and humeral width are 15.5 and 4.4 mm, respectively, while the elytra are somewhat more sharply narrowed towards the apex.

DESCRIPTION OF THE FEMALE. Body length 27.4 mm, humeral width 8.9 mm. Coloration of integument in general much darker than in male, mainly combines dark reddish brown and reddish brown tones; antennae, except for antennomere 1, and tarsi red; mandibles partly, pronotum laterally, including tubercles, as well as pro- and mesocoxae partly, visible sternites 1–4 apically black; coxae partly, trochanters and bases of femora yellowish cream.

Head with a distinct median groove starting from bases of antennal tubercles and ending at neck dorsally (in male, groove not reach neck); mandibles much longer than in male, sharpened apically; eyes much smaller than in male, with moderately small (but not too small) ocelli, like in male, being distinctly larger than in almost all Rhagiini representatives (see also Holzschuh, 1974); temples significantly longer than in male; submentum distinctly convex, with clear, heterogeneous, irregular, partly confluent punctures and, in addition, with rough transverse folds (in male only with distinct punctures); gula with a rugose sculpture, including transverse distinct wrinkles (in male with an obliterated sculpture); antennae slender, very clearly failing to reach apex of elytra; length ratio of antennomeres 1–11, 34 : 13 : 44 : 39 : 54 : 48 : 53 : 42 : 41 : 36 : 51; antennomere 2 very clearly longitudinal, being more elongated than in male; antennomere 3 in apical part somewhat peculiarly broadened towards apex, being distinctly stronger than in male.

Pronotum strongly transverse, significantly wider than in male, 1.41 times as wide as long (in male only 1.26–1.28 times as wide as long); base 1.32 times as wide as apex; with more strongly developed lateral tubercles and more convex discal tubercles than in male.

Scutellum longitudinal, distinctly convex, with a well-expressed median groove in apical part, clearly emarginate apically.

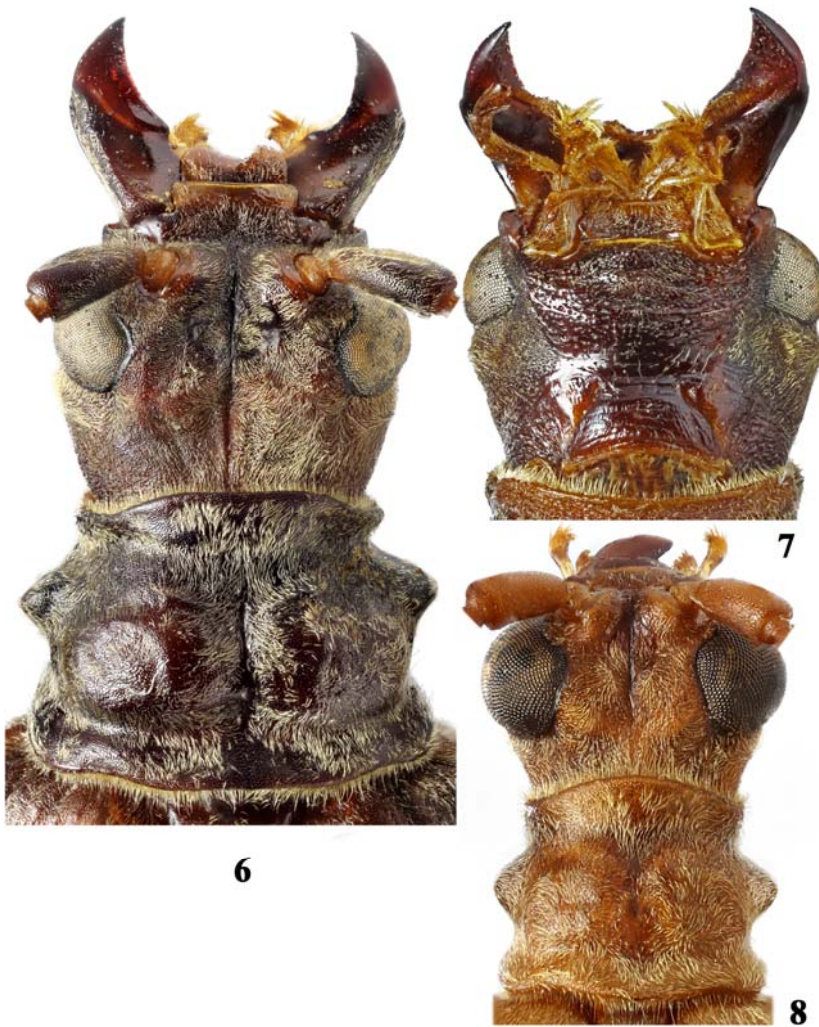
Elytra distinctly narrowed towards apex, significantly shorter than in male, 2.07 times as long as humeral width (in male 2.58 times); rounded apically; with more strongly rugose sculpture than in male.

Pro- and mesosternal processes distinctly wider than in male; metasternum shorter than in male, in apical part transversely strongly tuberculiform elevated on either side of the middle, as indicated by arrows in Fig. 4 (male devoid a similar sculpture); unlike male, protrusion of first (visible) sternite pretty broad at base, widely rounded apically, somewhat resembling females of some *Apatophysis* species; both last (visible) sternite and tergite very distinctly emarginate apically.

Legs pretty long; unlike male, femora ventrally without long erect setae.

DISTRIBUTION. Pakistan, Afghanistan.

REMARKS. The systematic position of the genus *Paktoxotus* within the subfamily Lepturinae, in my opinion, requires clarification. It is possible that this genus deserves the allocation as a separate tribe [according to Weigel (2010), the genus belongs to the tribe Rhagiini Kirby, 1837]. But this can be done only when will come the complete confidence in the correct generic and species attribution of the female described here.



Figs 6–8. Morphological details of *Paktoxotus pallidus*: 6–7 – female; 8 – male from Afghanistan; 6, 8 – head and pronotum, dorsal view; 7 – head, ventral view.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I cordially recall Oleg Nikolaevich Kabakov (1928–2009), the remarkable researcher and legendary collector of beetles, who collected lots of rare or new taxa of Coleoptera, including Cerambycidae, in various regions of Asia.

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a picture of the holotype of *Paktoxotus pallidus*. My special thanks are due to my wife Tatiana P. Miroshnikova who helped a lot in the preparation of the illustrations for publication.

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