Anabothrus L. Mistsh. as a synonym of Stenobothrus L. Fisch. (Orthoptera: Acrididae)

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Anabothrus is a junior synonym of the nominotypical subgenus of Stenobothrus. The single character on which Anabothrus was based is found in some females of three various species of Stenobothrus s. str.

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Mistshenko (1951) examined two females from Krasnodar Prov. and established for them a new genus Anabothrus L. Mistsh., with the only species A. monticola L. Mistsh., based on a single character: the absence of fastigium foveolae. He thought that representatives of the nearest genus Stenobothrus L. Fisch., 1853 always have developed fastigium foveolae. Harz (1975) considered this character as insufficient for description of a separate genus, and he gave to Anabothrus the status of a subgenus of Stenobothrus without investigation of the type material. Woznessenskij (1998) gave to the species a new name S. mistshenkoi as the name S. monticola was preoccupied. Examination of the collection of the Zoological Institute, St. Petersburg, including the type series of A. monticola, shows that some females of S. lineatus (Panz.), S. nigromaculatus (H.-Sch.), and S. crassipes (Charp.) have no foveolae of fastigium of vertex. Accordingly, Anabothrus is considered a junior synonym of the subgenus Stenobothrus (type species S. lineatus) which includes all the above-mentioned species (new synonymy). S. mistshenkoi is very similar to and maybe synonymous with S. crassipes; the females of both species are almost identical, but it is necessary to examine the hitherto unknown males of S. mistshenkoi. The known distribution of the two forms is disjunct: S. crassipes is known from Central Europe eastwards to the Ciscarpathian Ukraine and Greece and not recorded from NW Caucasus.

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