

A new species of the genus *Chorebus* from Moldova (Hymenoptera: Braconidae, Alysiinae)

A. Lozan & V.I. Tobias

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Chorebus ioni sp. n. reared from Agromyzidae is described from Moldova. The new species belongs to the *ovalis* complex. It is related to *Ch. iphias* (Nixon), but differs mainly in the structure of mandibles, length of petiole, and pubescence of mesoscutum. It is also similar to *Ch. expansus* Tobias from the Russian Far East, but the latter differs in the less developed 3rd and 4th teeth of mandible and shorter radial cell of fore wing.

Aurel Lozan, Institute of Entomology, Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, Branišovská str., 31, 37005 České Budejovice, Czech Republic; e-mail: lozan@entu.cas.cz

V.I. Tobias, Zoological Institute, Russian Academy of Sciences, Universitetskaya nab. 1, St.Petersburg 199034, Russia; e-mail: hymenopt@zin.ru

Introduction

Chorebus Haliday, 1833 is the largest genus in the subfamily Alysiinae. More than 220 species of *Chorebus* are recorded from the European part of the former USSR (Tobias, 1986). Information on species from the Republic of Moldova is given by Tobias (1986), Talitzkij & Kuslitzkij (1990) and Lozan (1996).

All specimens of the new species (26 ♀, 10 ♂) were reared from Agromyzidae (Diptera) collected in the crop barley system of the central part of the Republic of Moldova. The holotype and most of the paratypes are deposited in the Institute of Entomology of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic (České Budejovice). Three paratypes (2 ♀, 1 ♂) are deposited in the Zoological Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences (St.Petersburg).

***Chorebus ioni* sp. n.**
(Figs 1, 3, 5, 7, 8)

Holotype. ♀, **Moldova**, Bacioi, 10 km SE of Chişinău, 16.V.1989, leg. I. Kiriak.

Paratypes. 25 ♀ and 10 ♂, same data as for holotype.

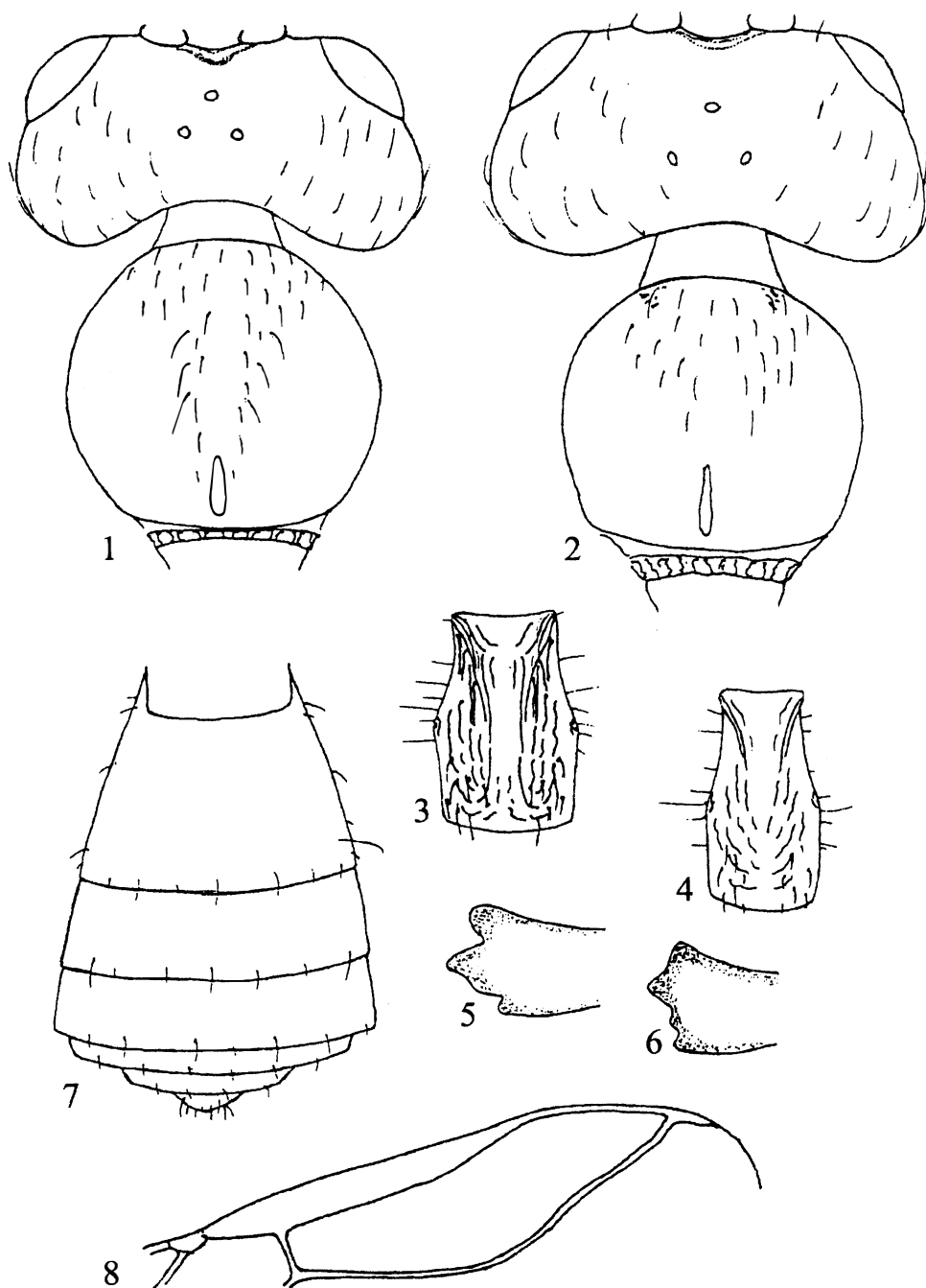
Description. Female. Body length 2.1 mm. Head (Figs 1, 5) considerably widened behind eyes, 1.3 times as wide as metasoma, 1.9 times as wide as long; temples swollen behind eyes, in dorsal view 1.4 as long as eyes, with a few hairs, shining. Antennae 27-segmented, as long as body. First segment of flagellum 2.7 times and other segments 1.5-2 times as long as wide.

Clypeus smooth, with long hairs. Ocelli small, OOL 2.5 times POL. Face smooth, shining, with a few concentric rows of long hairs. Mandibles widened to apex; 1st tooth much expanded; 3rd tooth lies under strongly protruded 2nd tooth (so that mandibles seem at first sight 3-toothed in lateral view); 4th tooth well developed. Cleft between 1st and 2nd teeth deep.

Mesosoma (Fig. 1) 1.4 times as long as high. Mesoscutum shining, with pubescence restricted mainly to its anterior surface and with long hairs in position of notauli (notauli not developed). Medio-posterior depression of mesoscutum elongate, deep. Prescutellar depression narrowly pointed. Scutellum smooth, shining. Sides of pronotum bare, shining. Sternauli rugose; bottom of mesopleura with a few hairs. Propodeum rugose, with fine pubescence condensed laterally and at apex. Metapleural swelling rugose, surrounded by a rosette of radiating hairs. Metapleural pubescence dense.

Metasoma (Figs 3, 7). Petiole 1.7 times as long as wide at apex, rugose, with two longitudinal carinae, sculptured mostly behind their border, centrally more or less smooth. Hairs of petiole very sparse, central part almost bare, some pubescence present near base, along sides and towards apical corner. 2nd tergite shining, with a few hairs laterally and at apex. Ovipositor short and hidden, not protruding from apex of abdomen.

Wings (Fig. 8). Fore wings with long and not widened, almost parallel-sided pterostigma. Radial cell not shortened.



Figs 1-8. 1, 3, 5, 7, 8, *Chorebus ioni* sp. n.: 1, head and mesosoma; 3, petiole; 5, mandible; 7, metasoma; 8, pterostigma. 2, 4, 6, *Ch. iphias* Nixon: 2, head and mesosoma; 4, petiole; 6, mandible.

Colour. Body black. Antennae dark brown, but pedicel and base of first flagellar segment partially yellow-brown. Palpi and labrum yellow. Clypeus brown, unlike black head. Mandibles yellow inside, their borders red-brown or dark red-brown. Fore and middle legs yellow; coxae yellow-brown. In hind legs, coxae and femora brown, trochanters yellow; tibiae yellow with darker apical part; tarsi yellow with segment 5 slightly infuscated. Abdomen: petiole dark; 2nd tergite and base of 3rd tergite brown-yellow, other tergites brown. Wing venation, including pterostigma, yellow, almost transparent.

Male. Body length 2 mm. Antennae 30-segmented. Mesosoma 1.5 times as long as high. Coloration as in female, except abdomen (2nd tergite entirely and base of 3rd tergite yellowish brown, other tergites somewhat darker) and pterostigma (dark yellow, but not transparent).

Variability of paratypes. Body length: ♀ 2-2.2 mm, ♂ 1.9-2 mm. Head 1.2-1.4 times as wide as mesosoma. Number of antennal segments: ♀ 26-28, ♂ 29-30. Mesosoma 1.4-1.5 times as long as high; its pubescence may differ only by a few hairs on anterior face, but generally the same. Petiole 1.6-1.8 times as long as its apical width, rugose, with more or less developed carinae. By some light, the colour of head in some specimens seems dark brownish in dorsal view. Mandibles from yellow-brown to yellow-red inside, but borders darker. The colour of abdomen can vary: 2nd tergite from brown to brownish yellow, other tergites sometimes dark brown or even black.

Comparison. *Ch. ioni* sp. n. belongs to the *ovalis* complex and is related to *Ch. iphias* (Nixon) both having widened head and mandibles. From that species it may be distinguished as follows:

- 1(2). Mandibles with strongly protruded 2nd tooth, the cleft between 1st and 2nd teeth deep (Fig. 5). Head 1.3 times as wide as mesosoma (Fig. 1). Mesoscutum pubescent mainly on anterior surface and with long hairs in position of notauli. Notauli not developed. Petiole with two transverse carinae, sculptured mostly behind their border, nearly 1.7 times as long as its apical width (Fig. 7). Antennae 26-28-segmented in ♀, 29-30-segmented in ♂. 1.9-2.2 mm
 **Ch. ioni** sp. n.

- 2(1). Mandibles with 2nd tooth not strongly protruded, without a cleft between 1st and 2nd teeth (Fig. 6). Head 1.5 times as long as mesosoma (Fig. 5). Mesoscutum pubescent mainly on anterior surface, but without long hairs in position of notauli. Notauli distinct anteriorly. Petiole with transverse carinae not pronounced and sculpture mainly developed centrally and apically, twice or more as long as its apical width (Fig. 3). Antennae 29-32-segmented. 2-2.3 mm
 **Ch. iphias** (Nixon)

Ch. ioni sp. n. is also similar to *Ch. expansus* Tobias (Tobias, 1998) from the Russian Far East, which has less developed 3rd and 4th teeth of mandibles, shorter radial cell of wings, longer ovipositor, and 32-segmented antennae.

Etymology. The species is named after its collector, Dr. Ion Kiriak (Chiriac), well-known Moldavian entomologist, specialist in Aphidiidae (Hymenoptera).

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