

## A new species of the leaf-beetle genus *Acolastus* Gerstaecker, 1855 (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae) from Iran

O.L. NESTEROVA & I.K. LOPATIN

O.L. Nesterova, Zoology Department, Byelorussian State University, Independence Ave. 4, Minsk 220030, Belarus.  
E-mail: oxana@list.ru

I.K. Lopatin, Zoology Department, Byelorussian State University, Independence Ave. 4, Minsk 220030, Belarus.  
E-mail: ik\_lopatin2002@mail.ru

*Acolastus shirazicus* sp. nov. from Iran is described, very similar to *Acolastus zarudnii* (Jacobson, 1916) and *A. klimenkoi* Romantsov & Bukejs, 2009, but differing in the shape of aedeagus: in comparison with *A. zarudnii* the apex is narrower, with weak lobes and more strongly bent in profile, while in comparison with *A. klimenkoi* the apex is narrower and longer.

**Key words:** Iran, Coleoptera, Chrysomelidae, Cryptocephalinae, *Acolastus*, new species

### INTRODUCTION

The genus *Acolastus* Gerstaecker, 1855 belongs to the tribe Pachybrachini and is most closely related to the genus *Pachybrachis* Clavareau, 1913. *Acolastus* with more than 155 species is one of the largest genera of the subfamily Cryptocephalinae. The recent revision (Lopatin, 2009) of Asian *Acolastus* did not include *Acolastus shirazicus*.

### TAXONOMIC PART

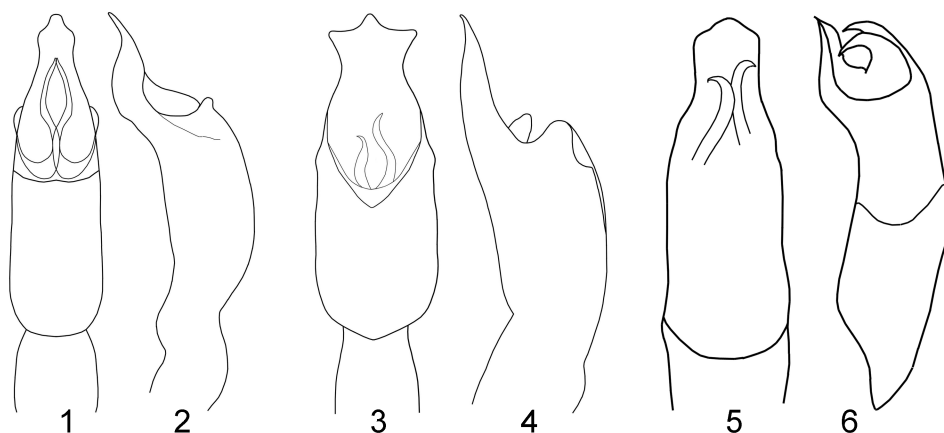
*Acolastus shirazicus* sp. nov.  
(Figs 1, 2)

*Holotype*. Male; **Iran**, Eastern Shiraz, near Shesheh; 24 Oct. 1977; coll. E. Gurjeva; Zoological Institute, St. Petersburg.

*Description*. Male (*holotype*). Body length 2.8 mm, width at humeri 1.4 mm. Upper side yellow with diffuse rusty pattern; head brown with yellow ^-like pattern on frons, large M-like spot on pronotum; scutellum, humeral and scutellar spots in basal quarter of elytra and oblong spot on disc near suture brown. Narrow sutural stripe and punctation of elytra dark rusty-brown. Antennae yellow, two basal segments slightly darkened. Underside rusty-brown, sides and apical sternites of abdomen lighter. Legs yellow, claws darkened apically, almost black.

Vertex with large punctures upon dense regular punctation. Frons coarsely punctate, narrow, expanded anteriorly. Eyes large, transverse diameter almost equal to space between eyes in posterior part of frons. Clypeus with sparse large punctures; labrum broadly and not deeply emarginate. Antennae 1.6 mm long; 1st segment thickened, 2nd short, almost spherical, half as long as 1st, last segment acuminate. Ratio of segments lengths 11:6:9:11:12:12:12:12:12:15.

Pronotum transverse, 1.25 times as broad as long, length 0.8 mm, width at base 1.0 mm, width in broadest part before apical 1/3 of pronotum 1.3 mm; from there lateral margins converging almost rectilinearly anteriorly and feebly rounded caudad. Disc convex with transverse depression in basal part. Punctation coarse, space between punctures twice as large as puncture diameter. Scutellum large with rounded apex, densely punctate. Elytra 1.9 mm long, 2.4 times as long as pronotum and 1.4 times as long as wide at humeri. Surface of elytra uneven, with three feebly convex longitudinal costulae. Punctation dense, coarse, forming irregular rows and 2 condensations at base of each elytron between humeral callus and scutellum and at midlength near suture. Apex of elytra impunctate. Pygidium with large punctures. Abdominal and thoracic



**Figs 1–6.** Aedeagus in *Acolastus*, dorsal and lateral views: *A. shirazicus* sp. nov. (1, 2), *A. zarudnii* (3, 4), *A. klimenkoi* (5, 6).

sternites with fine yellow setae; rounded lobe in centre of caudal margin of last abdominal sternite with rounded depression. Legs slender, 3rd segment of tarsus half as long as 2nd, claws long, thin, acuminate. Ratio of tarsal segments lengths 24:12:7:15. Aedeagus shown in Figs 1, 2.

*Comparison.* The new species closely resembles *Acolastus zarudnii* (Jacobson, 1916) and *A. klimenkoi* Romantsov & Bukejs, 2009 (Romantsov & Bukejs, 2009), but differs in having a more strongly dorsoventrally bent aedeagus and the size of its apical parts – in comparison with *A. zarudnii* the apex is narrower, with weak lobes, while in comparison

with *A. klimenkoi* the apex is narrower and longer (Figs 3–6).

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