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New species of genus *Cortodera* Mulsant 1863 from Bulgaria (Coleoptera, Cerambycidae)

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Abstract. *Cortodera hroni*, sp. nov. similar to Caucasian *C. alpina* (Ménétriés 1832) is described from Bulgaria. Six subspecies of *C. alpina* are preliminary recognized in Caucasus: *C. a. alpina* (Ménétriés 1832), *C. a. rosti* Pic 1892, *C. a. starcki* Reitter 1888, *C. alpina fischtsensis* Starck 1894, *C. a. umbripennis* Reitter 1890, *C. a. armeniaca* Pic 1898.

Key words. Coleoptera, Cerambycidae, new species, taxonomy, Bulgaria.

Introduction

The new species described below was recorded for Bulgaria long ago under wrong name "*Cortodera umbripennis*" by Sama & Rapuzzi (1999).

Description of new taxa

***Cortodera hroni* sp. nov.** (Figs. 1-2)

[*Cortodera umbripennis* Sama & Rapuzzi 1999: 465 "Charmanli"]

Material. Holotype, male, Bulgaria, Kharmanli, about 41°56'N, 25°54'E, 10.5.1992, J. Hron leg., preserved in the collection of author; 4 paratypes with same label; 1 female in author's collection; 2 males and 1 female in collection of S. Murzin (Moscow).

Description. The beetles totally black, only anterior tibiae and internal side of 1st antennal joints slightly lightened; body relatively short and wide, covered with pale pubescence; head with well developed strongly angulated temples; last joints of maxillary palpi elongated, strongly widened apically; antennae in males reaching posterior elytral fifth, in females – surpassing elytral middle; 1st joint about as long as 4th, shorter than 3rd, which is shorter than 5th, 5th joint is the longest; prothorax can be often widest near middle, with more or less angulated sides; strongly transverse, in males about 1.3 times wider than basal width, in females – about 1.4 times; pronotal punctation rather dense, the distance between dots near

middle usually less than each dot, but sometimes about same; pronotum with small and short elongated smooth area; covered with long erect and oblique setae; scutellum small, triangular; elytra on males strongly converging posteriorly, in females – about parallelsided; in males from 2.2 to 2.3 times longer than basal width, in females – about 2.0 times; covered with long erect and oblique setae, which become shorter posteriorly; in males posterior margins of last abdominal tergites widely rounded, nearly truncated, last abdominal sternite slightly emarginated; in females posterior margin of last abdominal tergite narrowly rounded, last abdominal sternite widely rounded: body length in males: 8.3-9.0mm, width: 2.5-2.8mm; body length in females: 7.8-8.5mm, width: 2.7-2.9mm.

Differential diagnosis. *C. hroni* sp. nov. is very close to *C. alpina* (Ménétriés 1832), especially to several amphigenetic subspecies consisting of black specimens only (*C. a. alpina* from Daghestan or populations from Swanetia), but differs by less dense pronotal and elytral punctation. It differs from each population of *C. alpina* by combinations of several small characters as body proportions, relative length of antennal joints, details of punctation and pubescence, shape of palpal joints and last abdominal segments. *C. alpina* from Swanetia, for example, has much more dense, conjugated pronotal and elytral punctation; shorter ax-like apical palpal joints; much shorter antennae. Males of *C. a. alpina* from Daghestan have elytral sides less converging posteriorly, and both sexes also have denser pronotal and elytral punctation.

Etymology. The new taxon is dedicated to J. Hron, who collected the type series.

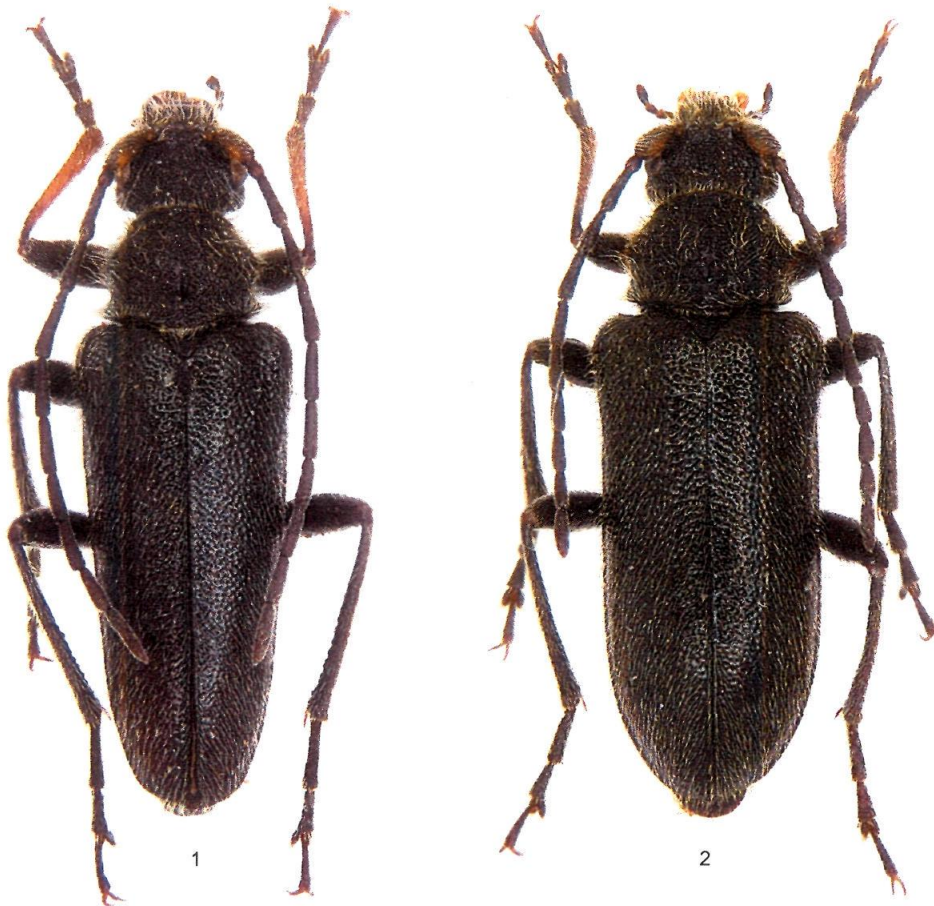
Remark. *C. alpina* (Ménétriés 1832) is widely distributed all over Caucasus and in eastern Turkey. It consists of many local subspecies, which are often parthenogenetic. The taxon was described from «les Alpes du Caucase, à huit mille pieds d'élévation». The type locality seems to be situated in old Daghestan, but now that territory is in Azerbajdzhan. Ménétriés made a collecting trip to subalpine zone of Shakhdag Mt. (41°16'N, 48°00'E - Azerbajzhan near Dagestan border) in summer 1830. There are several very old *C. alpina* males with the label "Schachdag" in the collections of Moscow Zoological Museum and in my collection. So, most probably, Shakhdag Mt. is the type locality of the species. Several known to me populations of *C. alpina* from Daghestan are always amphigenetic and consist of totally black specimens.

Now at least six subspecies can be recognized in Caucasus: *C. a. alpina* (Ménétriés, 1832) – distributed in northern Azerbajdzhan, in Daghestan and probably in NE Georgia; *C. a. rosti* Pic 1892 – amphigenetic subspecies (elytra black or yellow, legs often partly red) described from Mt. Elbrus, *C. a. starcki* Reitter 1888 – parthenogenetic black subspecies described from North-West Caucasus (plateau Abago), *C. a. fischensis* Starck 1894 -

parthenogenetic subspecies (all females with brown elytra and black legs) described from North-West Caucasus (Mt. Fish environs), *C. a. umbripennis* Reitter 1890 – parthenogenetic subspecies (females with yellow and black elytra, legs black) described from “Araxesthal bei Ordubad.” and distributed all over Nakhichevan mountain areas and around alpine zone of related Armenian lands (Zangezur Ridge); *C. a. armeniaca* Pic 1898 - amphigenetic subspecies (legs black, males with black elytra, females with yellow and black elytra) described from “Caucase”, but in fact from Armenia (according to the available type series preserved in Pic’s collection) and distributed all over high areas of Armenian territory excepting south-east. Several more subspecies are now in press.

Acknowledgement

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Figs. 1-2. *Cortodera hroni*, sp. nov. 1 – male, holotype; 2 – female, paratype.

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