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New species of *Agriotes* ESCHSCHOLTZ (Coleoptera: Elateridae) from Greece, Turkey and Syria

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Abstract

Four new species of *Agriotes* ESCHSCHOLTZ belonging to the *A. nuceus* group are described: *A. barriesi* n.sp. from Southeast Turkey, *A. izmirensis* n. sp. from Western Turkey, *A. sylviae* n. sp. from Syria and *A. ellenicus* n. sp. from Greece, the first record of this group from Greece and Europe. Key words: new species, descriptions, Elateridae, *Agriotes*, Greece, Turkey, Syria.

Zusammenfassung

Vier neue Arten der Gattung *Agriotes* ESCHSCHOLTZ aus der *A. nuceus* Gruppe werden beschrieben: *A. barriesi* n. sp. aus der südöstlichen Türkei, *A. izmirensis* n. sp. aus der Westtürkei, *A. sylviae* n. sp. aus Syrien und *A. ellenicus* n. sp. aus Griechenland, die erste Art dieser Gruppe, die in Griechenland und somit in Europa festgestellt wurde.

Introduction

The species of the *Agriotes nuceus* group can be distinguished by the combination of the following characters: supra-antennal carinae reaching the anterior margin of frons, pronotosternal sutures open for a very short distance only and elongate antennae normally exceeding the hind angles of the pronotum by at least one segment. Moreover, some species have 12-segmented antennae (PLATIA & GUDENZI, 1997). SCHWARZ (1891) and GURJEVA (1972, 1973) summarized the knowledge of these species in their monographic papers on the palaearctic species of *Agriotes*. PLATIA & GUDENZI (1997) added another seven species from Syria and Irak to this group and gave a key and catalogue to the species from these countries.

The length of the pronotum is measured along the middle and does not include the hind angles, the width is measured across the hind angles. The length of the elytra is also measured along the middle, the width at the widest point.

Types of the described species are deposited in the collections of the authors (CCW: Coll. Cate, Wien; CPG: Coll. Platia, Gatteo).

Agriotes barriesi n. sp (figs. 1-3)

Material: Holotype ♂, TR [Turkey], Prov. Hakkari, Ortabag, 27. 6. 1986, leg. Barries & Cate (CCW). Paratype: 1 ♂, same data as holotype (CPG).

Description: Length: 10.5-10.6 mm, Width: 3.0-3.1 mm. Colour light reddish-brown, pubescence gray.

Head shiny, evenly convex, flattened between eyes, punctuation dense, umbilicate. Antennae (fig. 2) exceed the hind angles of the pronotum by two segments. Segment II slightly longer than III, both short, together longer than IV. Segments IV to X of approx. equal length, widened apically. Segment XI longer than X, distal third tapering to apex.

Pronotum slightly wider than long, convex, shiny, sides constricted in the middle, widest across hind angles. Hind angles only slightly divergent, directed posteriorly. Short basal furrow on posterior third. Punctuation dense, umbilicate, evenly distributed, intervals between punctures on disc $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ puncture diameter, puncture rims touching each other on sides. Lateral carina of pronotum entire.

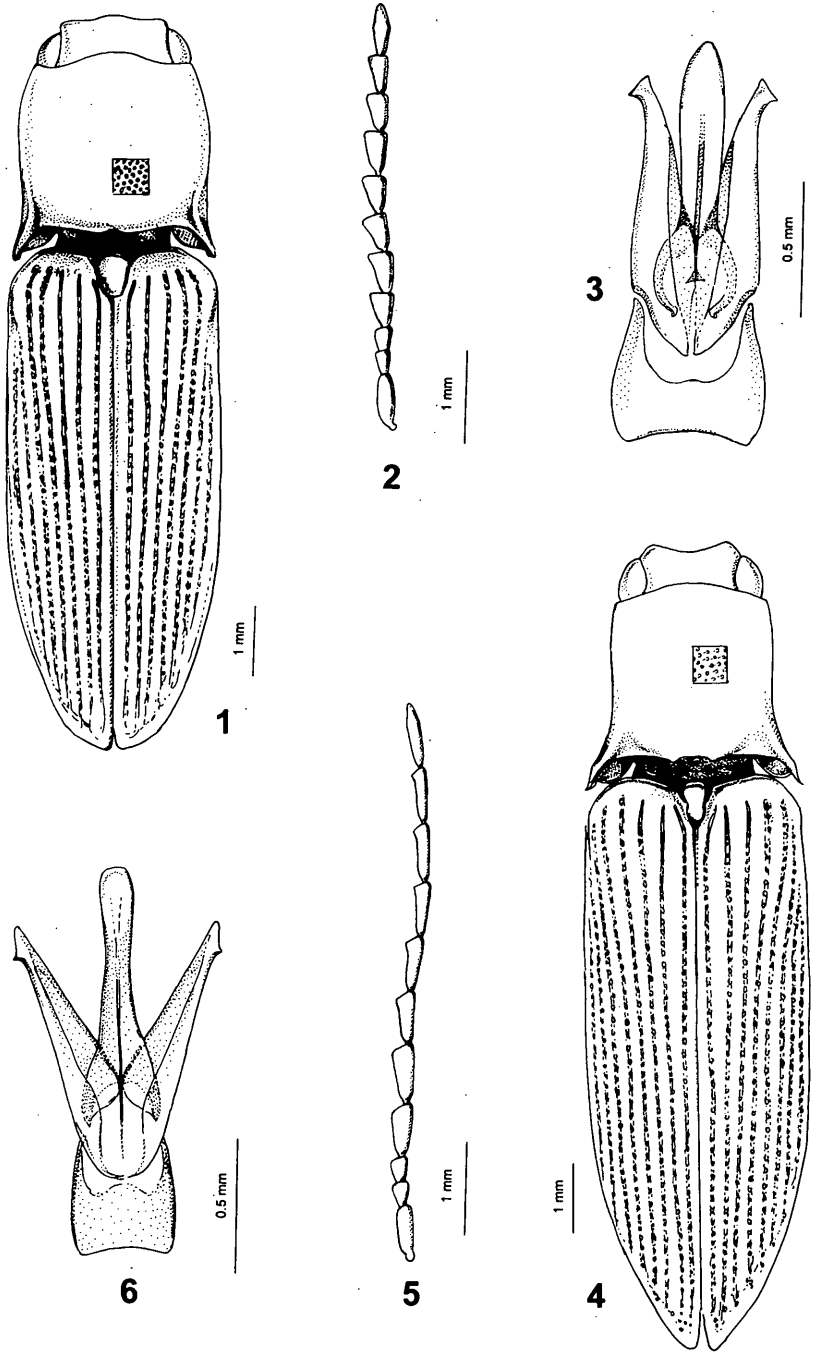


Fig. 1-6. Fig. 1. *Agriotes barriesi* n. sp. (holotype). Dorsal habitus. Fig. 2. *Agriotes barriesi* n. sp. (holotype). Antenna. Fig. 3. *Agriotes barriesi* n. sp. (holotype). Aedeagus. Fig. 4. *Agriotes izmirensis* n. sp. (holotype). Dorsal habitus. Fig. 5. *Agriotes izmirensis* n. sp. (holotype). Antenna. Fig. 6. *Agriotes izmirensis* n. sp. (holotype). Aedeagus.

Scutellum tongue-shaped, longer than wide, densely puncturate.

Elytra wider than pronotum, 2.8-3.0 times longer than pronotum and 2.3 times longer than wide. Striae with deep, elongate, rather large punctures, furrowed in basal area. Intervals shiny, rugose, flat.

Propleura sparsely and umbilicately punctured. Chin piece of prosternum short, rounded, directed anteroventrad. Prosternal process with subapical ventral notch.

Aedeagus (fig. 3).

Diagnosis: *A. barriersi* n. sp. is closely allied to *A. ganglbaueri* SCHWARZ from Beirut, but can be distinguished by the shorter antennae and the middle antennal segments thicker and less than twice as long as wide.

Etymology: The new species is dedicated to our friend, Wolfgang Barries, who collected this species during a trip to Turkey with the first author.

***Agriotes izmirensis* n. sp.** (figs. 4-6)

Material: Holotype ♂, Turkey, Anatolia, dint. Izmir, 6. VII. 1987 (CPG).

Description: Length: 11.2 mm; Width: 3.0 mm. Colour light yellowish-brown, pubescence yellowish-gray.

Head convex, even, puncturation dense, umbilicate, intervals between punctures on disc $\sqrt{}$ to \int as large as puncture diameter. Antennae (fig. 5) exceed hind angles of pronotum by four segments. Segment II somewhat longer than III, both oblong, together shorter than IV. Segments IV to X long, slightly widened apically. Segment XI slightly longer than X, distal $\frac{1}{4}$ tapering to apex.

Pronotum as wide as long, shiny, cylindrical, convex, sides sinuous, narrowest in middle. Hind angles slightly divergent, conspicuously angled at a level even with base of pronotum, tips turned outward. Puncturation moderately dense, faintly umbilicate, denser in apical half than toward base, intervals between punctures on disc $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 times puncture diameter, basally wider apart. Lateral carina of pronotum effaced in middle. Shallow basal furrow on posterior third.

Scutellum tongue-shaped, slightly constricted in middle, densely punctured.

Elytra wider than pronotum, 3.4 times longer than pronotum and 2.6 times longer than wide. Striae with elongate punctures in basal part, punctures becoming more rounded toward apex. Intervals rugose, flat, not as shiny as pronotum.

Propleura and prosternum coarse, but not densely punctured, punctures umbilicate. Chin piece of prosternum short, directed ventrad. Prosternal process with subapical ventral notch.

Aedeagus (fig. 6).

Diagnosis: *A. izmirensis* n. sp. is allied to *A. adanensis* PIC (lectotype ♂, coll. Pic, Museum Paris, des. G. Platia, 1989), but can be distinguished by larger size, longer elytra compared with pronotum and second antennal segment longer than third.

Etymology: The species is named for the type locality.

***Agriotes sylviae* n. sp.** (figs. 7-9)

Material: Holotype ♂, Syrian, Tell Tamer, 40 km nw Hassetché, 16. 5. 74, Eckerlein (CCW). Paratypes: 4 ♂♂, same data as holotype (CCW, CPG).

Description: Length: 9.5-10.8 mm; Width: 2.5-2.6 mm. Colour yellow-testaceous, pubescence yellowish-gray.

Head shiny, evenly and weakly convex, with very slight impressions on disc. Puncturation dense, large and umbilicate. Antennae (fig. 8) exceed hind angles of pronotum by three segments, segments II and III subequal, small, together shorter than IV. Segments IV to X long, only slightly widened apically. Segment XI with apical third more or less constricted, sometimes giving the appearance of a short twelfth segment (in one paratype).

Pronotum shiny, cylindrical, convex, as long as wide, parallel-sided from front angles to just before hind angles. Hind angles sharp, divergent. Puncturation moderately dense, denser along sides than on disc, intervals between punctures on disc 1 to 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ times puncture diameter. Basal third to half of

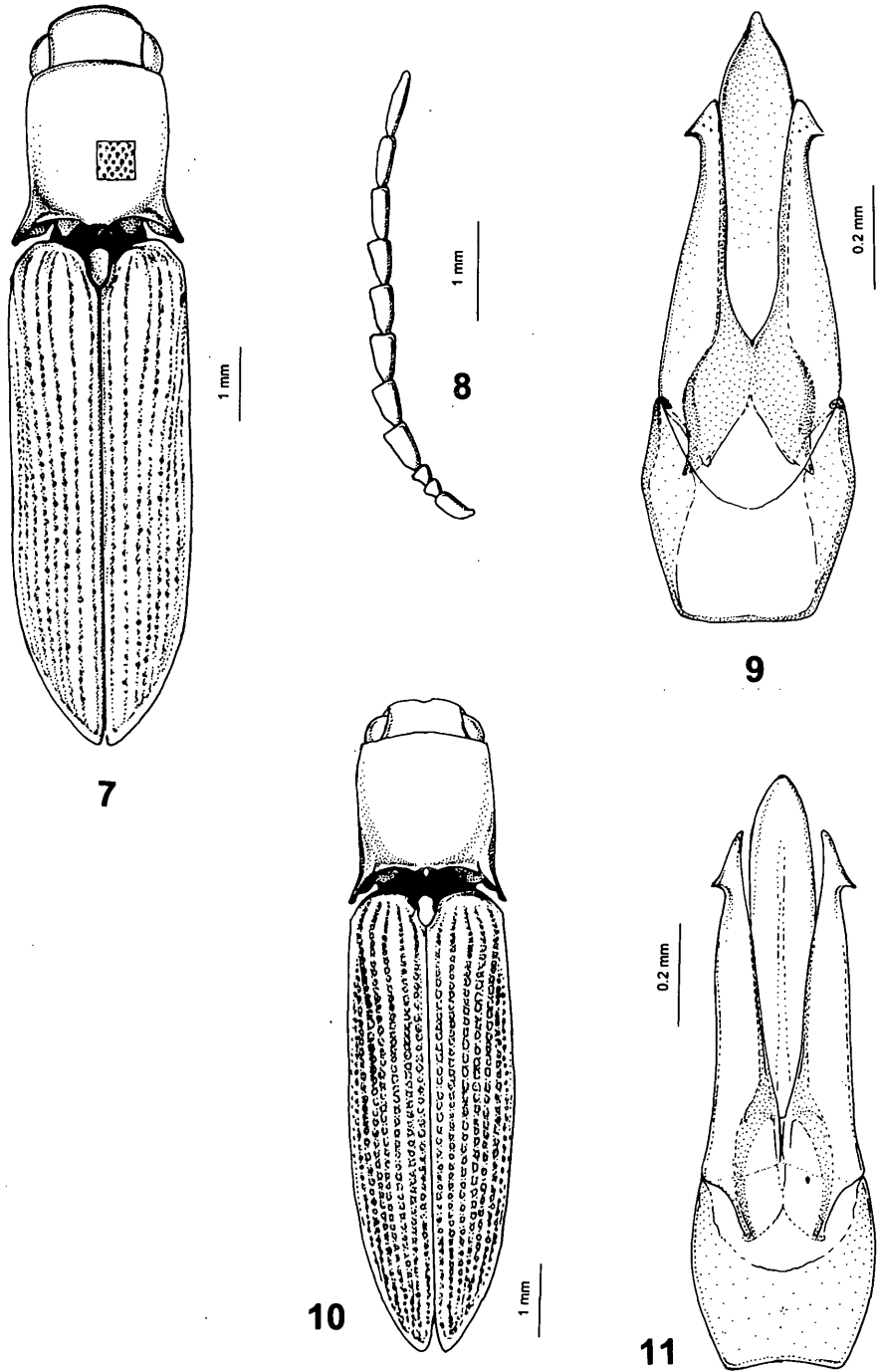


Fig. 7-11. Fig. 7. *Agriotes sylviae* n. sp. (holotype). Dorsal habitus. Fig. 8. *Agriotes sylviae* n. sp. (holotype). Antenna. Fig. 9. *Agriotes sylviae* n. sp. (holotype). Aedeagus. Fig. 10. *Agriotes ellenicus* n. sp. (holotype). Dorsal habitus. Fig. 11. *Agriotes ellenicus* n. sp. (holotype). Aedeagus.

pronotum with basal furrow, somewhat less convex than apical portion. Lateral carina of pronotum entire.

Elytra 3.2-3.3 times longer than pronotum and 2.6-2.7 times longer than wide, wider than pronotum. Striae distinctly and deeply punctured. Intervals rugose, flat, not as shiny as pronotum.

Propleura and prosternum umbilicately punctured, puncturation moderately dense. Chin piece of prosternum directed ventrad.

Aedeagus (fig. 9).

Diagnosis: *A. sylviae* n. sp. is closely allied to *A. heydeni* SCHWARZ by having antennal segments II and III short, subequal and together shorter than IV, but can be distinguished by the smaller size, yellow-testaceous colour and hind angles of pronotum less divergent.

Etymology: The new species is dedicated to the wife of the first author, in gratitude for her understanding and patience.

***Agriotes ellenicus* n. sp.** (figs. 10-11)

Material: Holotype ♂, [Greece,] Chalcidique, Vassilica, Dr. Rivet, 1916. Juillet. Armée d'Orient, 1916-1918 (CCW).

Description: Length: 8.6 mm; Width: 2.1 mm. Colour light yellowish-brown, pubescence yellowish-gray.

Head slightly convex, depressed anteriorly, supra-antennal carinae prominent, puncturation dense, umbilicate, rims of punctures touching each other. Both antennae missing from segment III. Segment II 1.5 times longer than wide.

Pronotum shiny, as long as wide across the hind angles, convex anteriorly, flattening toward base, sides constricted before hind angles. Hind angles divergent, directed posteriorly and slightly outwards. Puncturation dense, umbilicate, evenly distributed. Intervals between punctures $\frac{1}{4}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ puncture diameter. Lateral carina entire. Shallow basal furrow in posterior third.

Scutellum tongue-shaped, constricted in middle, densely puncturate.

Elytra as wide as pronotum across hind angles, 3.1 times longer than pronotum and 2.8 times longer than wide. Striae with deep, elongate punctures, furrowed in basal part. Intervals shiny, rugose, flat, slightly convex toward apex.

Propleural puncturation moderately dense, puncturation on prosternum large, umbilicate. Chin piece of prosternum short, rounded, directed anteroventrad.

Aedeagus (fig. 11)

Diagnosis: *A. ellenicus* is allied to *A. adanensis* PIC, but can be distinguished by narrower body, sides of pronotum more parallel, stronger carinae on hind angles.

Etymology: This species is named for the country of origin.

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