

Linzer biol. Beitr.	42/2	1045-1061	19.12.2010
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A revision of Palearctic *Sunius*. XII. New species, new synonymies, and additional records (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae: Paederinae)

V. ASSING

A b s t r a c t : Three species of *Sunius* STEPHENS from the Eastern Palearctic region are described and illustrated: *S. manasluensis* nov.sp. (central Nepal), *S. macrops* nov.sp. (China: Yunnan), and *S. turgescens* nov.sp. (China: Yunnan). Two synonymies are proposed: *Sunius* STEPHENS 1829 = *Tetracanthognathus* SCHEERPELTZ 1963, nov.syn.; *Sunius nidicola* (KASTCHEEV 1982) = *S. splendidulus* (BOHÁČ 1988), nov.syn. The binomen *Sunius kuehnelti* (SCHEERPELTZ 1963), nov.comb. (previously *Tetracanthognathus kuehnelti*) is established; the previously unknown male sexual characters of *S. kuehnelti* are illustrated. *Sunius galiberti* COIFFAIT 1987 from central Nepal is redescribed and illustrated. Additional records of 22 species are reported from the Palearctic region. *Sunius* now comprises 111 species and two subspecies in the whole of the Palearctic region.

K e y w o r d s : Coleoptera, Staphylinidae, Paederinae, *Sunius*, Palearctic region, taxonomy, new species, new synonymies, new combination, additional records

1. Introduction

According to recent contributions to a revision of *Sunius* STEPHENS 1829, the paederine genus is represented in the Western Palearctic region and Middle Asia by as many as 97 species and 2 subspecies (ASSING 2008a, 2008b). The *Sunius* fauna of the Eastern Palearctic region, in contrast, is much less diverse and previously included merely eleven species (ASSING 2002, 2004, in press; SMETANA 2004), two from China, eight from the Himalaya and adjacent regions, and one species distributed in the Oriental regions northwards to Uttarranchal Pradesh. Most of these species, however, have not been revised yet.

A study of *Sunius* material that has become available since the latest contribution from various collections and several recent field trips not only yielded three undescribed species from Nepal and China, but also several records of both taxonomic and zoogeographic interest. In particular, it was possible to examine a male of *Tetracanthognathus kuehnelti* SCHEERPELTZ 1963, a species described based on one female from southern Greece and never recorded again, as well as the previously unrevised holotype of *Sunius nidicola* (KASTCHEEV 1982). While the number of species and subspecies in the Western Palearctic and Middle remains unchanged, the Eastern Palearctic *Sunius* fauna now comprises fourteen species.

2. Material and methods

The material referred to in this study is deposited in the following public institutions and private collections:

- BMNH The Natural History Museum, London (R. G. Booth)
 HMIM Hayk Mirzayans Insect Museum, Tehran (S. Serri)
 MNHUB Museum für Naturkunde der Humboldt-Universität Berlin (J. Frisch, J. Willers)
 NHMD Natural History Museum Denmark/ University of Copenhagen Zoological Museum (A. Solodovnikov)
 NME Naturkundemusum Erfurt (M. Hartmann)
 ZIN Zoological Institute, Russian Academy of Sciences, St. Petersburg (B. Kataev, via A. Solodovnikov)
 cAss author's private collection
 cGei private collection M. Geiser, Basel
 cPüt private collection Andreas Pütz, Eisenhüttenstadt
 cSch private collection Michael Schülke, Berlin
 cSha private collection Alexey Shavrin, Irkutsk
 cSme private collection Aleš Smetana, Ottawa
 cWun private collection Paul Wunderle, Mönchengladbach

The morphological studies were carried out using a Stemi SV 11 microscope (Zeiss Germany) and a Jenalab compound microscope (Carl Zeiss Jena). For the photographs a digital camera (Nikon Coolpix 995) was used.

Head length was measured from the anterior margin of the frons to the posterior margin of the head, elytral length at the suture from the apex of the scutellum to the posterior margin of the elytra.

3. Results

Below, only those additional records of described species are discussed that significantly expand the known distributions or that are remarkable for other reasons. For more details on the identification, zoogeography, and ecology of the species see ASSING (2008a).

Sunius melanocephalus (FABRICIUS 1793)

Material examined: Sweden: 1 ex., Gotland, Dalhem, 8.VI.1949, leg. Skovgaard (cAss); 1 ex., same data, but 3.VII.1958 (NHMD). France: 15 exs., Oise, Chigny, X.1918, leg. Salchert (MNHUB). Germany: Baden-Württemberg: 2 exs., Schwäbisch Gmünd, 28.II.1948, leg. Röben (MNHUB); 1 ex., same data, but 21.X.1953 (MNHUB). Sachsen-Anhalt: 1 ex., Naumburg a. S., 15.VI.1912, leg. Heymons (MNHUB); 1 ex., Hasserode (Harz), IV.1911, leg. Ramme (MNHUB). Mecklenburg-Vorpommern: 1 ex., Waren, NSG Müritzhof, 2.V.1975, leg. Uhlig (MNHUB); Brandenburg/Berlin: 1 ex., Rüdersdorf, Kalkberge, 2.IV.1946 (MNHUB); 1 ex., Neuendorf, 20.V.1991, leg. Renner (MNHUB); 1 ex., Berlin env., Mühlenbeck, 7.IX.1981, leg. Hieke (MNHUB); 1 ex., Berlin, Grunewald, Schlachtensee (MNHUB). Thüringen: 5 exs., Hainleite, 1 km NW Günserode, 13.-14.V.1992, leg. Hieke (MNHUB); 2 exs., Hainleite, 8.VIII.1990, leg. Hieke (MNHUB); 2 exs., Seega-Günserode, 2.VI.1991, leg. Uhlig (MNHUB); 5 exs., Seega-Günserode,

22.VI.1993, leg. Hieke (MNHUB); 1 ex., same data, but 10.VIII.1993 (MNHUB); 2 exs., 2 km NE Sondershausen, 8.VIII.1993, leg. Hieke (MNHUB); 1 ex., Numburg, 1 km E Auleben, 11.VIII.1993, leg. Hieke (MNHUB); 1 ex., Numburg, salt meadow, 21.VI.1993, leg. Hieke (MNHUB); 2 exs., Numburg, Kyffhäuser, 7.VIII.1993, leg. Hieke (MNHUB); 1 ex., Kyffhäuser (MNHUB); 1 ex., Freyburg a. U., Zeddenbach, 16.VI.1960, leg. Dorn (MNHUB); 1 ex., Gotha env., Burg Gleichen, 29.V.1988, leg. Hieke (cAss); 2 exs., Jena-Göschwitz, 6.IX.1975, leg. Hieke (MNHUB); 2 exs., Bad Kösen, Himmelreich, 30.VII.1950, leg. Dorn (MNHUB, cAss); 1 ex., Meiningen env., Jüchsen, limestone, 13.V.1981, leg. Hieke (MNHUB); 1 ex., Beichlingen, 19.V.1982, leg. Uhlig (MNHUB); 2 exs., same data, but IV.1982 (MNHUB). *S a c h s e n* : 8 exs., Leipzig, Dölzig, 6.XII.1914, leg. Dorn (MNHUB); 4 exs., same data, but 29.XI.1914 (MNHUB); 2 exs., Torgau env., leg. Sapolski (MNHUB). *B a y e r n* : 8 exs., Pegnitz, Stierberg, 49°42'N; 11°32'E, 6.IX.2006, leg. Hieke (MNHUB, cAss); 1 ex., Gr. Hesseloh, 25.VIII.1931, leg. Ihssen (MNHUB); 1 ex., Oberfranken, Staffelstein, 500 m, 7.X.1920, leg. Dahl (MNHUB); 1 ex., locality not specified, 21.V.1932, leg. Ihssen (MNHUB). *Austria*: 3 exs., Burgenland, Eisenstadt, St. Georgen, 4.IX.1990, leg. Hieke (MNHUB); 3 exs., locality not specified (MNHUB). *Czech Republic*: 1 ex., Praha-Michle, 23.VII.1971, leg. Uhlig (MNHUB); 1 ex., Bohemia, C. Stradohori, Chloumak, 4.X.1986, leg. Wrase (MNHUB); 1 ex., Louny env., Rana hora, 1.VIII.1981, leg. Hieke (MNHUB). *Slovakia*: 1 ex., Kamenice n. H. b., Stúrovo, 6.VIII.1976, leg. Hieke (MNHUB); 1 ex., Lučenec env., Mytna, 3.-4.VIII.1981, leg. Hieke (MNHUB). *Croatia*: 1 ex., Zagreb, Saveska nlcina, leg. Hochleitner (MNHUB). *Bosnia-Herzegovina*: 1 ex., Mostar, leg. Verhoeff (MNHUB). *Bulgaria*: 1 ex., Sofia (MNHUB). *Albania*: 1 ex., Elbasan, 13 km SE Elbasan, Mali i Shpatit, 41°03'N, 20°13'E, 1500 m, beech forest margin, sifted, 22.V.2010, leg. Assing (cAss). *Greece*: 1 ex., Makedhonia, Pella, Notia, 9.VI.2007 (NHMD). *Turkey*: *B u r s a* : 1 ex., Devecikonağı, 39°50'N, 28°26'E, 640 m, 16.IV.2010, leg. Brachat & Meybohm (cAss); 1 ex., Kocayayla, 39°56'N, 29°16'E, 1200 m, 18.IV.2010, leg. Brachat & Meybohm (cAss); 3 exs., Samanlı Dağları, 40°30'41"N, 29°49'50"E, 720 m, 19.IV.2010, leg. Brachat & Meybohm (cAss). *B o l u* : 6 exs., 26 km S Bolu, N Seben, 40°29'N, 31°36'E, 1410 m, grassy slope with scattered pine trees, under stones, 27.III.2010, leg. Assing (cAss); 13 exs., same locality and date, grass, moss, and shrub litter sifted, leg. Assing (cAss); 1 ex., 15 km S Bolu, 40°35'N, 31°38'E, 1340 m, pasture, under stones, 27.III.2010, leg. Assing (cAss). *K a s t a m o n u* : 1 ex., 45 km NW Kastamonu, Kasım, 41°36'N, 33°19'E, 840 m, meadow near stream, under stones, 7.IV.2009, leg. Assing (cAss); 14 exs., 40 km NW Kastamonu, NE Azdavay, W Yeşilpınar, 41°42'N, 33°28'E, 1090 m, calcareous slope, under stones, 9.IV.2009, leg. Assing & Wunderle (cAss, cWun); 20 exs., same data, but 22.III.2010, leg. Assing (MNHUB, cAss, cFel); 1 ex., 37 km SE Kastamonu, 15 km N Tosya, Ilgaz geçidi, 41°08'N, 34°04'E, 1660 m, litter under pine trunk sifted, 23.III.2010, leg. Assing (cAss); 5 exs., same date and locality, sifted from *Formica* nest, leg. Assing (cAss); 8 exs., 40 km N Kastamonu, S Kayneak geçidi, 41°42'N, 33°41'E, 1250 m, calcareous slope, under stones, 10.IV.2009, leg. Assing & Wunderle (cAss, cWun); 4 exs., 30 km SE Inebolu, Hasan Dağı, S Yaralgöz geçidi, 41°46'N, 34°03'E 1370 m, calcareous slope, under stones, 10.IV.2009, leg. Assing & Wunderle (cAss, cWun); 4 exs., ca. 50 km W Kastamonu, road Daday-Eflani, 41°27'N, 33°20'E, 1000 m, stream valley, litter under shrubs sifted, 25.III.2010, leg. Assing (cAss); 9 exs., ca. 65 km W Kastamonu, 20 km W Eflani, 41°28'N, 33°13'E, 1090 m, calcareous arable land, under stones, 25.III.2010, leg. Assing (cAss). *S i n o p* : 1 ex., 15 km SW Sinop, S Kılıçlı, 41°57'N, 35°02'E, 80 m, grassy road margin, grass between shrubs, sifted, 3.IV.2009, leg. Assing (cAss); 6 exs., ca. 35 km SSE Ayancık, Çangal Dağı, 41°46'N, 34°43', 720 m, pasture, grass and litter beneath shrubs, sifted, 4.IV.2009, leg. Assing & Wunderle (cAss, cWun). *N e v ş e h i r* : 1 ♂, road Ürgüp-Develi, 1550 m, 6.V.1993, leg. Martin (NHMD). *Georgia*: 1 ex., Borzhomi, Trialetskiy Khrebet, 800 m, 18.VI.1987, leg. Wrase & Schülke (cAss).

C o m m e n t : The above specimen from Albania represents a new country record.

***Sunius fallax* (LOKAY 1919)**

M a t e r i a l e x a m i n e d : *Hungary*: 3 exs., Bugac, 16.VII.1986, leg. Uhlig (MNHUB, cAss). *Bosnia-Herzegovina*: 3 exs., locality not specified (MNHUB). *Bulgaria*: 1 ex., Sandanski, 16.-23.VII.1985, leg. Schülke (MNHUB). *Greece*: 1 ex., Ilias, Olympia, Afios river, *Salix* litter, 5.V.2005, leg. Angelini (NHMD).

***Sunius bicolor* (OLIVIER 1795)**

Material examined: Germany: Sachsen - Anhalt: 1 ex., Thale a. Harz, at window, 23.V.1953, leg. Dorn (MNHUB); 1 ex., Dessau env., Wörlitz, 3.IX.1981, leg. Hieke (MNHUB); 1 ex., Bitterfeld, Goitzsche, 5-year-old dump, 19.IX.1977, leg. Einkenkel (MNHUB); 1 ex., Schraplau near Eisleben, limestone, 17.VI.2006, leg. Hieke (MNHUB). Brandenburg / Berlin: 2 exs., Berlin-Malchow, Malchower See, 19.IV.1969, leg. Hieke (MNHUB, cAss); 1 ex., Berlin, Waidmannslust, 30.IV.1911, leg. Spaney (MNHUB); 1 ex., 1 km S Oderberg, gravel, 16.IX.1990, leg. Hieke (MNHUB); 1 ex., Kreis Oranienburg, Mühlenbeck, 2.VI.1973, leg. Hieke (MNHUB); 1 ex., Lebus, 30.IV.1988, leg. Hieke (MNHUB). Thüringen: 1 ex., Numburg, Kelbra, 27.-28.V.1989, leg. Hieke (MNHUB); 1 ex., Goseck, Jgelsberg, 2.VII.1958, leg. Dorn (cAss); 1 ex., Kyffhäuser, Bad Frankenhausen, Kalktal, 15.V.1962, leg. Dorn (MNHUB); 1 ex., Freyburg a. U., Rödel-Plateau, 16.X.1951, leg. Dorn (MNHUB). Sachsen: 3 exs., Leipzig, Stötteritz, 12.X.1974, leg. Linke (MNHUB, cAss); 11 exs., Leipzig, Elsterflutbett, 11.-12.VI.1961, leg. Dorn (MNHUB, cAss); 1 ex., Leipzig-Papitz, 51°29'N, 12°14'E, *Talpa* nest, 17.II.1974, leg. Uhlig (MNHUB); 1 ex., Leipzig, Liebertwolkwitz, 26.VI.1956, leg. Dorn (cAss); 1 ex., Leipzig, Dölzig, 6.XII.1914, leg. Dorn (MNHUB); 1 ex., Deuben, 9.XII.1972, leg. Uhlig (MNHUB); 2 exs., Torgau env., leg. Sapolski (MNHUB).

***Sunius italicus* (COIFFAIT 1961)**

Material examined: Italy: 1 ♀, Campania, Cilento, M. Scuro (SA), 1450 m, 13.V.2003, leg. Angelini (NHMD); 1 ♂, Campania, Monti Picentini, Acerno (AV), 730 m, chestnut forest, 14.V.2003, leg. Angelini (cAss); 1 ♂, Basilicata, Abriola La Maddalena (PZ), 1400 m, 29.III.2003, leg. Angelini (NHMD); 1 ♀, Basilicata, Latronico (PT), oak forest, 30.XII.1995, leg. Angelini (NHMD).

***Sunius brevipennis canariensis* (BERNHAEUER 1928)**

Material examined: Spain: Canary Islands: 1 ex., La Palma, La Fajana, 28°50'N, 17°47'W, 300 m, dry vegetation, sifted, 27.XI.2008, leg. Schülke (cSch).

***Sunius ovaliceps* (FAUVEL 1878)**

Material examined: Morocco: 1 ex., Moyen Atlas, Azrou, Tizi-n-Tretten, 1700 m, debris near rock wall, 10.V.2009, leg. Hlaváč (cSch). Spain: 11 exs., Valencia, Alicante, Sierra de Bernia, 38°41'N, 0°03'W, 600 m, 5.X.2008, leg. Meybohm (cAss); 1 ex., Valencia, Alicante, Sierra de Aitana, 38°40'N, 0°15'W, 960 m, 7.X.2008, leg. Meybohm (cAss); 1 ex., Alicante, Pinoso, Olmeda del Prado, 565 m, flight intercept trap, 26.-VII.-5.VIII.2008, leg. Lencina (cAss); 3 exs., Albacete, Hellín, El Hondón, 17.IV.2009, leg. Andújar (cAss); 1 ex., Castilla-La Mancha, Villapalacios, Rio Gualdamena, 38°35'N, 2°40'W, 815 m, at light, 6.IX. 2003, leg. Lencina (cAss); 1 ex., Murcia, Ulea, Sierra de Ulea, IV-VI.2009, leg. Miñano (cAss); 1 ex., Murcia, Moratalla, Rio Alharabe, 38°12'N, 2°05'W, 1120 m, 22.VIII.2003, leg. Lencina (cAss); 1 ex. [teneral], Murcia, Jumilla, Sierra del Carche, flight intercept trap, 22.VII.-9.VIII. 2008, leg. Lencina (cAss); 1 ex., Andalucía, right bank of Guadalfeo river, near Orgiva, 2.-4.IV.2010, leg. Shavrin & Anishchenko (cSha).

***Sunius propinquus* (BRISOUT DE BARNEVILLE 1867)**

Material examined: Spain: Andalucía: 1 ex., Cádiz, 15 km NW Algeciras, 36°13'N, 5°33'W, 60 m, meadow, under stone, 27.XII.2009, leg. Assing (cAss); 1 ex., Cádiz, 15 km NW Algeciras, 36°13'N, 5°33'W, 25 m, loamy pasture, under stone, 27.XII.2009, leg. Assing (cAss); 2 exs., Cádiz, 20 km N Tarifa, 36°09'N, 5°38'W, 100 m, loamy shore of reservoir, flood debris, sifted, 29.XII.2009, leg. Assing & Wunderle (cAss, cWun); 1 ex., Cádiz, 20 km N Tarifa, 36°10'N, 5°38'W, 110 m, shore of reservoir, loamy pasture, under stone, 31.XII.2009, leg. Assing (cAss); 1 ex., rio Guadalete near Puerto Serrano village, 9.IV.2010, leg. Shavrin &

Anishchenko (cSha). Italy: 2 exs., Liguria, Casanova Lerrone (SV), 21.I.2006, leg. Diotti (NHMD); 1 ♀, Liguria, San Remo, leg. Schneider (MNHUB); 5 exs., Basilicata, Lago S. Giuliano (MT), 3.VIII.1992, leg. Angelini (NHMD, cAss); 1 ♀, Puglia, Francavilla Fontana (BR), 150 m, 15.I.1990, leg. Angelini (NHMD).

***Sunius adanensis* (LOKAY 1919)**

Material examined: Turkey: Bolu: 1 ex., 51 km SE Bolu, 40°20'N, 31°56'E, 1620 m, below snowfield, under stones, 28.III.2010, leg. Assing (cAss). Çankırı: 2 exs., 67 km SW Kastamonu, 10 km NNW Kurşunlu, 40°56'N, 33°15'E, 1520 m, near snowfields, under stones and roots sifted, 24.III.2010, leg. Assing (cAss); 11 exs., 67 km SW Kastamonu, 10 km NNW Kurşunlu, 40°56'N, 33°15'E, 1560 m, under stones near large snowfield, 24.III.2010, leg. Assing (cAss). Kastamonu: 4 exs., 25 km SE Tosya, 40°56'N, 34°12'E, 1580 m, pasture with stones, under stones near snow, 8.IV.2009, leg. Assing & Wunderle (cAss, cWun). Adana: 8 exs., Eyüplü, 37°57'N, 36°06'E, 1560 m, 17.IV.2009, leg. Brachat & Meybohm (cAss). Kahramanmaraş: 1 ex., Çınarpinar, 37°40'N, 36°35'E, 960 m, 22.IV.2009, leg. Brachat & Meybohm (cAss). Iran: 1 ex. [pale brachypterous morph], Kerman province, 3 km E pass Mahan-Sirch, 30°12'N, 57°26'E, 2430 m, 30.IV.2007, leg. Frisch & Serri (MNHUB); 1 ex. [pale brachypterous morph], Kerman province, road Bardsir-Baft, 10 km SE Qal-eh Askar, 29°28'N, 56°43'E, 3000 m, 6.V.2007, leg. Frisch & Serri (cAss); 1 ex., Kordestan, 27 km NW Divandarreh, 9 km NW Zarrineh, 36°04'N; 46°50'E, 2380 m, 4.IX.2008, leg. Frisch & Serri (MNHUB).

Comment: The above records from Bolu and Çankırı considerably expand the distribution of *S. adanensis* to the northwest. For a map illustrating the previously known distribution see ASSING (2008a).

***Sunius khnzoriani* (COIFFAIT 1970)**

Material examined: Iran: 3 exs., Esfahan province, road Semirom-Shahreza, Koruyeh, 31°42'N, 51°46'E, 2350 m, 12.V.2007, leg. Frisch & Serri (MNHUB, cAss); 1 ex., Hamadan province, road Kabudar Ahang - Gol Tappeh, Kuhin, 35°12'N, 48°18'E, 2150 m, 21.VII.2008, leg. Serri (MNHUB); 3 exs., Mazandaran province, Nur County, Elburz mts., W Baladeh, 36°14'N, 51°27'E, 3160 m, 1.VI.2008, leg. Pütz (cPüt, cAss); 5 exs., Azarbayjan-e Gharbi, Takab, 13 km E Takht-e-Soleyman, 36°36'N; 47°20'E, 2450 m, 8.IX.2008, leg. Frisch & Serri (MNHUB, cAss); 1 ex. [teneral], Azarbayjan-e Gharbi, Khoy-Qotur road, 2 km W Qotur, 38°29'N; 44°23'E, 1950 m, leg. Frisch & Serri (MNHUB).

***Sunius fulgocephalus* (COIFFAIT 1970)**

Material examined: Iran: Kordestan: 59 exs., 27 km SW Saqqez, 2 km SW Mir Deh, 36°08'N, 36°02'E, 1600 m, 3.IX.2008, leg. Frisch & Serri (MNHUB, cAss). Azarbayjan-e Gharbi: 2 exs., 18 km SE Qarah Ziya'oddin, 38°51'N, 45°14'E, 960 m, 26.VIII.2008, leg. Frisch & Serri (MNHUB, cAss); 1 ex., Tabriz-Marand road, 3 km N Ivand, 38°22'N, 46°06'E, 1700 m, 26.VIII.2008, leg. Frisch & Serri (MNHUB). Zanjan: 2 exs., road Abbar-Gilvan, 36°53'N, 48°59'E, 430 m, 12.VII.2006, leg. Serri (HMIM, cAss). Mazandaran: 2 ♀♀, 6 km E Kiyasar, Jalaledinkola, 36°12'N, 53°35'E, 1350 m, 9.VI.2006, leg. Frisch & Serri (MNHUB); 3 exs., Babol county, Elburz mts., 2 km SW Firuz Jah, 36°11'N; 52°39'E, 840 m, 31.V.2008, leg. Pütz (cPüt, cAss).

***Sunius iranicus* ASSING 2002**

Material examined: Iran: 2 exs., Kerman province, 6 km N Rabor, 29°20'N, 56°52'E, 2590 m, 4.V.2007, leg. Frisch & Serri (MNHUB, cAss); 2 ♀♀, Esfahan province, 15 km NNE Semirom, 31°32'N, 51°37'E, 2650 m, 12.V.2007, leg. Frisch & Serri (MNHUB).

***Sunius nevadensis* (COIFFAIT 1980)**

M a t e r i a l e x a m i n e d : Spain: 1♂, Andalucía, Sierra Nevada, road to Veleta, 2300 m, 29.IX.2008, leg. Meybohm (cAss).

***Sunius simoni* (QUEDENFELDT 1881)**

M a t e r i a l e x a m i n e d : Spain: A n d a l u c í a : 6 exs., Cádiz, 20 km NW Tarifa, Sierra de la Plata, 36°06'N, 5°44'W, 170 m, stony pasture, under stones, 26.XII.2009, leg. Assing & Wunderle (cAss, cWun); 5 exs., Cádiz, 5 km NE Tarifa, 170 m, 36°02'N, 5°34'W, pasture, under stones, 27.XII.2009, leg. Assing & Wunderle (cAss, cWun); 2 exs., Cádiz, 20 km N Tarifa, 36°09'N, 5°38'W, 100 m, loamy shore of reservoir, under stones, 29.XII.2009, leg. Assing (cAss); 1 ex., Cádiz, 20 km NNE Tarifa, Pto. de Ojén, 36°09'N, 5°35'W, 220 m, loamy pasture, under stone, 30.XII.2009, leg. Assing (cAss); 2 exs., Cádiz, 20 km N Tarifa, 36°10'N, 5°38'W, 110 m, shore of reservoir, loamy pasture, under stones, 31.XII.2009, leg. Assing & Wunderle (cAss, cWun).

***Sunius puglianus* (COIFFAIT 1961)**

M a t e r i a l e x a m i n e d : Italy: 2 exs., Basilicata, S.S. Sinnica, exit to Terranova di Pollino (PZ), 11.I.1998, leg. Angelini (NHMD, cAss); 1♀, Colobraro (MT), 180 m, 1.XI.1998, leg. Angelini (NHMD); 1♀, Matera, 200 m, meadow, 7.II.1998, leg. Angelini (NHMD); 2 exs., Puglia, Francavilla Fontana (BR), 200 m, meadow, 18.III.1995, leg. Angelini (NHMD, cAss); 1 ex., Francavilla Fontana (BR), olive grove, 25.III.1995, leg. Angelini (NHMD); 1 ex., Puglia, Laterza (TA), M. Camplo, 25.II.2001, leg. Angelini (NHMD); 1 ex., Puglia, Porto Selvagio (LE), 6.I.1996, leg. Angelini (NHMD).

C o m m e n t : This species is reported from Basilicata for the first time; previously, it was known only from Puglia.

***Sunius georgii* ADORNO & ZANETTI 2003**

M a t e r i a l e x a m i n e d : Italy: 1♀, Sicilia, Maletto (ME), ctr. S. Venera, 8.V.2007, leg. Angelini (cAss).

C o m m e n t : The above specimen represents the first record after the original description.

***Sunius hatayanus* ASSING 2005**

M a t e r i a l e x a m i n e d : Turkey: 1 ex., Hatay, Şenköy, 36°03'N, 36°09'E, 730 m, 13.IV.2009, leg. Brachat & Meybohm (cAss).

***Sunius brevispinosus* ASSING 2005**

M a t e r i a l e x a m i n e d : Turkey: 6 exs., Kahramanmaraş, Imalı, 37°21'N, 36°44'E, 850 m, 21.IV.2009, leg. Brachat & Meybohm (cAss).

***Sunius longispinosus* ASSING 2005**

M a t e r i a l e x a m i n e d : Turkey: 3 exs., Kahramanmaraş, Başkonuş Yaylası, 37°34'N, 36°34'E, 1250 m, 23.IV.2009, leg. Brachat & Meybohm (cAss).

***Sunius praecisus* ASSING 2008**

M a t e r i a l e x a m i n e d : Iran: 1 ex., North Khosaran province, road Qarloq-Raz, 10 km NW Qatlish, 5 km SE Pirboz, 37°50'N, 57°15'E, 1020 m, 3.VI.2006, leg. Frisch & Serri (cAss).

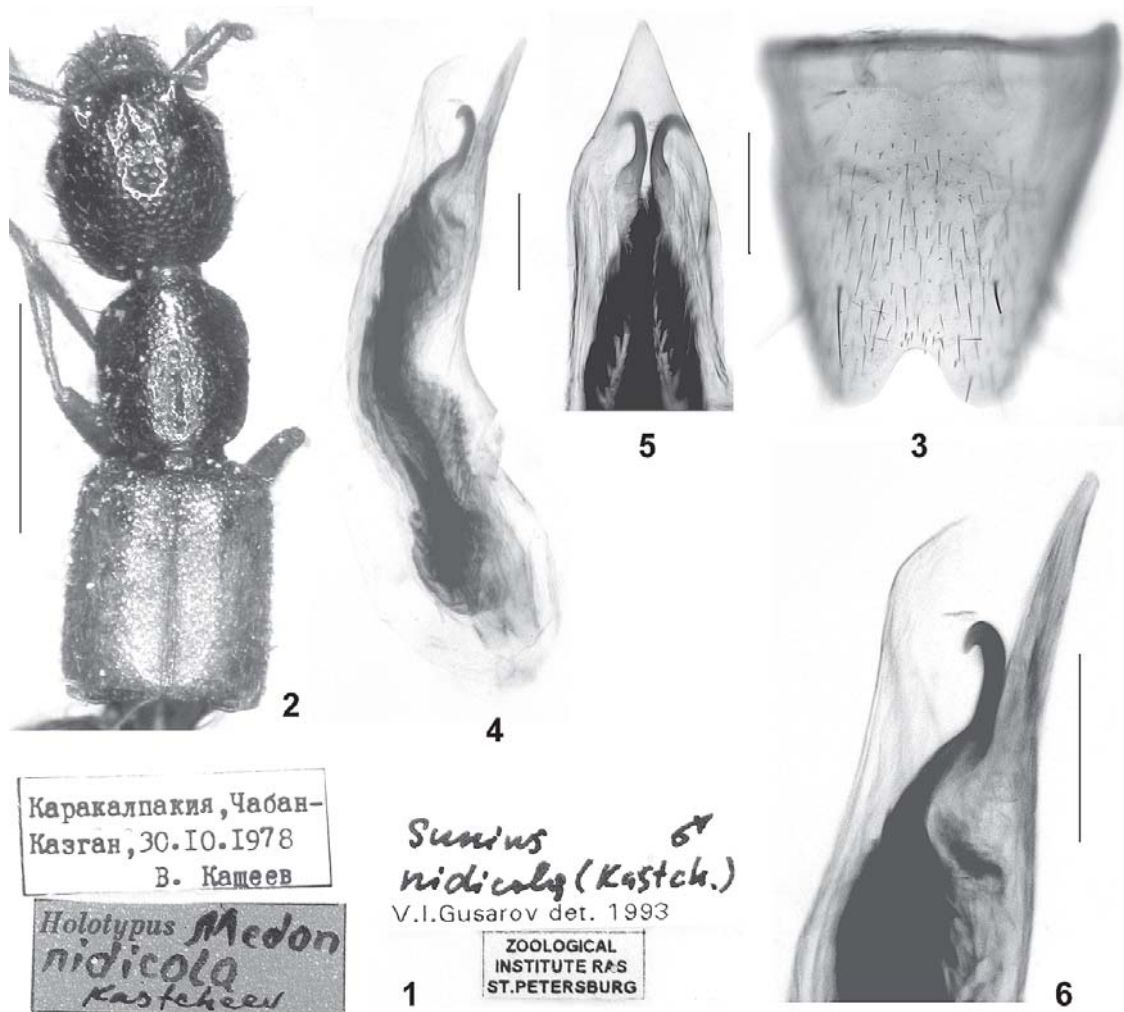
***Sunius mordicus* ASSING 2008**

Material examined: Kazakhstan: 1 ex., Kurdai pass, 6.V.1985, leg. Kastcheev (cAss).

***Sunius* sp. (*viator* group)**

Material examined: Iran: 1 ex., Yasd province, pass 18 km NW Nir, 31°34'N, 54°02'E, 2740 m, 14.V.2007, leg. Frisch & Serri (MNHUB); 2 exs., Esfahan province, 10 km E Zefreh, 32°56'N, 52°22'E, 2490 m, 16.V.2005, leg Frisch & Serri (MNHUB, cAss).

Comments: The above specimens are all females, so that their specific identity is doubtful.



Figs 1-6: *Sunius nidicola* (KASTCHEEV), holotype: (1) labels; (2) forebody; (3) male sternite VIII; (4) aedeagus in lateral view; (5) ventral process of aedeagus in ventral view; (6) apical portion of aedeagus in lateral view. Scale bars: 2: 1.0 mm; 3: 0.2 mm; 4-6: 0.1 mm.

***Sunius nidicola* (KASTCHEEV 1982) (Figs 1-6)**

Medon nidicola KASTCHEEV, 1982: 537.

Medon splendidulus BOHÁČ 1988: 440 f.; **nov.syn.**

Type material examined:

M. nidicola: Holotype ♂: "[locality in Cyrillic; see Fig. 1], 30.10.1978, V. Kastcheev / Holotypus Medon nidicola Kastcheev / Sunius nidicola (Kastch.) ♂, V.I. Gusarov det. 1993 / Sunius nidicola (Kastcheev), det. V. Assing 2009" (ZIN). Paratypes: 1 ♂ [damaged; abdomen partly missing], 1 ♀ [heavily damaged; meso-, methathorax, and abdomen missing]: same data as holotype (ZIN).

M. splendidulus: see ASSING (2008a).

Comment: Based on a study of female paratypes (ASSING 2008b), *S. nidicola* was previously suspected to be conspecific with *S. claviceps* (REITTER 1908). An examination of the aedeagus of the holotype, however, revealed that *S. nidicola* represents a distinct species and that it is conspecific with *S. splendidulus* (BOHÁČ 1988), which, accordingly, is synonymised with *S. nidicola*. The forebody and the male sexual characters of the holotype of *S. nidicola* are illustrated in Figs 2-6. For comparison see the illustrations of the holotype of *S. splendidulus* in ASSING (2008a).

***Sunius kuehnelti* (SCHEERPELTZ 1963), nov.comb.** (Figs 7-11)

Tetracanthognathus kuehnelti SCHEERPELTZ 1963: 437 ff.

Material examined: Greece, Pelopónnisos: 1 ♂, 15 km SW Megalopoli, river at Paradisia, 9.IV.1993, leg. Jørum (cAss).

Comment: The genus *Tetracanthognathus* and the type species *T. kuehnelti* by monotypy and original designation were described by SCHEERPELTZ (1963), based on a single female holotype collected "am Ufer eines Baches bei Ano Trikkala im Ziria-(Kyllene-)Massiv bei Lakka im nordöstlichen Peloponnes". To my knowledge, the species has not been recorded since. Systematically, SCHEERPELTZ (1963) placed the genus "zwischen die Gruppen der Medoniformes und Stiliciformes". Today, it is attributed to the subtribe Astenina (SMETANA 2004).

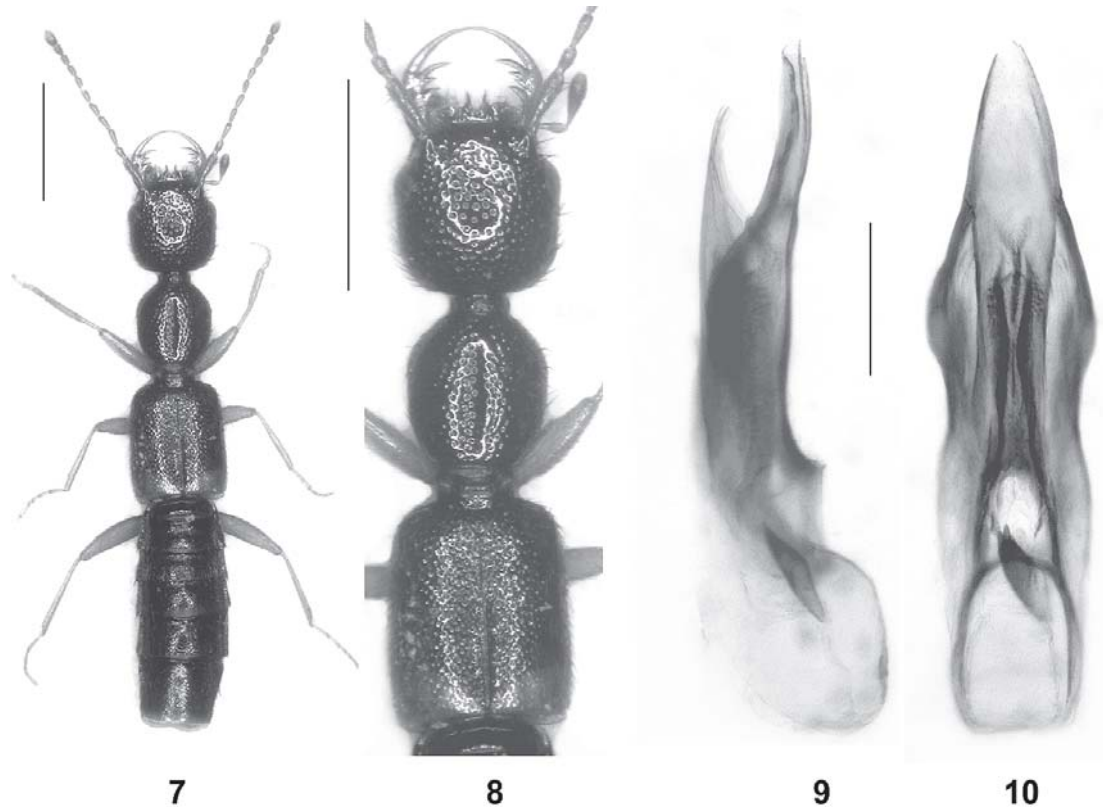
The above male is doubtlessly conspecific with the holotype, as can be inferred from the habitus illustration and the descriptive details provided by SCHEERPELTZ (1963). An examination, including its primary and secondary sexual characters, revealed that the species refers to the *S. viator* group of the genus *Sunius* STEPHENS 1829 (see ASSING 2008a). In general habitus (size, habitus, punctuation), it is somewhat similar to *S. wrasei* (SCHÜLKE 1989). These findings not only result in a new combination, but also in the following new synonymy: *Sunius* STEPHENS 1829 = *Tetracanthognathus* SCHEERPELTZ 1963, nov.syn.

The macropterous species of the *S. viator* group are characterised as follows: habitus slender (elongated legs and antennae); mandibles long and apically very acute; anterior margin of labrum with long and slender tooth-like processes on either side of the median notch (in other species groups of *Sunius* shorter); rather coarse and dense punctuation of the forebody; a usually more or less distinctly oblong head; aedeagus with an apically - often extremely - acute apex both in lateral and in ventral view and with two long dark rows of numerous spines in the internal sac. The external characters indicated above are mostly not shared by three small micropterous species from Tajikistan (ASSING 2008a). Despite the obvious differences between the *S. viator* group and other species groups, it is currently unclear if the *S. viator* group is the adelphotaxon of all other *Sunius* or not.

Most of the species of the *S. viator* group are distributed in Middle Asia and adjacent regions, one of them is known only from North Africa. Thus, *Sunius kuehnelti* considerably expands the previously known distribution of this species group towards the northwest. All the species have been collected rarely or extremely rarely, possibly owing

to the presumable association with subterranean mammal nests. Like the examined specimen of *S. kuehnelti*, some species have been collected near water.

Sunius kuehnelti is readily distinguished from other *Sunius* species by the conspicuous coloration (body blackish, with the posterior margins of the elytra rather broadly yellowish), the slender habitus (Fig. 7); the dense punctation of the head and pronotum (Fig. 8), and by the shape and internal structures of the aedeagus (Figs 9-10). The male sternite VIII is illustrated in Fig. 11.



Figs 7-10: *Sunius kuehnelti* (SCHEERPELTZ): (7) habitus; (8) forebody; (9-10) aedeagus in lateral and in ventral view. Scale bars: 7-8: 1.0 mm; 9-10: 0.2 mm.

***Sunius claviceps* (REITTER 1908)**

Material examined: Kazakhstan: 1♂, 1♀, Terskiy Alatau, Bajankol river, 25.V.1991, leg. Kastcheev (cAss).

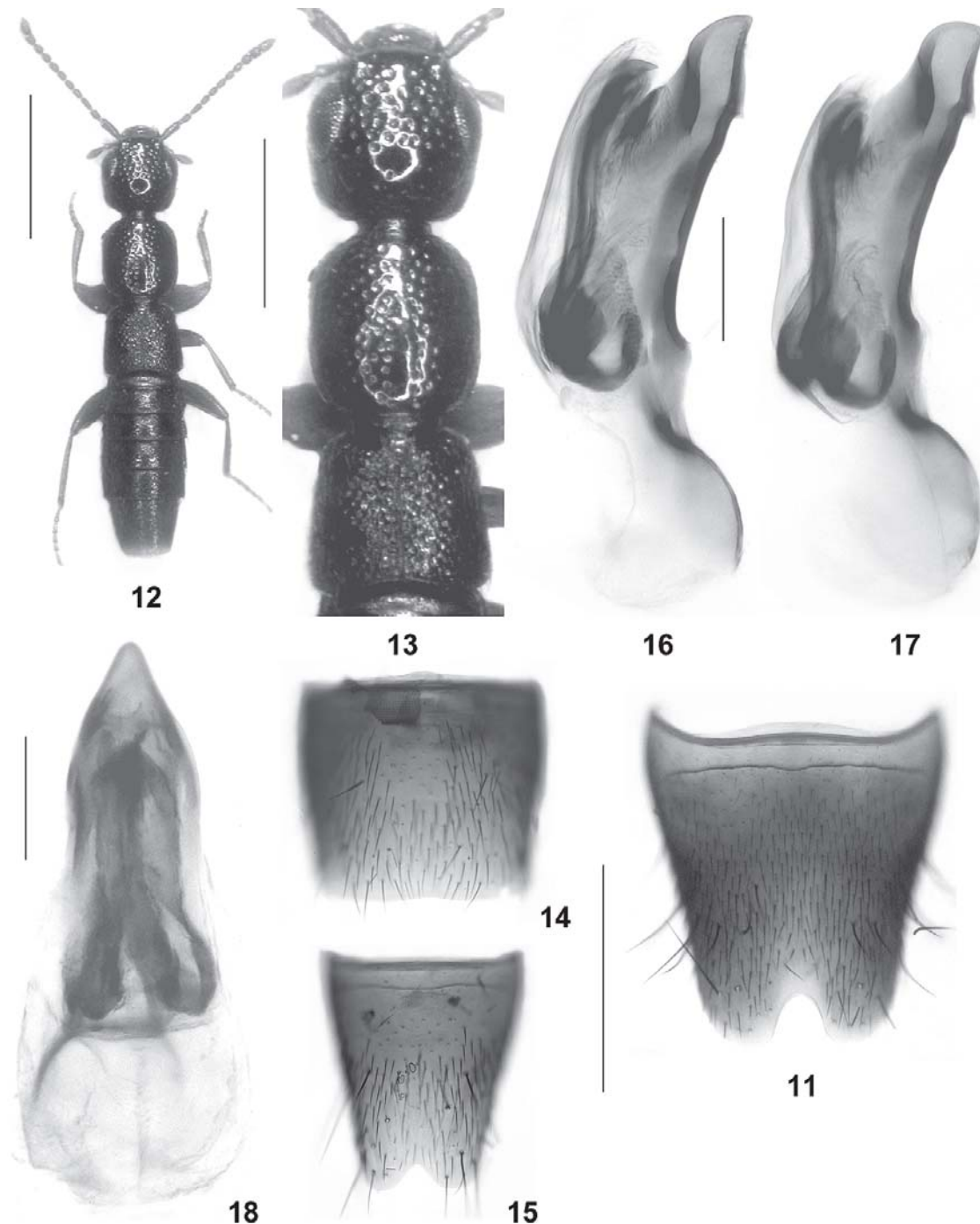
Comment: The aedeagus of the above male is somewhat smaller (0.65 mm) and the ventral process is apically slightly less slender than in previously seen males of *S. claviceps*, but otherwise no evidence was found suggesting that the observed differences should be an expression of inter- rather than intraspecific variation.

***Sunius manasluensis* nov.sp.** (Figs 12-18)

Type material: Holotype ♂: Nepal, Manaslu Mts., Dudh Pokhari Lekh, upper Phulinagiri Madi, 19.-21.IV.2003, 2500 m NN, leg. J. Schmidt / Holotypus ♂ *Sunius manasluensis* sp.n. det. V. Assing 2010" (NME). Paratypes: 1♂, 1♀: same data as holotype (NME, cAss).

Description: Body length 3.0-3.5 mm. Habitus as in Fig. 12. Coloration: body blackish; legs and antennae brown.

Head across eyes 1.03-1.05 times as wide as long, tapering in posterior half; postocular region slightly more than half the length of eyes; punctation coarse and dense in anterior half, sparse in posterior half of dorsal surface; interstices without microsculpture and glossy (Fig. 13). Antenna approximately 1.1 mm long. Anterior margin of labrum with very short tooth-like process on either side of median notch.



Figs 11-18: *Sunius kuehneli* (SCHEERPELTZ) (11) and *S. manasluensis* nov.sp. (12-18; 17-18: holotype): (11, 15) male sternite VIII; (12) habitus; (13) forebody; (14) male sternite VII; (16-17) aedeagus in lateral view; (18) aedeagus in ventral view. Scale bars: 12: 1.0 mm; 11, 13-15: 0.5 mm; 16-18: 0.1 mm.

Pronotum approximately 1.04-1.10 times as wide as long and approximately 0.97 times as wide as head; punctation coarse and dense; midline rather narrowly impunctate; interstices without microsculpture and glossy (Fig. 13).

Elytra short, 0.60-0.65 times as long and at posterior margin approximately 1.05 times as wide as pronotum, noticeably widened posteriad; humeral angles weakly pronounced, almost obsolete; punctation dense, shallow, and rather fine (Fig. 13). Hind wings reduced.

Abdomen approximately as wide as, or slightly wider than elytra; punctation fine and dense; interstices with shallow microsculpture; posterior margin of tergite VII without palisade fringe.

♂: sternite VII unmodified (Fig. 14); sternite VIII with broadly V-shaped and not very deep posterior excision, its depth approximately 1/8 the length of sternite, otherwise unmodified (Fig. 15); aedeagus of distinctive morphology (Figs 16-18).

E t y m o l o g y : The specific epithet (adjective) is derived from the name of the mountain range where the type locality is situated.

C o m p a r a t i v e n o t e s : As can be inferred from the similarly enlarged eyes, the similarly derived morphology of the aedeagus, as well as from the similar male secondary sexual characters, *S. manasluensis* is closely allied to *S. cameroni* ASSING (N-India: Darjeeling), from which it is distinguished particularly by the different shape of the ventral process of the aedeagus (broader in ventral view, differently shaped apex) and by the much deeper posterior excision of the male sternite VIII. For illustrations of *S. cameroni* see ASSING (in press).

D i s t r i b u t i o n a n d b i o n o m i c s : The type locality is situated in the Manaslu range in the north of central Nepal. The reduced wings suggest that the species may be endemic to the area. The type specimens were collected at an altitude of 2500 m.

***Sunius galiberti* (COIFFAIT 1987)** (Figs 19-23)

Hypomedon apterus COIFFAIT, 1975: 179; preocc.

Hypomedon galiberti COIFFAIT 1987: 497; replacement name.

M a t e r i a l e x a m i n e d : 9 exs., Nepal, Kathmandu District, Phulchoki, 8000', 27.-31.V.1983, leg. Brendell (BMNH, cAss).

C o m m e n t : The original description of *Hypomedon apterus* is based on a male holotype and two female paratypes from "Phulchoki près Katmandou" (COIFFAIT 1975). The name is a primary homonym of *Hypomedon apterus* FAGEL 1959 and was replaced with the nomen novum *Hypomedon galiberti* by COIFFAIT (1987). The above specimens were collected at or near the type locality. Based on the illustration of the aedeagus provided by COIFFAIT (1975), there is no doubt that they are conspecific with the holotype.

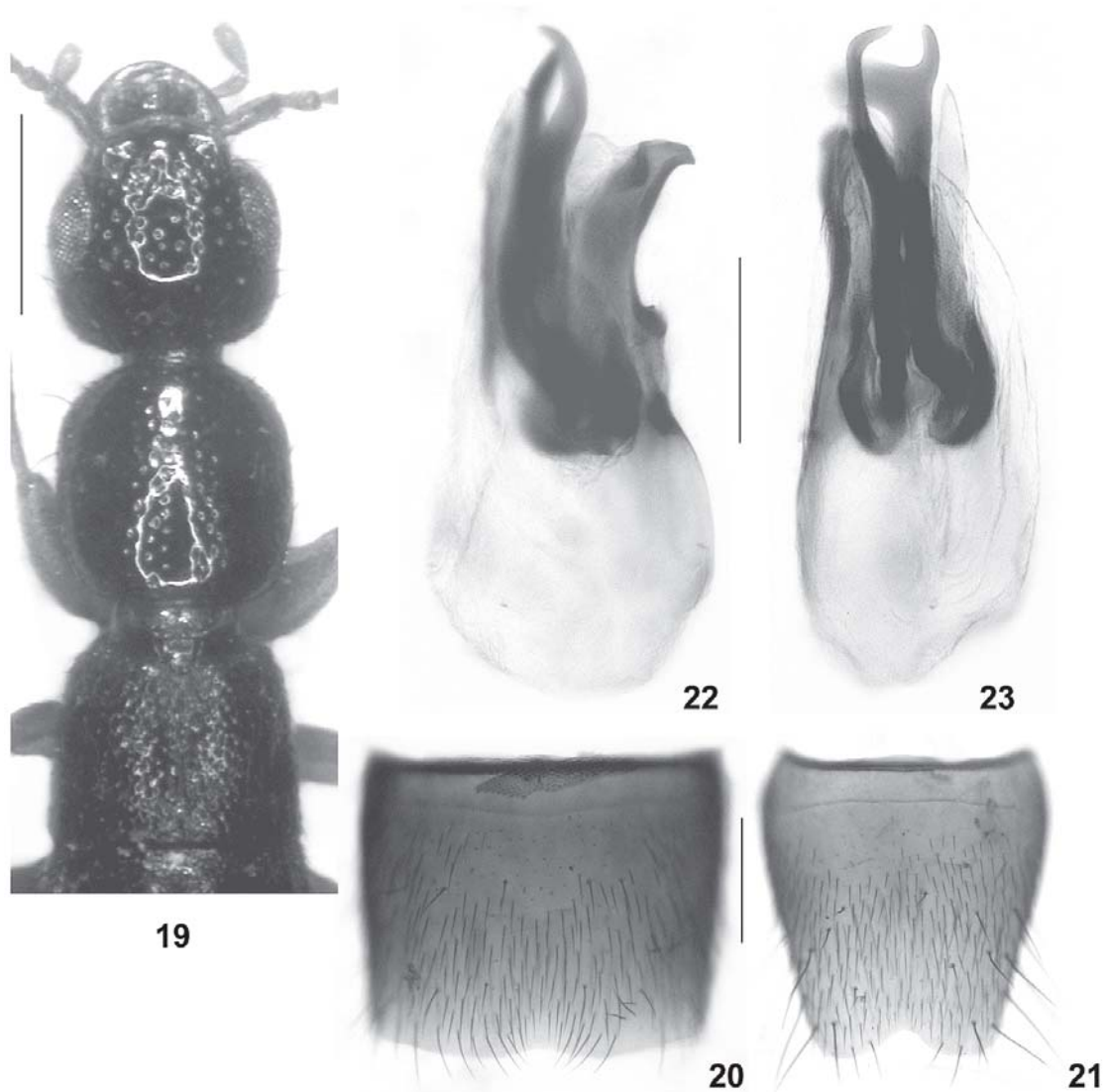
R e d e s c r i p t i o n : Body length 3.3-4.2 mm. Coloration: head blackish-brown to black; pronotum dark-brown to blackish-brown with slightly paler margins; elytra brown to dark-brown, posterior margin and humeral angles reddish to reddish-brown; abdomen blackish-brown, usually with reddish-brown to brown apex; legs and antennae reddish to reddish-brown.

Head across eyes 1.05-1.10 times as wide as long, often tapering in posterior half; post-ocular region approximately half the length of eyes; punctation coarse and dense in anterior half, sparser in posterior half of dorsal surface; interstices without microsculpture and glossy (Fig. 19). Antenna approximately 1.1 mm long.

Pronotum 1.00-1.05 times as long as wide and approximately as wide as head; punctation similar to that of head; midline impunctate; interstices without microsculpture and glossy (Fig. 19).

Elytra short, 0.60-0.65 times as long and at posterior margin approximately as wide as pronotum, noticeably widened posteriad; humeral angles weakly pronounced, almost obsolete; punctation dense, shallow, fine, and rather ill-defined (Fig. 19). Hind wings completely reduced.

Abdomen slightly wider than elytra; punctation fine, denser on anterior than on posterior tergites; interstices with shallow microsculpture; posterior margin of tergite VII without palisade fringe.



Figs 19-23: *Sunius galiberti* (COIFFAIT): (19) forebody; (20) male sternite VII; (21) male sternite VIII; (22-23) aedeagus in lateral and in dorsal view. Scale bars: 19: 0.5 mm; 20-23: 0.2 mm.

♂: sternite VII with posterior margin shallowly concave in the middle, on either side of middle with few (approximately 5) long submarginal setae (Fig. 20); sternite VIII with broad and not very deep posterior excision, its depth approximately 1/10 the length of

sternite, otherwise unmodified (Fig. 21); aedeagus with relatively short, stout, and apically hooked ventral process and with two large, asymmetric, and strongly sclerotized structures in internal sac (Figs 22-23).

Comparative notes: In external characters, this species is highly similar to *S. cameroni* and *S. manasluensis*, but distinguished from them by the somewhat less coarse punctation of the head and pronotum, the reddish posterior margin and humeral angles of the elytra, and particularly by the completely different shape and internal structures of the aedeagus.

Distribution and bionomics: The above specimens represent the first record of this species since the original description and were collected close to the type locality in the environs of Phulcoki near Kathmandu, central Nepal. The reduced wings suggest that the species may have a restricted distribution. The specimens were collected at an altitude of approximately 2400 m, one of them under a dead porcupine and one in a dead tree stump.

***Sunius macrops* nov.sp.** (Figs 24-30)

Type material: Holotype ♂: "China (Yunnan), Pu'er Pref., Ailao Shan, 37 km NW Jingdong, 24°45'12"N, 100°41'24.5"N [sic; recte: E], 2300 m, devastated forest remnant, litter/moss/grass roots sifted), 13.IX.2009, D.W.Wrase [48]", / Holotypus ♂ *Sunius macrops* sp. n. det. V. Assing 2010" (cAss). Paratype ♀: same data as holotype (cSch).

Description: Body length 3.5-3.8 mm. Habitus as in Fig. 24. Coloration: body blackish; legs with the femora blackish-brown, the tibia pale-brown, and the tarsi yellowish to yellowish-brown; antennae reddish.

Head across eyes approximately 1.05 times as wide as long, tapering in posterior half; postocular region slightly more than half the length of eyes; punctation coarse and moderately dense in anterior half, sparser in posterior half of dorsal surface; interstices without microsculpture and glossy (Fig. 25). Antenna approximately 1.0-1.1 mm long. Anterior margin of labrum with very short tooth-like process on either side of median notch.

Pronotum approximately 1.05 times as long as wide and approximately 0.95 times as wide as head; punctation similar to that of head; impunctate midline rather broad and well-defined; interstices without microsculpture and glossy (Fig. 25).

Elytra moderately short, approximately 0.9 times as long and at posterior margin approximately 1.1 times as wide as pronotum, not distinctly widened posteriad (Fig. 25); humeral angles marked; punctation dense, shallow, fine, and rather ill-defined. Hind wings not examined, but probably of reduced length.

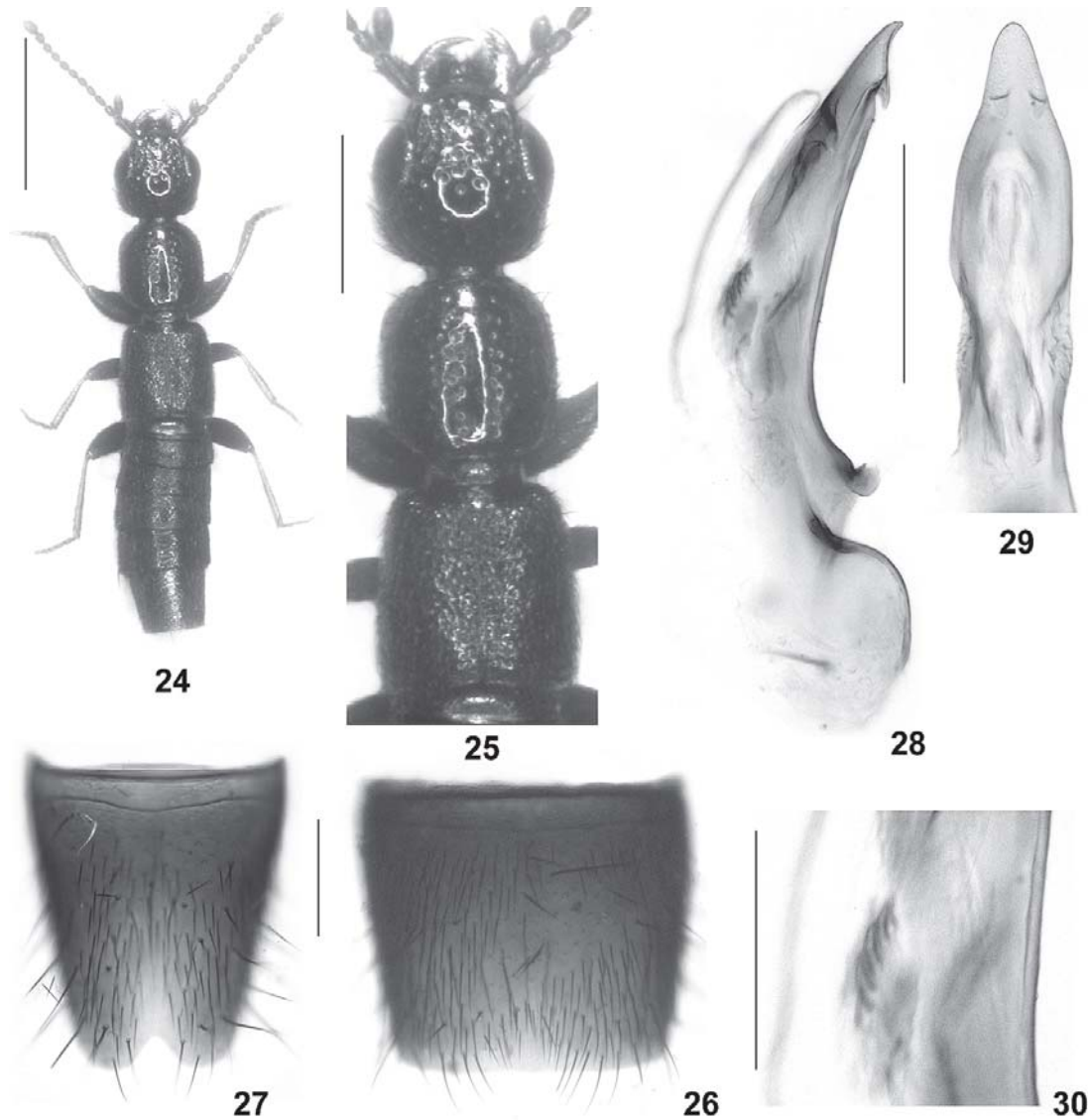
Abdomen approximately as wide as elytra; punctation fine and dense; interstices with transverse microsculpture; posterior margin of tergite VII with palisade fringe.

♂: sternite VII with posterior margin truncate, on either side of middle with approximately 8 long submarginal setae (Fig. 26); sternite VIII with rather sparse pubescence and with small posterior excision, its depth approximately 1/10 the length of sternite, otherwise unmodified (Fig. 27); aedeagus with almost straight, subapically dentate, and apically acute ventral process (Figs 28-29, internal sac only with weakly sclerotized internal structures (Fig. 30).

Etymology: The specific epithet (noun in apposition) alludes to the conspicuously large eyes.

Comparative notes: *Sunius macrops* is readily distinguished from other Chinese representatives of the genus by its large eyes, the shorter elytra, and the different male primary and secondary sexual characters. For illustrations of *Sunius* species previously described from China see ASSING (2002, 2004).

Distribution and bionomics: The species is known only from one locality in Yunnan, China, where the type material was sifted from leaf litter, moss, and grass roots in a degraded forest at an altitude of 2300 m.



Figs 24-30: *Sunius macrops* nov.sp.: (24) habitus; (25) forebody; (26) male sternite VII; (27) male sternite VIII; (28) aedeagus in lateral view; (29) ventral process of aedeagus in ventral view; (30) internal structures of aedeagus in lateral view. Scale bars: 24: 1.0 mm; 25: 0.5 mm; 26-29: 0.2 mm; 30: 0.1 mm.

***Sunius turgescens* nov.sp.** (Figs 31-37)

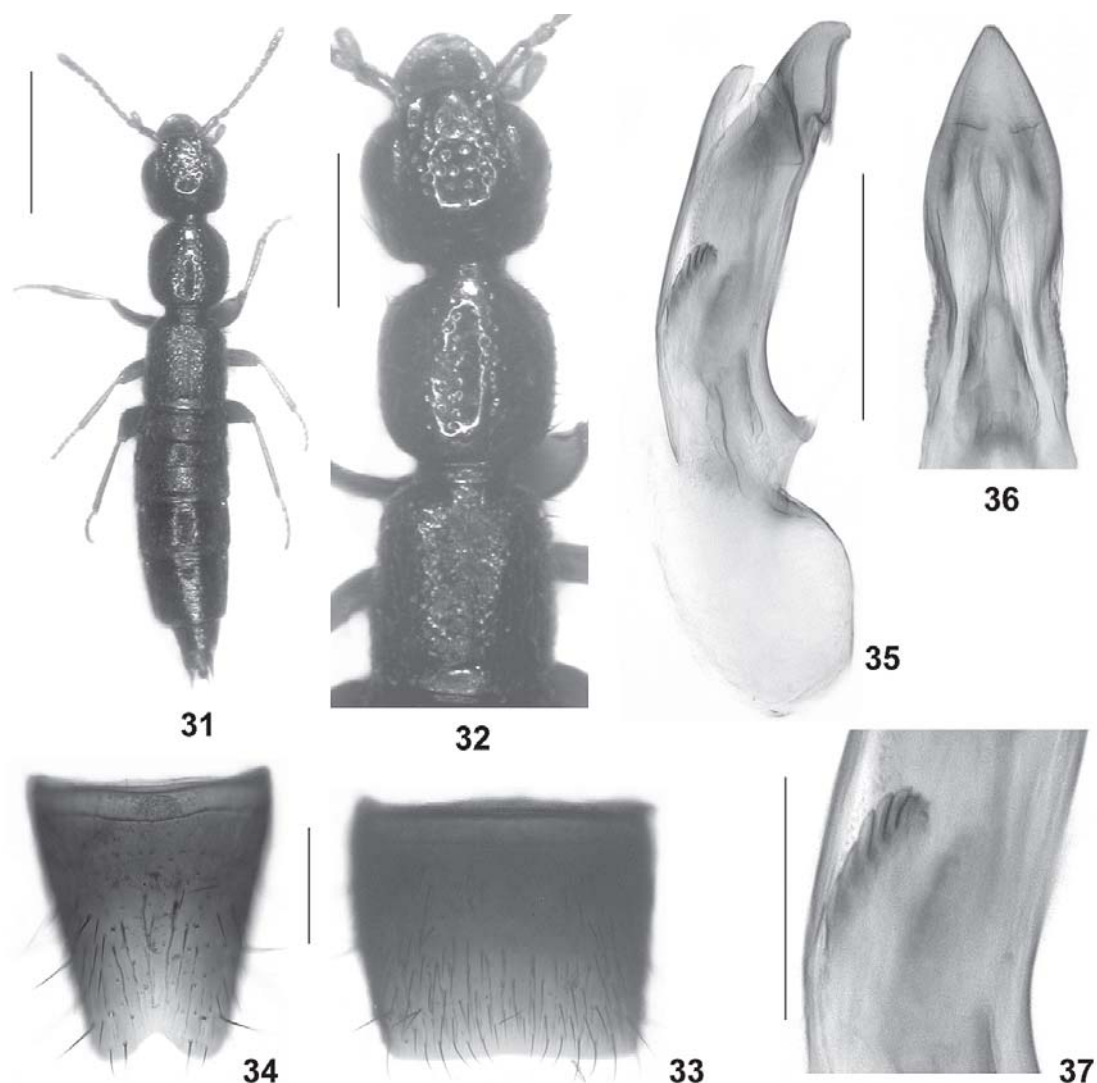
Type material: Holotype ♂: "China: N-Yunnan, Nujiang Lisu Aut. Pr., Gongshan Co., Gaoligong Shan, above ranger station, 27°47.65'N, 98°35.41'E, 2000 m, 129.VI.05, A. Smetana [C166]", / Holotypus ♂ *Sunius turgescens* sp. n. det. V. Assing 2010" (cSme). Paratypes: 1 ♂, 1 ♀:

same data as holotype (cSme, cAss); 3 ♀♀: "China: N-Yunnan [C2005-13], Lujiang Lisu Aut. Pref., Gongshan Co., Gaoligong Shan, above "ranger station" / 27°47.65'N, 98°35.41'E, 2000 m, broadleaved forest remnant, litter & moss sifted, 19.VI.2005, M. Schülke [C2005-13]" (cSch, cAss).

Description: Body length 3.5-4.1 mm. Habitus as in Fig. 31. External morphology as in *S. macrops*, except as follows:

Legs and antennae uniformly reddish. Elytra slightly shorter and more slender, 0.75-0.80 times as long as pronotum (Fig. 32).

♂: sternite VII with posterior margin truncate, on either side of middle with approximately 8 long submarginal setae (Fig. 33); sternite VIII with rather sparse pubescence and with small posterior excision, its depth approximately 1/10 the length of sternite, otherwise unmodified (Fig. 34); aedeagus similar to that of *S. macrops*, but apex of ventral process of different shape (Figs 35-36); internal structures similar to those of *S. macrops* (Fig. 37).



Figs 31-37: *Sunius turgescens* nov.sp.: (31) habitus; (32) forebody; (33) male sternite VII; (34) male sternite VIII; (35) aedeagus in lateral view; (36) ventral process of aedeagus in ventral view; (37) internal structures of aedeagus in lateral view. Scale bars: 31: 1.0 mm; 32: 0.5 mm; 33-36: 0.2 mm; 37: 0.1 mm.

E t y m o l o g y : The specific epithet is the present participle of the Latin verb *turgescere* (to swell, to bulge) and alludes to the conspicuously large eyes.

C o m p a r a t i v e n o t e s : Among the Chinese *Sunius* species, *S. turgescens* is similar only to *S. macrops*, from which it is distinguished by the uniformly reddish legs, the shorter and more slender elytra, and by the shape of the apex of the ventral process of the aedeagus. Both species are evidently closely related, as is suggested by the similarly derived morphology of the aedeagus (apex of ventral process, shape of internal structures).

D i s t r i b u t i o n a n d b i o n o m i c s : The type locality is situated in the north of Yunnan province, China. The specimens were sifted from litter and moss in a broadleaved forest at an altitude of 2000 m.

Undescribed species

Sunius sp. 1 [micropterous]: 1 ♀, Nepal, Tarai, Chitre, 26°07'N, 87°24'E [coordinates evidently incorrect], 7000 ft., forest litter, 4.III.1962, leg. Hyatt (BMNH).

Acknowledgements

Thanks are extended to the colleagues listed in the materials section for the loan of material from their respective collections. In particular, I am grateful to Michael Schülke for the generous gift of the holotype of *Sunius macrops* and to Viggo Mahler, Horsens, for the kind permission to retain the male of *S. kuehnelti*. Aleš Smetana provided additional habitat data for *S. turgescens*. Benedikt Feldmann, Münster, proof-read the manuscript.

Zusammenfassung

Drei Arten der Gattung *Sunius* STEPHENS aus der Ostpaläarktis werden beschrieben und abgebildet: *S. manasluensis* nov.sp. (Zentral-Nepal), *S. macrops* nov.sp. (China: Yunnan) und *S. turgescens* nov.sp. (China: Yunnan). Zwei Namen werden synonymisiert: *Sunius* STEPHENS 1829 = *Tetracanthognathus* SCHEERPELTZ 1963, nov.syn.; *Sunius nidicola* (KASTCHEEV 1982) = *S. splendidulus* (BOHÁČ 1988), nov.syn. *Tetracanthognathus kuehnelti* wird in die Gattung *Sunius* gestellt; die vorher unbekanntenen männlichen Geschlechtsmerkmale der Art werden abgebildet. *Sunius galiberti* COIFFAIT 1987 aus Zentral-Nepal wird redescribiert und abgebildet. Weitere Nachweise von 22 Arten werden aus der Paläarktis gemeldet. Die paläarktische *Sunius*-Fauna umfasst derzeit 111 Arten und zwei Unterarten.

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