

**NEW SUBSPECIES OF *STENURELLA BIFASCIATA*
(MÜLLER, 1776) (COLEOPTERA, CERAMBYCIDAE)
FROM SOUTH WEST TURKEY**

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ABSTRACT: *Stenurella bifasciata safronovi* **ssp. n.** is described from South-West Turkey (Antalya, Beldibi env. – type locality and Isparta). *S. bifasciata* ssp. *intermedia* Holzschuh, 2006, **new rank** originally described as a species from Magnisia, is accepted as a subspecies distributed in Greece from south Peloponnesus to Bulgaria and in SW Bulgaria; several forms of previously unknown females are figured. *Stenurella bifasciata* ssp. *ferruginipes* (Pic, 1895), **new rank** described as a variation from «Bitlis» is accepted as a subspecies distributed in Mardin and Bitlis. *S. bifasciata* ssp. *lanceolata* (Mulsant & Rey, 1863), **new rank**, regarded previously as a synonym of the nominative subspecies, is accepted as a subspecies distributed in Iberian Peninsula and South-East France. The species area of *S. bifasciata* (Müller, 1776) is extended eastwards to Pacific Ocean.

KEY WORDS: Coleoptera, Cerambycidae, Lepturinae, *Stenurella*, taxonomy, new rank, new subspecies, Palaearctic Region, Europe, Spain, France, Greece, Bulgaria, Turkey.

Stenurella bifasciata (Müller, 1776) was described in the genus *Leptura* Linnaeus, 1758 from «Dania». The species is widely distributed in the north of Palaearctic Region: all over Europe from Portugal to Urals (absent in Great Britain and Scandinavia); in Siberia it was traditionally known (Plavilstshikov, 1936) to about Transbaikalia (absent in Mongolia) and Yakutia (Tsherepanov, 1996), but in my collections several specimens from the North-East part of Khabatovsk Region (Nelkan environs, 57°39'N, 136°09'E) are preserved, so the area of the species must reach Pacific Ocean; all over Caucasus with Transcaucasia; in Near East - to North Iran. Records from Syria (Rejzek et al., 2003), Lebanon (Sama et al., 2010) and Iraq (Derwesh, 1965) are known. In Turkey the species is distributed all over the country (Özdikmen, 2007).

Now the species is delimited in three subspecies (Löbl & Smetana, 2010): *S. b. limbiventris* (Reitter, 1898) distributed along the East bank of Black Sea in Georgia and Turkey; *S. b. nigrosuturalis* (Reitter, 1895) known from Syria, Lebanon and South-Eastern Turkey; the nominative subspecies is generally accepted to be distributed in the rest of the species area.

In fact the taxonomy of *S. bifasciata* is much more complicated.

Populations, which contain specimens with pale-orange legs, represent a well delimited subspecies described as *Strangalia bifasciata* var. *ferruginipes* Pic, 1895 from «Bitlis». *Stenurella bifasciata* ssp. *ferruginipes* (Pic, 1895), **new rank** is represented in my materials from Mardin (Hop Geçidi) and Bitlis (Tatvan environs).

The taxon described as *Stenurella intermedia* Holzschuh, 2006 from Greece (Magnisia, Othrys, 1100m, 39°05'N, 22°40'E) on the base of two males is in fact a local subspecies of *S. bifasciata*. The true nature of the taxon is clear now after study of 54 specimens (34 males and 20 females) collected in south Greece (many

localities from Fthiotis to South Peloponnesus) by A. Napolov & I. Roma in May 2010. The relatively big pronotal punctation of *S. bifasciata* ssp. *intermedia* Holzschuh, 2006, **new rank** (the main distinguishing character according to the original description) is really a little larger than in specimens from Central Europe, but just same as in many southern populations from Italy to Caucasus. Two females of *S. b. intermedia* were also collected by A. Napolov & I. Roma in SW Bulgaria near Kresna (2.6.2010). Several series *S. b. intermedia* collected by V. Sakalyan in 1986-87 and by T. Ljubomirov in 2009 along south parts of the valleys of Struma and Mesta rivers in SW Bulgaria are preserved in my collection. Females of *S. b. intermedia* Holz. (Figs 1-3) are very similar to *S. b. bifasciata*, but black elytral design is considerably reduced to about totally absent (Fig. 3). The nominative subspecies *S. b. bifasciata* with well developed black elytral design is also distributed in Bulgaria. It is known already in Sophia environs.

The taxon described as *Strangalia lanceolata* Mulsant & Rey, 1863 from «L'Espagne» on the base of females with elytra widely darkened along suture is a well formed Iberian subspecies *S. bifasciata* ssp. *lanceolata* (Mulsant & Rey, 1863), **new rank**. The peculiarity of Iberian *S. bifasciata* was already mentioned by Villiers (1978): "It est curieux de noter la présence de deux formes prescue identiques, l'une *lanceolata* Mulsant, en Méditerranée occidentale et l'autre, *nigrosuturalis* Reitter, en Méditerranée orientale." *S. b. lanceolata* penetrates in South France. Two females with the label: «France, Pyrénées Orientales, Prades, 24-30.6.1986, Schimmel leg.» are preserved in my collection.

The taxon described as *Strangalia bifasciata* var. *nigriventris* Pic, 1891 without exact locality (South France?) on the base of females with black abdomen is most probably also a good subspecies. According to Villiers (1978) in France: "La var. *nigriventris* semble plus méridionale que la forme typique, mais paraît manquer en Corse."

One more subspecies is described bellow from south-west Turkey.

Description

Stenurella bifasciata safronovi ssp. n.

(Figs 4-6)

Holotype: male (Fig. 4) with the label: "TR, Taurus, Antalya, Kemer distr., Beldibi env., 36°44'N, 30°33'E 13-21.5. 2008, A. A. Safronov leg." – author's collection.

91 paratypes – all in author's collection: 10 males and 13 females with same label as holotype; 31 males and 36 females from same locality: 15-26.5.2010, D. A. Safronov leg.; 1 female (Fig. 5), "Turkey, Isparta: Isparta-Sidre sub., 37°44'N, 30°33'E, 1320m, 13.VII.2008, T. Ljubomirov leg."

Body length in males: 8.5-11.5mm, in females: 8.4-11.6mm; body width in males: 2.1-2.9mm, in females: 2.2-3.0mm.

Body black with partly dark-red abdomen, 2nd - 4th visible sternites totally red, 1st and 5th totally or partly black; legs and antennae totally black; general elytral color dark-brown: elytra in males usually dark-red with black apices, but sometimes (as in holotype - Fig. 4) with large rhomboid black area, which could be more or less reduced; elytra in females usually with central black area widely connected with apical black area (Fig. 5), but not touching laterally epipleurae; black elytral areas in females can be strongly reduced (Fig. 6); pronotal

punctuation is relatively rough, a little rougher than in *S. b. intermedia* and much rougher than in specimens of *S. b. bifasciata* from Central Europe.

Differential diagnosis. The new taxon differs from all other subspecies by peculiar elytral design in males and females. The close Eastern subspecies *S. b. nigrosuturalis* (Reitter, 1895) has similarly dark-red elytral and abdomen color, similarly rough pronotal punctuation, but elytral black area is much more developed. European subspecies are poorly investigated, but Spanish *S. b. lanceolata* seems usually have also very rough pronotal punctuation, but another character of black elytral design, besides specimens of *S. b. lanceolata* can have black abdomen. *S. b. intermedia* distributed in the south-east of the West Europe have usually strongly reduced black elytral area in females, which sometimes nearly totally absent (Fig. 3). The nomianative subspecies is characterized by relatively fine pronotal punctuation and light-red general elytral color, males without central elytral black area, females with more or less wide contrast postmedial black stripe reaching laterally epipleurae.

Distribution. *S. b. safronovi* **ssp. n.** is distributed in south-west Turkey, it is now known from Antalya and Isparta, but its real area must be much wider.

Etymology. The new subspecies is dedicated to Alexandr Safronov (Tula, Russia), who discovered the taxon.

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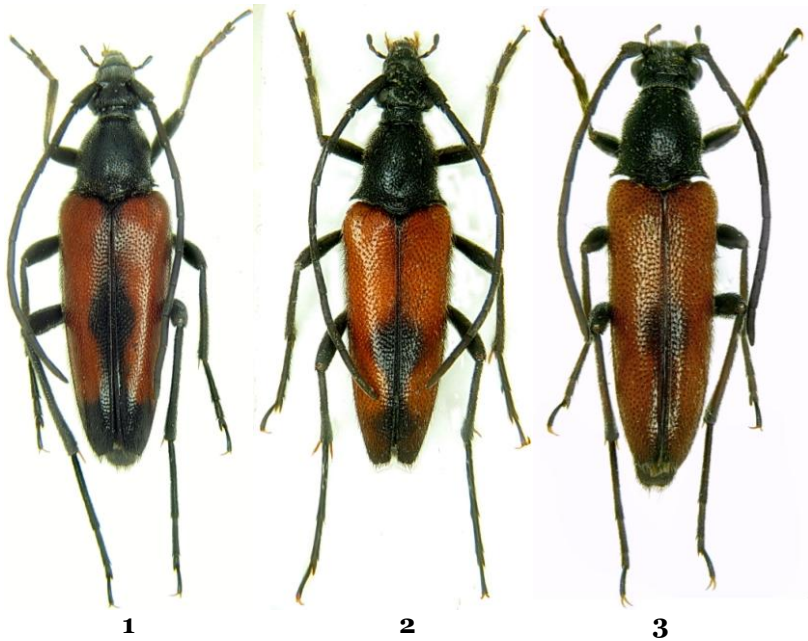
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Figures 1-3. *Stenurella bifasciata intermedia* Holzschuh, 2006, **new rank**, females (author's collection): 1. Peloponnesus, Karyoupoli, 100m, 22.5.2010, A. Napolov & I. Roma leg.; 2. SW Bulgaria, Pirin, Struma River, 7.1986, V. Sakalyan leg.; 3. SW Bulgaria, Struma - Mesta, 7.1986, V. Sakalyan leg.



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Figures 4-5. *Stenurella bifasciata safronovi* **ssp. n.** (author's collection): 4. Male, holotype, TR, Taurus, Antalya, Kemer distr., Beldibi env., 36°44'N, 30°33'E 13-21.5. 2008, A. A. Safronov leg.; 5. Female, paratype, TR, Taurus, Antalya, Kemer distr., Beldibi env., 36°44'N, 30°33'E 15-26.5. 2010, D. A. Safronov leg.”.



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Figure 6. *Stenurella bifasciata safronovi* **ssp. n.** (author's collection): 6. Female, paratype, Turkey, Isparta: Isparta-Sidre sub., 37°44'N, 30°33'E, 1320m, 13.VII.2008, T. Ljubomirov leg.