

## A NEW SUBSPECIES OF *ASEMUM TENUICORNE* KRAATZ, 1879 FROM TURKEY (COLEOPTERA: CERAMBYCIDAE)

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ABSTRACT. A new subspecies, *Asemum tenuicorne claricostulatum* ssp. n. is described from South Turkey (İçel province). In accordance with this, the availability of the name, *Megasemum quadricostulatum* var. *semilividum* Pic, 1893, is discussed.

KEY WORDS: New subspecies, *Asemum tenuicorne*, Coleoptera, Cerambycidae, Aseminae, Turkey.

### SUBFAMILY ASEMINAE Thomson, 1861: 139

TRIBE ASEMINI Thomson, 1861

GENUS ASEMUM Eschscholtz, 1830: 66

SPECIES *Asemum tenuicorne* Kraatz, 1879: 97

The original description of *Asemum tenuicorne* Kraatz, 1879: 97 as follows:

*Asemum tenuicorne* nov. spec. europ.

*Asemum striata* simile, magis deplanatum, antennis longioribus, thorace longiore, minus dense punctato, nitidulo facile distinguendum. — Long. 13—15 mill.

Durch die viel schlankeren Fühler leicht vom *As. striatum* zu unterscheiden, ebenso durch flachere Gestalt und den merklich weniger dicht punktierten Thorax, welcher in Folge dessen in der Mitte etwas glänzend, beim *striatum* ganz matt ist; die Eindrücke auf dem Discus breiter und flacher. Die Flügeldecken sind ähnlich punktiert wie beim *striatum*, flacher, die Rippen schwächer. Die Fühler des schwarzen ♂ sind noch merklich schlanker als die des ♀ mit rothbraunen Flügeldecken.

Ein Pärchen wurde von H. Ribbe in der Krimm aufgefunden.

Blessig unterscheidet sein *Asem. punctulatum* vom *Amur* von allen möglichen Arten, nur nicht vom *striatum*, daher vermag ich mein *tenuicorne* nicht mit Sicherheit auf dasselbe zu beziehen; *punctulatum* scheint allerdings ebenfalls längere Fühler und ein deutlich punkirtes Halsschild zu besitzen.

articulo tertio quarto duplo longiore, palpis maxillaribus crassiusculis, thorace longiore.

Viel größer und robuster als *Asemum*, mit kräftigen, mehr als doppelt so langen Fühlern, welche indessen merklich kürzer als bei *Criocephalum* bleiben. Der Kopf breiter, der Thorax merklich länger als bei *Asemum*, auf dem Discus mit einer flachen Grube.

This is a very rare species with scattered distribution. It has been recorded only from 2 localities from Turkey [Ankara prov.: Kızılcahamam by Demelt (1967) and Hatay prov.: E Dörtöyl by Sama in Sama et al. (2012)] until now. It has been known from Austria, Georgia, Greece, Italy, Romania, Sicily, Spain, Russia (South European Territory), Sweden (Gotska Sandön) and Crimea except Turkey.

**SUBSPECIES** *Asemum tenuicorne claricostulatum* **ssp. n.**

(Fig. 1)

**Type material:** Holotype ♂: Turkey, İçel prov.: Çamlıyayla, Dikenlioluk, 17.VI.2009, on *Pinus nigra*, 1 specimen. The specimen is conserved in Entomology Department of Eastern Mediterranean Forestry Research Institute (İçel province, TURKEY).

Length: 13.5 mm.

The new subspecies can be easily distinguished from the nominotypical subspecies by the following characters:

- It has a distinctly longer antennae.
- Second antennal segment is longer than that of the nominotypical subspecies, and its length is as about half of the third antennal segment. In the nominotypical subspecies, second antennal segment is less long than half length of third antennal segment.
- The most wide part of pronotum corresponds to about half of pronotal length (in first two of pronotal length). In the new subspecies, that part is more close to pronotal base (namely it is downer than half of pronotal length) (in third five of pronotal length).
- The costae on elytra are much more distinct than that of the nominotypical subspecies.

**A discussion on the validity of the name var. *semilividum* Pic (1893):**

Basically, a variety of the species, *Asemum tenuicorne*, as *Megasemum 4-costulatum* var. *semilividum* was described by Pic (1893) from Amanos Mountains in Hatay province. In connection with this, the availability of the name var. *semilividum* under discussion.

Sama in Sama et al. (2012) mentioned that "Our finding confirms a very old record of Pic (1893, under the name "?*Megasemum 4.costulatum* Kr."), regarded as wrong by Danilevsky (2011) "The nature of the taxon recorded by Pic (1893d: 417 ) as "?*Megasemum 4, costulatum* Kr." on the base of two specimens from "mont Amanus, pays d'Akbes" [now Hatay in south, east Turkey] rests uncertain. Only one pale specimen was described as *Megasemum quadricostulatum* var. *semilividum* Pic, 1893d: 417, so Pic "expressly gave it infrasubspecific rank" (Article 45.6.4 of ICZN), and the name is unavailable. It is more probable that both specimens belong to *A. striatum*, which can be light, brown rather often, and *Asemum tenuicorne* absent in Hatay". In fact the material recorded by Pic really belongs to *A. tenuicorne* as showed by Pic's material studied by G. Sama.

The var. *semilividum* Pic, 1892 could be regarded as infrasubspecific as proposed by Danilevsky (2011), however it has been accepted as an available name by the Catalogue of Löbl & Smetana (2010).

? *Megasemum 4.costulatum* v. *semilividum* Pic, 1893, *Annales de la Société entomologique de France*, 61: 417. Type locality: Haute Syrie; 2 ex. (coll. Delagrange).

Original description.

"Espèce offrant le prothorax plus élargi à la base, les antennes longues, deux côtes bien visibles sur les elytres, avec une troisième plus courte, moins saillante; ceux, ci tantôt noirs, tantôt testacés (var. *semilividum*), 2 ex."

The lectotype and the paralectotype designation by G. Sama were never published. The lectotype is a male, 13,5 mm long, in bad condition (abdomen, left antenna, hind left leg and tarsi missing) bearing the following labels: "Syrie/ Akbes/ CD 1891" [printed, Delagrange's original label]; "? *tenuicorne* Kr/ var." [whitish, handwritten by Pic]; "v.

*semilividum*/ Pic" [whitish, handwritten by Pic]; "type" [whitish, handwritten by Pic]; "Holotype [red, printed, recent]; "Museum Paris/ Coll. Pic" [white, printed, recent]; "Lectotypus ♂ / *Asemum tenuicorne*/ v. *semilividum* Pic, 1892/ G.Sama des. 1993". The paralectotype is a male, 16 mm long, front left missing, labelled as follows: "Syrie/ Akbes/ CD 1891" [printed, Delagrangé's original label]; "tenuicorne/ v.*semilividum* / Pic, Pic det." [white recent, handwritten by ? [A. Villiers ?]; "Lectotypus ♂ *Asemum tenuicorne* / v. *semilividum* Pic, 1892/ G.Sama des. 1993".

*Asemum tenuicorne* was also recorded from Kızılcahamam (Ankara prov.), 5.VI.1965 (Demelt, 1967).

Moreover, Danilevsky (2012) stated that "The nature of the taxon recorded by Pic (1893d: 417) as "Megasemum 4-costulatum Kr." on the base of two specimens from "mont Amanus, pays d'Akbes" [now Hatay in south-east Turkey] rests uncertain. Only one pale specimen was described as *Megasemum quadricostulatum* var. *semilividum* Pic, 1893d: 417, so Pic "expressly gave it infrasubspecific rank" (Article 45.6.4 of ICZN), and the name is unavailable. Most probably the local population belongs to a new species, and *Asemum tenuicorne* absent in Hatay.

Two light males of *Asemum* from Hatay are available in Pic's collection in Muséum Nationale d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris (see "Gallery" in [www.cerambycidae.net](http://www.cerambycidae.net)). Both were designated by Sama as "lectotype" and "paralectotype" long ago, but never published (as well as many other specimens in Pic's collection). Such designation was a mistake, as only one specimen was described by Pic as "var. *semilividum*", and so, could be accepted as holotype, if the name was available. Second specimen does not belong to the type series at all!

Now Sama (Sama et al., 2012) has accepted the infrasubspecific status of "var. *semilividum* Pic", but still published (!?) his wrong designation of "lectotype" and "paralectotype". Sama (Sama et al., 2012) insists on the traditional determination of both specimens as *A. tenuicorne* and recorded 4 more specimens of "*A. tenuicorne*" from "Nurdağları, east of Dörtöyl". Unfortunately no illustrations were published, so the real nature of new 4 specimens also rest uncertain."

Consequently, as seen above, the name var. *semilividum* Pic, 1893 under the article 45.6.4 of ICZN (1999) is unavailable name clearly. However, it has been accepted as an available name by Löbl & Smetana (2010) in their Catalogue wrongly.

Original description of var. *semilividum* Pic, 1893 as follows:

43. ? *Megasemum 4-gostulatum* Kr. — Espèce offrant le prothorax plus élargi près de la base, les antennes longues, deux côtes bien visibles sur les élytres, avec une troisième plus courte, moins saillante; ceux-ci tantôt noirs, tantôt testacés (var. *semilividum*). — 2 exempl., coll. C. Delagrangé.

In accordance with the original description, also Pic's specimens belong to the new subspecies, *Asemum tenuicorne claricostulatum*. With respect to this, it is distributed in İçel and also Hatay provinces in South Turkey.

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Figure 1. Habitus of holotype of *Asemum tenuicorne claricostulatum* ssp. n.