

A NEW SPECIES OF *APATOPHYSIS* CHEVROLAT, 1860 FROM JORDAN (COLEOPTERA: CERAMBYCIDAE)

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ABSTRACT: In this paper we describe a new species of *Apatophysis* Chevrolat, 1860 from Jordan and Syria. The new species is related with *Apatophysis caspica* Semenov, 1911 from Caspian area.

KEY WORDS: Cerambycidae, *Apatophysis*, new species, Jordan, Syria.

Among several Cerambycidae collected by prof. Katbeh-Bader Ahmad (Department of Plant Protection, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Jordan in Amman) we found a small series of *Apatophysis* that belong to a new species, related to *Apatophysis caspica* Semenov, 1911 from Caspian region.

Apatophysis katbehi n. sp.

(Fig. 1)

Material examined: **Holotypus** ♂ (Coll. G. Sama): **Jordan**, Shaumari reserve, 31°45'N 36°43'E 15-17.V.201 Katbeh lgt.; **Paratypus** (National Museum Prague; P. Rapuzzi; Coll. G. Sama; P. Kabatek, Praha, Czech Republic): 14♂♂: **Jordan**, Shaumari reserve, 31°45'N 36°43'E 15-17.V.201 Katbeh lgt.; 1♂: idem 19-24.V.2010; 1♂: **Jordan**, Irbid, Ein Rahoub, 2.III.1997, Katbeh lgt.; 11♂♂ and 3♀: **Jordan**, Al Azraq, Schaumari res., 31°45'115"N26°45'354"E, 24.V.2007, 530 m., F. & L. Kantner lgt.; 1♀ **Syria**, Talilah Nat. Park. (Palmira), 6.IX.2000, Serra lgt.

Description of the Holotype.

Length 14 mm, width 5 mm. Body reddish, head and pronotum darker than elytra. Head long, antennal tubercles prominent, a thin longitudinal groove between eyes and antennal insertion. Eyes moderately big. Puncture dense and made by small points; pubescence whitish, made by short and lying setae. Many thin, long erect hairs on labrum. Pronotum as long as wide, its disk with four small callosities, two just up the middle and flat, the other two behind the middle, smaller but a little more prominent. Side of pronotum parallel, with a small tooth just up to the middle. Puncture made by small points, denser on the disk and more sparse at the sides. Pubescence made by short lying whitish setae, denser at the sides; few erect long thin white setae at lateral margin. Scutellum short, rounded posteriorly, densely covered by whitish short lying setae. Elytra relatively short, acuminate towards apex, lightly emarginated just behind middle. Punctures small, not dense and arranged in more or less evident longitudinal rows. Punctures denser in the first half and smaller and sparse towards apex. Pubescence made by very short whitish short lying setae. Only few long and thin erect hairs just around the base. Legs long and slender. Middle and posterior femora with hair brushes. Antennae long, 3rd and 4th joints of the same size. Exceeding apex with the last three joints. All antennal joints covered by very short light hairs.

Variability of the Paratypes

The type series shows a size range from a minimum of 11 mm. and a maximum of 20 mm. in the males and from 20 to 22 mm in the females. The color of the teguments sometimes are darker or lighter than the holotype.

Females: darker and larger than males; the body pubescence is sparser and elytra are shining, the punctures are sparser and denser towards the base. Antennae are shorter than body reaching the last quarter of elytra.

Discussion

Apatophysis katbehi n. sp. belongs to *Apatophysis caspica* Semenov, 1901 group. This group consist of several species (some of them not so good characterized) widespread from Caucasus, Iran and Turkey: *Apatophysis caspica* Semenov, 1901 from Daghestan to Iran, West Kazakhstan and Northern Afghanistan, *Apatophysis karsica* Danilevsky, 2008 from NE Turkey, *Apatophysis anatolica* Heyrovsky, 1938 from Central Turkey, *Apatophysis vedica* Danilevsky, 2008 from Aremenia, *Apatophysis farsicola* Sama, Fallahzadeh, Rapuzzi, 2005 from Central Iran and *Apatophysis kadleci* Danilevsky, 2008 from SE Turkey. According Danilevsky (2008) *A. caspica* group can be divided according the rate between length and wide of elytra: *A. caspica* and *A. anatolica* show the smaller rate between 2.0 and 2.1. *A. katbehi* shows a smaller rate: 1,7 -1,8. Moreover the pronotum is shorter, long as wide in the largest number of specimens or rarely larger than long. From *Apatophysis farsicola* it can be divided by the more acuminate elytra towards the apex and the higher rate between wide and length of elytra (2,0 – 2,1).

Etymology

We dedicate the new species to prof. Katbeh-Bader as thanksgiving for the opportunity that he gives us to study part of his Cerambycidae.

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Figure 1. *Apatophysis katbehi* n. sp. (Holotypus male).