

NEW EVIDENCE ON THE DISTRIBUTION OF *OXYTHYREA CINCTELLA* (SCHAUM, 1841) IN THE CRIMEA, UKRAINE (COLEOPTERA: SCARABAEDAE: CETONIINAE)

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ABSTRACT: The paper presents new faunistic information regarding *Oxythyrea cinctella* (Schaum, 1841) species (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae: Cetoniinae) distribution in the Crimea, Ukraine. An updated map of *Oxythyrea cinctella* (Schaum, 1841) distribution in Palearctic region is given.

KEY WORDS: *Oxythyrea cinctella*, Coleoptera, Scarabaeidae, Cetoniinae, Crimea, Ukraine.

The genus *Oxythyrea* Mulsant, 1842 belongs to the subtribe Leucocelina of the tribe Cetoniini Leach, 1815 and comprises 10 species distributed in the Western Palearctic (Sabatinelli, 1981; Krikken, 1984; Smetana, 2006; Tauzin, 2012). Based on external morphology and structure of aedeagus three groups of species (Sabatinelli, 1981) are divided among the Mediterranean species of the *Oxythyrea* genus: *O. funesta*, *O. abigail*, and *O. cinctella* (Sabatinelli, 1981; Vasko & Gerasimov, 2005). Until recently only the species *Oxythyrea funesta* (Poda von Neuhaus, 1761) had been known from Ukraine, widely distributed over its territory (Medvedev, 1964; Vasko & Gerasimov, 2005). Recently, a new species for Ukraine, *Oxythyrea cinctella* (Schaum, 1841), has been reported by Vasko & Gerasimov (2005) recorded from the Crimean Peninsula (Karadag). Three males of this species were collected in the Kurortnoe village environs of Feodosia district by R. Gerasimov and D. Kurinnyi (Vasko & Gerasimov, 2005). We have obtained new evidence on the distribution of *Oxythyrea cinctella* in the Crimea based on our collected material and material collected by G. Shayakhmetova and O. Kharchenko at the same location: Novy Svet village, Sudak district.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The insects were collected manually in the daytime in the Sudak district of the Crimean Peninsula, Ukraine. The material used for this study is deposited in the private collection of the author, Kiev, Ukraine. The following keys were used for the identification of the specimens: Medvedev (1964), Vasko & Gerasimov (2005), and Rittner & Sabatinelli (2010).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

***Oxythyrea cinctella* (Schaum, 1841)**

Synonyms: *albella* Illiger, 1802 (*Cetonia*); *variegata* Pallas in Gory & Percheron, 1833 (*Cetonia*); *longula* Desbrochers des Loges, 1872 (*Cetonia*); *cinctelloides* Reitter, 1898 (*Leucocelis*); *natalia* Olsoufieff, 1916 (*Leucocelidia*); *cinctella* ab. *confluens* Petrovitz, 1970; *cinctella* ssp. *taftanensis* Montreuil & Legrand, 2008. All the synonyms are given according to Tauzin (2012).

Material examined: Ukraine, the Crimea, Sudak dist., Novy Svet vill., 22-29. 05. 2011, Kizub I.V. leg. et det., 2 males and 1 female; Ukraine, the Crimea, Sudak dist., Novy Svet vill., 11-16. 06. 2012, Shayakhmetova G.M. and Kharchenko O.I. leg., Kizub I.V. det., 1 female. The studied material is deposited in the private collection of the author, Kiev, Ukraine.

Chorotype: Turano-Mediterranean (Carpaneto et al., 2000).

Geographical distribution: *O. cinctella* is widely distributed in the Palearctic region. The species is reported from **Croatia** (Medvedev, 1964; Alonso-Zarazaga & Krell, 2004), **Montenegro** (Medvedev, 1964; Alonso-Zarazaga & Krell, 2004; Smetana, 2006; Tauszin, 2012), **Eastern Serbia** (Medvedev, 1964; Alonso-Zarazaga & Krell, 2004; Smetana, 2006; Gavrilović & Ćurčić, 2010), **Macedonia** (Medvedev, 1964; Alonso-Zarazaga & Krell, 2004; Smetana, 2006; Rozner & Rozne, 2009a; Tauszin, 2012), **Albania** (Medvedev, 1964; Alonso-Zarazaga & Krell, 2004; Smetana, 2006; Tauszin, 2012), South **Romania** (Medvedev, 1964; Alonso-Zarazaga & Krell, 2004; Smetana, 2006; Tauszin, 2012), **Bulgaria** (Medvedev, 1964; Bunalski, 2000; Alonso-Zarazaga & Krell, 2004; Smetana, 2006; Tauszin, 2012), **Greece** including Andikithira, Evvia, Samothraki, Thasos, Northern Sporades, North Aegean, Ionian, and the Dodecanese Islands (Medvedev, 1964; Alonso-Zarazaga & Krell, 2004; Smetana, 2006; Tauszin, 2012), **Crete** (Medvedev, 1964; Alonso-Zarazaga & Krell, 2004; Tauszin, 2012), **Cyprus** (Medvedev, 1964; Tauszin et al., 2008), European and Asian parts of **Turkey** (Medvedev, 1964; Carpaneto et al., 2000; Alonso-Zarazaga & Krell, 2004; Smetana, 2006; Tauszin et al., 2008; Şenyüz and Şahin, 2009; Rozner & Rozne, 2009b; Anlaş et al., 2011; Demirözer et al., 2011; Tauszin, 2012), **Syria** (Medvedev, 1964; Smetana 2006; Tauszin et al., 2008; Tauszin, 2012), **Lebanon** (Medvedev, 1964; Chikatunov & Pavliček, 1997; Smetana, 2006; Tauszin et al., 2008; Tauszin, 2012), **Israel** (Medvedev, 1964; Chikatunov & Pavliček, 1997; Smetana, 2006; Tauszin et al., 2008; Rittner & Sabatinelli, 2010; Tauszin, 2012), **Jordan** (Medvedev, 1964; Chikatunov & Pavliček, 1997; Smetana, 2006; Tauszin et al., 2008; Tauszin, 2012), the Sinai part of **Egypt** (Tauszin, 2012), **Ukraine** (Vasko & Gerasimov, 2005; Martynov, 2010), **Russian Caucasus** (Medvedev, 1964; Smetana, 2006; Tauszin, 2012), **Georgia** (Medvedev, 1964; Smetana, 2006; Tauszin, 2012), **Azerbaijan** (Medvedev, 1964; Smetana, 2006; Tauszin, 2012), **Armenia** (Medvedev, 1964; Iablokoff-Khuzorian, 1967; Smetana, 2006; Tauszin, 2012), **Iran** (Medvedev, 1964; Modarres Awal, 2006; Smetana, 2006; Montreuil & Legrand, 2008; Tauszin, 2012), **Iraq** (Smetana, 2006; Tauszin, 2012), **Kazakhstan** (Medvedev, 1964; Nikolaev, 1987; Smetana, 2006; Tauszin, 2012), **Uzbekistan** (Medvedev, 1964; Nikolaev, 1987; Smetana, 2006; Tauszin, 2012), **Kyrgyzstan** (Medvedev, 1964; Protsenko, 1968; Nikolaev, 1987; Smetana, 2006; Tauszin, 2012), **Tajikistan** (Medvedev, 1964; Nikolaev, 1987; Smetana, 2006), **Turkmenistan** (Medvedev, 1964; Nikolaev, 1987; Smetana, 2006; Tauszin, 2012), **Afghanistan** (Medvedev, 1964; Smetana, 2006; Tauszin, 2012), **Pakistan** (Smetana, 2006; Tauszin, 2012), and **China** (Xinjiang province) (Medvedev, 1964; Nikolaev, 1987; Smetana, 2006; Tauszin, 2012).

The occurrence of *O. cinctella* in Portugal, Spain, and South Italy, including Sicily, previously reported by Medvedev (1964) was not confirmed by recent data (Blanco Villero, 1985; Mozos-Pascual & Martin-Cano, 1988, 1992; San Martin et al., 2001; Smetana, 2006; Tauszin, 2012).

In Ukraine *O. cinctella* is known to be an extremely rare species and so far it has only been reported from Karadag (Vasko & Gerasimov, 2005) and Novy Svet in the Crimea. Figure 1 shows *O. cinctella* records from the Crimean Peninsula. Based on the above-mentioned references and our findings from Ukraine, an updated map of *O. cinctella* distribution in the Palearctic region is presented in Figure 2. The present study reveals new evidence on the *O. cinctella* distribution in Ukraine and allows shifting the previously known northern border of the *O. cinctella* areal to the southern part of the Crimea (Fig. 2).

Comparative notes: *O. cinctella* can be easily distinguished from *O. funesta* (Poda von Neuhaus, 1761), the only other known Ukrainian species of *Oxythyrea*, which is widely distributed in the Western Palearctic, by hairless upper surface of the body, the presence of only two white spots near the base of the pronotum, the wide white border along the whole length of the pronotum sides, the white spots on the sides of the mesosternum, and by the absence of the longitudinal row of white spots in the middle of the 1st through 4th abdominal sternites (Medvedev, 1964; Vasko & Gerasimov, 2005).

From *O. noëmi* Reiche & Saulcy, 1856, which is closely related to *O. cinctella* and belongs together with this species to the «*cinctella*» species group (Sabatinelli, 1981; Vasko

& Gerasimov, 2005), *O. cincitella* can be distinguished by the presence of only two white spots on the pronotum (Medvedev, 1964; Sabatinelli, 1981; Rittner and Sabatinelli, 2010). The distribution of *O. noëmi* is limited to Cyprus, Lebanon, Syria, Israel, Jordan, Turkey and the Sinai part of Egypt (Smetana, 2006; Rittner & Sabatinelli, 2010; Tauzin, 2012).

A few aberrations of *O. cincitella* have been described (Tauzin, 2012), notably the white spots of the pronotum and the elytra can decrease or disappear (ab. *cincitelloides* Reitter, 1898), enlarge (ab. *natalia* Olsoufieff, 1916), or merge (ab. *confluens* Petrovitz, 1970).

Some authors (Tauzin, 2012) relate *O. cincitella* to the subgenus *Leucocelidia* designated by Olsoufieff (1916) but synonymised by Smetana (2006) with the genus *Oxythyrea* Mulsant, 1842.

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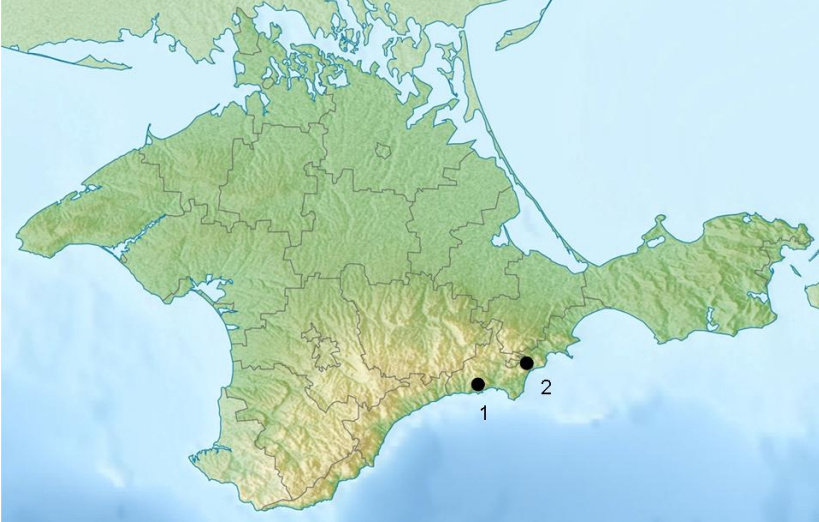


Figure 1. Map of *Oxythyrea cinctella* (Schaum, 1841) known localities in the Crimea, Ukraine: 1 - Novy Svet; 2 - Kurortnoe (Vasko and Gerasimov, 2005).

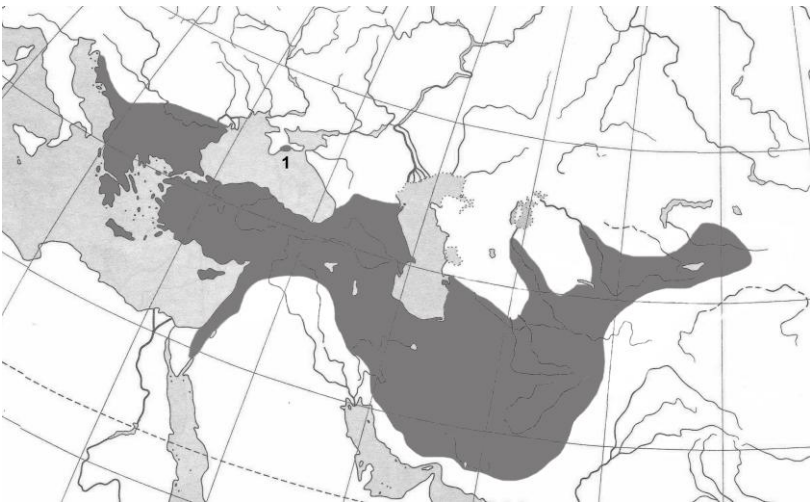


Figure 2. An updated map of *Oxythyrea cinctella* (Schaum, 1841) distribution: 1 – Locality in Ukraine.