

A NEW SUBSPECIES OF *CERAMBYX CERDO* LINNAEUS, 1758 FROM BULGARIA (COLEOPTERA: CERAMBYCIDAE)

Janis Vartanis*

* CZ – 688 01 Uherský Brod – Luhanova 1825, CZECH REPUBLIC. E-mail: janisvartanis@seznam.cz; giannisiv@seznam.cz

[Vartanis, J. 2018. A new subspecies of *Cerambyx cerdo* Linnaeus, 1758 from Bulgaria (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae). *Munis Entomology & Zoology*, 13 (1): 76-78]

ABSTRACT: A new subspecies, *Cerambyx cerdo masaryki* ssp. nov. coming from southeast Bulgaria is described. The subspecies is still endemic to Bulgaria. The subspecies was compared with species of the genus *Cerambyx* L., and particularly with subspecies of *Cerambyx cerdo* Linnaeus, 1758, i.e. with *C. cerdo acuminatus* Motschulsky, 1852, *C. cerdo pfisteri* Stierlin, 1864, *C. cerdo mirbecki* Lucas, 1842, *C. cerdo* Linnaeus, 1758 and *C. cerdo klinzigi* Podaný, 1964.

KEY WORDS: Coleoptera, Cerambycidae, Cerambycinae, *Cerambyx cerdo*, new subspecies, Bulgaria

Cerambyx cerdo masaryki ssp. nov.

Body: Completely brown, including legs and antennae. Body underside bright, with short and very sparse setae, rather present on lateral areas of abdomen only.

Elytra: Brown, less converging backward from humeri, rather wider in posterior half. Elytra 2.4 times longer than wide at humeri. Apical thorns of elytra mostly blunter and shorter. Elytral sculpture very finely wrinkled in anterior half, nearly smooth apically.

Scutellum: Brown, narrower and blunter in general.

Pronotum: Brown, lateral thorn mostly blunter and shorter. Pronotum with relatively coarse and deep, fairly regular sculpture, usually with parallel transversal scratches.

Head: Brown, head vertex with finer punctures. Eyes larger, more dilated on inferior and anterior sides. Last palpomere more elongate.

Antennae: Dark brown, distinctly slimmer in males as well as females. Antennomeres less swollen, with coarser punctation. Male antennae mostly shorter, exceeding body length by less than elytra length (by 0.8 elytra length on average). Female antennae reaching or slightly exceeding ends of elytra. Male ultimate antennomere considerably short.

Legs: Legs considerably shorter relatively to body size. Femora and tibiae shorter and slimmer. Underside of tibiae wrinkled at base of anterior legs only. Protarsomeres narrower, more wedge-shaped.

Body size: Males: 35-36 mm, females: 44-47 mm.

Ecology: It develops in oaks (*Quercus* L.); observed flying in oak forests, in the twilight. The main swarming period: late June and early July.

HOLOTYPE: male, Bulgaria, Burgas 8. 7. 1983, lgt. B. Kvasnička – collection of J. Vartanis. **PARATYPE:** 2 females, 1 male, Bulgaria, Burgas 8. 7. 1983, lgt. B. Kvasnička – collection of J. Vartanis., 2 males, Bulgaria, Burgas 30. 6. 2013, lgt., coll. D. Loupanec.

Differential diagnosis: The new subspecies *C. cerdo masaryki* ssp. nov. inhabits oak forests in surroundings of the seaside town Burgas on the Black Sea coast, in southeast Bulgaria. It was compared with all the species and subspecies of the genus *Cerambyx* L. kept in my collection, and particularly with all the subspecies of *Cerambyx cerdo* Linnaeus, 1758. It exerts a considerable difference in colour; it is the only entirely brown subspecies of the species *C. cerdo* Linnaeus, 1758. In addition, it can also be characterised by other different features, such as shorter antennae (particularly in males) and shape of antennomeres, which are narrower and not as much swollen as in other subspecies of *C. cerdo* Linnaeus, 1758. The elytra are not apically narrowed as in the nominotypical form; they are widened in posterior half. The elytral sculpture is finer compared to all other subspecies. Legs are shorter and slimmer relatively to the body size compared to *C. cerdo* Linnaeus, 1758, in which the legs are distinctly longer and stronger. In addition, the nominotypical form has also markedly long antennae, which exceed the body length by the elytra length or even more. I thoroughly compared all males and females and found the new subspecies *C. cerdo masaryki* ssp. nov. to be considerably different from the nominotypical form as well as from all the subspecies of *C. cerdo* Linnaeus, 1758. The other subspecies compared were as follows: *C. cerdo klinzigi* Podaný, 1964, which is conspicuously different by having very wide and short elytra, stronger legs and bent tibiae; the subspecies *C. cerdo acuminatus* Motschulsky, 1852 has a very coarse elytral sculpture, stout body and very considerable, long thorns of the elytral apex; the subspecies *C. cerdo mirbecki* Lucas, 1842 has very characteristic pubescence of the elytra, which are covered with greyish white hairlike setae throughout.

Etymology: The new subspecies *C. cerdo masaryki* ssp. nov. was named in honour of T. G. Masaryk (1850-1973), a statesman, philosopher and pedagogue, and the first president of Czechoslovakia – in period of 1918 to 1935.

Distribution of particular *Cerambyx cerdo* subspecies in Palaearctic region:

C. cerdo masaryki ssp. nov. – Bulgaria. *C. cerdo acuminatus* Motschulsky, 1852 - Arménia, Azerbajján, Turkey. *C. cerdo mirbecki* Lucas, 1842 - North Africa, Spain. *C. cerdo pfisteri* Stierlin, 1864 - Italy (Sicily island), France (Corsica island). *C. cerdo klinzigi* Podaný, 1964 - Georgia (Caucasus).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to thank M. Sláma (Praha, Czech Republic), M. Danilevsky (Moscow, Russia), J. Pumr (Praha, Czech Republic), D. Loupanec (Zlín, Czech Republic), for important data. My thanks are extended to Prof. Ing. Miloslav Rakovič (Dobřichovice, Czech Republic), for professional translation into English language.

LITERATURE CITED

- Bense, U. 1995. Longhorn Beetles. Illustrated key to the Cerambycidae and Vesperidae of Europe. Weikersheim, 512 pp.
- Heyrovský, L. 1951. Notuale Cerambycidologicae (Col.). Časopis Československé Společnosti Entomologické, 48: 154-157.
- Löbl, I. & Smetana, A. 2010. Catalogue of Palaearctic Coleoptera, Vol. 6, Chrysomeloidea, Apollo Books, Stenstrup, 924 pp.
- Podaný, Č. 1964: Nouvelle race de *Cerambyx cerdo* L. et nouvelles aberrations de Cerambycidae. Bulletin de la Société Entomologique de Mulhouse, 1967: 37-38.
- Sama, G. 2002. Atlas of the Cerambycidae of Europe and the Mediterranean Area. Vol. 1. Zlín: Nakladatelství Kabourek, 173 pp.
- Sláma, M. & Slámová, J. 1996. Contribution to the recognition of Greek and Yugoslavian Longicorn beetles (Coleoptera, Cerambycidae). Biocosme Mésogéen, 12 (4): 117-143.

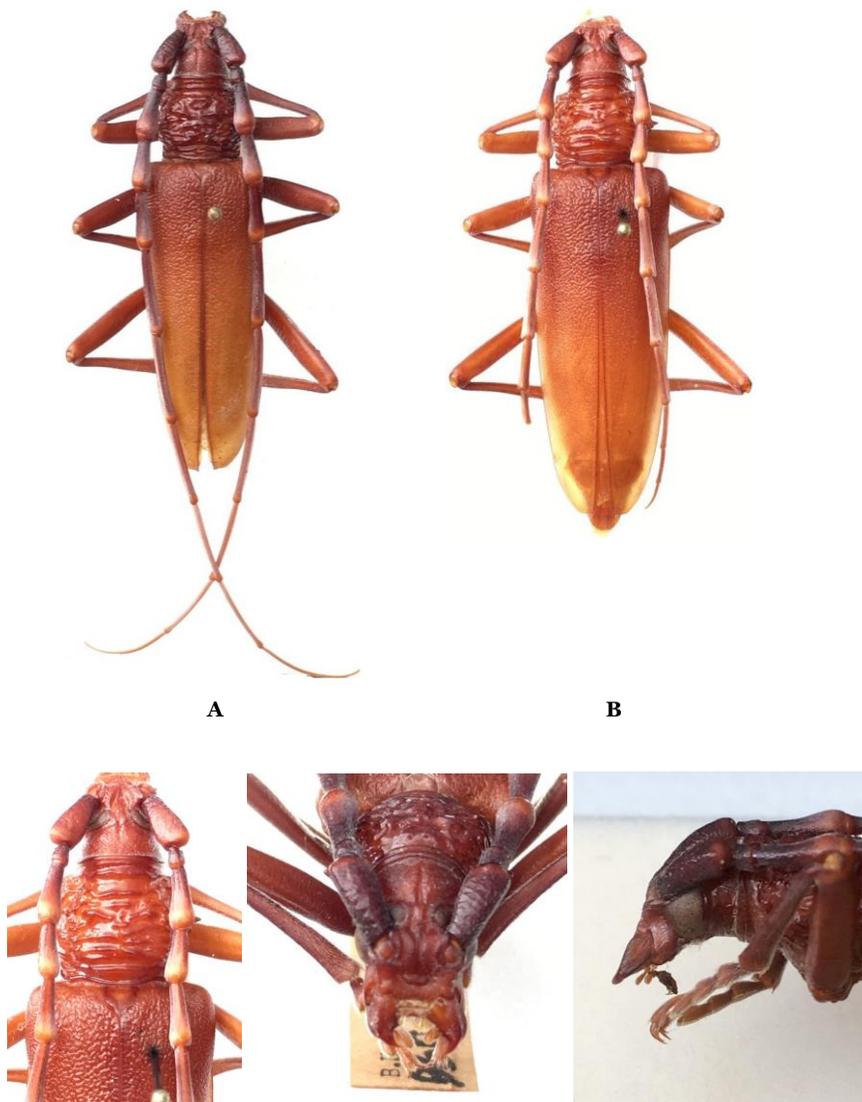


Figure 1. *Cerambyx cerdo masaryki* ssp. nov., A. Male, B. Female.