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Ocypus fulvipes Ménétriés, 1849, a misrecorded and misunderstood species (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae: Staphylininae: Staphylinini)

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Abstract. *Ocypus fulvipes* Ménétriés, 1849 is removed from synonymy with *Ocypus planipennis* Aubé, 1842; it is redescribed and its type material is presented. *Ocypus amiculus* J. Müller, 1925 is put in synonymy with *Ocypus fulvipes* Ménétriés, 1849, based on study of type material of both species.

INTRODUCTION

Ocypus fulvipes was described by Ménétriés (1849: 27) from a single (female) specimen from "Turcomanie". The species was listed as valid in the catalogue by Gemminger & Harold (1868). Fauvel (1875) declared the species, without any justification and without any good reason as identical with *Ocypus planipennis* Aubé, 1842, a species distributed in Italy (Sardegna) and in North Africa (Morocco and Algeria). The subsequent authors either followed Fauvel, or Jakobson (1909) who considered *fulvipes* as identical with *Staphylinus ater* Gravenhorst, 1802 (for details see the listings under *Tasgius fulvipes* in the Results section). The name *Ocypus fulvipes* is still listed as a synonym of *Ocypus planipennis* in the most recent catalogue by Schülke & Smetana (2015).

I had an opportunity to study the holotype of *Ocypus fulvipes* housed in the collection of the Zoological Institute, Russian Academy of Sciences, St. Petersburg, resulting in the resurrection of *Ocypus fulvipes* as a valid species, quite different from both *Ocypus planipennis* and *Staphylinus ater*. Further study revealed that *Ocypus amiculus* J. Müller, 1925 is identical with *Ocypus fulvipes* and that the name *amiculus* becomes a junior synonym of *fulvipes*.

RESULTS

Tasgius (*Tasgius*) *fulvipes* Ménétriés, 1849
(Figs. 1-4)

fulvipes Ménétriés, 1849: 27, pl. 2, Fig.1 (*Ocypus;* description); Gemminger & Harold, 1868: 582 (*Ocypus*; catalogue); Fauvel, 1875: XXVIII (*Staphylinus;* synonym of *planipennis* Aubé, 1842; listing); Heyden, Reitter & Weise, 1906:171 (*Staphylinus*; subgenus *Tasgius*; synonym of *planipennis*; catalogue); Jakobson, 1909: 511 (*Staphylinus*; subgenus *Tasgius*; synonym of *ater* Gravenhorst, 1803; listing); Bernhauer & Schubert, 1914: 384

(*Staphylinus*; II. Gruppe: *Ocypus*; synonym of *ater*; catalogue); Scheerpeltz, 1933: 1400 (*Staphylinus*; II. Gruppe; synonym of *planipennis*; catalogue); Coiffait, 1974: 524 (*Tasgius*; subgenus *Paratasgius*; synonym of *planipennis*); Herman, 2001: 3549 (*Tasgius*; synonym of *planipennis*; catalogue); Smetana, 2004: 686 (*Tasgius*; subgenus *Tasgius*; synonym of *planipennis*; catalogue); Schülke & Smetana, 2015: 1106 (*Tasgius*; subgenus *Tasgius*;synonym of *planipennis*; catalogue).
amiculus J. Müller, 1925: 47 (*Staphylinus*; subgenus *Tasgius*; description); Scheerpeltz, 1933: 1390 (*Staphylinus*; II. Gruppe; catalogue); Coiffait, 1964: 83 (*Tasgius*; subgenus *Paratasgius*; listing); Coiffait, 1974: 523 (*Tasgius*; subgenus *Paratasgius*; repeat of original description); Herman, 2001: 3531 (*Tasgius*; catalogue); Smetana, 2004: 686 (*Tasgius*; subgenus *Tasgius*; catalogue); Schülke & Smetana, 2015: 1105 (*Tasgius*; subgenus *Tasgius*; catalogue) **syn. nov.**

Type material. *Ocypus fulvipes.*

Type locality. Turcomanie.

Type specimen. Holotype, female, by monotypy, in the collection of the Zoological Instituute, Russian Academy of Sciences, St. Petersburg, Russia: "Turco…….. 3904 (pale red label) / 3904 fulvipes Menetr. Turcom. / O. planipennis Aubé J. Boháč det. 1983 /Tasgius amiculus (G.Müll.) ♀ Gusarov det. 1984 / HOLOTYPE *Ocypus fulvipes* Ménétriés, 1849 teste A. Smetana, 2015".

The specimen was originally pinned, but it was remounted on a plate, with the mandibles open and with the abdomen separated. It is in fair condition: the right antenna is entirely missing, only six segments of the left antenna are present; the right hind tibia and tarsus are missing; the right elytron is slightly damaged with small parts missing around the pinning hole.

Type material. *Staphylinus amiculus.*

Type locality. Kyrgyzstan: "Osh nella provincia Ferganah".

Type specimens. Two male syntypes in the collection of the Naturhistorisches Museum Wien, Austria, are labelled as follows. Specimen Nr. 1: "♂ / Ferganah. Osch. Coll. Hauser 94/ ater rufipes [handwritten]/ coll. Schuster [purple label]/ amiculus m. det. J. Müller/ Lectotypus ♂ Staphylinus amiculus J. Müll. K. Grebennikov des. 2001/ Tasgius s. str. ♂ amiculus (J. Müll.) K. A. Grebennikov det. 2001". The pinned specimen is in good shape with all appendages intact. It was received with the aedoeagus extracted and pinned under the specimen. I dissected the sclerites of the male genital segment, mounted them in Canada Balsam on a transparent plate attached to the pin with the specimen. Specimen Nr. 2: "♂/ Ferganah. Osch. Coll. Hauser 94/ amiculus det. J. Müller/ coll. Schuster [purple label]/ Paralectotypus ♂ Staphylinus amiculus J. Müll. K. Grebennikov det. 2001/ Tasgius s. str. ♂ amiculus (J. Müll.) K. A. Grebennikov det. 2001". The specimen was received with the aedoeagus mounted on transparent plate attached to the pin with the beetle. The specimen is in fair shape with both antennae missing.

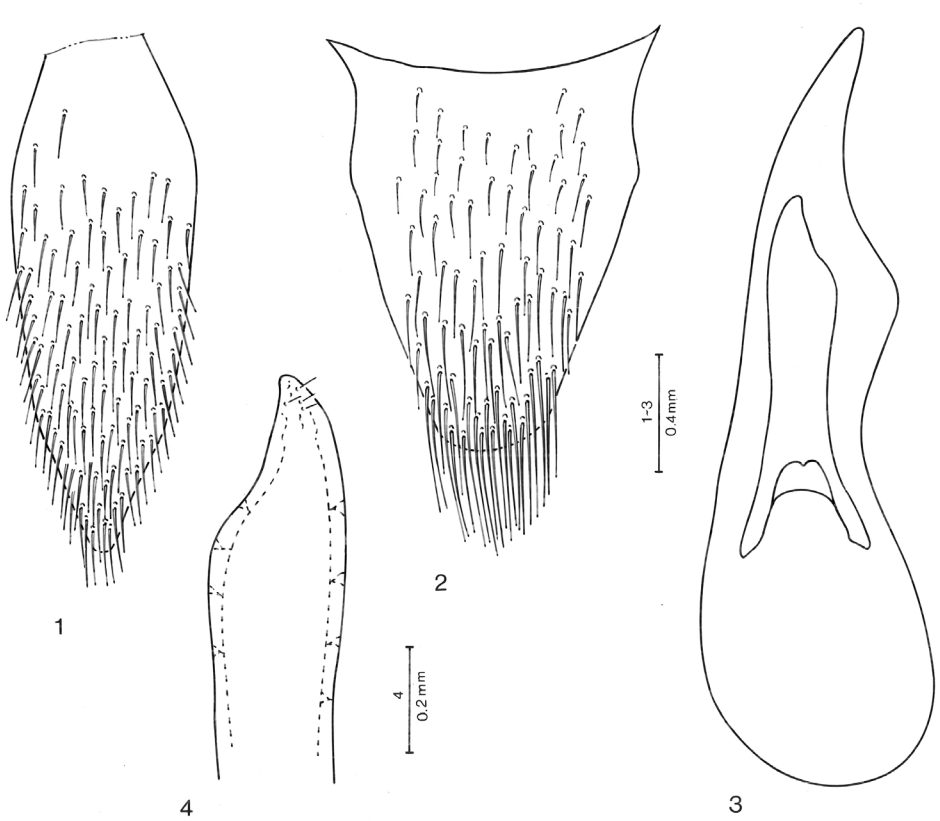
The lectotype and paralectorype designations by K. A. Grebennikov are invalid, since they were never published. Specimen Nr. 1 is hereby designated as the lectotype of *Ocypus amiculus*. The label "LECTOTYPE *Ocypus amiculus* J. Müller, 1925, designated by A.

Smetana, 2015" was attached to the beetle. Specimen Nr. 2 is hereby designated as the paralectotype of *Ocypus amiculus*. The label "PARALECTOTYPE *Ocypus amiculus* J. Müller, 1925, designated by A. Smetana, 2015" was attached to the beetle. My determination label "*Ocypus fulvipes* Ménétriés, 1849 A. Smetana det. 2015 was attached to both specimens.

Diagnosis. *Tasgius fulvipes* is the only Central Asiatic species of the subgenus *Tasgius*, which is entirely black with pale antennae and legs.

Description. Entirely black, head and pronotum shiny; pubescence of dorsal side of body piceous-black; maxillary and labial palpi rufotestaceous; antennae and legs rufobrunneous. Head of rounded quadrangular shape with rounded posterior angles, wider than long (ratio 1.32), eyes moderately large, rather flat, tempora about as long as eyes seen from above; disc of head rather sparsely and moderately coarsely punctate, vertex with narrow impunctate area, punctation becoming somewhat coarser and sparser toward clypeus, and to the contrary denser posterolaterally, temples densely, finely punctate and setose; interspaces between puncture slacking any microsculpture, highly shiny and polished. Antenna moderately long, segment three longer than segment two (ratio 1.30), segments four to seven longer than wide, gradually becoming shorter, segments eight to ten about as long as wide, last segment shorter than the preceding segments combined. Pronotum longer than wide (ratio 1.11), slightly narrowed posteriad, with moderately rounded base, narrow marginal groove disappearing downward at about posterior third of pronotal length; disc of pronotum with entire impunctate midline; punctation similar to that on head, becoming finer and sparser toward anterior and posterior margins, but markedly fined and denser on lateral portions; interspaces between punctures without any microsculpture, highly shiny, polished. Scutellum entirely, densely punctate and setose, interspaces between punctures with fine microsculpture of transverse waves. Elytra moderately long, at suture about as long as, at sides slightly longer than pronotum at midline (ratio 1.13); punctation very fine and very dense, surface of elytra therefore appearing rather dull; transverse interspaces between punctures about as large as diameters of punctures, lacking any microsculpture, setation very dense. Wings well developed. Abdomen with tergite seven bearing pale apical seam of palisade setae; tergite two (in front of first fully visible tergite) with a row of punctures bearing setae along posterior margin, and with finer punctures with shorter setae on each lateral portion; bases of first three visible tergites with punctation similar to that on elytra, punctation becoming distinctly finder and denser toward apical margin of each tergite, and in general toward apex of abdomen; interspaces between punctures with traces of extremely fine, rudimentary microsculpture.

Male. Sternite eight with moderately wide and deep, obtusely triangular medioapical emargination. Sternite 9 as in Fig. 1, densely setose, apical portion with narrowly arcuate apex, basal portion not available. Tergite 10 as in Fig. 2, with apex broadly arcuate, densely set with long setae on apical portion. Aedoeagus of characteristic shape, as in Fig. 1; median lobe in ventral view quite asymmetrical, anteriorly narrowed into slightly curved apical portion with sharp apex; paramere situated on median lobe asymmetrically, of characteristic shape, with subacute apex by far not reaching apex of median lobe (Fig. 3); underside of paramere without pigmented sensory peg setae but with some apical setae of variable length



Figs. 1-4. *Tasgius* (*Tasgius*) *fulvipes* Ménétriés, 1849: 1- sternite 9 of male genital segment; 2- tergite 10 of male genital segment; 3- aedoeagus, ventral view; 4- apical portion of underside of paramere.

(Fig. 4).

Female. Not known.

Length 14.0-15.0 mm.

Bionomics. Nothing is known about the habitat requirements of this species.

Geographical distribution. The original specimen of *Ocypus fulvipes* came from "Turcomania"a geographical term which is at present difficult to interpret properly. The two original specimens of *O. amiculus* came from Osh, which is in Kyrgyzstan and I had an opportunity to study a male specimen from "Transcasp. Geok-Tepe" (Coll. Scheerpeltz, Naturhistorisches Museum in Wien), which is in Turkmenistan. Kyrgyzstan and Turkmenistan are therefore the only two countries with the occurrence of *O. fulvipes* confirmed. The records for Uzbekistan (Herman 2001; Smetana 2004 and Schülke & Smetana 2015) are to be disregarded.

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