

**Contribution to the knowledge of *Thorictus* Germar, 1834  
from the Middle East (Coleoptera: Dermestidae: Thorictinae) - Part. 2**

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**Taxonomy, faunistics, new species, new records, host ant, Coleoptera, Dermestidae, Thorictinae, *Thorictus*, Hymenoptera, Formicidae, Jordan, Israel**

**Abstract.** The species *Thorictus stallingi* sp. nov. from Jordan is described, illustrated and compared with a similar species *Thorictus fuhesanus* John, 1964. The following species are newly recorded: *Thorictus fuhesanus* John, 1964 (Jordan with *Messor ceresii* Santschi, 1934 as a new host ant); *Thorictus impressithorax* Pic, 1930 (Israel); *Thorictus manni* Reichensperger, 1926 (Israel).

## INTRODUCTION

The myrmecophilous dermestid genus *Thorictus* Germar, 1834 currently includes 170 species and subspecies known from the Palaearctic, Oriental and Afrotropical Regions (Löbl 2007, Háva 2015a,b). The present article considers four species collected by entomologists in Jordan and Israel. A new species is new to science.

## MATERIAL AND METHODS

The size of the beetles or of their body parts can be useful in species recognition and thus, the following measurements were made:

total length (TL) - linear distance from anterior margin of pronotum to apex of elytra;  
elytral width (EW) - maximum linear transverse distance.

All measurements are given in millimetres. Locality labels are cited in the original version. Remarks of the author are found in brackets [ ].

Male genitalia were not studied. The differential diagnosis of the aedeagi is often problematical and interspecific variation is currently very poorly defined (John, 1963). The two species groups were stated by John (1963).

The following abbreviations refer to the collection where the examined material is deposited:

BMNH British Museum Natural History, London, United Kingdom;

JHAC Private Entomological Laboratory & Collection, Jiří Háva, Prague-west, Czech Republic;

TAUC Tel Aviv University, The Steinhardt Museum of Natural History, Tel Aviv, Israel;  
TSPC Thomas Stalling, private collection, Inzlingen, Germany.

Specimens of the species described here are provided with a red, printed labels with text as follows: „HOLOTYPE [or PARATYPE, respectively] *Thorictus stallingi* sp. nov. Jiří Háva det. 2018”.

## RESULTS

### Subfamily Thorictinae Tribe Thorictini

#### „*orientalis* species group“

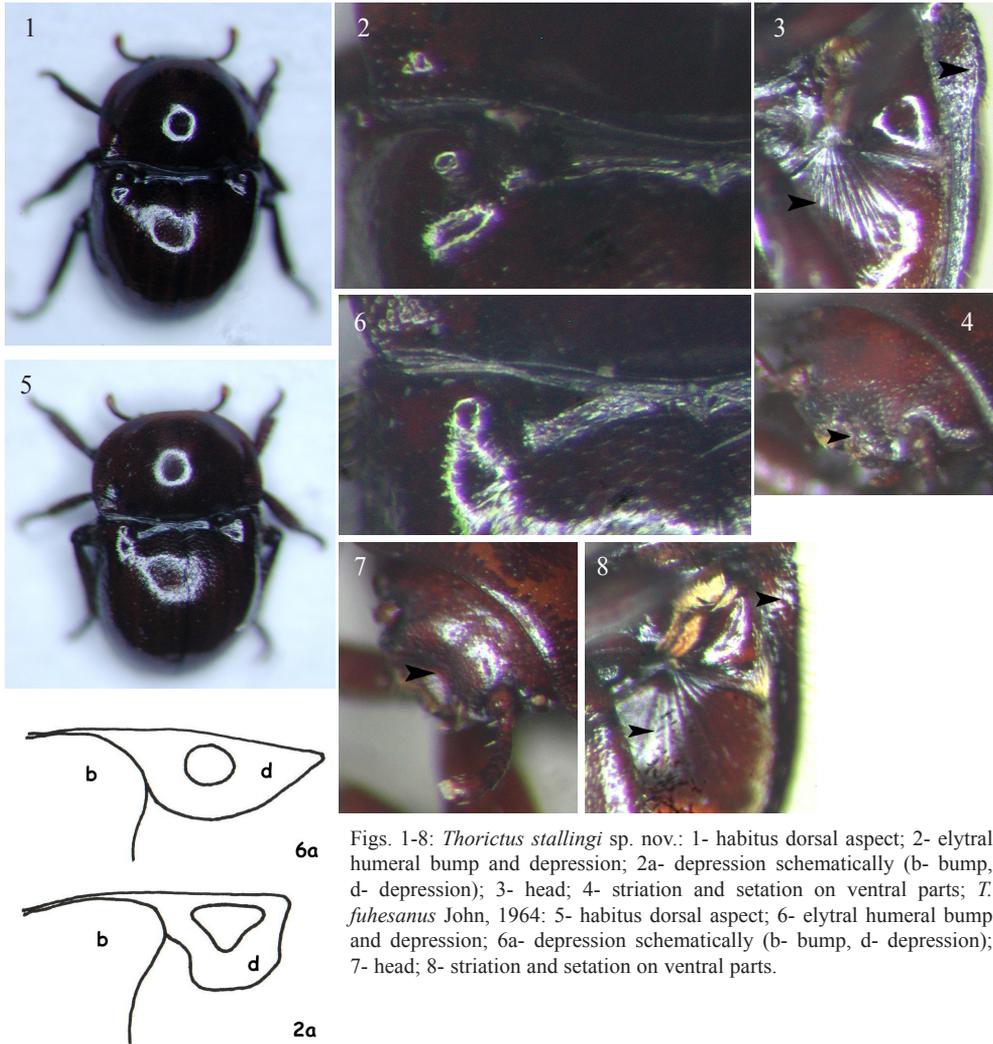
#### *Thorictus stallingi* sp. nov. (Figs. 1-4)

**Type material.** Holotype (not sexed): „JOR [Jordan]-Ajloun, N32°19'215'', E35°43'035'', 590 m, Thomas Stalling leg.“, (BMNH). Paratype (2 spec.): the same data as holotype, (JHAC, TSPC).

**Description.** Body (Fig. 1) large, oval, dark castaneous brown, covered by short, yellow setation on dorsal surfaces and ventral surfaces. Measurements (mm): TL 2.8 EW 1.7. Head finely punctate with very short, yellow, recumbent setae. Labial palpi entirely brown. Clypeus not broad (Fig. 3). Antennae brown, with 11 antennomeres, antennal club compact, with 3 antennomeres, antennomere XI short and broad, with short yellow setae. Lateral eyes on head large, with very small granules. Pronotum as finely punctate as head, covered by short, yellow, recumbent setation. Lateral margin of pronotum finely dentate in anterior part. Posterior angles without long yellow setae. Ventral posterior pronotal angles without yellow setation. Scutellum small, triangular, without setation. Elytra very finely punctate, covered by short, recumbent, yellow setae; lateral yellow setation slightly erect. Each elytron with large humeral bump and with depression near bump (Fig. 2). Epipleuron broad, finely punctate, with short yellow setation. Prosternum coarsely punctate. Mesosternum with small, foveolate punctures. Metasternum finely punctate. Setation on margin of thorax as in Fig. 4. Visible abdominal ventrites very finely punctate, covered by very short, recumbent, yellow setae. Striation on first visible abdominal sternite long and narrow. Legs dark brown, covered by very short yellow setae.

**Differential diagnosis.** The new species belongs to the „*T. orientalis* species group“ defined by (John 1963) and it is very similar to the species *T. fuhesanus* John, 1964, but differs from it by the following characters.

*T. stallingi* sp. nov. - elytra and pronotum with very short yellow setation; elytral bump and depression (Fig. 2); head: clypeus not broad (Fig. 3); posterior striation on first visible abdominal ventrite narrow (Fig. 4); epipleuron broad (Fig. 4).



Figs. 1-8: *Thorictus stallingi* sp. nov.: 1- habitus dorsal aspect; 2- elytral humeral bump and depression; 2a- depression schematically (b- bump, d- depression); 3- head; 4- striation and setation on ventral parts; *T. fuhesanus* John, 1964: 5- habitus dorsal aspect; 6- elytral humeral bump and depression; 6a- depression schematically (b- bump, d- depression); 7- head; 8- striation and setation on ventral parts.

*T. fuhesanus* John, 1964 - elytra and pronotum with long yellow setation; elytral bump and depression as in Fig. 6; head: clypeus very broad (Fig. 7); posterior striation on first visible abdominal ventrite broad (Fig. 8); epipleuron narrow (Fig. 8).

**Name derivation.** Patronymic, dedicated to my colleague Thomas Stalling (Germany) collector of the new species.

**Host ant:** *Messor* sp.



Fig. 9. Type locality of *Thorictus stallingi* sp. nov.: Jordan, Ajloun.

***Thorictus fuhesanus* John, 1964**  
(Figs. 5-8)

**Material examined:** „JOR [Jordan]-Shawbak, N30°31'443'', E 35°33'019'', 1420 m, Thomas Stalling leg.“, 5 spec., J. Háva det., (1 JHAC, 4 TSPC).

**Distribution.** Species known only from Jordan (Háva 2015a), new locality data from Jordan.

**Remarks.** The mentioned specimens was collected in nest of ants *Messor ceresis* Santschi, 1934; this is a new host ant for the species.

***Thorictus impressithorax* Pic, 1930**

**Material examined:** “Israel, N. [Nahal] Shiqma [31°36'51"N, 34°30'23"E; Negev], I ES 4624”, J. Háva det., (JHAC).

**Distribution.** Species known from Egypt and Libya (Háva 2015a), new to Israel.

***Thorictus manni* Reichensperger, 1926**

**Material examined:** Israel, Adullam, 22.iii.2002, Y. Mandelik leg., 1 ♂, A. Herrmann & J. Háva det., (TAUC).

**Distribution.** Species known from Jordan (Háva 2015a), new to Israel.

LIST OF *THORICTUS* SPECIES RECORDED FROM ISRAEL, JORDANIA,  
LEBANON, SYRIA

species	Jordan	Israel	Lebanon	Syria
<i>castaneus</i> species group				
<i>Thorictus castaneus castaneus</i> Germar, 1834			*	*
<i>Thorictus impressithorax</i> Pic, 1930		*		
<i>Thorictus manni</i> Reichensperger, 1926	*	*		
<i>Thorictus pilosus</i> Peyron, 1857	*	*	*	*
<i>orientalis</i> species group				
<i>Thorictus baudii baudii</i> Reitter, 1881	*	*		*
<i>Thorictus baudii ganglbaueri</i> Wasmann, 1896			*	
<i>Thorictus brevipennis</i> John, 1963				*
<i>Thorictus ciliatus</i> Reitter, 1881		*		
<i>Thorictus dilatipennis</i> Reitter, 1881				*
<i>Thorictus dimidiatus</i> Peyron, 1857	*	*	*	*
<i>Thorictus fuhesanus</i> John, 1964	*			
<i>Thorictus grandicollis grandicollis</i> Germar, 1842		*		*
<i>Thorictus klapperichi</i> John, 1964	*			
<i>Thorictus longipennis</i> Coye, 1870			*	
<i>Thorictus mauritanicus</i> Lucas, 1846				*
<i>Thorictus nanus</i> John, 1964	*			
<i>Thorictus petranus</i> John, 1965	*			*
<i>Thorictus procerus</i> John, 1962				*
<i>Thorictus stallingi</i> sp. nov.	*			
<i>Thorictus stricticollis stricticollis</i> Kraatz, 1859				*
<i>Thorictus tuberosus</i> Reitter, 1881		*		
<b>total</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>11</b>

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