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Sauromates gazureki sp. nov., a new species from Serbia (Coleoptera: Curculionidae: Entiminae: Sciaphilini)

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Abstract. *Sauromates gazureki* sp. nov. from Serbia is described, illustrated and compared with the other species of the genus.

INTRODUCTION

Korotyaev (1992) described the genus *Sauromates* and included a single species *S. arnoldii* Korotyaev, 1992 based on ten specimens of both sexes from the Doneck and Rostov region of Russia. He compared his new genus with *Sciaphilomorphus* Alonso-Zarazaga & Lyal, 1999, represented by its type species *S. aurosus* (Boheman, 1845). *S. arnoldii* was later collected also in Ukraine, Luhansk Oblast, Slavjanoserbsk. Later Białooki (2007) transferred Formánek´s *Omias villosus* described from south eastern Belarus to the genus *Sauromates*, and stated new findings of this genus and species *S. villosus* from European part of Turkey, Saray. Discovery of three female specimens from south east Serbia extended the occurrence of the genus more to the west, to the Balcan, and are proposed as a new species in this paper.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Body length of all specimens was measured in dorsal view from the anterior border of the eyes to the apex of the elytra, excluding the rostrum. Width/length ratio of the rostrum was measured as width at base versus maximum length to the base of the mandibles in dorsal view. Width/length ratios of pronotum, elytra, antennal and tarsal segments were taken at the maximum width and length of the respective parts in dorsal view. Female genitalia were embedded in Solakryl BMX (Medika, Prague). Habitus images were taken with a Canon EOS 5D mark II camera in combination with a Canon MP-E65 1-5x macro lens. The resulting images were focus stacked by Zerene Stacker and post-processed in Adobe Photoshop CC 2015. Terminology of the rostrum and the genitalia follows Oberprieler et al. (2014).

The material is deposited in the following collections (identified by the acronyms):
RBSC Roman Borovec, private collection, Sloupno, Czech Republic;
TGWP Tomasz Gazurek, private collection, Warszawa, Poland.

TAXONOMIC PART

Sauromates gazureki sp. nov.
(Figs. 1-6)

Type locality. Serbia, Vlasina Stojkovićeva.

Type material. Holotype (♀): Serbia near village Vlasina Stojkovićeva 42°41'58″ N 22°21'22″ E 30.05.2022 (~ 1260 m) leg. T. Gazurek, (TGWP). Paratypes: (2 ♀♀): same data as holotype, (TGWP, RBSC).

Description. Body length 3.69-3.91 mm, holotype 3.69 mm. Body (Fig. 1) with integument black, antennae and legs unicolorous, reddish brown, only basal part of clubs darker. Elytral interstriae densely covered by slender, long oval, pointed posteriad appressed scales, 8-10 across width of one interstria, densely covered integument and leaving narrow striae glabrous; scales white with feeble pearly sheen and slightly more slender, greyish scales. Striae with very short, fine white setae. Interstriae at posterior declivity with hardly visible row of very short, piliform, semi-appressed white setae. Pronotum and head including rostrum with similar appressed scales, more sparsely placed, on pronotal disc transversely orientated, on pronotal sides slightly wider than scales on disc. Antennal scapes with inconspicuous, sparse, short, piliform appressed setae; funicles with semi-erect short setae; clubs finely setose. Legs with short, sparse, white, piliform appressed setae.

Rostrum (Figs. 2, 3) short, 1.21-1.26× as wide as long, in basal half distinctly evenly tapered apicad with slightly concave sides, in apical half subparallel-sided with straight sides. At base 1.31-1.34× as wide as at apex; in lateral view almost flat, only in short apical part declined. Epifrons well edged only in apical half, subparallel-sided, in basal half with unclear margins, posteriorly continuous with head, dorsally flat. Frons not posteriorly separated from epifrons. Epistome small, V-shaped, faintly posteriorly carinated. Antennal scrobes in dorsal view visible as narrow furrows in anterior rostral half; in lateral view with dorsal margin short, straight, directed towards dorsal eye margin, ventral margin distinctly curved downwards but vanishing in long distance from it. Eyes small, regularly convex, distinctly prominent from outline of head in dorsal view; in lateral view semicircular in outline, placed in dorsal third of head height, not reaching dorsal margin of head. Head behind eyes slightly shorter than longitudinal diameter of eye. Vertex wide and flat, as wide as rostrum in anterior half. Head including rostrum finely densely punctured, punctures in middle part connect to fine longitudinal irregular striae.

Antennae (Fig. 1) slender, scape 5.8-6.0× as long as at apex wide, weakly regularly curved, slightly evenly enlarged apicad, at apex 0.6-0.7× as wide as club. Funicle with segments 1 and 2 conical, segment 1 2.2-2.4× as long as wide and 1.2-1.3× as wide as segment 2, this is 1.7-1.8× as long as wide; segment 3 isodiametric; segments 4 and 5 1.1-1.2× as wide as long; segment 6 1.3× as wide as long; segment 7 1.4-1.5× as wide as long; club 1.7-1.8× as long as wide.

Pronotum (Fig. 1) 1.42-1.46× as wide as long, widest at midlength, with regularly rounded sides, anterior margin only slightly narrower than posterior one. Disc regularly domed, finely and densely punctured, distance between punctures very narrow, narrower than puncture radius, glossy. Pronotum in lateral view regularly vaulted.

Scutellum small, triangular, glabrous.

Elytra (Fig. 1) oval, 1.16-1.19× as long as wide, widest at midlength with regularly rounded sides, apically broadly rounded; in lateral view regularly vaulted. Striae slender, punctured, punctures and also space between deepened; interstriae wide, flat, smooth, glossy.

Pro- and mesofemora with small, blunt tooth (Fig. 1), metamefora edentate. Protibiae laterally straight, mesally enlarged apicad at basal third, apex rounded, slightly enlarged outside as well as inside, mucronate, with fringe of short and fine setae. Metatibial apex oval, glabrous, shiny. Tarsi (Fig. 1) with segment 2 1.3-1.4× as wide as long; segment 3 1.2-1.3× as wide as long and 1.3-1.4× as wide as segment 2; onychium short, in protarsi 0.8-0.9× as long as segment 3, in metatarsi subequal in length as segment 3; claws fused at basal half, then faintly divergent.

Abdominal ventrites 1.05-1.12× as long as wide; ventrite 1 in middle somewhat longer than

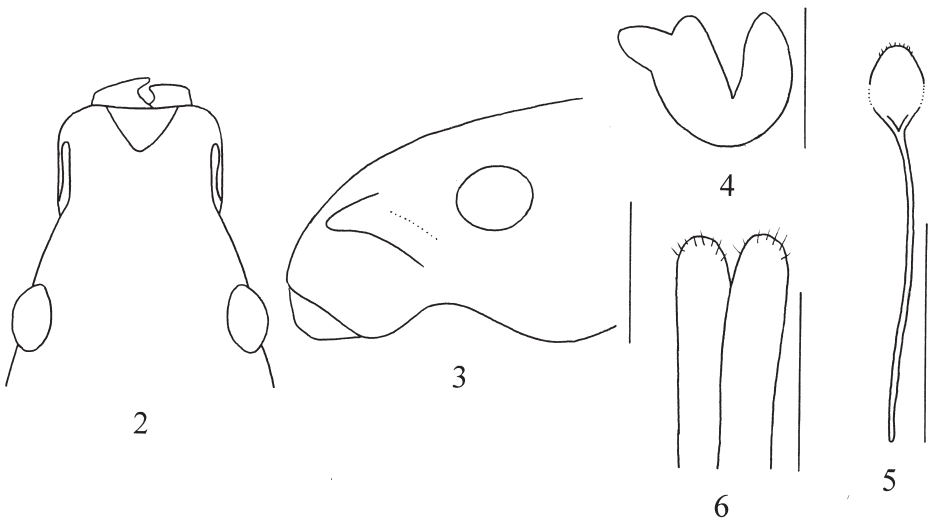

Fig. 1. Dorsal habitus of *Sauromates gazureki* sp. nov.
Figs. 2-6. Structural details of *Sauromates gazureki* sp. nov. 2- head with rostrum in dorsal view; 3- head with rostrum in lateral view; 4- spermatheca; 5- sternite VIII in female; 6- gonocoxites. Scale 0.25 mm for Figs. 4, 6; 0.50 mm for Fig. 2, 3; 1.00 mm for Fig. 5.

ventrite 2; ventrite 2 in middle as long as ventrites 3 and 4 together; ventrite 5 apically rounded. Suture between ventrites 1 and 2 sinuate, fine, the others straight, more rough. Metaventral process slightly rounded, narrower than transverse diameter of metacoxa. Ventrites glabrous, sparsely punctuate, with very sparse, short, semi-appressed, greyish setae.

Female terminalia. Spermatheca (Fig. 4) with cornu wide, slightly regularly curved; corpus rounded, elongated; ramus large, subtrapezoidal, slightly wider than long; collum distinctly smaller than ramus, rounded. Sternite VIII (Fig. 5) with apodeme long and slender, basally forming basal margin of plate; plate small, oval, apically rounded with fringe of short, fine setae. Gonocoxites (Fig. 6) slender, long, subparallel-sided, apically rounded lacking styli, here with several sparse, short, fine setae.

Differential diagnosis. The newly described species is easily possible to recognize from both already known species by the following characters:

S. gazureki: Larger, at least 3.7 mm. Pro- and mesofemora with small, blunt tooth. Rostrum tapered in basal half. Head behind eyes densely punctate. Funicle segment 2 long, 1.7-1.8× as long as wide; segment 6 1.3× as wide as long; segment 7 1.4-1.5× as wide as long. Scales on elytral interstriae dense, fully covering integument.

S. arnoldii, *villosus*: Smaller, at most 3.1 mm. All femora edentate. Rostrum tapered in basal third. Head behind eyes smooth. Funicle segment 2 short, 1.4-1.5× as long as wide; segment 6 1.1× as wide as long; segment 7 1.2× as wide as long. Scales on elytral interstriae sparse, integument between setae visible.

Etymology. The newly described species is dedicated to its collector, Tomasz Gazurek (Instytut Nauk Leśnych, Warszawa, Poland).

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