

***Heterocerus kamtschaticus* A. Egorov, 1989 is a new synonym of the Holarctic *H. fenestratus* (Thunberg, 1784) (Coleoptera: Heteroceridae)**

***Heterocerus kamtschaticus* A. Egorov, 1989 – НОВЫЙ СИНОНИМ ГОЛАРКТИЧЕСКОГО *H. fenestratus* (Thunberg, 1784) (Coleoptera: Heteroceridae)**

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Based on the examination of the type specimens of *Heterocerus kamtschaticus* A. Egorov, 1989, described from Kamchatka, the following synonymy is proposed: *Heterocerus fenestratus* (Thunberg, 1784) = *H. kamtschaticus* A. Egorov, 1989, **syn. nov.**

На основании изучения типовых экземпляров *Heterocerus kamtschaticus* A. Egorov, 1989, описанного с Камчатки, установлена новая синонимия: *Heterocerus fenestratus* (Thunberg, 1784) = *H. kamtschaticus* A. Egorov, 1989, **syn. nov.**

**Key words:** variegated mud-loving beetles, Kamchatka, Heteroceridae, *Heterocerus*, new synonymy

**Ключевые слова:** жуки-пилоусы, Камчатка, Heteroceridae, *Heterocerus*, новая синонимия

## INTRODUCTION

*Heterocerus kamtschaticus* was described on the basis of four specimens from Kamchatka. No additional specimens of the species were collected ever since. *Heterocerus kamtschaticus* was considered endemic to Kamchatka and included in the Red Book of Kamchatka (Lobkova, 2006). However, its differences from *H. fenestratus* were unclear and in need of checking; the results of such checking are given here.

## TAXONOMY

Order **COLEOPTERA**

Family **HETERO CERIDAE** MacLeay, 1825

Genus ***Heterocerus*** Fabricius, 1792

***Heterocerus fenestratus* (Thunberg, 1784)**  
(Figs 1, 2)

*Heterocerus kamtschaticus* A. Egorov, 1989: 453,  
**syn. nov.**

The type series of *H. kamtschaticus* is deposited in the collection of the Zoological Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences, St Petersburg (ZIN) and in the collection of the Institute of Biology and Pedology of the Far East Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Vladivostok. Two specimens of the type series were examined (both in ZIN): holotype, a female with a geographical label “Kamchatka, Kronotskiy zapovednik, kaldera Uzon, 4.9.77, termalnye ploschadki u granitsy rastitelnosti” (in Cyrillic); and paratype, a male with a geographical label “Kamchatka, okrestnosti vulkana Uzon, galechnik termalnoy ploschadki, 1.7.1986 Lobkova L.” (in Cyrillic). The structure of the aedeagus was investigated for the first time.

As stated in the original description, the most distinctive character of *H. kamtschaticus* is the presence of two deep depressions on the pronotal base to the sides of the mid-



**Figs 1, 2.** *Heterocerus fenestratus*, aedeagus, dorsal view: 1, Kamchatka, paratype of *H. kamtschaticus*; 2, Samara Province. Scale bar: 0.2 mm.

dle. However, such depressions are present only in the holotype and absent in the examined paratype. According to our data, similar depressions are occasionally present in some species of *Heterocerus* (in particular in *H. fenestratus*) and in some species of the related genus *Augyles* Schiödte, 1866. Therefore, this feature can not be a distinctive specific character and probably represents only the individual characteristic occurring in different species. The form and structure of the aedeagus (Figs 1, 2), the shape of the pronotum (wrinkled along the base), the colour of the legs, and especially a characteristic elytral pattern suggest that the type specimens belong to *H. fenestratus*, the species widely distributed over the Holarctic Region including Kamchatka. Thus *H. kamtschaticus* should be treated as a synonym of the latter species.

*Heterocerus kamtschaticus* is recommended to exclude from the Red Book of Kamchatka (Lobkova, 2006).

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