

A new species of *Agriotes* from the Caucasus (Coleoptera: Elateridae)

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Agriotes stepanovorum sp. n. is described from Russia (Krasnodar Terr.).

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The Palaearctic species of the genus *Agriotes* Eschsch. are rather well studied (for a review of literature see Gurjeva, 1979; Dolin, 1988).

The holotype and two paratypes of the new species described in this paper are kept in the Zoological Institute, St.Petersburg; one paratype is deposited at the Entomological Museum of the Kuban State Agrarian University, Krasnodar.

***Agriotes stepanovorum* sp. n.** (Figs 1-6)

Holotype. ♂, Russia, Krasnodar Terr., Goryachiy Klyuch env., ex larva, 1990 (V. Orlov).

Paratypes. 2 ♂, same locality, 20.VI.1972 and 26.VI.1990 (V. Orlov); 1 ♀, same locality, 1990 (V. Orlov).

Description. ♂ (Fig. 1). Body reddish brown to dark brown; legs and antennae paler, with light grey pubescence. Length 9.5-10.4 mm, width 2.3-3.2 mm.

Head with coarse simple punctures separated by a distance equal to half of their diameter. Supraantennal carina not reaching frontal edge, as long as antennal segment 1.

Antennae (Fig. 3) reaching or slightly extending apices of posterior angles of pronotum; segment 1 arcuate; pedicel cylindrical, 1.6 times as long as wide; segment 3 approximately equal in length to segment 2 and 1.3 times shorter than slightly triangular segment 4; segment 4 approximately 1.5 times as long as wide; segment 5 slightly triangular, shorter than segment 4 and 1.7 times as long as wide; segments 6 to 10 slightly triangular, similar in shape and length, 1.3 times as long as wide; apical segment lanceolate, somewhat longer than segment 10, 2.1 times as long as wide.

Pronotum rectangular, scarcely elongate (in the paratype collected 20.IV.1972 scarcely transverse), widest in anterior third, slightly narrowed backwards, with almost parallel sides in posterior third; posterior macro slope with median furrow; anterior angles hardly projecting beyond front edge of pronotum; posterior angles moderately wide and long, feebly divergent, acute at apices; lateral grooves rather distinct in all their length; disc with regular and dense round punctures, distance between punctures less than their diameter, equal to half diameter on disc.

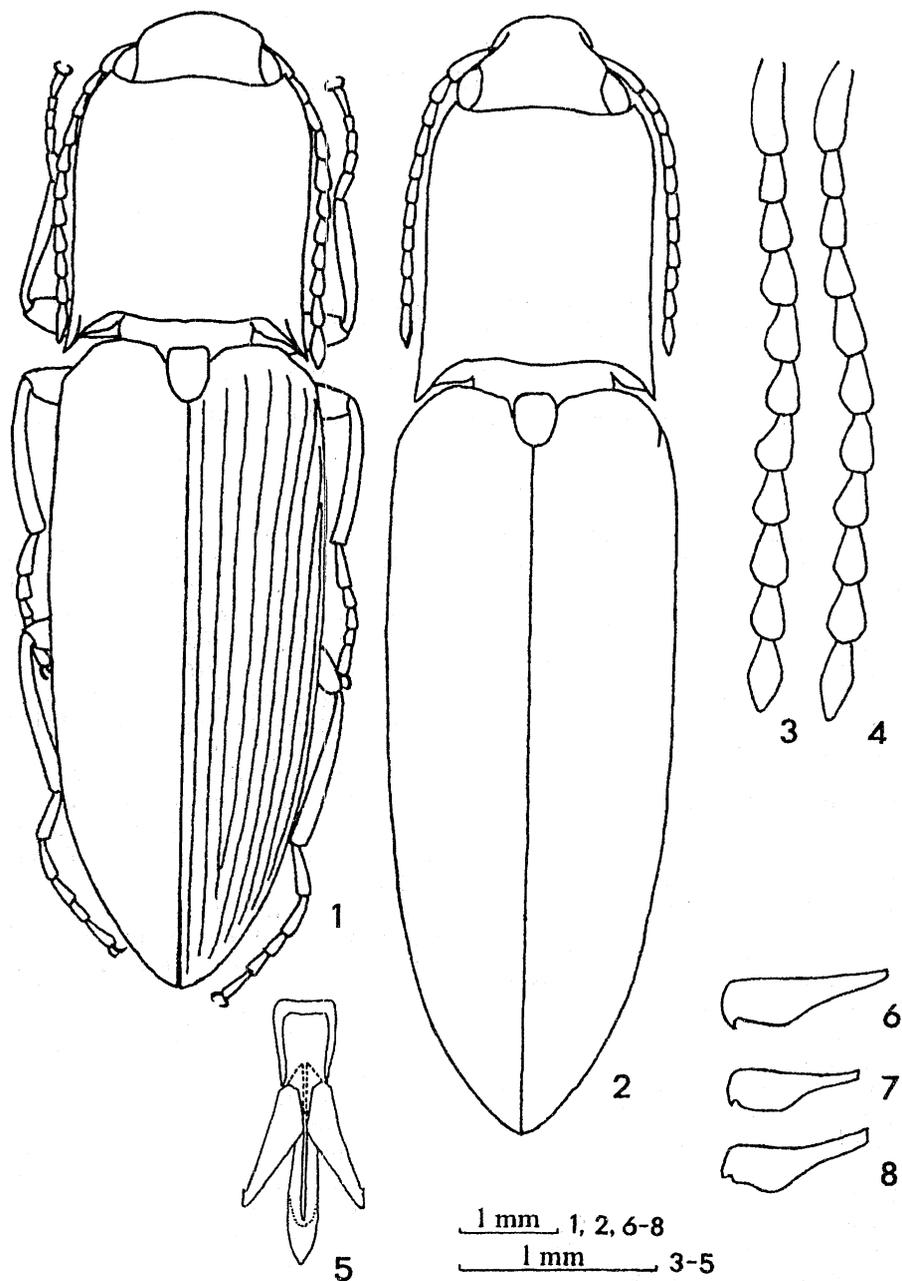
Scutellum rounded at apex, 1.2 times as long as wide. Elytra widest in basal half, 2.3 times as long as wide and as wide as pronotum (with hind angles); striae shallow, foveoles in striae distinct, elongate, distance between foveoles in central part less than half of their length; interspaces slightly convex, shining, depressed, shallowly punctate. Posterior coxal plates as in Fig. 6.

Aedeagus as in Fig. 5.

♀ (Fig. 2). Length 10.5 mm, width 6.3 mm. Antennae (Fig. 4) not reaching posterior angles of pronotum; antennal segments shorter.

Discussion. The new species belongs to the *A. meticulousus* Cand. species group (Gurjeva, 1979) and is most closely related to *A. oxianus* Iabl.-Khnz. and *A. unicolor* Koenig, differing from the former in the coxal plates widening in the middle, and from the latter – in the straight margin of inner half of coxal plates.

Etymology. The new species is named after Evgeniy Mikhaylovich Stepanov and Natalya Evgenievna Stepanova.



Figs 1-8. *Agriotes*. 1-6. *A. stepanovorum* sp. n. 1, holotype, general view; 2, female, general view; 3, antennae of male; 4, antennae of female; 5, aedeagus, holotype; 6, posterior coxal plates. 7, *A. oxianus* labl.-Khnz., posterior coxal plates. 8, *A. unicolor* Koenig, the same.

References

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