

**New species of the genus *Mesosa* Latreille, 1829 (Coleoptera, Cerambycidae) from North Iran**

**M.L. Danilevsky<sup>1</sup>, J. Müller<sup>2,3</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>A.N. Severtzov Institute of Ecology and Evolution, Russian Academy of Sciences  
Leninsky prospect 33, Moscow 119071 Russia

e-mail: danilevskym1@rambler.ru, danilevsky@cerambycidae.net

<sup>2</sup>National park Bavarian Forest, Head of the Conservation & Research Department  
Freyunger Str. 2, 94481 Grafenau, Germany

e-mail: joerg.mueller@npv-bw.bayern.de

<sup>3</sup>Field Station Fabrikshleichach, Department of Animal Ecology and Tropical  
Biology, Biocenter University of Würzburg, Glashüttenstraße 5, 96181  
Rauhenebrach, Germany

**Key words:** new species, taxonomy, Cerambycidae, Lamiinae, *Mesosa*, *Aplocnemia*, Iran.

**Abstract:** *Mesosa* (*Aplocnemia*) *jarzabekae* sp. n. close to *M. (A.) obscuricornis* Pic, 1894 is described from North Iran (Mazandaran). The main distinguishing character is the absence of erect elytral setae.

The subgenus *Aplocnemia* Stephens, 1831 of the genus *Mesosa* Latreille, 1829 was known up to now in Caucasus and neighbor areas of Iran and Turkey being represented by two closely related species: *M. (A.) nebulosa* (Fabricius, 1781) - widely distributed in the West Palaearctics and *M. (A.) obscuricornis* Pic, 1894 - an endemic species of Azerbaijanian Talysh Area and West Elburs Ridge in Iran (Danilevsky & Smetana, 2010). A discovery of a third species in Mazandaran is very interesting, but not that surprising. There are several vicariant species or subspecies replacing Talysh taxa in North Iran. *Cerambyx elbursi* Jureček, 1924 replaces *C. multiplicatus* Motschulsky, 1860; *Isotomus comptus gilanus* (Pic, 1911) replaces *I. comptus comptus* (Mannerheim, 1825) which is very numerous in Talysh Area and so on.

*Mesosa (Aplocnemia) jarzabekae* sp. n.

Fig. 1

**Type locality.** North Iran, Mazandaran, Sari-Dodangeh-Boola Forest, 10 km s Part Kola, 995 m, 36.046713°N, 53.290651°E

Two males were collected with flight interception traps in the downed tree crown of a broken *Carpinus betulus*. However, only holotype is in good condition. The second male lost a part of elytral pubescence, and as a result its elytral design is indistinct. The holotype is described below. The new species is close to *M. (A.) obscuricornis* Pic, 1894 (Fig. 2).

Body relatively big, elongated; cuticle black; ground recumbent elytral and pronotal pubescence brown; erect elytral and pronotal setae absent; (erect elytral and pronotal setae present in *M. obscuricornis* and distributed just to elytral apex); a few small granules hardly pronounced near elytral bases (as well as in *M. obscuricornis*); vertex and pronotum with groups of regular dots, without wrinkles or granules; sculpture of 1<sup>st</sup> antennal joint is very fine, with several distinct dots; cicatrix not complete, but distinct; antennae much longer than body, surpassing elytral apex by 5 apical joints, with numerous erect setae, which are relatively shorter than in *M. obscuricornis*; 1<sup>st</sup> antennal joint about as long as 5<sup>th</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> joint is much longer than 5<sup>th</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> joint is the longest; prothorax about 1.3 times shorter than its basal width; pronotal sculpture is similar to *M. obscuricornis* but dots are definitely smaller; all pronotal setae are brown, while in *M. obscuricornis* white pronotal setae are rather numerous; scutellum strongly transverse and distinctly emarginated, while in *M. obscuricornis* scutellum subquadrate; elytra about 2 times longer than its basal width, while in *M. obscuricornis* elytra a little shorter - about 1.9 times longer than wide; elytral punctuation is smaller, less regular than in *M. obscuricornis* and much sparser; the size of neighbor elytral dots can be rather different; black rings surrounding dots hardly pronounced; central elytral band strongly bordered with black stripes (never so distinct in *M. obscuricornis*), internal margins of black stripes bordered with white setae much more numerous anteriorly; erect setae of legs shorter; abdomen pubescence sparser, rather pale, nearly white; 2<sup>nd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> visible abdominal sternites with elongated transverse areas of very dense

**M.L. Danilevsky, J. Müller**

short pubescence typical for the subgenus; in *M. obscuricornis* and *M. nebulosa* these areas are about as dark-brown as surrounding abdominal pubescence, while in the new species the areas are nearly white; last abdominal tergites and sternites rounded; postpygidium a little angulated; body length: 10.8-14.4 mm, width: 4.0-5.1 mm.

**Remark.** *Mesosa (Aplocnemia) jarzabekae* sp. n. is close to *M. obscuricornis*, but differs by many small characters. The most significant character seems to be the absence of erect elytral setae.

**Materials.** Holotype, male with label: "North Iran, Mazandaran, Sari-Dodangeh-Boola Forest, 10km s Part Kola, 995 m, 36.046713°N, 53.290651°E, *Carpinus* trap 4-3, 7.2015, leg. H.Barimani" - collection of M.Danilevsky; paratype, male, with the label: "North Iran, Mazandaran, Sari-Dodangeh-Boola Forest, 10km s Part Kola, 995m, 36.046713°N, 53.290651°E, *Carpinus* trap 4-2, 6.2015, leg. H.Barimani" - collection of J. Müller.

*M. obscuricornis*: 4 males and 3 females collected near Avrora village in Girkan Natural Reserve (1972, 1980-1981, 1984) by M.Danilevsky - collection of M.Danilevsky.

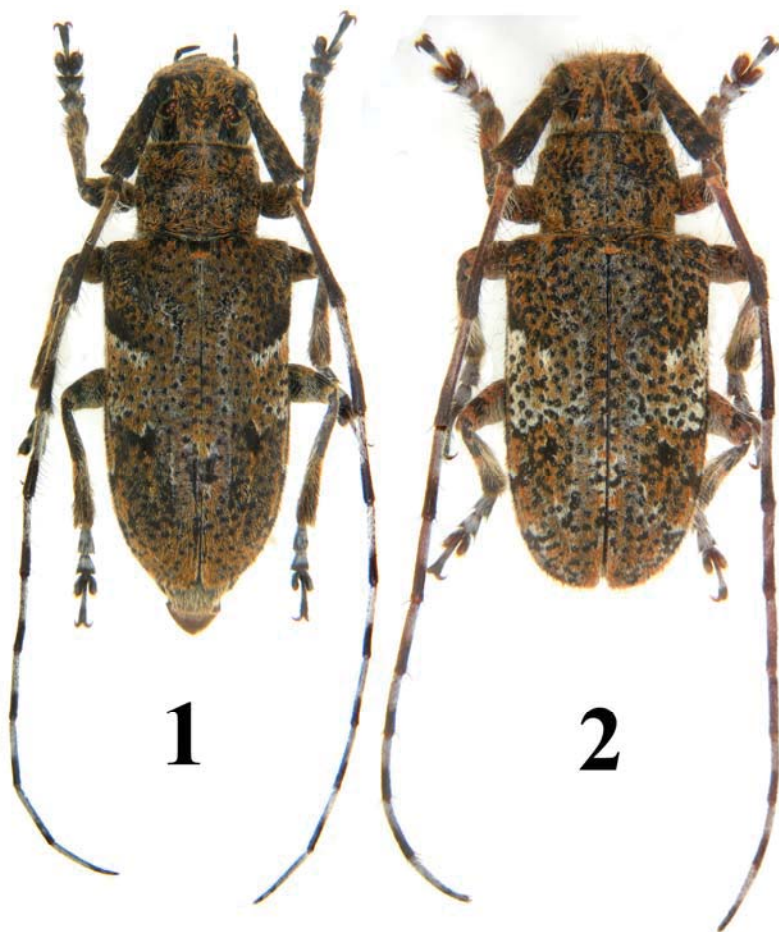
*M. nebulosa*: 4 males and 7 females from West Europe, Caucasus and North Africa - collection of M.Danilevsky.

**Dedication.** The new species is dedicated to Andrea Jarzabek-Müller - wife of Dr. Müller, who is hunting with him beetles all over Palaearctic Region.

**Acknowledgements.** We are very grateful to Dr. Hassan Barimani Varandi (Natural Resources Department of Agricultural and Natural Resources Research Centre of Mazandaran, Sari, Iran) for collecting of the type series and to Khosro Sagheb-Talebi (Research Institute of Forests & Rangelands, Tehran) for support in the research of saproxylic biodiversity.

**REFERENCE**

Danilevsky M.L. & Smetana A. 2010. [Cerambycidae taxa from Russia and countries of former Soviet Union, and Mongolia]. - In: I. Löbl & A. Smetana (ed.): Catalogue of Palaearctic Coleoptera, Vol. 6. Stenstrup: Apollo Books. 924 pp.



**Fig. 1.** Holotype, male, *Mesosa (Aplocnemia) jarzabekae* sp. n.:

**Fig. 2.** *Mesosa (Aplocnemia) obscuricornis*, male, Azerbaijan, Talysh Area [about 38.656085°N, 48.798577°E], Avrora village, 24.7.1972, M. Danilevsky leg.

Received: 11.03.2016

Accepted: 20.03.2016