Studies and Reports
Taxonomical Series 6 (1-2): 87-90, 2010

A new species of the genus *Ctesias* (*Decemctesias*) from Greece (Coleoptera: Dermestidae: Megatomini)

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Taxonomy, new species, distribution, Coleoptera, Dermestidae, *Ctesias, Decemctesias*, Greece

Abstract. *Ctesias eggeri* sp. nov. is described, illustrated and compared with related species.

INTRODUCTION

The 23 different species of the genus *Ctesias* Stephens, 1830 are known in the world. Ten of them belong to the subgenus *Decemctesias* Háva, 2004 (Háva, 2005). From Greece so far only one species, *Ctesias* (s. str.) *serra* (Fabricius, 1792), has been recorded (Mroczkowski 1968, Háva 2003). In the present paper, the authors describe a new species collected in Greece.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

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

(EL) elytral length - linear distance from shoulder to apex of elytron.
(EW) elytral width - maximal linear transverse distance.
(PL) pronotal length - maximal length measured from anterior margin to posterior margin.
(PW) pronotal width - maximal linear transverse distance.
(TL) total length - linear distance from anterior margin of pronotum to apex of elytra.

The specimen of the described species is provided with a red, printed label showing the following text: „HOLOTYPUS *Ctesias* (*Decemctesias*) *eggeri* sp. n., A. Herrmann & J. Háva det. 2009".

DESCRIPTION

Ctesias (*Decemctesias*) *eggeri* sp. nov.

(Figs 1-3)

Type material. Holotype (♂): „GR. Peloponnes, Taigetosgeb. BF, Saidona, 10.vi.2006, leg. Manfred Egger". "GR." means "Greece", "Taigetosgeb." means "Taigetos mountains" and "BF" is the abbreviation of "Barberfalle", the German expression for a trap filled with a liquid according to the recipe developed by Barber. The holotype is deposited in the collection of the first author; the left hind leg of the specimen is missing.

Description. Body straightened, except the black head shiny darkish-brown on dorsal and ventral surface, with light brown abdominal segments (Fig. 1). Body measurements (in mm): TL 3.7 PL 0.7 PW 1.6 EL 2.9 EW 1.9.

Head coarsely punctate, sparsely covered with strong and slightly recumbent darkish-brown hairs; the puncture is partly indistinct and somewhat blurred. Palpi and labrum light brown. Eyes large with erected and extreme short microsetae. Ocellus light brown and present on front. Antennae entirely light brown, 10-segmented; antennal club with 3 antennomeres, more than 2 times as long as the other segments combined, the three segments of the club are strongly serrate on one side, segments 8 and 9 almost triangular, densely covered with decumbent short pubescence; hairs on the shaft are sparser, longer and stronger. (Fig. 2).

Pronotum shiny dark brown, sparsely and distinctly punctured, covered with suberected, strong darkish brown hairs; colour of the cuticle somewhat brightened towards the lateral margins; pronotal lateral margins distinctly bordered and smooth, untoothed.

Scutellum shiny brown, quite small, triangular, without pubescence, not punctured.

Elytra also shiny brown, covered sparsely with strong, suberected dark brown hairs, puncture a little bit denser and stronger than on pronotum, lateral margins smooth, untoothed; humeri with a large bump (Fig. 1). Colour of epipleura the same as in elytra, sparsely punctured, with recumbent brown hairs.

Legs and tarsi light brown, covered with thin brown hairs.

Mesosternum coarsely punctuate, with recumbent, strong dark brown hairs.

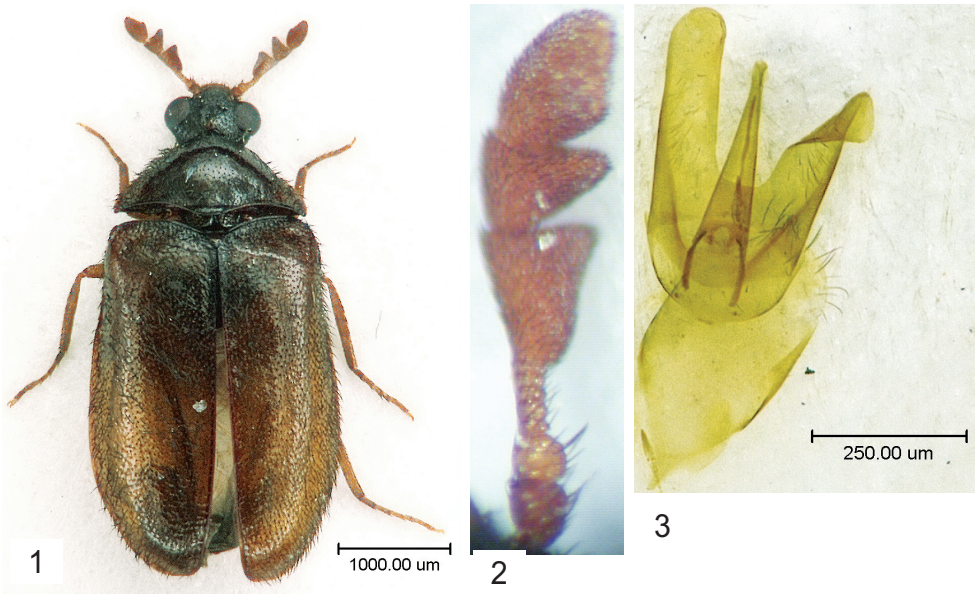
Abdominal sternites light brown, punctures and pubescence quite similar to elytra.

Male genitalia as shown in (Fig. 3).

Female unknown.

Differential diagnosis. The new species belongs after 10 segmented antennae to the subgenus *Decemctesias* Háva, 2004 and differs from all other members of the subgenus by the unicoloured pubescence of the elytra, which is entirely dark brown, without forming any spots or fasciae; it furthermore differs from the similarly looking common European species *Ctesias* (s. str.) *serra* (Fabricius, 1792) by the number of antennal segments as well as by the male genitalia.

Etymology. Patronymic; the name is dedicated to the coleopterist Manfred Egger from Austria, the collector of this new species.



Figs 1-3. *Ctesias eggeri* sp. nov.: 1- habitus (dorsal aspect); 2- antenna; 3- genitalia.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS. We are deeply obliged to Mr. Manfred Egger from Austria for the loan of his interesting material and donating the regarding specimen.

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Received: 26.12.2009
Accepted: 1.1.2010