

Short Communication

First Record of *Cyphonotus testaceus* (Pallas, 1781) (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae: Melolonthinae: Melolonthini) from Pakistan

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(received July 11, 2013; revised August 24, 2013; accepted August 29, 2013)

Abstract. The melolonthine species *Cyphonotus testaceus* (Pallas, 1781) is for the first time recorded from Pakistan. Geographic distribution of this rarely collected species is summarized. Habitus photo of the male collected in Pakistan is presented.

Keywords: *Cyphonotus testaceus*, new record, melolonthini, palaearctic region, oriental region, Pakistan

Pakistani fauna of chafers belonging to the tribe Melolonthini is still known only insufficiently. Since there is no any comprehensive taxonomic treatment, data about Melolonthini of Pakistan could be extracted from few faunistic papers and/or catalogues only (Bezdek, 2006; Hashmi and Tashfeen, 1992; Chaudhry *et al.*, 1966). The striking exception is quite recent taxonomic contribution on *Melolontha* of Pakistan (Keith and Saltin, 2012).

The genus *Cyphonotus* Fischer von Waldheim, 1824 differs from all other Palaearctic and NW Oriental genera of Melolonthini by the following combination of characters: body large and stout (26-40 mm), outer margin of protibia with three strong teeth, subapical calcar of protibia missing in both sexes, clypeus with widely rounded anterior angles, antennal club 4-segmented and very short in both sexes (Baraud, 1992; Medvedev, 1951). Currently, the genus comprises only two valid species (Bezdek, 2006; Nikolaev, 1976; Petrovitz, 1962), insufficiently known *C. bicoloratus* Petrovitz, 1962 described according to a single female from Iraq, Assur and rather widely distributed *C. testaceus* (Pallas, 1781). In 2012, the senior author discovered one male specimen of *C. testaceus* in the vicinity of the village Jamaldini in SW Pakistan representing the first record of this chafer for Pakistan.

Material examined. Pakistan (Balochistan province): village Jamaldini (29 °33'N 65 °59'E, 950 m a.s.l.), district Nushki, 12. vi. 2012, leg. Shuja Jan, 1 male at light (Fig. 1), deposited in Zubair Ahmed's collection.



Fig. 1. Habitus photo of the male *Cyphonotus testaceus*.

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Geographic distribution. *C. testaceus* is a rather widely distributed species. It is known from eastern Ciscaucasia (lowland of river Terek), eastern Transcaucasia (Armenia and Nakhchivan Auto-nomous Republic) (Iablokoff-Khnzoryan, 1967), Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, southern Kazakhstan and Iran (Medvedev, 1951). Moreover, Medvedev (1951) listed it also from Baluchistan, but without more precise data. Here, we report the first reliably confirmed record for Pakistan.

Acknowledgement

We are grateful to BRSP (Balochistan Rular Support Programme) for providing necessary facilities during the visit of Nushki.

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