

**Short note**Submitted: October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015 - Accepted: March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2016 - Published: June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016

## New data on Palaearctic Xantholinini. 9°. Three new Mediterranean species of *Xantholinus* (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae) [258<sup>th</sup> contribution to the knowledge of the Staphylinidae]

Arnaldo BORDONI

Museo di Storia Naturale dell'Università di Firenze, sezione di Zoologia "La Specola"- Via Romana 17, I-50125 Firenze, Italy.  
arnaldo.bordoni@fastwebnet.it  
urn:lsid:zoobank.org:pub:0CB15423-AB13-4CA5-A50C-D0236BF5E26B

**Abstract**

*Xantholinus syriacus* sp. n., *X. tronqueti* sp. n. from Syria and *X. apterus* sp. n. from Algeria are described and figured.

**Key words:** Coleoptera, Staphylinidae, Xantholinini, *Xantholinus*, new species, Algeria, Syria.

**Introduction**

In a short series of Mediterranean *Xantholinus* Dejean, 1821 sent me for study by our friend and colleague Marc Tronquet (Molitg-les Bains, France) I found three very interesting new species from Algeria and Syria. In this note I describe the new species and list some other taxa, all preserved in the Tronquet collection (TC).

***Xantholinus syriacus* sp. n.**

urn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:13158B6D-ACCD-4D72-8AB8-16A536BB0A20

**Examined material. Holotype** ♀: Syria, Slanfah, P. Weill lgt, 03 May 2004 (TC).

**Diagnosis.** No other species of *Xantholinus* known to me has the appearance and depigmented coloration as this taxon. For this reason I describe it on the basis of a single female.

The following *Xantholinus*, also known from Syria, are all very different from the new taxon: *X. rufipennis* Erichson, 1839, *X. schuelkei* Bordoni, 1986, *X. spricki* Assing, 2005.

**Description.** Body length 8.5 mm; length from anterior margin of head to posterior margin of elytra 3.6 mm. Entirely light orange brown, very similar to the coloration of endogean glyptomeroid *Lathrobium* (olim subgen. *Glyptomerus*) (Fig. 2). Head ovoid, large, especially long, with slightly rounded sides and broadly rounded posterior angles. Eyes very small and flat. Surface of head with very fine and sparse puncturation apart from a wide median

strip. Pronotum squat, visibly shorter than head, dilated anteriorly where it is as wide as head, with oblique anterior margins, very broadly rounded anterior angles and scarcely sinuate sides. Surface with dorsal series of 10–11 punctures and lateral series of 6–7 punctures, all well visible. Elytra as long as pronotum, dilated posteriad where it is as wide as it, with obsolete humeral angles. Surface with wrinkled, superficial, wide puncturation arranged in some series. Scutellum large. Abdomen with very fine and sparse puncturation.

Male unknown.

**Etymology.** The specific epithet refers to Syria.

**Geographical distribution.** The species is only known from the type locality.

***Xantholinus apterus* sp. n.**

urn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:C027D9E6-DC08-4A1C-A3BD-5D97BB1CEC91

**Examined material. Holotype** ♂: Algeria, Alger, legit ?, Aug 1943 (ex coll. Holland; CT).

**Diagnosis.** The structure of the inner sac of this new species is similar to that of *Xantholinus translucidus* Scriba, 1870, but the new species (belonging to the *crassicornis*-group; see Bordoni 2013) differs from that species by the shape and coloration of the body, eyes small and flat, short elytra, absence of wings, and by the smaller aedeagus (in *X. translucidus* 1.22 mm long), ovoid, short and not elongate, with spines of very different shape and length.

**Description.** Body length 8.5 mm; length from anterior margin of head to posterior margin of elytra 4 mm. Body apterous, shiny, with traces of transverse microstriation on head and abdomen. Entirely pale, very light brown (Fig. 1). Head ovoid, dilated posteriad, with slightly rounded sides and broadly rounded posterior angles. Eyes very small and flat. Surface of head with fine, superficial, sparse puncturation on the lateral portions. Pronotum as long as and a little narrower than head, anteriorly dilated, with oblique anterior margins, rounded anterior angles and sinuate sides. Surface with dorsal series of 9 irregular punctures and lateral series of 7–8 punctures; other punctures between these series. Elytra short, shorter than pronotum, a little dilated posteriad where it is wider than it, with scarcely rounded humeral angles. Surface with fine, wrinkled, superficial puncturation, arranged in some series. Abdomen with fine and sparse puncturation.

Male genital segment of usual conformation (Fig. 6). Aedeagus (Fig. 5) 0.9 mm long, with two parallel series of spines on the inner sac.

**Etymology.** The specific epithet refers to the absence of wings.

**Geographical distribution.** The species is only known from the type locality.

*Xantholinus rufipennis* Erichson, 1839

**Examined material.** Greece: Ile de Lefkada, Lefkada, F. Soldati lgt, 27 Jan 2000, 1 ♂ (CT); Crete, Lac eau douce, Chora Sfakion, legit ?, 1 ex. (ex coll. Hollande; CT).

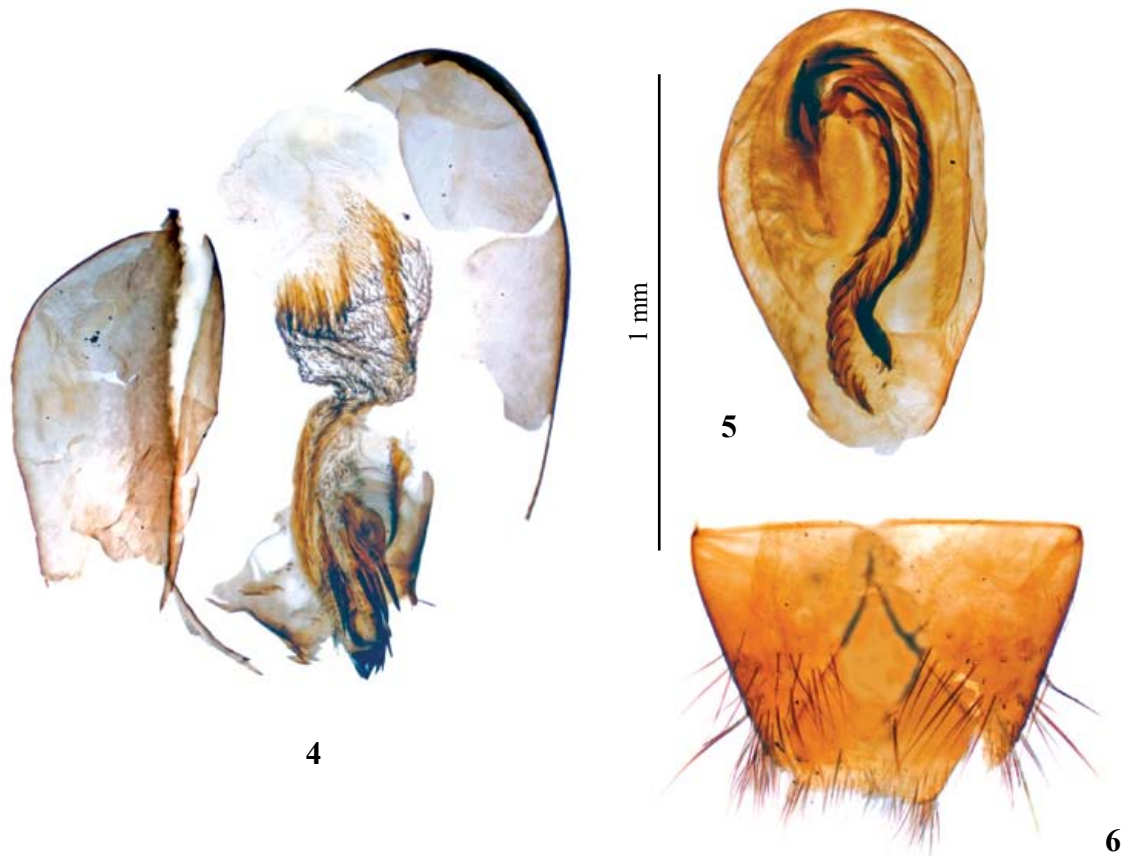
**Note.** The species is only known from Eastern Mediterranean.

*Xantholinus minos* Assing, 2008

**Examined material.** Greece: Crete, Mouni Arkadiou, M. Tronquet lgt, 9 Jul 1978, 1 ♂ (CT).



**Figs 1-3** – Habitus of: **1**, *Xantholinus apterus* sp. n.; **2**, *X. syriacus* sp. n.; **3**, *X. tronqueti* sp. n. (photos M. Tronquet).



**Figs 4-6** – Aedeagus of: 4, *X. tronqueti* sp. n.; 5, *Xantholinus apterus* sp. n.; 6, Tergite and ventrite of the male genital segment of *X. apterus* sp. n. (photos M. Tronquet).

**Note.** The species is only known from Crete.

***Xantholinus tronqueti* sp. n.**

urn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:5E76B743-B93B-4C2C-A7BC-D5BA67850836

**Examined material.** Holotype ♂: **Syria:** Lac Zanzar, P. Weill lgt, 25 Nov 2002 (CT).

**Diagnosis.** The basal bulb is partially damaged. The species has a characteristic inner sac and may perhaps belong to the *elegans*-group (Bordoni 2013).

**Description.** Body length 7.5 mm; length from anterior margin of head to posterior margin of elytra about 4 mm. Body shiny; abdomen with traces of transverse micro-striation (Fig. 3). Head black; pronotum and elytra reddish-brown; abdomen brownish black with the last two visible segments reddish. Head proportionally short, ovoid, but only a little narrow anteriorly, with rounded sides and largely rounded posterior angles. Eyes medium-sized, protruding. Surface of head with fine, spaced puncturation, only on the lateral portions. Pronotum a little longer than head, as wide as it, with oblique anterior margins, narrowly rounded anterior angles, scarcely sinuate sides. Surface with dorsal series of 9–10 punctures

and lateral series of 5–6 punctures, all deep and well visible. Elytra large and long, longer and wider than pronotum, a little dilated posteriad, with rounded humeral angles. Surface with fine, dense puncturation, arranged in numerous series. Abdomen with fine, not sparse puncturation on the sides.

Male genital segment of usual conformation. Aedeagus (Fig. 4) 1.25 mm long, ovoid, elongate; inner sac in the proximal portion with a longitudinal series of spines on the left and a right series of spines; the median portion presents two left, parallel series of small spines; the distal portion presents two short series of large and long spines.

**Etymology.** Patronymic. The species is dedicated to our friend and colleague Marc Tronquet, a well-known specialist of Staphylinidae.

**Geographical distribution.** The species is only known from the type locality.

***Xantholinus rufipes* Lucas, 1846**

**Examined material.** **Tunisia:** Tozeur, R. Denoffly lgt., Dec 1953, 1 ♂ (CT).

**Note.** The species is known from Sicily, Libya, Algeria and Tunisia.

**Acknowledgements** – I wish to thank my friends and colleagues Marc Tronquet for sending me in study this interesting material and for the photos, and Guillaume de Rougemont (Oxford) for his helping in the English version.

## References

- Assing V. 2008. On the taxonomy and zoogeography of some Palearctic Paederinae and Xantholinini (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae). *Linzer biologische Beiträge*, 40(2): 1237–1294.
- Assing V. 2005. A new species of *Xantholinus* from Syria (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae, Staphylininae). *Entomological Problems*, 35(2): 151–152.
- Bordoni A. 1986. Studi sulla sistematica e la geonemia degli *Xantholinus*. XV. Note su *Xantholinus libanicus* Coiffait e descrizione di *Xantholinus schuelkei* n. sp. di Siria (Coleoptera, Staphylinidae). *Nouvelle Revue d'Entomologie*, n. s., 3(1): 117–121.
- Bordoni A. 2013. Observations on some Staphylinidae and new synonymies (Coleoptera). *Fragmenta entomologica*, 45(1–2): 49–58.
- Dejean P.F.M.A. 1821. *Catalogue de la collection de coléoptères de M. le Baron Dejean*. Crevot, Paris, 136 pp.
- Erichson W.F. 1839. *Genera et species Staphylinorum insectorum coleopterorum familiae*. F.H. Morin, Berlin, 954 pp.
- Lucas P.H. 1846. *Histoire naturelle des animaux articulés*. Deuxième partie. Insectes. A. Bertrand, Paris, 590 pp.
- Scriba W. 1870. (new taxa). In: Heyden L., *Entomologische Reise nach dem südlichen Spanien, der Sierra Guadarrama und Sierra Morena, Portugal und den Cantabrischen Gebirgen*. *Berliner Entomologische Zeitschrift*, 14: 75–84.