

Weevils of Cyprus – an interim report

(Coleoptera: Curculionoidea)

Peter E. Stüben





The author amidst 500-year-old black pines on the summit of Chionistra (Olympus) in the Troodos Mountains (1,952 m asl). This evolutionarily isolated hotspot, which has been designated as a standalone Natura 2000 site, is home to flora and fauna found nowhere else in the world.





Weevils of Cyprus – an interim report (Coleoptera: Curculionoidea)

by
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Abstract. This illustrated catalogue of Cyprus presents 345 species; where possible, each species profile includes dorsal and/or lateral illustrations of the habitus and aedeagus, which can serve as a guide for future species identification. 21 new species are presented for Cyprus for the first time since the last survey by G. Alziar (2023). New acts: The species *Aspidapion motschulskyi* (Hochhuth, 1847) resyn. stat. is reinstated as a valid taxon, and synonymies are proposed or put forward for discussion for numerous species. After studying the type material, the synonymization of *Sitona pseudohispidulus* Franz, 1987 syn. nov. with *Sitona hispidulus* (Fabricius, 1777) is completed. Changes of rank: *Eutrichapion viciae* ssp. *rufinatus* (Desbrochers des Loges, 1891) stat. nov. and *Ceutorhynchus pyrrhorhynchus* ssp. *linealbatus* Schultz, 1903 stat. nov. upgraded to subspecies (formerly infrasubspecific names); *Pachytychius grandicollis* (Waltl, 1835) stat. nov. and *Ceratapion parviclava* (Desbrochers des Loges, 1897) stat. nov. raised to species (formerly subspecies). The western Palaearctic distribution of each species is stated, and maps of Cyprus with entries for the type locality, records of occurrences, and, most importantly, CO1 barcodes are presented (deposited in <https://cyprus.curci.de> or GenBank), along with possible plant associations in Cyprus. Each species portrait in this interim report concludes with either a faunistic and/or taxonomically relevant commentary. The integrative-taxonomic approach plays a significant role in morphological, molecular, and ecological terms (e.g. plant associations).

Zusammenfassung. 345 Arten werden in diesem Bilder-Katalog für Zypern vorgestellt, in dem jedes Artenporträt, soweit es möglich ist, dorsale und/oder laterale Abbildungen vom Habitus und Aedeagus enthält, an denen sich zukünftige Bestimmungen der Arten orientieren können. 21 neue Arten werden für Zypern erstmalig seit der letzten Erhebung von G. Alziar (2023) vorgestellt. Taxonomische Änderungen: Die Art *Aspidapion motschulskyi* (Hochhuth, 1847) resyn. stat. wird erneut als valides Taxon eingesetzt, und für zahlreiche Arten werden Synonymisierungen vorgeschlagen oder zur Diskussion gestellt. Nach der Untersuchung des Typenmaterials ist die Synonymisierung von *Sitona pseudohispidulus* Franz, 1987 syn. nov. mit *Sitona hispidulus* (Fabricius, 1777) nun abgeschlossen. Rangänderungen: *Eutrichapion viciae* ssp. *rufinatus* (Desbrochers des Loges, 1891) stat. nov. und *Ceutorhynchus pyrrhorhynchus* ssp. *linealbatus* Schultz, 1903 stat. nov. werden zu Unterarten aufgewertet (vorher infrasubspezifische Namen); *Pachytychius grandicollis* (Waltl, 1835) stat. nov. und *Ceratapion parviclava* (Desbrochers des Loges, 1897) stat. nov. wechseln in den Artstatus (vorher Unterarten). Die westpaläarktische Verbreitung jeder Art wird genannt, Karten zu Zypern mit Einträgen zum Locus Typicus, Fundnachweisen und vor allem CO1-Barcodes werden ebenso vorgestellt (hinterlegt in <https://cyprus.curci.de> oder GenBank) wie mögliche Pflanzenbindungen auf Zypern. Abschließend enthält jedes Porträt einer Art in diesem Zwischenbericht entweder einen faunistischen und/oder einen taxonomisch relevanten Kommentar. Dabei fällt der integrativ-taxonomischen Ausrichtung sowohl in morphologischer, molekularer als auch ökologischer Hinsicht (z.B. Pflanzenbindung) eine bedeutsame Rolle zu.

Keyword. Brentidae, Curculionidae, Rhynchitidae, integrative taxonomy, morphology, molecular analysis, ecology, host plants, barcodes, mtCO1, Mediterranean region, Middle East

Introduction

Cyprus is always worth an entomological trip, and in fact this picture catalogue began for me with the 6th International Meeting of the CURCULIO Institute in Droushia (Western Cyprus) from April 17th to 25th, 2010 (Fig. 1). The results of this one-week field trip, which identified 163 Curculionoidea species out of a total of 345 known species in Cyprus, were published in the SNUDEBILLER edition two years later. This publication usefully comprised of many high-resolution photos of habitus, biotopes and plant associations (Stüben et al. 2012). It also included information on the taxonomy, ecology and distribution of the species, which along with the first molecular barcodes (mtCO1), laid the contemporary foundation for four further trips of two to three weeks' duration to be undertaken by the author to Cyprus between 2023 and 2025. Since autumn 2023, the focus has been on compiling a Cyprus catalogue featuring detailed illustrations of relevant identification characteristics, images of habitats and host plants, molecular barcodes, as well as comprehensive lists of locations and maps (Stüben & Jakob 2023 / <https://cyprus.curci.de>). This online catalogue is intended to continue to cover all Curculionoidea of Cyprus, with the exception of the Anthribidae and Scolytinae.

So why this interim report at all? The answer is, as with many other online publications – particularly first descriptions and taxonomic revisions – always the same: Given the transience of internet platforms and the fact that entire catalogues and databases can vanish from the internet overnight, it should become standard practice to archive scientific works from time to time on permanent media – whether digitally or in printed form. Moreover, this approach compels the author to re-examine the Cypriot species across their entire distribution range,

document specific regional host plants, and – where appropriate – evaluate morphological and molecular differences compared to populations of the same species from other regions (and, if necessary, implement taxonomic changes). Such analyses cannot be reliably and validly carried out as an online version within the framework of a country-specific – or, as in this case, island-specific – survey.

Of course, it was not always possible for me to use my own collection material from Cyprus for the illustrations of the exceptionally numerous weevils (unless the photographers are named in the images, the rights belong to the author). Therefore, I am very grateful to some museums and colleagues, who have provided me with images and their material, including from other regions of the Mediterranean region and Western Asia (see acknowledgement). Ultimately, the decisive argument for those who wish to identify their specimens from Cyprus is surely that identified specimens are of inestimable value (regardless of where they were found and photographed). Therefore, for example, illustrations of type specimens take absolute priority here. With this in mind, reliably identified specimens (preferably with aedeagus) from other regions are also depicted here, even if their existence in Cyprus has not been confirmed by precise location data, or if they were not collected by the author himself or were not available to him from other collections. The crucial point is that the reader can only intervene critically and point out discrepancies in the specimens he collected in Cyprus if this image comparison is even possible in the first place. Trial and error! The author's Cyprus catalogue on the internet remains open to all collectors and colleagues for such future, justified and constructive objections. In these cases too, the aim can only be to replace the provisional images with 'originals' from Cyprus!



Fig. 1. Some participants at the 6th International Meeting of the Curculio Institute in Cyprus in April 2010. From left to right at the back: Antonio Machado, Peter Sprick, Jo Brunner, Carlo Giusto, Lutz Behne, Peter Hlaváč, Gabriel Alziar; in foreground: Enzo Colonnelli, Christodoulos Makris. (Photo: P.E. Stüben).

A further aim: future localities, DNA data and species newly recorded for Cyprus that have not yet been included in this work are to be entered into the author's online catalogue and updated on an ongoing basis (see link above). This also applies to all taxonomic changes. Provided there are no copyright concerns, feedback and entire contributions will also be stored here as comments after consultation with the authors.

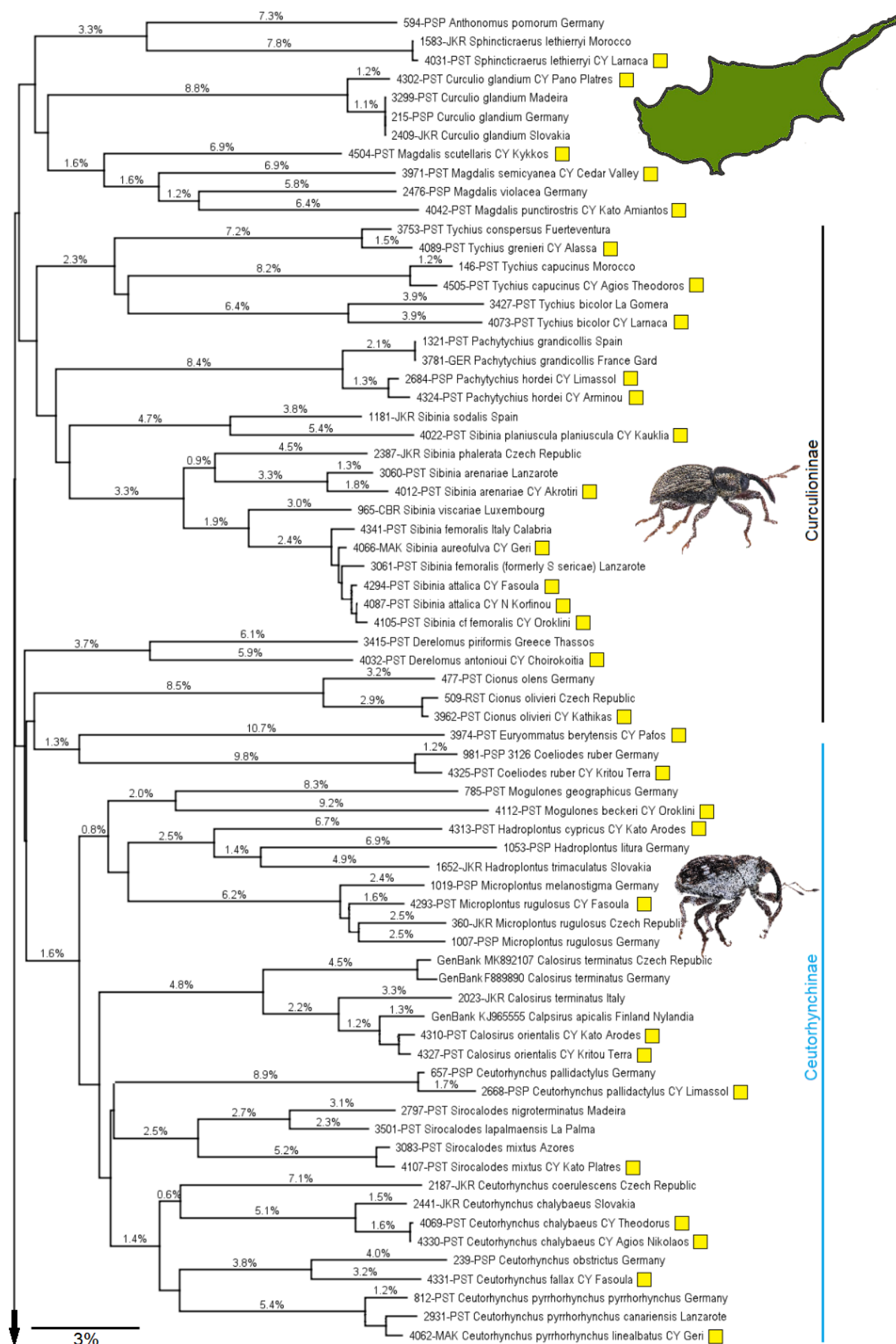
But don't let us forget the other side of the coin: accompanying such morphologically motivated imaging techniques with molecular analyses – where available – is also a goal of this integrative taxonomic work. Linking such molecular barcodes (see Fig. 2) with our (historical) type material opens up two paths for us – quite literally, in a fast-track approach: AI-driven morphological image analysis and the molecular approach to species identification. This means that, ultimately, we need not settle for mere vague concepts of OTUs (Operational Taxonomic Units) and the rather arbitrarily assembled "3% distance species". The latter are an expression of a somewhat strange parallel universe and generally bypass the familiar and proven binary nomenclature established by Carl von Linné. Nor is there any reason to abandon this taxonomic framework simply because such alleged necessities are repeatedly justified by a lack of taxonomic experts, or by a lack of time to document the dramatic decline in species. That may well save time and money. Yet none of these hasty justifications can currently replace serious research—neither in taxonomy nor in faunistic biodiversity research!

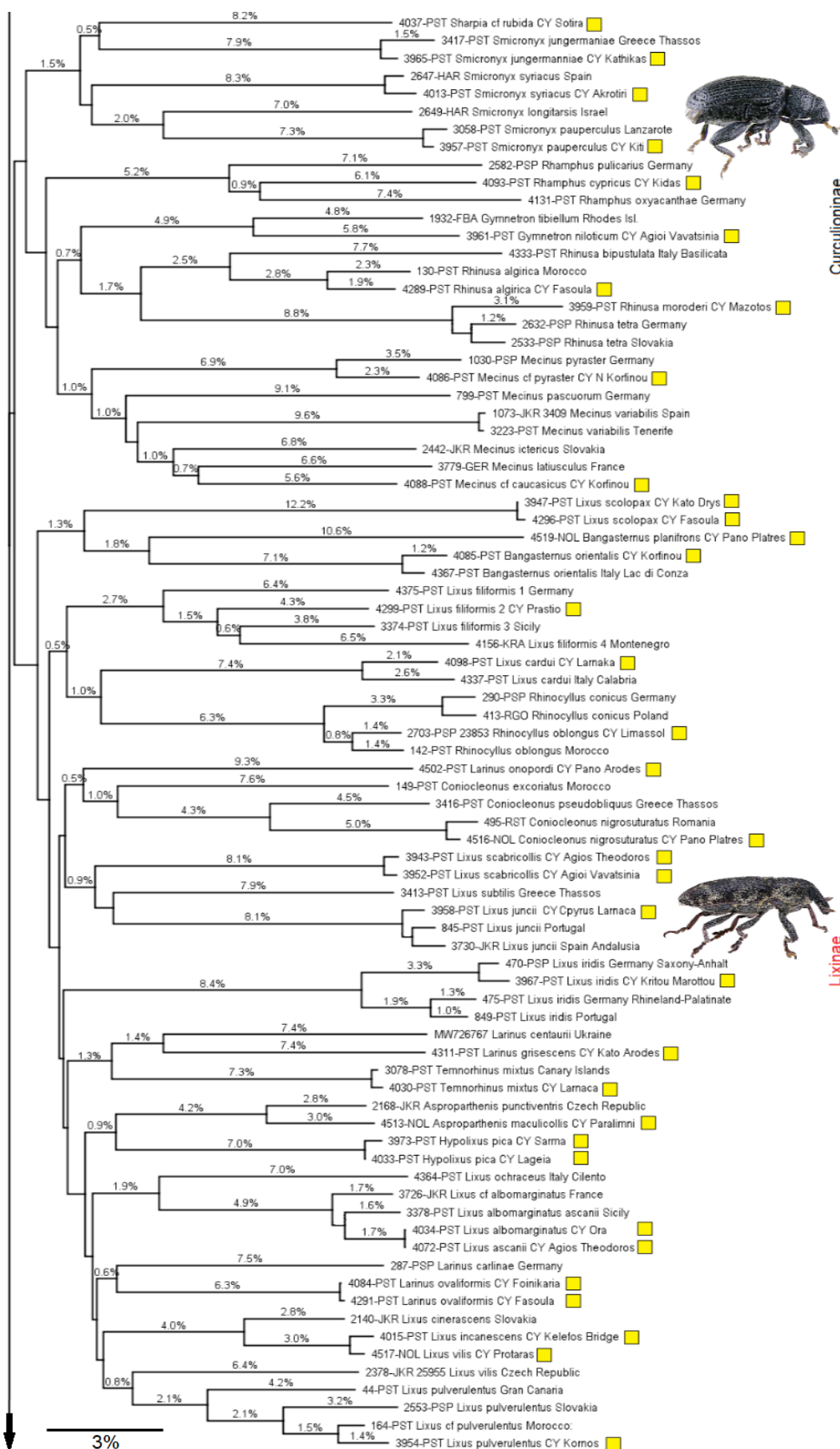
What else should you bear in mind when using this image catalogue?

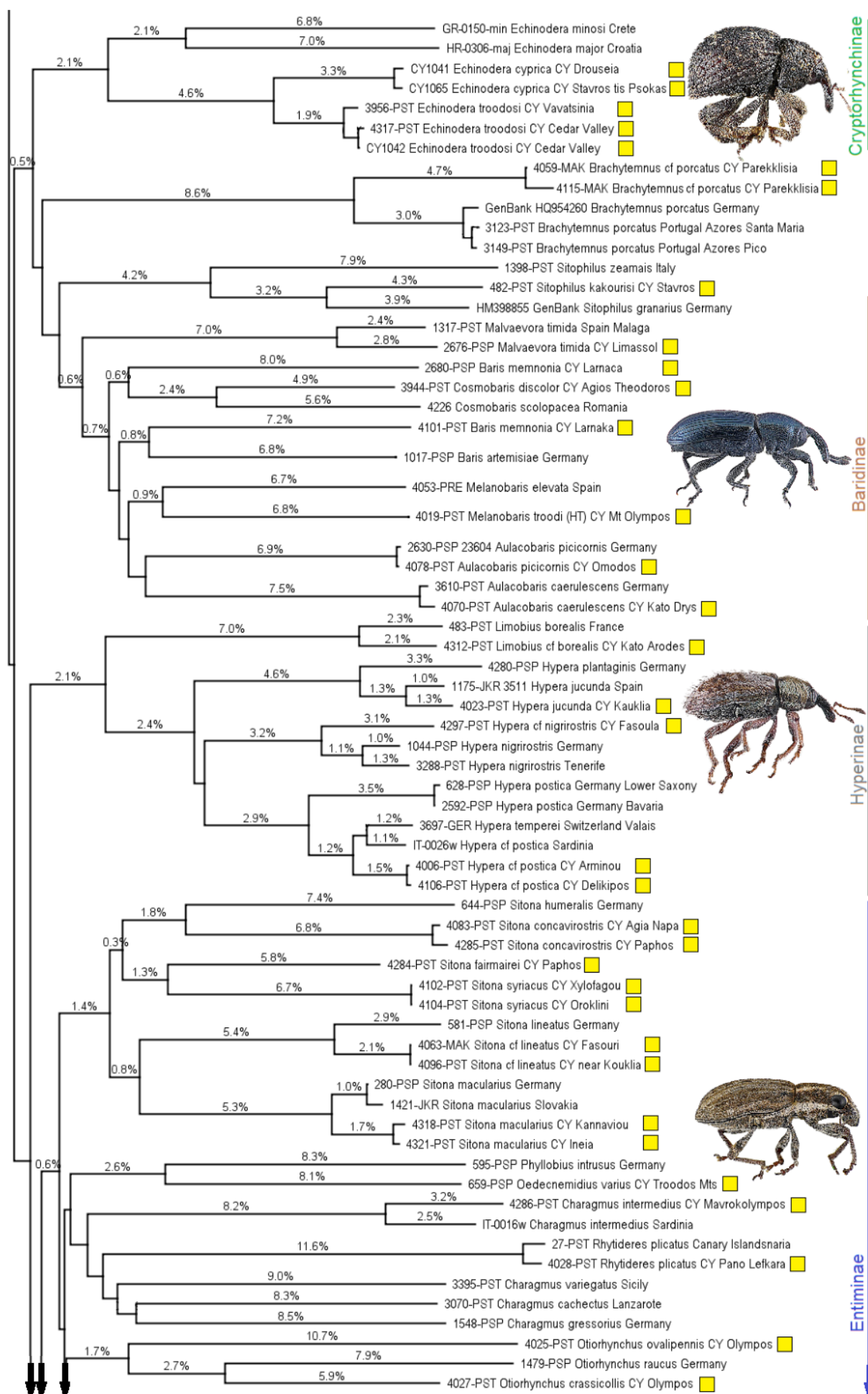
- For the listing of species recorded for the first time in Cyprus or of species whose presence in Cyprus is not beyond doubt, the latest reference catalogue by G. Alziar (2023) is used.
- All precise location and label data records for the collected specimens, as well as for the molecular mtCO1 sequences with information

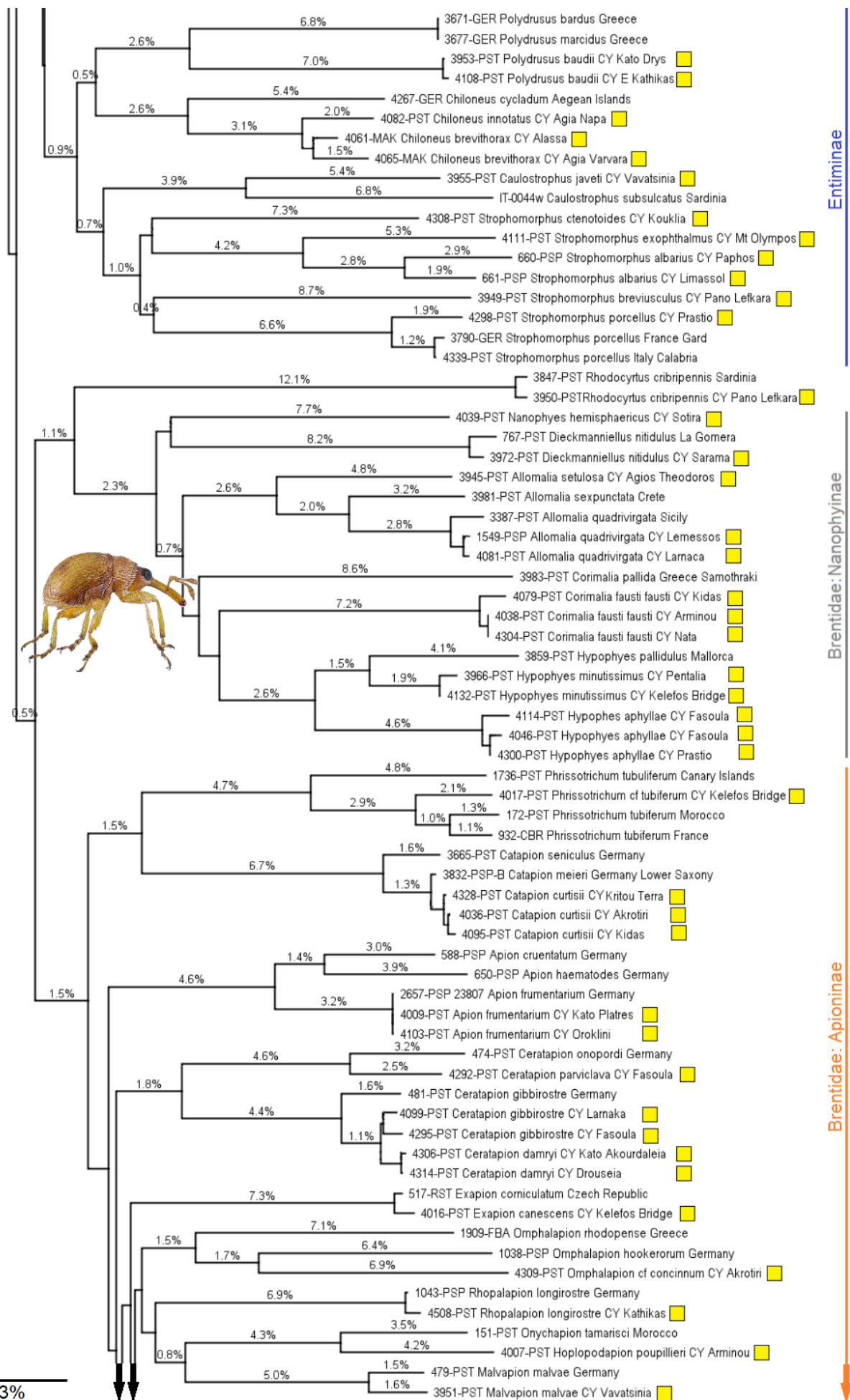
on the collectors and the museum or private collection, can be found in my online catalogue <https://cyprus.curculio.de>.

- When it comes to distribution data, only major regions are usually mentioned. Cyprus is not listed separately again (the maps in the respective species tables are available for this purpose).
- These Cyprus maps only include the evidence of dry preparations and locations of the DNA samples that were available to me. Of course, it was not possible to examine all collections, and the total distribution in Cyprus is likely to be more extensive in any case – a future task in the above-mentioned Internet catalogue.
- Where a species is mentioned in older literature on Cyprus but there are considerable doubts about its presence, or where no known location on the island has been recorded, a question mark has been added to the map. In doing so, the author makes it clear that he does not wish to participate in the listing of 'stowaways' who, without concrete evidence, have been dragged along in the literature for decades (and just 'hide' there).
- The information on feeding and development plants always refer to potential host plants, insofar as they occur in Cyprus. Unless otherwise stated, the information is provided by the author or taken from one of the author's earlier publications (see also the catalogue mentioned above). While the authors and year of first description are consistently cited for weevils, this information has been omitted from the plant details for reasons of space.
- Most of the specimens are held in the author's Cyprus collection and in the molecular reference collection (all sequenced specimens), which are to be housed in the long term at the Senckenberg, German Entomological Institute.
- All mtCO1 sequences have been and continue to be deposited in the online catalogue mentioned several times above, within an ecological and morphological – i.e. integrative-taxonomic – context, under the collection number (e.g. CY1041/*Echinodera cyprica*), and can also be found in GenBank largely without any contextual information (e.g. MG322646).









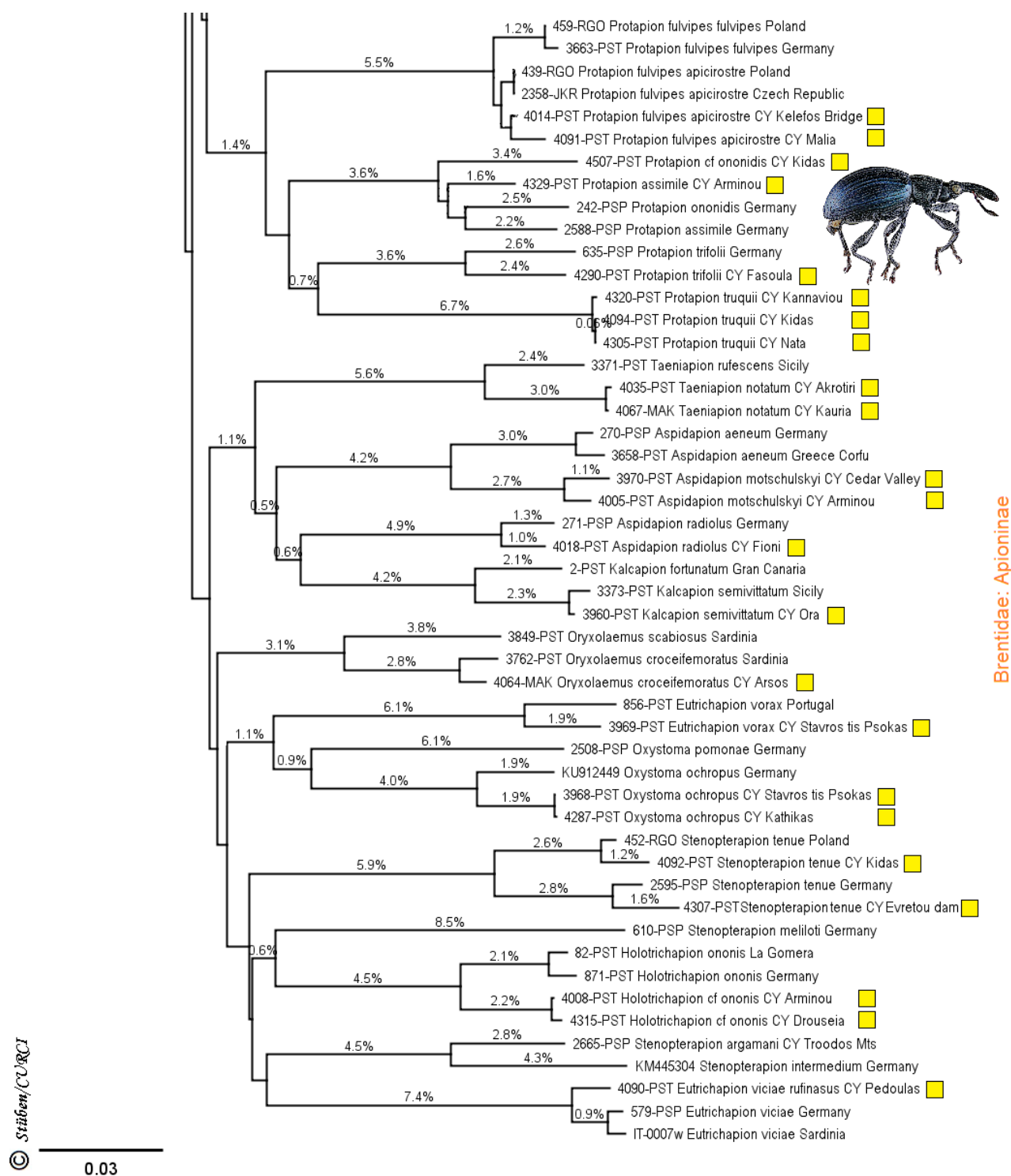


Fig. 2. The mtCO1 Neighbour-Joining dendrogram does not represent a phylogenetic reconstruction (this is readily apparent from the - albeit occasional - intermingling of higher taxonomic levels, such as subfamilies). Such a reconstruction would only be possible with a far greater number of taxa and gene segments (including nuclear genes) and a statistical method like Bayesian analysis - neither of which is intended here! It includes most of the sequenced species on Cyprus (indicated by a yellow square) and the closest related species or sister taxa, as well as - for comparison purposes - specimens of the same species from other regions of the Western Palaearctic. The values displayed on the branches represent corrected distances (Jukes-Cantor nucleotide substitution model) expressed as percentages and allow for initial distance measurements (calculated by summing the branch lengths between the species being compared). This distance tree allows the commentaries compiled in this study as well as the current state of the debate regarding the taxonomic status of certain taxa to be visualized and more easily understood (a feat that would be practically impossible, or at least extremely difficult, to achieve using a comprehensive distance matrix encompassing all species). Andre Schütte has provided valuable assistance with the graphic implementation, for which I am very grateful.



Fig. 3 Cyprus, including main regions and mountain ranges.

What about the biogeographical history of Cyprus? 25 million years ago, due to the shifting of the African plate, the first mountain ranges appeared above the sea surface, the Troodos mountain range formed with Mount Olympus the highest peak at 1952 m (Fig. 3). Just 5 million years later, the Pentadaktylos (or Kyrenia) Mountains followed as the 'second island' formed in the north of today's Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus. We can only draw very limited parallels with the volcanic history of the Canary Islands in the Atlantic, where Fuerteventura and Lanzarote rose from the sea ca. 25 million years ago. However, their colonisation with plants, animals and above all insects from the Moroccan mainland took a completely different course. Volcanic eruptions continue to this day, constantly creating new tabula rasa situations (intra-island volcanism), offering significant opportunities for radiations among the pioneer species ('Islands within islands'). Here, the biodiversity - similar to the Galapagos Islands - is many times higher than in Cyprus (Stüben 2022).

Cyprus is situated in the eastern Mediterranean Sea, between 34° and 36° north latitude and 32° and 35° east longitude, on the Anatolian Plate (which forms part of Asia). The island is only 68 km from the coast of Turkey, 95 km from the coast of Syria, 325 km to the African coast of Egypt and 830 km to the Euro-Greek mainland. This positioning results in the combined influence of several faunal and floral regions from Africa, the near-East and the Euro-Mediterranean zones. Cyprus is also exceptional for its 18.5% forest coverage making it the most densely wooded island in the entire Mediterranean region. Cyprus has exceptionally high plant biodiversity for the Mediterranean region as illustrated by its numerous landscapes and vegetation zones, which is, without doubt, facilitated by its presence at the intersection of these three biogeographical zones. For Curculionoidea, the 152 plant families containing 668 genera and more than 1800 species are certainly a great driver of speciation and there remains significant potential for the discovery of new species.

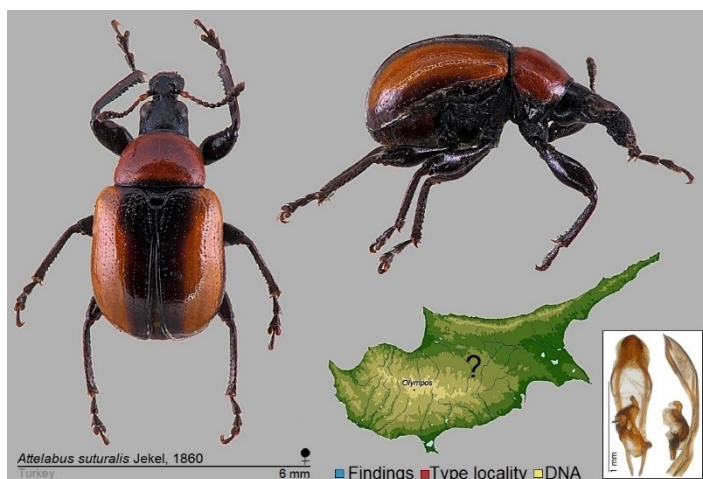
Cyprus is - if you look at it that way - always worth an entomological trip!

An image catalogue of the Cyprus weevils

(As of summer 2026)

ATTELABIDAE

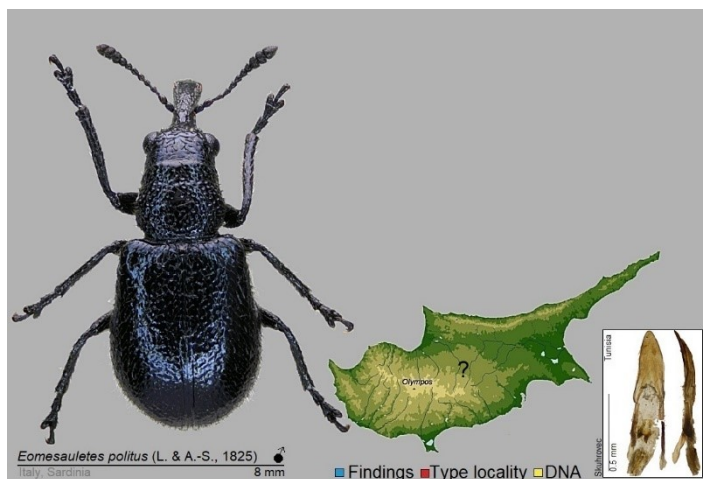
■ *Attelabus suturalis* Jekel, 1860



Distribution. Middle East. [Occurrence in Cyprus uncertain or exact locations unavailable]

Note. I only had specimens from Turkey and Syria (cf. Alziar 2023).

■ *Eomesauletes politus* (Lepelletier & Audinet-Serville, 1825)



Distribution. Southern and southeastern Europe, West Africa, Middle East.

Host plants. *Quercus* (*Prunus*, *Alnus*).

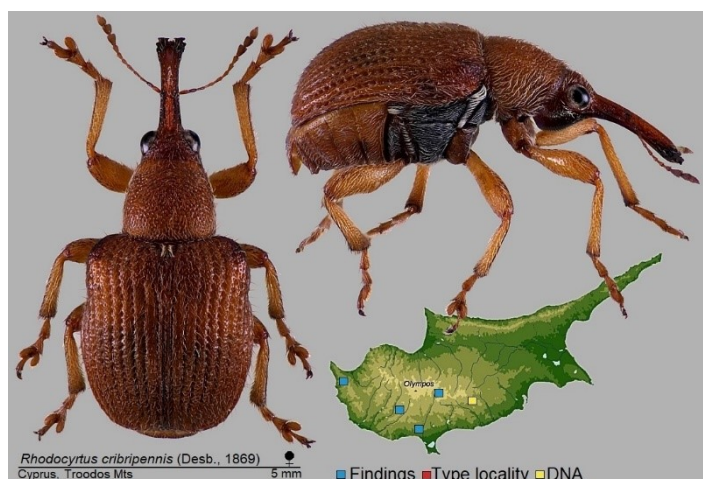
Note. Although the species is mentioned in the CCPCC for Cyprus, I am not aware of any evidence of its presence on this island. This Rhynchitinae, its identification, numerous illustrations and information on the distribution and biology can be found in Skuhrovec et al. (2012).

■ *Rhodocytus cribripennis* (Desbrochers des Loges, 1869)

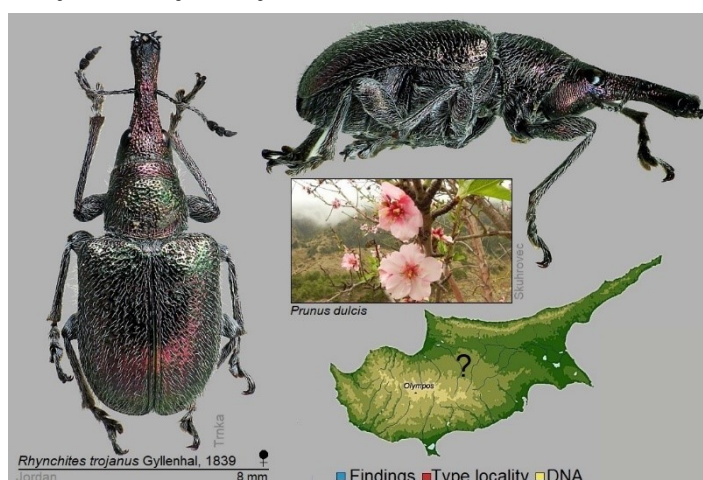
Distribution. Eastern Mediterranean, Balkans, Caucasus

Host plants. Oleaceae.

Note. A species that occurs not only in Cyprus, primarily on *Olea europaea* (but can also occasionally be collected from *Cupressus sempervirens*, det. Alziar).



■ *Rhynchites trojanus* Gyllenhal, 1839

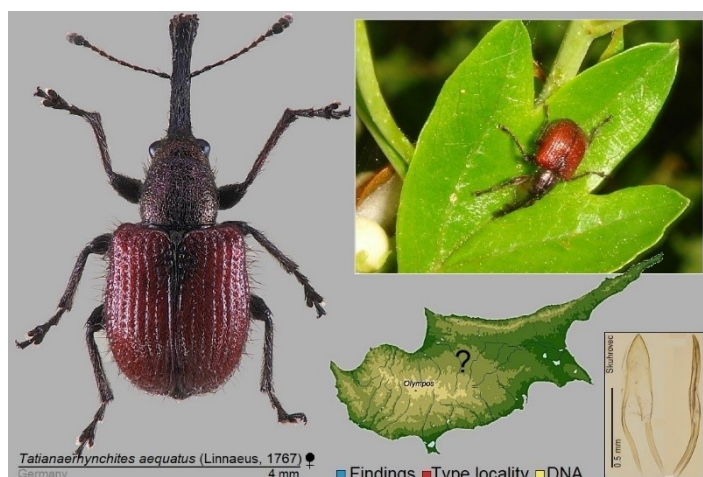


Distribution. Southeast Europe, Middle East.

Host plants. Rosaceae: *Prunus* spp.

Note. The species belongs to the subgenus *Epirhynchites*. See key, notes on distribution and biology in: Skuhrovec et al. (2012). It has been reported from *Prunus armeniaca* in Israel (Legalov & Friedman 2007) and *P. dulcis* and *P. webbii* in Turkey (Erol 1994). Therefore, it could also occur in apricot orchards in Cyprus. However, its occurrence there does not seem to be certain to date (Alziar 2023).

■ *Tatianaerhynchites aequatus* (Linnaeus, 1767)

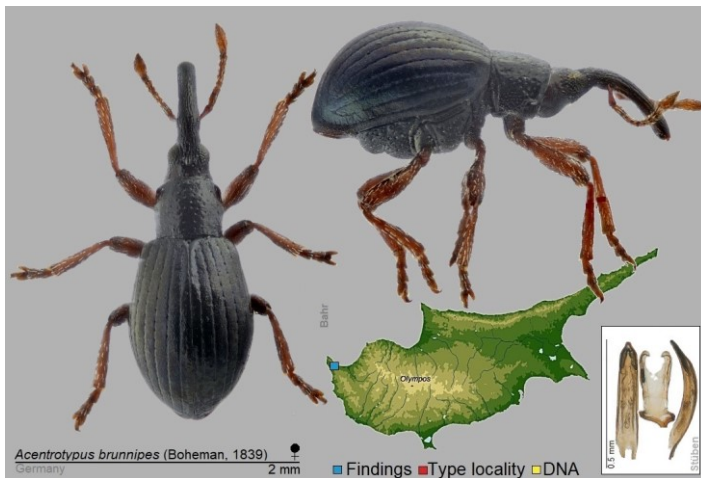


Distribution. Western Palaearctic region (excluding northern Africa). [Occurrence in Cyprus uncertain or exact locations unavailable].

Host plants. Rosaceae-Amygdaloideae (e.g. *Prunus*, *Sorbus*, *Crataegus*), oligophagous.

Note. Alziar (2023) lists this Rhynchitinae species for Cyprus; however, I am not aware of any known locations.

BRENTIDAE: Apioninae including Brentinae

■ *Acentrotypus brunnipes* (Boheman, 1839)

Distribution. Europe, North Africa, Middle East.

Host plants. Asteraceae-Astereae (e.g. *Filago* spp., *Helichrysum* spp.), oligophagous.

Note. This species is flightless and lives on dry, nutrient-poor soil where *Filago* or *Helichrysum* spp. are found. It develops in the galls of the inflorescence axis or in the leaves of the shoot tips. (Sprick in: Stüben et al. 2016).

■ *Apion cruentatum* Walton, 1844

Distribution. Western Palearctic.

Host plants. Polygonaceae (*Rumex* spp., subg. *Acetosa*), monophagous.

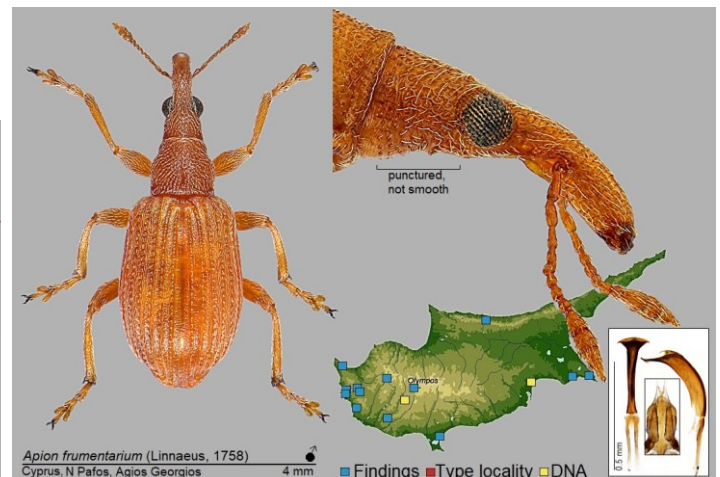
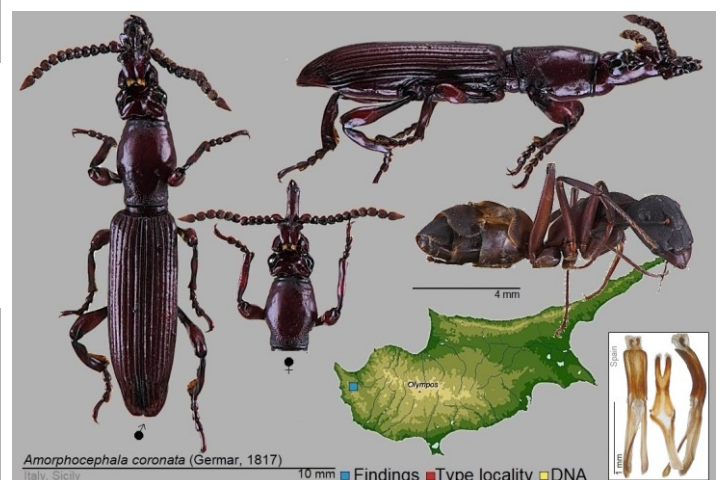
Note. So far, I have not found this species in Cyprus, nor have I seen any record of its occurrence listed. However, this Apioninae species is widespread throughout the rest of the Western Palearctic and is apparently also found in Cyprus (Alziar 2023). It cannot, however, be ruled out that it also occurs on *Rumex acetosella* ssp. *acetoselloides* in Cyprus.

■ *Apion frumentarium* (Linné, 1758)

Distribution. Central and Western Asia spread across large parts of Europe.

Host plants. Polygonaceae (*Emex*, *Rumex*), oligophagous.

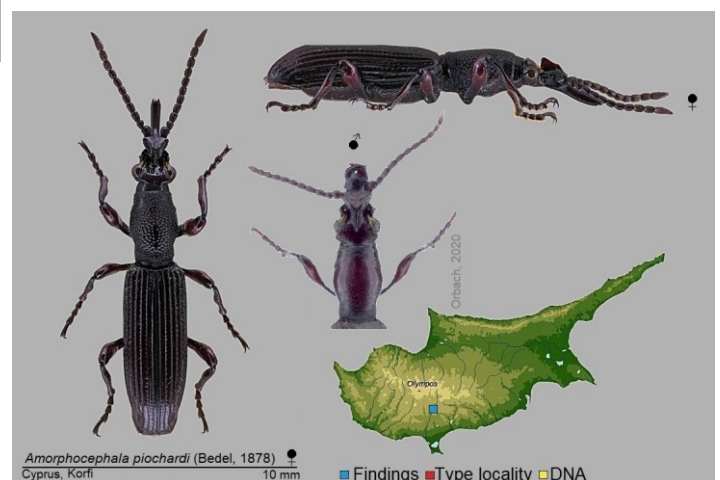
Note. The larva of *Apion frumentarium* develops in various species of sorrel. The presence on *Pinus nigra pallasiana*, *Juniperus foetidissima* and *Tamarix* sp. on Cyprus is related to migrations.

■ *Amorphocephala coronata* (Germar, 1817)

Distribution. Southern Europe, Middle East.

Host plants. Fagaceae (*Quercus* spp.)

Note. *Amorphocephala coronata* is a species associated with ants (genus *Camponotus*, see illustration) (Schedl 1970) and apparently flies towards light towers (light traps) in *Quercus* forests at night (García 2011). The species was frequently found under the bark of *Quercus suber* on Cyprus.

■ *Amorphocephala piochardi* (Bedel, 1878)

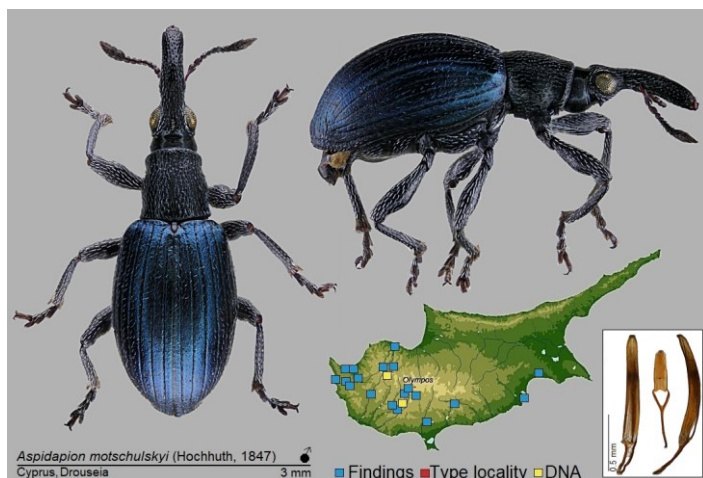
Distribution. Greece, Middle East.

Lifestyle. This *Amorphocephala* species is also associated with ant populations.

Note. This species also flies towards light sources at night (i.l. Makris). The species differs from *A. coronata* in the narrow median vertical ridge of the mesorostral plate (dorsal), which extends over and is partially

fused with the metarostrum. In *A. coronata*, the mesorostral plate does not have such a ridge and the metarostrum is deeply excavated. For further identification of *Amorphocephala* and *Orfilaia* species, see Orbach (2020).

■ ***Aspidapion motschulskyi* (Hochhuth, 1847) resyn. stat.**



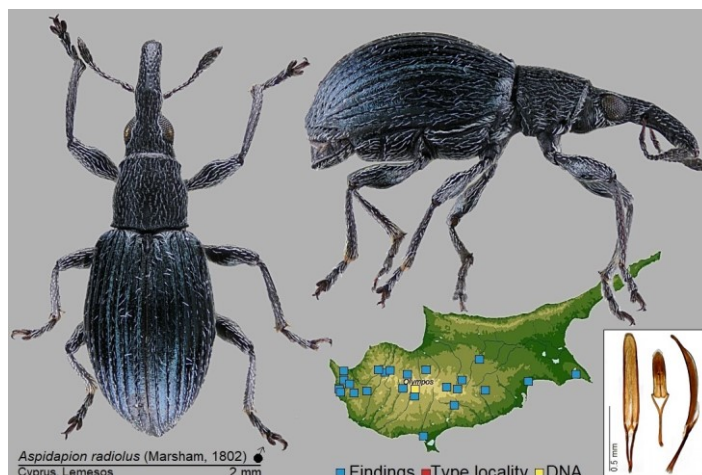
Distribution. Cyprus to Western and Central Asia (Giusto 2011).

Host plants. *Malva* (*M. multiflora* and *M. sylvestris*)

Note. In CCPC, this taxon is still listed as a synonym of *A. aeneum* (Fabricius, 1775). In the redescription by Carlo Giusto, numerous morphological differential characters are mentioned in a very comprehensible manner (Giusto 2011), which already convinced me when collecting this species on Cyprus. Giusto's morphological assessment and his

highly convincing differential diagnoses are supported by the molecular analyses I conducted. The specimens I collected in Cyprus form a completely distinct clade alongside *A. aeneum*, with p-distances of more than 7% in the mtCO1 gene (see further comments and molecular NJ-trees in: Stüben 2023).

■ ***Aspidapion radiolus radiolus* (Marsham, 1802)**



Distribution. Widespread in the Palaearctic region; not uncommon anywhere.

Host plants. Malvaceae (*Malva*, *Alcea*).

Note. Like all *Aspidapion* species, this species is easily recognisable by its scutellum, which protrudes clearly from the elytral vertex line when viewed from the side (see photo).

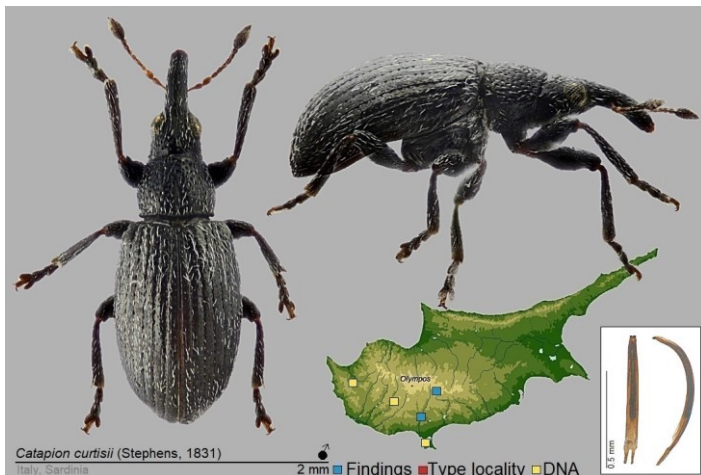


Aspidapion motschulskyi

Cyprus, near Cedar Valley, 35°01'34.99"N 32°39'27.45"E, 1235 m, 21.6.2023, *Quercus*, leg. Stüben (35)

Strikingly, this species is usually found on various deciduous trees in the mountains far away from their actual host plants, some Malvaceae (mallows, hollyhocks), in Cyprus in spring and midsummer. Apparently, here they find the shade and appropriate humidity that the rapidly withering host plants cannot offer them. On the other hand, this behavior probably serves the dispersal of the species in view of the sparse host plants.

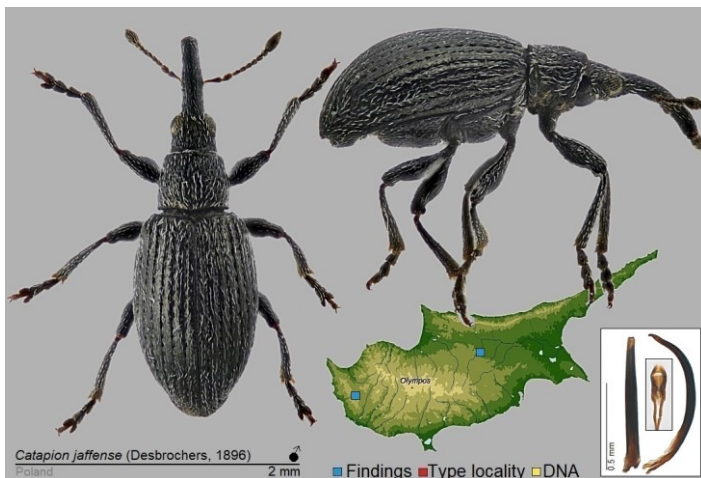
■ ***Catapion curtisii* (Stephens, 1831)**
 = *Catapion curtulum* (Desbrochers des Loges, 1870)
 ? = *C. meieri* (Desbrochers des Loges, 1901)



Distribution. Western and Southern Europe, North Africa, Middle East.
Host plants. Fabaceae (*Trifolium* spp.), monophagous.

Note. This species belongs to the short-snouted *Catapion* species (in males, at most 2.8 times longer than wide; in females, 4.2x times longer than wide) with an only slightly curved rostrum (see key in: Stüben et al. 2017). According to Winter et al. (2016), the three specimens I sequenced using mtCO1 (from Kritou Terra, Kidas and Akrotiri in Cyprus) also belong to this species (from Israel; see also GenBank: KY084089), which forms a common clade (<0,8%) with *C. meieri* (Desbrochers des Loges, 1901) (det. P. Sprick, three samples from Germany, Lower Saxony) in the molecular tree; possibly a younger synonym.

■ ***Catapion jaffense* (Desbrochers, 1896)**
 = *Catapion ononiphagum* (Schatzmayr, 1920) (Apion)



Distribution. Eastern and Southern Europe, Middle East.

Host plants. Fabaceae (*Ononis* spp.), monophagous.

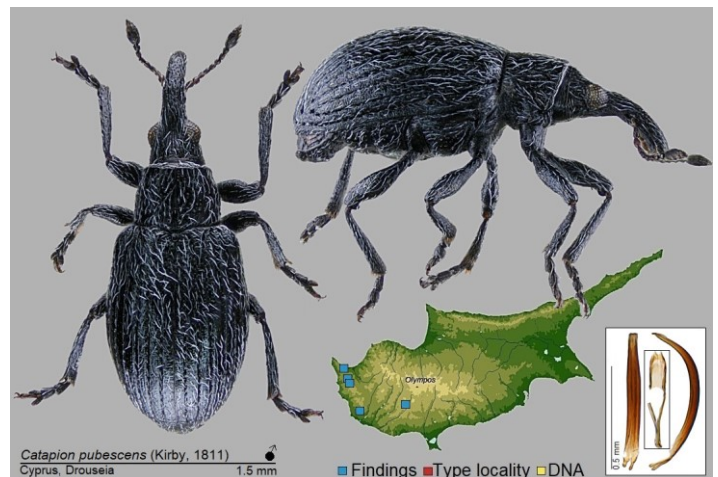
Note. Long-snouted species (in males, at least 3.8 times longer than wide; in females, 5 times longer than wide), with – in comparison to *C. seniculus* – a significantly more curved rostrum and a concave forehead (see key in: Stüben et al. 2017a).

■ ***Catapion pubescens* (Kirby, 1811)**

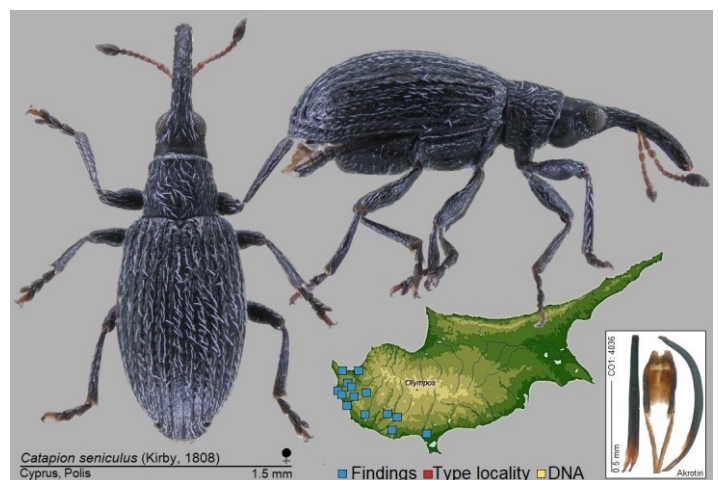
Distribution. Europe, the Middle East and large parts of Asia

Host plants. Associated with small, yellow-flowering species of the genus *Trifolium*.

Note. However, after the annual host plants dry out and disappear early in the season, the species can also be found on shrubs and trees (e.g. *Pistacia*, *Pinus*, *Juniperus* and *Cistus*) or perennial herbs (e.g. *Centaurea hyalolepis*). (Sprick in: Stüben et al. 2012). Among all *Catapion* species on Cyprus, *C. pubescens* can be recognised by its very broad and stocky elytra and deep, long oval frontal pit.



■ ***Catapion seniculus* (Kirby, 1808)**



Distribution. Europe, North Africa, the Middle East and large parts of Asia.

Host plants. On *Trifolium* spp.

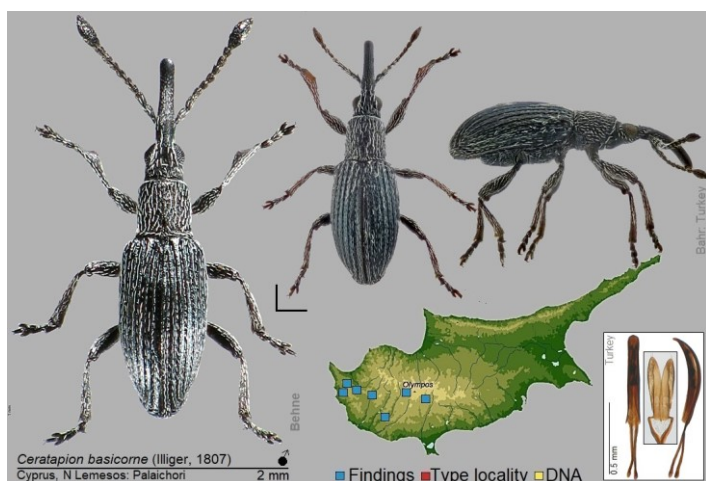
Note. Unfortunately, no molecular data from Cyprus exist for this species (it is even doubtful whether this species occurs there at all; see under *C. curtisii*). Based on the morphological characteristics described by Dieckmann (1989), molecular analyses (COI gene) were carried out on specimens from other regions, which have so far not yielded a clear cladogenetic separation between *C. koestlini* (Dieckmann, 1989) and *C. seniculus* (Stüben et al. 2015). Therefore, I assume that *Catapion koestlini* should be considered a junior synonym of *Catapion seniculus* for the time being. Thus, in Cyprus, we would only be dealing with the two species of this complex, *C. curtisii* and *C. seniculus*, if at all. Following the submission of the manuscript, Peter Sprick (Germany) points out that specimens of *C. koestlini* from Poland can be reliably distinguished from *C. seniculus* on the basis of their long-bristled antennae. However, further research is needed to determine whether this is sufficient to classify *C. koestlini* as a separate species!

■ ***Ceratapion basicorne* (Illiger, 1807)**
 = *Ceratapion allariae* (Herbst, 1797) (Apion)

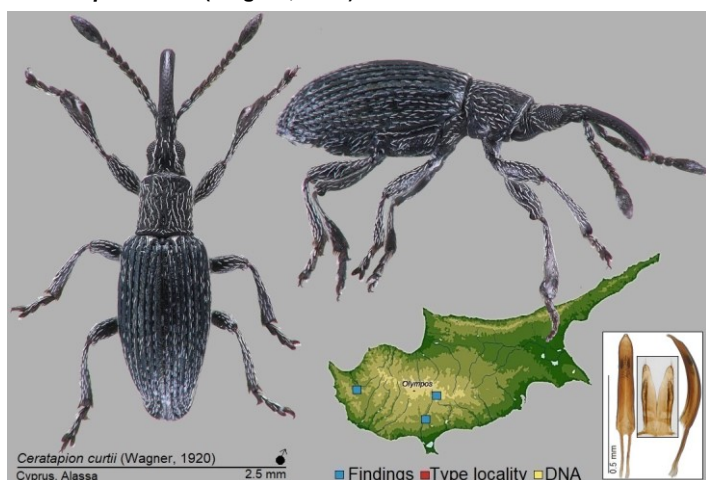
Distribution. Europe, Middle East.

Host plants. Asteraceae (e.g. *Centaurea*, *Carduus*, *Cirsium*, *Onopordum*), oligophagous.

Note. A slender species, which also differs from the broader *C. onopordi* in its less densely punctured pronotum and very fine striae on the forehead (see key in: Stüben et al. 2016).



■ *Ceratapion curtii* (Wagner, 1920)

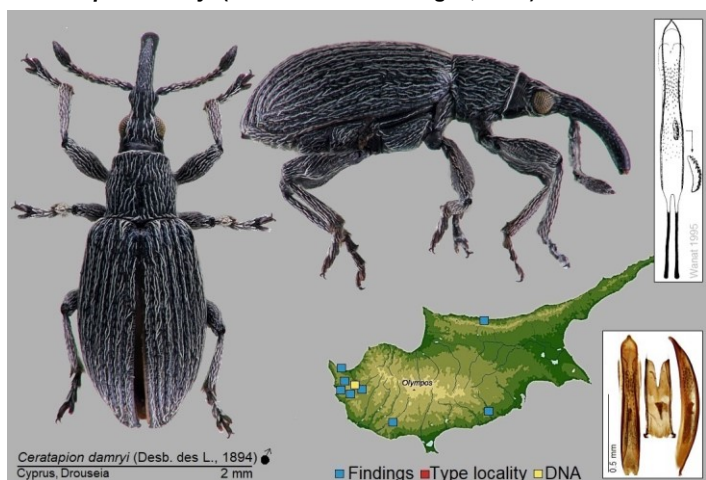


Distribution. Southern Europe.

Host plants. Asteraceae: *Crupina vulgaris* (Colonnelli in: Germann & Sprick 2005).

Note. A very rare species with very thick antennomeres and very similar to *C. basicorne* (Stüben et al. 2016), still listed by Abbazzi & Osella (Abbazzi & Osella 1992) as endemic to Sicily (locus typicus Nicolosi); according to Wanat (1995), however, it is also found in very scattered populations on a few other Mediterranean islands and on the coastal mainland. I, too, am aware of only a few records from Cyprus (leg. det. Behne, Liebenow) and have never collected this species there myself.

■ *Ceratapion damryi* (Desbrochers des Loges, 1894)



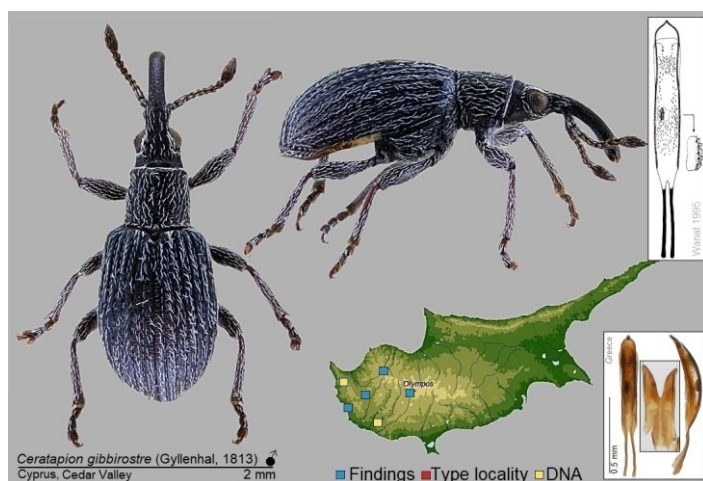
Distribution. Southern and southeastern Europe, the Middle East and Western Asia

Host plants. Asteraceae (*Cynara cardunculus*), monophagous.

Note. Can be regularly beaten from artichoke plants in Cyprus. C. Guisto notes in Stüben et al. 2012 (p. 89): „The Cyprian specimens

show a considerable variability in the morphology; in particular the rostrum appears, at first sight, shorter than those of specimens from the Western Mediterranean (Spain, France and Italy) and the mesorostral tooth is more developed, being thus quite similar to that of *C. gibbistrostre* (Gyllenhal, 1813)“. The molecular differentiation of the two *Ceratapion* species from Cyprus mentioned above also remains difficult and requires the use of additional gene segments!

■ *Ceratapion cf. gibbistrostre* (Gyllenhal, 1813)

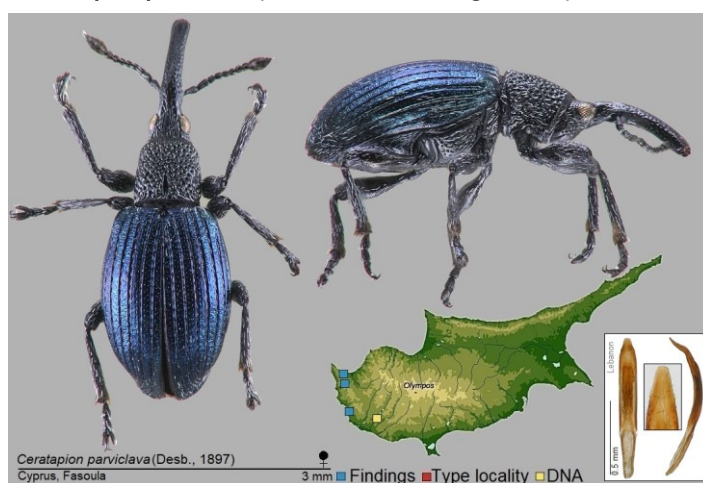


Distribution. Western Palaearctic region.

Host plants. Asteraceae (e.g. *Carduus*, *Cirsium*, *Onopordum*), oligophagous.

Note. The rostrum of this species has sharp-edged teeth at the level of the insertions of antennae. The rostrum is shorter than that of *Ceratapion damryi*. (in male, 3.1x vs. 4.0x and in female, 3.3x vs. 4.8x); see key and illustrations in: Stüben et al. 2016). Nevertheless, the distinction remains difficult. In fact, the species in Cyprus differs from the Central European specimens of the species *C. gibbistrostre* by 3.3% in the mtCO1 fragment (and thus appears to be closer to *C. damryi*; see also the comment by C. Guisto under *C. damryi*).

■ *Ceratapion parviclava* (Desbrochers des Loges, 1897) stat. nov.



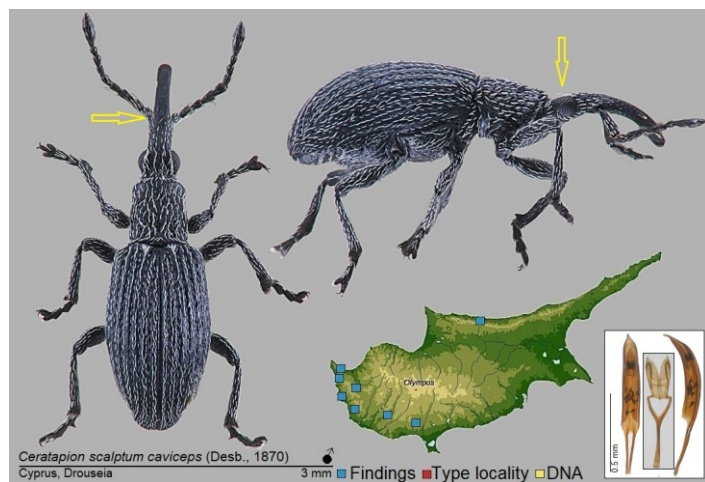
Distribution. Greece, Bulgaria?, Middle East.

Host plants. Asteraceae-Cardueae.

Note. Currently still a subspecies of *Ceratapion onopordi* (Kirby, 1808) (Apion) (CCPCC / Work Version 3.4). Compared to the nominotypical taxon, frons more or less distinctly depressed, in profile at the level of, or underneath the upper eye margin; vertex strongly elevated posteriorly (vs. weakly elevated). Punctures on the pronotal disc 4-5x (vs. 2.5-4.0) ommatidium size (Wanat 1995). Further distinguishing morphological characteristics are already mentioned very convincingly in Desbrochers des Loges' initial description in 1897. Specimens of the sister taxa that I sequenced yielded a p-distance of 4.6 – 6.1% for the mitochondrial CO1 subgene (*C. onopordi*: GenBank: KU906458 (Germany) / MZ608199 (Finland) vs. *C. parviclava* see catalogue in Stüben (2026) and in the appendix to this paper). *C. parviclava* was first de-

scribed from Akbès in the Aleppo region of present-day Syria and is now being reclassified as a separate species by the author.

■ *Ceratapion scalptum caviceps* (Desbrochers des Loges, 1870)

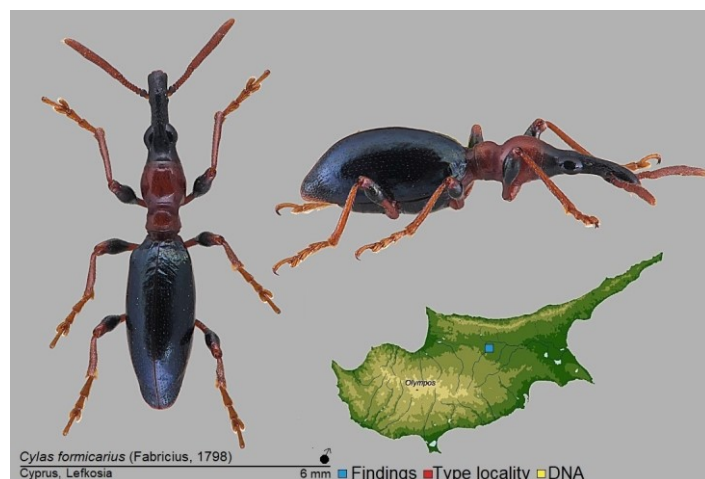


Distribution. Southeast Europe, Middle East, Asia.

Host plants. Asteraceae-Cardueae: *Carthamus lanatus* (det. G. Alziar, C. Giusto).

Note. *C. scalptum caviceps* differs from all slightly bluish-green *Ceratapion* species and the nominotypical taxon primarily by its deeply and strongly indented forehead. This should make the subspecies easy to recognise in Cyprus (Wanat 1995).

■ *Cylas formicarius* (Fabricius, 1798)



Distribution. *Cylas formicarius*, the sweet potato weevil, is found on all continents.

Host plants. Sweet potato.

Note. *Cylas formicarius* is one of the most important pests of sweet potato worldwide, causing considerable ecological and economic damage. I am not aware of whether this Brentidae (subfamily: Brentinae), which has only occasionally been detected in Cyprus, has appeared as a pest on sweet potatoes.

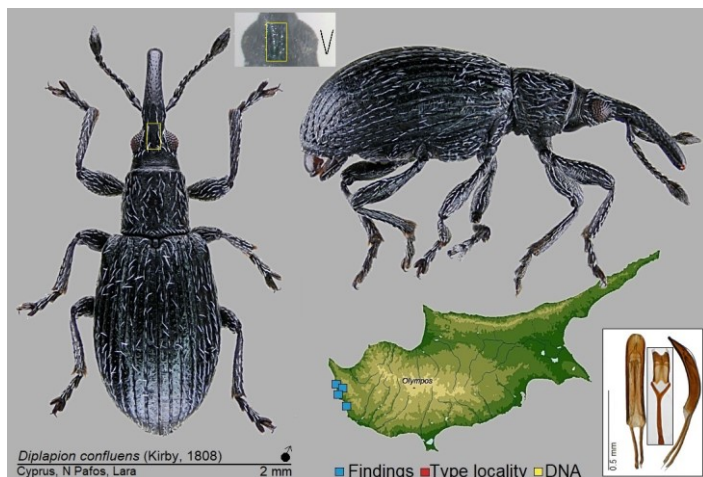


Ceratapion damryi (Desbrochers des Loges, 1894)

Cyprus, Drouseia, 28.4.2025, 34°57'51.23"N 32°23'53.28"E, 595 m, *Cynara cardunculus*, leg. Stüben (17)

© P. E. Stüben/CURCI

■ *Diplapion confluens* (Kirby, 1808)

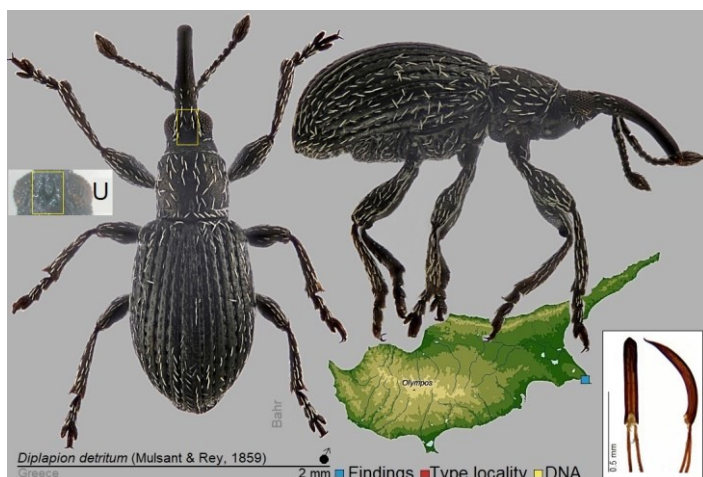


Distribution. Western Palearctic region.

Host plants. Asteraceae-Anthemideae (Anthemis, Matricaria) monophagous.

Note. A characteristic feature of this species is the V-shaped furrow on its forehead.

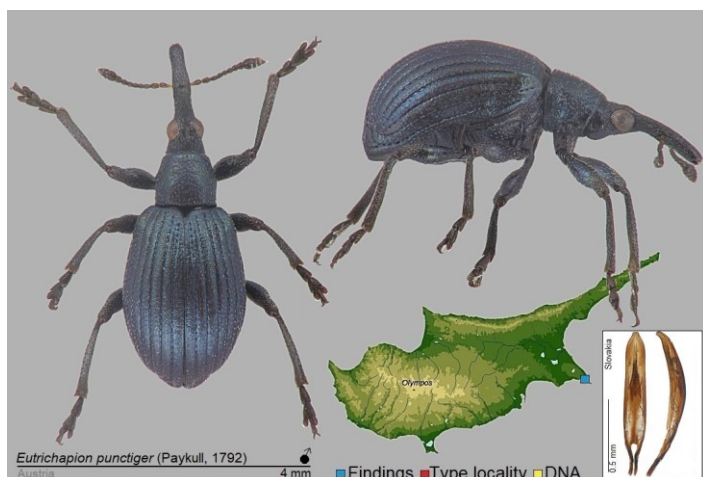
■ *Diplapion detritum* (Mulsant & Rey, 1859)



Distribution. Central and Southern Europe, North Africa, Middle East.

Host plants. Asteraceae-Anthemideae, (e.g. *Anthemis*, *Matricaria*, *Tripleurospermum*), oligophagous.

Note. Balfour-Browne (1944) reports the species from Ayia Mavi Monastery [Ayia Napa Monastery], and Alziar (1995, 2023) lists both *Diplapion* species for Cyprus. Forehead with a U-shaped furrow.



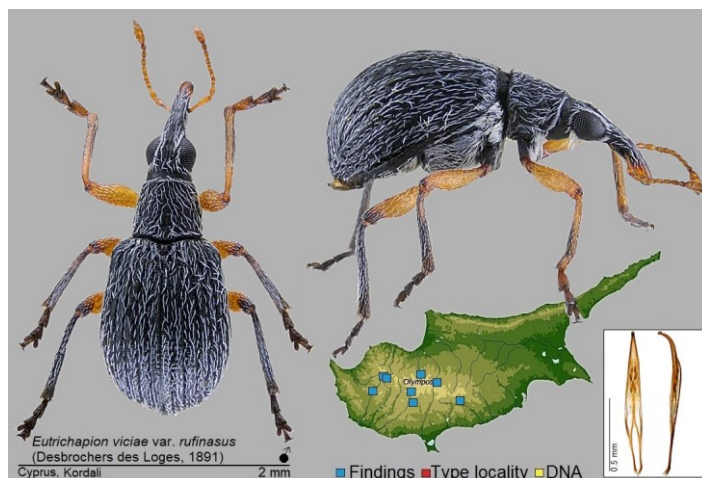
■ *Eutrichapion punctiger* (Paykull, 1792)

Distribution. Europe, North Africa, Middle East.

Host plants. Fabaceae: *Vicia* spp.

Note. Differs from *E. vorax* and *E. viciae*, among others things, by its very thinly hairy, almost bare-looking, shiny elytra (see the key in Stüben et al. 2018).

■ *Eutrichapion viciae* ssp. *rufinusus* (Desbrochers des Loges, 1891) stat. nov.

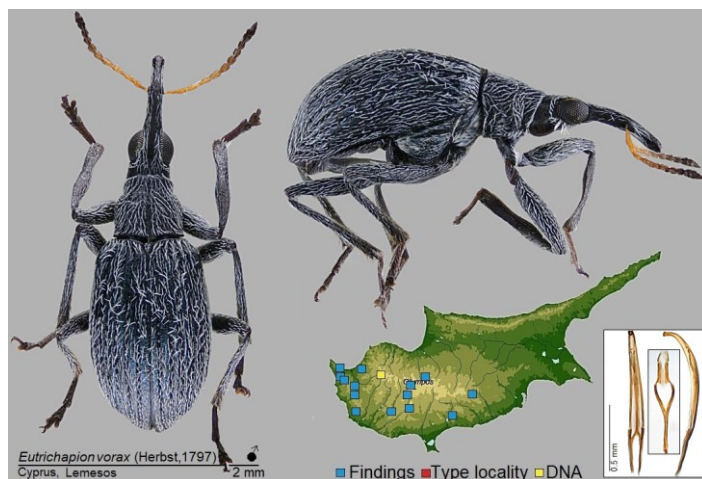


Distribution. Western Palearctic region.

Host plants. Fabaceae (*Lathyrus*, *Vicia*, *Melilotus*, *Trifolium*?), oligophagous.

Note. A deviation of slightly more than 2% in the mtCO1 fragment compared to the nominate form *E. viciae* (Paykull, 1800) and the orange-red tip of the rostrum (see illustration), which all male specimens in Cyprus have, could give rise to talk of another subspecies, *E. viciae rufinusus* (Desbrochers des Loges, 1891), and not just a variant (Alziar 2023).

■ *Eutrichapion vorax* (Herbst, 1797)



Distribution. Europe, North Africa, Middle East.

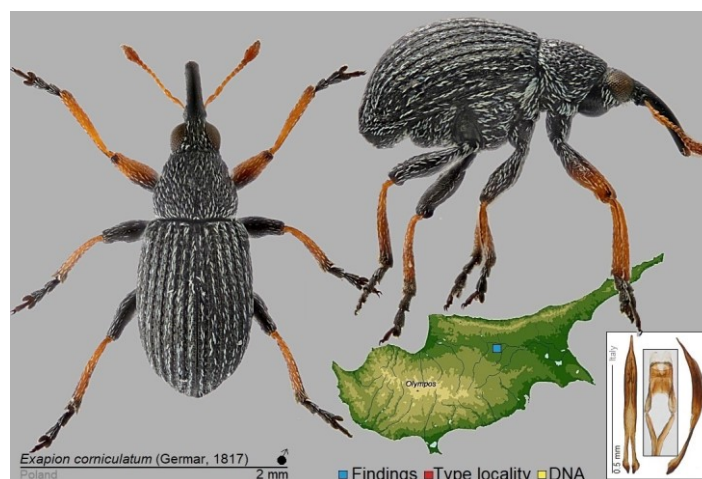
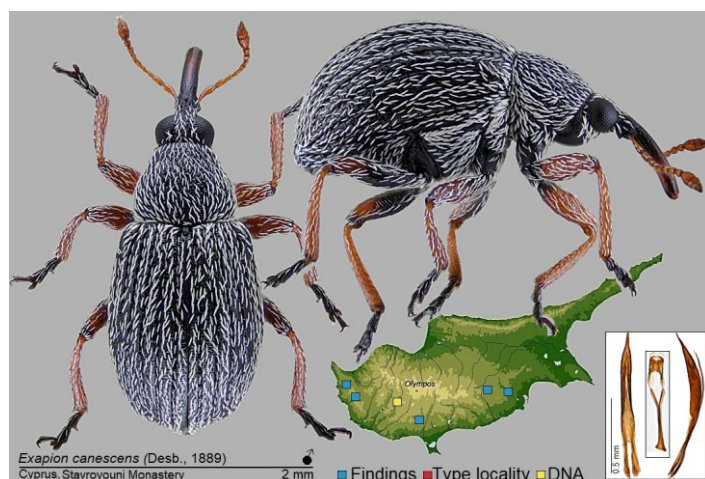
Host plants. *Vicia faba* and other *Vicia* species (Sprick in: Stüben et al. 2018).

Note. It is noteworthy that migrating specimens of this species have been observed on many tree species (e.g. *Quercus*, *Pinus* and *Juniperus*). It is certainly worth noting that the molecular distances, as measured using the mtCO1 partial gene, exceed 4% for specimens of this species from south-western Europe, as well as for those from eastern Europe (the Czech Republic)!

■ *Exapion canescens* (Desbrochers des Loges, 1889) - a younger synonym of *E. corniculatum* (Germar, 1817)?

Distribution. Greece to Turkey, Near East.

Host plants. *Calicotome villosa* on Cyprus.



Note. This species from the eastern Mediterranean region resembles *E. corniculatum* (Germar, 1817), a European continental species from *Lembotropis* and *Chamaecytisus*, but (almost always) has completely black meso- and metafemorae (and almost always longer elytra; length-width ratio 1.45x). I saw **elongated** specimens of *E. corniculatum* from Greece (Drama) at the Senckenberg German Entomological Institute, some of which had reddish-brown meso- and metafemorae (det. Behne). However, aedeagi and tegma of both *Exapion* species do not differ in any way. Nevertheless, it was a big surprise that the Cypriot specimens differed by only 0.076% in the mtCO1 segment from a specimen of *E. corniculatum* collected 12 years earlier by R. Stejskal in the Czech Republic (Litoměřice). Even more confusing is the mention of *E. corniculatum* by G. Alziar in the collection of the Department of Agriculture (Nicosia), also from Cyprus (Nicosia) in 1995. Is this just a misidentification (I only know specimens with partly reddish-brown meso- and metafemorae and short elytra from Cyprus), i.e. in reality *E. canescens*, or is this a first (hidden) indication that despite the different colouring of the femorae (and perhaps the different elytra lengths) *Exapion corniculatum* has considerable ectoskeletal variation potential - the further you extend the cline from the northernmost location (Poland) via the Balkans to Asia Minor or the Middle East; i.e. ultimately, is it just the morphological range of variation of a single species - in this case of *E. corniculatum* (Germar, 1817)?

■ *Exapion corniculatum* (Germar, 1817)

Distribution. Continental Europe.

Host plants. Fabaceae-Genisteae (*Lembotropis nigricans*, *Cytisus* spp.), oligophagous.

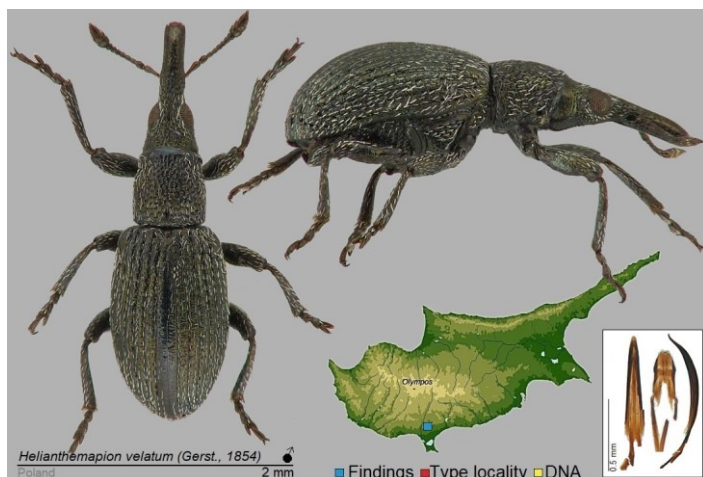
Note. For possible misidentification and initial morphological and molecular considerations regarding conspecificity with *Exapion canescens* on Cyprus, see the latter species! See also the key in: Stüben et al. (2019); there are also comments on the host plants and distribution of the species by P. Sprick. Alziar (1995) records this species without further details from Nicosia (coll. Department of Agriculture, Nicosia).

■ *Helianthemapion velatum* (Gerstaecker, 1854)

Distribution. Central and Southern Europe, North Africa, Middle East.

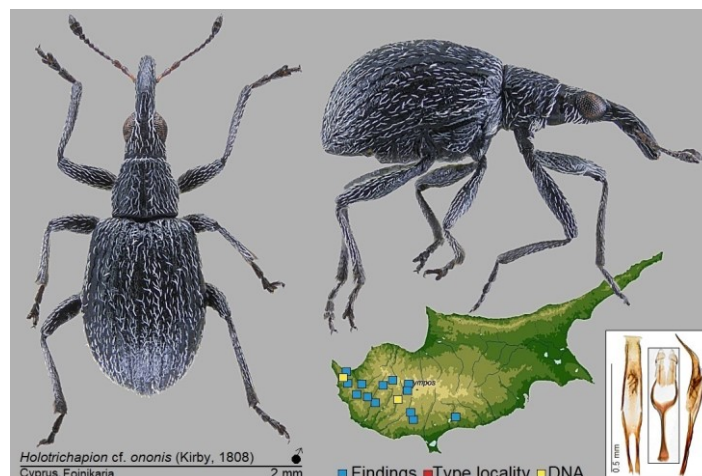
Host plants. Cistaceae (*Fumana*, *Helianthemum*, *Tuberaria*), oligophagous.

Note. I have seen a single specimen of this species (Zoologische Staatssammlung, Munich), collected by Mavromoustakis (det. Dieckmann) in Cyprus (Polemia Mts.). A key and notes on the biology and distribution of this species can be found in Stüben et al. (2017b).



compare also the aedeagi and see the key and comments on biology and distribution in: Stüben et al. (2012).

■ ***Holotrichapion cf. ononis* (Kirby, 1808)**

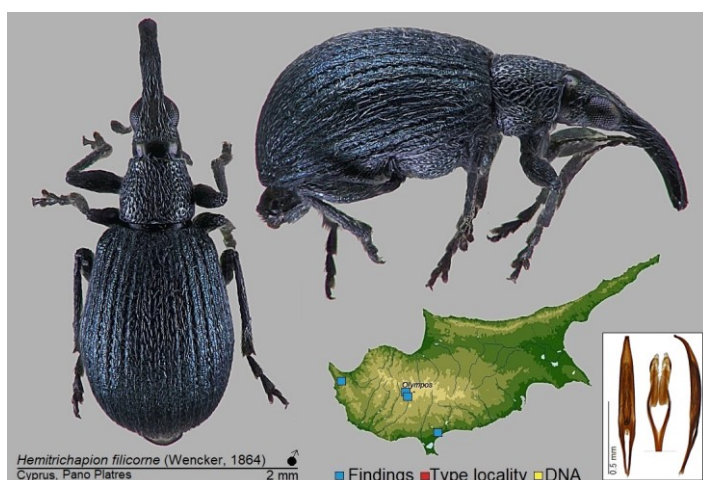


Distribution. Europe, Canary Islands, Caucasus and Middle East.

Host plants. *Ononis* spp.

Note. Alziar (2023) also mentions this species for Cyprus, but without presenting any molecular results. But only molecular analysis can draw our attention to cryptic species or species with only slight morphological differences. Should not p-distances of more than 4.5% compared to known species on the European mainland (and the Canary Islands) be seen as a wake-up call for morphologists? For example, in comparison with our Central European specimens, the rostrum of the specimens from Cyprus appears shorter when viewed from above and much more curved immediately behind the base when viewed from the side (see illustration). Both - the molecular and morphological suspicions - should be taken as an opportunity to study the case (a new species or sub-species). It would also be worthwhile to examine whether the Cypriot species could be connected to the morphologically very closely related species *Holotrichapion* (s.str.) *saturnium* (Normand, 1937) from the Mediterranean region and the Iran.

■ ***Hemitrichapion filicorne* (Wencker, 1864)**

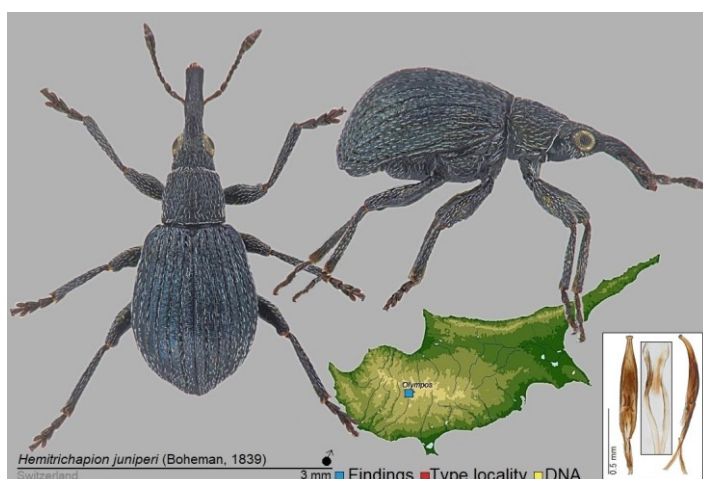


Distribution. Circummediterranean.

Host plants. Fabaceae (*Lotus*, *Coronilla*?).

Note. Migrating specimens were also frequently detected on *Juniperus foetidissima* (coll. Giusto) after their host plants had obviously already dried up (Stüben et al. 2012).

■ ***Hemitrichapion juniperi* (Boheman, 1839)**

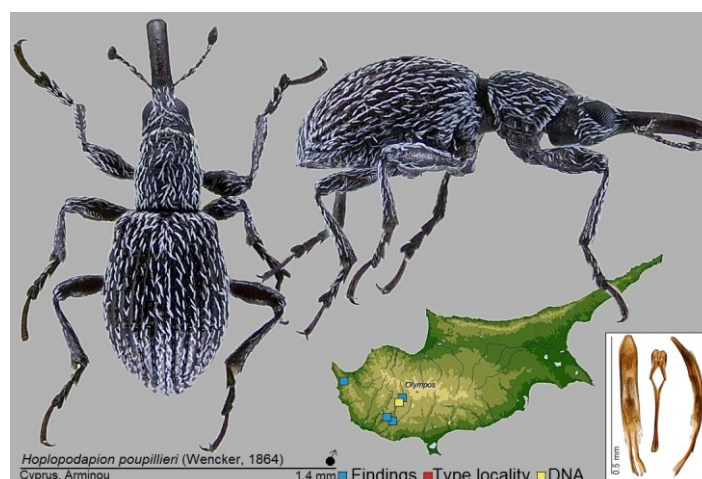


Distribution. Middle and South Europe, Caucasus.

Host plants. Fabaceae-Faboideae (*Coronilla*, *Genista*, *Securigera*).

Note. Two specimens of this species were collected by Colonnelli on Mount Olympos in April 2010. It is not always easy to distinguish between the two species of *Hemitrichapion* in Cyprus. The scape of antennae of *H. juniperi* are at most as long as the rostrum is wide, whereas those of *H. filicorne* are significantly longer than the rostrum is wide;

■ ***Hoplopodapion poupillieri* (Wencker, 1864)**



Distribution. Mediterranean.

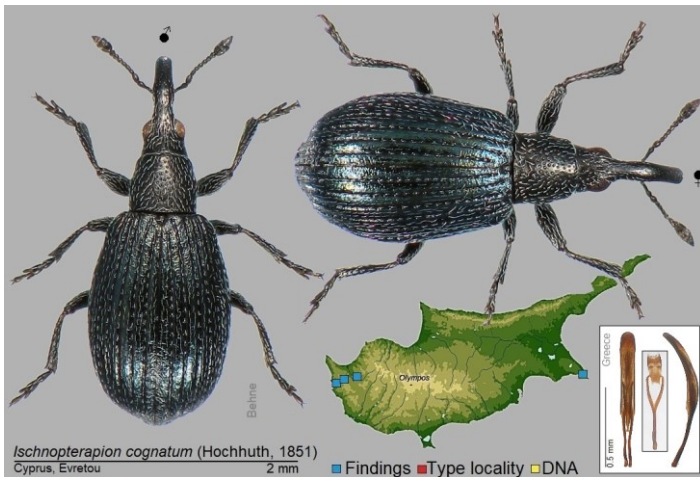
Host plants. *Tamarix* spp.

Note. This Apioninae, measuring just over 1 mm, is difficult to spot on the beating screen (and is often overlooked among the *Tamarix* branches and leaves).

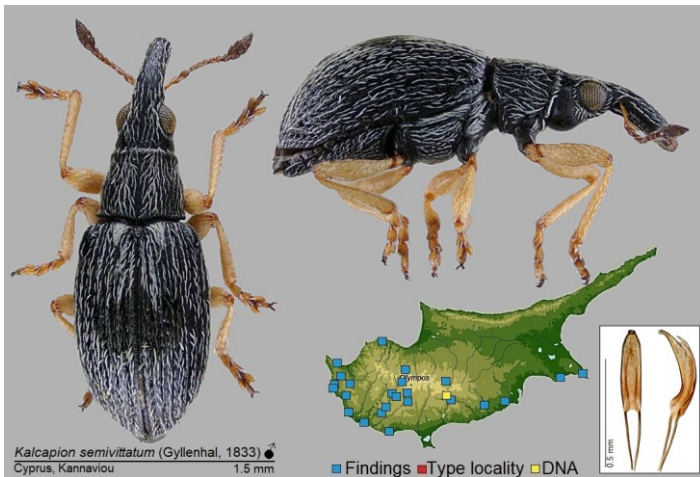
■ ***Ischnopterapion cognatum* (Hochhuth, 1851)**

Distribution. Circummediterranean.

Host plants. Fabaceae (*Astragalus* spp.), monophagous.



■ *Kalcapion semivittatum* (Gyllenhal, 1833)

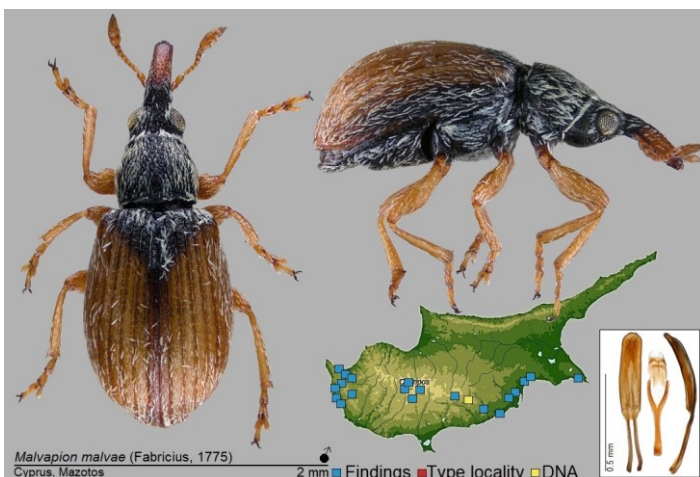


Distribution. Western Palaearctic.

Host plants. *Mercurialis* spp. (Euphorbiaceae).

Note. The specimens from Cyprus form a separate clade with specimens from Sicily (p-distance of the CO1 gen ca. 2,5 %).

■ *Malvapion malvae* (Fabricius, 1775)



Distribution. Western Palaearctic region.

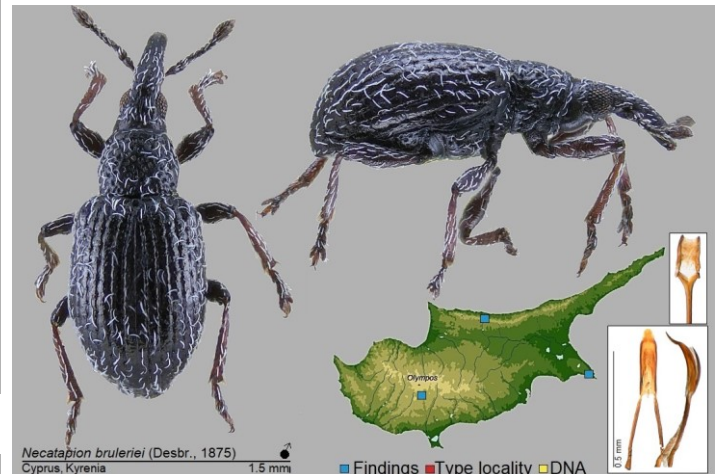
Host plants. *Lavatera cretica* and *Malva sylvestris* on Cyprus (Sprick & Giusto in: Stüben et al. 2012).

■ *Necatapion bruleriei* (Desbrochers des Loges, 1875)

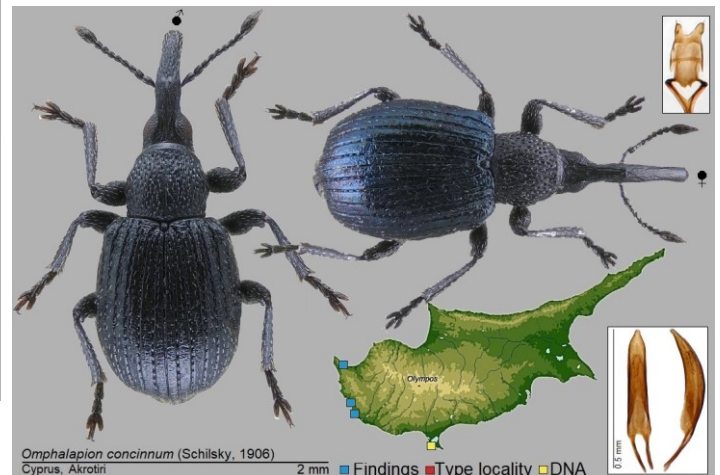
Distribution. Middle East.

Host plants. *Convolvulus arvensis*, monophagous.

Note. For a detailed first description and differentiation of the monotypical genus *Necatapion* (type species: *N. bruleriei*) and the *Catapion* species in the narrower sense, see Friedman and Freidberg (2007).



■ *Omphalapion concinnum* (Schilsky, 1906)

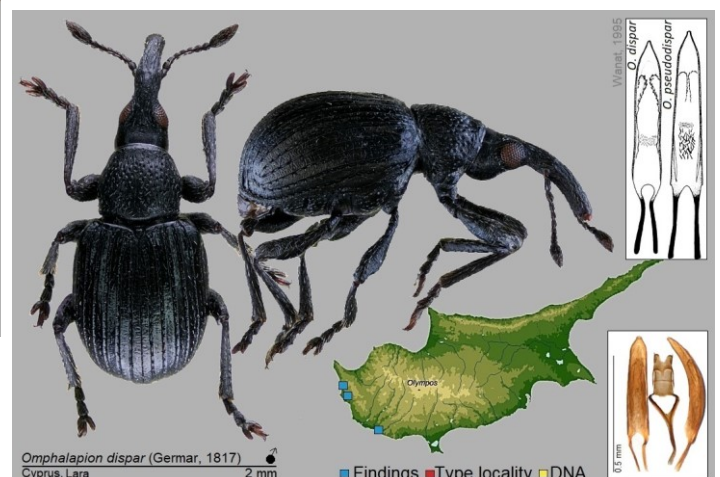


Distribution. Middle East.

Host plants. Asteraceae (*Anthemis rigida*), perhaps monophagous [Winkelmann 2017].

Note. Wolfgang Suppanschtschik had informed P. Sprick that he had swept all specimens from the low herb vegetation before 12.00 a.m., e.g. from *Echium angustifolium* Mill. and other perennial herbs (in: Stüben et al. 2012).

■ *Omphalapion dispar* (Germar, 1817)

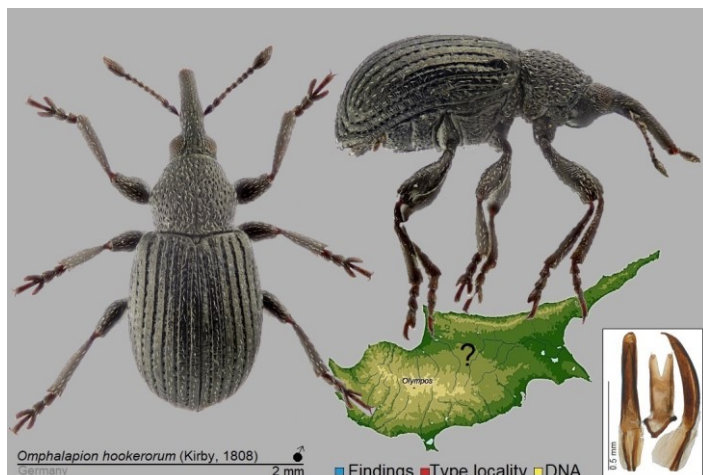


Distribution. Europe, Middle East.

Host plants. Asteraceae-Anthemideae (*Anthemis*, *Matricaria*, *Tripleurospermum inodorum*), oligophagous

Note. See comment under *O. pseudodispar*!

■ *Omphalapion hookerorum* (Kirby, 1808)

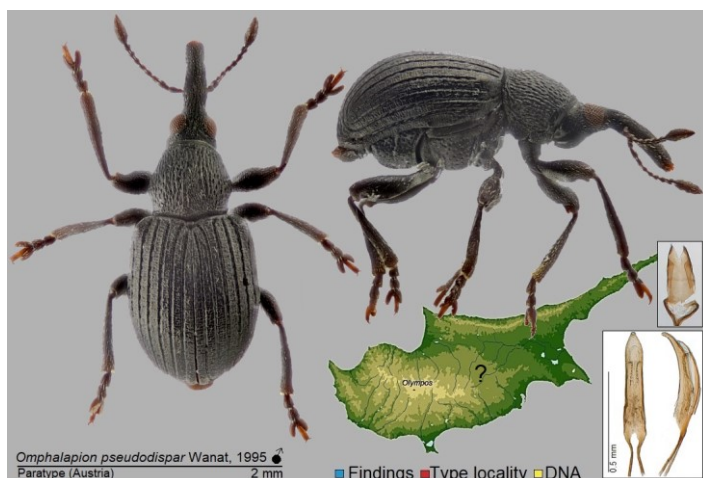


Distribution. Western Palaearctic, Nearctic Region.

Host plants. Asteraceae (e.g. *Anthemis*, *Matricaria*), oligophagous.

Note. Differs from *O. dispar/pseudodispar* in the conical (not parallel-sided) shape of the rostrum and the much smaller distance (of only 1 rostrum width) between the antennae insertion point and the base of the rostrum. Unfortunately, I was unable to record this species myself in Cyprus. However, Balfour-Browne (1944, cited in Alziar 1995) lists it under the name *Apion hookeri* without specifying a precise location on the island. And Wanat (1995), too, lists only 'Cyprus' under 'Distribution'. Apparently, all three *Omphalapion* species mentioned here, which are closely related, occur sympatrically(?) on Cyprus, for example on *Anthemis* or *Matricaria*. Is it even plausible to assume that such reproductive isolation could exist without some form of separation, barrier or a hidden allopatric situation?

■ *Omphalapion pseudodispar* Wanat, 1995

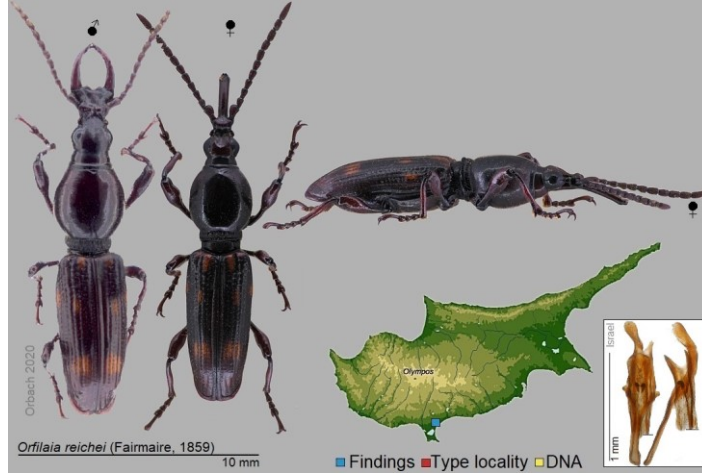


Distribution. Eastern and southeastern Europe, Middle East.

Host plants. Probably the same as for *O. dispar*.

Note. I had no specimens from Cyprus, a species which, according to Alziar (2023), is also supposed to occur there. According to Wanat (1995), 'this species is „equally variable and sometimes very difficult to distinguish from *O. dispar* if only females are at disposal'. Both species are often collected together obviously from the same *Anthemis* host plant. Furthermore, according to Wanat, even male of *O. pseudodispar* cannot be distinguished from *O. dispar* by their appearance: 'length and shape of rostrum, antennal proportions, shape of head, eye convexity, shape and punctuation of pronotum, as well as its size in relation to elytra equally variable.' Only the 'median lobe of aedeagus relatively long, 4.5-5.0 as long as wide; internal sac with numerous long spines in basal half. The remaining structures of the sac and paramerae as in *O. dispar*.' (Wanat 1995: 146/7, see the drawings by Wanat in the illustrations for *O. dispar*). I am not aware of any molecular studies to date that have been conducted to distinguish between the two (cryptic?) species! Only initial barcodes for *O. dispar* from the Rhineland are available (identified by Köhler, GenBank: KM441688).

■ *Orfilaia reichiei* (Fairmaire, 1859)



Distribution. Crete, North Africa, Middle East.

Host plants. Unknown in Cyprus.

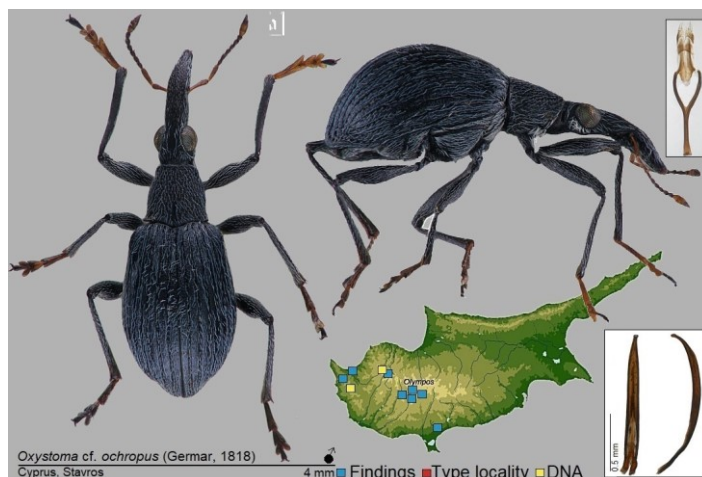
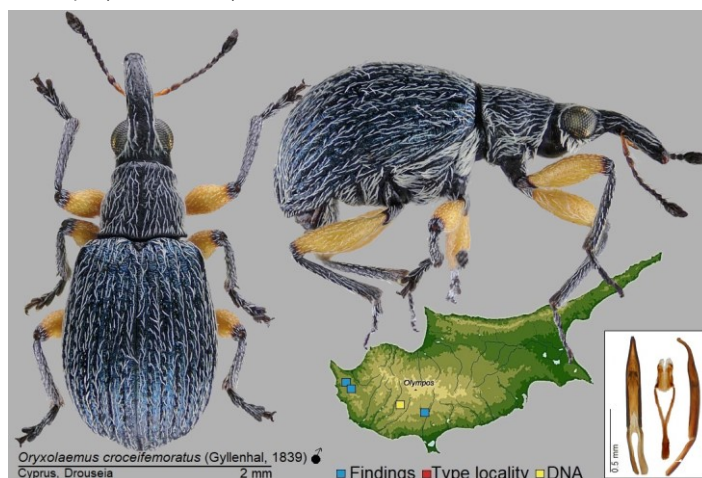
Note. About 60 adults emerged from *Moringa peregrina* (Moringaceae) cut between June 1976 and January 1977 in Israel, 'En Gedi (Orbach 2020). Like the *Amorphocephala* species, this species is also attracted to light (light trap). A key to these species with illustrations can also be found in Orbach (ibid.). Schedl (1970) mentions a female collected by Mauromoustatis on 23 April 1920 in Cyprus (Limassol) / British Museum (Natural History, London).

■ *Oryxolaemus croceifemoratus* (Gyllenhal, 1839)

Distribution. Southern Europe, North Africa, Middle East.

Host plants. Fabaceae (*Anagyris foetida*), monophagous.

Note. A species that is easier to distinguish from its sister taxon *O. scabiosus* using the CO1 barcode (p-distance ca. 7%) than morphologically; except in the case of the latter, where the host plant is *Calicotome* sp.! (Stüben 2023)



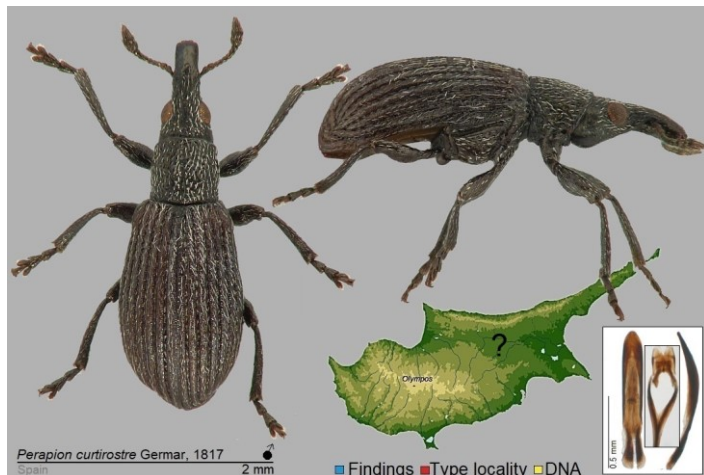
■ *Oxystoma cf. ochropus* (Germar, 1818)

Distribution. Europe, North Africa, Middle East.

Host plants. Fabaceae (*Vicia* spp., *Lathyrus* spp.).

Note. Initial molecular analyses show that the specimens from Cyprus differ from the Central European specimens by almost 4% in p-distance values, which are significant for heterospecific Apioninae taxa (see Schütte, Stüben & Astrin 2023) - without any morphological differences being apparent at first glance.

■ *Perapion curtirostre* Germar, 1817

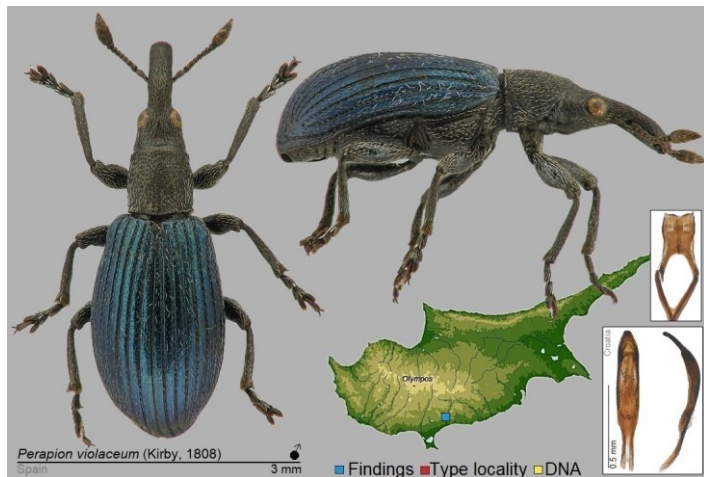


Distribution. Europe, Asia.

Host plants. Polygonaceae (*Rumex* spp.), monophagous.

Note. The CCPCC and Alziar (2023) mention the species, which I have not recorded, as being found in Cyprus. In any case, it should be checked whether it could also be *Perapion oblongum* (Gyllenhal, 1839), a species that is only slightly larger but does not differ morphologically (1.5–2.6 mm vs. 2.2–3.0 mm, see Stüben et al. 2017b, Stüben & Becker 2026).

■ *Perapion violaceum violaceum* (Kirby, 1808)



Distribution. Western Palaearctic region.

Host plants. *Rumex* spp. (Polygonaceae), monophagous.

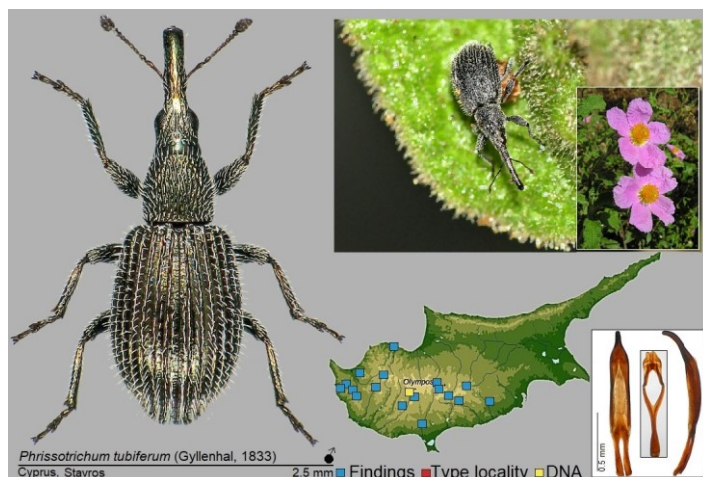
Note. So far, I have only found a single record of this common species, which is widespread on *Rumex* spp. in the Palaearctic region, near Foinikara in Cyprus in Alziar's catalogue (2017b).

■ *Phrissotrichum tubiferum* (Gyllenhal, 1833)

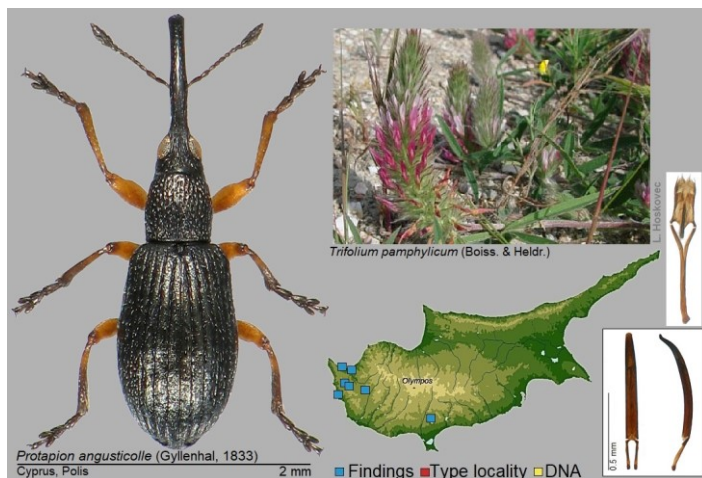
Distribution. Circummediterranean, Middle East, Caucasus.

Host plants. *Cistus creticus*, *C. monspeliensis*.

Note. The species is also spreading across Cyprus with the fire indicator *Cistus*. The name is repeatedly confused with *P. tubuliferum* from the Canary Islands.



■ *Protapion angusticolle* (Gyllenhal, 1833)

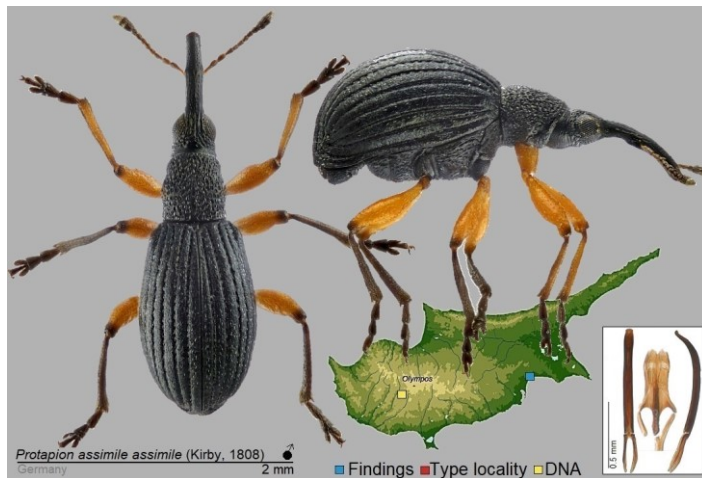


Distribution. Central and East Mediterranean, North Africa, Middle East.

Host plants. *Trifolium pamphylicum* on Cyprus (Stüben et al. 2019).

Note. This species differs from *Protapion fulvipes* in its slimmer body, more strongly punctured pronotum and the shape of its aedeagus (see also identification key by Stüben et al. 2019).

■ *Protapion assimile assimile* (Kirby, 1808)



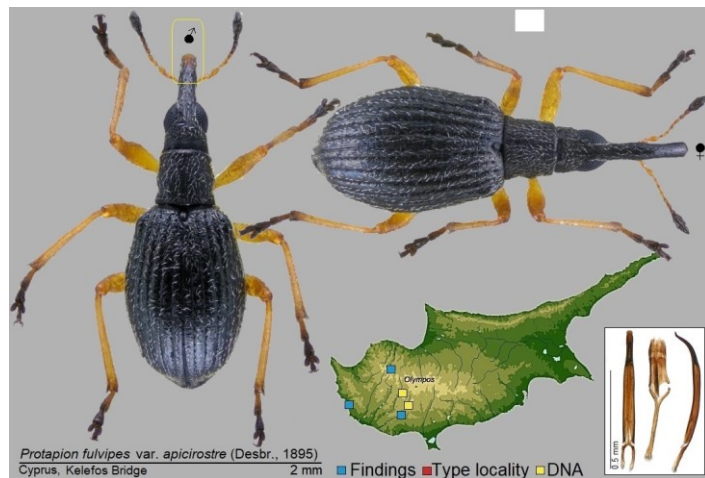
Distribution. Western Palaearctic region.

Host plants. Fabaceae (*Trifolium* spp.).

Note. The species is new to Cyprus and was subsequently identified by Behne (leg. Messutat) in 2014 and again – also molecularly – by me in May 2025 near Arminou from *Trifolium* spp. However, the differences in the mtCO1 gene fragment compared with Central European specimens

of this *Protapion* species are considerable. Its species affiliation and taxonomic status should therefore be reviewed (see also Fig. 2).

■ ***Protapion fulvipes* var. *apicrostre* (Desbrochers des Loges, 1895)**

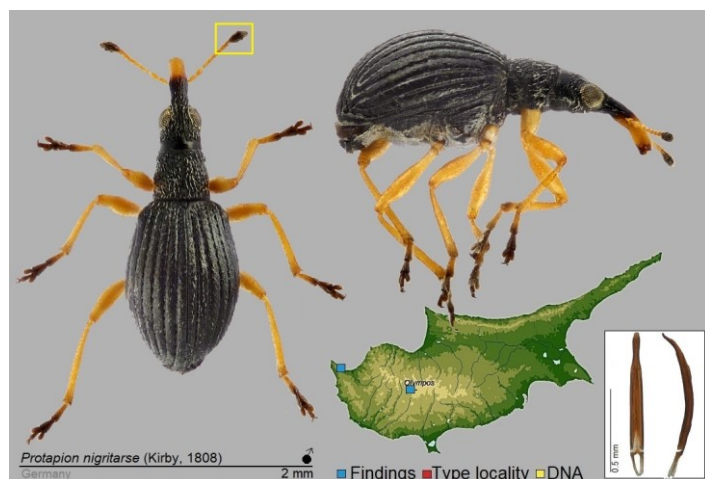


Distribution. Eastern Europe, Middle East.

Host plants. Fabaceae (*Trifolium* spp.).

Note. Karel Schön wrote to me that the specimens from Cyprus were probably *Protapion fulvipes* var. *apicrostre* (Desbrochers de Loges, 1895: 170, here: „*Flavipes* var? *apicrostre* Db.“; *Apion flavipes* Payk. is a synonym of *Rhinomacer fulvipes* Fourcroy & Geoffroy, 1785), which he also had in his collection from Bohemia. And indeed, males from Cyprus with red tips of the rostrum appear in the molecular CO1 tree together with specimens from Poland and Moravia (Czech Republic). Nevertheless, it is striking that, without exception, only males with a red tip on the rostrum are found in Cyprus, even though the mtCO1 fragment, with a p-distance of 1.5 per cent from the nominotypical taxon, could at most indicate a very early stages of speciation.

■ ***Protapion nigrirtase* (Kirby, 1808)**



Distribution. Western Palaearctic region.

Host plants. Fabaceae (*Trifolium* spp.).

Note. I have only a few reports of this species from Mt. Olympus and Baths of Aphrodite by C. Guisto (Italy). Like in *P. fulvipes* from Cyprus, the males also have a red rostrum tip!

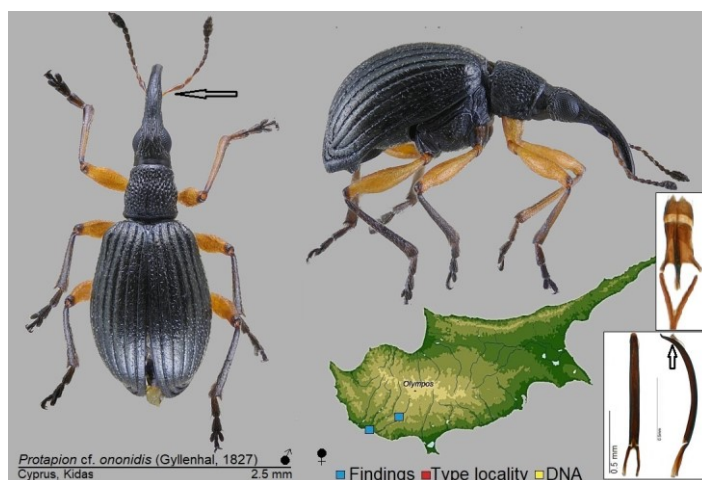
■ ***Protapion* cf. *ononidis* (Gyllenhal, 1827)**

Distribution. Western Palaearctic region.

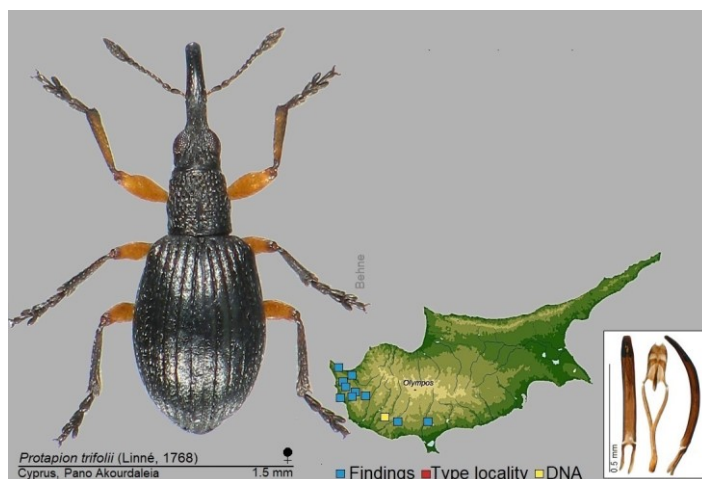
Host plants. Fabaceae (*Ononis* spp.).

Note. Only a few records have been reported so far. The identification of the specimen of this species collected near Kidas in Cyprus, which I sequenced using mtCO1 partial gene, was carried out according to Russell (2004) and Stüben et al. (2019), but revealed no match when compared with the approximately two dozen existing CO1 sequences currently available for the relevant *Protapion* species *P. ononidis* and *P. assimile* (GenBank and my own: >5% p-distance). In the specimen I

photographed, a male, the rostrum tapers continuously, without any more or less abrupt narrowing at the level of the rostrum swellings (which are much flatter here) after the antennal insertions (as in *P. ononidis*). Similarly, when viewed laterally, the aedeagus is more distinctly curved just before the tip than in that species (compare with aedeagus in Stüben et al. 2019).



■ ***Protapion trifolii* (Linné, 1768)**

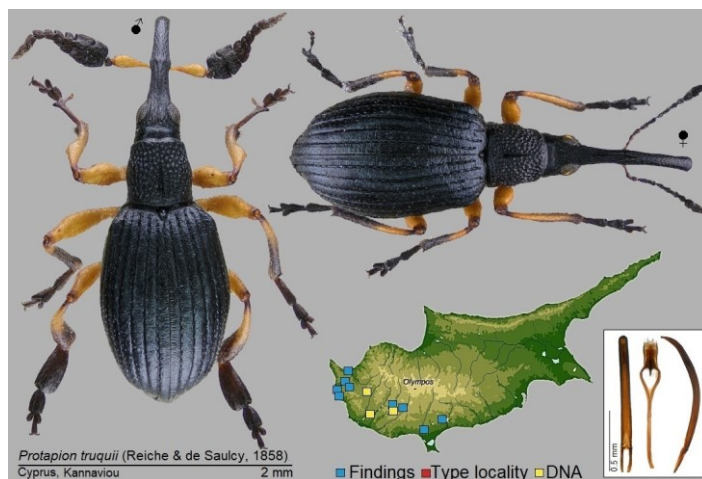


Distribution. Western Palaearctic region.

Host plants. Fabaceae (*Trifolium* spp., mainly on *T. pratense*).

Note. Common species in Cyprus, but differs by 4% in the mtCO1 fragment from specimens from Central Europe.

■ ***Protapion truquii* (Reiche & de Saulcy, 1858)**

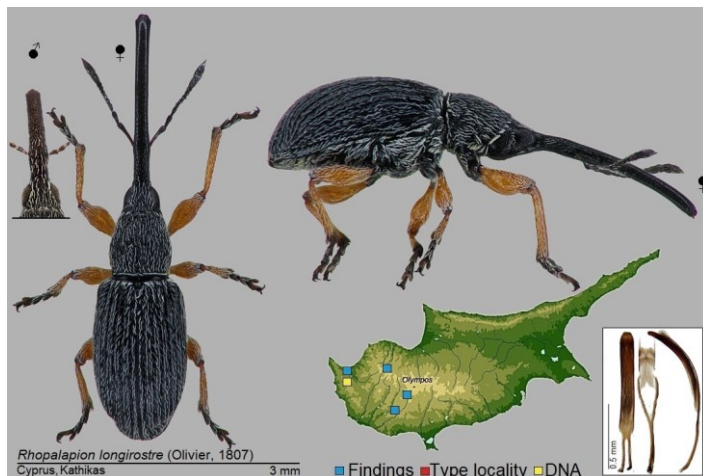


Distribution. Southeast Europe, Middle East.

Host plants. Fabaceae (*Trifolium stellatum*), monophagous.

Note. The males of this *Protapion* species are easily recognisable by their comb-like and thickened antennae and their thickened first tarsal segment; identifying the females is more difficult (see the excellent work and key by M. Russell (2004) on all known *Protapion* species).

■ *Rhopalapion longirostre* (Olivier, 1807)



Distribution. Palaearctic, Nearctic (introduced).

Host plants. Malvaceae (*Alcea* spp.).

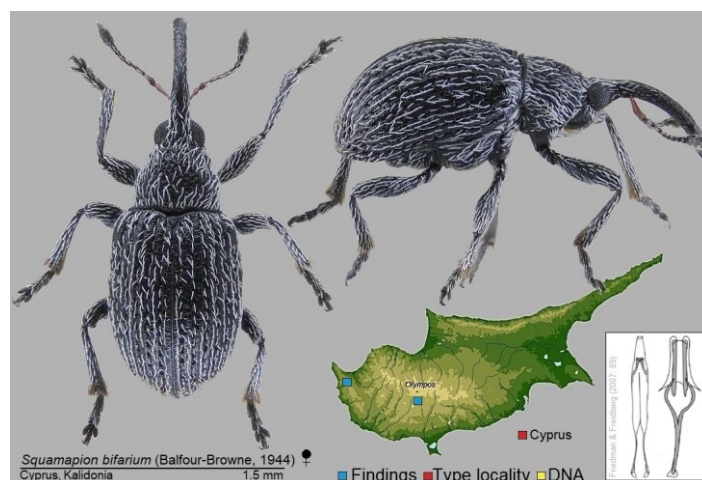
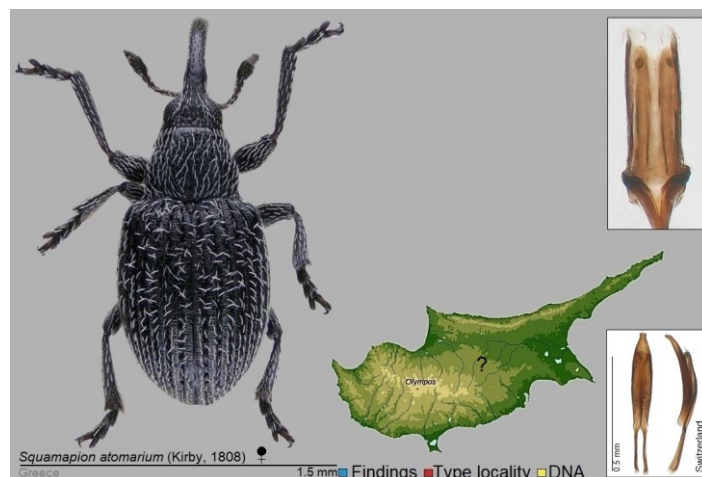
Note. The larvae develop in the fruit, infested flowers wilt prematurely. (in detail: Sprick et al. 2002).

■ *Squamapion atomarium* (Kirby, 1808)

Distribution. Western Palaearctic region [Occurrence in Cyprus uncertain or exact locations unavailable].

Host plants. Lamiaceae (*Thymus* spp.), monophagous.

Note. Alziar (1995) cites Balfour-Browne (1944) without specifying a location, and Friedman & Freiberg (2007) describe the new species *Squamapion terrasanctae* as being very similar to the European species *S. atomarium* (Kirby) from Israel. As I was unable to find *S. atomarium* myself in Cyprus, the exact locations in Cyprus remain uncertain. A key to *Squamapion* species, notes on their distribution and biology of the species (by P. Sprick) see Stüben et al. (2017a).



■ *Squamapion bifarium* (Balfour-Browne, 1944)

Distribution. Endemic to Cyprus.

Host plants. According to Friedman & Freiberg (2007) one specimen was collected from *Mentha longifolia* ssp. *cyprica*.

Note. But C. Giusto (2021) is not sure whether *Mentha longifolia* ssp. *typhoides* (Briq.) Harley (= *Mentha longifolia* ssp. *cyprica* (Heinr. Braun) Harley) is indeed the host plant.



***Rhopalapion longirostre* (Olivier, 1807)**

Cyprus, Kathikas, 34°54'41.01"N 32°25'34.85"E, 657 m, 25.6.2023, *Alcea rosea*, leg. Stüben



© P.E. Stüben /CURC



Stenopterapion argamani from *Erophaca baetica*

© P.E. Stüben / CURCI

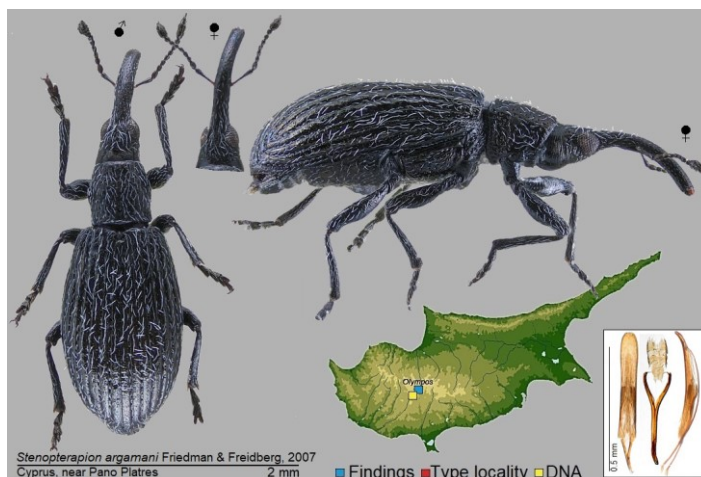


■ ***Stenopterapion argamani* Friedman & Freidberg, 2007**

Distribution. Cyprus, Israel, Syria.

Host plants. *Erophaca baetica* ssp. *orientalis*; Fabaceae (Faboideae: Galegeae)

Note. The species must be distinguished in Cyprus from *Stenopterapion tenue* (Kirby, 1808), from which it differs mainly in its flatter, less prominent eyes and convex (rather than concave) forehead (Friedman & Freidberg, 2007). The species appears to occur only on its host plant *Erophaca baetica* in Cyprus.

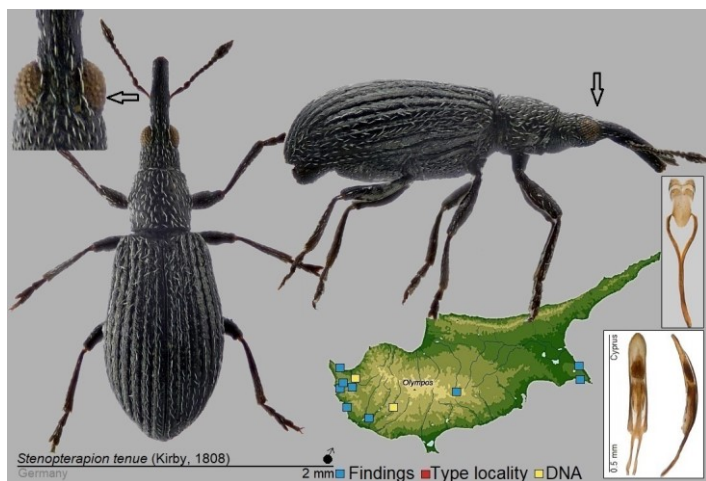




Taeniapion notatum (Wagner, 1912) from *Urtica pilulifera*

© P. E. Stüben/CURCI

■ *Stenopterapion tenue* (Kirby, 1808)

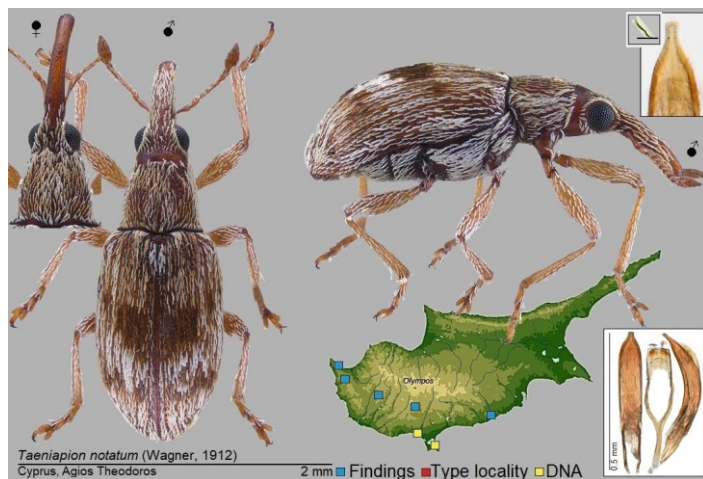


Distribution. Western Palearctic region.

Host plants. Fabaceae (*Medicago* spp.).

Note. For the distinction from *Stenopterapion argamani*, see there. *S. tenue* appears to represent a complex of cryptic species (see dendrogram, Fig. 2; p-distance ca. 5.5%); consequently, the specimens from Cyprus might also comprise two distinct species which, when the identification key by Friedman & Freiberg (2007:138) is applied, should also differ morphologically from *S. intermedium* (Eppelsheim, 1875) and *Stenopterapion argamani*.

■ *Taeniapion notatum* (Wagner, 1912) comb.n., stat.rev. by C Giusto in Stüben et al. (2012)

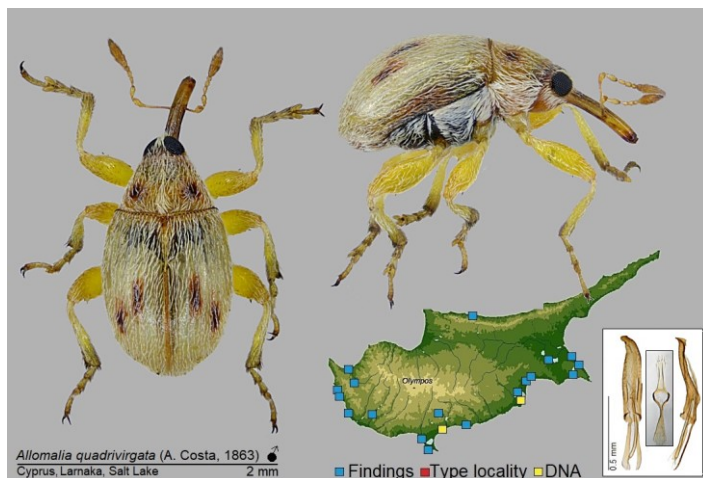


Distribution. Greece, Cyprus, Israel and Jordan.

Host plants. *Urtica pilulifera* and *Parietaria judaica* (vid. C. Giusto, P. Sprick, G. Alziar).

Note. *Taeniapion notatum* from Cyprus forms a separate clade in the molecular mtCO1-NJ tree and can be clearly distinguished from *Taeniapion rufescens* (Gyllenhal, 1833) with p-distances of >6%. In addition to the morphological characteristics mentioned by C. Giusto in Stüben et al. (2012), there is therefore no longer the slightest doubt that an urgent correction is needed in the CCPCC (Work Version 3.4), where the species is apparently still listed by M. Alonso-Zarazaga as a synonym of *T. rufescens*.

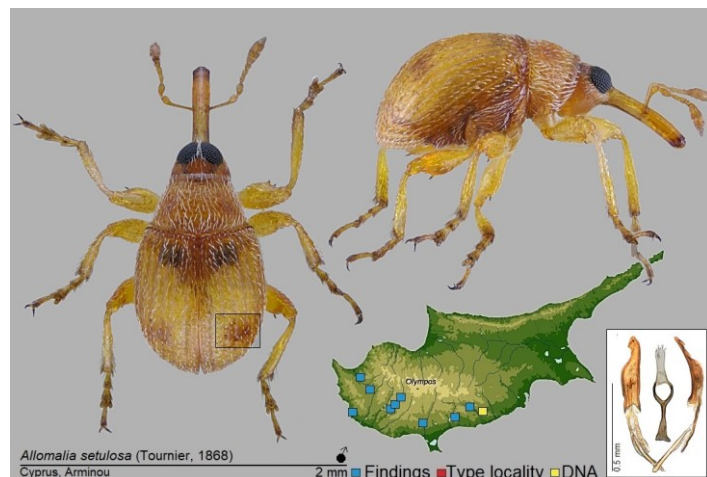
BRENTIDAE: Nanophyinae

■ *Allomalina quadrivirgata* (A. Costa, 1863)

Distribution. Circummediterranean (with a focus on the western Mediterranean region).

Host plants. *Tamarix* spp.

Note. Antennal flagellum with 4 antennomeres. In contrast to its closely related sister taxon *Allomalina sexpunctata* (Kiesenwetter, 1864), which is widespread on the Greek mainland and in the Aegean (but probably not on Cyprus), the rostrum is significantly longer in both sexes and the apex of the aedeagus is flatly 'cut off' in dorsal view and not arrow-shaped and elongated (for detailed differential diagnosis, see Stüben & Schön 2024; Stüben 2025).

■ *Allomalina setulosa* (Tournier, 1868)

Distribution. North Africa, Middle East, Asia.

Host plants. *Tamarix* spp.

Note. This Corimaliini species, which is only 1.1-1.5 mm in size, has two irregularly defined, blurred reddish-brown spots on the rear part of the elytra. Antennal flagellum with 4 antennomeres (Stüben 2025).

■ *Corimalia fausti fausti* (Reitter, 1890) (see species profile p. 166)

Distribution. Southeast Europe, Middle East.

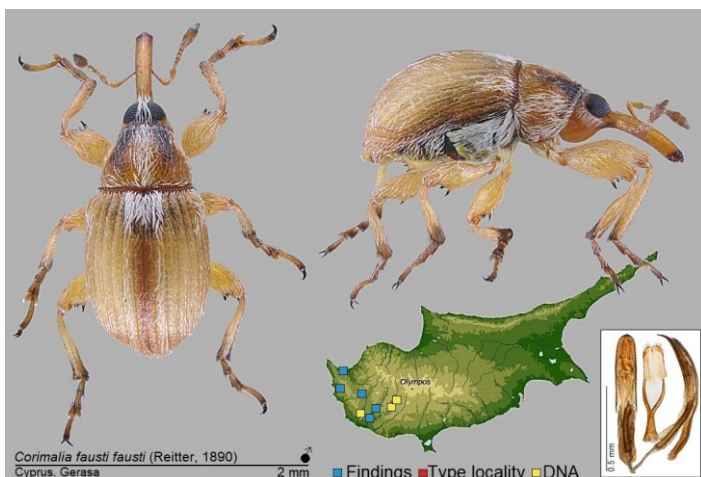
Host plants. *Tamarix* spp.

Note. The only Corimaliini living on *Tamarix* with 5 antennomeres of the antennal flagellum in Cyprus; elytral base spot rectangular consisting of short, densely placed bristles.



Allomalina quadrivirgata
on *Tamarix*

© P.E. Stüben / CURCI



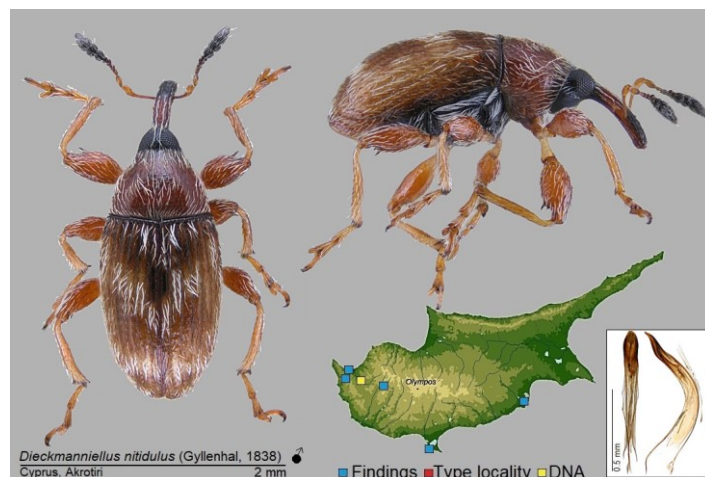
■ ***Dieckmanniellus nitidulus* (Gyllenhal, 1838)**

Distribution. Palaearctic region.

Host plants. Lythraceae (*Lythrum* spp.), monophagous.

Note. *Dieckmanniellus nitidulus* can easily be confused with *D. chevrieri* (Boheman, 1845) (= *Nanophyes helveticus* Tourn.). However, the rostrum is always parallel-sided and the aedeagus is almost bent at a right angle. In *D. chevrieri*, the rostrum widens towards the apex and the aedeagus is nearly straight when viewed laterally (see key in: Stüben 2023). Since the latter species also occurs in Turkey and Israel,

it could theoretically also be found on *Lythrum* spp. in Cyprus, although its actual host plant *Lythrum salicaria* is not known from there.



■ ***Hypophyes aphyllae* (Peyerimhoff, 1929) – new for Cyprus!**

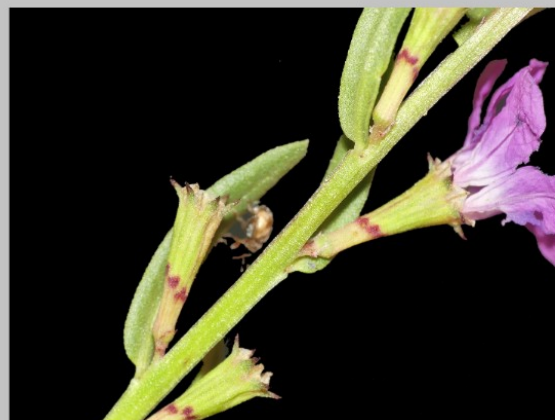
Distribution. North Africa, Middle East.

Host plants. *Tamarix* spp.

Note. This species, barely 1.2 mm in size, has only 4 antennomeres of the antennal flagellum, like *Hypophyes minutissimus* (Tournier, 1868), and can therefore easily be confused with this equally small species.

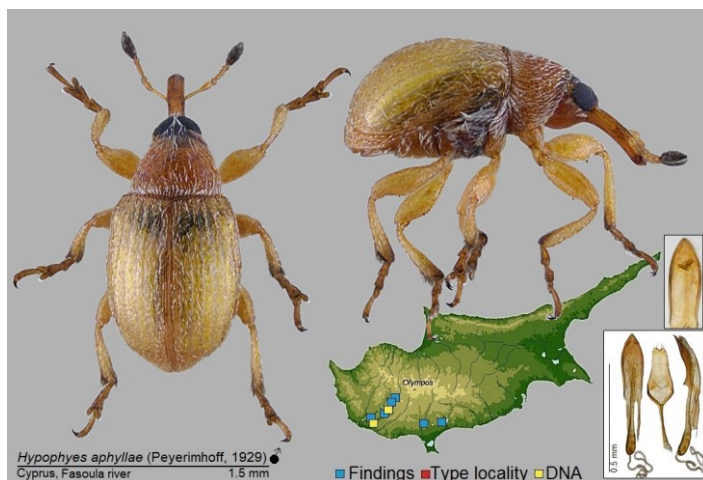


Dieckmanniellus nitidulus
on *Lythrum thymifolium*

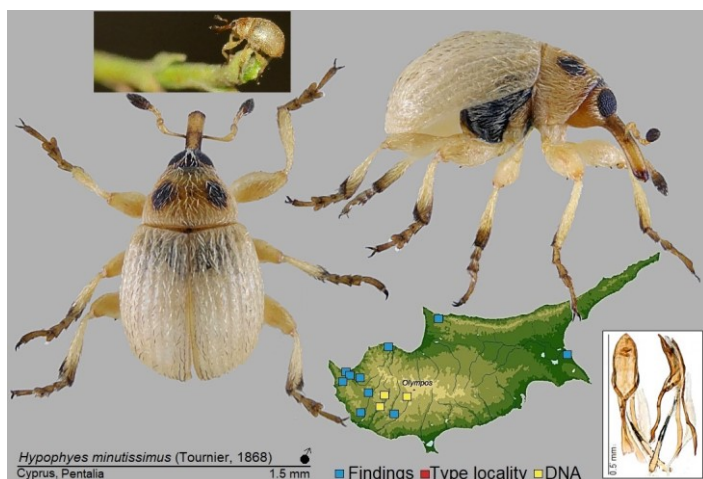


© P.E. Stüben / CURCI

However, the latter always has a slightly bulbous, protruding pronotum with two brown spots, which are absent on the trapezoidal pronotum of *H. aphyllae*. For further differentiation between the two tiny Corimaliini, refer to the key by Stüben (2025).



■ *Hypophyes minutissimus* (Tournier, 1868)

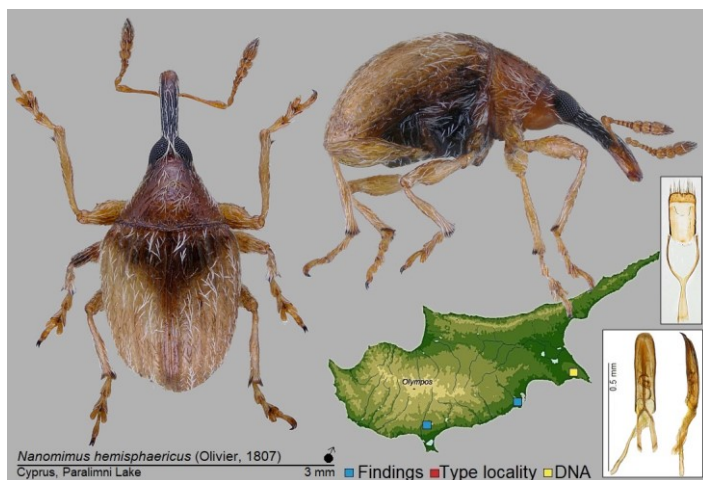


Distribution. North Africa, Middle East.

Host plants. *Tamarix* spp.

Note. Morphologically similar to *H. aphyllae* (see differential diagnosis there), but molecularly separated by almost 8% in the mtCO1 fragment!

■ *Nanomimus hemisphaericus* (Olivier, 1807) / *N. circumscriptus* (Aubé, 1864) – new for Cyprus!



Distribution. Europe, Middle East.

Host plants. Lythraceae (*Lythrum hyssopifolia*) monophagous.

Note. These relatively large Nanophyini species (2.5 mm) have so far only been known to me from a few locations in Cyprus (Paralimni Lake,

Meneou / salt lake). The two(?) species are very similar, are both said to occur in Turkey and are likely to be difficult to distinguish morphologically. *N. circumscriptus* is said to have less robust humeri and slightly more rounded elytra sides (according to my own key in: Stüben 2023, 2026). The aedeagi are almost indistinguishable from one another, so today I am more inclined to consider *N. circumscriptus* as a junior synonym of *N. hemisphaericus*. The specimen I sequenced from Paralimni Lake near Sotira in Cyprus differs by only 2.7% in the mtCO1 gene (658 bp) from a specimen of *N. circumscriptus* in southern Finland (Tvaerminne, det. by M. Pentinsaari, GenBank no: MZ656418). This is a very large distance, which initially does not support the existence of another species, in this case *N. hemisphaericus*. Until more extensive material and numerous molecular analyses are available, we can only speculate about the species status of each species here.

CURCULIONIDAE: Bagoinae

■ *Bagous libanicus* Schilsky, 1911 (without illustration)

Distribution. Middle East.

Host plants. Unknown.

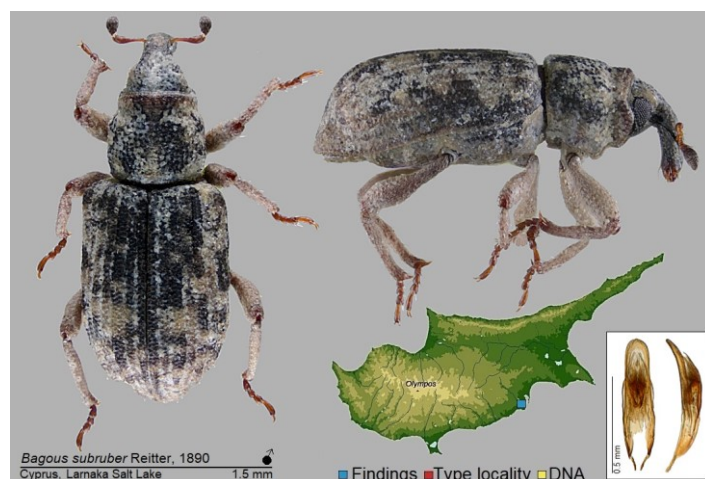
Note. The species was probably mistakenly assigned to the genus *Bagoopsis* by Alziar (2023). This species was described from only a female specimen collected in Lebanon without further indications (Schilsky 1911). A search for it in the Schilsky collection had already been unsuccessful (Caldara & O'Brien 1998). However, Caldara (in lit.) drew my attention to the fact that there were apparently six further specimens in the BMNH, collected by G.A. Mavromoustakis in Akrotiri Bay on 20 March 1947. These should first be compared with the original description. Unfortunately, attempts to locate the six previously mentioned specimens at the BMNH remained unsuccessful until shortly before this article went to press.

■ *Bagous subruber* Reitter, 1890

Distribution. Mediterranean, Middle East.

Host plants. *Frankenia pulverulenta* (det. P. Sprick).

Note. So far, I am only aware of two specimens of *Frankenia pulverulenta* from the salt lake near Larnaca. The first specimens, collected in 1995 by P. Sprick at Larnaca Salt Lake after a hint from W. Suppantchitsch, were regarded as *B. fausti* and then revised by R. Caldara to *B. subruber*. Another 12 specimens were collected by P. Sprick, 8.4.2013, on fallow land close to Oroklini Salt Lake.

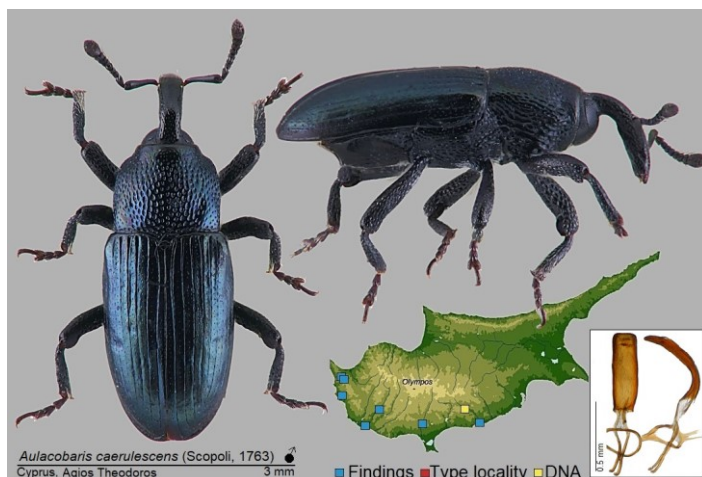
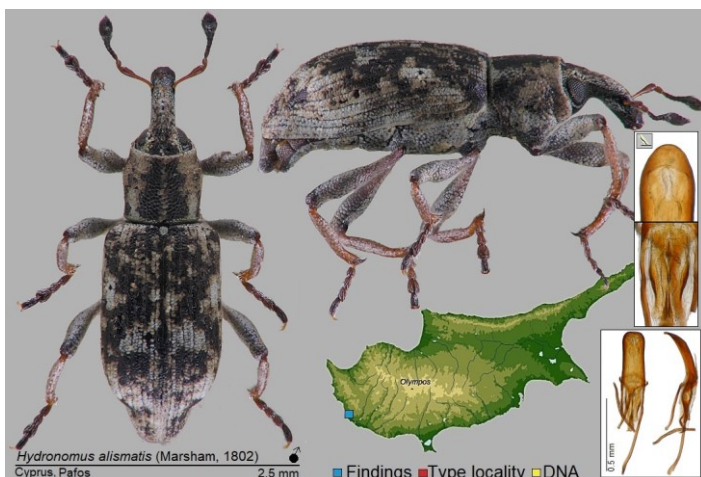


■ *Hydronomus alismatis* (Marsham, 1802) – new for Cyprus!

Distribution. Western Palaearctic, Siberia.

Host plants. Alismataceae, oligophagous.

Note. I only had a single specimen of this species, which is very widespread in Europe, collected by G. Müller near Paphos in May 1996.



CURCULIONIDAE: Baridinae

■ *Aulacobaris caerulea caerulea* (Scopoli, 1763)

Distribution. Europe, North Africa, Middle East.

Host plants. Brassicaceae, oligophagous.

Note. P. Sprick records *Eruca sativa* as a plant found in a garden. G. Alziar found the species on *Sinapis alba* (Stüben et al. 2012), and the author found it on *Brassica nigra*, together with the beautifully marked endemic moth *Micropterix cypriensis*.

■ *Aulacobaris chlorizans* (Germar, 1824)

Distribution. Europe, North Africa.

Host plants. Brassicaceae, oligophagous.

Note. I had no records of this Baridinae, which apparently also occurs in Cyprus (Alziar 1995: Collection of the Department of Agriculture (Nicosia)). This broad and stocky species differs from the species *Aulacobaris picicornis*, which also occurs in Cyprus, by the flat, not deeply punctured, two- to three-rowed (not predominantly single-rowed and deeply) punctures in the elytral intervals (see key in: CURCULIO Team 2007).

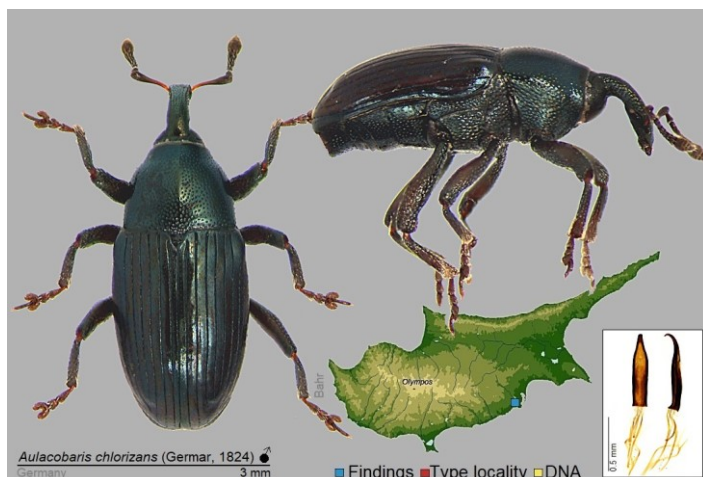


Aulacobaris caerulea caerulea (Scopoli, 1763)

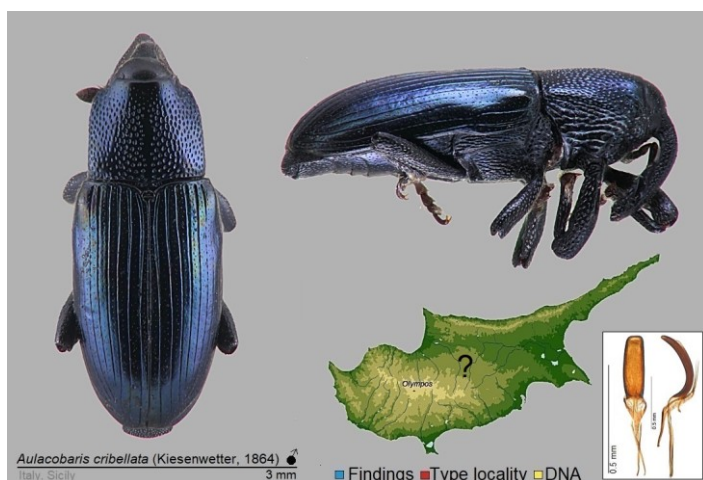
Cyprus, 6 km S Agios Theodoros, beach, 34° 45'0.87"N, 33°24'31.44"E, 2 m, 4.3.2024, *Brassica nigra*, leg., det., coll. Stüben



Micropterix cypriensis Heath, 1985



■ *Aulacobaris cribellata* (Kiesenwetter, 1864)

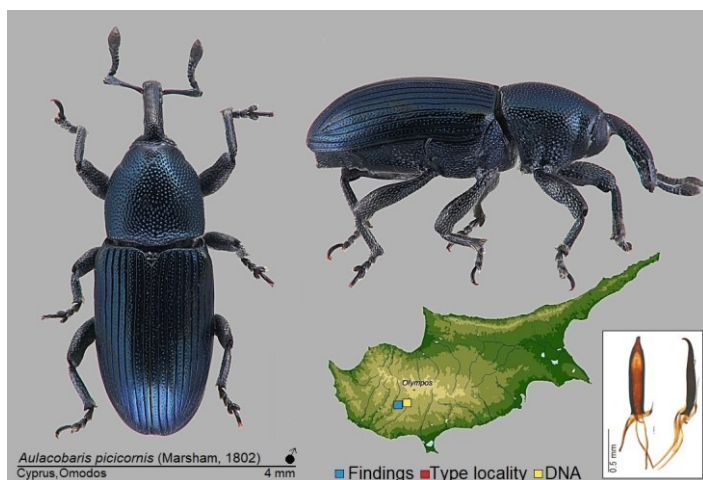


Distribution. Southern and southeastern Europe, Middle East.

Host plants. Unknown.

Note. I cannot say much about this species (formerly also known under the synonym of *Aulacobaris heydeni* (Desbrochers des Loges, 1900)), as I have not encountered it in Cyprus, where it is said to occur (see the still uncertain mention in: Alziar 2023).

■ *Aulacobaris picicornis picicornis* (Marshall, 1802) – new for Cyprus!

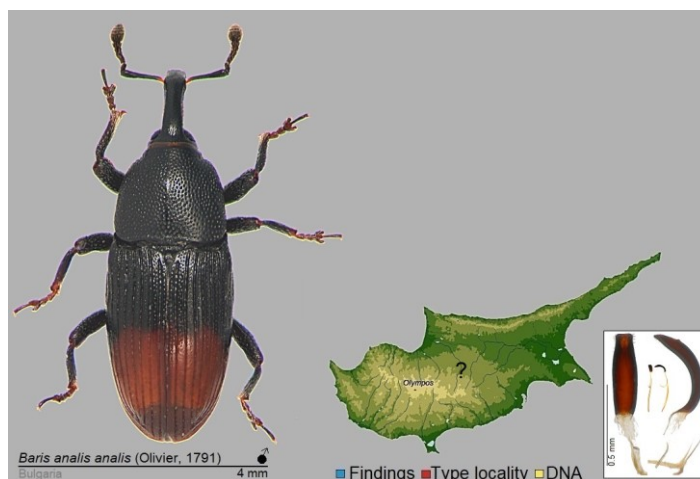


Distribution. Europe, Middle East.

Host plants. *Reseda lutea*, monophagous.

Note. I found more than a dozen specimens of this species, which had not previously been reported in Cyprus, on its host plant *Reseda lutea* near Agios Nikolaos and Omodos in the Limassol district.

■ *Baris analis analis* (Olivier, 1791)

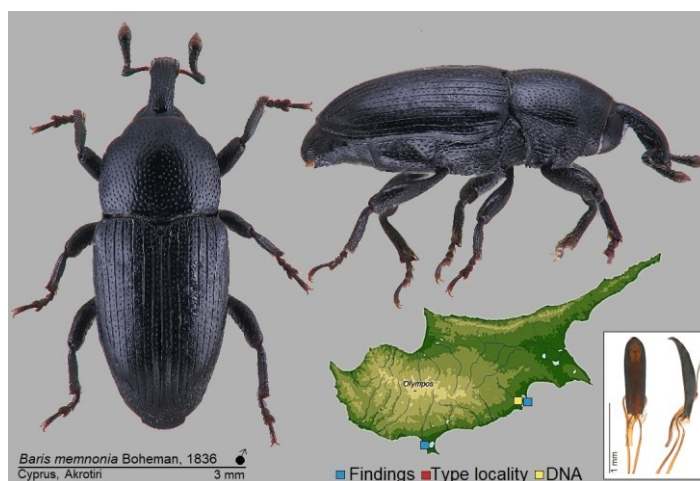


Distribution. Europe.

Host plants. Asteraceae (*Inula*, *Pulicaria*), oligophagous.

Note. *Baris analis* is reported by Alziar (2023) for Cyprus, but I do not have any location data. Distinctive feature: black on the front half of the elytra, lightening to brownish red towards the apex.

■ *Baris memnonia memnonia* Boheman, 1836



Distribution. Italy, Asia.

Host plants. Amaranthaceae (*Atriplex halimus*, *Suaeda maritima*)

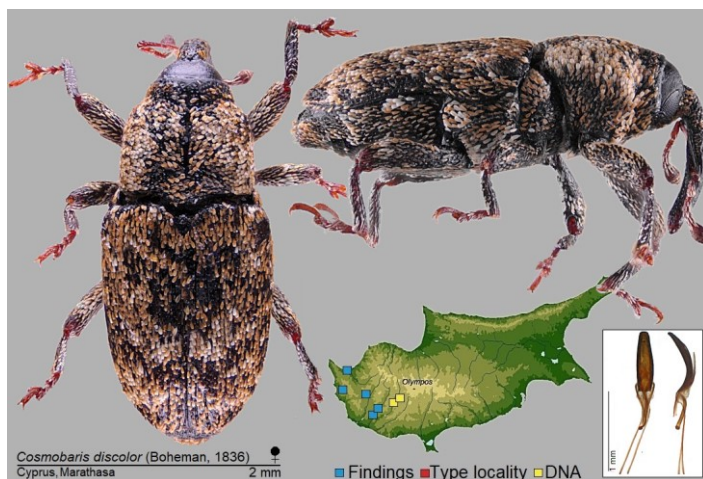
Note. According to P. Sprick, the placement of this species in the genus *Baris* (Alonso-Zarazaga 2005) that live on Asteraceae, seems doubtful due to the relation of *B. memnonia* to species of the family Amaranthaceae (in: Stüben 2012). However, it should not go unmentioned that the specimens I collected from the salt lake near Larnaca, and which were identified by myself as *B. memnonia*, cluster in the mtCO1 tree immediately adjacent to *Baris artemisiae* (4101-PST / 1017-PSP), albeit with a remarkably large p-distance (approx. 13.5%, Fig. 2). The specimens collected and identified as *B. memnonia* by Peter Sprick in 2013, also from this lake, clearly do not belong to this species (the males have a rostrum that is almost parallel-sided right up to the tip, as opposed to being strongly thickened at the tip; the elytral intervals have predominantly single-rowed, rather than double-rowed, punctures; and the aedeagus is differently shaped). Furthermore, the molecular placement of this species also does not fall within the *Baris artemisiae* clade (Fig. 2: 2680-PSP). To date, I have been unable to determine morphologically exactly which species this represents, or whether, indeed, it may constitute a new species (see also Fig.2).

■ *Cosmobaris discolor* (Boheman, 1836)

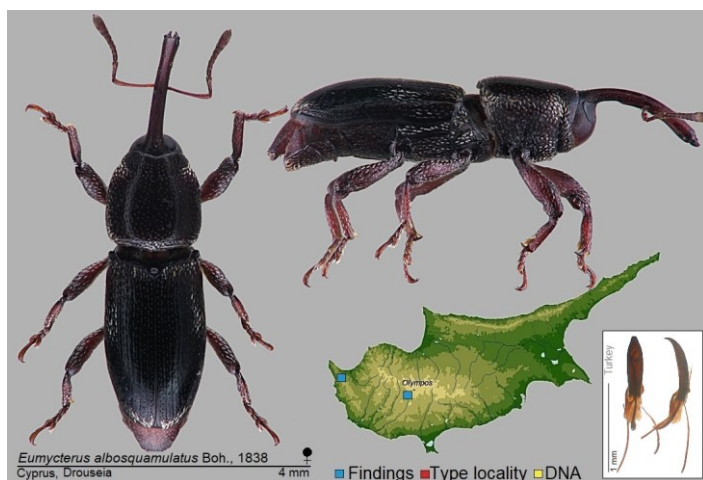
Distribution. Southeast Europe, North Africa, Middle East, introduced to Australia and the Nearctic region.

Host plants. *Amaranthus spinosus*, *A. viridis* (det. Stüben)

Note. My observations on the development of this species on an Amaranthaceae in Cyprus coincide with the experiences of Gültekin & Korotyaev (2012).



■ *Eumycterus albosquamulatus* Boheman, 1838

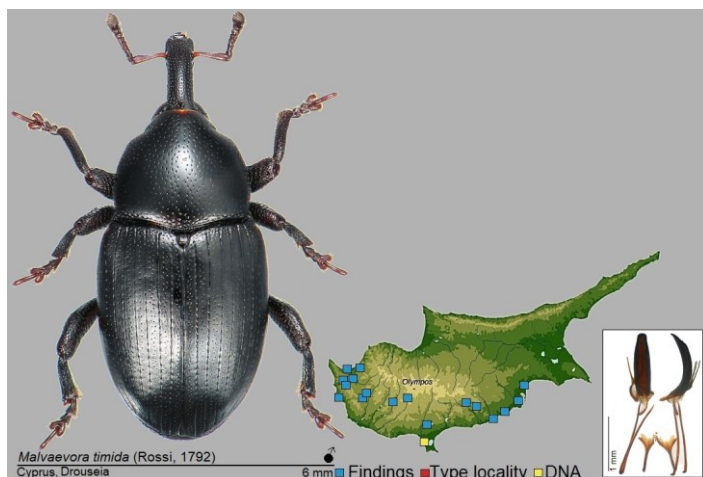


Distribution. Greece, North Africa, Middle East.

Host plants. Unknown.

Note. I personally sifted a female specimen of this Baridinae from detritus in Drouseia (603 m) on the Akamas Peninsula (plant association can no longer be reconstructed).

■ *Malvaevora timida* (Rossi, 1792)



Distribution. Southern Europe, North Africa, Middle East.

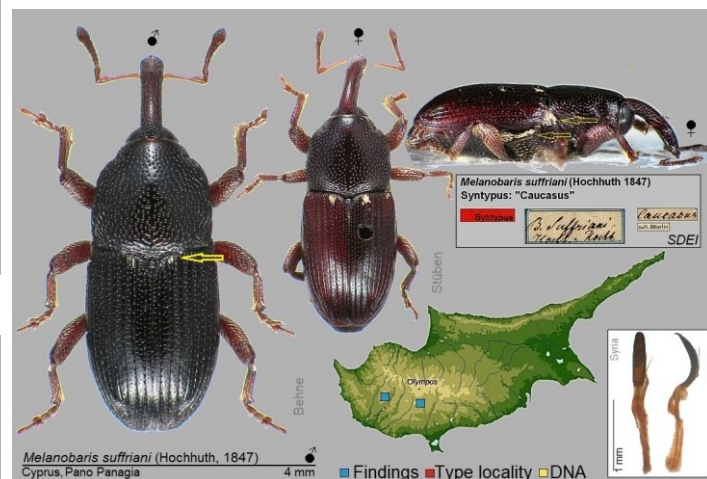
Host plants. Malvaceae, oligophagous.

■ *Melanobaris suffriani* (Hochhuth, 1847)

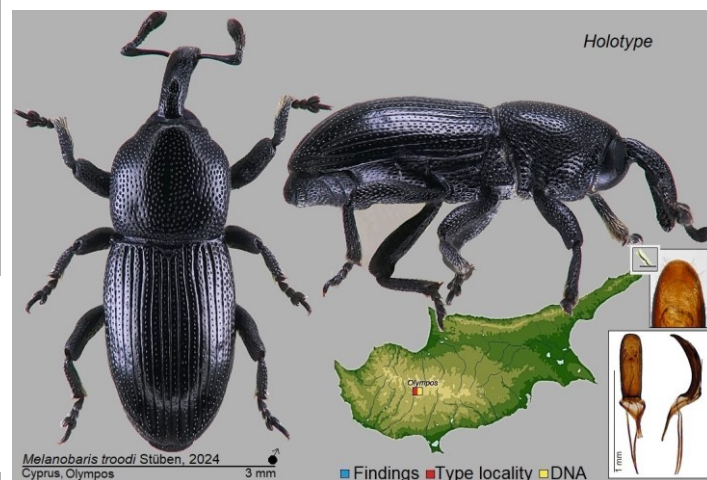
Distribution. Caucasus.

Host plants. Unknown.

Note. According to L. Behne (SDEI), a syntype (female, pictured here) is located at Senckenberg, German Entomological Institute, which was examined and corresponds with the material from Cyprus (Stüben et al. 2012).



■ *Melanobaris troodi* Stüben, 2024 – new for Cyprus!



Distribution. Cyprus Endemic.

Host plants. *Odontarrhena troodi* [= *Alyssum troodi*] (det. Stüben).

Note. A flightless, endemic Baridinae from the 1900-meter-high Mount Olympos on Cyprus, which I first described in 2024 from its host plant *Odontarrhena troodi* and which is related to *Melanobaris margaritae* Korotyaev & Friedman, 2011 from the 'opposite' 2800 m high Mount Hermon (Israel), separated by the Mediterranean Sea (Stüben et al. 2024).

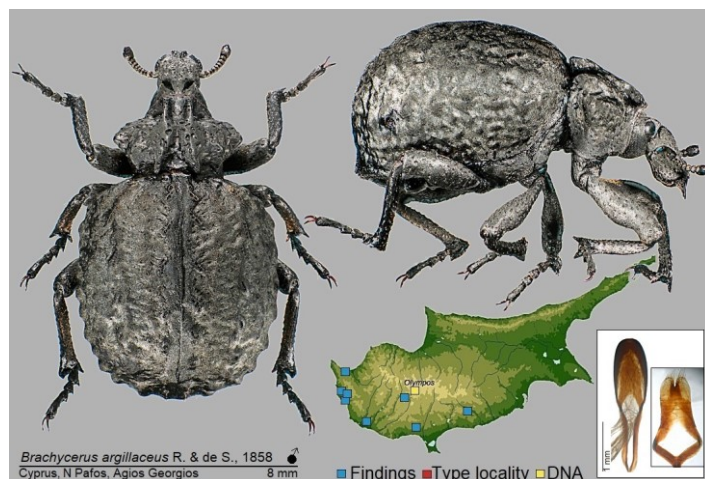


Summit region of Olympos Mt ('Chionístra') of the Troodos massif in Cyprus with the new baridine *M. troodi* and its host plant *Odontarrhena troodi*.

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CURCULIONIDAE: Brachycerinae

■ *Brachycerus argillaceus* Reiche & de Saulcy, 1858

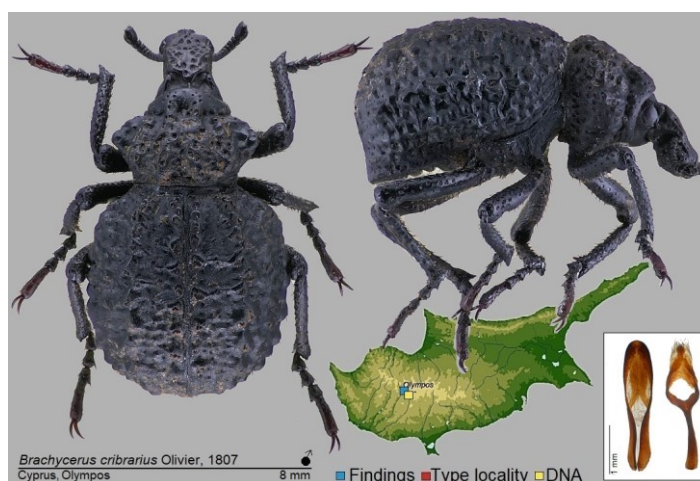


Distribution. Greece, Middle East.

Host plants. Asparagaceae: *Drimia maritima*.

Note. All *Brachycerus* species are and remain difficult to identify morphologically due to their enormous intraspecific diversity. Since Zumpt (1937, 1938), there has been no integrative-taxonomic, morphological and, above all, molecular revision of all 52 Western Paalaeartic taxa. Until then, I recommend the key by Skuhrovec et al. (2013), which accurately summarises the current state of knowledge.

■ *Brachycerus cribrarius* Olivier, 1807



Distribution. Bulgaria, Middle East.

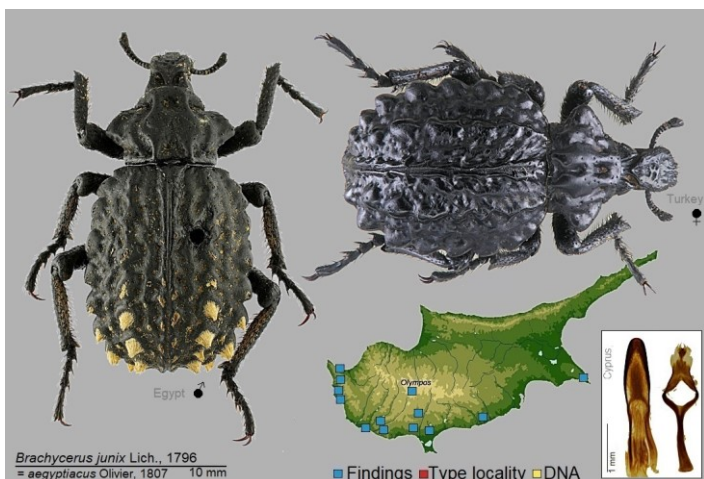
Host plants. Asparagaceae (*Ornithogalum chionophilum*), monophagous (Alziar 2016).

Note. So far, I have only seen it in Cyprus, among rocks and stones on the 1,900-meter-high Mount Olympos.



Brachycerus cribrarius
on the summit of Mount Olympus

© P. E. Stüben/CURCI



■ *Brachycerus junix* Lichtenstein, 1796

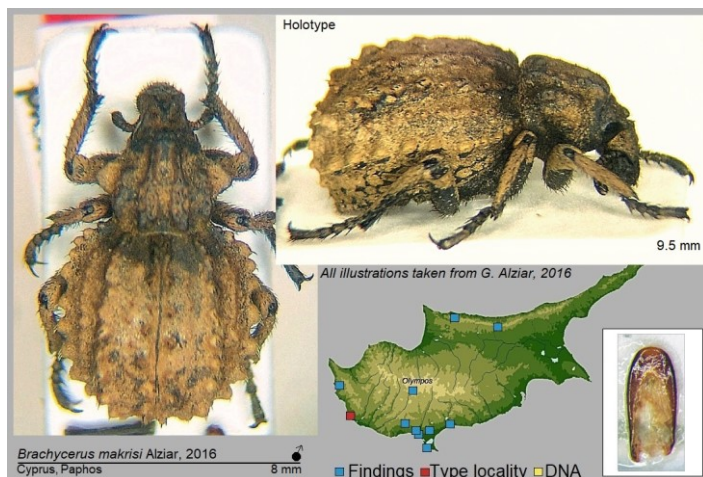
= *B. aegyptiacus* Olivier, 1807 syn.

Distribution. Süd- und Südosteuropa, Middle East.

Host plants. Amaryllidaceae (*Allium*), monophagous.

Note. Elytra on the rear half with light brown or white tufts of bristles, which may be absent in Cyprus and Turkey (see illustration).

■ ***Brachycerus makrisi* Alziar, 2016**

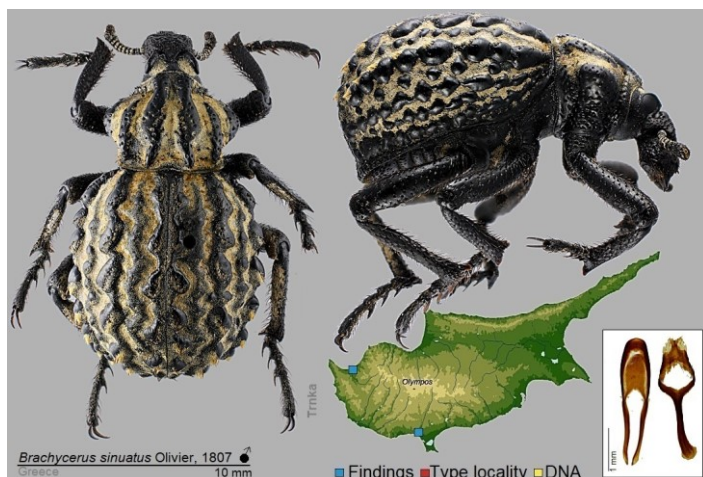


Distribution. Endemic to Cyprus.

Host plants. *Charybdis* (= *Urginea*) *maritima*.

Note. All locations where *B. makrisi* has been found are in the lower-lying, drier biotopes of Cyprus. Alziar (2016) assumes that *Charybdis* (= *Urginea*) *maritima* could be a possible host plant ('inféodés à *Charybdis*'). For the morphological differentiation between *B. argillaceus* and *B. junix*, see the differential diagnosis by Alziar (2016: 8).

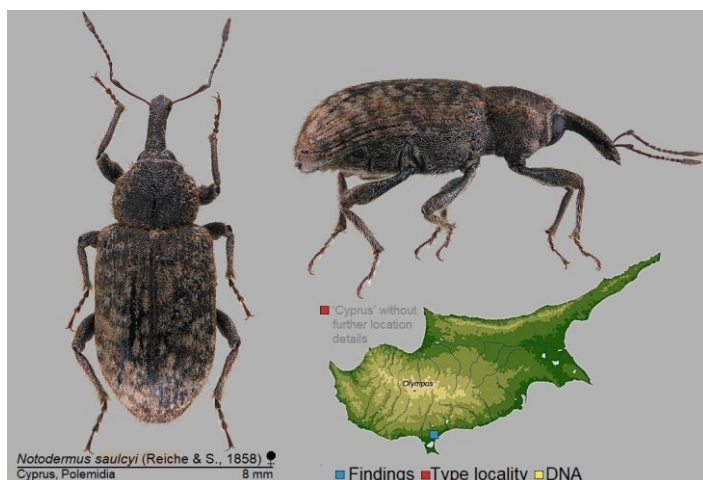
■ ***Brachycerus sinuatus* Olivier, 1807**



Distribution. Southern and southeastern Europe, Middle East.

Host plants. Asparagaceae (*Bellevalia*, *Hyacinthella*, *Muscari*), oligophagous.

Note. Elytra with distinct, slightly wavy ridges; to determine the species quickly and reliably see: Skuhrovec et al. (2013). Very similar to the endemic *Brachycerus rufipes* Zumpt, 1937 from Crete, a Mediterranean island where both species are said to occur!



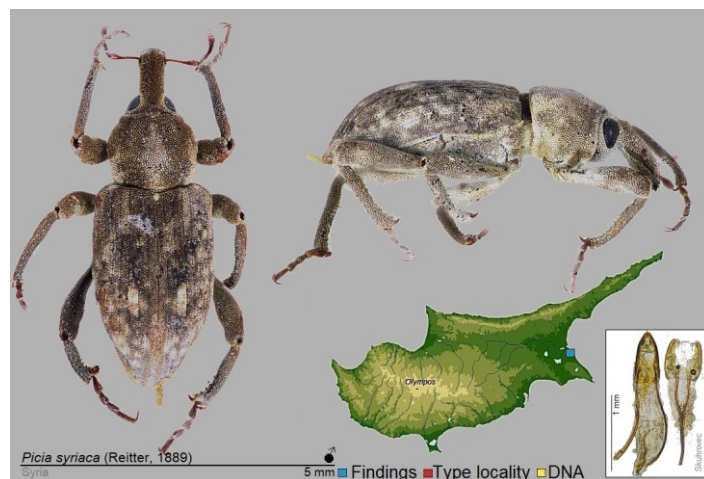
■ ***Notodermus saulcyi* (Reiche & Saulcy, 1858)**

Distribution. Iran.

Host plants. Unknown.

Note. The species, perhaps parthenogenetic, was described under the name *Procas saulcyi* from Cyprus. I found one specimen labelled 'historical specimen, possibly type' (red label) in the Senckenberg Museum, German Entomological Institute. Furthermore, I also saw a single specimen of a new record in Makris' collection, who had collected this species 'with light' near Polemidia National Park (Lemesos) in January 2022.

■ ***Picia syriaca* (Reitter, 1889)**

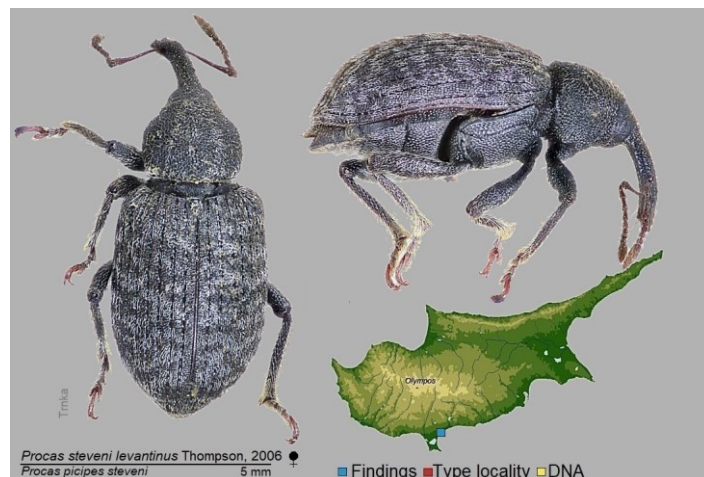


Distribution. Greece, Middle East.

Host plants. Unknown.

Note. Type locality: Kaifa (= Haifa, presently in Israel). A key to the Brachycerinae (Brachycerini, Erihrinini and Tanysphyrini) with the species *Picia syriaca* can be found in Skuhrovec et al. (2013); with a detailed distribution map and notes on the largely unknown biology of this species. A redescription can be found in Caldara (2008). So far, the only known location to me is also mentioned here, near Famagusta in Cyprus (leg. Shiakides, coll. The Natural History Museum, London).

■ ***Procas steveni levantinus* Thompson, 2006**



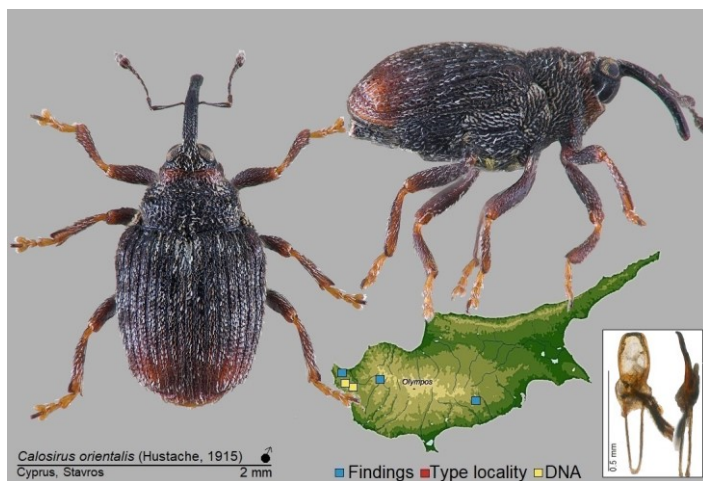
Distribution. Eastern Europe, Middle East.

Host plants. Unknown.

Note. The biology and life history of this subspecies are unknown. A key to all *Procas* species and subspecies can be found in Skuhrovec et al. (2013). For a revision of the weevil genus *Procas* Stephens and all records from Cyprus see: Thompson (2006).



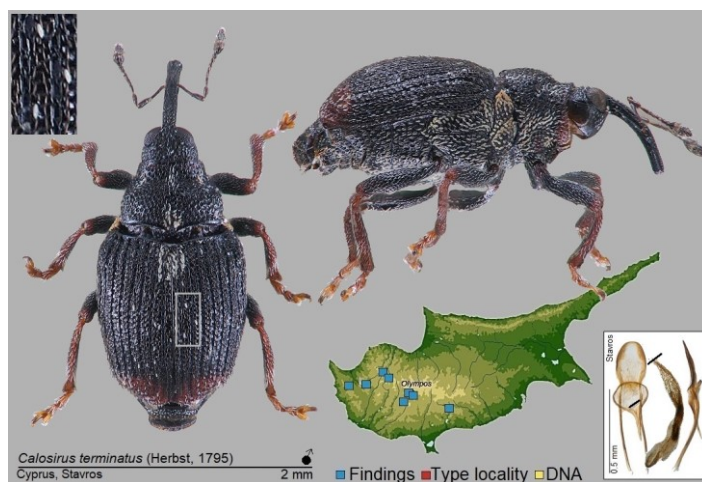
CURCULIONIDAE: Ceutorhynchinae

■ *Calosirus orientalis* (Hustache, 1915)

Distribution. Northeast Mediterranean, Asia minor.

Host plants. Apiaceae: *Tordylium maximum* (det. Stüben).

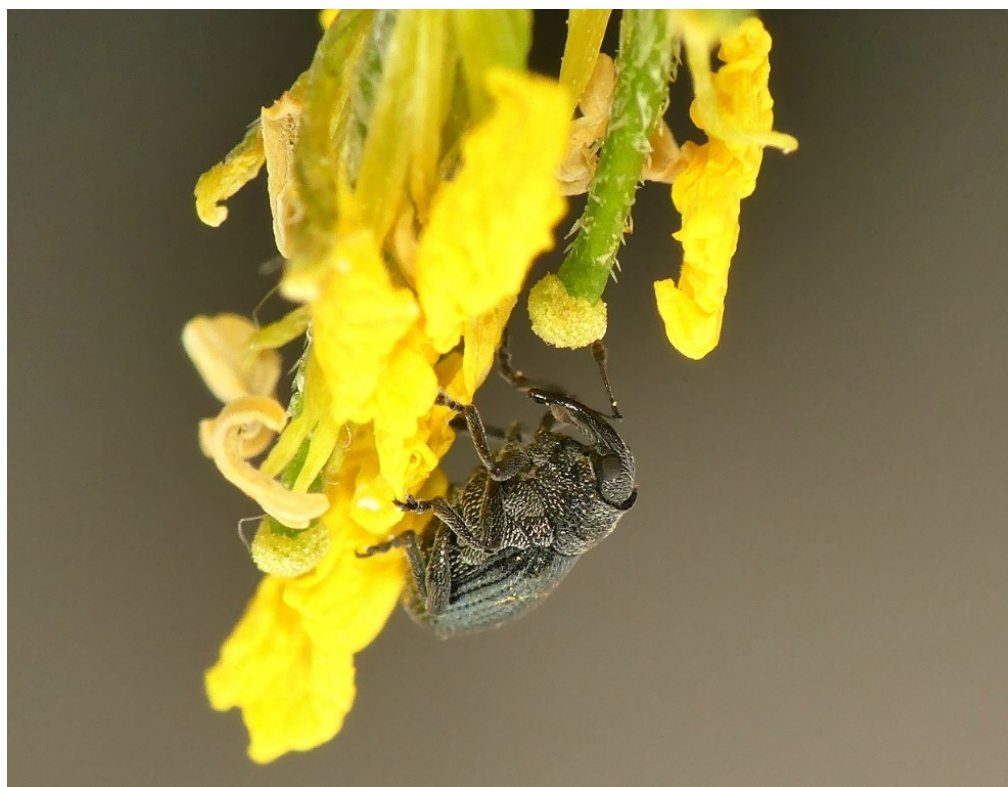
Note. Molecular studies have shown that this species is closely related to *Calosirus apicalis* (Gyllenhal, 1827) perhaps a species that occurs only in Northern Europe (Finland; mtCO1: p-distance 2.1%, GenBank: KJ965555). I found large numbers of *C. orientalis* on the Apiaceae *Tordylium maximum* near Drouseia (Kritou Terra, see illustration; the specimen shown there was CO1-sequenced by myself and unambiguously identified as *C. orientalis*).

■ *Calosirus terminatus* (Herbst, 1795)

Distribution. Europe, North Africa, Middle East.

Host plants. *Lecokia cretica* (det. P. Sprick), *Smyrniolus olusatrum* (det. Alziar).

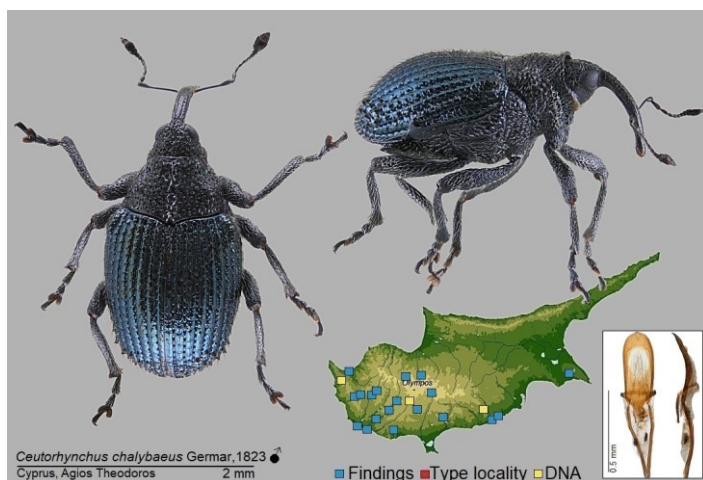
Note. Unlike *Calosirus orientalis* (Hustache, 1915), this species has a few conspicuously broad white scales on the elytral intervals; for differentiation from other *Calosirus* species, see the key by Stüben et al. (2014c). Unfortunately, no molecular barcodes are yet available for this species from Cyprus. The taxonomic status of this species remains unclear (in litt. Krátký), as this name encompasses at least two genetically distinct species (see Fig. 2).



*Ceutorhynchus
chalybaeus*
on *Brassica nigra*

© P. E. Stüben/CURCI

■ *Ceutorhynchus chalybaeus* Germar, 1823



Distribution. Palaearctic region.

Host plants. Brassicaceae, oligophagous.

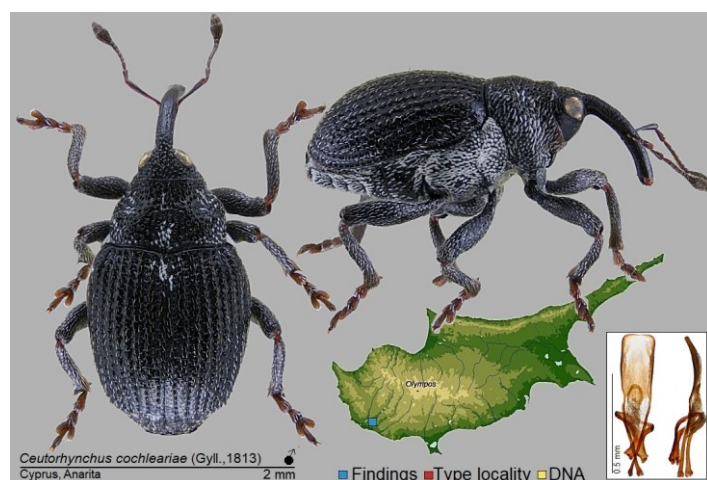
Note. *Ceutorhynchus chalybaeus* can easily be confused with *Ceutorhynchus erysimi*, which also has blue-green shimmering elytra. However, the latter has edentate claws, never clearly protruding bristles on the elytra and a flattened aedeagus (ventral view).

■ *Ceutorhynchus cochleariae* (Gyllenhal, 1813) – new for Cyprus!

Distribution. Europa, Middle East.

Host plants. Brassicaceae, perhaps monophagous.

Note. The only specimen of this species known to date was collected by G. Müller (det. Krátký) southeast of Paphos near Anarita in May 2020. This species may occur in Cyprus on *Cardamine hirsuta* and/or *C. graeca*.

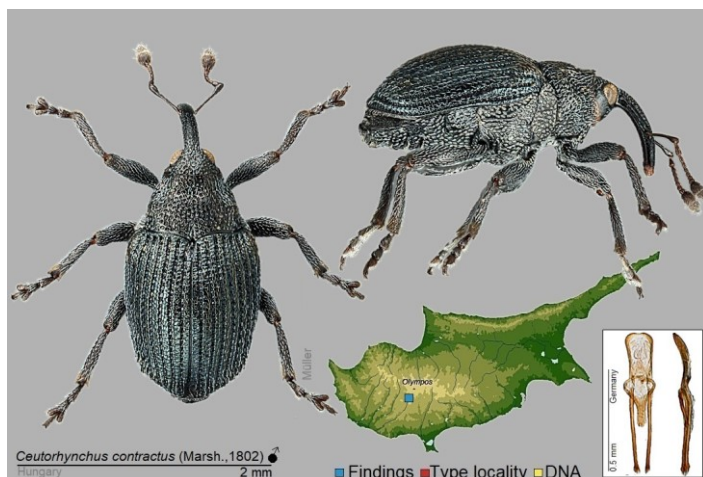


■ *Ceutorhynchus contractus* (Marsham, 1802)

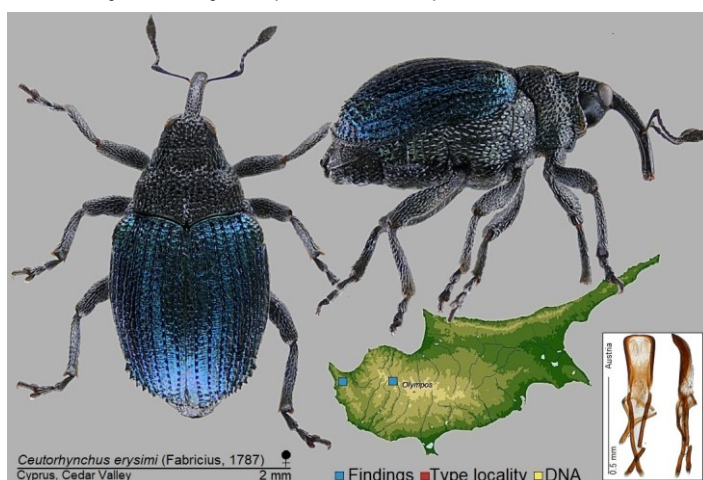
Distribution. Western Palaearctic region.

Host plants. Brassicaceae, Resedaceae; oligophagous.

Note. A common species in Europe living oligophagously on plants of Brassicaceae and Resedaceae from the coast to the high mountains. However, I am only aware of one specimen from Cyprus collected by P. Hlaváč (det. and coll. Colonnelli). *C. contractus* belongs to the species with faint metallic lustre, dark blue or bluish black, and actually differs from *C. erysimi* with a similar aedeagus (!) only in the intensity of the more greenish or bluish sheen of the elytra (see key in: Stüben et al. 2013). In any case, the two species cannot be distinguished from each other molecularly in the mtCO1 gene (for details, see Stüben et al. 2015). In the case of *C. contractus*, it is time to consider a younger synonym of *C. erysimi* or at least to think about a subspecies for the time being. However, I agree with Krátký (in. litt.) that this group, which includes further species, urgently requires an integrative taxonomic revision before such a step is taken.



■ *Ceutorhynchus erysimi* (Fabricius, 1787)

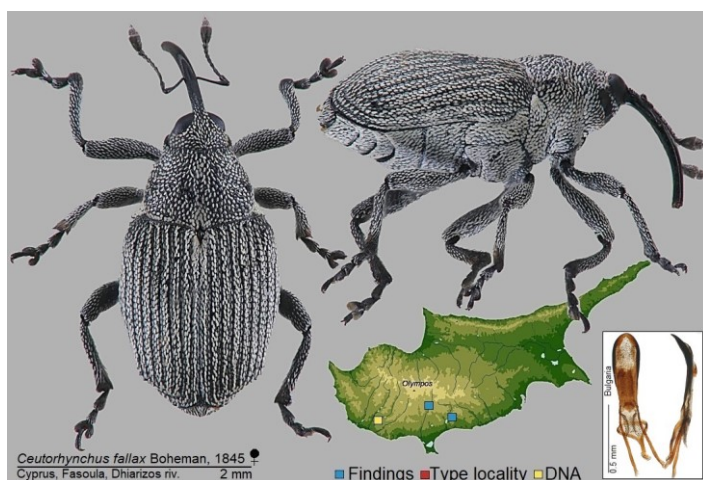


Distribution. Western Palaearctic region, Nearctic Region, Oriental Region.

Host plants. Brassicaceae, oligophagous.

Note. Like *Ceutorhynchus contractus*, a common species on plants of the Brassicaceae family with an aedeagus that is easily confused with this species and molecularly indistinguishable from it (see comment and reference under *C. contractus*).

■ *Ceutorhynchus fallax* Boheman, 1845

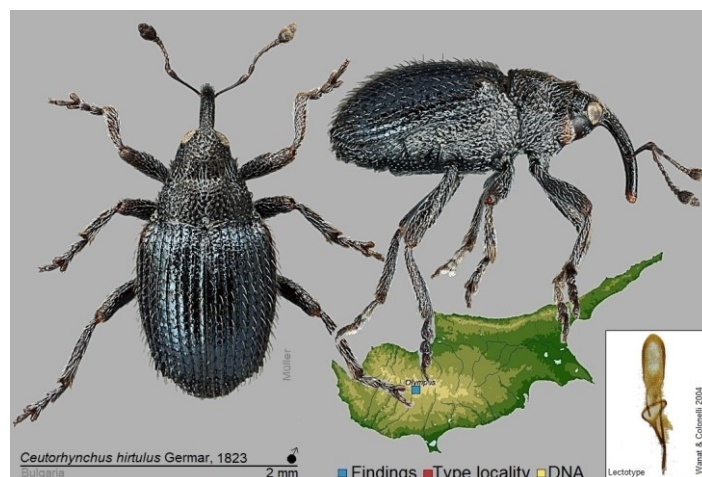


Distribution. Southern and southeastern Europe, North Africa, Middle East.

Host plants. Brassicaceae (*Alyssum* spp.), oligophagous.

Note. A species in both sexes with very long rostrum; at least 9x as long as wide. The bristles, which are predominantly arranged in two rows, are very broad and clearly visible.

■ *Ceutorhynchus hirtulus* Germar, 1823



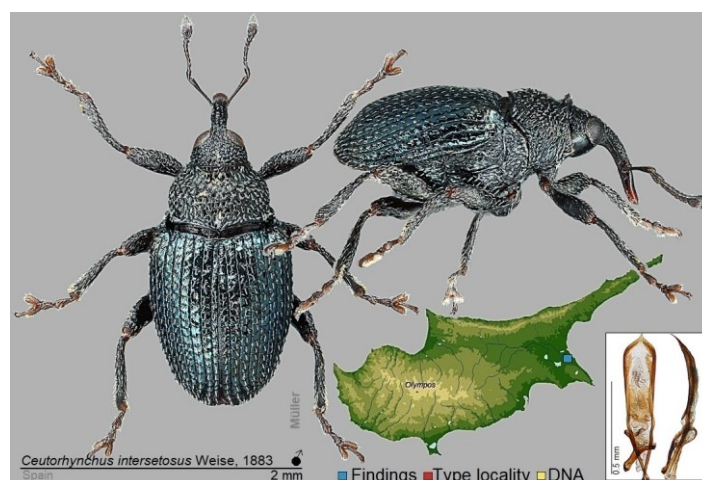
Distribution. Western Palaearctic region.

Host plants. Brassicaceae, oligophagous.

3 Ex.: Cyprus, Mt. Olympos, 22.4.2010, leg., det., coll. Colonnelli.

Note. Three specimens of this species from Cyprus (Mt. Olympos, 22.4.2020) were collected and identified by E. Colonnelli and are now part of his collection. For the problematic morphological differentiation of the species *C. hirtulus* and *C. varius*, particularly with regard to the shape of the aedeagus, by Wanat & Colonnelli (2004), see Stüben et al. (2013). On the other hand, molecularly the two species, collected from Slovakia for our analysis, show significant differences (10.2% p-distance for the mtCO1 fragment) (Stüben et al. 2015).

■ *Ceutorhynchus intersetosus* Weise, 1883



Distribution. Southwestern Europe, North Africa, Middle East.

Host plants. Brassicaceae, oligophagous.

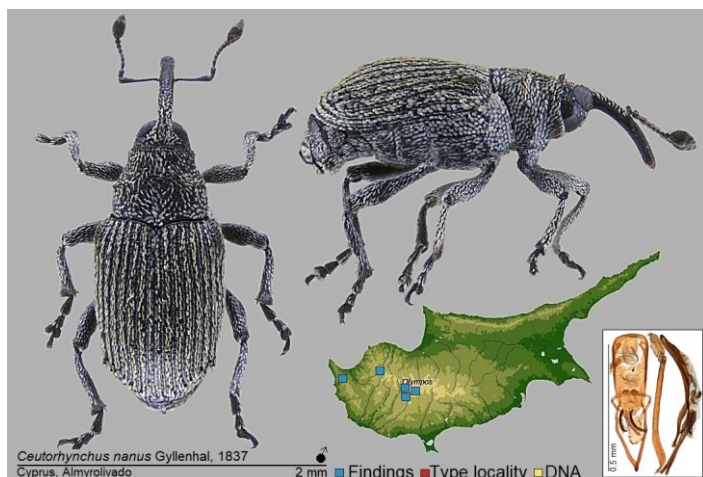
Note. So far, I am only aware of three specimens found in Famagusta, Cyprus (leg. Th. Shiakides) in the collection of the Department of Agriculture (Nicosia) (Alziar 2021). The species is known from southwestern Europe and North Africa living on species of *Diplotaxis*, *Raphanus* and *Sisymbrium* (Sprick in: Stüben et al. 2015), genera of the Brassicaceae family, that also occur in Cyprus.

■ *Ceutorhynchus nanus* Gyllenhal, 1837

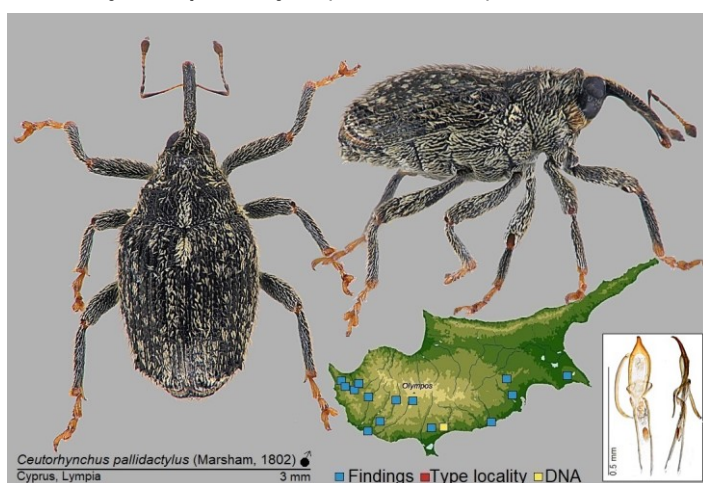
Distribution. Western Palaearctic region.

Host plants. Brassicaceae (*Alyssum* spp., det. Sprick, Colonnelli, Makris).

Note. For the identification key and further details on morphology, biology and distribution, see: Stüben et al. (2015).



■ ***Ceutorhynchus pallidactylus* (Marshall, 1802)**



Distribution. Palaearctic region, Africa, Nearctic Region.

Host plants. Brassicaceae, Resedaceae.

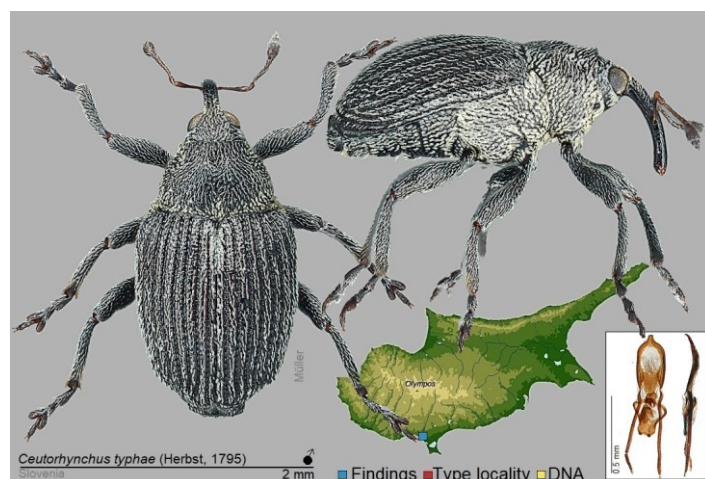
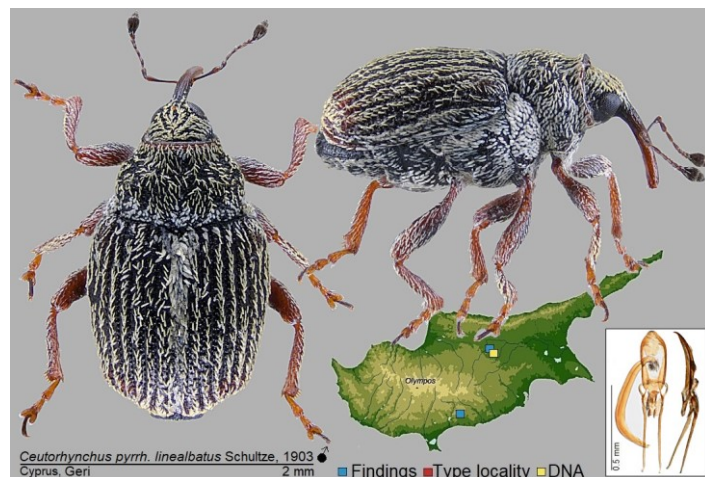
■ ***Ceutorhynchus pyrrhorhynchus* ssp. *linealbatus* Schultz, 1903 - stat. nov.**

Distribution. Middle East.

Host plants. Brassicaceae: *Sinapis alba*, *Sisymbrium irio* (det. Makris).

Note. There can be no question of an independent, reproductively isolated species *Ceutorhynchus linealbatus* Schultz, 1903 in the eastern Mediterranean. Reasons: In his first description, A. Schultz

quite rightly speaks of *Ceutorhynchus pyrrhorhynchus* Mars. var. *linealbatus* (locus typicus: Syria: Damaskus). After studying the morphology and especially after our molecular analysis (see Fig. 2), there is not the slightest doubt that this is a closely related species of *Ceutorhynchus pyrrhorhynchus canariensis* Lindberg, 1950 from the Canary Islands Fuerteventura and Lanzarote (Stüben 2022: 98). Both taxa therefore have at most a subspecies status, although this is still a matter of debate given the small p-distances of the mtCOI gene (see the sequence below)! I have therefore provisionally decided in favor of subspecies status, as in the case of *Ceutorhynchus pyrrhorhynchus canariensis*.



Ceutorhynchus pallidactylus
very common, on Brassicaceae

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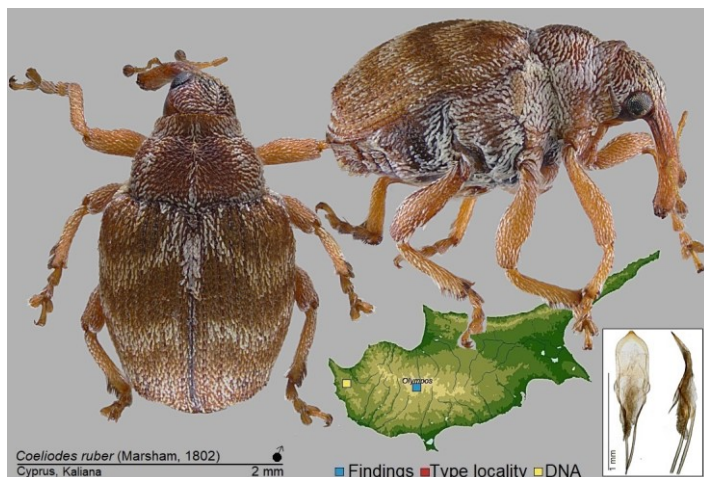
■ *Ceutorhynchus typhae* (Herbst, 1795)

Distribution. Europe, Asia, Nearctic Region.

Host plants. Brassicaceae, oligophagous.

Note. I saw only a single specimen of this species in the British Museum, London, collected by Mavromoustakis near Episcopi on Cyprus in 1937. The species is also listed by Alziar (2023) for Cyprus.

■ *Coeliodes ruber* (Marshall, 1802) – new for Cyprus!

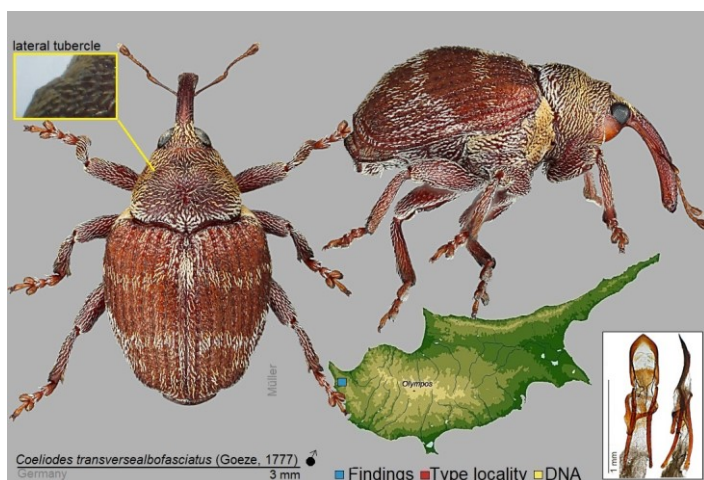


Distribution. Western Palaearctic region.

Host plants. *Quercus*.

Note. Apparently rare in Cyprus, as I have only aware of two specimens from Drouseia (leg. G. Müller) and Kalliana (leg. Lienemann) to date.

■ *Coeliodes transversealbofasciatus* (Goeze, 1777)



Distribution. Europe, Northwest Africa, Middle East.

Host plants. *Quercus* spp.

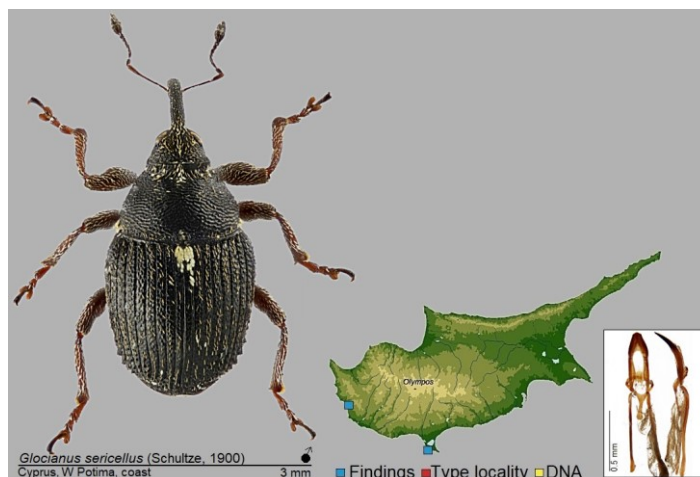
Note. So far, only a single specimen of this Ceutorhynchinae has been reported to me by L. Teodor from the Curculio Institute's joint excursion to Cyprus in April 2010, west of Droushia-Inia; however, I was unable to verify the identification (Stüben et al. 2012). For the determination of this species and *C. ruber* and their distinction, see Stüben et al. (2013).

■ *Glocianus sericellus* (Schultze, 1900)

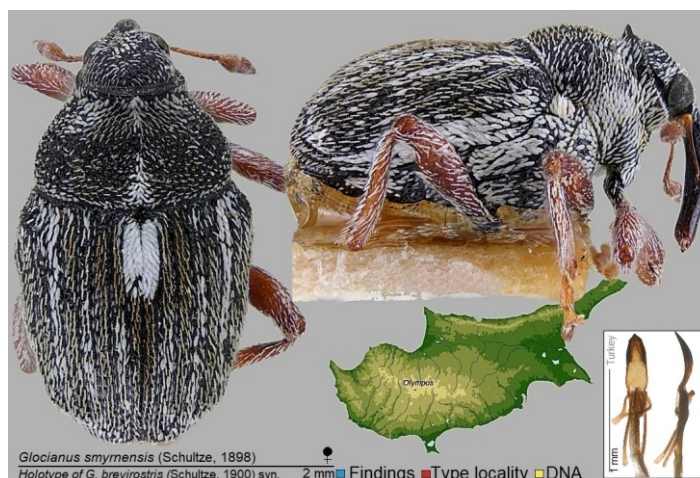
Distribution. Middle East.

Host plants. Asteraceae: *Helminthotheca* cf. *echioides* (Winkermann 2017).

Note. So far, only *Glocianus sericellus* is known from Cyprus, which, like most representatives of this genus, probably also lives on an Asteraceae. Winkermann (2017) recorded 30 specimens on *Helminthotheca* cf. *echioides* south of Potima in Cyprus in March 2016.



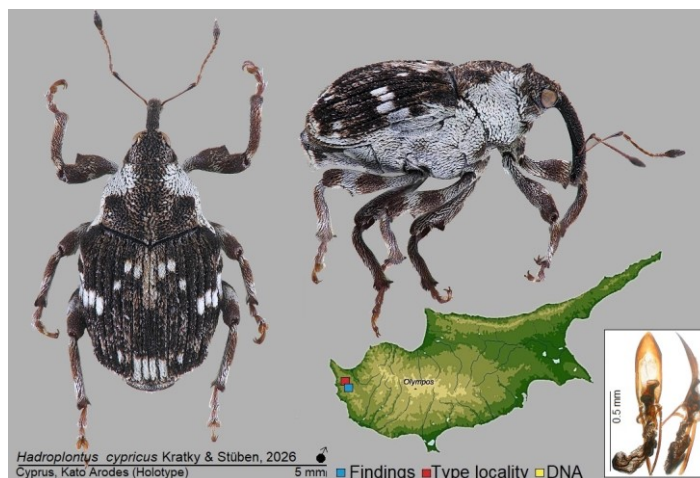
■ *Glocianus smyrnensis* (Schultze, 1898)



Distribution. Caucaso-Mediterranean.

Host plants. Papaveraceae (*Papaver rhoeas*), monophagous (Sert 2009, Colonnelli 2004).

Note. I did not have a specimen of this species, which Alziar (2023) also mentions for Cyprus. The species was previously classified in the literature as belonging to the genus *Neoglocianus* Dieckmann, 1972 (Sert 2009); now reunited with *Glocianus* (Kostál & Colonnelli 2016). Sprick points out, however (in. litt.), that the host plant mentioned above does not correspond to the host plant family of the *Glocianus* species, which, as far as is known, live on milk-sap-producing composite flowers (Asteraceae-Cichorioideae).



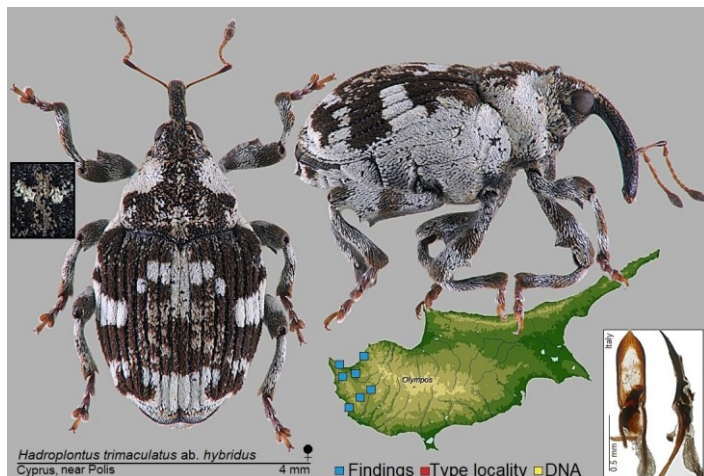
■ *Hadroplontus cypricus* Krátky & Stüben, 2026 – new for Cyprus!

Distribution. Turkey, Israel, Jordan.

Host plants. Asteraceae: The exact species of thistle is not yet known.

Note. This species is most similar in habitus to *Hadroplontus trimaculatus* (Fabricius, 1775), from which it can be distinguished especially by lacking tubercles on 2nd male ventrite (instead of well-developed and visible two sharp tubercles near the middle of 2nd male ventrite in both, *H. trimaculatus* and *H. litura* and in the shape of ultimate apex of aedeagus, which is long triangular and sharp in *H. cypricus* (instead of subparallel with a pointed sharp apex in *H. trimaculatus* (see the morphological differential diagnosis and molecular analysis in Krátký & Stüben 2026). Since *H. cypricus* represents a split from *H. trimaculatus*, specimens of the new species should be found under the latter name in many collections.

■ *Hadroplontus trimaculatus* (Fabricius, 1775)

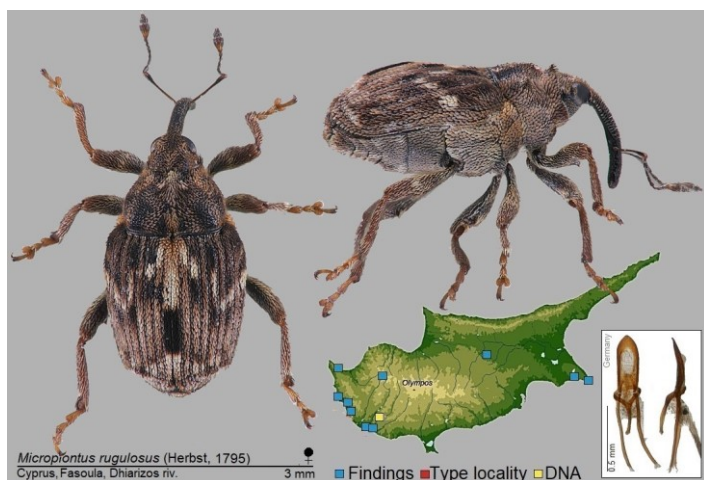


Distribution. Western Palaearctic region.

Host plants. Asteraceae-Carduoideae (*Carduus* spp.)

Note. This species has also been repeatedly reported from Cyprus. The preliminary entries on the map confirm this. However, in each individual case, it still needs to be distinguished from the new species *H. cypricus* Krátký & Stüben, 2026, which is possible for males but likely difficult for females (for the differences, see the relevant section). Molecularly, however, this should not be a problem (Krátký & Stüben 2026). Krátký assumes that the species occurs sympatrically in Cyprus. It is interesting to note that the variant *H. trimaculatus* ab. *hybridus* (a specimen from Polis, leg. G. Müller, see photo) with a snow-white scutellum cross (the brown suture stripe is white) also apparently occurs in Cyprus, which makes the distinction from *H. litura* difficult in this respect. But the latter species probably does not occur in Cyprus at all.

■ *Microplontus rugulosus* (Herbst, 1795)



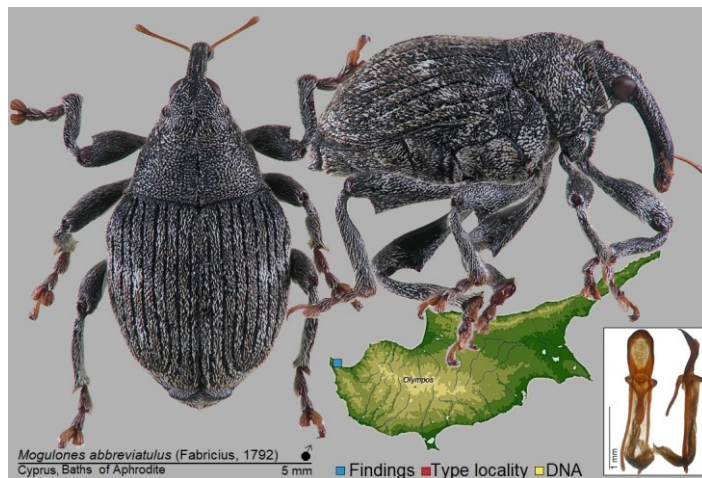
Distribution. Western Palaearctic region.

Host plants. Asteraceae (e.g. *Anthemis*, *Artemisia*, *Matricaria*), oligophagous.

Note. For the alleged distinction between *M. rugulosus* (formerly *M. figuratus*) and *M. melanostigma* (formerly *M. rugulosus*) according to

Dieckmann, see: Stüben et al. (2014b): 5; here are also some comments on the biology by P. Sprick.

■ *Mogulones abbreviatus* (Fabricius, 1792) – new for Cyprus?

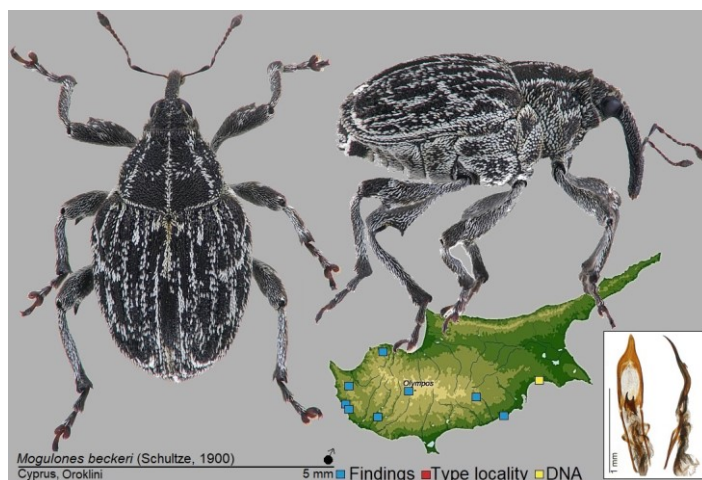


Distribution. Europe.

Host plants. Boraginaceae: *Symphytum* spp., monophagous.

Note. I only had one specimen from the Akamas Peninsula (Baths of Aphrodite), which G. Müller collected there in April 2010. However, I doubt that the species actually occurs in Cyprus, as to my knowledge the host plant *Symphytum* spp. does not grow there. I cannot therefore completely rule out the possibility that this specimen has been mislabeled. Nevertheless, the species is shown here so that comparisons and corrections can be made at any time.

■ *Mogulones beckeri* (Schultze, 1900)



Distribution. Mediterranean, Middle East.

Host plants. Boraginaceae: *Echium angustifolium*, *E. italicum*, monophagous.

Note. I found this species in large numbers near Oroklini, right on the coast, on *Echium angustifolium* in the late, humid and sultry afternoon hours of mid-March 2024.

■ *Mogulones geographicus* (Goeze, 1777) – new for Cyprus!

Distribution. Western Palaearctic region.

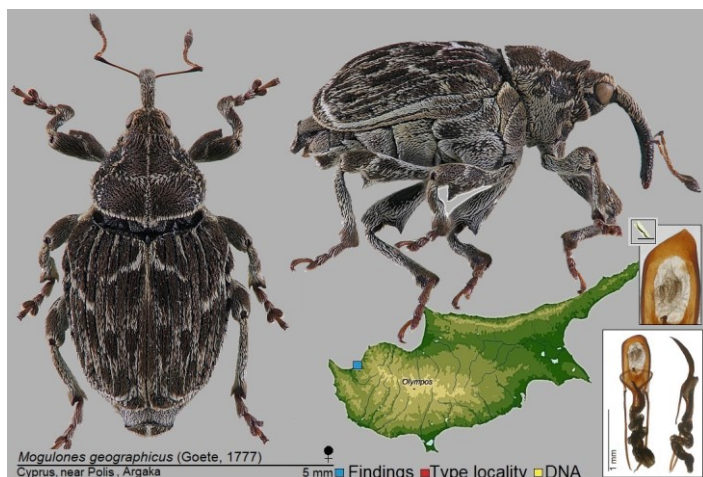
Host plants. Boraginaceae (*Echium* spp.).

Note. G. Müller collected six specimens of this *Mogulones* species, which is widespread in the Western Palaearctic, near Argaka (not far from Polis) in mid-April 2010. This is the only record of the species in Cyprus to date.

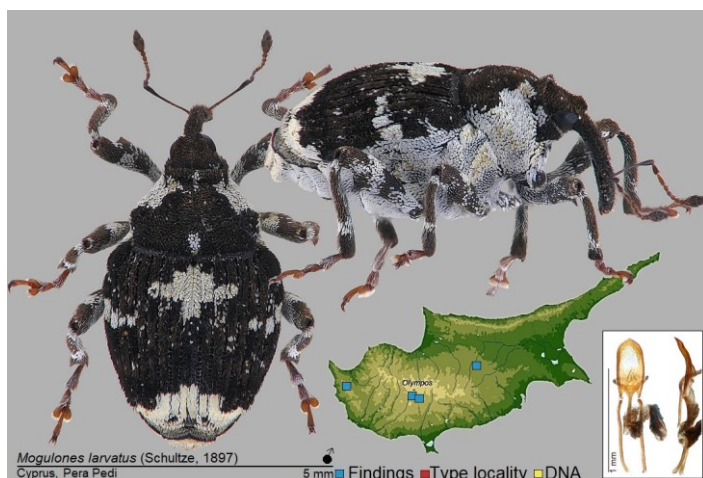


Mogulones beckeri
on *Echium angustifolium*

© P.E. Stüben / CURCI



■ *Mogulones larvatus* (Schultze, 1897)



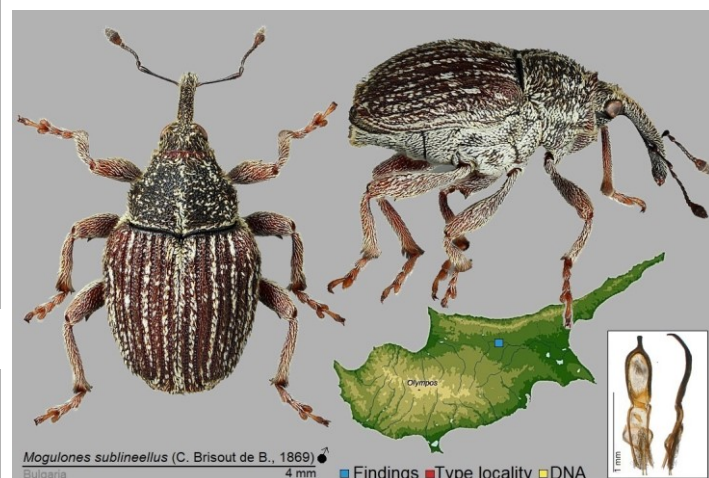
Distribution. Western Palearctic region.

Host plants. Boraginaceae: *Anchusa azurea*, *Echium glomeratum* (det. Makris).

Note. In Central Europe, *M. larvatus* is a species that occurs oligophagously on *Pulmonaria* spp. (Sprick in: Stüben et al. 2014b). I had specimens from the Makris collection that were collected from *Anchusa azurea* and *Echium glomeratum*. Meanwhile, J. Krátký (Czech Repub-

lic, in litt.) has raised concerns as to whether these specimens are indeed *M. larvatus* and not perhaps a previously unknown species. The author has sufficient molecular reference material from Western and Central Europe to investigate this hypothesis in the event of further finds and ethanol samples from Cyprus.

■ *Mogulones sublineellus* (C. Brisout de Barneville, 1869)



Distribution. Southeast Europe, Asia minor.

Host plants. Boraginaceae (*Echium angustifolium*, *Alkanna*, *Onosma*), oligophagous.

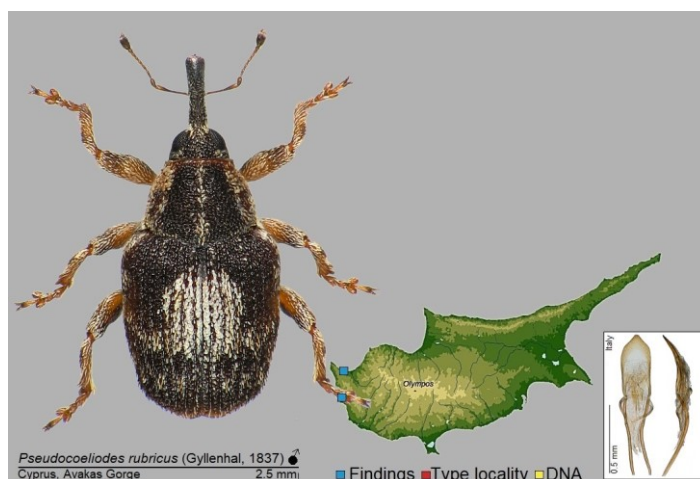
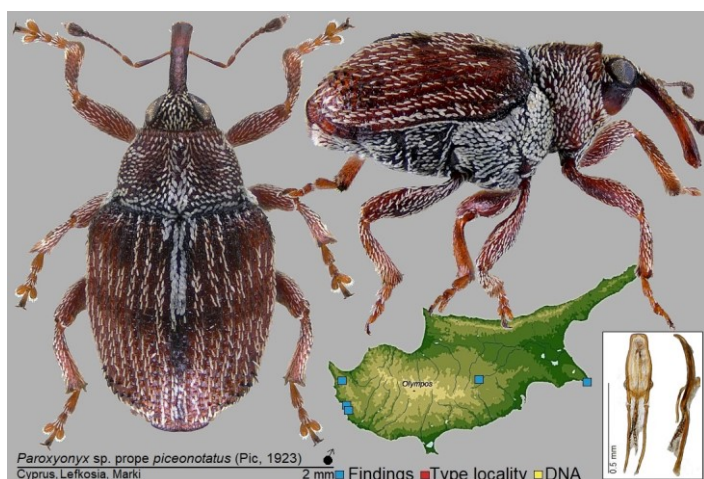
Note. Elytra only with longitudinal stripes (no reticulation); uneven elytra intervals not continuously white-scaled. The species is considered certain for Cyprus (Aglantzia near Nicosia) on *Echium angustifolium* (Alziar 2007, 2023), but I have only ever been able to collect *Mogulones beckeri* on this host plant. The species is said to occur on *Onosma* sp. (Boraginaceae; monophagous according to Colonnelli 2003), but according to Germann, it also occurs on *Alkanna tinctoria* on Samos (Germann et al. 2015). Species from both plant genera are also found on Cyprus!

■ *Paroxyonyx* sp. *prope piceonotatus* (Pic, 1923)

Distribution. Middle East.

Host plants. *Ephedra campylopoda*, monophagous.

Note. This apparently unknown, endemic (?) species from Cyprus has been waiting a long time (since 1995) for its species classification or first description (Stüben et al. 2012 and in litt. Colonnelli). Unfortunately, there are no molecular barcodes available for this species in Cyprus yet!



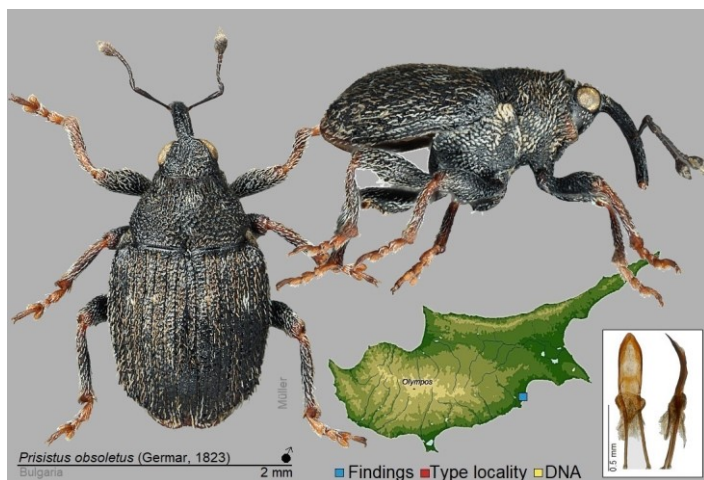
■ *Phrydiuchus* spec. – (without illustrations)

Distribution. Endemic to Cyprus?

Host plants. *Salvia verbenaca*.

Note. Alziar (2023) makes the following comment on this possibly new species of *Phrydiuchus*: 'Despite several searches carried out by Christodoulos Makris at the site of my discovery in 2010 in Droushia (Paphos) on *Salvia verbenaca*, no other specimens could be collected.' The author also searched in vain for this *Phrydiuchus* species on the Akamas Peninsula. The Lamiaceae species in question is widespread in the Western Palaearctic region and has now been introduced to many parts of the world.

■ *Prisistus obsoletus* (Germar, 1823)



Distribution. South and southeastern Europe, North Africa (Algeria), Middle East.

Host plants. *Muscari* and *Gagea* (in Central Europe), Yunakov et al. (2018).

Note. To determine the species, see key in Stüben et al. (2014b). The biology of the species is largely unknown. Krátký collected the species in Central Europe under *Artemisia campestris* and knocked it together with *P. suturalba* in Slovakia from non-flowering *Dianthus arenarius* (ibid.). Liliaceae in a wider sense or other early flowering monocots are supposed to be host plants of this species.

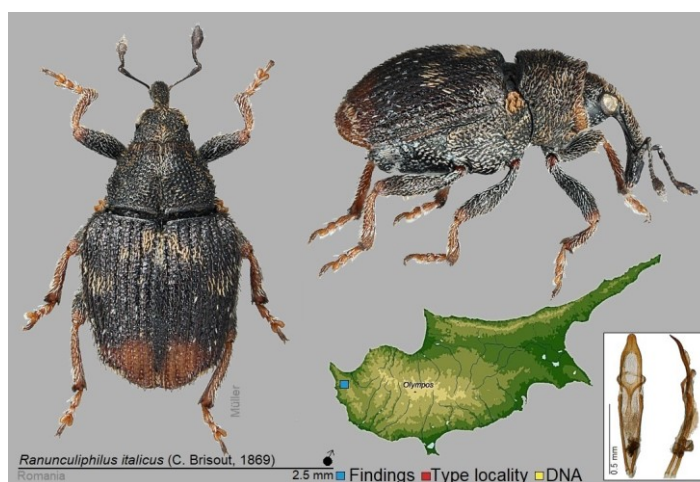
■ *Pseudocoeliodes rubricus* (Gyllenhal, 1837)

Distribution. Southeastern Europe, Middle East.

Host plants. *Pistacia* spp.

Note. *P. rubricus*, a Eurasian species, lives on shrubs and trees of Anacardiaceae, mainly on *Pistacia vera* and *P. lentiscus* in southern Europe (Sprick in: Stüben et al. 2014a).

■ *Ranunculiphilus italicus* (C. Brisout de Barneville, 1869)

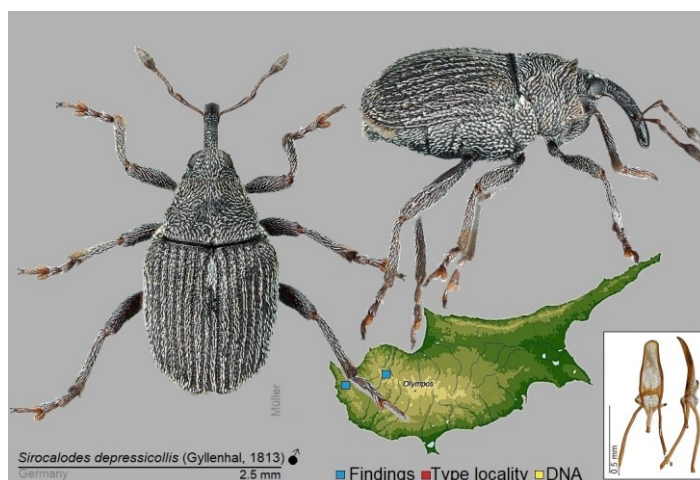


Distribution. Mediterranean, Asia.

Host plants. Ranunculaceae (*Consolida* spp.).

Note. Hlaváč collected a single specimen of this rare species in the vicinity of Drouseia in April 2010 (det., coll. Colonnelli). Krátký (in litt.) identifies *Consolida regalis* as the host plant. In Cyprus, therefore, *Consolida ajacis* of the Ranunculaceae family would be a possible host plant.

■ *Sirocalodes depressicollis* (Gyllenhal, 1813)

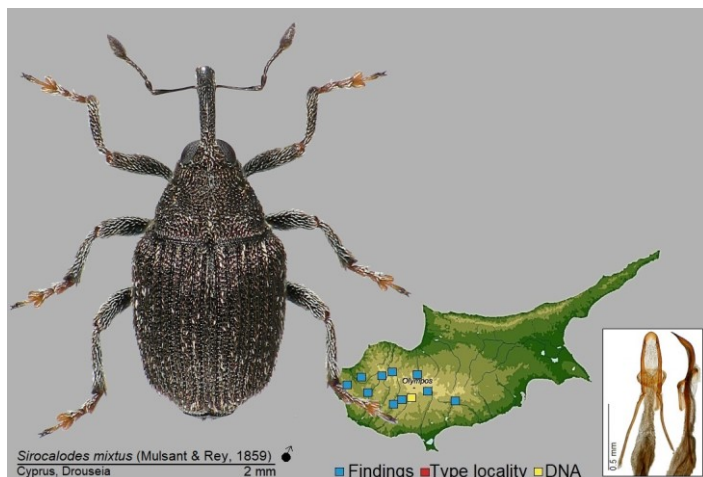


Distribution. Western Palaearctic region.

Host plants. Papaveraceae (*Fumaria* spp.)

Note. To distinguish this species from *S. mixtus*, see there.

■ *Sirocalodes mixtus* (Mulsant & Rey, 1859)

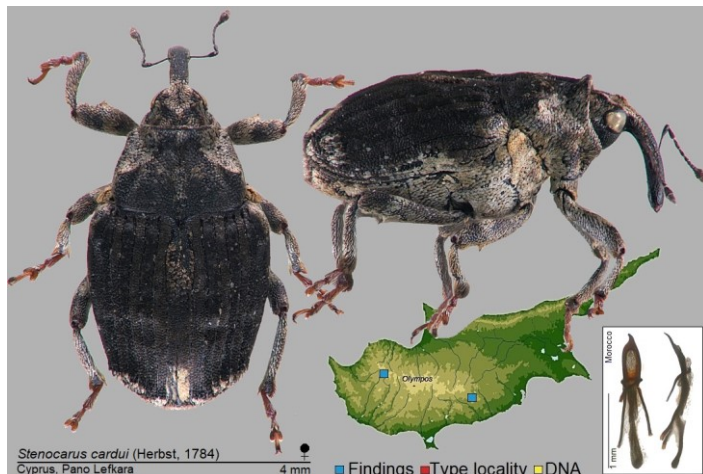


Distribution. Western Palearctic region.

Host plants. Papaveraceae (*Fumaria* spp.).

Note. This species differs from *Sirocalodes depressicollis*, which also occurs in Cyprus, in its dentate claws and the few scattered, broad and white scales on the elytral intervals (Stüben et al. 2014c).

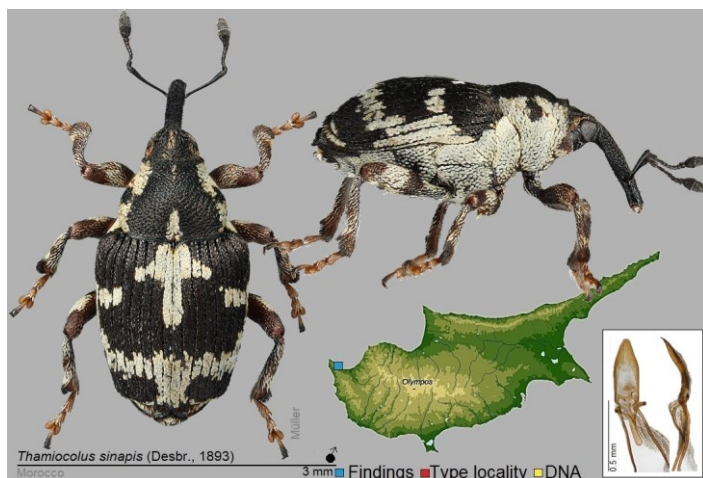
■ *Stenocarus cardui* (Herbst, 1784)



Distribution. Western Palearctic region.

Host plants. Papaveraceae (*Papaver* spp.).

■ *Thamiocolus sinapis* (Desbrochers des Loges, 1893)

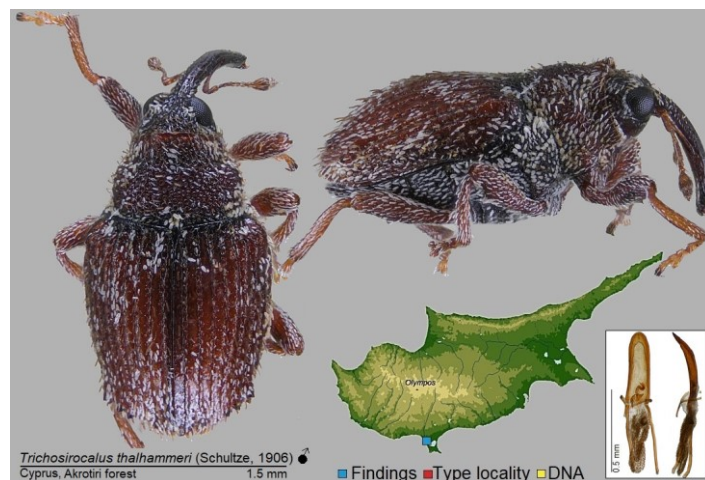


Distribution. Southern and southeastern Europe, North Africa, Asia minor.

Host plants. Lamiaceae (*Stachys* spp., *Lamium* spp.).

Note. So far, I am only aware of one report of this species from the Akamas Peninsula (leg. Giusto, det., coll. Colonnelli).

■ *Trichosirocalus thalhammeri* (Schultze, 1906) – new for Cyprus!



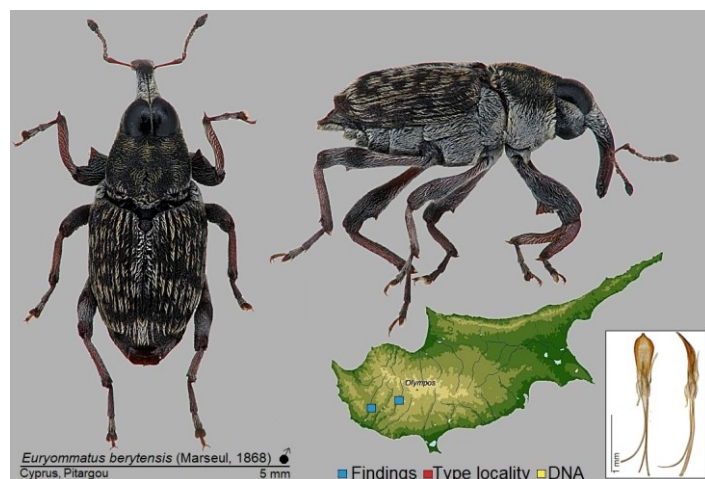
Distribution. Europe.

Host plants. Plantaginaceae: *Plantago maritima* ssp. *crassifolia*.

Note. I surprisingly came across two males of this species in the British Museum (BMNH, London), which were collected in mid-November 1937 in the "Akrotiri Forest" by G.A. Mavromoustakis. After that, this species was no longer found in Cyprus. This halobiontic species is a species that was most likely found on the halophilic Plantaginaceae *Plantago maritima* spp. *crassifolia*.

CURCULIONIDAE: Conoderinae

■ *Euryommatus berytensis* (Marseul, 1868)



Distribution. Middle East.

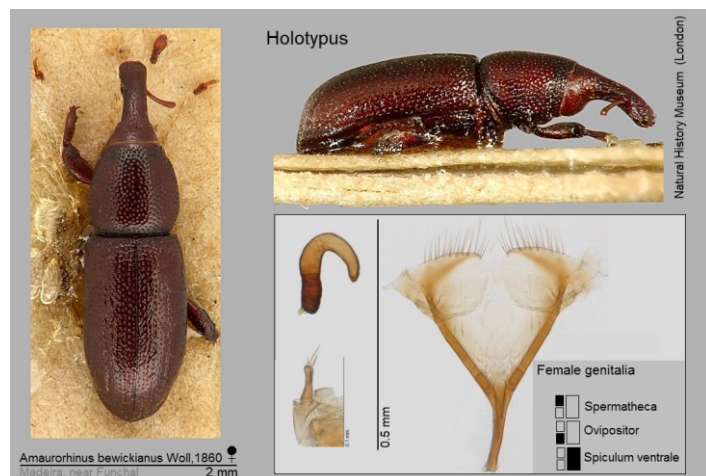
Host plants. *Liquidambar orientalis* (not yet proven in Cyprus) and – reliably proven – on *Alnus orientalis*, including larvae (vid. & det. Markis).

Note. An important correction: *Euryommatus mariae* Roger, 1856 was presented in detail by Gosik et al. (2021), who highlighted aspects of its biology and development. This species lives saproxylic in dead branches of spruce (*Picea abies*). Germann & Lienemann took up this contribution and finally also reported *E. mariae* for Cyprus. A female specimen, including genital apparatus, from Platys in Cyprus was featured in WEEVIL NEWS (2021). – However, if one compares these illustrations with those in the initial report of another *Euryommatus* species for the fauna of Turkey, which was published in 2019, it cannot be this species, but rather the long-known species *Euryommatus berytensis* (Marseul, 1868) (Cebeci & Korotyaev 2018)! It was not until 2023 that Christoph Germann himself provided a correction to the occurrence of *E.*

mariae in Cyprus: „Germann & Lienemann (2021) recorded another specimen from Cyprus erroneously under *E. mariae*, which is corrected in this present contribution” - in favour of *E. berytensis* (Germann et al. 2023). According to Cebeci & Korotyaev (2019), this species develops in the wood of *Liquidambar orientalis* (and obviously not in *Picea*!), a tree commercially used to produce Styrax (or Storax) – and it is precisely this tree species that is cultivated in Cyprus. However, Makris (Limassol) apparently found adult specimens and larvae of this species in and on *Alnus orientalis*.

CURCULIONIDAE: Cossoninae

■ *Amaurorhinus bewickianus* Wollaston, 1860



Distribution. Madeira (Locus typicus), Canary Islands, Circummediterranean.

Host plants. Amaranthaceae (Chenopodiaceae), Zygophyllaceae; Apiaceae (*Crithmum maritimum*) – polyphagous.

Note. This halophilic species, described from Madeira, is said to occur throughout the Mediterranean region and has obviously been described more than half a dozen times under other names (CCPCC, 2026). I was able to study the holotype, a female, in the Natural History Museum (London) and found - except for the slightly shorter rostrum - no essential difference from the well-known species *Amaurorhinus monizianus*, which also occurs in the Canaries, the Ilhas Selvagens, the Ilhas Desertas and also on Madeira, the locus typicus (Stüben 2022). A few years ago, it was even reported by staff at the CURCULIO Institute on the island of Andros (Greece) (Bahr et al. 2017). Since *Amaurorhinus* species were very often collected from driftwood, widespread distribution across the open sea (e.g. on floating gardens) cannot be ruled out (as with many other Cossoninae). On the other hand, I consider it very unlikely that this flightless species, which can only be sifted from detritus and the topsoil, is actually distributed in parts of the eastern Atlantic and even throughout the Mediterranean region. The more than a dozen morphologically very similar, partly cryptic species, which, like *A. monizianus*, also exhibit extreme intraspecific variability in appearance, would benefit greatly from a molecular revision! Given the possibilities offered by molecular analyses today, it is difficult to understand why *Amaurorhinus* species with (allegedly) minimal differences in appearance continue to be described exclusively morphologically (most recently Abbazzi & Forbicioni 2019).

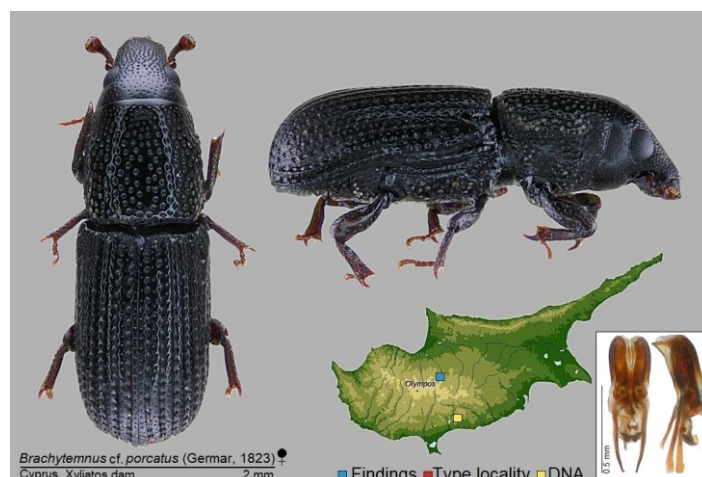
■ *Brachytemnus* cf. *porcatus* (Germar, 1823)

Distribution. Europe (?Azores), North Africa, Middle East.

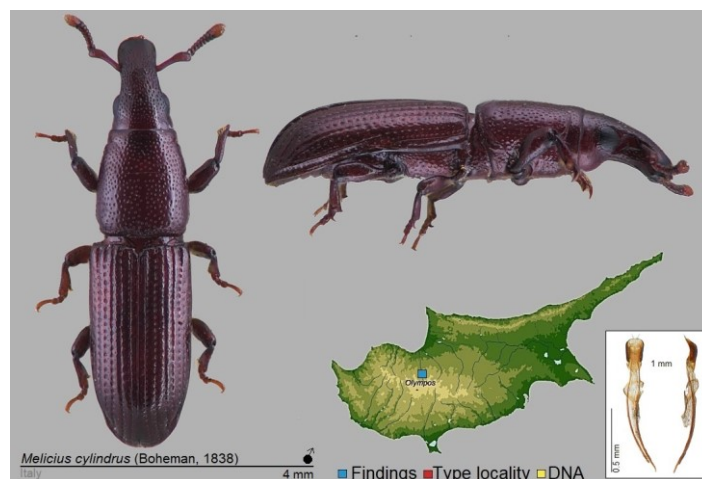
Host plants. Conifers (e.g. *Pinus*, *Abies*).

Note. *Brachytemnus porcatus* even occurs in rotten telegraph poles and floorboards and can easily be carried away with construction timber. Another species in this genus is *B. pinipotens* Woll. from the Canary Islands. Makris found over 50 specimens on Cyprus (Limassol, Parekkklisia, 365 m) under the bark of *Pinus brutia*, a species of pine native to the eastern Mediterranean region. This specimen, which was collected in Cyprus and belongs to a species unknown to me, does not match a specimen from Germany that was identified by F. Köhler (mtCO1; GenBank: HQ954260). This specimen from Central Europe (Locus typicus: 'Germania') is molecularly identical to specimens I collected in the Azores (Santa Maria and Pico; Stüben 2022). Further

research and a possible description of the new species collected in Cyprus are already underway.



■ *Melicius cylindrus* (Boheman, 1838)

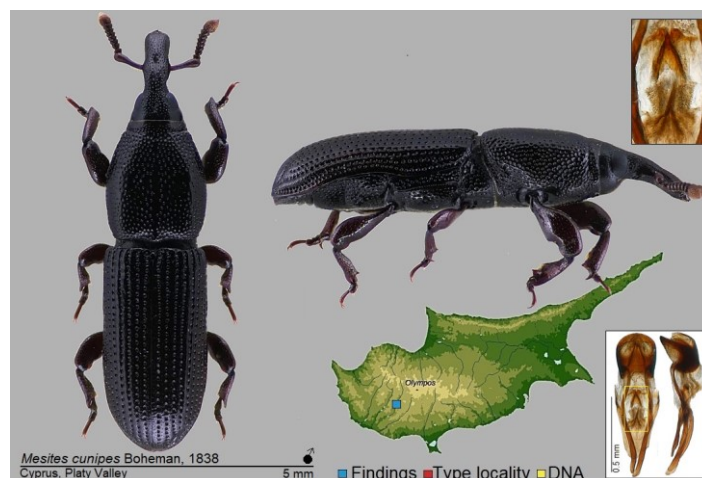


Distribution. Southern Central Europe, Mediterranean, Middle East.

Host plants. Polyphagous in wood.

Note. Ziegler collected a single specimen near Kakopetria, west of Lefkosia (Nikosia), in June 2020 (det. Behne). Larvae in dead or dying wood.

■ *Mesites cunipes* Boheman, 1838



Distribution. Southern and southeastern Europe, North Africa, Middle East

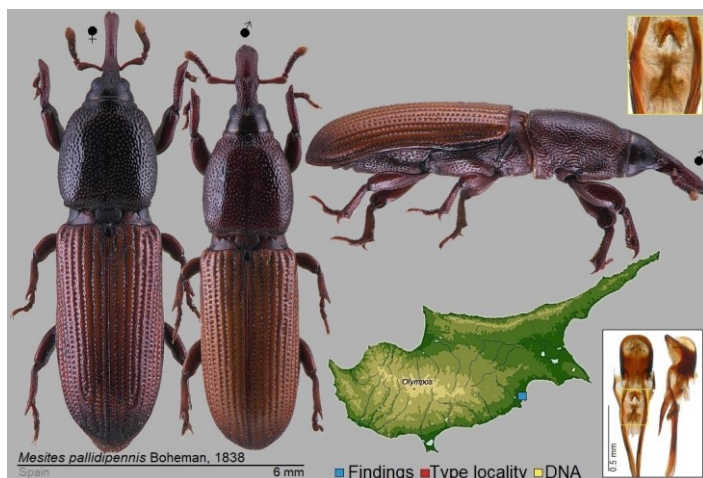
Host plants. Salicaceae (*Populus* spp., *Salix* spp.), oligophagous.

Note. Based on the labelling of his *M. cunipes* specimens, Makris found the species in rotten wood of *Alnus orientalis* in Platey Valley (Cyprus).



Mesites pallidipennis lives mainly in wooded, damp areas, e.g. in driftwood saturated with seawater (here on a beach in southern Italy).

■ *Mesites pallidipennis* Boheman, 1838



Distribution. Circummediterranean.

Host plants. Polyphagous among driftwood.

Note. A Cossoninae that is often found in large numbers among driftwood on the sandy beaches of the Mediterranean. Osella et al. (1993) mention a single specimen without precise information on the label from Larnaca.

■ *Rhyncolus syriacus* Desbrochers des Loges, 1892

Distribution. Greece, Middle East.

Host plants. Pinaceae: *Pinus brutia* (det. Makris).

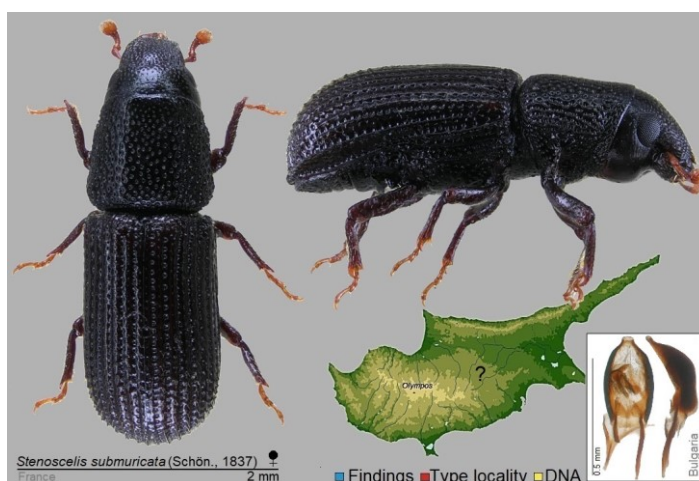
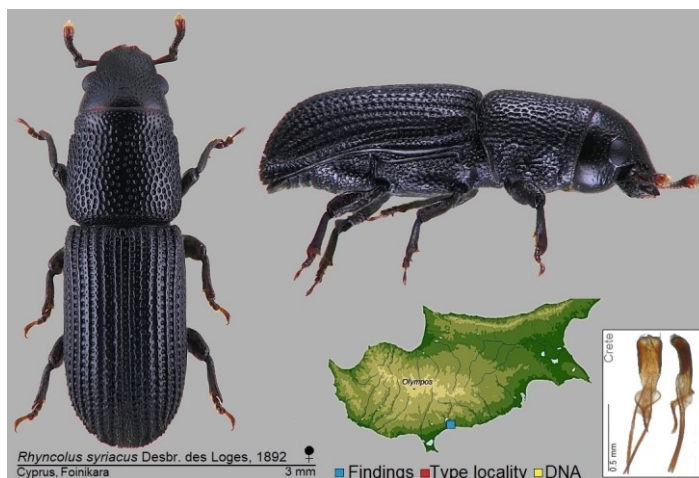
Note. It differs from the similar-looking species *R. elongatus* (Gyllenhal, 1827) – which is, however, far more widespread in Europe and Asia – by its non-convex, but strongly keeled, sharp-edged elytral stripes.

■ *Stenoscelis submuricata* (Schoenherr, 1832)

Distribution. Southern Europe, North Africa, Middle East [Occurrence in Cyprus uncertain or exact locations unavailable].

Host plants. Dead wood.

Note. This species is mentioned by Osella et al. (1993) for Cyprus (coll. Baudi), but no specific locality is known.





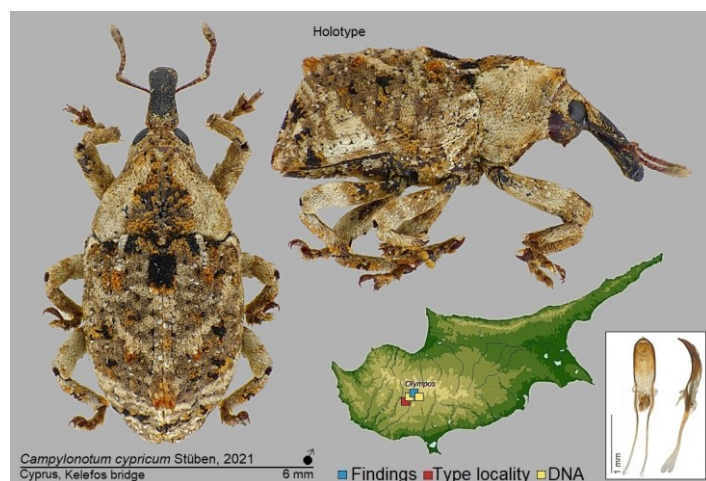
Campylonotum cypricum Stüben, 2021

Cyprus, Troodos Mt., 3 km N Pano Platres, near Trooditissa Monasteries (Picnic site), 25.4.2025, 34° 54'51.33"N 32°50'33.10"E, 1337m, beaten from *Hedera*, leg. Stüben (9)

© P. E. Stüben/CURCI

CURCULIONIDAE: Cryptorhynchinae

■ *Campylonotum cypricum* Stüben, 2021



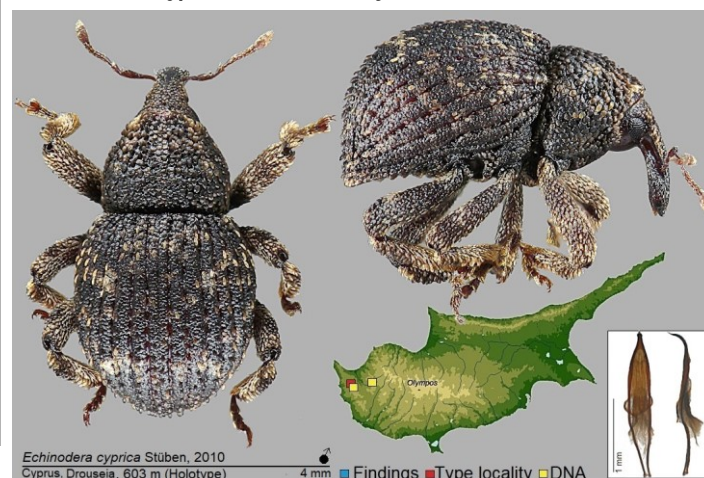
Distribution. Endemic to Cyprus.

Host plants. Araliaceae: *Hedera pastuchovii* ssp. *cyprica*.

Note. This species appears to be closely associated with the endemic host plant *Hedera pastuchovii* ssp. *cyprica* (occasionally even elevated to species status by some botanists, *Hedera cyprica* McAll.), on which I myself was able to observe it in April 2025 in the Troodos Mountains. Nevertheless, there is nothing comparable in the West Palaearctic Cryptorhynchinae fauna, neither morphologically nor molecularly! The

fact that the earliest evidence of this monotypic genus dates back only to the beginning of our century suggests that it is probably an immigrant from the country of origin of the nominotypic host plant taxon, since *H. pastuchovii* Woronow occurs in the Greater Caucasus (as a relict species) in Azerbaijan and Iran (but not in Turkey).

■ *Echinodera cyprica* Stüben, 1. July 2010

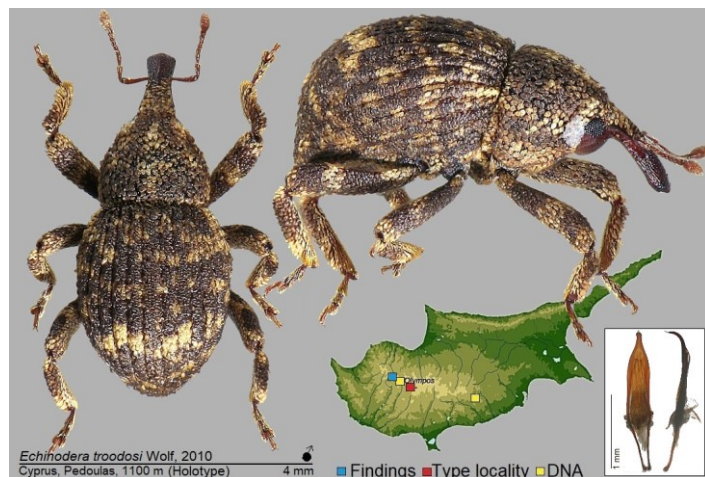


Distribution. Endemic to Cyprus.

Host plants. *Quercus* spp.

Note. In addition to this species, which I described on July 1, 2010, further molecular studies have now shown that there is apparently another *Echinodera* species in Cyprus (see *Echinodera troodosi* and Stüben 2026).

■ *Echinodera troodosi* Wolf, 1. August 2010

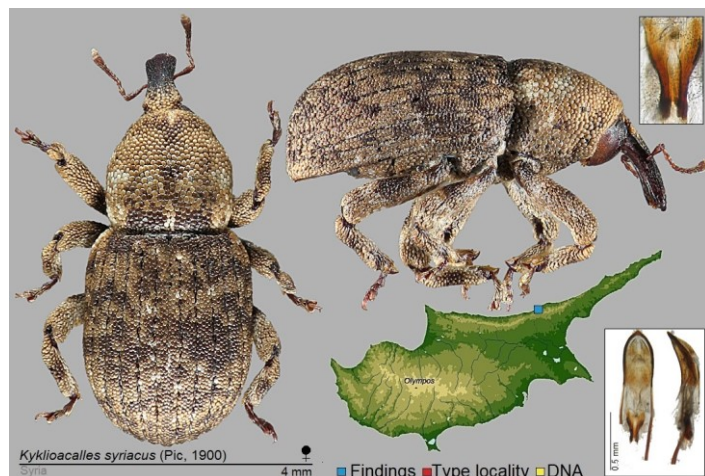


Distribution. Endemic to Cyprus.

Host plants. *Quercus* spp. (*Alnus orientalis*).

Note. See my resynonymisation of this species in Stüben (2026).

■ *Kykliocalles syriacus* (Pic, 1900)



Distribution. Israel, Lebanon, Northern Cyprus.

Host plants. Unknown.

Note. In addition to the lectotype of this species I designated from the ancient city of Breitmeri in present-day Lebanon, north of Baalbek and not far from the Syrian border, I only had one other specimen from Küçükerenköy in the northeastern Turkish part of Cyprus, which had been collected by S. Vit in 1998. Meanwhile, another species of the subgenus *Glaberacalles*, also from Lebanon, *Kykliocalles libani* Kostál, 2020, has been described, which is said to differ from this species but seems to be morphologically very similar. All my efforts have so far failed to look at the type material in the private collection of the author. Unfortunately, there are still no molecular barcodes (mtCO1) of this type available to compare them with other sequences of *Glaberacalles* species known to us.

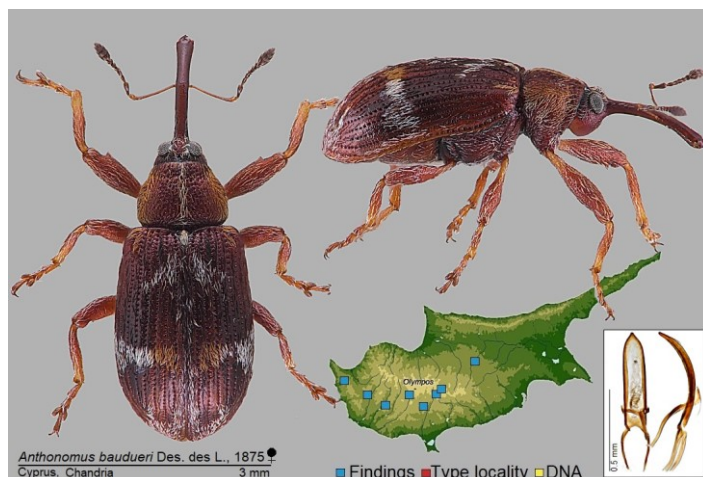
CURCULIONIDAE: Curculioninae

■ *Anthonomus baudueri* Desbrochers des Loges, 1875

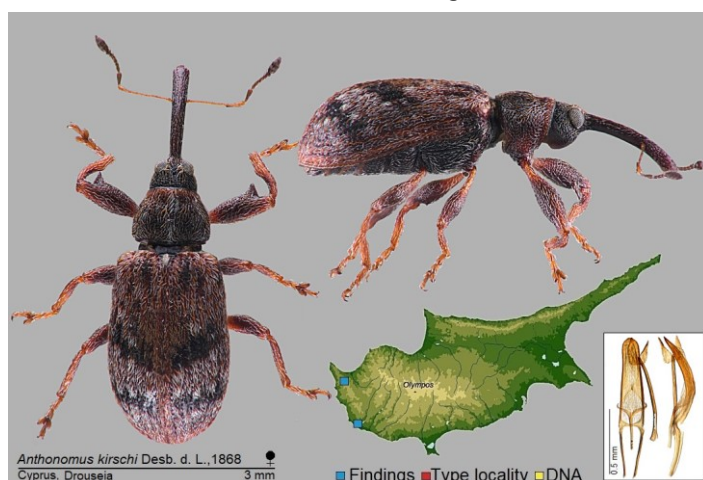
Distribution. Middle East.

Host plants. Rosaceae (*Prunus*).

Note. In April on almond and peach trees.



■ *Anthonomus kirschi* Desbrochers des Loges, 1868

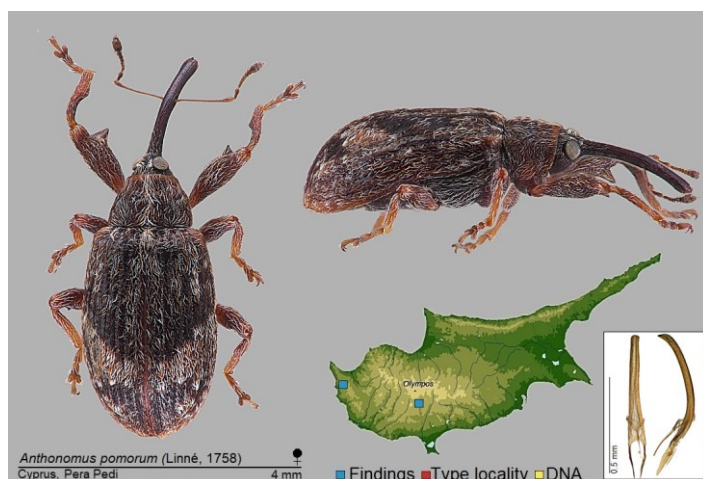


Distribution. Eastern and South-Eastern Europe.

Host plants. Rosaceae (*Pyrus*).

Note. Lives on a pear species. It differs from *A. pomorum*, a species also found in Cyprus that lives on apple trees, less frequently on pear trees, by its untoothed claws.

■ *Anthonomus pomorum* (Linné, 1758)

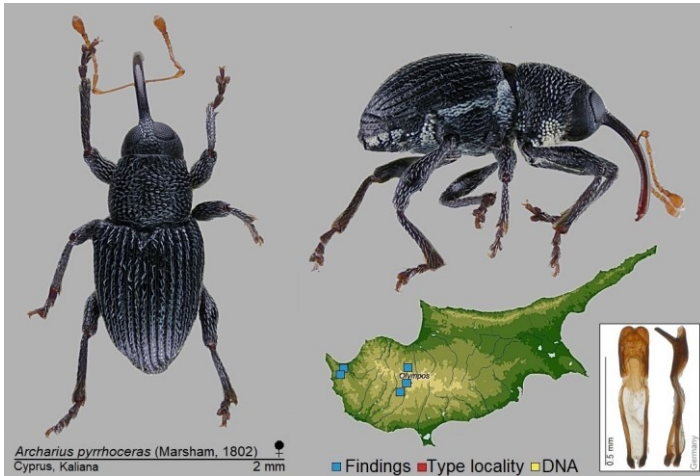


Distribution. Palearctic, introduced to North America.

Host plants. In Cyprus, Alziar mentions *Pyrus syriaca* in particular.

Note. It occurs as a pest in apple orchards and has therefore been well studied.

■ *Archarius pyrrhoceras* (Marshall, 1802)



Distribution. Europe, North Africa, Middle East.

Host plants. *Quercus* spp.

Note. The weevil is a gall borer whose larvae live in the spherical leaf galls of a gall wasp (*Cynips*). It is not known whether the eggs and larvae of the leaf wasp are eaten. The pupation of the beetle larva, on the other hand, takes place in the soil (Scherf 1964).

■ *Bradybatus abeillei* Desbrochers des Loges, 1889

Distribution. Endemic to Cyprus.

Host plants. *Acer obtusifolium*, monophagous.

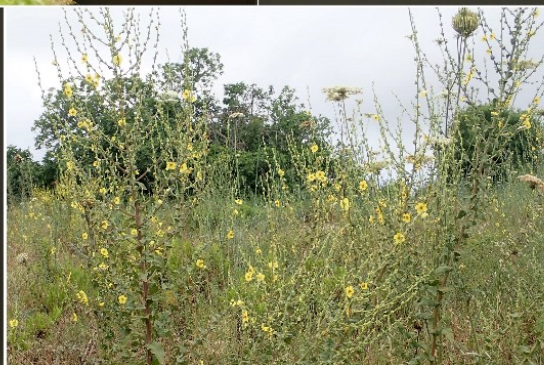
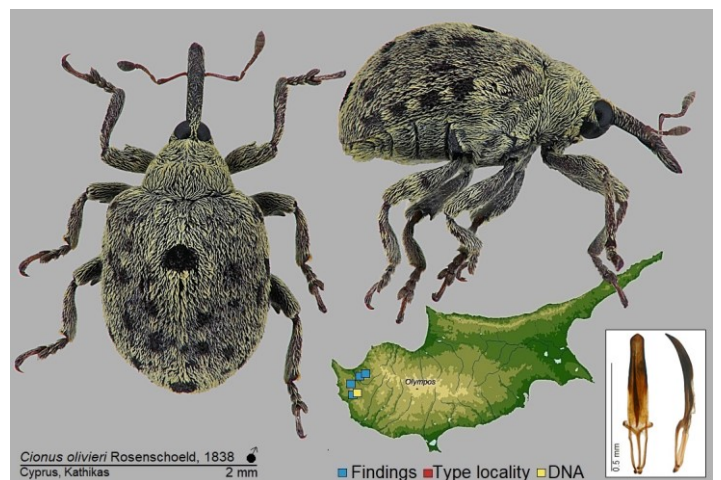
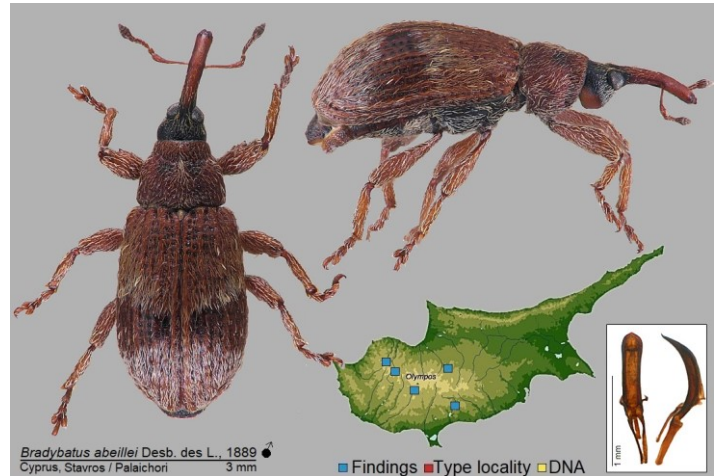
Note. A key to the species of *Bradybatus* subgen. *Nothops* Marseul, 1868, including the species *B. abeillei*, can be found Dieckmann (1968) and Kostál (2018).

■ *Cionus olivieri* Rosenschold, 1838

Distribution. Europe, Asia.

Host plants. Scrophulariaceae (*Verbascum* spp.).

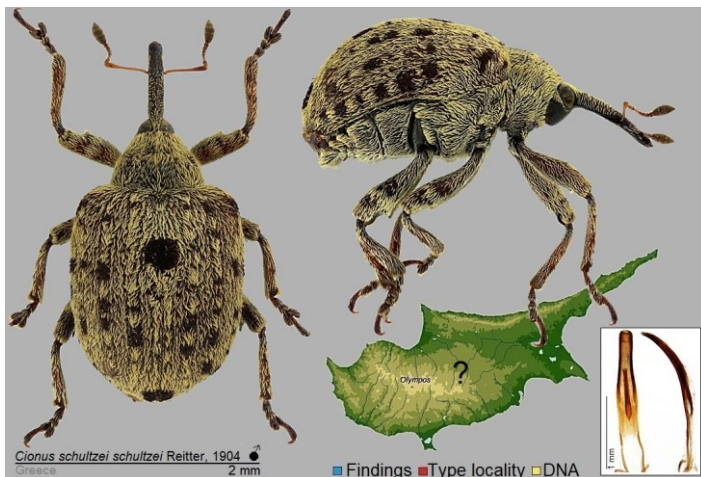
Note. This species differs from *Cionus thapsus* (F., 1792), which is also found in Cyprus, in the position of the black lattice spots, which are only clearly visible on the rear half of the elytra (in *C. thapsus*, they are also clearly visible on the front half of the elytra).



Cionus olivieri
on *Verbascum sinuatum*
near Kathikas

© P. E. Stüben/CURCI

■ *Cionus schultzei schultzei* Reitter, 1904

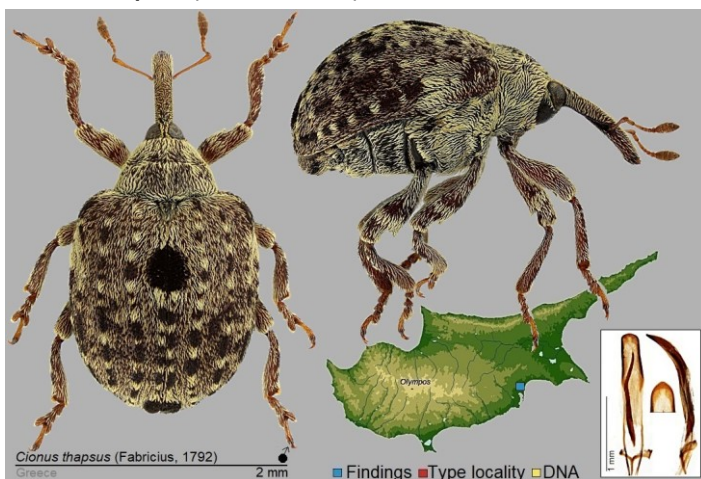


Distribution. Greece, Middle East.

Host plants. Scrophulariaceae (*Scrophularia*, *Verbascum*), oligophagous.

Note. I myself did not have a specimen of this species from Cyprus, although it is mentioned by Alziar (2023) as at least a questionable species for this island.

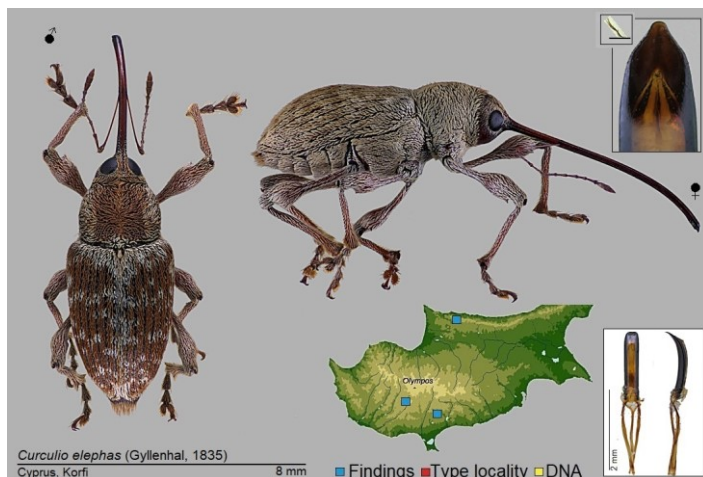
■ *Cionus thapsus* (Fabricius, 1792)



Distribution. Europe, Asia.

Host plants. Scrophulariaceae (*Scrophularia*, *Verbascum*), oligophagous.

Note. Unlike *C. olivieri*, the lattice spots on the elytra are also clearly visible on the front half. Unlike the rostrum of *C. schultzei*, which tapers towards the tip (lateral view), the rostrum of *C. thapsus* and *C. olivieri* remains more or less the same thickness (parallel sides). Apparently, one or more specimens are in the collection of the Department of Agriculture (Nicosia), collected at Lapithou (Georghiou 1977).



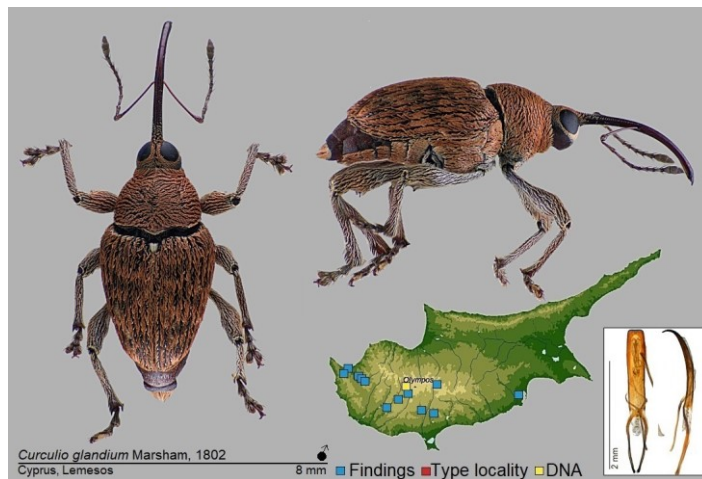
■ *Curculio elephas* (Gyllenhal, 1835)

Distribution. Circummediterranean.

Host plants. *Quercus* spp.

Note. It differs from the species *C. glandium*, which also occurs in Cyprus, mainly in its longer elytra, which are 1.5 times as long as they are wide (in *C. glandium*, they are only 1.3 times longer than wide).

■ *Curculio glandium* Marsham, 1802

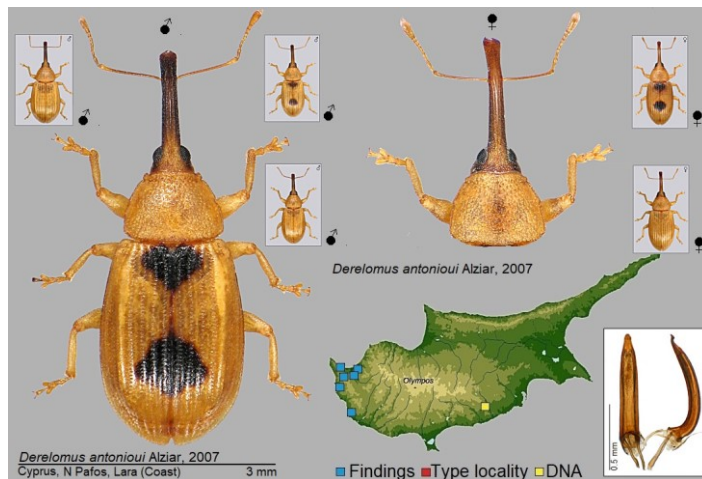


Distribution. Western Palaearctic region.

Host plants. *Quercus* spp.

Note. To distinguish from *Curculio elephas*, see there. The aedeagus of the specimens from Cyprus is strikingly long and differs from that of the Central European specimens of the species (locus typicus: England) in more ways than one (see illustration); A. Lompe (2026) comes to a similar conclusion for specimens from Greece. It is interesting to note in this context that the animals from Cyprus apparently form a separate clade in the mtCO1-NJ tree.

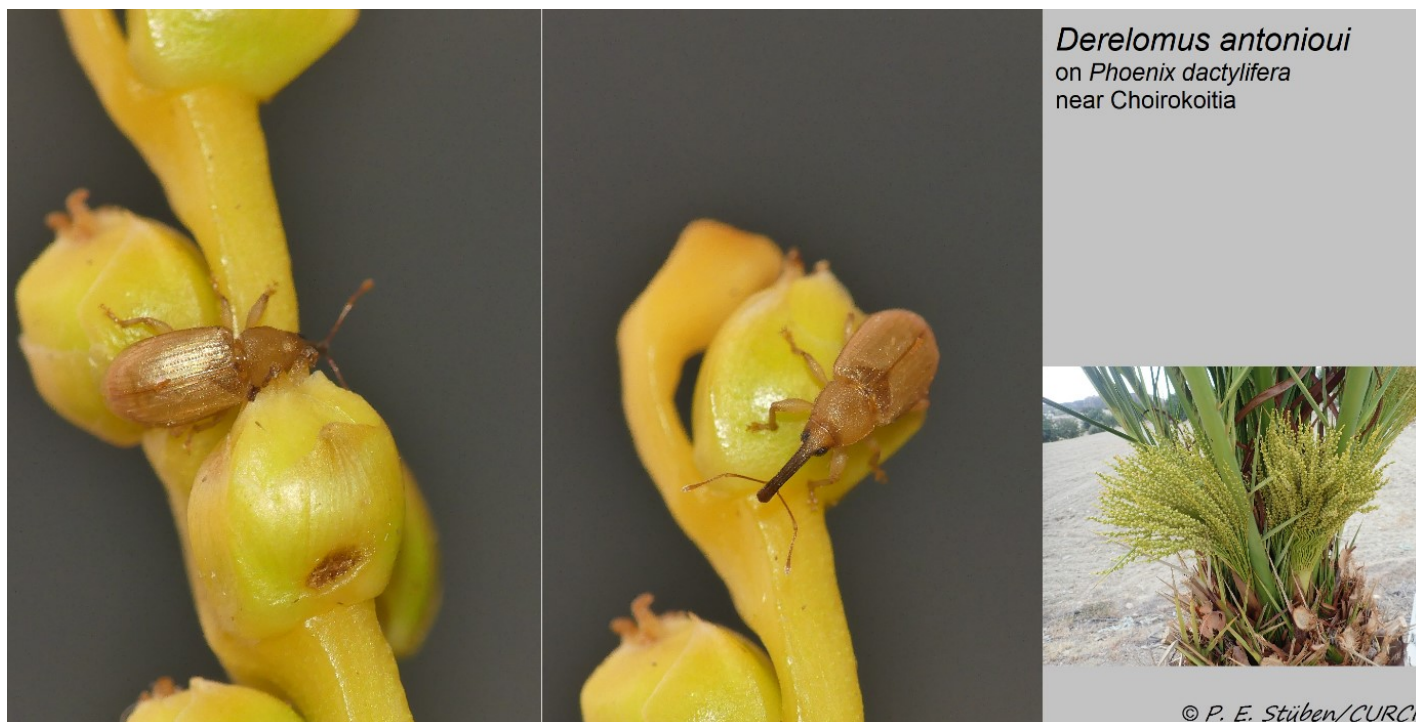
■ *Derelomus antonioui* Alziar, 2007



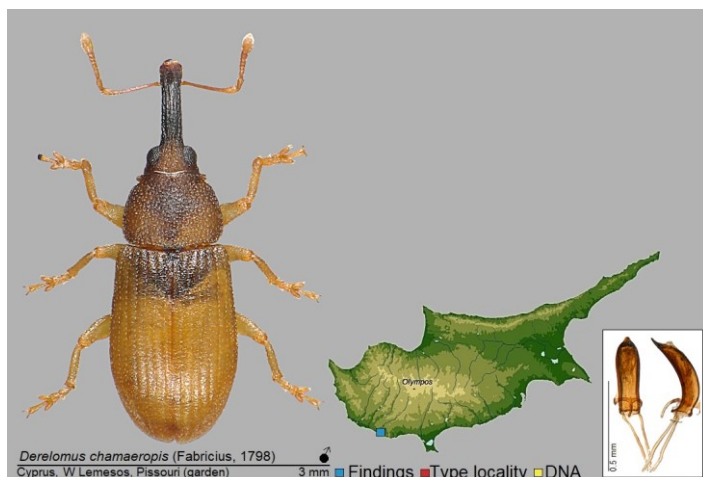
Distribution. Endemic to Cyprus.

Host plants. Arecaceae: *Phoenix dactylifera*, *P. canariensis*; inflorescences of the palms.

Note. Although these Curculioninae, which live on the inflorescences of *Phoenix dactylifera*, often have large, almost square, dark brown spots on their elytra behind the base and behind the middle, there are also specimens that are uniformly yellow in colour, which could then be confused with specimens of the second species found in Cyprus, *Derelomus chamaeropsis*, which are also yellow in colour. The latter, however, has a significantly shorter rostrum, much thicker and shorter antennae, and a completely different shaped aedeagus (see also the illustrations on the right for both species). In addition, its host plant association with *Chamaerops humilis* is different.



■ *Derelomus chamaeropsis* (Fabricius, 1798)

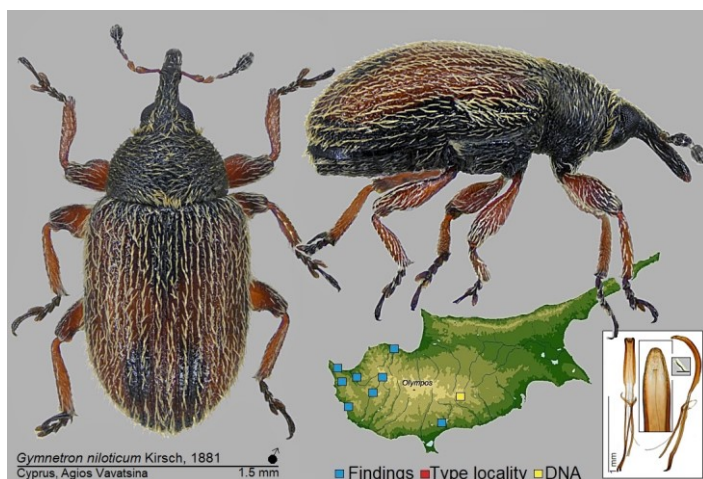


Distribution. Southern Europe, North Africa.

Host plants. Arecaceae: *Chamaerops humilis*.

Note. See differential diagnosis under *D. antonioui* Alziar, 2007.

■ *Gymnetron niloticum* Kirsch, 1881

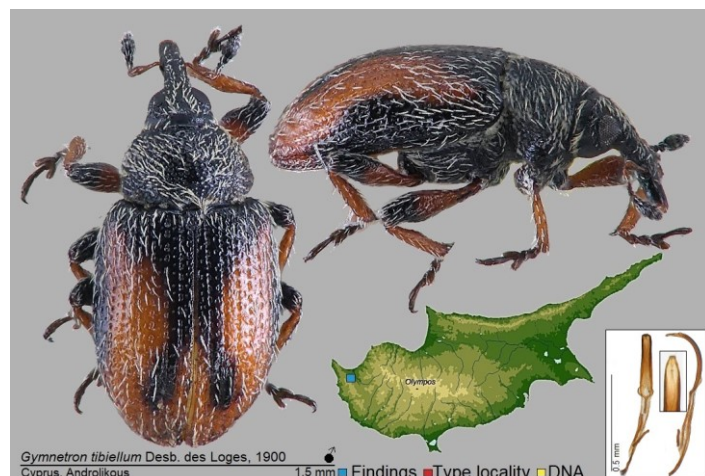


Distribution. Southeastern Europe, North Africa, Middle East.

Host plants. Plantaginaceae: *Veronica anagallis-aquatica*.

Note. This species differs from the very similar, but less densely scaled species *G. tibiellum* in the number of scale rows on the elytral intervals (see there).

■ *Gymnetron tibiellum* Desbrochers des Loges, 1900 – new for Cyprus!



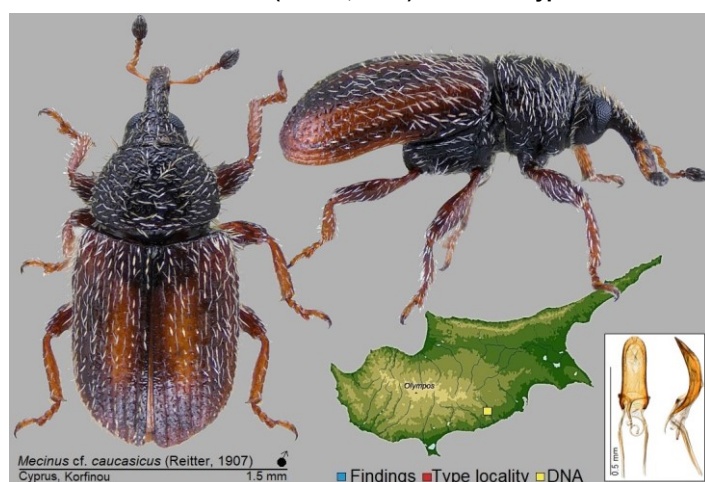
Distribution. Eastern and southeastern Europe, Italy, Middle East.

Host plants. Plantaginaceae (*Veronica anagallis-aquatica*), monophagous.

Note. Most recently, this species, which was recently recorded as new species of Poland, was grown from seed capsules of *V. anagallis-aquatica* (Gosik & Tosevski 2024). The mtCO1 sequence is identical to my barcodes for this species from Slovakia and Rhodes. However, I am only aware of a single male specimen from Cyprus (Androlikou, coll. Heiss 2017), which was kindly provided to me by H. Winkelmann (see figures). However, doubts remain. This specimen looks very similar to *Gymnetron niloticum*, also collected by me from *V. anagallis-aquatica*, even in its aedeagus, but according to Caldara (2008), it differs from the latter by its less densely packed elytral scales, consist of a single row of scales in each interval (in contrast to the three scale rows of scales per interval in *G. niloticum*, see the illustrations there). It therefore appears that both species occur sympatrically in Cyprus, even though the mtCO1 barcode for *G. tibiellum* is not yet available from there!



■ ***Mecinus* cf. *caucasicus* (Reitter, 1907) – new for Cyprus!**



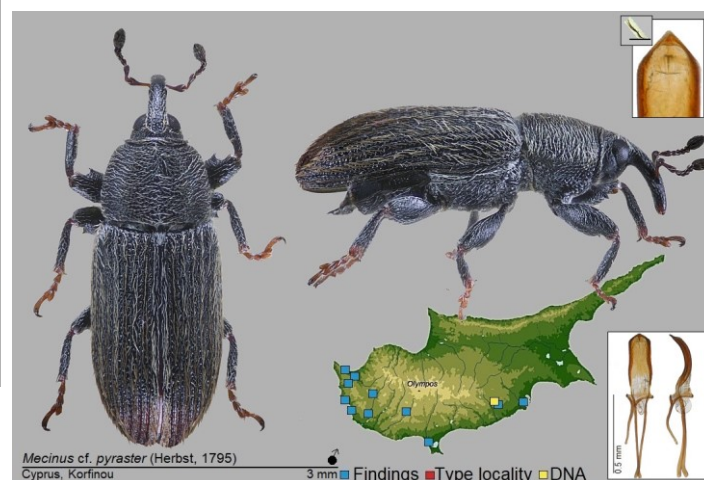
Distribution. Asia minor (Hungary?).

Host plants. Plantaginaceae (*Plantago* spp.).

Note. A difficult case! While the aedeagus corresponds entirely to the species *M. caucasicus*, the shape of elytra suggest *M. variabilis*. It would be necessary to examine the rostrum of a female specimen – unfortunately not known from Cyprus – in order to narrow down the species (R. Caldara in. lit.). However, mtCO1 sequencing of another male was successful, meaning that the *Mecinus* species *M. variabilis*,

M. latiusculus, *M. ictericus* and *M. pascuorum* can be certainly ruled out. Therefore, further collections and studies of this species from Cyprus are necessary.

■ ***Mecinus* cf. *pyraster* (Herbst, 1795)**

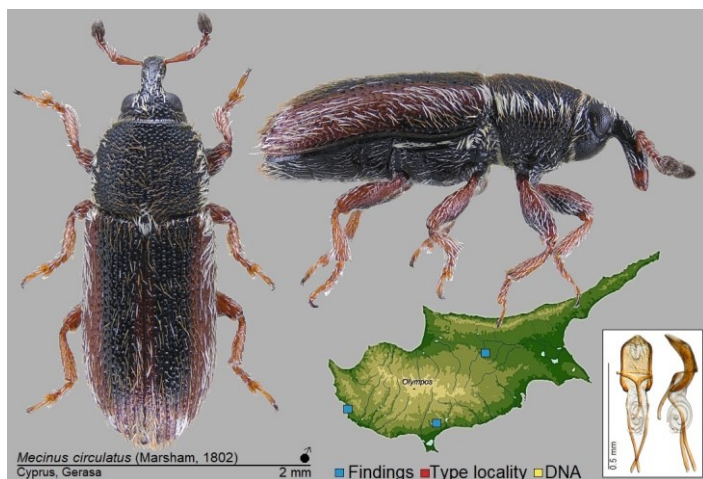


Distribution. Western Palaearctic region, Nearctic Region (introduced).

Host plants. Plantaginaceae (*Plantago* spp.).

Note. The specimens from Cyprus (near Korfinou) show a significant deviation of approximately 5% in the CO1 fragment compared to the Central European samples (Germany, Luxembourg, Czech Republic). A variable species, as Caldara (in litt.) also remarks, and this with regard to the length and thickness of the elytral vestiture, or must we already assume a species complex that requires closer examination?

■ ***Mecinus circulator* (Marshall, 1802)**

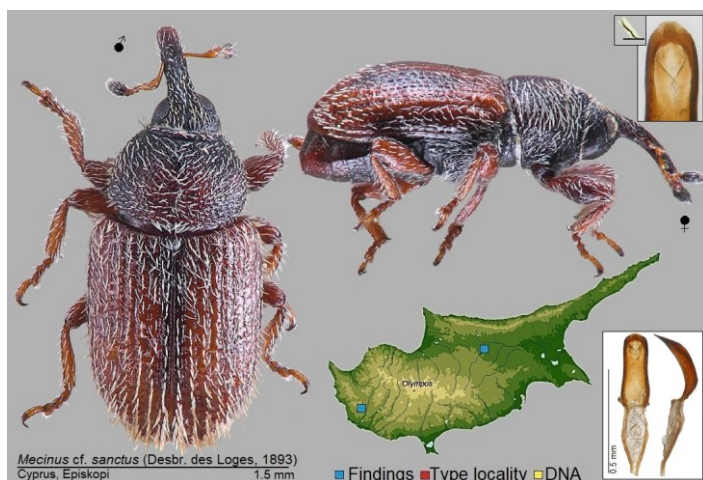


Distribution. Western and southern Europe, North Africa, Asia minor.

Host plants. Plantaginaceae (*Plantago* spp.).

Note. Larval development in the root collar of *Plantago lanceolata*; also reported in Western Europe for other *Plantago* species.

■ ***Mecinus sanctus* (Desbrochers des Loges, 1893)**

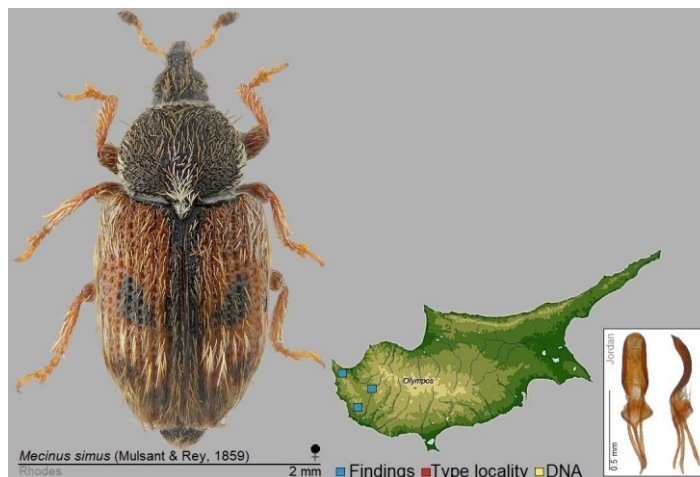


Distribution. North Africa, Near East.

Host plants. Plantaginaceae (*Plantago afra*), monophagous.

Note. Caldara & Fogato (2013) recorded this species from Cyprus (Athlassa, 4.–6.VI.1939, Håkan leg. Lindberg, coll. University of Helsinki, Zoological Museum), and Winkelmann (2017) found the species (shown here) in numbers at Episkopi on the annual species *Plantago afra*, where it presumably inhabits the flower heads together with *Mecinus simus* (ibid.). However, considerable doubts remain regarding the identification of these specimens of Episkopi, a pair of which Winkelmann kindly provided me with. *M. sanctus* was described from a single female (Israel, Jericho), and Caldara notes that the aedeagus corresponds to that of *M. tychioides* (2013, Fig. 114). The aedeagus shown here does not correspond in any way to Caldara's line drawings, and no corresponding match can be found among the other aedeagi of the *Mecinus* species in Caldara's revision (ibid.). Nor does his photograph of *M. sanctus*, with its reddish pronotum and reddish elytra, correspond to the pair of Episkopi (leg. Winkelmann) shown here. Unfortunately, in this case too, I do not have access to any molecular DNA sequences of these specimens from Cyprus, which would allow me to speak of a 'new species' even amongst the numerous, extremely similar (cryptic?) *Mecinus* species.

■ ***Mecinus simus* (Mulsant & Rey, 1859)**

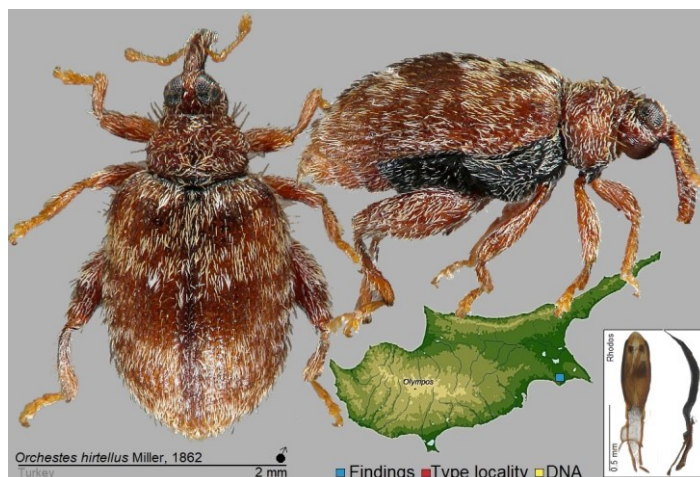


Distribution. Circummediterranean.

Host plants. Plantaginaceae (*Plantago* spp.), monophagous.

Note. Key to the species of *Mecinus*, see Caldara & Fogato (2013).

■ ***Orchestes hirtellus* Miller, 1862**

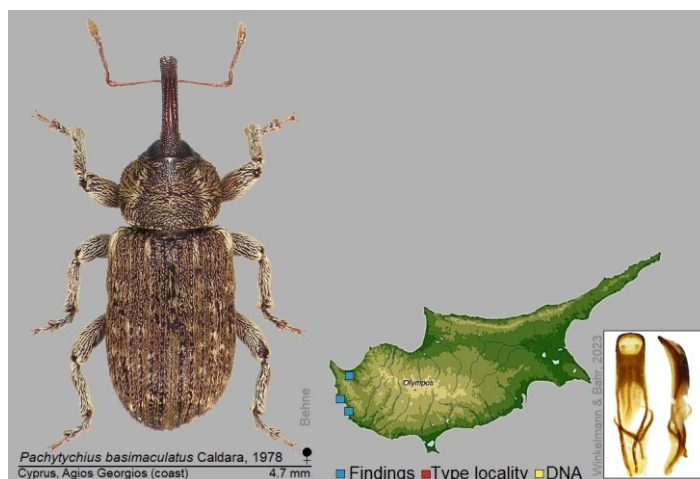


Distribution. Greece, Asia minor.

Host plants. *Quercus* spp. (*Quercus coccifera*?).

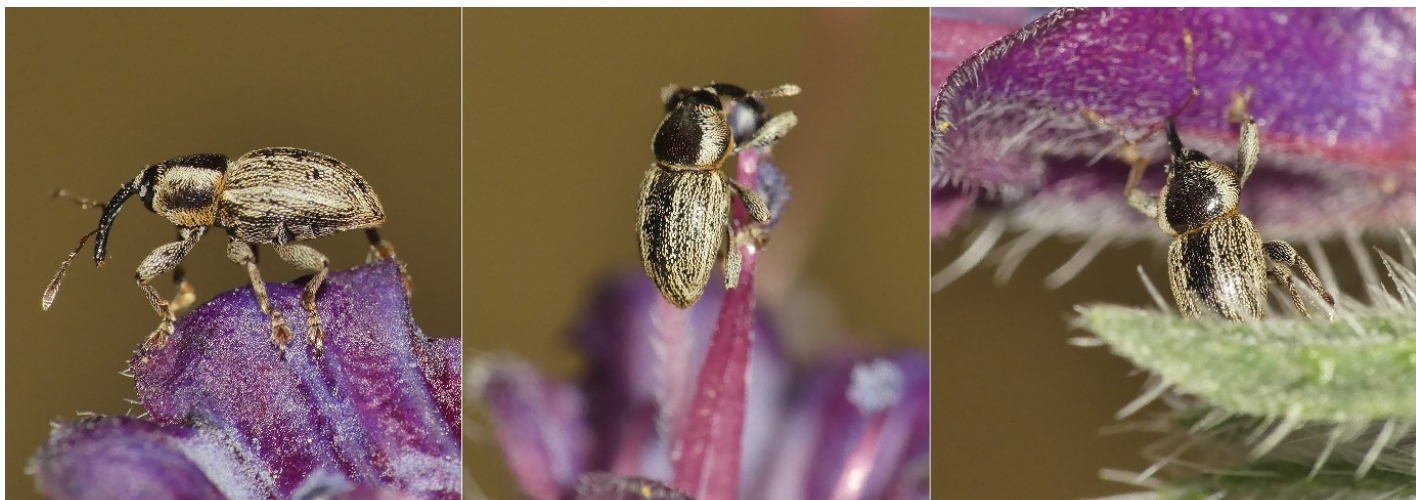
Note. A jumping weevil species previously only known from Croatia, Albania, Greece and Turkey, but now also reported for Cyprus (Ayios Andreas) for the first time (Alziar 2021).

■ ***Pachytychius basimaculatus* Caldara, 1978**



Distribution. Greece (Rhodes Is.), Egypt, Afrotropical Region.

Host plants. Fabaceae (*Lotus* spp.).



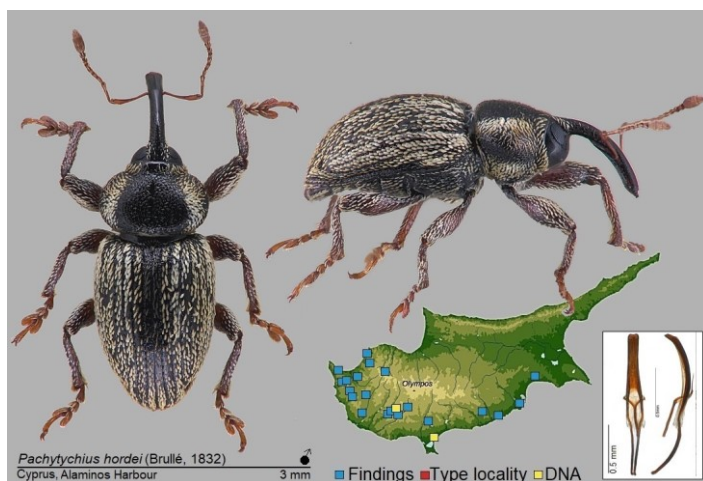
Pachytychius hordei (Brullé, 1832)

on *Echium angustifolium* (usually on *Bromus*, *Hordeum*, *Aegilops* and other grasses) near Agios Theodoros.

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Note. The species was also found on Rhodes (beach near Kalithea). Searches among *Lotus* plants yielded numerous specimens in late April/early June 2014 (Winkelmann & Bahr 2023).

■ *Pachytychius hordei* (Brullé, 1832).



Distribution. Greece, North Africa, Middle East.

Host plants. Poaceae: *Bromus*, *Hordeum*, *Aegilops* and other grasses (det. P. Sprick in: Stübgen et al. 2012), oligophagous.

Note. A species that can be found everywhere in Cyprus, especially in meadows. I found numerous newly hatched and beautifully marked specimens on *Echium angustifolium* right by the beach in early spring. The specimens encountered there were probably searching for new grasses. Based primarily on molecular data, I see this eastern species, which is also widespread in Cyprus, as a separate taxon alongside *P. grandicollis* (Waltl, 1835) stat. nov., which is mainly found in the western Mediterranean region (probable type locality: southern Spain; see also mtCO1-barcodes of *P. hordei* in: Stübgen & Jacob 2026 and Fig. 2).

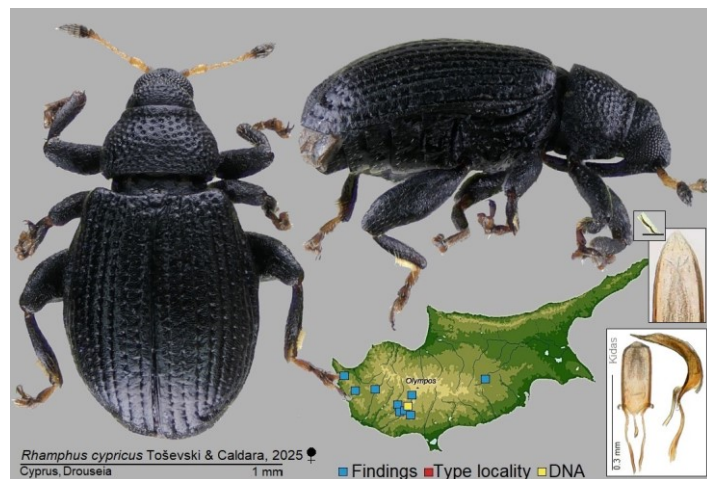
■ *Rhamphus cypricus* Toševski & Caldara, 2025 – new for Cyprus!

Distribution. Endemic to Cyprus.

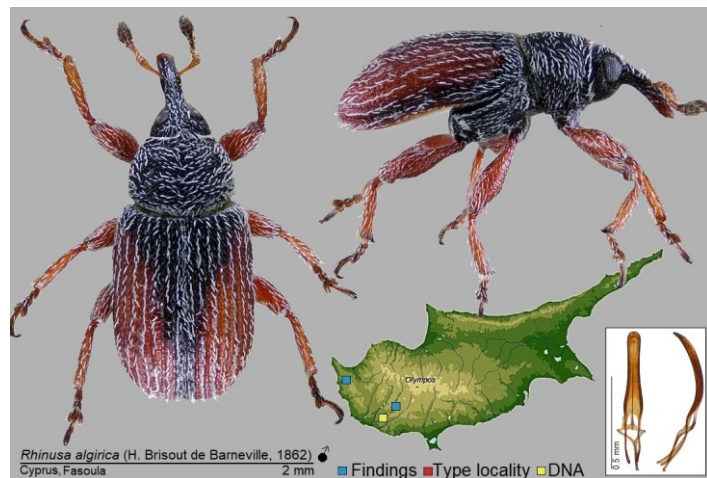
Host plants. *Crataegus azarolus* (det. Stübgen); *Crataegus aronia* (det. G. Alziar, P. Sprick).

Note. The species from Cyprus differs in the high-resolution mtCO1 fragment by a maximum of 18.8% from other species of this genus, but only by 4.2% from the closely related species *R. macedonicus* Toševski & Caldara, 2025. The 14 largely cryptic species of the monophyletic genus *Rhamphus* show virtually no morphological differences, including extremely subtle differences in the shape of the aedeagus (there are no differences in female genitalia) (Toševski et al. 2025). The authors refer to relatively rapid speciation, which is considered cryptic in nature from

a morphological point of view. At this point, I would like to note that there are obvious differences between my illustration of aedeagus (Cyprus: Kidas) and that of the authors (page 7: Fig. 2(G)) - probably attributable to the different orientation and level of observation -, which makes morphological identification and differentiation from other species of the genus even more difficult.



■ *Rhinusa algerica* (H. Brisout de Barneville, 1862)



Distribution. Southern Europe, North Africa, Middle East.

Host plants. *Scrophularia canina*, *Scrophularia peyronii* (det. Stübgen).

Note. According to R. Caldara (in lit.), *R. algerica* and *R. emmrichi* belong to the *R. bipustulata* group (same shape of genitalia) and are



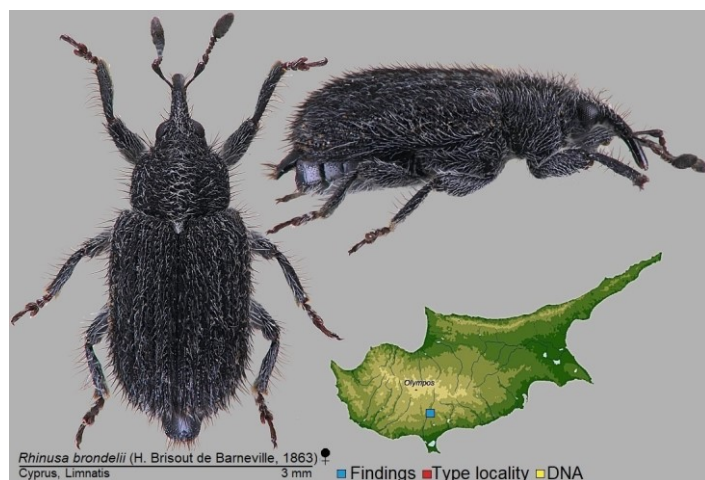
Rhinusa algerica (H. Brisout de Barneville, 1862)

Cyprus, Paphos, 1 km SW Fasoula, Dhiarizos riv., 25.4.2025, 34°45'11.96"N 32°36'59.96"E, 112 m, *Scrophularia peyronii*, leg. Stüben (6)

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very similar. Only a detailed molecular study can provide information as to whether these are really two different taxa (Fernández-Carrillo et al. 2022). The fact that the specimens from Morocco and Cyprus, which I identified as *R. algerica*, show a p-distance of approximately 4% in the mtCO1 partial gene might be the first indication of the existence of two cryptic species (see Fig. 2). For a preliminary morphological distinction between the two species, see Caldara (2014).

■ *Rhinusa brondelii* (H. Brisout de Barneville, 1863)



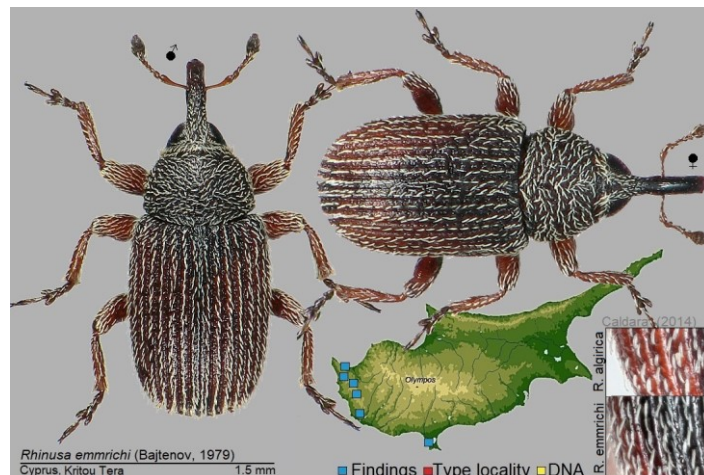
Distribution. Italy, North Africa, Middle East.

Host plants. Plantaginaceae (*Linaria* spp.), monophagous.

Note. This species belongs to the *R. pilosa* species group. In a very nice integrative taxonomic study, Tosevski et al. (2015) were able to show that the *Rhinusa* species associated with toadflax plants (*Linaria* spp.), which can only be distinguished on the basis of a few subtle

morphological characteristics, exhibit significant genetic divergences when analysed using mitochondrial (COII & 16S) and nuclear genes (EF-1 α). The uncorrected pairwise distances in the mtCOII gene were 14.3% between *R. pilosa* and *R. brondelii* and still 11% between *R. brondelii* and *R. rara*. It was estimated that the latter two species diverged from each other in the early Pliocene, approximately 4.7 million years ago. In any case, future species that are difficult to distinguish morphologically should therefore be accompanied by molecular analyses (barcodes), which generally allow for significantly more reliable (and in practice also easier to perform) differential diagnoses and phylogenetic reconstructions!

■ *Rhinusa emmrichi* (Bajtenov, 1979)

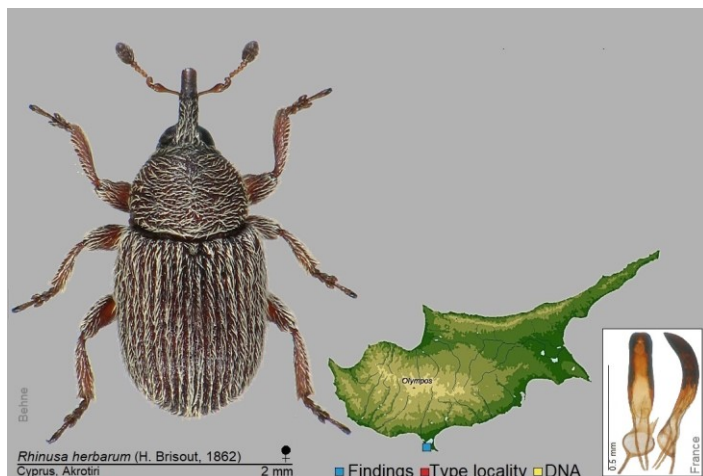


Distribution. Middle East, Asia.

Host plants. Scrophulariaceae (*Scrophularia* spp.), monophagous.

Note. *Rhinusa algerica* and *Rhinusa emmrichi* - actually two different and sympatric species in Cyprus? See my comment under *Rhinusa algerica* and my rather critical suggestion under *Rhinusa brondellii*. Caldara (2014) provisionally distinguished the two species morphologically as follows (see also photo): *R. algerica*: 'Scales covering elytral interstriae slightly broader, mostly recumbent, the subrecumbent ones directed backward'; *R. emmrichi*: 'Scales covering elytral interstriae slightly finer, subrecumbent to suberect, directed outward.'

■ ***Rhinusa herbarum* (H. Brisout de Barneville, 1862)**

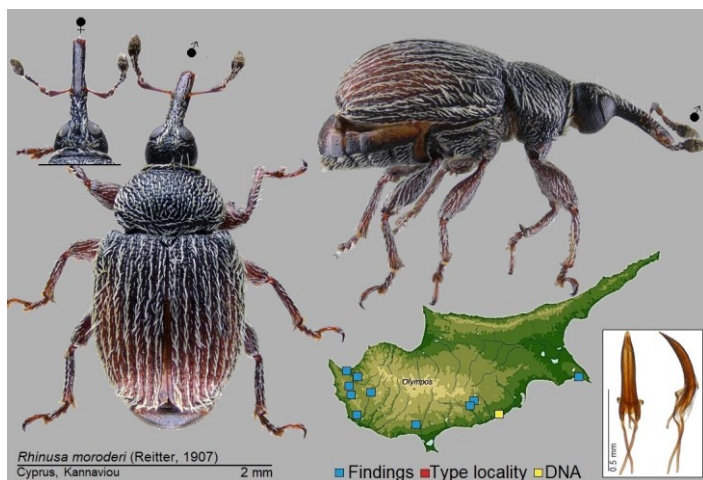


Distribution. Central Europe, Mediterranean.

Host plants. Plantaginaceae (*Kickxia* spp., *Linaria* spp.), oligophagous.

Note. Length: 1.8-2.8 mm. Legs and antennae reddish brown. Upper side dark brown to pitch brown, densely covered with white-grey or yellowish hairs. On the elytra, the underlying hairs are irregular, but the protruding hairs are clearly arranged in rows. Sides of the pronotum strongly and evenly rounded; front femur without teeth in both sexes.

■ ***Rhinusa moroderi* (Reitter, 1907)**



Distribution. Balkans, Mediterranean

Host plants. Scrophulariaceae (*Verbascum sinuatum*).

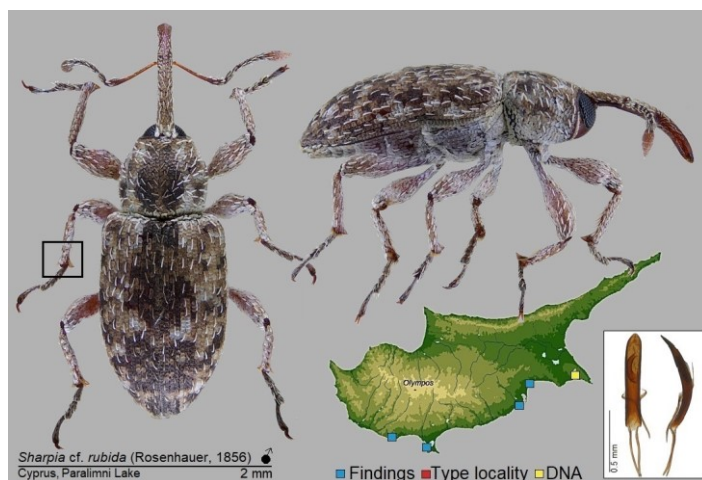
Note. This species belongs to the *R. tetra* group (Caldara et al. 2010), alongside the well-known species *R. asellus* (Gravenhorst, 1807) and *R. tetra* (Fabricius, 1792). While the rostrum of females remains the same width from the antennal insertion - when viewed dorsally and laterally - in the very small species *R. moroderi* (body size 1.6–2.7 mm), this section of the rostrum tapers in the significantly larger species *R. tetra* (body size 2.0–5.5 mm) (cf. key in Caldara 2014).

■ ***Sharpia* cf. *rubida* (Rosenhauer, 1856)**

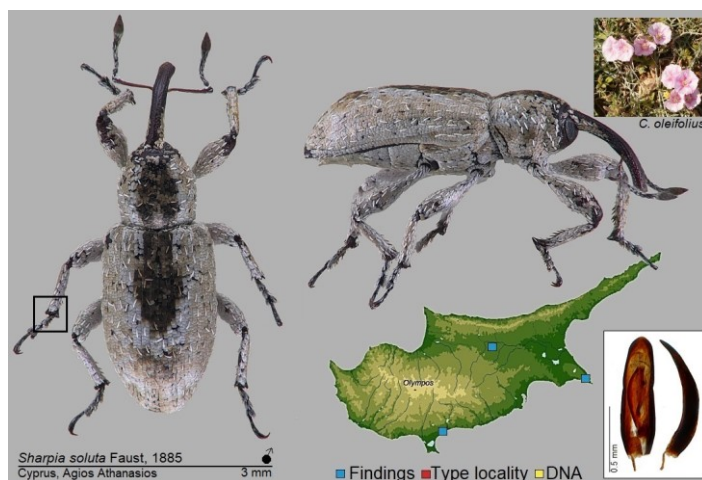
Distribution. Circummediterranean, Middle East.

Host plants. Convolvulaceae: *Cressa cretica*.

Note. This species follows its host plant *Cressa cretica* in salt marshes and salt meadows in coastal areas on Cyprus. *Sharpia* cf. *rubida* differs morphologically from *Sharpia soluta* Faust, 1885 by the black setae at apex of tibia in contrast to the yellow setae of *S. rubida*. Furthermore, the host plant of *S. soluta* is *Convolvulus oleifolius* in Cyprus. However, male specimens of *S. rubida* from Cyprus differ significantly in their endophallus, the internal sac structure of the aedeagus, from specimens depicted by Friedman in 2017 (Fig. 16) from Israel: There, the inner sac structure of *S. rubida* is depicted as a serpentine line, whereas the inner sac structure of this species in Cyprus corresponds to a sickle (as in Friedman in Fig. 18 = *S. soluta*). If there is no confusion between the illustrations here, this seems very remarkable to me: Not only is *S. rubida* described as extremely variable in body colouration and colour patterns (see also Friedman 2017), but the locus typicus of *S. rubida* is located far away in Cartagena (Spain). Only a direct comparison with the type material or further specimens from the locus typicus on the Iberian Peninsula should provide clarification here. I already have molecular data of this species from Cyprus!



■ ***Sharpia soluta* Faust, 1885**



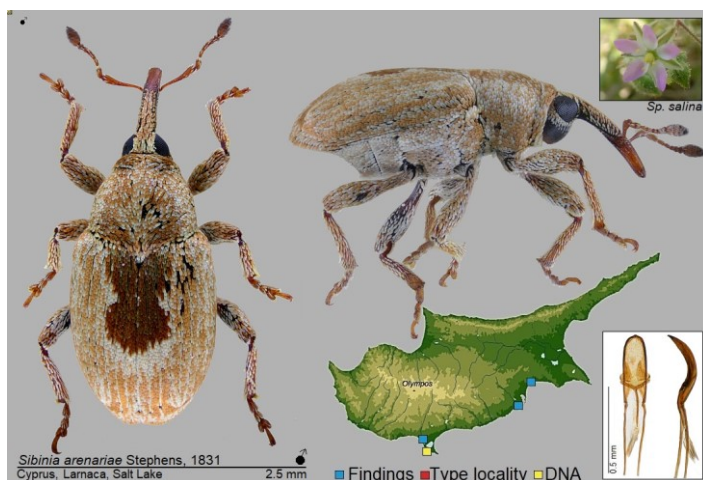
Distribution. Südosteuropa, Middle East, Asia.

Host plants. *Convolvulus dorycnium* (Israel), *C. oleifolius* (Cyprus).

Note. For morphological species differentiation with *S. rubida*, see there. This species also occurs in Israel at *Convolvulus dorycnium* (Friedman 2017). Molecular data from Cyprus are missing.



■ *Sibinia arenariae* Stephens, 1831



Distribution. Western Palaearctic region.

Host plants. Caryophyllaceae (*Spergula* spp., *Spergularia* spp.), oligophagous.

Note. I collected the species from *Spergularia salina* in April at Akrotiri in Cyprus, and 'temporarily' after the host plant had dried up at the salt lakes near Larnaca from *Limbarda crithmoides* (Asteraceae) in November.

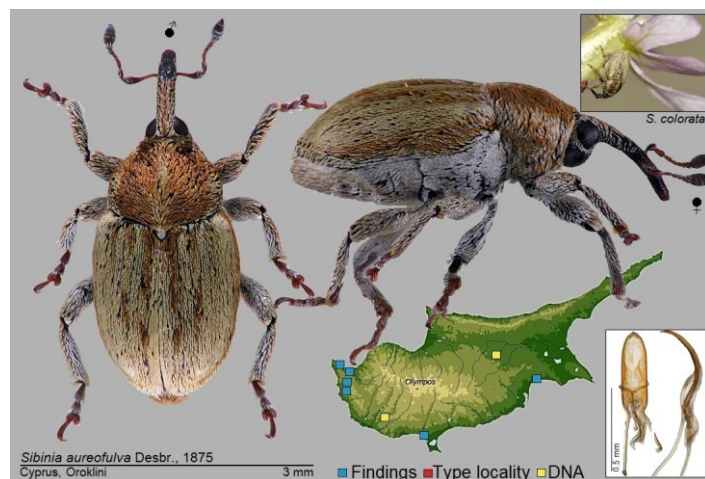
■ *Sibinia aureofulva* Desbrochers des Loges, 1875 / *S. attalica* Gyllenhal, 1836

Distribution. Mediterranean.

Host plants. Caryophyllaceae (*Silene* spp.) oligophagous.

Note. The species *S. aureofulva*, *S. attalica* and *S. femoralis* cannot be clearly separated either morphologically or molecularly. Caldara (1983/84) gives the following very limited differential diagnosis for *S. attalica* and *S. aureofulva*: 'Rostrum of female nearly straight especial in distal half (*S. attalica*)' vs. 'Rostrum of female strongly curved as in *S. femoralis* (*S. aureofulva*)'. However, based on this differential diag-

nosis, I was unable to separate the species – even in both sexes – in Cyprus. Furthermore, given the very small p-distances of the mtCO1 subgene, no clear clade formation can be discerned among the species. Therefore, I inclined to the opinion that they are probably one and the same morphologically variable species, namely *Sibinia femoralis* Germar, 1823! I found the specimens on *Silene colorata*, one of the most frequently mentioned host plants of the latter.



■ *Sibinia bipunctata* Kirsch, 1871

Distribution. Southeast Europe, North Africa, Asia.

Host plants. Unknown.

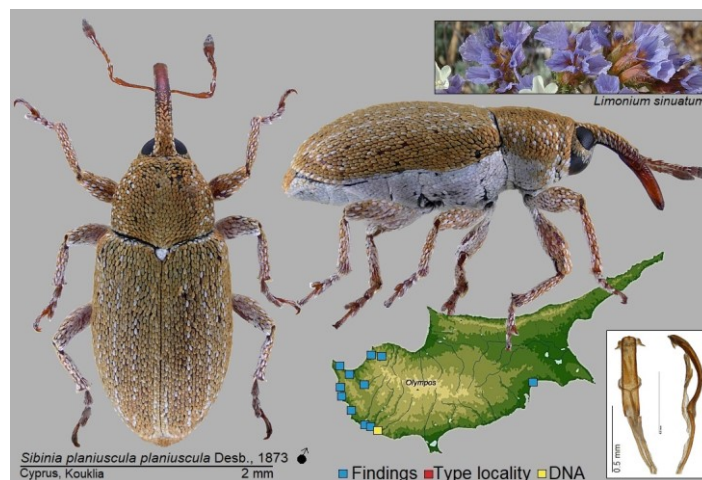
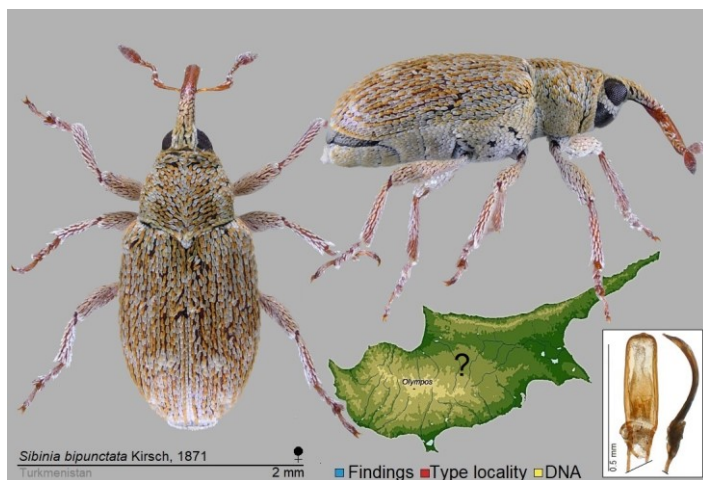
Note. A very distinctive species due to its overall elongated shape and the elytral marking with the two constant white scale spots (see also Caldara 1979). Although the species is listed in the CCPCC for Cyprus, I am not aware of any confirmed evidence of finds in Cyprus (see also Alziar 2023).



Sibinia arenariae Stephens, 1831

Cyprus, 5 km N Akrotiri, marsh, 27.4.2025, 34°37'57.65"N 32°55'9.11"E, -1 m, *Spergularia salina*, leg. Stüben (15)

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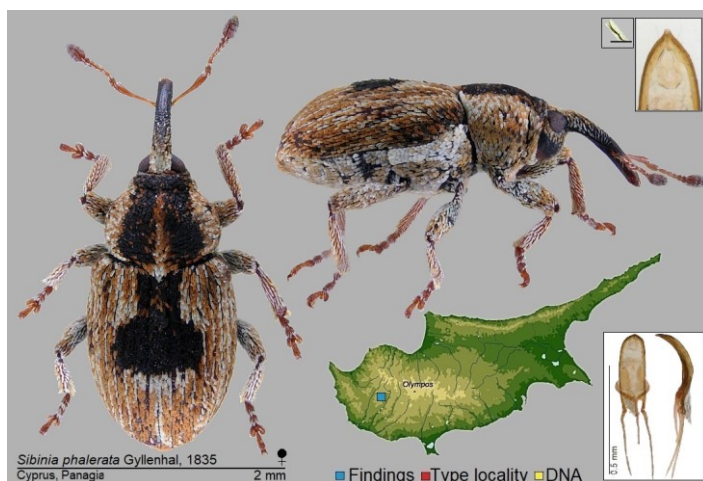


■ *Sibinia phalerata* Gyllenhal, 1835

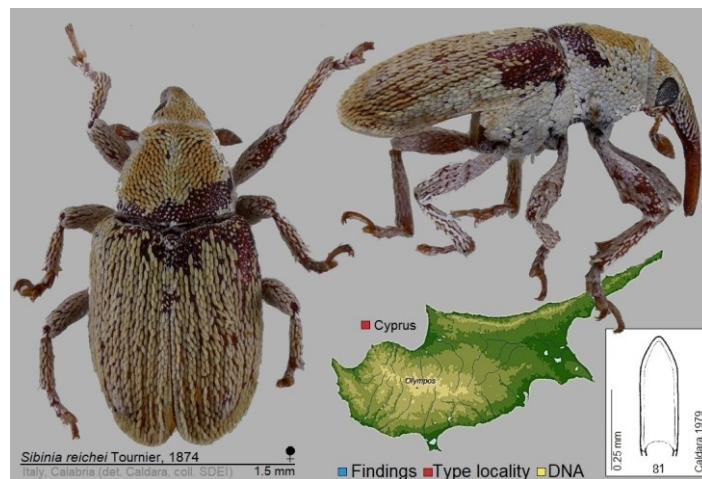
Distribution. Europe, Near East.

Host plants. Caryophyllaceae (e.g. *Arenaria*, *Silene*, *Dianthus*) oligophagous.

Note. Elytra with contrasting blackish-brown dorsal markings; pronotum with distinctly rounded sides and clearly wider than long; unlike *S. arenariae* Steph., with a black rostrum and contrasting, blackish-brown, broad stripes that converge anteriorly on the pronotum.



■ *Sibinia reichei* Tournier, 1874



Distribution. Italy, Middle East, Afrotropical Region.

Host plants. Unknown.

Note. Described from Calabria and Cyprus. A detailed description, with illustrations and a key, can be found in Caldara (1979). Apart from the information in Tournier's initial description, I am not aware of any other finds from Cyprus (see also Alziar 2023).

■ *Sibinia planiuscula planiuscula* Desbrochers des Loges, 1873

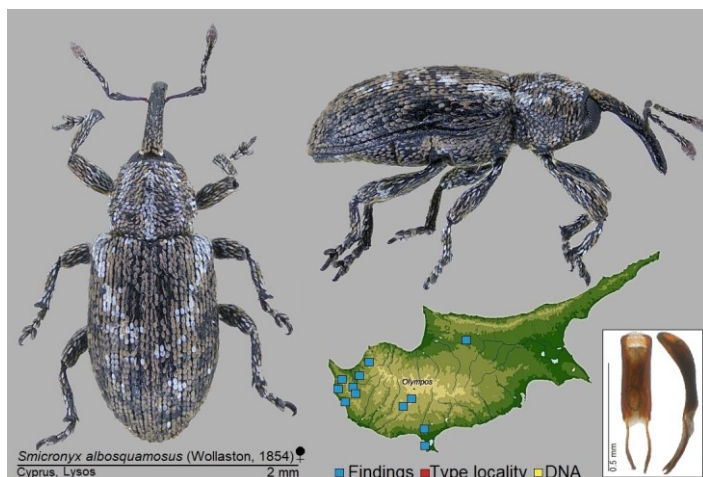
Distribution. Southern Europe, North Africa, Canary Islands, Middle East.

Host plants. Plumbaginaceae (*Limonium* spp.), monophagous.

Note. I regularly found this species in large numbers near the coast, specifically on *Limonium sinuatum*.



■ *Smicronyx albosquamosus* (Wollaston, 1854)



Distribution. Mediterranean, Macaronesia.

Host plants. Convolvulaceae (*Cuscuta* spp.), monophagous.

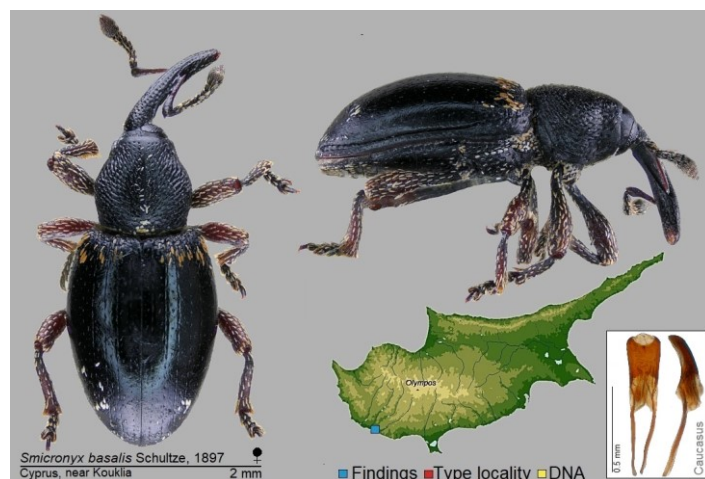
Note. This is a very common species in Cyprus, living on various parasitic silky plants of the tribe Cuscutaceae. The species differs from *S. pauperculus* in its black (not partially reddish) integument of the elytra and legs, and from the similar-looking species *S. syriacus* in the unequal length of the claws, at least on the front legs (corresponding illustrations can be found in Haran et al. 2017). Above all, however, *S. albosquamosus* is very difficult to distinguish morphologically and by its aedeagus from the sympatric *S. jungermanniae*! Haran et al. (2017) described the claws of *S. albosquamosus* as being of unequal length (whereas those of *S. jungermanniae* are of equal length). The pattern of the elytra forms a distinct 'V' in *S. albosquamosus* (see photo), and the body is significantly larger and broader than in *S. jungermanniae*. In any case, however, the mtCO1 sequence should be available to be absolutely certain.

■ *Smicronyx basalis* Schultze, 1897

Distribution. Caucasus (Georgia).

Host plants. Discovered according to the initial description in the flowers of an *Orobanch*e species.

Note. A rare, shiny blackish-blue (largely bald) species. In the SDEI collection, I was unable to detect any differences between the specimens of *S. basalis* from the Caucasus (locus typicus 'Nucha' = Şeki in Azerbaijan) and *S. fulvipes* Reiche & Saulcy, 1858 from the Middle East (Syria and Israel; locus typicus: Greece) (see also Haran et al. 2017). In view of the respective original descriptions, I also assume that *S. basalis* is a junior synonym! However, molecular analyses and barcodes of the respective taxa from the aforementioned localities are still lacking to confirm this synonymisation. But from a morphological point of view, there is plenty of evidence to support this!



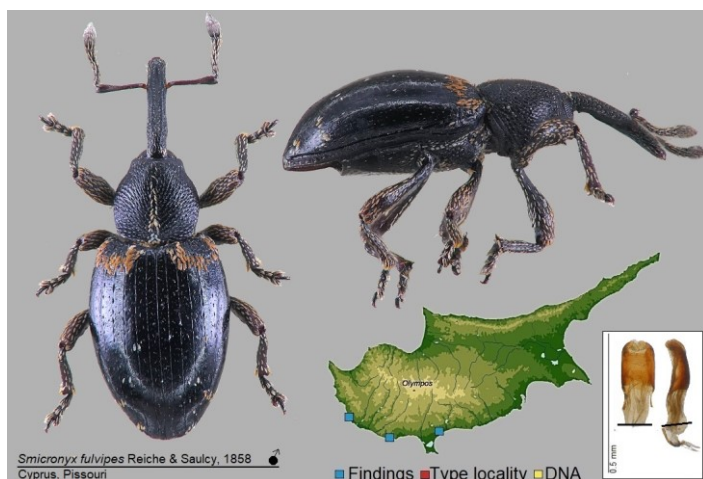
■ *Smicronyx fulvipes* Reiche & Saulcy, 1858

Distribution. Greece, Middle East.

Host plants. Adults were observed on *Orobanch*e on a cultivated Solanaceae (Tomato, Tobacco) (Haran et al. 2017).



Note. Like the very similar-looking species *Smicronyx basalis*, it belongs to the subgenus *Chalybodontus* Desbrochers des Loges, 1897, and differs from the other *Smicronyx* species in Cyprus in its shiny and smooth elytra with few other scales and its body length above 2.5 mm (Haran et al. 2017).

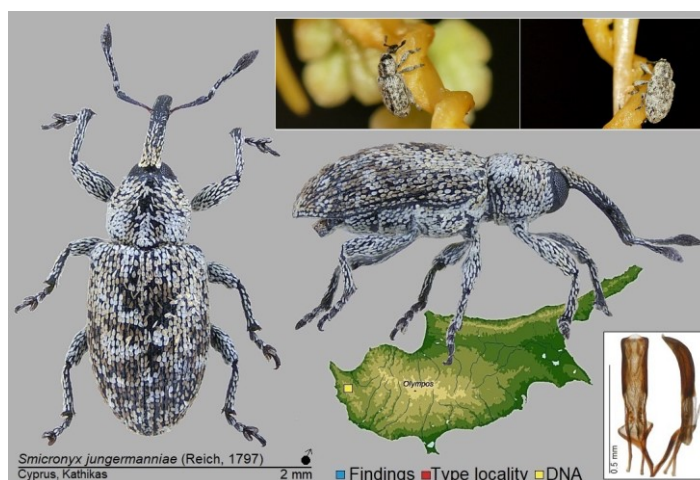


■ ***Smicronyx jungermanniae* (Reich, 1797) – new for Cyprus!**

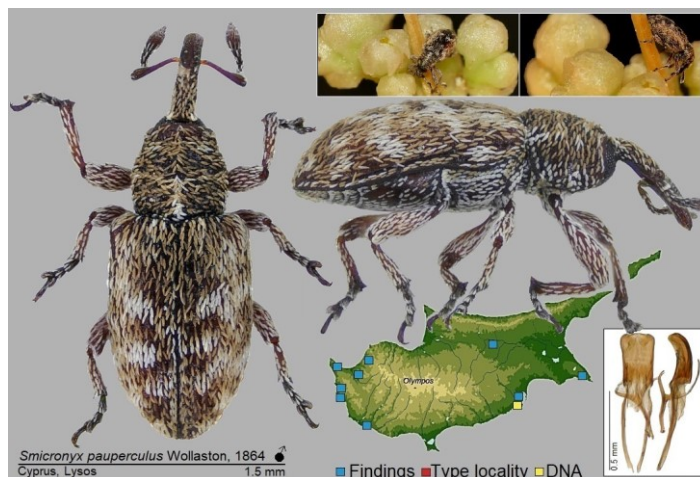
Distribution. Western Palearctic region.

Host plants. *Cuscuta* spp.

Note. So far, I have only collected it from a single location in Cyprus, on the Akamas Peninsula near Kathikas. The distinction from *S. albosquamosus* is extremely difficult from a morphological point of view and should always be supplemented by mtCO1 sequence analysis (see also my comment under *S. albosquamosus*).



■ ***Smicronyx pauperculus* Wollaston, 1864**

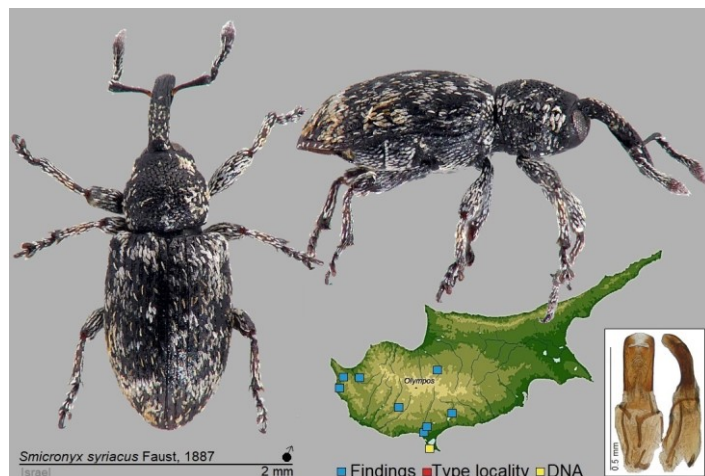


Distribution. Mediterranean, Canary Islands, Middle East.

Host plants. *Cuscuta* spp., *Cuscuta palaestina* (det. P. Sprick).

Note. Specimens from the Canary Islands (Lanzarote, Tenerife, La Palma), Israel and Cyprus do not differ in any way at the molecular level. This confirms once again our hypothesis from one of our earlier studies (Stüben et al. 2012) that *S. kiesenwetteri* Tournier, 1874 and *S. rufipennis* Tournier, 1874 must be junior synonyms of *S. pauperculus* Wollaston, 1864.

■ *Smicronyx syriacus* Faust, 1887

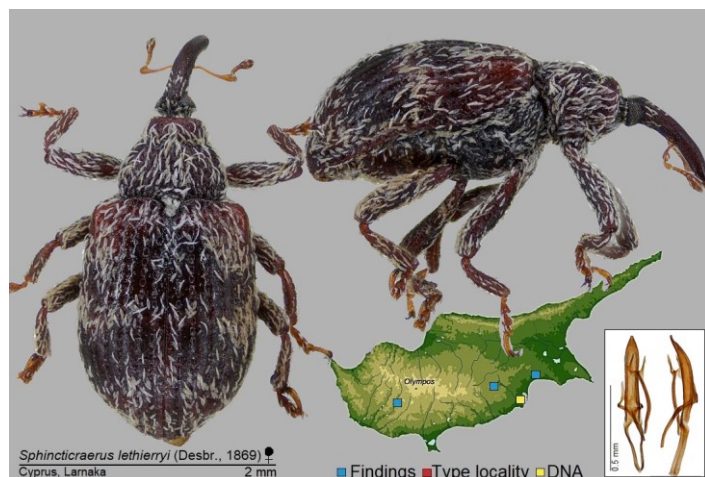


Distribution. Mediterranean, Middle East.

Host plants. *Cuscuta palaestina*.

Note. P. Sprick (in: Stüben et al. 2012) mentions *Cuscuta palaestina* for Cyprus, parasitising *Astragalus cypricus* and *Lithodora hispida*. A highly recommended key and further differential diagnoses, as well as illustrations not only of the *Smicronyx* species of Israel but also of those found in Cyprus, can be study in Haran et al. (2017).

■ *Sphinctraerus lethierryi* (Desbrochers des Loges, 1869)



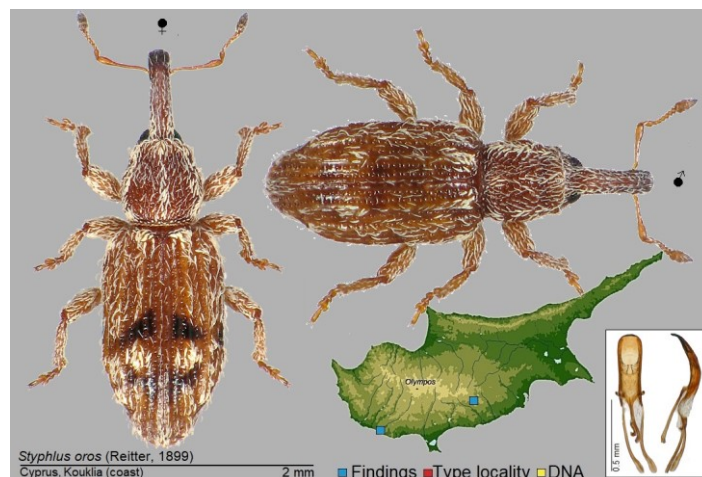
Distribution. Spain, North Africa.

Host plants. Rhamnaceae: *Zizyphus lotus*, monophagous.

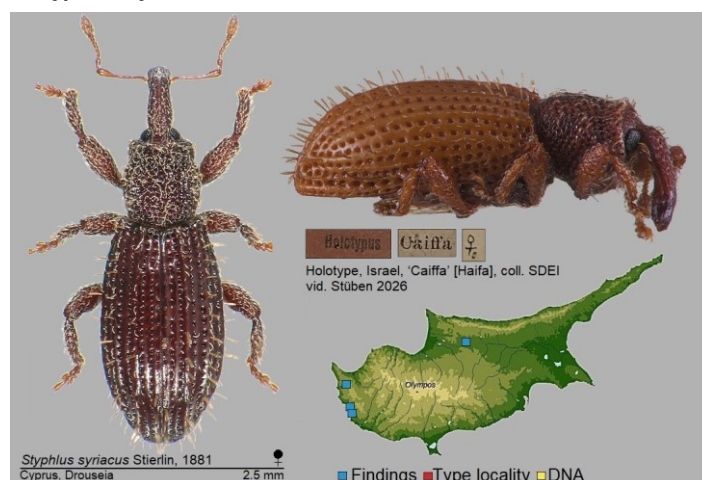
Note. The larvae develop in the flower buds of *Zizyphus lotus*, a plant of the buckthorn family that is also known as a medicinal plant (for identification of this species, see also the key in: Stüben et al. 2016).

■ *Styphlus oros* (Reitter, 1899)

Distribution. Greece, Lebanon.



■ *Styphlus syriacus* Stierlin, 1881

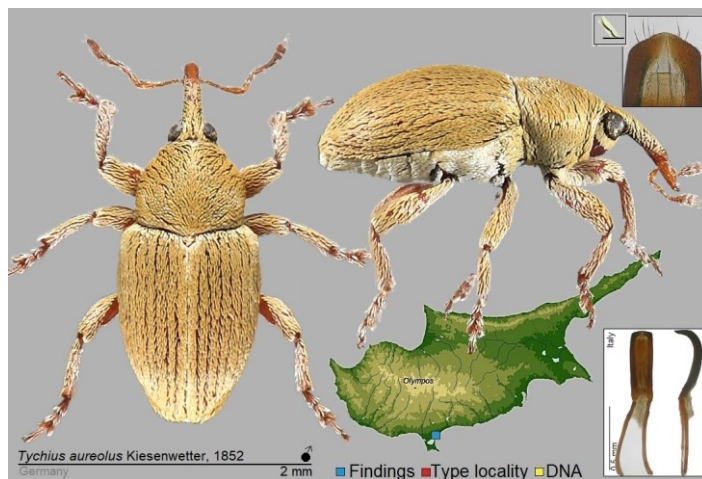


Distribution. Eastern Mediterranean.

Host plants. Unknown.

Note. The species is most likely parthenogenetic. The specimens (at least where known) were sifted with a beetle sifter from leaf litter and plant debris. Germann et al. (2013) reported that specimens of *S. syriacus* were collected at the beach from *Reichardia* cf. *picroides* (Asteraceae) on Samos Is. by night. The same author recently presented this species in detail together with *S. penicillus* Schoenherr, 1826 (Germann 2019). The holotype (Israel, 'Caiffa' [Haifa], coll. Stierlin) is held at the SDEI and is shown here.

■ *Tychius aureolus* Kiesenwetter, 1852

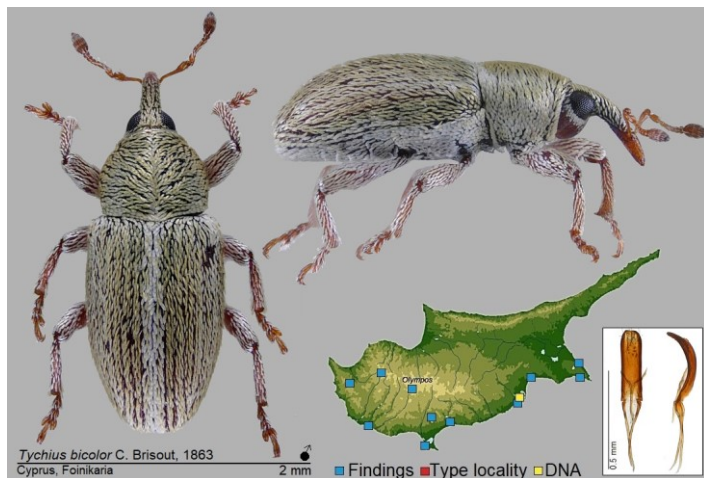


Distribution. Western Palaearctic region.

Host plants. *Medicago* spp.

Note. Alziar (2021) reports this species, which Makris collected in Zakaki (Limassol) as early as April 2007 (det. Caldara).

■ ***Tychius bicolor* C. Brisout, 1863**



Distribution. Circummediterranean, Middle East.

Host plants. *Melilotus* spp.

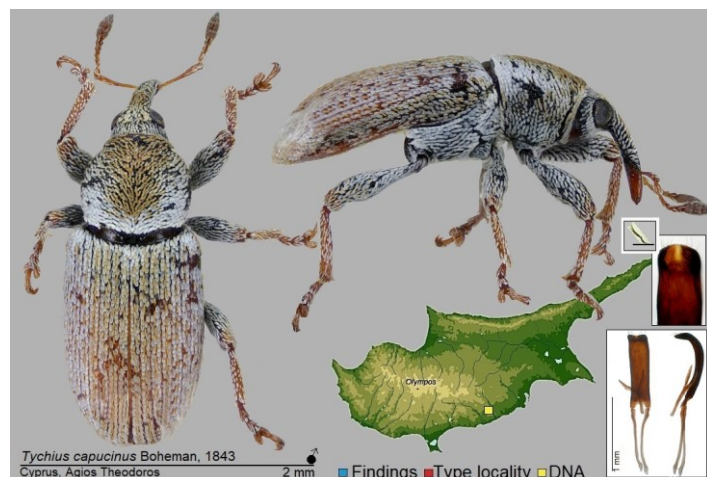
Note. To determine the species, see key in: CURCULIO Team (2010). Side note: The reference specimens from the Canary Islands (La Gomera) may belong to a similar (unknown?) species (see dendrogram and Stüben 2022).

■ ***Tychius capucinus* Boheman, 1843 – new for Cyprus!**

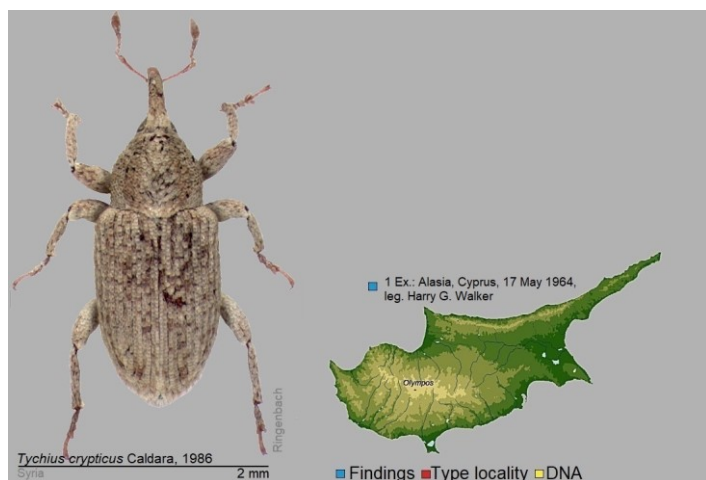
Distribution. Southern Europe, North Africa.

Host plants. Fabaceae, (*Lotus* spp.) monophagous.

Note. I beat the only male of this species, which is new to Cyprus, near Agios Theodoros in southern Cyprus from *Tamarix*; obviously in search of its host plant *Lotus* spp. (perhaps *Lotus creticus* ssp. *cytisoides*).



■ ***Tychius crypticus* Caldara, 1986**



Distribution. Egypt, Near East.

Host plants. Fabaceae (*Alhagi*; the half-dozen species of this genus



Tychius bicolor
on *Melilotus* near Larnaca

© P. E. Stüben/CURCI

are distributed from Central Asia to Mediterranean region of northern Africa).

Note. The type locality of this species is in Baghdad (Iraq). Another paratype bears the label: 'Alasia, Cyprus, 17 May 1964, leg. Harry G. Walker' (Caldara 1986: 175). But "Alasia" is an outdated historical name for Cyprus and does not refer to any specific location on this island. I am not aware of any sites in Cyprus.

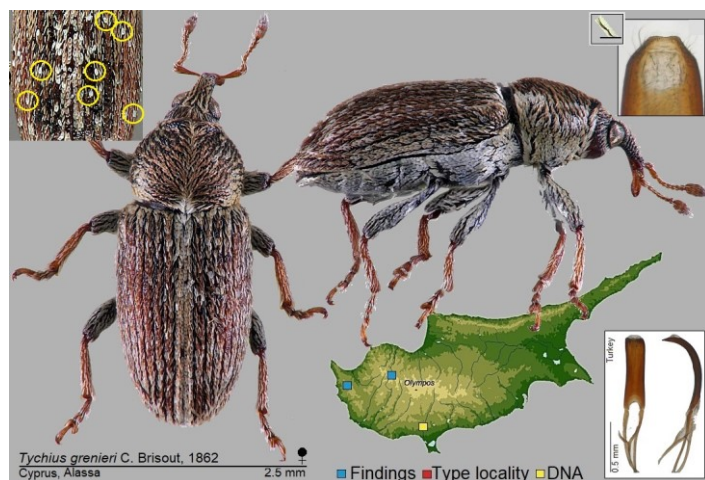
■ ***Tychius cupricolor* Penecke, 1936 – (without illustrations)**

Distribution. Greece, Middle East.

Host plants. Unknown.

Note. The small species, measuring 1.75–1.9 mm, was described on the basis of several specimens from Anatolia (Lycian Taurus) and one specimen from Greece (Thessaly). In his revision of the genus *Tychius*, R. Caldara (1990) compared this species with the closely related species *Tychius dispar* Tournier, 1973 (pronotum greyish, without metallic-reflective scales), and named Akrotiri where *T. cupricolor* was found in Cyprus.

■ ***Tychius grenieri* C. Brisout de Barneville, 1862**

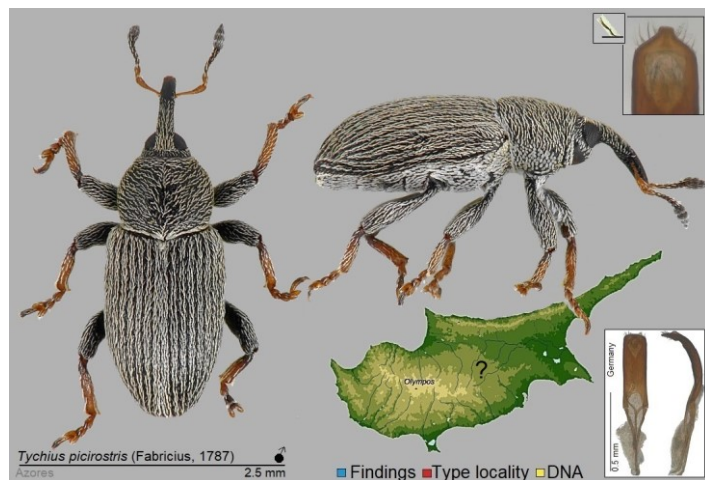


Distribution. Mediterranean region, Middle East.

Host plants. Fabaceae (*Astragalus* spp.) monophagous.

Note. Characteristic features of this species are the few large, oval, light-coloured scales on the 1st to 8th interval, which are not arranged in rows (key in: CURCULIO Team 2010). Side note: *Tychius conspersus* Rosenhauer, 1856, as I have come to know it on the Canary Island of Fuerteventura (Stüben 2022: 381), is likely a junior synonym of *T. grenieri* (see also the molecular dendrogram; Fig. 2).

■ ***Tychius picirostris* (Fabricius, 1787)**

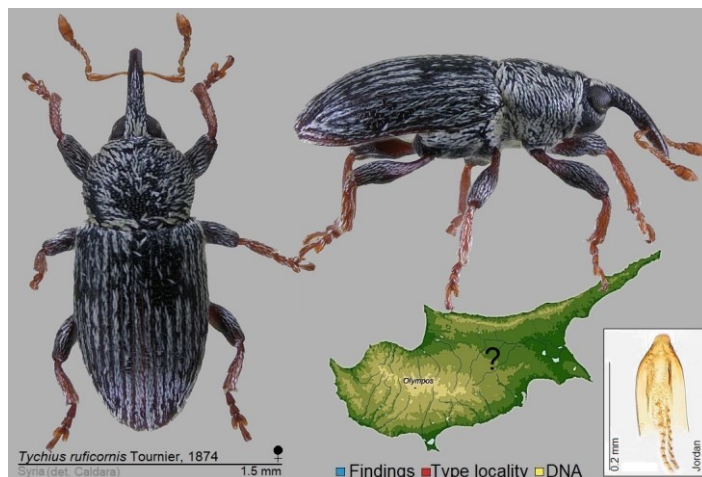


Distribution. Europe, Asia, Nearctic Region [Occurrence in Cyprus uncertain or exact locations unavailable].

Host plants. Fabaceae (*Trifolium* spp.), monophagous.

Note. Neither Alziar (2023) nor I had any specimens of this species or exact location data from Cyprus; however, the species is listed for Cyprus in the CCPCC

■ ***Tychius ruficornis* Tournier, 1874**

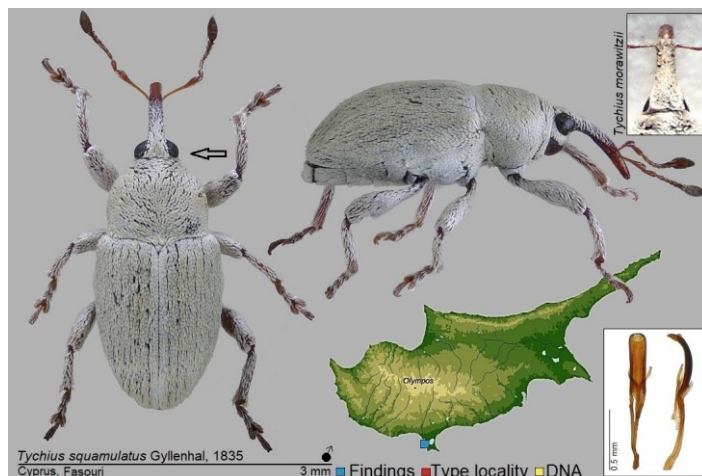


Distribution. Southeast Europe, Middle East [Occurrence in Cyprus uncertain or exact locations unavailable].

Host plants. Unknown.

Note. either Alziar (2023) nor the author had any specimens of this species or exact location data from Cyprus.

■ ***Tychius squamulatus* Gyllenhal, 1835**



Distribution. Western Palaearctic region.

Host plants. Fabaceae (*Lotus corniculatus*), monophagous.

Note. G. Alziar (2023) also reports *Tychius morawitzii* Becker, 1864 from Cyprus. In fact, this densely white-scaled species can easily be confused with *T. squamulatus* based on the external vestiture. However, the eyes are close to the head and do not protrude nearly as much from the head curvature as in *T. squamulatus* (see photos and for species identification see: CURCULIO Team 2010).

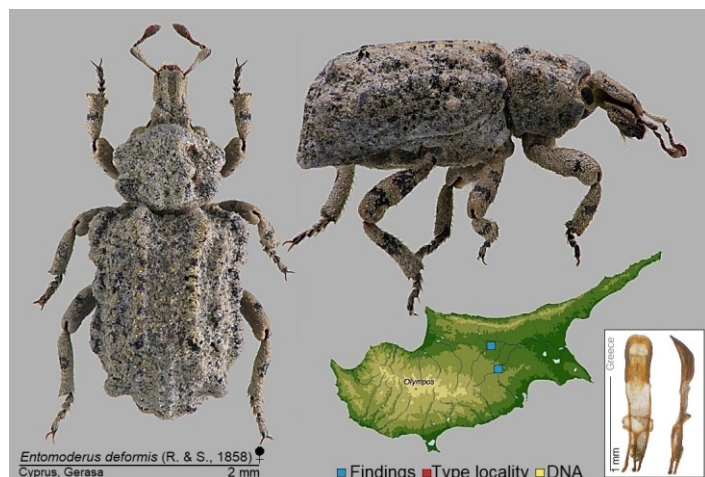
CURCULIONIDAE: Cyclominae

■ ***Entomoderus deformis* (Reiche & Saulcy, 1858)**

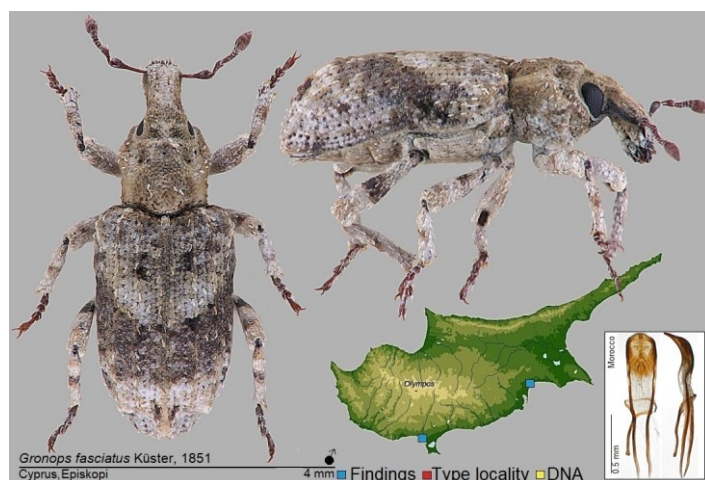
Distribution. South and Southeast Mediterranean region.

Host plants. Unknown.

Note. Two syntypes (from Greece) were used for identification at the Senckenberg German Entomological Institute. An apparently common species on Samos (leg. Germann) and the islands of the Cyclades; unfortunately, only a few molecular barcodes of the numerous species of this hotchpotch genus *Entomoderus* Raffray, 1873 are available to date (only from two Canary Islands) to carry out a comprehensive integrative taxonomic revision with any promise of success.



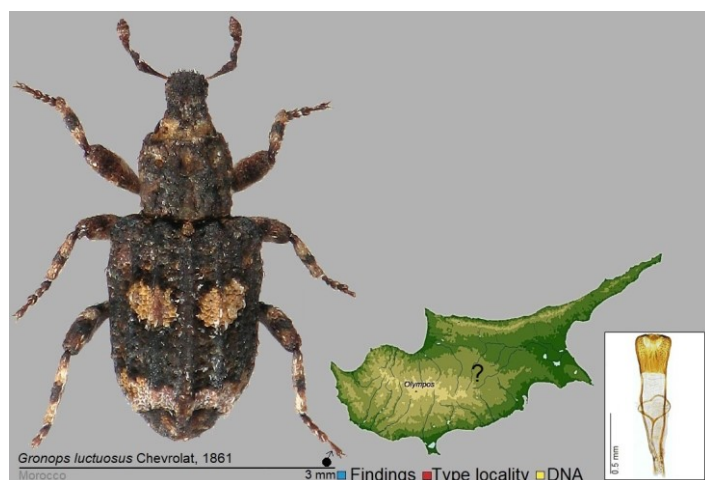
■ *Gronops fasciatus* Küster, 1851



Distribution. Iberian Peninsula, North Africa.

Host plants. Unknown.

■ *Gronops luctuosus* Chevrolat, 1861



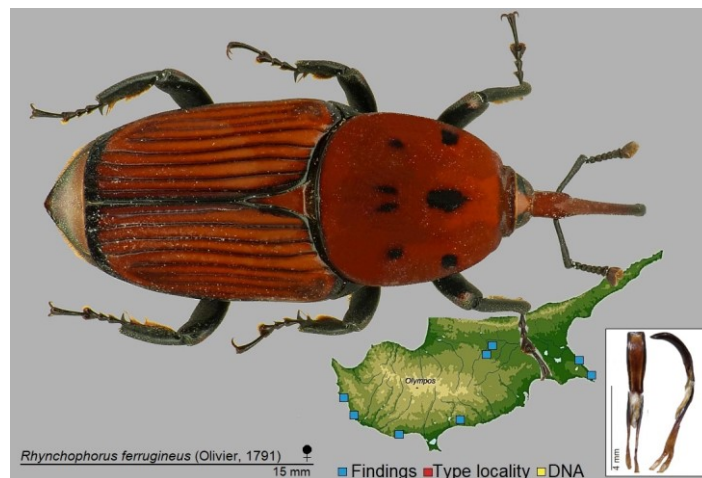
Distribution. Iberian Peninsula, Canary Islands, North Africa.

Host plants. Unknown.

Note. Apparently, Alziar (2023) also reports that its occurrence in Cyprus is uncertain, which is very likely to be the case given its known distribution in the western Mediterranean region. I present the species based on a specimen collected by L. Behne and myself in Morocco.

CURCULIONIDAE: Dryophthorinae

■ *Rhynchophorus ferrugineus* (Olivier, 1791)

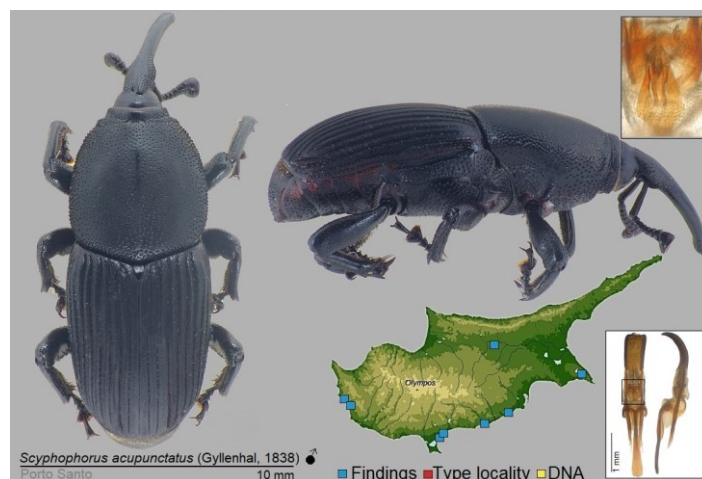


Distribution. Originally from Southeast Asia, this species spread via the Middle East and North Africa to the Canary Islands, and then to southern Europe and practically all Mediterranean islands with the importation of palm trees.

Host plants. Palm trees (Arecaceae).

Note. This invasive species has also appeared in Cyprus as a palm pest. The juvenile stages of the palm weevil are bound to palm trees. Infestation is not visible externally in the early stages. Once symptoms become apparent, the tree is usually already beyond saving. At the end of an infestation, the fronds die off and the completely depleted and destroyed growth cone can no longer produce new leaves.

■ *Scyphophorus acupunctatus* (Gyllenhal, 1838)



Distribution. *S. acupunctatus* originates from Central and North America, but it has been introduced to many other parts of the world (mainly arid and tropical regions), probably with the introduction of *Agave sisalana* for the production of sisal fibres.

Host plants. Agavaceae and Dracaenaceae (*Agave* spp., *Dracaena* sp., *Yucca* sp., *Furcraea* sp.), oligophagous.

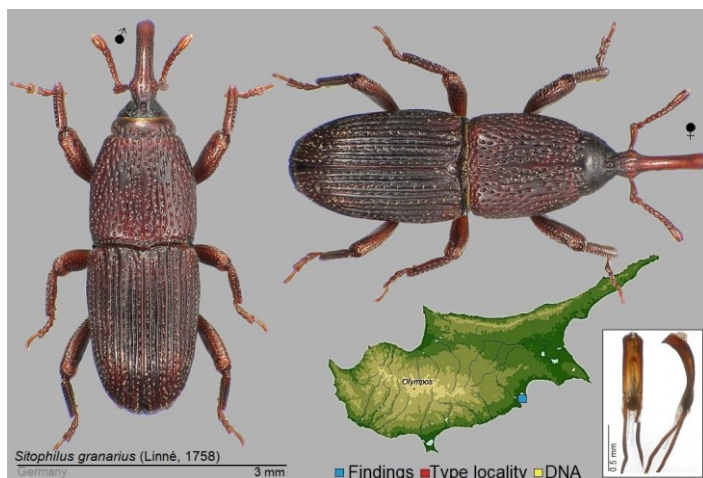
Note. We already reported in 2022 on the devastating consequences of the agave weevil on the Madeiran island of Porto Santo and the great danger that the dragon tree (*Dracaena draco*) could also be affected on the Macaronesian islands (Andrade 2022). It is interesting to note that the pest reached the Netherlands as early as 1980 and reached Germany 11 years later, probably via imported yucca palms (Rowold & Sprick 2023). Vassiliou & Kitsis (2015) also detected the beetle known as the sisal weevil, in addition to the red palm weevil (*Rhynchophorus ferrugineus*), both in pitfall and funnel traps in Cyprus in 2013.



Sitophilus kakourisi
Larvae, pupae, and immature specimens
inside acorns (*Quercus*); Pano Panagia.

© P. E. Stübgen/CURCI

■ *Sitophilus granarius* (Linné, 1758)



Distribution. The grain beetle is found today worldwide (cosmopolitan).

Host plants. Cereal types.

Note. The beetles develop from eggs into fully-grown insects inside a grain of cereal. This often results in significant crop losses, as grain beetles infest various types of cereal, including rye, wheat, barley, spelt, milo, maize, oats, malt and even rice.

■ *Sitophilus kakourisi* Alziar & Colonnelli, 2009

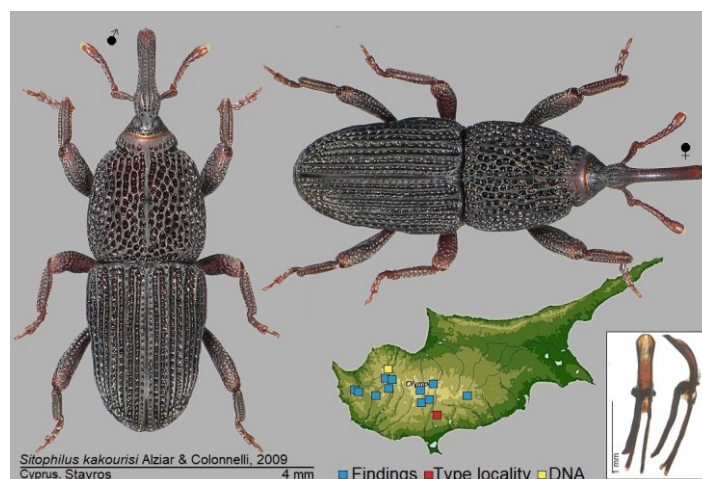
Distribution. Not endemic to Cyprus, as originally assumed; Israel.

Host plants. *Quercus* spp. (*Quercus alnifolia*), developing in the acorns.

Note. *Sitophilus kakourisi*, a younger synonym of *Sitophilus sculpturatus* Gyllenhal, 1838?

The species occurs mainly in the central highlands as a parasite in acorns and can be sifted out of the detritus in hundreds of specimens under any *Quercus* tree! This regular mass occurrence, which strangely enough has not been observed by entomologists in the last century, has long fuelled my suspicion: Is *Sitophilus kakourisi*, first described in 2009, a junior synonym of the very similar species *Sitophilus sculpturatus* Gyllenhal, 1838, which was introduced to Cyprus from South

Africa in the first half of the last century with fruits of the Myrtaceae *Syzygium cumini*? (Moris 1937, Georgiou 1977). Some of these specimens are still available in the collection of the Department of Agriculture (Nicosia) (det. G.A.K. Marshall, with the note (label) that these specimens were introduced with tropical fruits from South Africa). On the one hand, this species also appears to have an elongate punctation on the pronotum (see illustration there). On the other hand, in one and the same population of *Sitophilus kakourisi* there are specimens with a predominantly clearly isolated punctation on the pronotum! However, unlike in the case of *S. kakourisi*, we still lack the CO1 barcodes from the species introduced from Africa or/and other comparable species in order to conclusively clarify the question. However, there is much to suggest that the now ubiquitous and common Rhynchophorinae *S. kakourisi* is most likely not endemic to Cyprus, considering that it was not discovered or recorded by any collector in the last century.

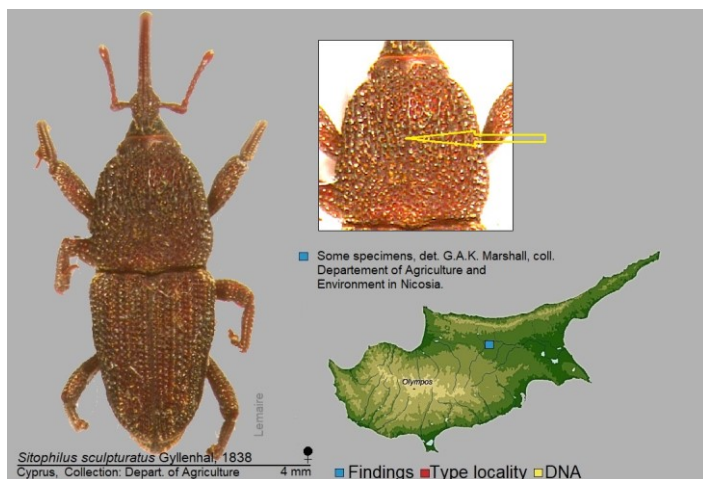


■ *Sitophilus sculpturatus* Gyllenhal, 1838

Distribution. Afrotropical Region, Oriental Region

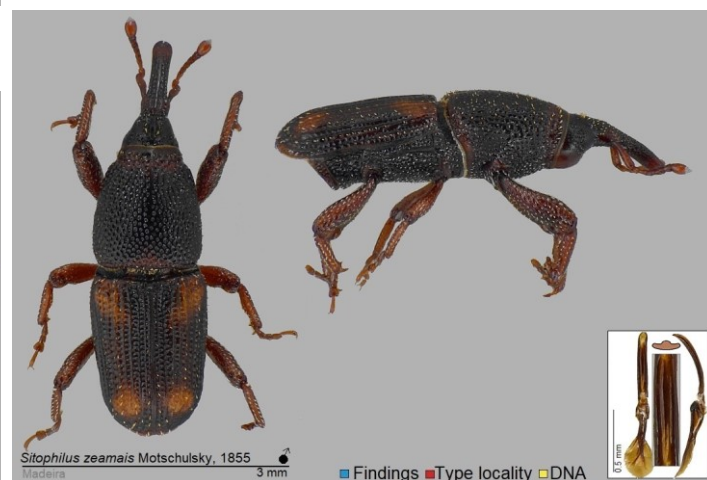
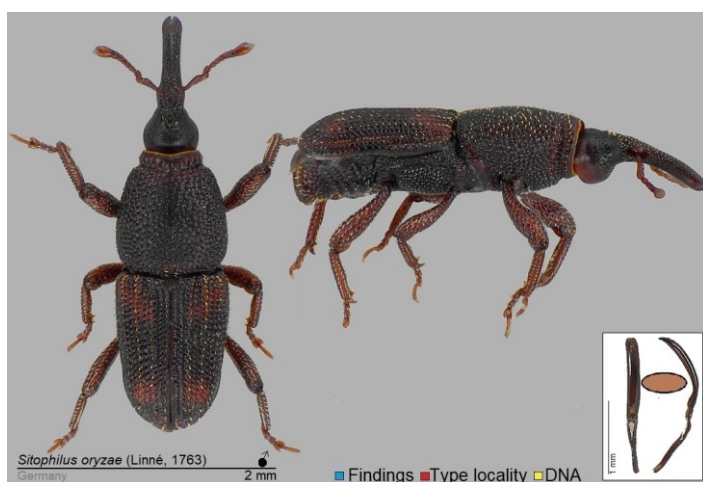
Host plants. Probably introduced to Cyprus from South Africa in the first half of the last century with fruits of the Myrtaceae *Syzygium cumini* (Moris 1937, Georgiou 1977).

Note. See my comment on *Sitophilus kakourisi*.

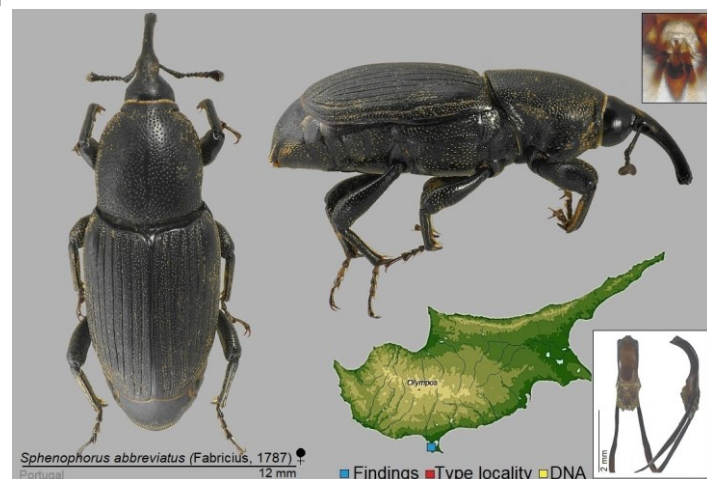


In all cases, a clear identification must start with the male genitalia! The aedeagus of *S. zeamais* has 2 dorsal longitudinal grooves with a central keel separating them, which is completely missing in *S. oryzae* (see photos). Only thereafter should females from the respective sites be assigned, which in the case of *S. zeamais* may have the following characteristics, but these are not always clearly discernible: 1. punctures of pronotum approximately round (versus *S. oryzae*: punctures elliptical, often coalescing to form extended linear cavities), 2. unpunctured, smooth middle zone (versus *S. oryzae*: often with punctured middle line). In his comparative study, Boudreaux (1969) gives further differences in characteristics, but these are much less meaningful. In no way do determinations seem certain which exclusively assume that the two species can be separated by size (FHL (1983): *S. oryzae* 2.3-3 mm / *S. zeamais* 3 - 3.5mm). I have certainly measured males of *S. oryzae* that were over 3.8 mm in size and I have seen males of *S. zeamais* that were under 3 mm in body size. In the case of *Sitophilus* species developing inside different grains - such as rice, wheat and maize - this is nothing unusual and is to be expected! See the further commentary under *S. oryzae*

■ *Sitophilus oryzae* (Linné, 1763)



■ *Sphenophorus abbreviatus* (Fabricius, 1787)



Distribution. Southern and southeastern Europe, Asia.

Host plants. Poaceae (*Cynodon*, *Dactylis*, *Lolium*, *Poa*), oligophagous.

Note. I am referring here to a single specimen from Akrotiri, which was collected by K. Dörfer, identified by Behne, and is now in Sprick's collection. This species, which has probably been introduced on many occasions (it even occurs in the Azores), lives on grasses.

Distribution. Worldwide (cosmopolitan). – I have neither searched for this species in Cyprus nor researched it in the literature, but I am certain – like Alziar (2023) and other authors – that, as almost everywhere in the Mediterranean region, the species is a synanthropic species that infests grain stores, silos, mills and storerooms.

Host plants. *S. oryzae* develops mainly in rice and other cereals.

Note. See first my comments under *S. zeamais*; continued: ... The comprehensive morphological and molecular study by Hidayat et al. came to a similar conclusion in 1996: 'Determinations of specimens as either *S. oryzae* or *S. zeamais* using morphological characters were not consistent for any of the populations studied. Of the 504 specimens examined, 31% were determined to be *S. oryzae* based on male genitalia or female Y-shaped sclerite; but use of pronotal puncture shape, presence or absence of a pronotal puncture-free zone, and the number of punctures counted along the midline of the pronotum determined 16, 40, and 58%, respectively, of the same group as *S. oryzae*. Thus, in many cases the same specimen could be determined as either *S. oryzae* with one character or *S. zeamais* using another character.' [Hidayat et al. 1996: 648]. But the authors also make it clear: 'Our results show that *S. oryzae* and *S. zeamais* exist as genetically distinct species. Specimens can be identified using genitalic characters, and these species are reproductively isolated when they occur sympatrically'. [Hidayat et al. 1996: 650] In any case, ensure that DNA samples are taken in future collections (especially the mitochondrial CO1 barcode gene segment)!

■ *Sitophilus zeamais* Motschulsky, 1855

Distribution. Worldwide (cosmopolitan).

Host plants. *S. zeamais* develops in stored maize grains and other grains.

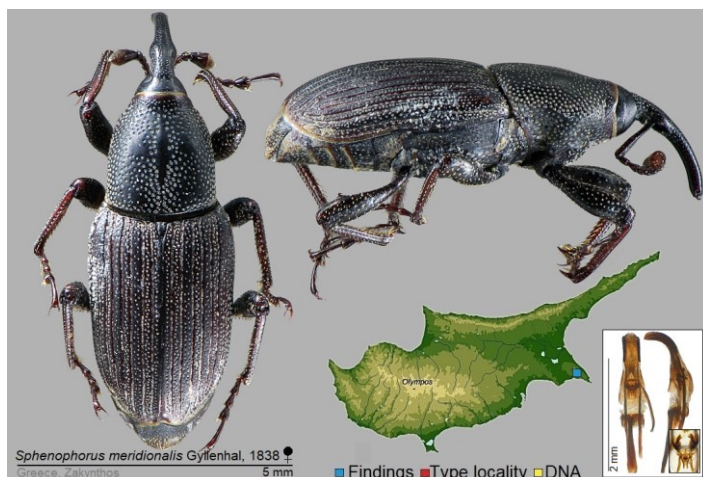
Note. I have omitted map entries for the two *Sitophilus* species, *S. zeamais* and *S. oryzae*, as it remains unclear in faunistic studies which characteristics were used to identify these species, which are very difficult to distinguish morphologically.

■ *Sphenophorus meridionalis* Gyllenhal, 1838

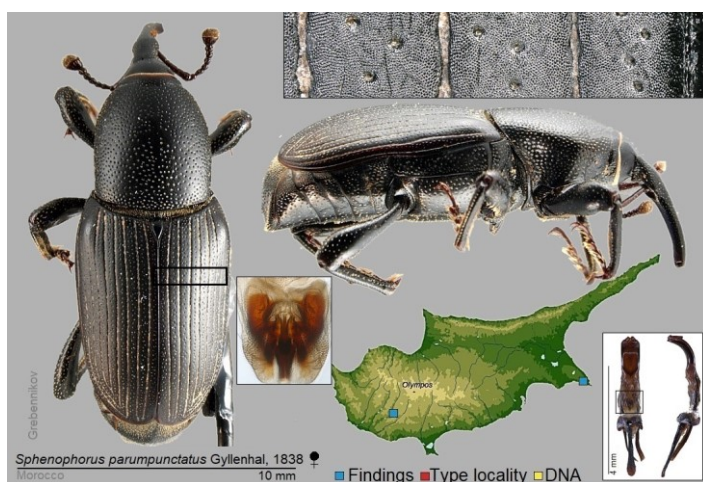
Distribution. Western Mediterranean area, Canary Islands.

Host plants. Unknown.

Note. This species, which is mainly distributed in the western Mediterranean (incl. Macaronesia, Stüben 2022) and reported by Alziar (2023), was also not available to me from Cyprus.



■ *Sphenophorus parumpunctatus* Gyllenhal, 1838

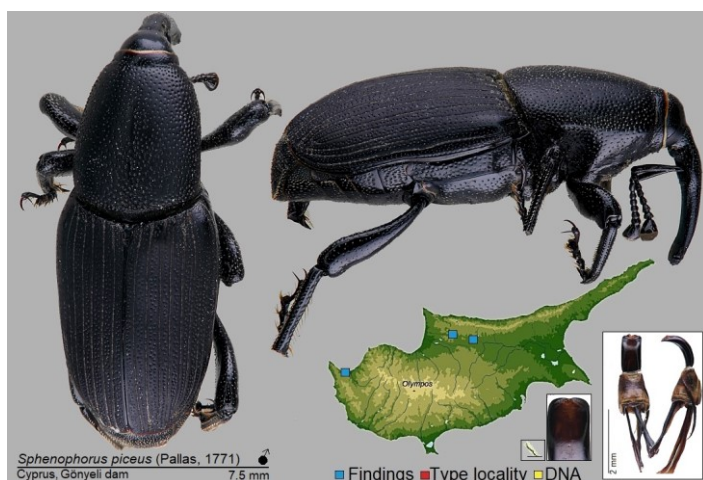


Distribution. Mediterranean.

Host plants. Cyperaceae (*Schoenoplectus* (= *Scirpus*) *tabernaemontani*), monophagous.

Note. I did not have any specimens of this species from Cyprus either. The report refers to a single specimen found at Kedares by Novy, which was identified by R. Jacob and is now in his collection (in lit.). For morphological and molecular differences to *S. piceus*, see there.

■ *Sphenophorus piceus* (Pallas, 1771)



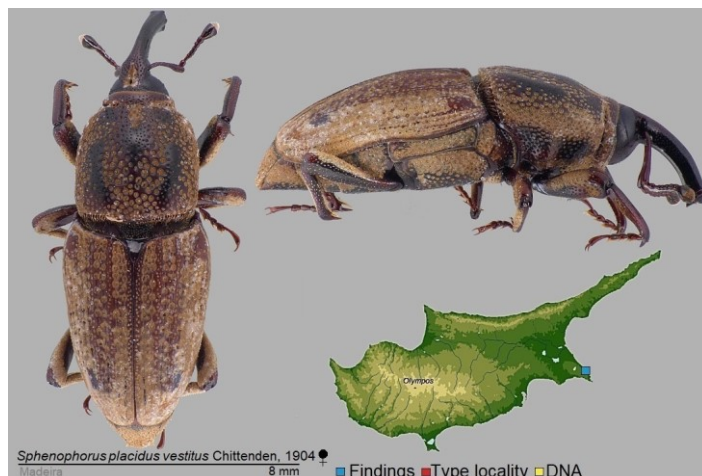
Distribution. Europe.

Host plants. On grasslike plants, polyphagous.

Note. This species is indeed difficult to distinguish morphologically from *Sphenophorus parumpunctatus*, but like the latter, it does not have any

microscopic grey hairs on the apex of the elytra. The rostrum of *S. piceus* is also much longer, longer than the head and pronotum combined, and the triangular scutellum is broad (much narrower in *S. parumpunctatus*). Molecularly, however, the differences between the two sister taxa (here *S. piceus* from Croatia vs. *S. parumpunctatus* from Morocco) appear to be significant: the p-distance for the mtCO1 fragment is approximately 14% (own analysis)!

■ *Sphenophorus placidus vestitus* Chittenden, 1904

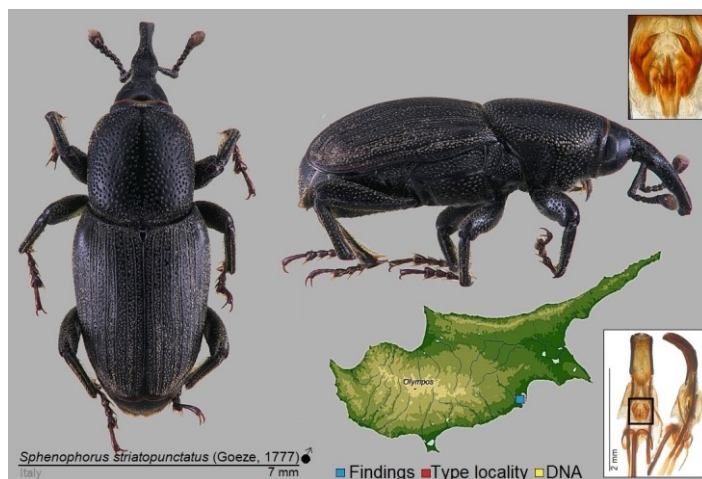


Distribution. Introduced: Mediterranean region, Madeira, Asia; Nearctic Region.

Host plants. Unknown (on Cyprus).

Note. There are only a single report of this subspecies near Protaras (Paralimni); coll. Makris, det. Makris & Kakiopoulos. On the somewhat tricky, but also controversial, distinction of the two subspecies (there are altogether 5 subspecies of *S. placidus/venatus*) see also Vaurie (1951). Type locality of the subspecies *S. placidus vestitus* is Sebastian River (USA, Florida).

■ *Sphenophorus striatopunctatus* (Goeze, 1777)

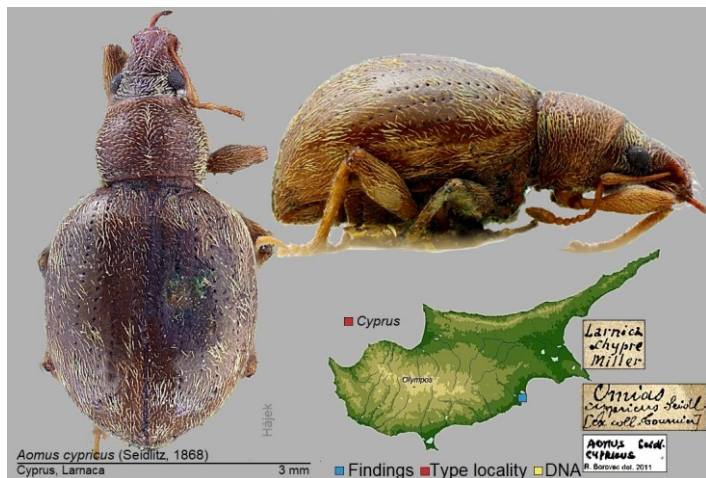


Distribution. Southern and Central Europe.

Host plants. Poaceae und Cyperaceae (*Scirpus* sp.); the species also appears to utilise cereals.

Note. I had three specimens from the Larnaca District near Dromolaxia (salt marsh near Hala Sultan Tekke), collected by Geiser, Aristophanous & Bures of the BMNH (London). This species is easily distinguished from the previous *Sphenophorus* species: it has tiny, light-colored scales in the numerous and much more densely positioned punctures on the broad elytral intervals. For the biology of this species, see Szalay-Marzso (1958).

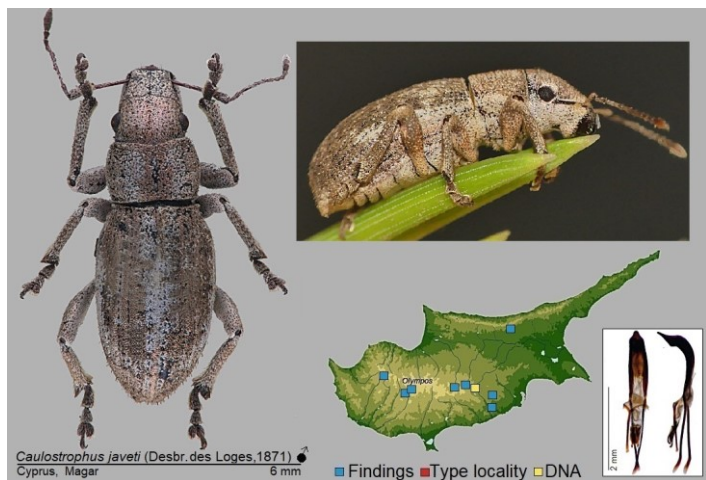
CURCULIONIDAE: Entiminae

■ *Aomus cypricus* (Seidlitz, 1868)

Distribution. Endemic to Cyprus.

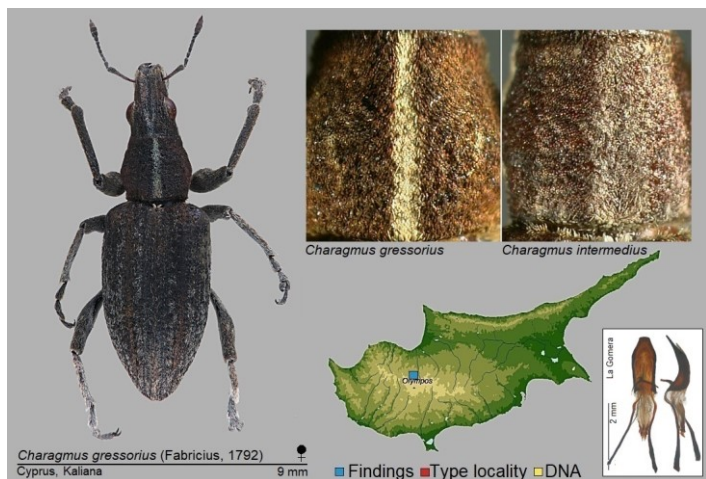
Host plants. Unknown.

Note. Described by Seidlitz as a type of the genus *Omiias*, transferred to the genus *Omiamima* by Alziar (1995) and finally placed in the genus *Aomus* by Borovec in 2006, based on a single specimen from Larnaca, Cyprus, from the Formánek collection (National Museum, Prague), it resembles *Omiamima metallescens* (Seidlitz, 1868) from Italy and North Africa, but according to Seidlitz, it differs from this species in its smooth, closely fitting hairs (see illustrations).

■ *Caulostrophus javeti* (Desbrochers des Loges, 1871)

Distribution. Middle East.

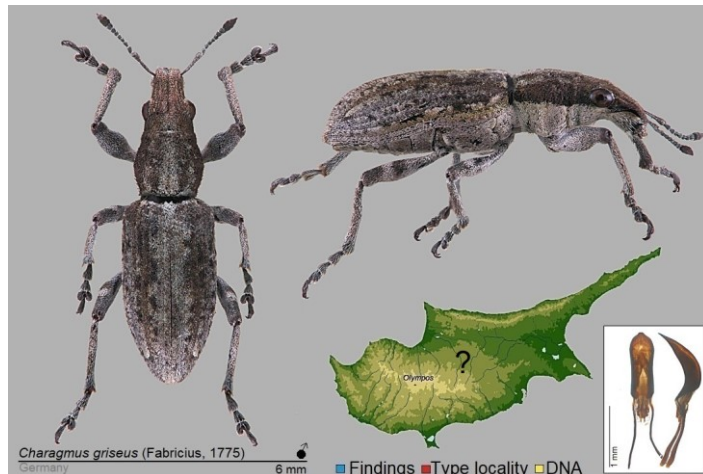
Host plants. *Pinus* spp.

■ *Charagmus gressorius* (Fabricius, 1792)

Distribution. Europe, Middle East.

Host plants. Fabaceae, oligophagous.

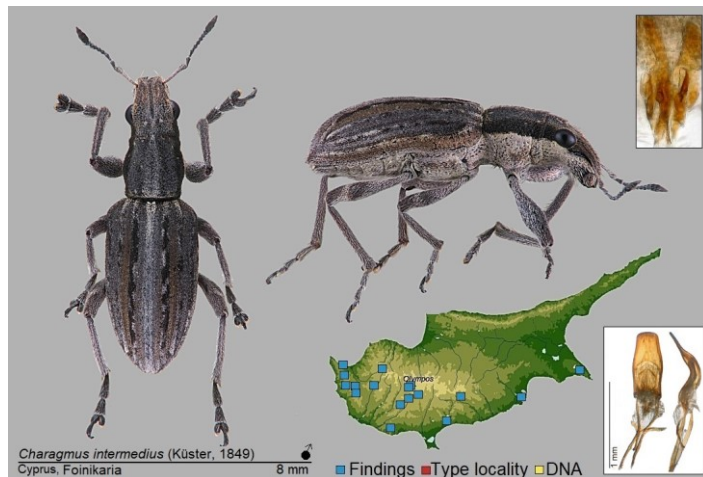
Note. The species is synanthropic and lives on food and host plants, preferably lupins (*Lupinus*), on whose roots the larvae develop (Gosik and Sprick 2017).

■ *Charagmus griseus* (Fabricius, 1775)

Distribution. Europe, North Africa, Middle East.

Host plants. Fabaceae, oligophagous.

Note. This *Charagmus* species is probably **not** found in Cyprus; however, it is included here for the purpose of identification, as it is repeatedly mentioned in lists without precise information about the location where it was found (Alziar 2023).

■ *Charagmus intermedius* (Küster, 1849)

Distribution. Europe, Middle East.

Host plants. Fabaceae, (*Astragalus* sp., *Medicago* spp., *Cytisus* sp., *Hippocrepis* spp.), oligophagous.

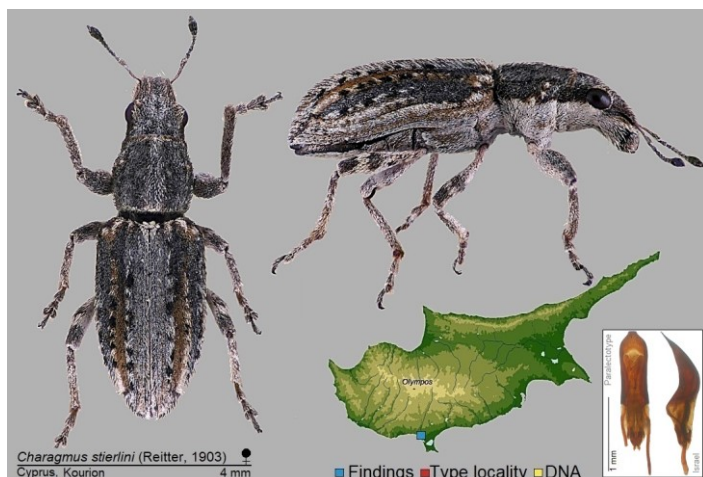
Note. Unlike *Charagmus gressorius* in Cyprus, this species has only a blurred and not sharply defined median band on the pronotum. For differentiation from other *Charagmus* species, see CURCULIO Team (2006). What is surprising is the relatively marked molecular distance from specimens of this species in Sardinia (approx. 5%; see Fig. 2).

■ *Charagmus stierlini* (Reitter, 1903)

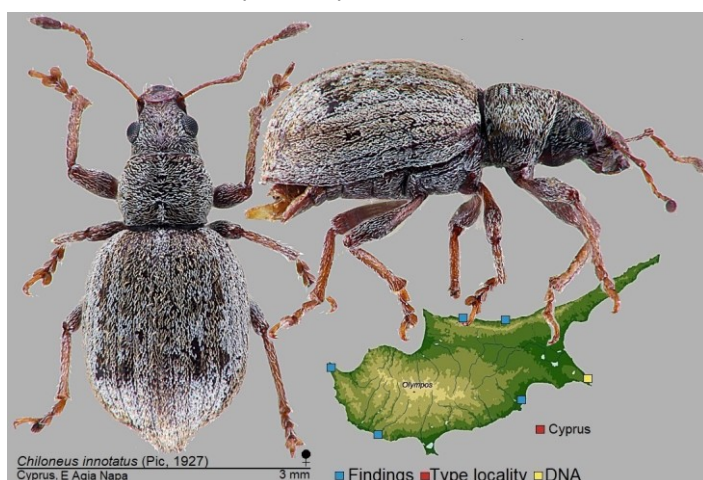
Distribution. Greece, North Africa, Middle East.

Host plants. Fabaceae (*Medicago*, *Ononis*, *Pisum*), oligophagous.

Note. Until now, I only had a single female from Cyprus, collected from the coast near Kourion under *Ononis* sp. (leg. Makris), and I was able to study a paralectotype, a male from Israel ('H(K)alifa', ex. coll. Reitter, now coll. SDEI, see also Gaedike 1971) and illustrate the aedeagus here.



■ *Chiloneus innotatus* (Pic, 1927)

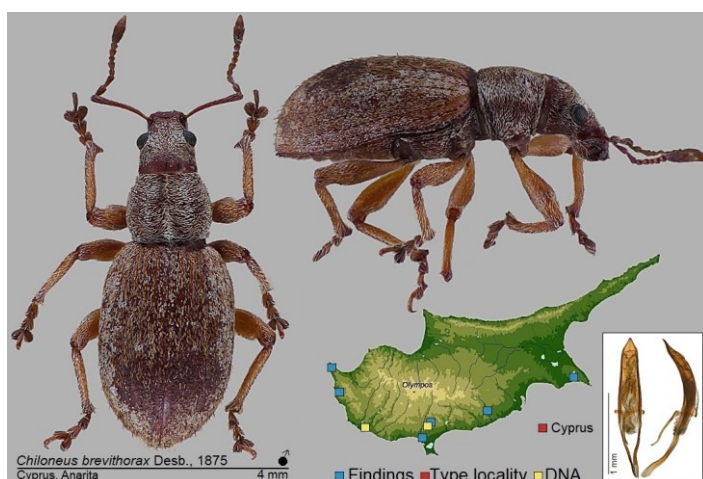


Distribution. Endemic to Cyprus.

Host plants. Unknown (perhaps *Sarcopoterium spinosum*, det. Stüben).

Note. A lectotype of *Sciaphilus innotatus* Pic, 1927 was already designated by Borovec & Perrin in 2016. 'This species is moderately easy distinguishable from all other *Chiloneus* species by elytra regularly densely squamose with oval appressed scales with regular row of semierect moderately long, slender subspatulate setae, short and wide rostrum with distinctly transverse frontoepistomal area' (ibid.). An mtCO1 partial sequence is available from the site at Agia Napa. The specimen was found by the author under *Sarcopoterium spinosum*.

■ *Chiloneus brevithorax* Desbrochers des Loges, 1875

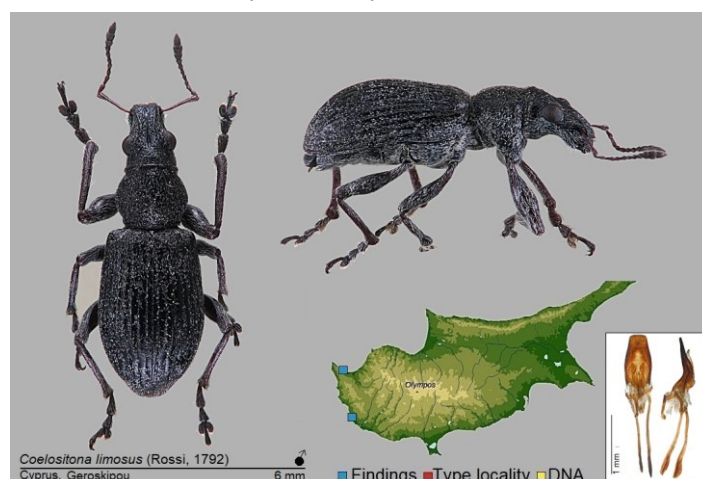


Distribution. Endemic to Cyprus.

Host plants. *Sarcopoterium spinosum*.

Note. My determinations of the specimens of this species are to be considered only provisional. The richness of shape of the elytral outlines as well as the sometimes more, sometimes less raised elytral bristles and the slightly differently shaped aedeagi of '*Chiloneus brevithorax*' is very large (variable?), so that the assumption of a species complex is obvious. This is currently being analysed in a molecular study. The synonymisation of *Chiloneus* (*Chiloneus*) *scythropoides* Reitter, 1915 with *Chiloneus brevithorax* must therefore remain unclear (Borovec & Colonnelli 2021). In general, it can be summarised that the Mediterranean *Chiloneus* species can vary considerably in their elytra shape within species, but on the other hand are very similar between species, which makes a fundamental molecular analysis of this genus of over 40 species urgently necessary.

■ *Coelositona limosus* (Rossi, 1792)

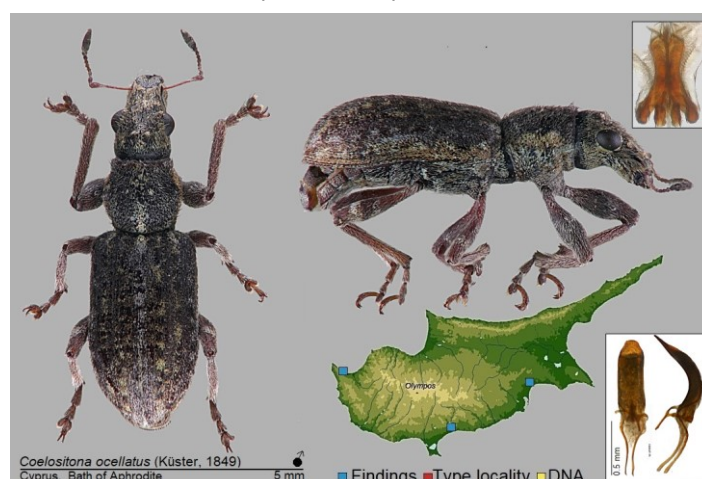


Distribution. Mediterranean, Middle East.

Host plants. Fabaceae (*Trifolium* spp., *Vicia* spp., *Pisum sativum*), oligophgous.

Note. On *Vicia faba*, the broad bean, commonly cultivated in fields (Hoffmann 1950). The species is easily recognizable by its bulbous pronotum and collar-shaped anterior margin (see also CURCULIO Team 2006).

■ *Coelositona ocellatus* (Küster, 1849)



Distribution. Mediterranean, Canary Islands, Middle East.

Host plants. Fabaceae: *Ononis* spp., in Israel, probably associated with *Retama raetam*.

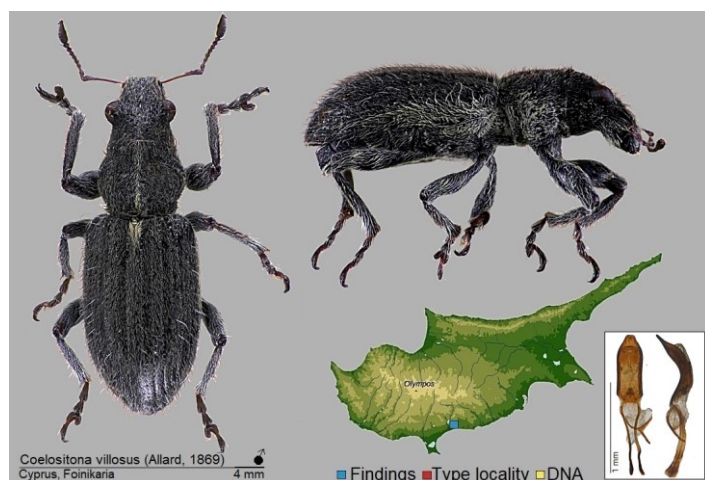
Note. Host plant associations, keys (including differentiation from *C. limosus*) and further illustrations can be found in: Velázquez de Castro et al. (2010): The species can also be easily distinguished from *C. limosus* by its inner sac structure of the aedeagus – as is the case with almost all Sitonini in this respect (see illustration).

■ *Coelositona villosus* (Allard, 1869)

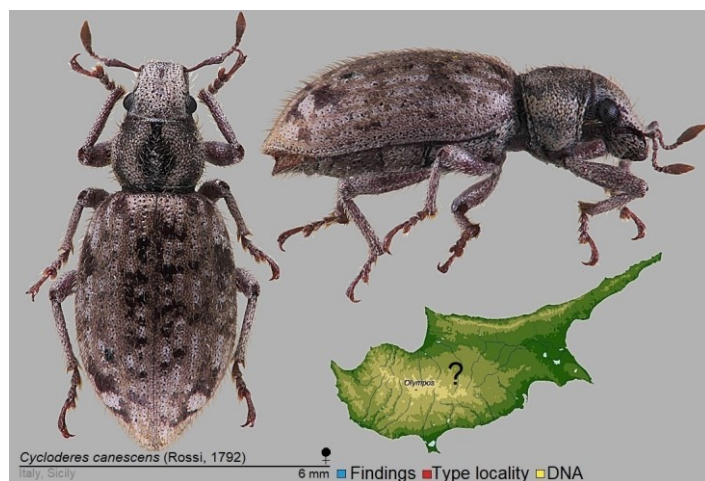
Distribution. Middle East.

Host plants. Fabaceae: *Lotus*? (Velázquez de Castro et al. 2010).

Note. Elytra covered by sparse, long, erect setae and dense, shorter, adpressed setae.



■ *Cycloderes canescens* (Rossi, 1792)

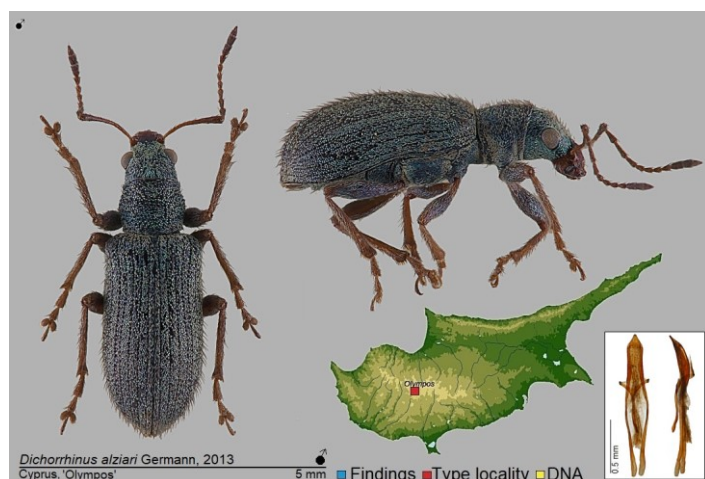


Distribution. Mediterranean, Middle East.

Host plants. Polyphagous (e.g. *Artemisia*, *Carduus*, *Plantago*, *Rumex*).

Note. Unfortunately, I have not been able to verify this species in Cyprus (occurrence doubtful also in Alziar 2023). If the species is to be reported to the author from Cyprus, it is essential to examine its morphological similarity to *Cycloderes depilis* (Fairmaire, 1871), a species also found in the Mediterranean region (Spain, France, Italy); for details, see Delbol & Lempereur (2015).

■ *Dichorhynchus alziari* Germann, 2013

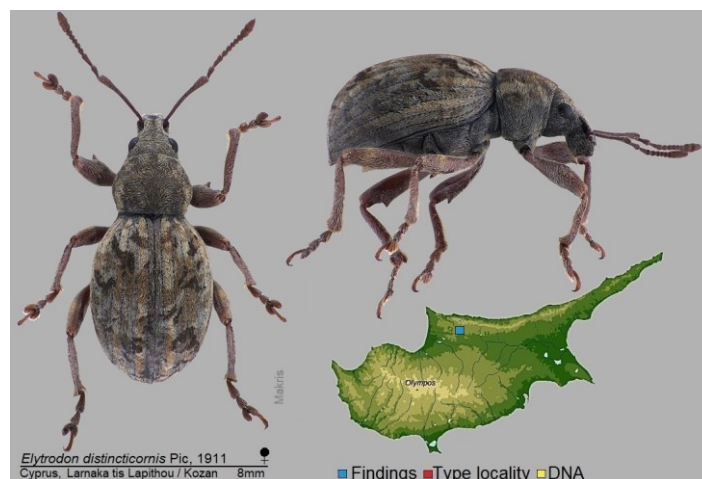


Distribution. Endemic to Cyprus.

Host plants. *Juniperus excelsa*, *J. foetidissima* (Alziar 2012).

Note. So far only known from the Troodos Mountains. In his key, Germann distinguishes the species from *Dichorhynchus korbi* Schilsky, 1911 (Southern Turkey): The latter has distinctly semicircular, slightly asymmetrically curved eyes, while the eyes of *D. alziari* are not semicircular, but symmetrically curved, with clear differences in the male genitalia (Germann 2013).

■ *Elytrodon distincticornis* Pic, 1911

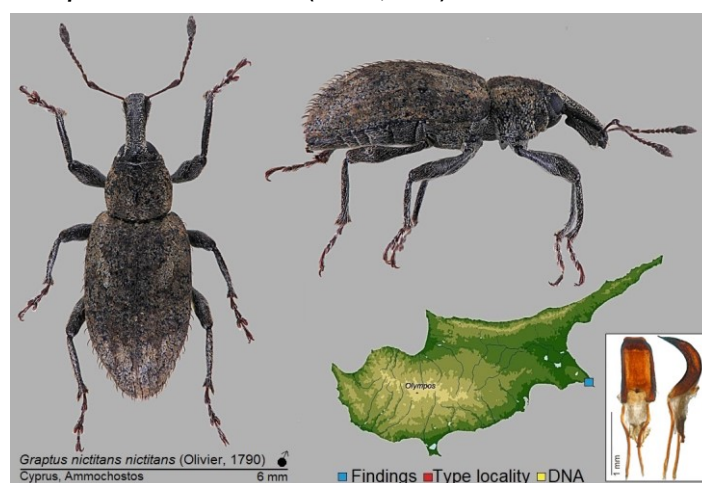


Distribution. Endemic to Cyprus.

Host plants. Unknown.

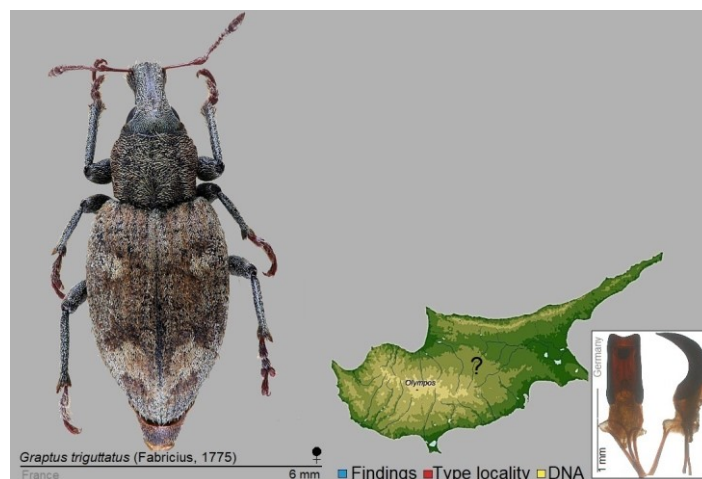
Note. I only had this beautifully patterned female from Northern Cyprus (Larnakas tis Lapithou / Kozan) collected by Makris, shown here.

■ *Graptus nictitans nictitans* (Olivier, 1790)



Distribution. Southeast Europe.

Note. I only saw one specimen from the peninsula Cape Greco collected under stones by Makris.



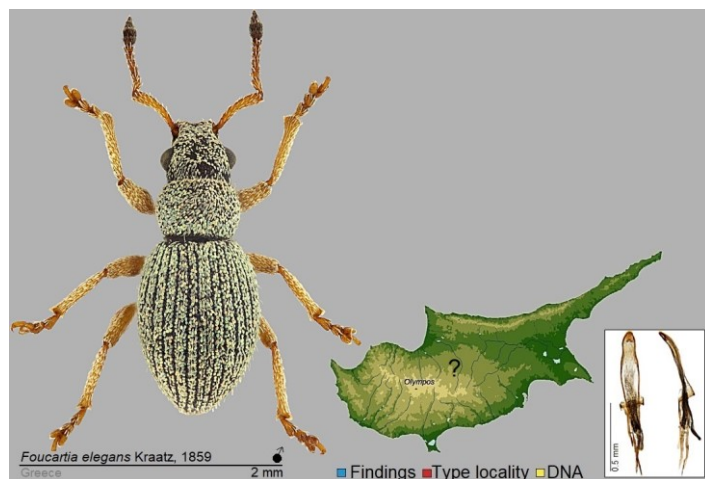
■ *Graptus triguttatus triguttatus* (Fabricius, 1775)

Distribution. Europe.

Host plants. The larvae appear to be polyphagous, feeding on roots (Rheinheimer & Hassler 2010).

Note. Alziar (2023) lists this species for Cyprus. I am not aware of any specific locations in Cyprus where this species, which is common and widespread in Europe, can be found. Feeding trials have shown almost indiscriminate polyphagous behaviour. In Central Europe, larvae and pupae prefer to develop on roots of *Plantago lanceolata* in the soil (Gosik et al. 2019). As it does not occur in Greece or the Middle East, it is likely that it was temporarily introduced to Cyprus with seedlings or similar ornamental plants.

■ *Foucattia elegans* Kraatz, 1859

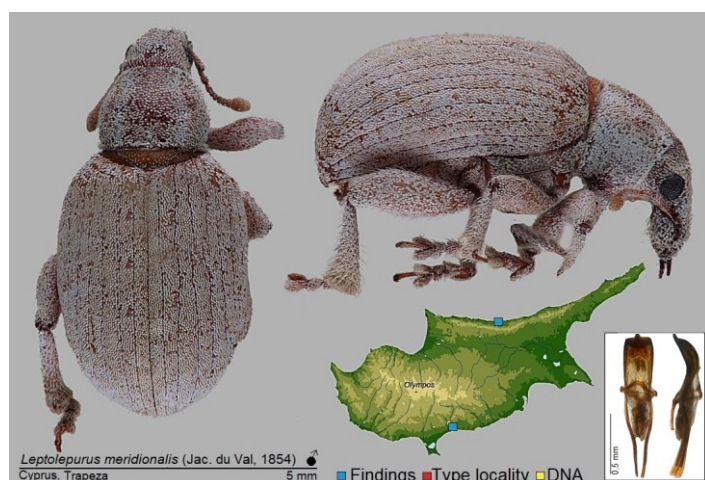


Distribution. Greece.

Host plants. Poorly known; polyphagous on various semi-shrubs and herbs such as *Thymus*, *Medicago* or *Achillea*.

Note. Occurrence in Cyprus doubtful, but at least considered by Alziar (2023), and is illustrated here based on a specimen from Greece for further possible determinations and research in Cyprus. I saw the type series at the Senckenberg, Deutsches Entomologisches Institut. Lecto-type designation, redescription and key can be found in Borovec & Pelletier (2009) (locus typicus: Crete). Without further details, a single specimen from Cyprus (Staatliches Museum für Tierkunde, Dresden, Germany) is also mentioned there.

■ *Leptolepurgus meridionalis* (Jacquelin du Val, 1854)



Distribution. Mediterranean.

Host plants. Unknown.

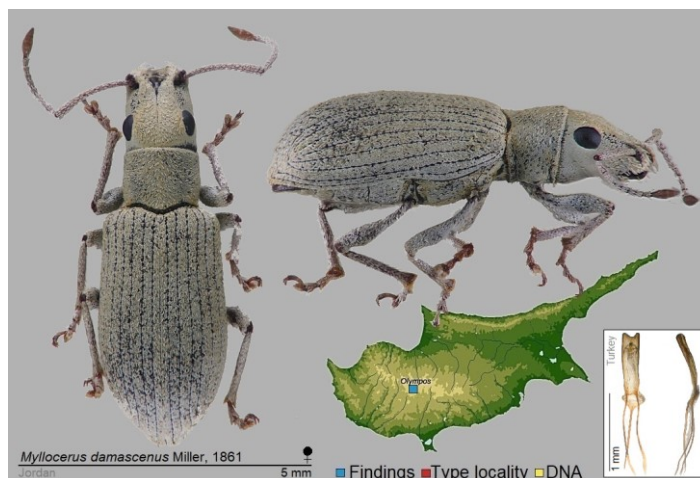
Note. The monotypic genus belongs to the tribe Cneorhinini Lacordaire, 1863 of the Entiminae (Viedma 1964).

■ *Mylocherus damascenus* Miller, 1861

Distribution. Eastern Mediterranean Basin, Afrotropical Region.

Host plants. Unknown.

Note. The species has only been collected on Mount Olympus so far (Alziar 2012).



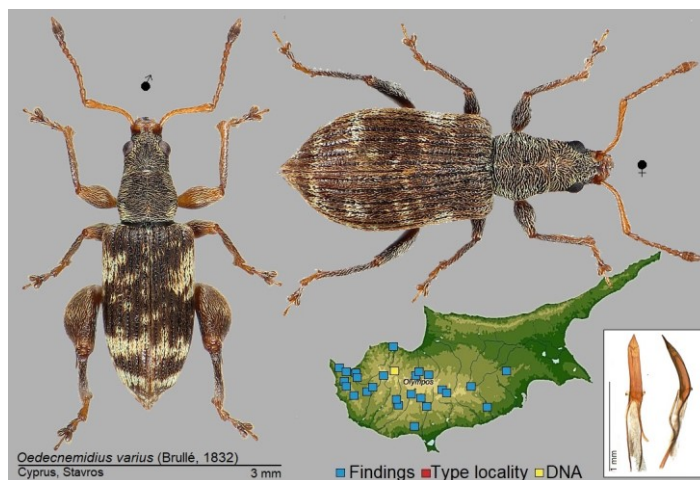
■ *Mylocherus robusticeps* Pic, 1903 – (without illustration)

Distribution. Syria.

Host plants. Unknown.

Note. The species is listed in the CCPCC for Syria and Cyprus. But neither Alziar (2023) nor the author are aware of this species in Cyprus.

■ *Oedecnemidius varius* (Brullé, 1832)



Distribution. Southeast Europe, Asia minor.

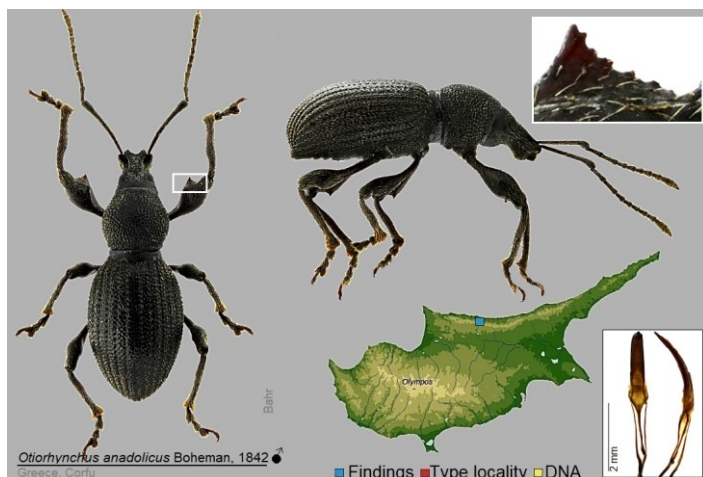
Host plants. *Cistus monspeliensis* (det. G. Alziar, P.E. Stüben), *Quercus alnifolia* (det. P. Sprick, P.E. Stüben).

Note. Sexual dimorphism: Only the males have thickened hind femora. - Back in 2012, we noted: 'In some regions only parthenogenetic populations are present that are quite different to each other. Differences can be also observed within bisexual populations, particularly in the easternmost part of their range. Although it is possibly a complex of closely related species, we here attribute the bisexual population of Cyprus to *Oedecnemidius varius*, considering thus for the moment *O. monstrosus* (Tournier, 1879) and *O. pictus* (Gyllenhal, 1834) as synonyms, pending further studies of Turkish and Syrian material. For the synonymy *Oedecnemidius varius* (= *O. pictus*) see Avgin & Colonnelli (2011).'

*Oedecnemidius varius*on *Cistus* near Lymia.

© P. E. Stüben/CURCI

■ *Otiorhynchus anadolicus* Boheman, 1842

**Distribution.** Southeastern Europe, Asia minor.**Host plants.** Unknown.

Note. *O. anadolicus* is the type species of the subgenus *Tournieria* Stierlin, 1861. Regarding the species status, Alziar (2023) states that, based on his knowledge of Faust's (1890) original description of his species *O. lubriculus* and a comparison with *O. anadolicus* Boheman, he had clearly concluded that the material from Cyprus in his possession was definitely the latter species. I cannot comment further on this, as I did not have the specimens available. The illustration here shows a specimen of *O. anadolicus* from Greece, Corfu (det. Winkelmann; taken from the Catalogue 'Die Rüsselkäfer Griechenlands', Germann et al. 2026).

■ *Otiorhynchus brunneus* Gyllenhal, 1834

Distribution. Europe, Middle East.**Host plants.** Polyphagous.

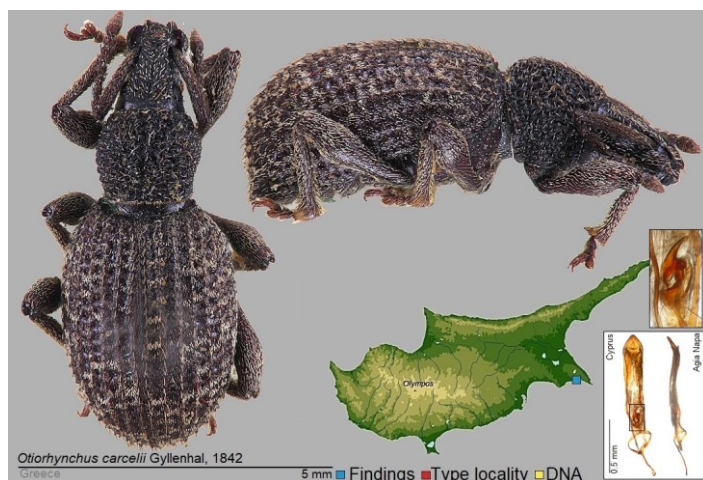
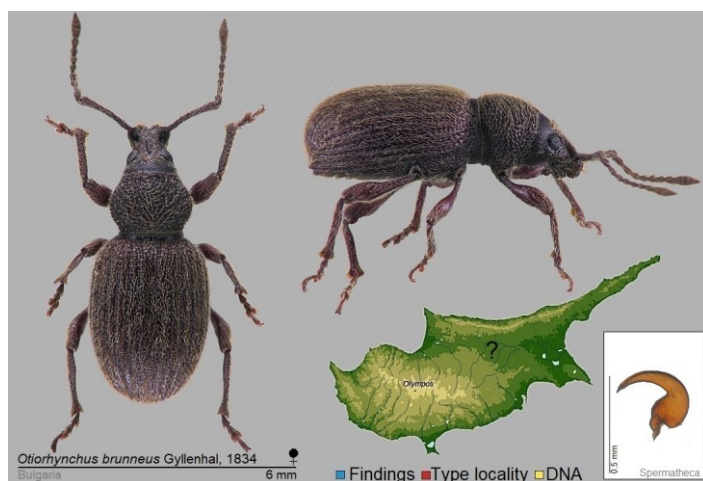
Note. Neither Alziar (2023) nor I have any evidence of this species, which is widespread in Europe, occurring in Cyprus.

■ *Otiorhynchus carcelii* Gyllenhal, 1842

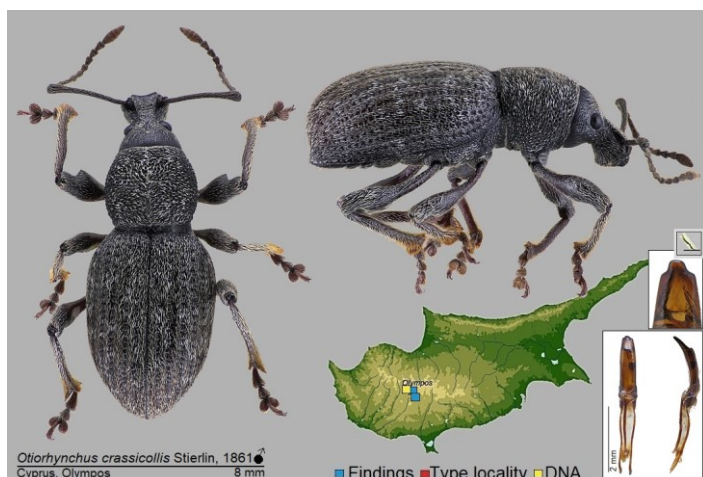
Distribution. Greece, Middle East.**Host plants.** Unknown.

Note. L. Magnano was sent two specimens of *Otiorhynchus carcelii* (det., coll. Behne/SDEI) from Agia Napo (leg. Sieber, 15.4.1998), which he ultimately identified as *O. subspinosus* Stierlin, 1861 in 2001. How-

ever, to this day, I am unaware of any suggestion that *O. subspinosus* (locus typicus 'Syria') could be a junior synonym of *O. carcelii*. I am also unaware – as is apparently the case with Alziar in his 2023 species list – of either of the two(?) species that are supposed to have a similar distribution in Greece and the Near East (CCPCC). Therefore, further investigation is needed into the species status of this taxon in Cyprus.



■ *Otiorhynchus crassicollis* Stierlin, 1861



Distribution. Middle East.

Host plants. Unknown.

Note. This species apparently only occurs on Cyprus' highest mountain, Mount Chionistra (Olympos), but is also said to be found in Turkey.

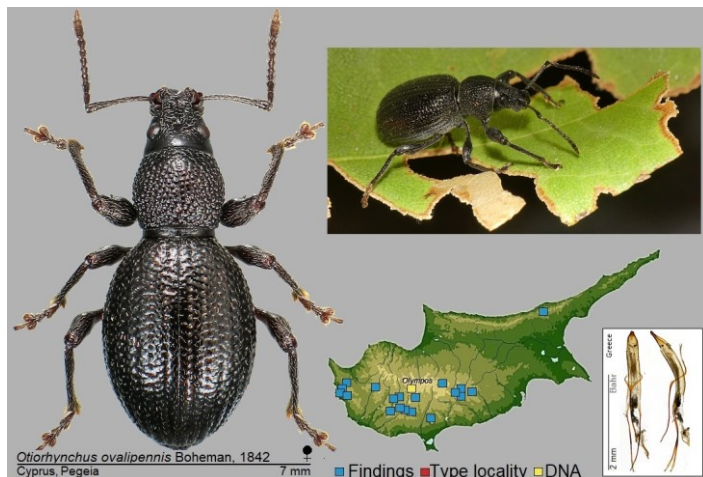
■ *Otiorhynchus cypricola* Reiche & Saulcy, 1858 – (without illustrations)

Distribution. Endemic to Cyprus (without precise location details).

Host plants. Unknown.

Note. This species of *Otiorhynchus* from Cyprus, especially the type material, has remained unknown to me until now. Unfortunately, I also had no illustrations available. According to the initial description, it is so similar to *O. perdix* Olivier that it could be confused with it at first glance, but it differs significantly in the longer second segment of the funiculus, the convex intervals of the elytra and the dentate femurs.

■ *Otiorhynchus ovalipennis* Boheman, 1842



Distribution. Southeast Europe, Middle East.

Host plants. *Ceratonia siliqua*, *Juniperus phoenicea* (det. P. Sprick), *Pistacia lentiscus* (det. G. Alziar), polyphagous.

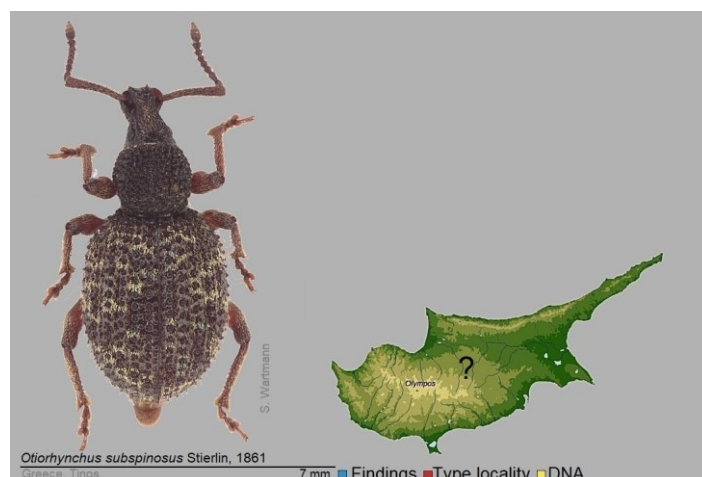
Note. This species appears to be present on shrubs and low trees in Cyprus. The species has recently even appeared as a crop pest on strawberries in Iran (Kurdistan) (Mansourghazi & Nasserzadeh 2024).

■ *Otiorhynchus subspinosus* Stierlin, 1861

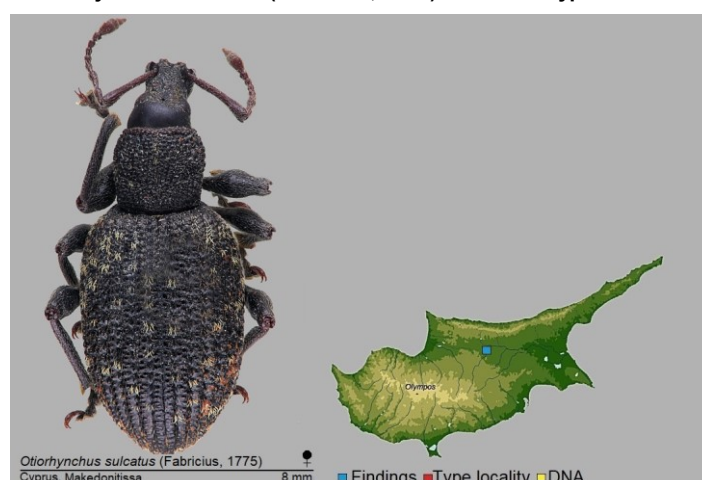
Distribution. Greece (Kykklades Is.).

Host plants. Unknown.

Note. Controversial whether the species occurs at all in Cyprus or has ever been reported with exact location data. Finally, it would also need to be clarified whether *O. subspinosus* might be a junior synonym of *Otiorhynchus carcelii* Gyllenhal, 1842 (see also my comment there).



■ *Otiorhynchus sulcatus* (Fabricius, 1775) – new for Cyprus!

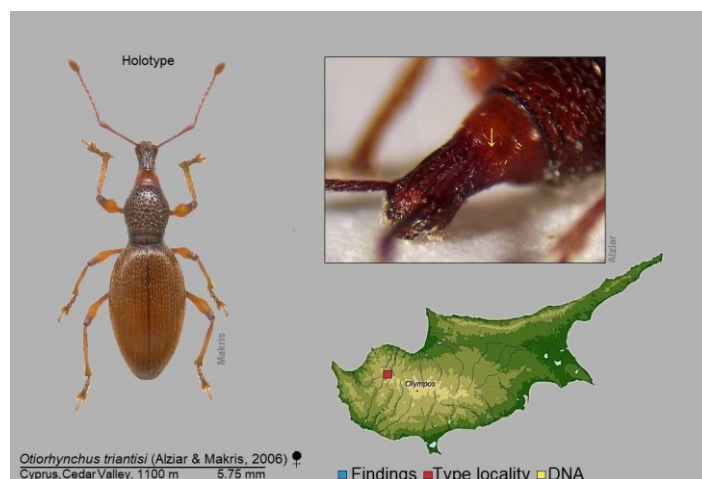


Distribution. Europa, now with almost worldwide distribution.

Host plants. The larvae prefer to attack the roots of rhododendrons, cherry trees and strawberries, but also all other woody plants, polyphagous. Hundreds of plant species are known to be inhabited or attacked.

Note. I saw two specimens of *Acacia* sp. and *Malva* sp. collected by Constantinou (coll. Lienemann) in Makedonitissa (a suburb of Nicosia). The spread of this species, especially via cultivated plants (e.g. viticulture) and ornamental plants (in nurseries), now seems unstoppable worldwide (see Sprick & Stüben 2012). Its discovery in cities (see above in Cyprus) is therefore not surprising.

■ *Otiorhynchus triantisi* (Alziar & Makris, 2006)

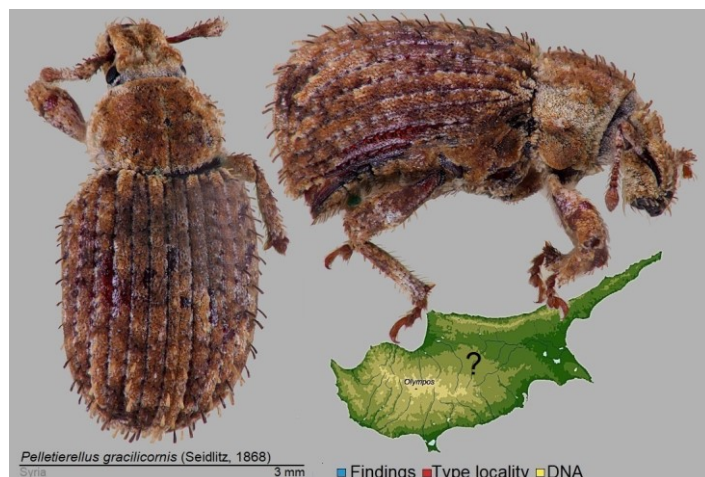


Distribution. Endemic to Cyprus.

Host plants. Unknown.

Note. Until now, only the type material from Cedar Valley was known in the original description of *Trogloorhynchus triantisi*. It is a subterranean species whose eyes consist of only a few ocelli, perhaps just enough to perceive light and dark tones. It is therefore likely to be difficult to locate further sites in Cyprus.

■ ***Pelletierellus gracilicornis* (Seidlitz, 1868)**

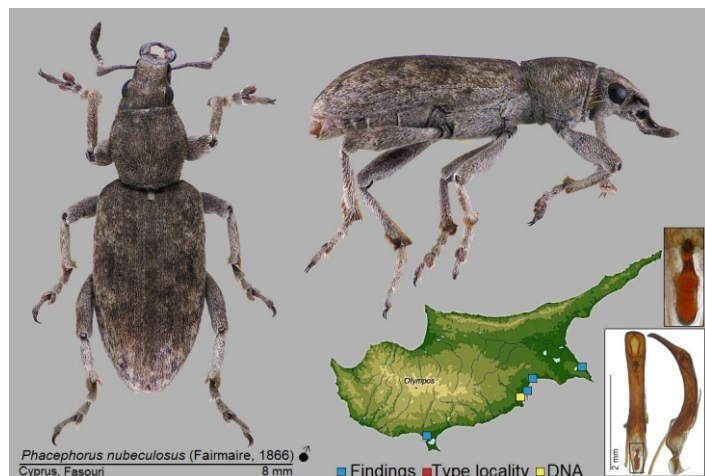


Distribution. Middle East.

Host plants. Unknown.

Note. I only know this species from Syria and Turkey (Senckenberg, German Entomological Institute, SDEI) and I am just as unfamiliar with this species in Cyprus as G. Alziar (2023).

■ ***Phacephorus nubeculosus* (Fairmaire, 1866)**



Distribution. North Africa.

Host plants. *Atriplex semibaccata* (det. Stüben).

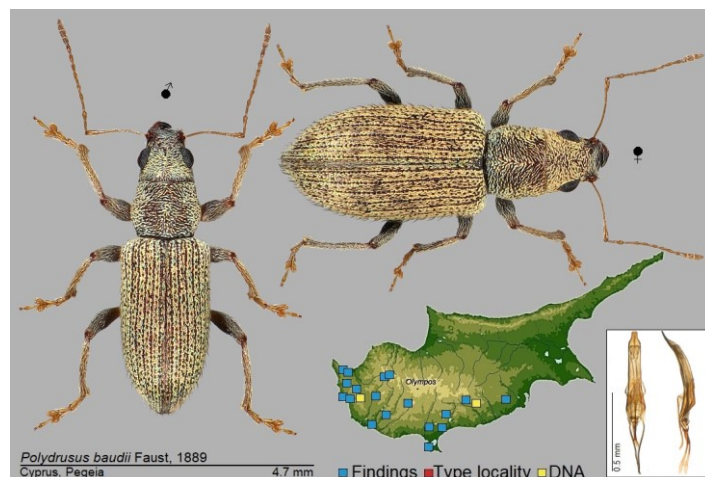
Note. In mid-March, I found newly hatched adults in numbers only under *Atriplex semibaccata* in the temporarily flooded salt lake near the Hala Sultan Tekke Mosque near Larnaca.

■ ***Polydrusus baudii* Faust, 1889**

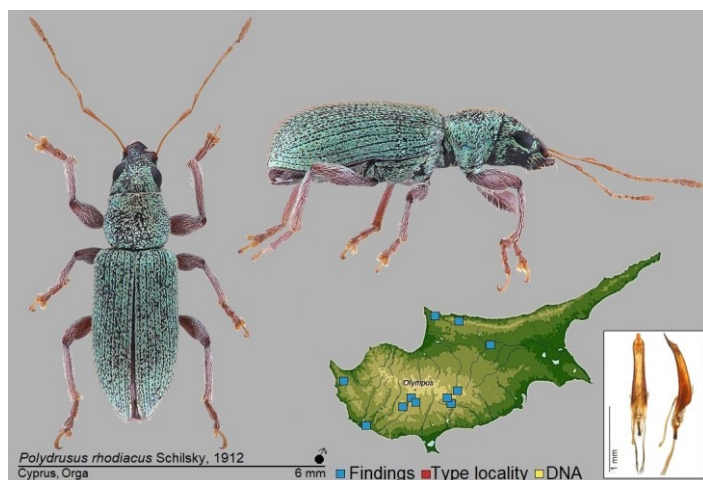
Distribution. Southeast Europe, Asia Minor.

Host plants. *Pistacia lentiscus* (det. G. Alziar), *Quercus* spp. (det. Sprick, Stüben), polyphagous.

Note. Apart from *P. rhodiaceus* Schilsky, 1912, the only other *Polydrusus* species on Cyprus. The species that are sometimes also mentioned for Cyprus, *P. angustus*, *P. armipes*, *P. bardus*, *P. calabricus*, *P. cephalonicus*, *P. cocciferae*, *P. jucundus*, *P. kahri*, *P. marcidus*, *P. stierlini*, *P. viridicinctus* or *P. yunakovi* (formerly *P. elegans*) do not occur in Cyprus.



■ ***Polydrusus rhodiaceus* Schilsky, 1912**

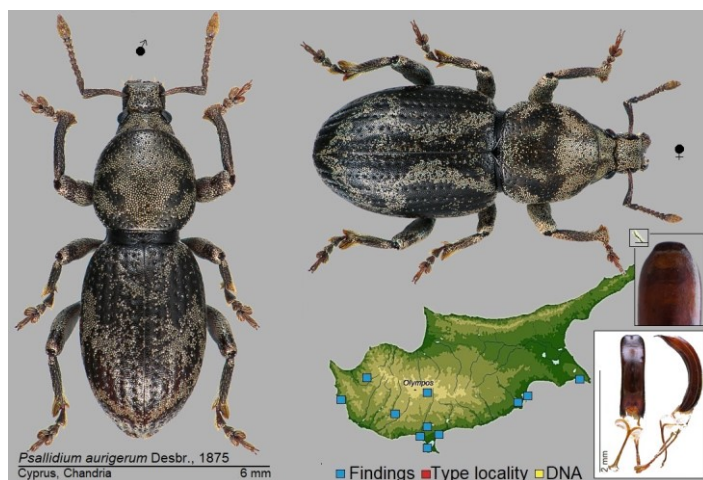


Distribution. Asia Minor.

Host plants. *Pistacia lentiscus*, *Acer obtusifolium* (vid. Makris).

Note. Designation of a lectotype (locus typicus: Cyprus, not as previously claimed Rhodes) by Germann, who provided also a key to *Polydrusus* (subg. *Conocetus*, *Denticonocetus*) with *P. rhodiaceus* and other very valuable illustrations (Germann 2018)!

■ ***Psallidium aurigerum* Desbrochers des Loges, 1875**



Distribution. Middle East.

Host plants. *Cistus* sp. (det. P. Sprick), polyphagous.

Note. This beautifully patterned species, with its grey-yellow gold shimmer and an enamel-like surface, is not uncommon in Cyprus.

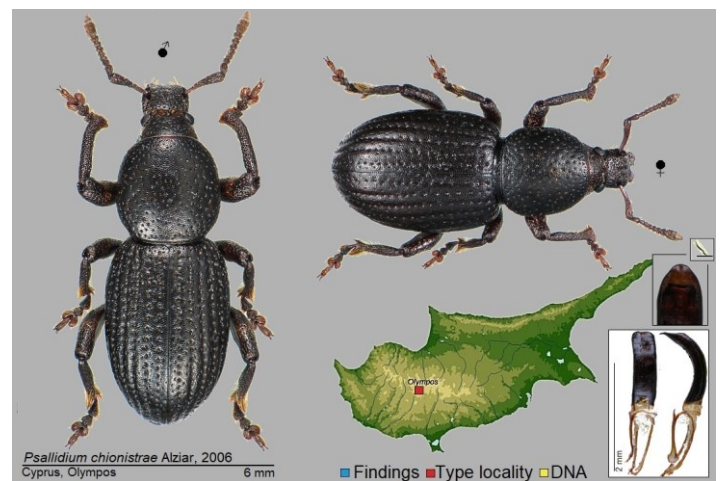


■ *Psallidium chionistrae* Alziar, 2006

Distribution. Endemic to Cyprus.

Host plants. Unknown.

Note. This species, as its name suggests, appears to be restricted to the summit region of Mount Chionistra (Olympos) and is often found under stones there.





Polydrusus baudii Faust, 1889 ♀
on *Quercus*

© P. E. Stüben/CURCI

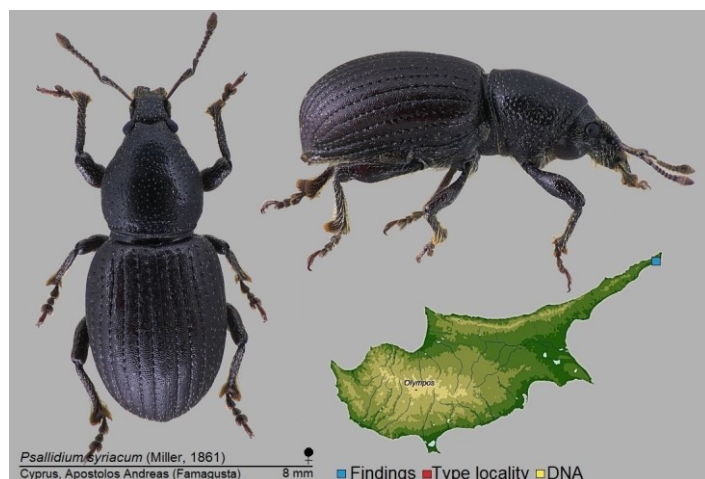


Psallidium chionistrae
Olympos, Artemis Trail, under stones

© P. E. Stüben/CURCI

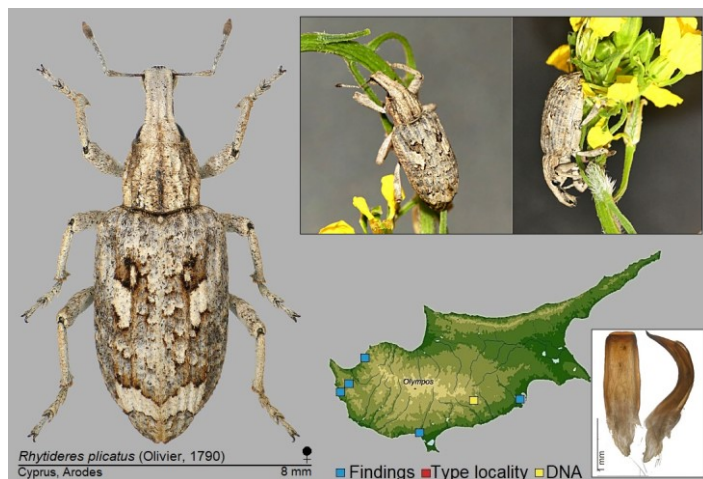


■ *Psallidium syriacum* (Miller, 1861)



Distribution. Middle East.
Host plants. Unknown.

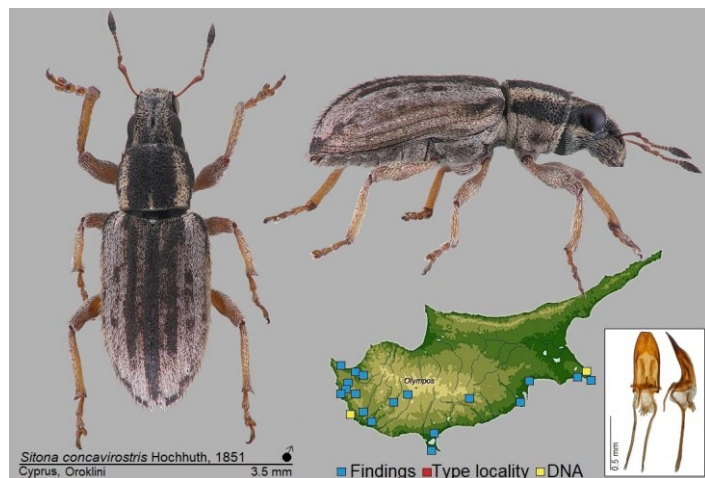
Note. See Fleischer (1914). All *Psallidium* species are flightless and are often found under stones in Cyprus. There are no known plant associations. I saw three specimens for identification from the Karpas Peninsula in Northern Cyprus (Famagusta district) near the Apostolos Andreas monastery (leg. C. Makris).



■ *Rhytideres plicatus* (Olivier, 1790)

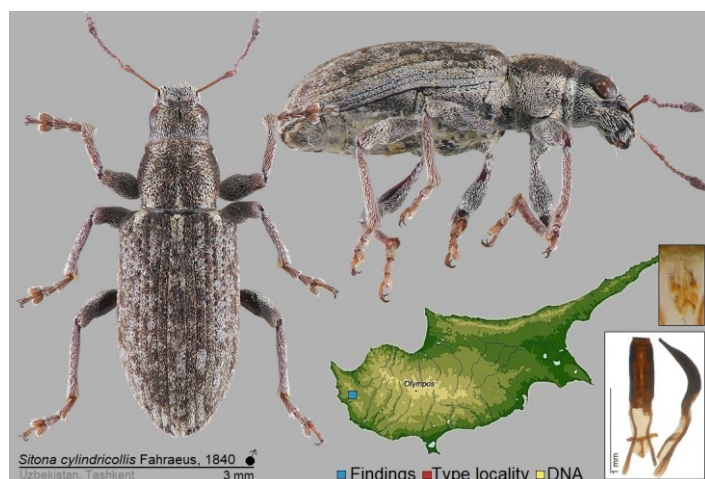
Distribution. Mediterranean, Makaronesia, Middle East.
Host plants. Resedaceae (*Reseda lutea*).

■ *Sitona concavirostris* Hochhuth, 1851



Distribution. Southeast Europe (Balkans), Southwest Asia.
Host plants. Fabaceae (*Medicago* spp., *Vicia* spp.), oligophagous.
Note. Taxonomy: *Sitona bicolor* Fähræus, 1840 was considered until now as a species of the *Sitona humeralis* group very similar to *S. bicolor* or *concavirostris* (now *S. concavirostris* Hochhuth, 1851), with concave frons and with elytra covered by erect setae [CURCULIO team 2006]. A study of Velázquez et al. (2010) of the type revealed that the frons in *S. bicolor* is flat (or subplane), and not hollowed/concave as had been previously considered by earlier authors (e.g. Roudier 1980, Aeschlimann 1984). Thus, Velázquez de Castro et al. gave a new definition of *Sitona bicolor* with the following preliminary distribution: Dalmatia (type), Turkey (Cappadocia), Israel and Uzbekistan. He synonymized the old *Sitona bicolor* auctt. with *Sitona concavirostris*, now a species distributed from Southwest Asia westwards to the Balkans (locus typicus: Caucasus). During my field trips in Cyprus, no specimen was found that matched the description of *S. bicolor* provided by Velázquez de Castro et al. (2010).

■ *Sitona cylindricollis cylindricollis* Fähræus, 1840

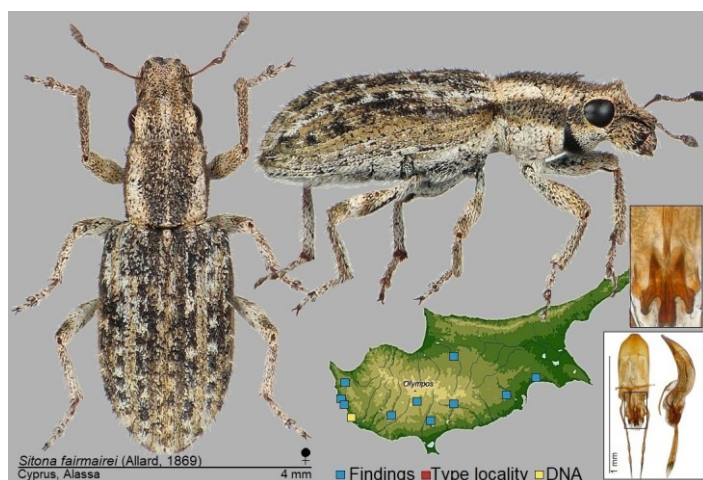


Distribution. Palaearctic region.
Host plants. Fabaceae (e.g. *Melilotus*, *Trifolium*, *Medicago*), oligophagous.
Note. So far, I am only aware of a single record of this species from Cyprus near Kathikas (leg. Frenzel, in: Alziar 2021).

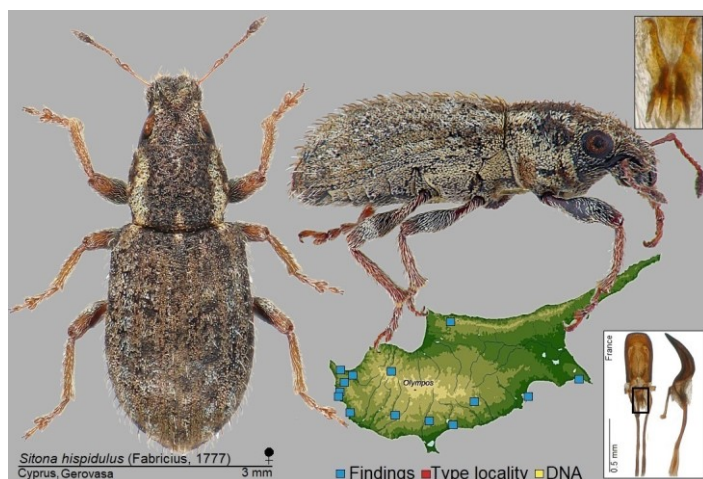
■ *Sitona fairmairei* (Allard, 1869)

Distribution. North Africa, Greece, Middle East.
Host plants. Fabaceae (*Medicago*, *Trifolium*, *Vicia*), oligophagous.
Note. This very beautiful, colourful species, distinguished by its protruding elytral bristles, is also easily recognisable by the internal sac struc-

ture of the aedeagus (see illustrations and in detail in: Aichi & Minaei 2021). For the distinction from *Sitona syriacus* Stierlin, 1885, see there.

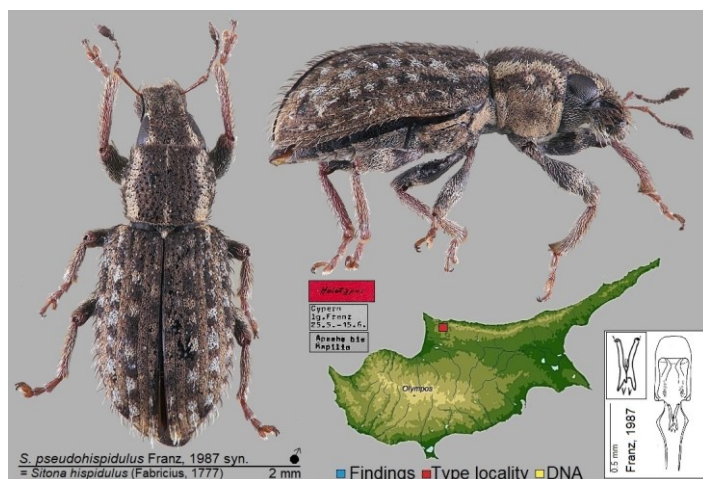


■ *Sitona hispidulus* (Fabricius, 1777)



Distribution. Palaearctic, Nearctic and Neotropical Region.
Host plants. *Trifolium* spp., *Trifolium clypeatum* L. (det. P. Sprick).
Note. This species occurs in a brachypterous and a macropterous form. It differs from *Sitona macularius* (Fabricius, 1776), which also has long elytral bristles, by its flat eyes adapted to the shape of the head. (Further information can be found in the key to the Western Palaearctic Sitonini in: CURCULIO Team 2006). The type locality for this species is Kiel ("Kiliae," Fabricius 1777) in northern Europe, Germany (see also the aedeagus in the illustration). *Sitona pseudohispidulus* Franz, 1987, from Cyprus and the Middle East, is a younger synonym of this species (see the reasons given there!)

■ *Sitona pseudohispidulus* Franz, 1987 syn. nov.

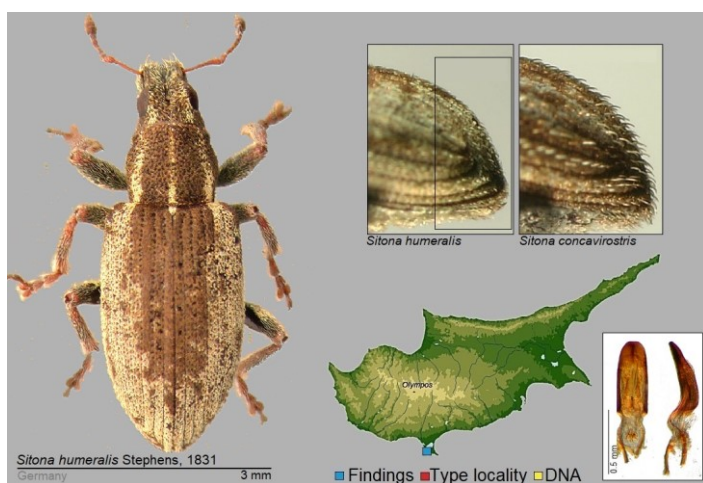


Distribution. Turkey, Lebanon.

Host plants. Unknown (there is no useful information on this in the original description).

Note. Franz describes the location and circumstances of the discovery in Cyprus as follows: 'Cyprus, between Korphi and Kapilio, collected from a hollow olive, 12 June 1986 ♂ (holotype) and 2 paratypes (coll., mea). The aedeagus was prepared from the holotype.' The latter has been illustrated here once again in comparison with *Sitona hispidulus* (taken from Franz, 1987: 86, Fig. 7). It is striking, however, that these are clearly the aedeagus and endophallus (internal sac) of *Sitona hispidulus* (Fabricius, 1777) from Central and Southern Europe (see Antonio Velázquez de Castro 1997, 417, Fig. 103c). Apparently, Franz was unfamiliar with the aedeagus and especially the endophallus of *S. hispidulus* (this is evidenced by his drawing 7b (p.86), which was obviously made by an unknown *Sitona* species). After re-examining the holotypes (see figure) and the numerous paratypes of *S. pseudohispidulus* from the Natural History Museum in Vienna, I can fully confirm this for the habitus as well, following a similar conclusion reached by H. Winkelmann (Germany, in litt.) and A. Velázquez de Castro (Spain, in litt.). The species must therefore be definitively reclassified: *Sitona pseudohispidulus* is thus a junior synonym of *Sitona hispidulus*!

■ *Sitona humeralis* Stephens, 1831

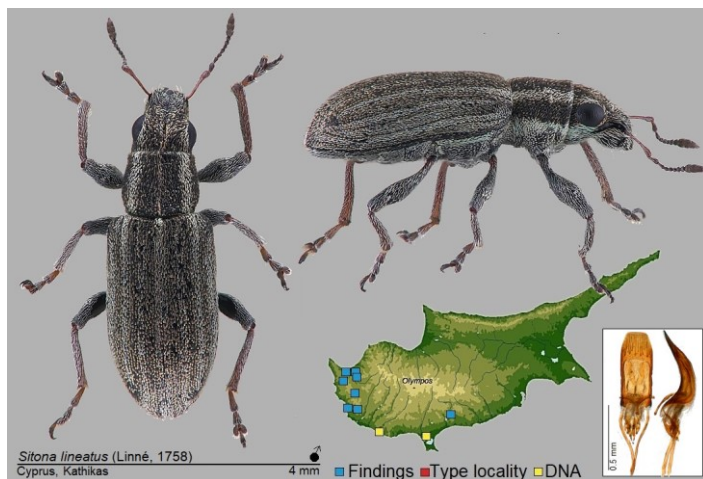


Distribution. Western Palaearctic region.

Host plants. *Medicago* spp.

Note. Winkelmann (2017) reported about two specimens of this species from Akrotiri (Salt Lake). The differences between this species and the closely related *S. concavirostris* Hochhuth, 1851, which also occurs in Cyprus, are not easy to discern: The latter always has significantly increased elytral bristles along the entire length of the elytra, which in *S. humeralis* (in lateral view) are shorter and only visible on the elytral slope (see illustrations; further information in: CURCULIO Team 2006).

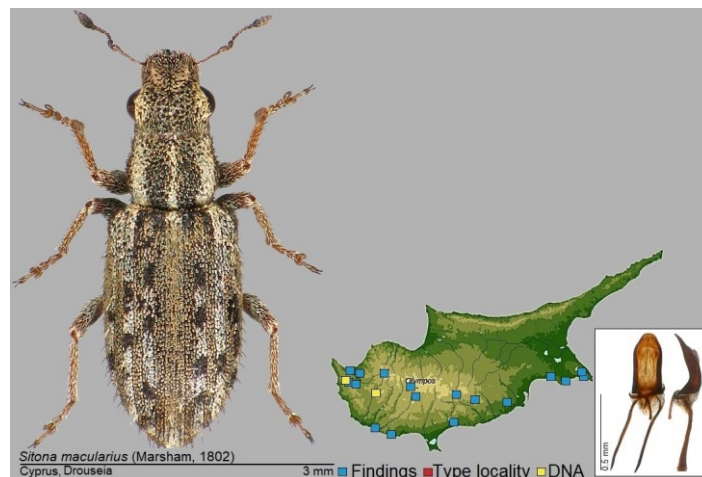
■ *Sitona lineatus* (Linné, 1758)



Distribution. Palaearctic region, Nearctic Region.

Host plants. Fabaceae, oligophagous.

■ *Sitona macularius* (Marsham, 1802)

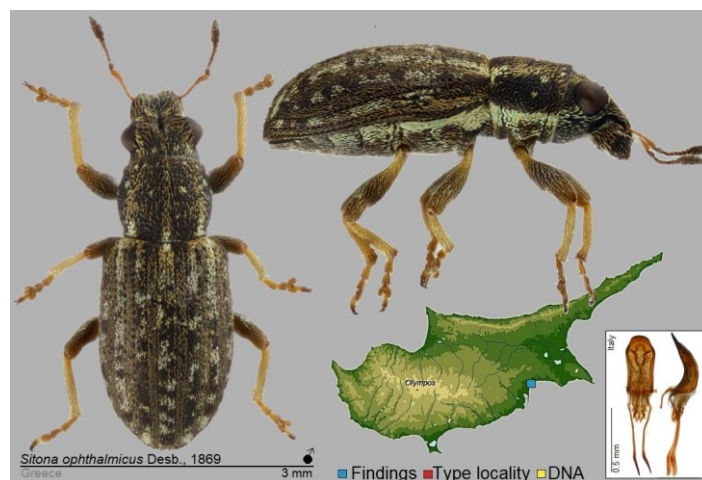


Distribution. Palaearctic region.

Host plants. Fabaceae, oligophagous; *Erophaca baetica* and *Vicia faba* on Cyprus (det. P. Sprick).

Note. One of the most common Sitonini in Cyprus (with clearly protruding rows of bristles alternating in black and white colouring; to distinguish from *Sitona hispidulus*, see there). Whether the specimens from Cyprus belong to the subspecies *S. macularius hebraeus* Stierlin, 1885 – described from Syria – remains to be clarified through an examination of the type material (the p-distance of approximately 3% in the mtCO1 fragment compared to Central European specimens suggests this possibility; see Fig. 2).

■ *Sitona ophthalmicus* Desbrochers des Loges, 1869



Distribution. Southern and southeastern Europe, North Africa, Asia.

Host plants. Fabaceae (*Astragalus* spp.), monophagous.

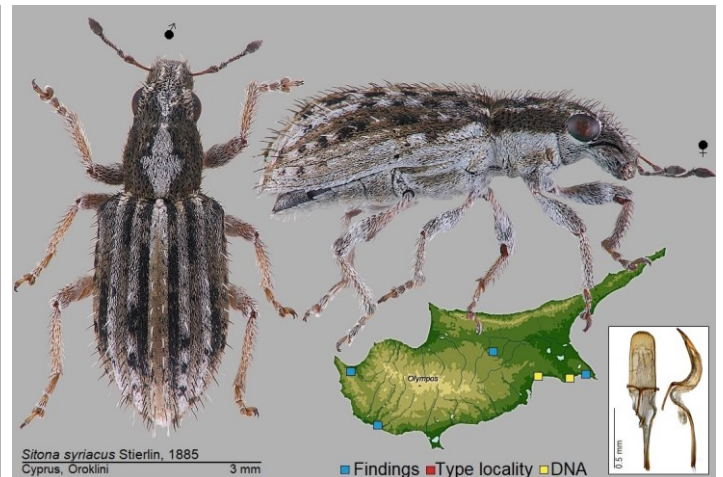
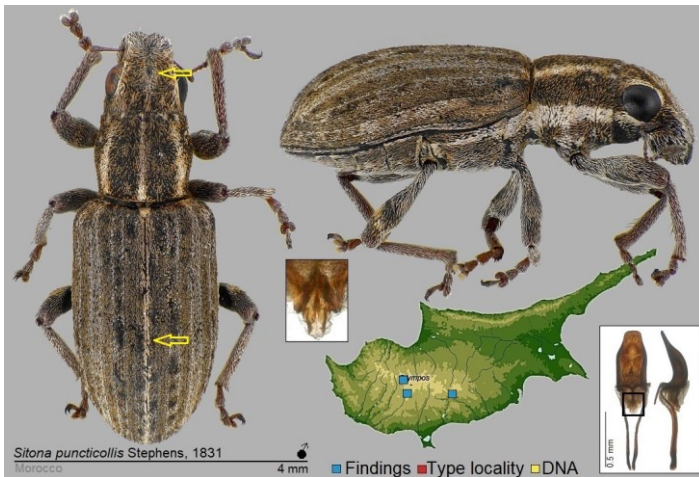
Note. I am referring here to a specimen from Oroklini, collected by Messutat and identified by Behne. According to Hoffmann (1950), the species lives monophagously on *Astragalus monspessulanus* in France (a Fabaceae that does not exist in Cyprus; but some other *Astragalus* species as *A. asterias*, *A. caprinus* ssp. *caprinus*, *A. echinus*, *A. cypricus* etc.). The species is easily recognisable by its conically arched and strongly protruding eyes. (CURCULIO Team 2006).

■ *Sitona puncticollis* Stephens, 1831

Distribution. Western Palaearctic region.

Host plants. Fabaceae (e.g. *Trifolium*, *Lotus*, *Medicago Ononis*, *Vicia*), oligophagous.

Note. The species can be recognised by its fine white fringe of scales on the sutural stripe behind the middle of the elytra and the median groove on the head, which ends in a small oval hole.



■ *Sitona syriacus* Stierlin, 1885

Distribution. Rhodos, Middle East.

Host plants. Fabaceae: *Lotus* spp., *Ononis diffusa* (det. Stüben).

Note. It is not easy to distinguish this equally beautiful and colourful species from *Sitona fairmairei* (Allard, 1869). However, if you pay attention to the broad, white, arrow-like blemish on the pronotum, the high-contrast coloured stripes on the elytra with the very long, erected bristles and the white outermost elytral intervals (viewed from the side), a separation should be possible upon closer inspection.

■ *Strophomorphus albarius* (Reiche et Saulcy, 1858)

Distribution. Greece, Middle East.

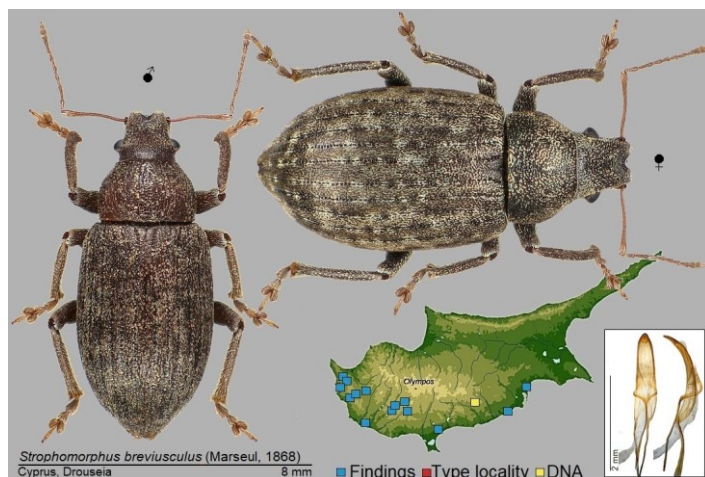
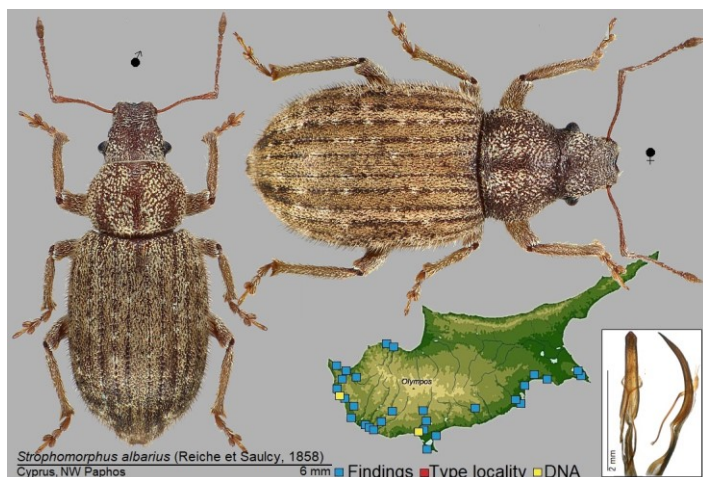
Host plants. Polyphagous, e.g. *Sarcopoterium spinosum* (det. Stüben) or *Pistacia lentiscus* (det. P. Sprick).

Note. A light-colored species with very long, vertically positioned and strikingly densely arranged elytral bristles, as well as strongly protruding conical eyes, which can really only be confused with *S. porcellus* (Schönherr, 1832). In the latter species, the distance between the almost vertically positioned bristles is very long, almost as long as the bristles themselves! Nevertheless, this name appears to encompass a species complex (see Fig. 2).



Sitona syriacus
on *Ononis diffusa*
near Oroklini





■ ***Strophomorpha brevisculus* (Marseul, 1868)**

Distribution. Middle East.

Host plants. Polyphagous in low vegetation, bushes.

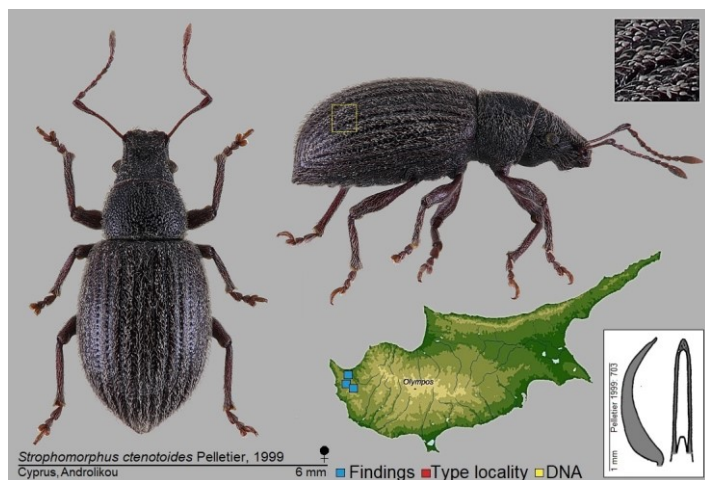
Note. With elytral bristles lying on the ground or only slightly raised.

■ ***Strophomorpha ctenotoides* Pelletier, 1999**

Distribution. Greece (Sporades), Middle East.

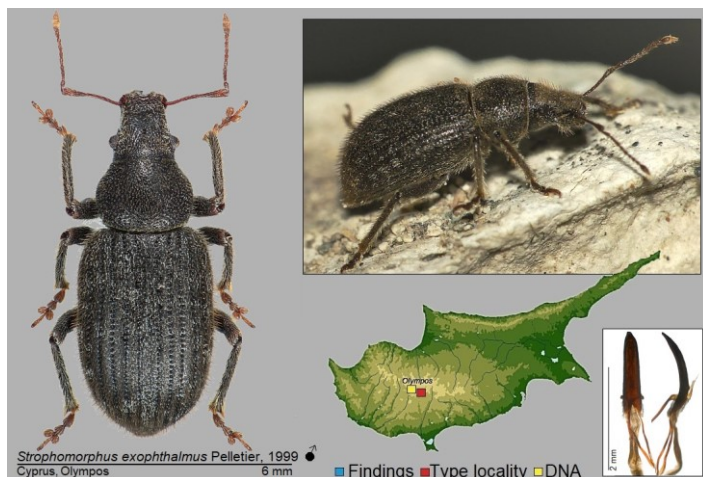
Host plants. Unknown.

Note. Smaller species (< 6 mm) with only slightly raised white elytral bristles on a dark brown, only in places with sparse basic scaling (in the previous two larger species (> 6 mm), the vestiture consists of densely placed scales across the entire elytra). See also key in Pelletier (1999). It could be a junior synonym of *Strophomorpha sublaevigatus* Desbrochers, 1875 (see my comments there).



Strophomorpha brevisculus near Kathikas

■ *Strophomorphus exophthalmus* Pelletier, 1999

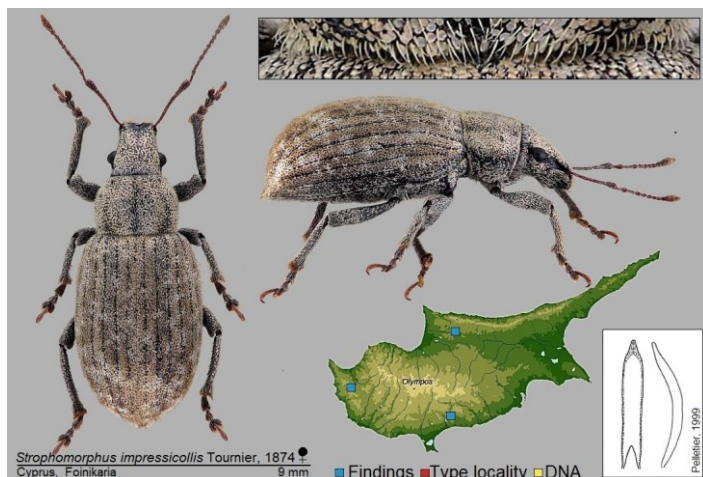


Distribution. Endemic to Cyprus.

Host plants. Unknown.

Note. I only know this species to exist among rocks and stones on Mount Olympus, at an altitude of 1,900 metres. Unlike any other *Strophomorphus* species in Cyprus, this elongated, consistently dark brown species has extremely prominent, conical eyes. (Elytra as in *Strophomorphus albarius*, also with vertically protruding bristles, but – unlike this light-coloured species – with very few scales lying close to the ground).

■ *Strophomorphus impressicollis* Tournier, 1874



Distribution. Egypt, Middle East.

Host plants. Unknown.

Note. The largest *Strophomorphus* species in Cyprus, measuring > 9 mm, with dense, light-coloured basic scales and short, barely raised, fine bristles on the elytra. Characteristic are the white, long and backward-pointing bristles on the posterior margin of the pronotum (see illustration). A paralectotype designated by Pelletier (an immature specimen from Syria) is held at the SDEI; a notable feature is the narrow, elongated tip of the aedeagus. Key and detailed redescription can be found in Pelletier (1999).

■ *Strophomorphus porcellus* (Schönherr, 1832)

Distribution. Mediterranean region, Europa (recently also in Germany: Rüssingen), Middle East.

Host plants. Polyphagous on perennial herbs (e.g. on *Achillea*, *Anthemis*, *Artemisia*, *Centaurea*).

Note. Often found near the coast on arid, sandy or calcareous soils.

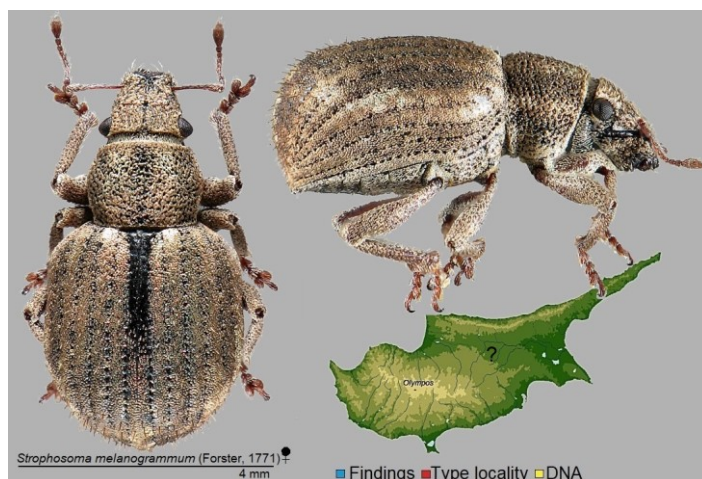
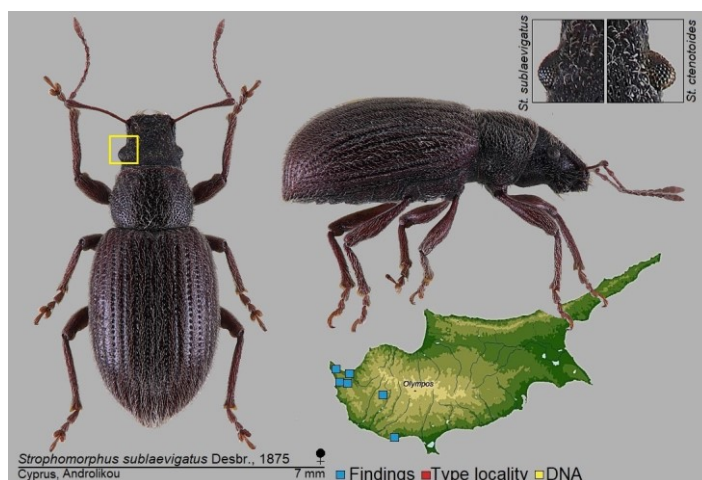
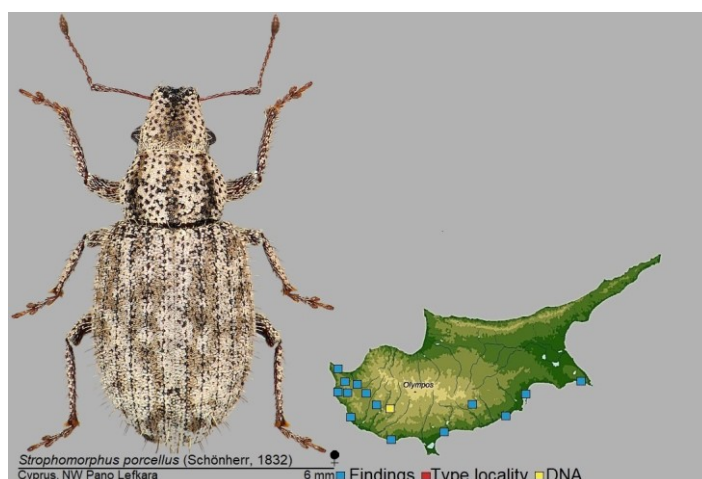
■ *Strophomorphus sublaevigatus* Desbrochers, 1875

Distribution. Middle East.

Host plants. Unknown.

Note. *Strophomorphus brunneus* Tournier, 1875 (not 1874!), often also mentioned for Cyprus, is definitely a synonym of *Strophomorphus sublaevigatus* (incorrectly stated by Pelletier 1999). The latter is also a

very small species (4–6 mm) and therefore easily confused with *Strophomorphus ctenotoides* Pelletier, 1999 due to its elongate body, dark brown colouring and appressed, backward-curving elytral bristles. In contrast, the complete absence of basal scales in *S. sublaevigatus* (= *S. brunneus* syn.) is said to make the difference (Pelletier 1999). I have my doubts given the sparse scaling of *S. ctenotoides* (abrasion?) and the lack of molecular evidence. The more or less conical, protruding eyes also remain questionable in terms of species differentiation (see illustrations). - I am not aware of any males of the (parthenogenetic?) species of *S. sublaevigatus*, and Pelletier also notes the following about the males: „non connues avec certitude“ (1999: 697). Therefore, no comparison (via aedeagus) with the species *S. ctenotoides* described by Pelletier is possible to date – neither morphologically nor molecularly. This ultimately makes the synonymisation of *Strophomorphus ctenotoides* with *Strophomorphus sublaevigatus* (or a subspecies status) even more probable. But at the very least, the species status of *S. ctenotoides* requires a comprehensive review.



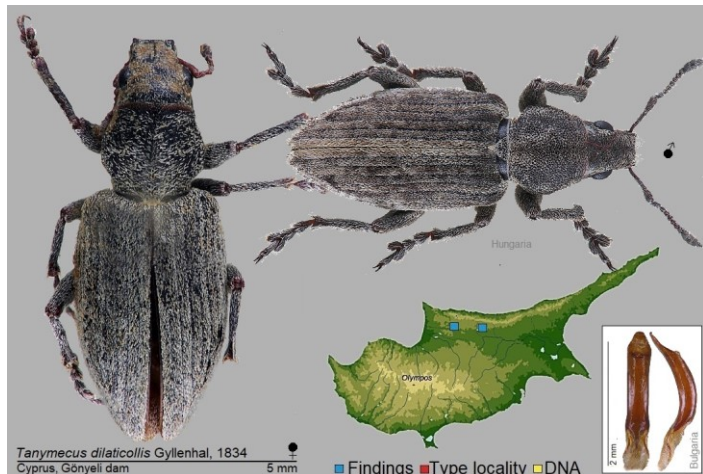
■ ***Strophosoma melanogrammum melanogrammum* (Forster, 1771)**

Distribution. Europe, Asia minor, Nearctic Region.

Host plants. Polyphagous on herbaceous vegetation and woody plants.

Note. The occurrence of this parthenogenetic species in Cyprus is uncertain (cf. Alziar 2023). No precise location data is available.

■ ***Tanymecus dilaticollis* Gyllenhal, 1834**

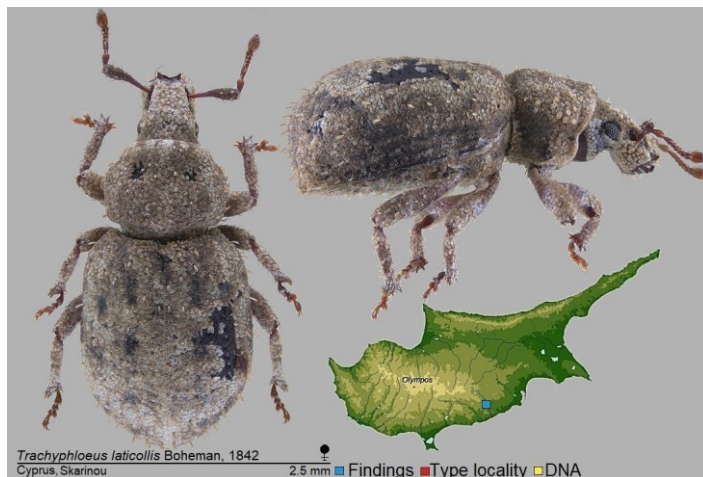


Distribution. Southeast Europe, Middle East.

Host plants. Polyphagous.

Note. Dieckmann (1983) reports: 'This species is polyphagous, feeding on herbaceous plants of various families. In the Balkans, it has been found to be a major pest of maize (*Zea mays* L.), beet (*Beta*), and sunflower (*Helianthus*). It has also been found on approximately 30 other cultivated plants, including forage grasses, cereals, forage and vegetable legumes, tomatoes, tobacco, various fruit trees, and willows. It also feeds on various weeds. The main damage is caused by the beetles' leaf damage. In spring, during periods of severe infestation, fields of emerging maize have been completely destroyed within 24 hours. On larger maize plants, the leaves were often destroyed down to the midrib.' I am not aware whether this Tanymecini has caused similar damage in the fields of Cyprus.

■ ***Trachyploeus laticollis* Boheman, 1842 - New for Cyprus!**



Distribution. Mediterranean, Canary Isl., Middle East, Australian Region (introduced).

Note. I had a specimen - from Skarinou - collected by Papaonisiforou for identification, which Makris kindly made available to me. R. Borovec (Czech Republic), the specialist for this group, was able to confirm my species identification.

■ ***Trachyploeus truquii* Seidlitz, 1868 – (without illustrations!)**

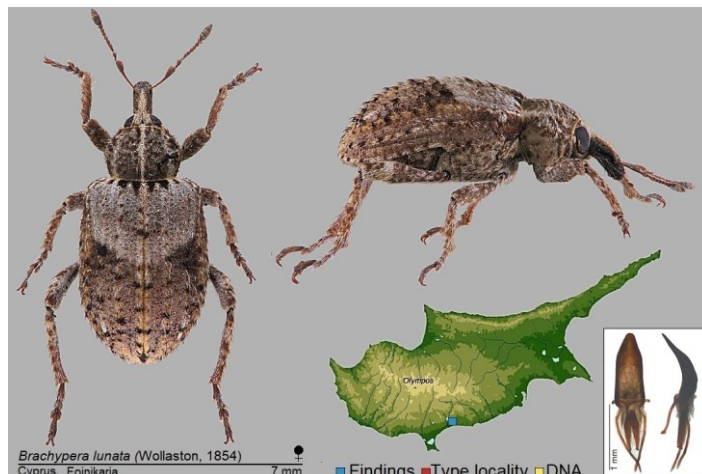
Distribution. Endemic to Cyprus.

Host plants. Unknown.

Note. In the initial description, it is placed close to *T. spinimanus* and thus directly compared with it. Seidlitz did not specify an exact location on Cyprus, and I am not aware of any other location.

CURCULIONIDAE: Hyperinae

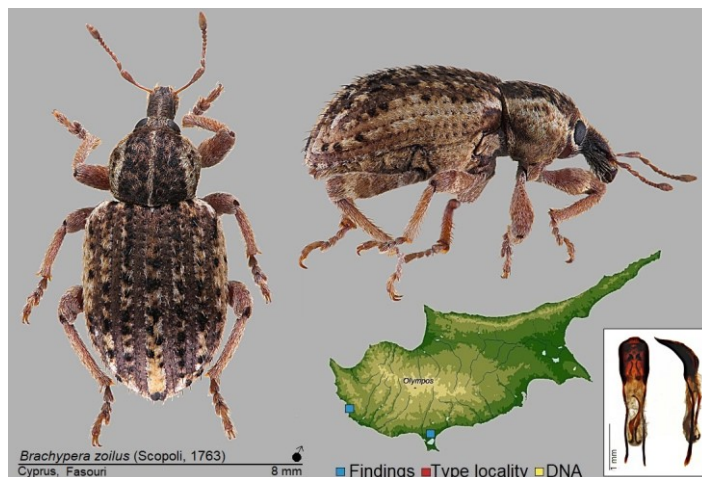
■ ***Brachypera lunata* (Wollaston, 1854)**



Distribution. Mediterranean, Canary Islands, Middle East.

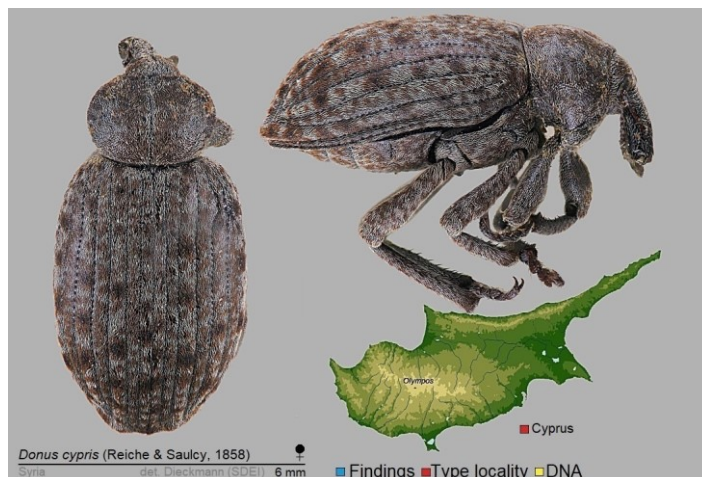
Host plants. Geraniaceae (*Erodium*, *Geranium*), oligophagous.

■ ***Brachypera zoilus* (Scopoli, 1763)**



Distribution. Palaearctic, Japan and Nearctic Region (introduced).

Host plants. Fabaceae (e.g. *Medicago*, *Ononis*, *Onobrychis*, *Trifolium*), oligophagous.



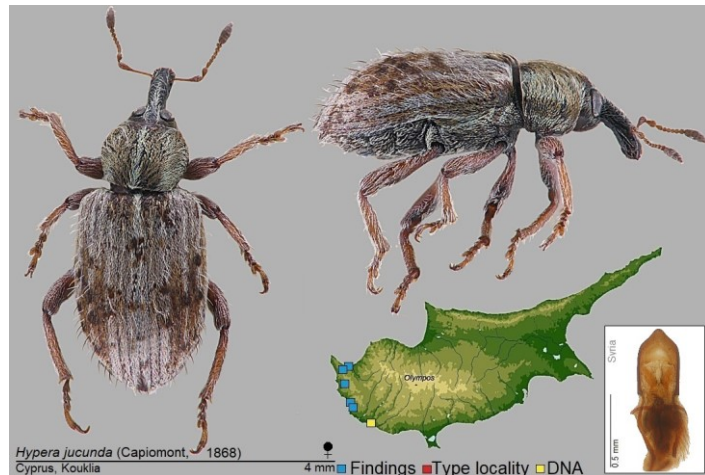
■ ***Donus cypris* (Reiche & Saulcy, 1858)**

Distribution. Middle East.

Host plants. Unknown.

Note. The species was described from Cyprus, but apparently also occurs in the neighbouring Middle East (see illustration of a specimen from Syria).

■ ***Hypera jucunda* (Capiomont, 1868)**



Distribution. Circummediterranean, Middle East.

Host plants. Fabaceae (*Lotus*), monophagous.

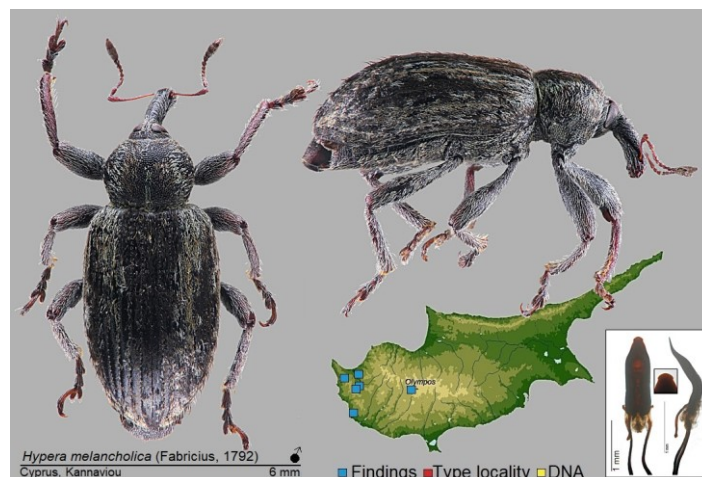
Note. The species develops in Fabaceae of the genus *Lotus* spp., on Rhodes in stands of *Lotus halophilus* (Bayer et al. 2007), which also occurs on the beaches of Cyprus. In the immediate vicinity, however, the adult animals were found on the sandy beaches of Kouklia in and under *Echium* in mid-November.

■ ***Hypera melancholica* (Fabricius, 1792)**

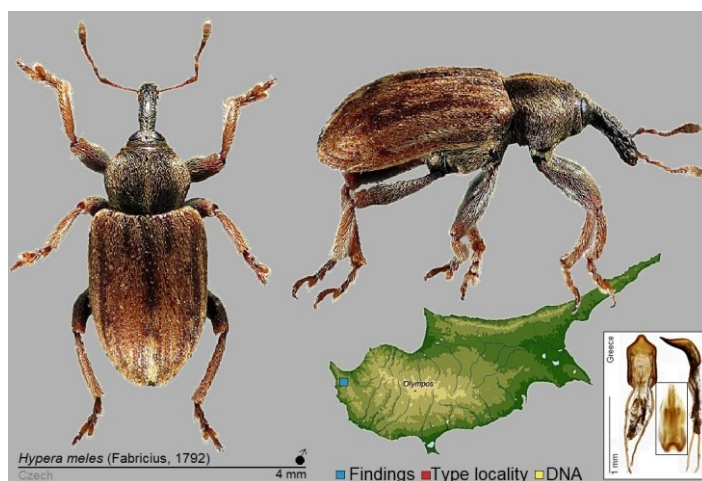
Distribution. Western Palaearctic region.

Host plants. Fabaceae (e.g. *Anthyllis*, *Medicago*, *Melilotus*, *Trifolium*, *Vicia*), oligophagous.

Note. An excellent key to the *Hypera* species can be found in: Skuhrovec (2009).



■ ***Hypera meles* (Fabricius, 1792)**



Distribution. Western Palaearctic region.

Host plants. Fabaceae (e.g. *Lotus*, *Medicago*, *Trifolium*, *Vicia*), oligophagous.



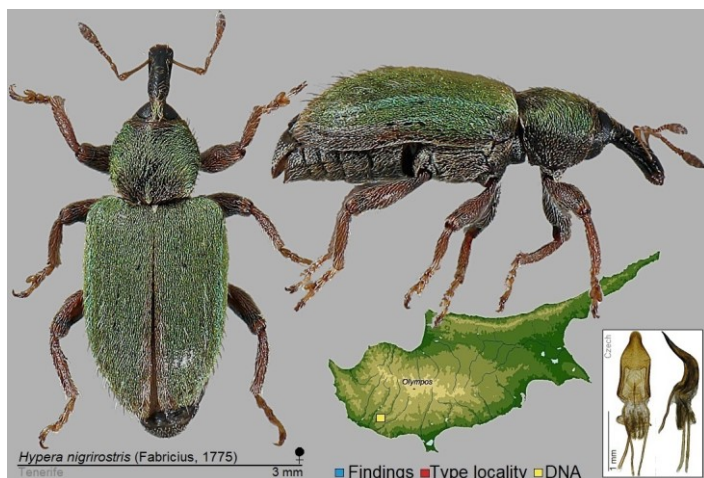
***Hypera jucunda*
(Capiomont, 1868)**

Cyprus, near Kouklia, beach,
34°41'4.93"N, 32°35'9.00"E, 0 m,
12.11.2023, beaten from *Echium*,
Stüben (12)

© P. E. Stüben/CURCI

Note. The species is sufficiently characterised by its very broad, laterally rounded pronotum, the elytral scales divided into two parts along their entire length (the division extends to the base), the broad base of the elytra and the short median lobe of the aedeagus.

■ *Hypera nigrirostris* (Fabricius, 1775)

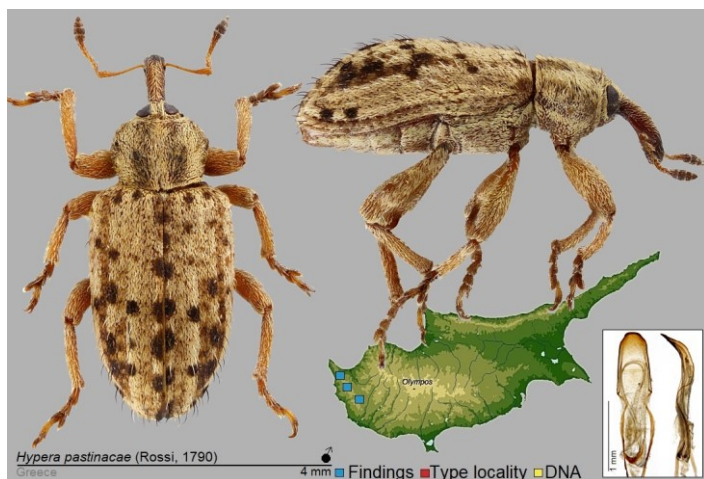


Distribution. Europe, Northwest Africa, Asia; introduced to North America.

Host plants. Fabaceae, (*Trifolium* spp.).

Note. Scales uniformly intense brownish, but mostly green; with long, obliquely protruding bristles. Alziar also reports *H. nigrirostris* for Cyprus. But the specimens from Cyprus differ molecularly in the mtCO1 fragment by an astonishing 4.6% from the Central European specimens of this species (with intra-species differences of just under 2% including specimens from Denmark, Andalusia, Morocco and/or Tenerife). The species status of the Cypriot specimens should therefore be reviewed.

■ *Hypera pastinacae* (Rossi, 1790)



Distribution. Circummediterranean, Western Europe.

Host plants. Apiaceae (*Daucus* spp., *Ammi majus* L. - det. Alziar), oligophagous.

Note. With long, thick, strongly raised bristles on the pronotum and elytra, the midline of the heart-shaped pronotum predominantly covered with split scales, the narrow rostrum at least as long as the pronotum, and a characteristic aedeagus (see illustration).

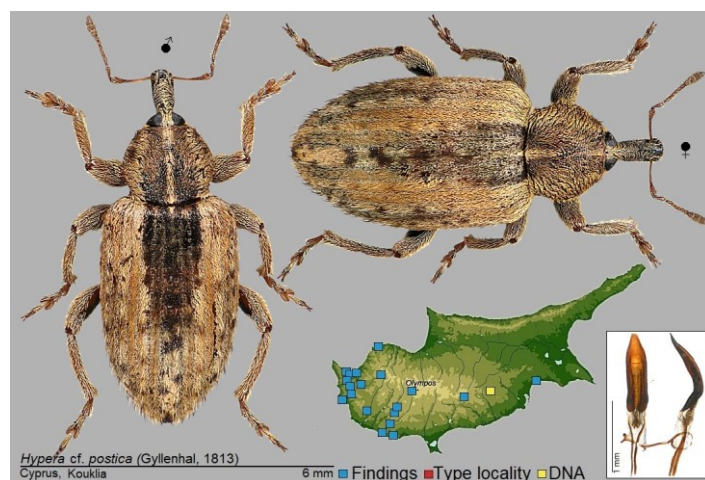
■ *Hypera* cf. *postica* (Gyllenhal, 1813) – new for Cyprus?

Distribution. Palaearctic region, Nearctic Region.

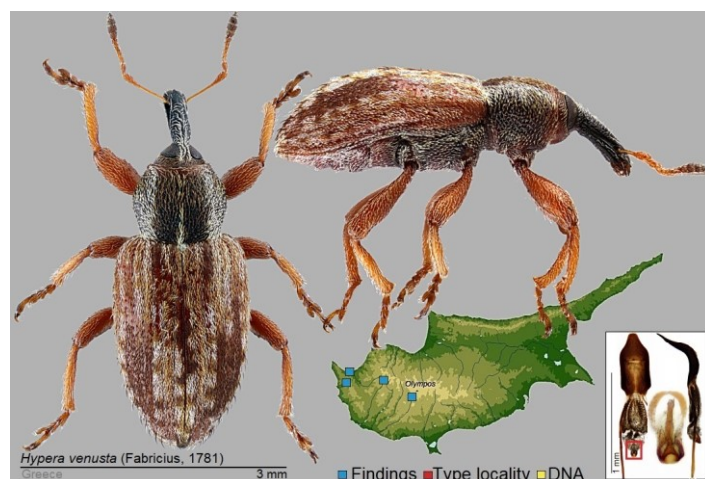
Host plants. Fabaceae, oligophagous.

Note. The *Hypera postica* species complex: Based on the mtCO1 gene, the specimens I sequenced from Cyprus (near Arminou and Delikipos) appear to be closely related to *Hypera temperlei* Hoffmann, 1958 from the Maritime Alps in France and Switzerland (Valais, Germany 2021; p-distance < 2%) and does not belong to the typical specimens of *H. postica* from Central Europe (p-distance > 5%)! I have found specimens in Sardinia that are similar to this Cypriot specimen as

well as to the specimens from France and Switzerland, both morphologically and molecularly.



■ *Hypera venusta* (Fabricius, 1781)

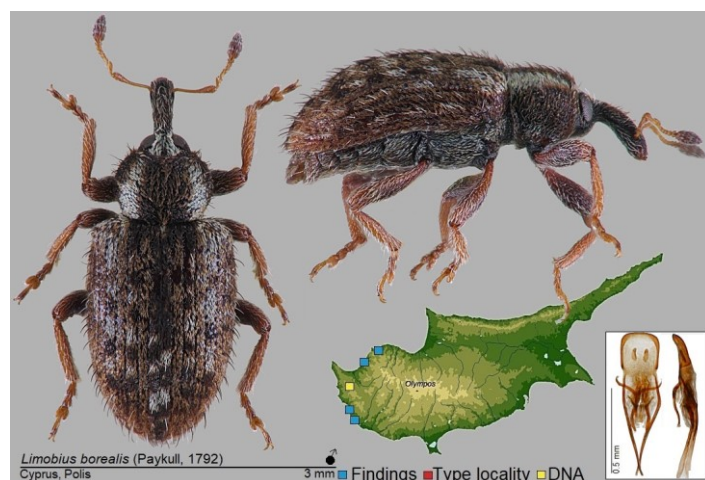


Distribution. Europe, North Africa, Middle East.

Host plants. Fabaceae (e.g. *Anthyllis*, *Lotus*, *Trifolium*, *Vicia*), oligophagous.

Note. Midline of pronotum predominantly with unsplit, white scales; however, scales of elytra split almost to the base, with brown spots on the intervals behind the middle of the elytra, pronotum as wide as it is long with long oval rounded sides.

■ *Limobius borealis* (Paykull, 1792)



Distribution. Western Palaearctic region.

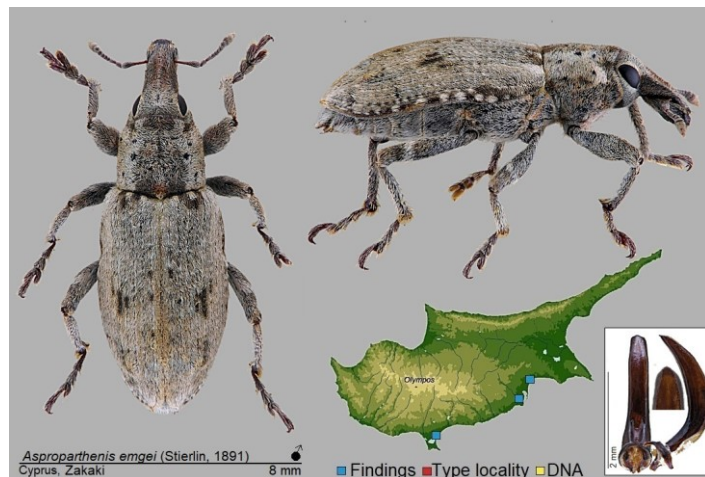
Host plants. Geraniaceae (*Erodium*, *Geranium*), oligophagous.

Note. The specimens from Cyprus differ by approximately 4% in the mtCO1 fragment from the Central and Northern European specimens

of the nominotypical taxon (locus typicus: Gulf of Bothnia, Sweden). Key to *Limobius* species, see Skuhrovec (2009).

CURCULIONIDAE: Lixinae

■ *Asproparthenis emgei* (Stierlin, 1891)

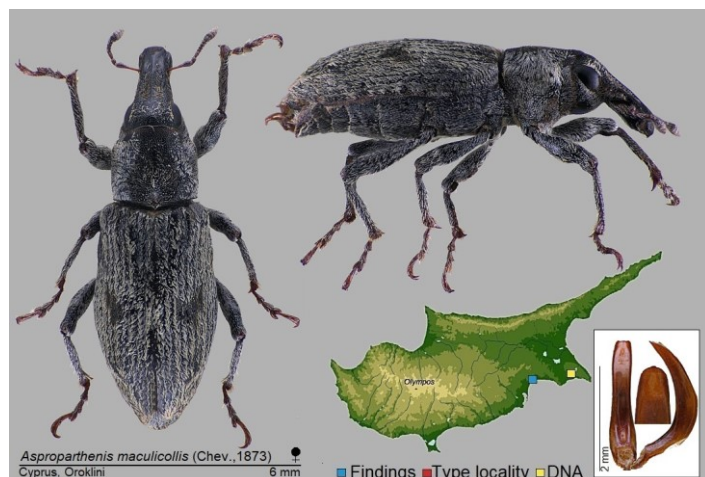


Distribution. Greece, Asia minor.

Host plants. Unknown.

Note. The genus *Asproparthenis* Gozis, 1886 is represented by 25 species in the Palaearctic region, including *A. punctiventris* (Germar, 1824), a dangerous pest of sugar beet in Ukraine and southern Russia as early as the first half of the 20th century. The larvae live ectophagously at the roots. Concrete ecological information on *A. emgei* (including in Cyprus) is largely lacking in the literature, so there is hardly any published data on the lifestyle, host plants, life cycle or behaviour of this species.

■ *Asproparthenis maculicollis* (Chevrolat, 1873)

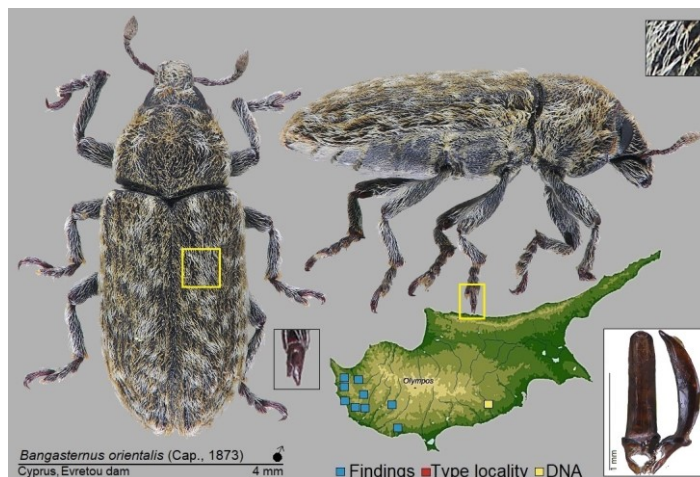


Distribution. Italy, Malta.

Host plants. Amaranthaceae: *Arthrocnemum* sp. (Colonnelli, 1991 as *Bothynoderes andreae* syn.).

Note. For the distinction between *A. maculicollis* and the similar species *A. albicans* (Gyllenhal, 1834), see Colonnelli (1991). *Arthrocnemum* species are shrubby salt-tolerant plants. In Cyprus, the only representative of this genus is *Arthrocnemum macrostachyum*, a halophytic shrub that can grow up to 1 meter tall. This is very consistent with the records of *Asproparthenis maculicollis* made by P. Sprick at the salt lake near Oroklini and K. Lienemann on the shore of the Paralimni salt lake near Sotira. According to initial molecular studies, *A. maculicollis* appears to be closely related to *Asproparthenis punctiventris* (Germar, 1823), a species widely distributed throughout the Palaearctic region.

■ *Bangasternus orientalis* (Capiomont, 1873)

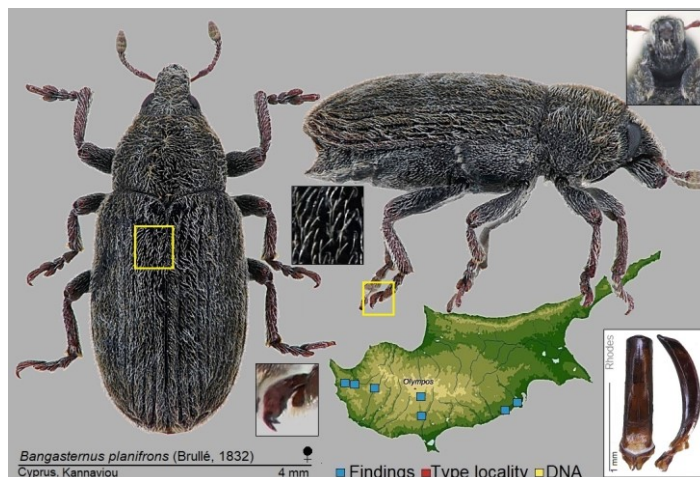


Distribution. Southeastern Europe, Middle East, Asia, Nearctic Region.

Host plants. Asteraceae: *Centaurea hyalolepis* (det. Alziar, Stüben), perhaps monophagous.

Note. To avoid confusion: the species of the genus *Bangasternus* Gozis differs from the very similar-looking species of the genus *Rhinocyllus* Germar by the deep, broad notch in the middle of the front prosternum, the edges of which form sharply edged lobes (see illustration in *Bangasternus planifrons* (Brullé, 1832)).

■ *Bangasternus planifrons* (Brullé, 1832)



Distribution. Mediterranean, Near East, Asia.

Host plants. Asteraceae (*Carthamus* spp., *Notobasis syriaca* (det. P. Sprick)), perhaps oligophagous.

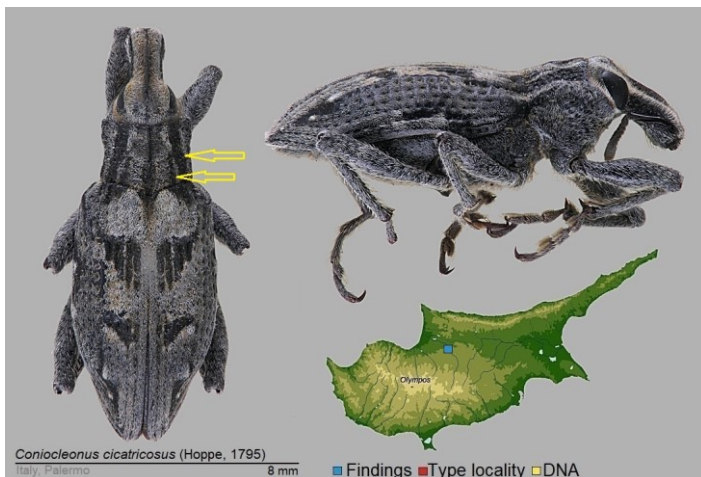
Note. *B. planifrons* differs from *B. orientalis* in having more rounded elytra (not elongated and parallel-sided), claws of equal or about equal length (not claws of unequal length) and without bifid elytral hairs (*B. orientalis* always has additional bifid elytral hairs). For a key to the *Bangasternus* species, see Colonnelli & Whitehead (1990). Although the two species do indeed look very similar, the high-resolution mtCO1 sequence shows a 19.8% difference for specimens from Cyprus (see Fig. 2).

■ *Coniocleonus cicatricosus* (Hoppe, 1795)

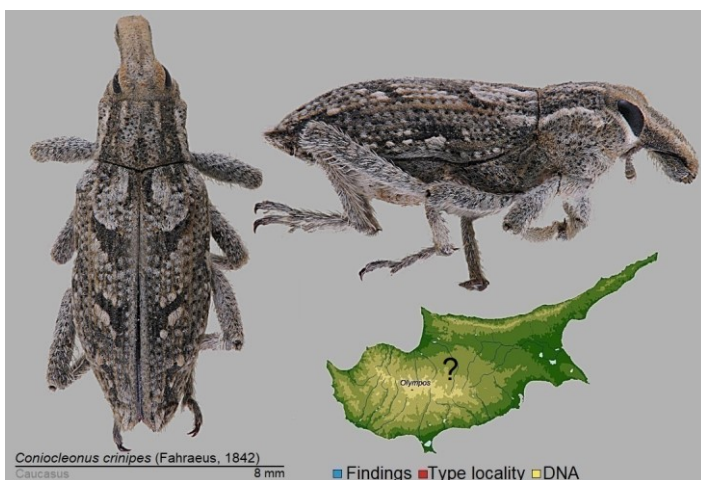
Distribution. Europe, North Africa, Middle East.

Host plants. Unknown.

Note. Alziar reported as early as 1995 on a single specimen of this species that was new to Cyprus (Akaki, 3 May 1977). Distinctive feature: The dark black, broad stripes on the pronotum are more or less complete and run straight; on the inside, next to them, there is another narrow dark stripe from the base to the middle; the middle keel on the pronotum disappears into the depression and does not reach the base of the pronotum.



■ *Coniocleonus crinipes* (Fahraeus, 1842)

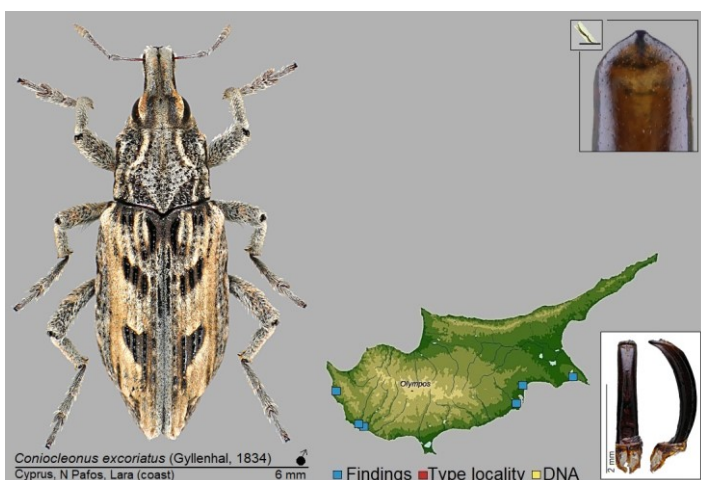


Distribution. Spain, North Africa, Asia.

Host plants. Unknown.

Note. So far, I am only aware of one entry in the Winkler catalog (1932: no 4659) and in the Junk catalog (1934: 20) for an occurrence in Cyprus. With a similar striped pattern on the pronotum as in *C. cicatricosus*.

■ *Coniocleonus excoriatus* (Gyllenhal, 1834)



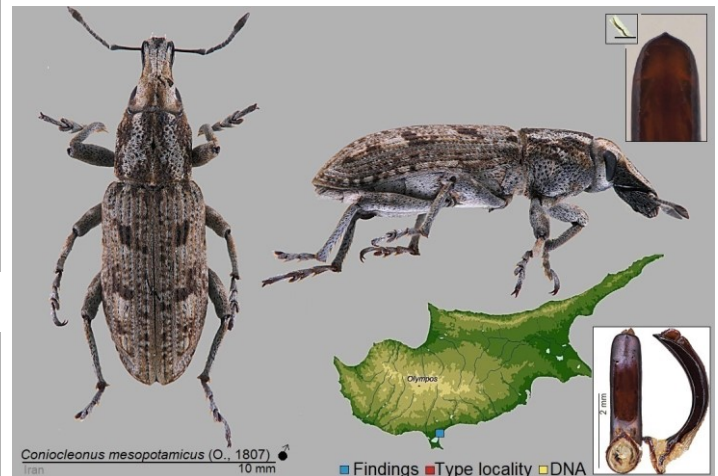
Distribution. Mediterranean, Southeastern Europe, Middle East.

Host plants. Polygonaceae (e.g. *Emex spinosa*), probably monophagous; adults polyphagous on *Polygonum*, *Rumex*, *Malva*, *Atriplex*.

Note. The dark stripes on pronotum more or less complete, running straight from the base of the pronotum to the middle level and then breaking sharply and extending obliquely to the front edge of the pronotum (together with the inner strip, form a rhombus!); middle keel on

pronotum disappears in the depression and does not extend to the base of the pronotum. In *C. cicatricosus*, this stripe runs straight, and in *C. nigrosuturatus*, the stripe is not nearly as sharply broken as well as the middle keel on the pronotum extends in an oval depression almost to its base. For the identification of other *Coniocleonus* species found in Cyprus, see Skuhrovec et al. (2014).

■ *Coniocleonus mesopotamicus* (Olivier, 1807)

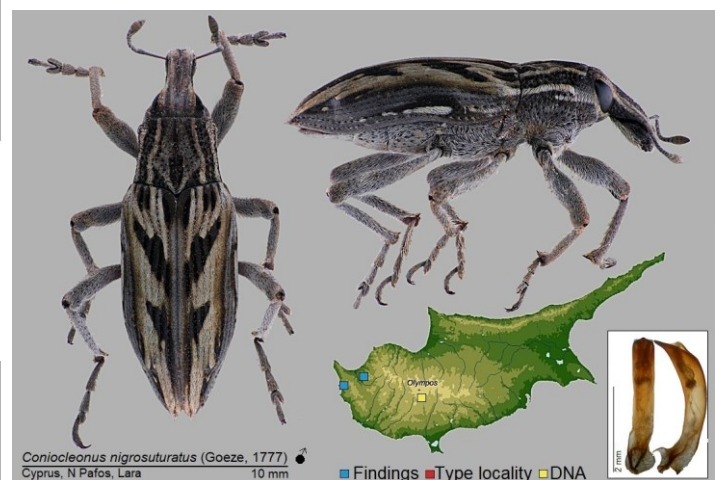


Distribution. Asia, Middle East.

Host plants. Unknown.

Note. Two specimens of this very large species were apparently collected near Zakaki (Limassol) by G. Georgiou on 2 February and 20 April 2001 (Alziar 2006).

■ *Coniocleonus nigrosuturatus* (Goeze, 1777)



Distribution. Western Palearctic region.

Host plants. Geraniaceae (*Erodium cicutarium*), monophagous

Note. Common Stork's-bill (*Erodium cicutarium*, Geraniaceae) is identified as a host plant of both larvae and adults of this weevil (Stejskal et al. 2014). With a similar elytra pattern to *C. excoriatus*, see distinction there and in Skuhrovec et al. (2017).

■ *Coniocleonus planidorsis* (Fairmaire, 1874)

Distribution. Spain, North Africa, Middle East.

Host plants. Unknown.

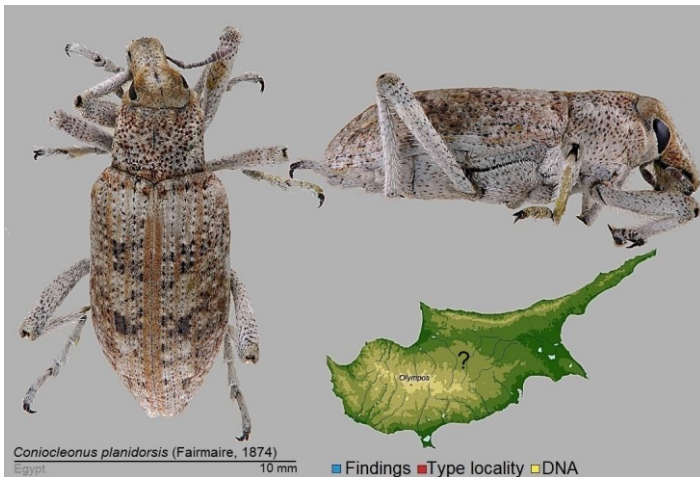
Note. I did not have any data on finds. To my knowledge, the species is only mentioned in the Winkler catalogue (1932) for Cyprus. Pronotum with a light, cloudy, washed-out pattern without distinct longitudinal bands and parallel sides.

■ *Coniocleonus vittiger* (Fahraeus, 1842)

Distribution. Southeast Europe, Middle East.

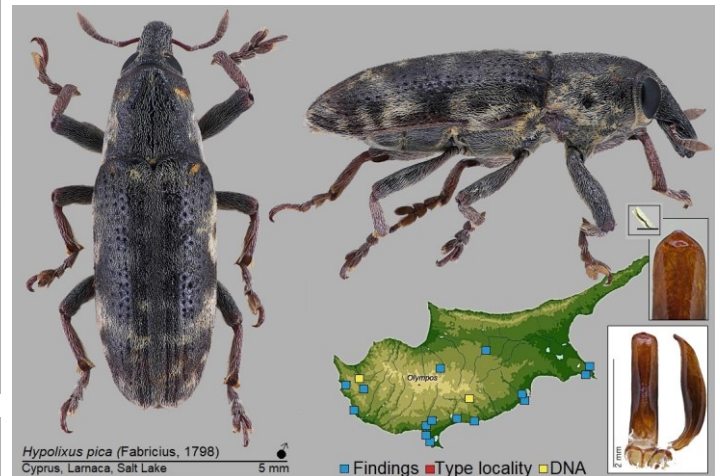
Host plants. Unknown.

Note. Special feature: Middle longitudinal keel on rostrum divided into two keels at the base of the rostrum.

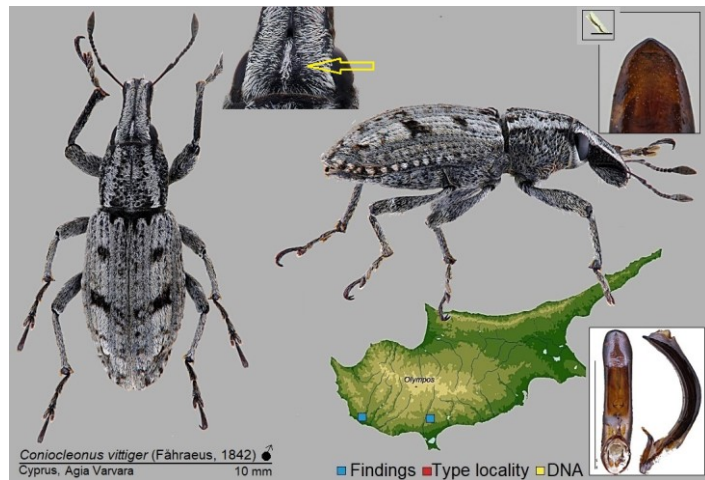
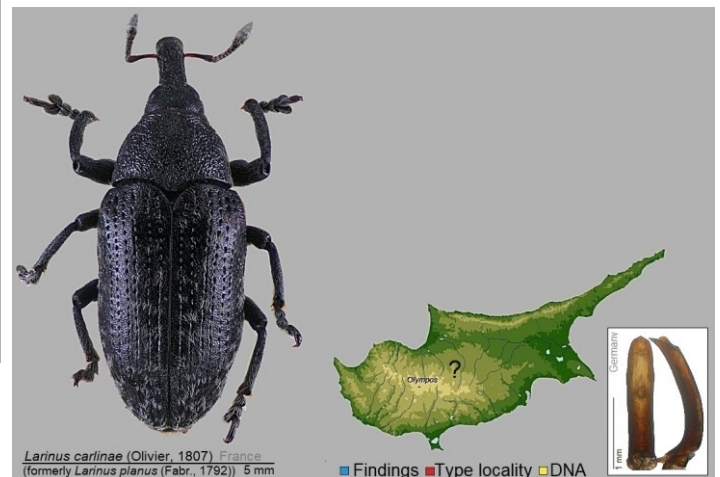


Tamarix spp. (food plant).

Note. For detailed information on biology, ecology and host plants on Cyprus, see Stüben (2024).



■ *Larinus carlinae* (Olivier, 1807)



■ *Hypolixus pica* (Fabricius, 1798)

Distribution. France, southeastern Europe, Middle East, Afrotropical Region, Oriental Region.

Host plants. *Amaranthaceae* (*Amaranthus* spp.), *monophagous*;



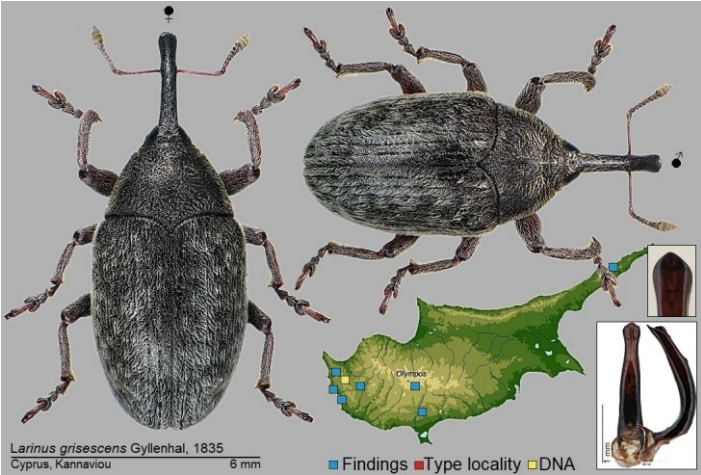
Hypolixus pica
on *Tamarix* near Evretou dam



© P. E. Stüben/CURCI

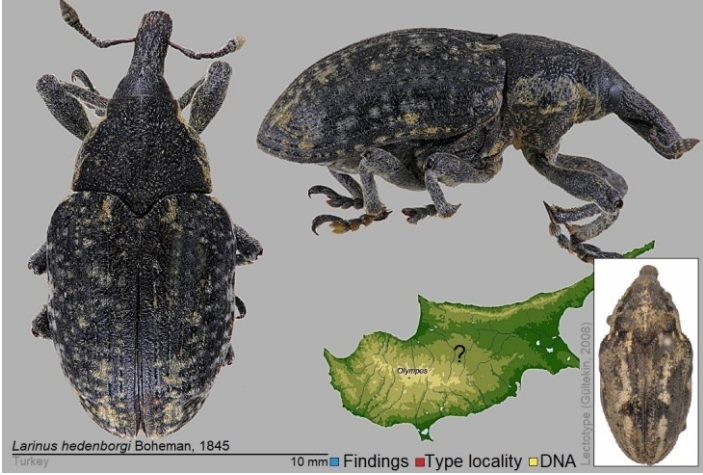
Distribution. Palaearctic region.
Host plants. Asteraceae (e.g. *Carduus*, *Cirsium*, *Centaurea*), oligophagous.
Note. This slender *Larinus* species on thistles was formerly known by the widespread name *Larinus planus* (Fabricius, 1792). I am not aware of this species actually occurring in Cyprus, but it is listed by Alziar (2023) as at least a possible species. Given the widespread distribution of this Palaearctic species, which was even introduced to North America for biological control of invasive thistles in 1960, I consider its occurrence in Cyprus to be very likely. The species can easily be confused with worn specimens of the more hairy species *Larinus ovaliformis* Capiomont, 1874.

■ *Larinus griseus* Gyllenhal, 1835



Distribution. Eastern Mediterranean.
Host plants. Asteraceae (*Onopordum*, *Carduus*, *Crupina*), polyphagous.
Note. *Larinus griseus* Gyllenhal, 1835 (= *Larinus orientalis* Capiomont, 1874 = *Larinus hierosolymae* Desbrochers des Loges, 1896) is a valid species (Gültekin & Alonso-Zarazaga 2015). Another illustration of this species from Rhodes can be found in the catalogue of Greece by Germann et al (2026), showing the typical very long rostrum concavely narrowed before the tip in both sexes, the dense, adpressed, cloudy-white elytral pubescence, and the unmistakable aedeagus.

■ *Larinus hedenborgi* Boheman, 1845



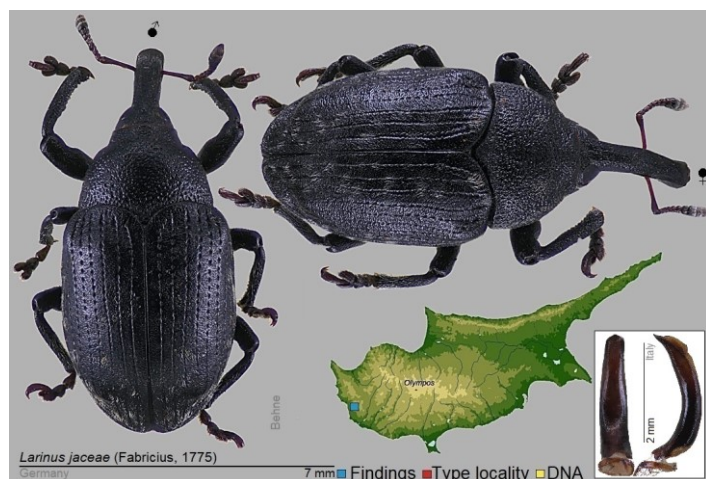
Larinus griseus
on *Crupina* near Kato Arodes

Distribution. Greece (Rhodes), Middle East.

Host plants. Asteraceae (*Echinops*), monophagous?

Note. Although the species is mentioned in the CCPCC, it remains entirely unclear where the information specifying the exact location actually comes from (see also Alziar 2023). The type locality of this species is on the Greek island of Rhodes (see lectotype in the figure, coll. Naturhistoriska Riksmuseet, Stockholm, Sweden). The species appears to be closely related to *L. onopordi*, but according to Gültekin (2008), it does not develop in flowerheads of *Echinops sphaerocephalus* in northeastern Anatolia, but rather inside the stem capsules. So far, I have not been able to detect *L. hedenborgi* on the only *Echinops* species in Cyprus, *Echinops spinosissimus* (see also Alziar 2023).

■ ***Larinus jaceae* (Fabricius, 1775) – new for Cyprus!**

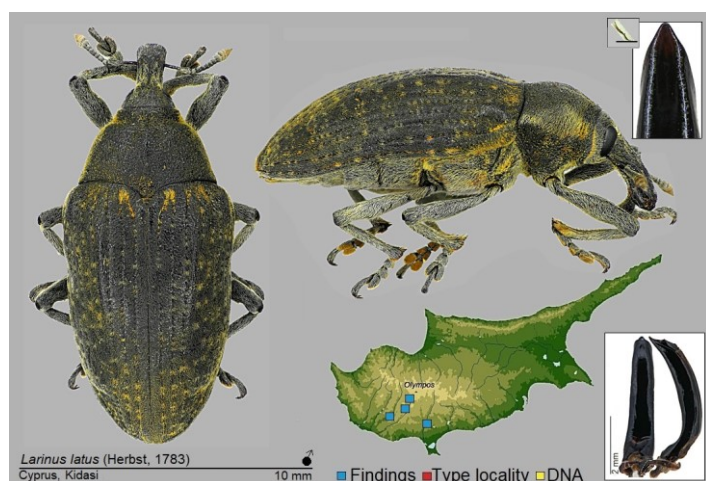


Distribution. Almost the entire Palaearctic region.

Host plants. Asteraceae (*Carduus*, *Cirsium*), oligophagous.

Note. Unfortunately, I did not have access to this specimen from the Messutat collection, which was identified by Behne. However, I assume that the identification is correct (the accompanying illustrations of the species from Germany were provided by Lutz Behne himself). The only specimen was collected in May 1998 by Ziegler in Mesoyi, 8 km north-east of Paphos on Cyprus. – Distinguishing characteristics: Inner sides of fore tibiae strongly toothed; pronotum, which is strongly constricted at the front, densely and somewhat wrinkledly punctured; rostrum without a keel; elytra rounded and narrowed from the front quarter towards the tip.

■ ***Larinus latus* (Herbst, 1783)**



Distribution. Europa, Middle East, Australian Region.

Host plants. Asteraceae (*Onopordum* spp.), monophagous.

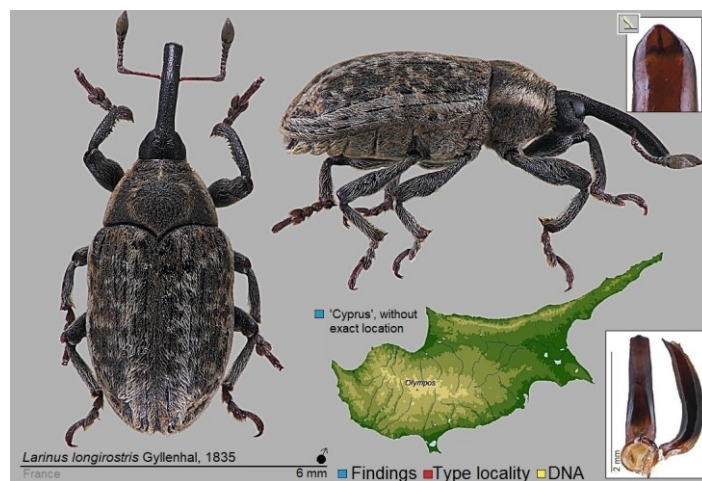
Note. For information on the biology of the species on its host plant *Onopordum bracteatum* in Turkey, see: Gültekin et al. (2003).

■ ***Larinus longirostris* Gyllenhal, 1835**

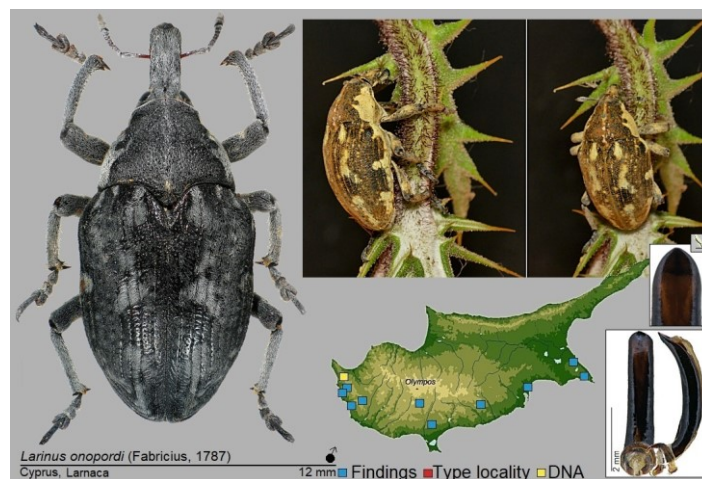
Distribution. Mediterranean.

Host plants. Asteraceae (*Centaurea*, *Pallenis*), oligophagous.

Note. Not known to me from Cyprus, but listed for this island by Georgiou (1977) and Alziar (2023) without specifying the exact location (a single specimen in the collection of the Department of Agriculture (Nicosia), Alziar 1995). The extremely long rostrum is a striking characteristic in both sexes!



■ ***Larinus onopordi* (Fabricius, 1787)**

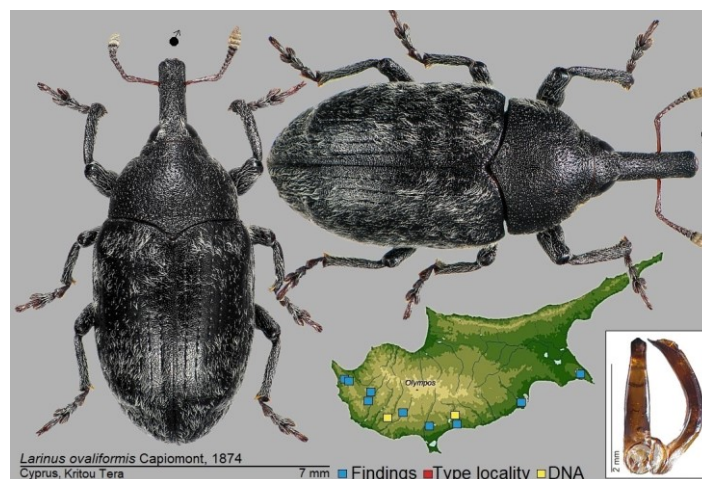


Distribution. Mediterranean, Middle East, Afrotropical Region.

Host plants. Asteraceae monophagous on *Echinops spinosissimus* ssp. *bithynicus*; vid. Stüben 2023.

Note. The females lay their eggs in the flower heads of globe thistles (*Echinops* spp.), where the larvae also develop and feed on the seeds. When alive, the species is easily recognisable by the typical yellow spots on its elytra, which unfortunately often disappear after preparation, as is the case with almost all Lixini.

■ ***Larinus ovaliformis* Capiomont, 1874**





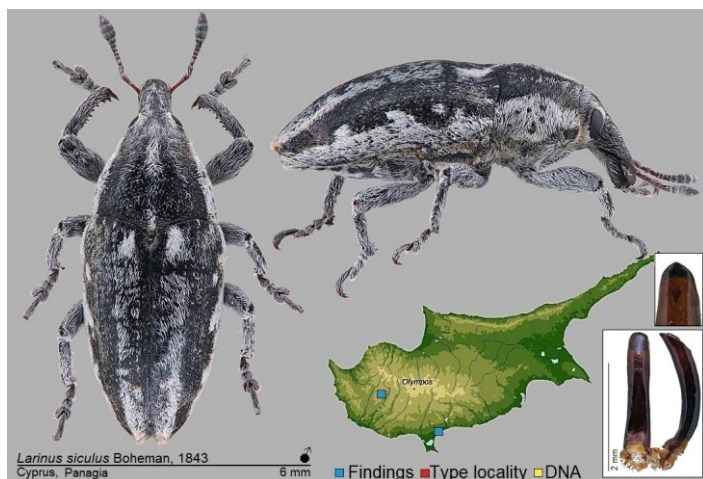
Larinus ovaliformis on *Notobasis syriaca* near Foinikaria.

© P.E. Stüben / CURCI

Distribution. Libya, Middle East.

Host plants. Asteraceae: *Echinops spinosissimus*, *Notobasis syriaca* (det. G. Alziar, Stüben).

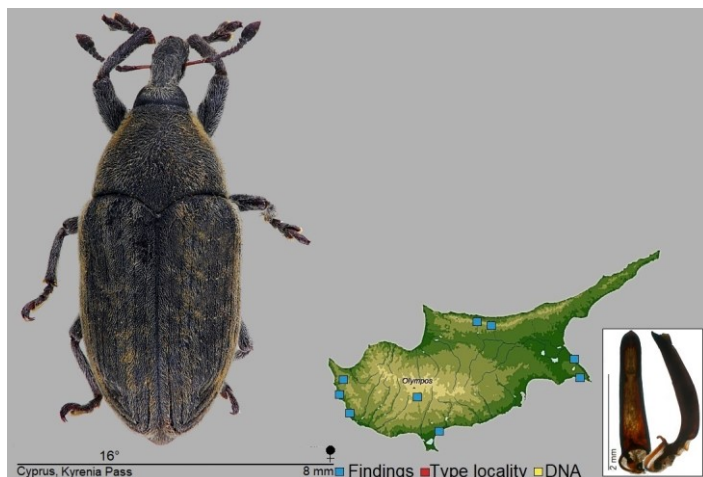
■ *Larinus siculus* Boheman, 1843



Distribution. Mediterranean, Afrotropical Region.

Host plants. Asteraceae; on a large bush of *Thymbra capitata* encompassing a *Phagnalon rupestre* ssp. *graecum* (Alziar 2021).

■ *Larinus syriacus* Gyllenhal, 1835

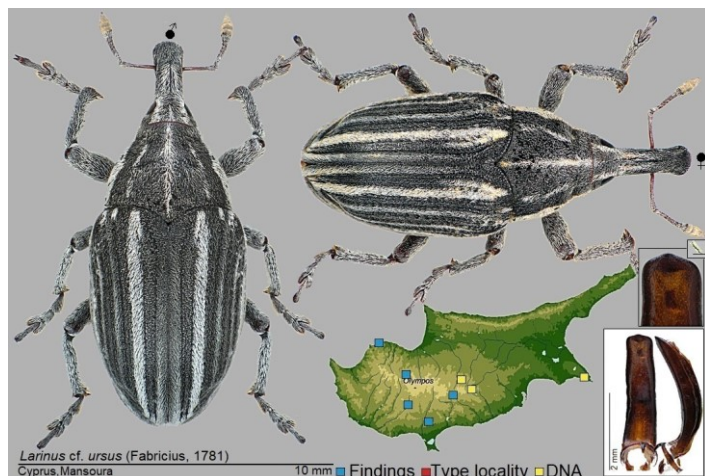


Distribution. Southeast Europe, Middle East.

Host plants. Asteraceae, monophagous: *Carthamus lanatus* (det. Lienemann).

Note. The species is easily recognisable on Cyprus by its thickened rostrum, which tapers towards the base (see illustration).

■ *Larinus* cf. *ursus* (Fabricius, 1781)



Distribution. Mediterranean, Middle East.

Host plants. *Carlina* spp., *Scolymus* spp.

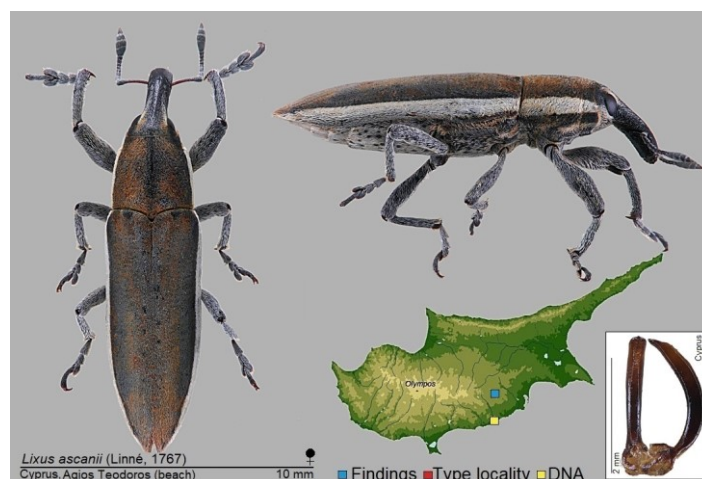
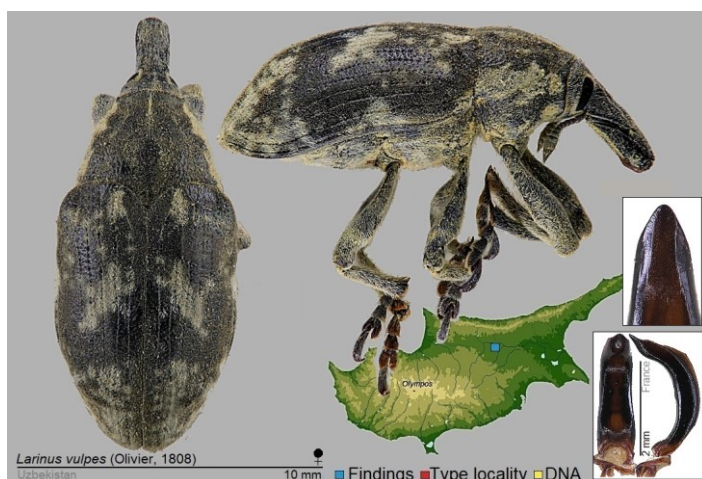
Note. Fabricius described the species from Western Europe. The only thing that seems certain is that the species from Cyprus does not belong to this evolutionary lineage (most recently Alziar 2023). We are currently working on a description of this new *Larinus* species as part of an integrative taxonomic approach. The preliminary molecular work has already been completed. The molecular samples from Cyprus (e.g. Agia Napa / Αγία Νάπα and Apliki / Απλίκι) differ by 8–10% in the mitochondrial CO1 partial gene from confirmed and verified records of *Larinus ursus* collected by the author in Sicily and Morocco and deposited in GenBank years ago.

■ *Larinus vulpes* (Olivier, 1808)

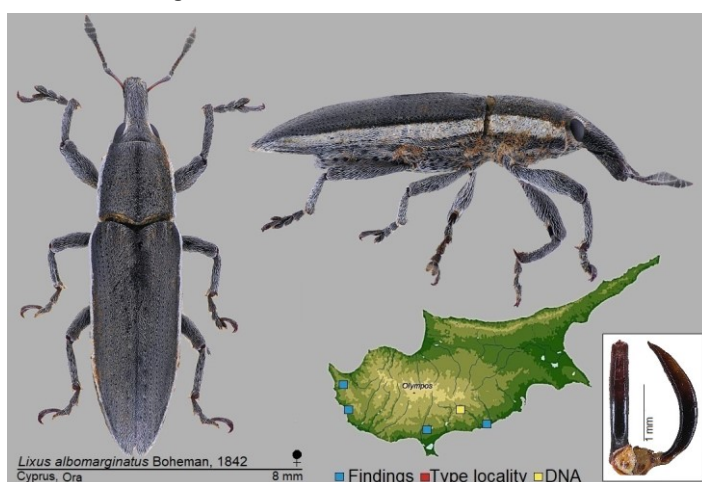
Distribution. Southeast Europe, Mediterranean, Asia.

Host plants. Asteraceae (*Echinops* spp.), monophagous.

Note. The species can easily be confused with the only slightly larger species *L. onopordi* (F., 1787) due to the light markings on its elytra. However, it differs from the latter in its distinctly club-shaped (not linear-parallel) anterior femora.



■ *Lixus albomarginatus* Boheman, 1843



Distribution. Southeast Europe, Mediterranean, Asia.

Host plants. Brassicaceae, Resedaceae, oligophagous.

Note. Notes on the questionable distinction between *Lixus ascanii* (Linné, 1767) and *Lixus albomarginatus* Boheman, 1842 can be found as a commentary under the mentioned species in our online catalog (Stüben & Jacob 2023/2026). Both species are repeatedly mentioned for Cyprus as well (most recently in Alziar 2023). However, the completely vague and partly contradictory differential diagnosis proposed by Dieckmann in 1980 is anything but convincing, and the specimens of both species from Cyprus that we identified according to his characteristics do not even differ in the position of a single base (mtCO1, 658 bp). It therefore seems reasonable, at least with regard to the Cypriot specimens, to speak of a single species or to consider *Lixus albomarginatus* a junior synonym of *Lixus ascanii*. Further specimens from France, Italy and Sicily, identified by various colleagues and sequenced by us using mtCO1, confirm this impression: A clear clade formation between the two taxa is not discernible and morphologically all conceivable transitions exist.

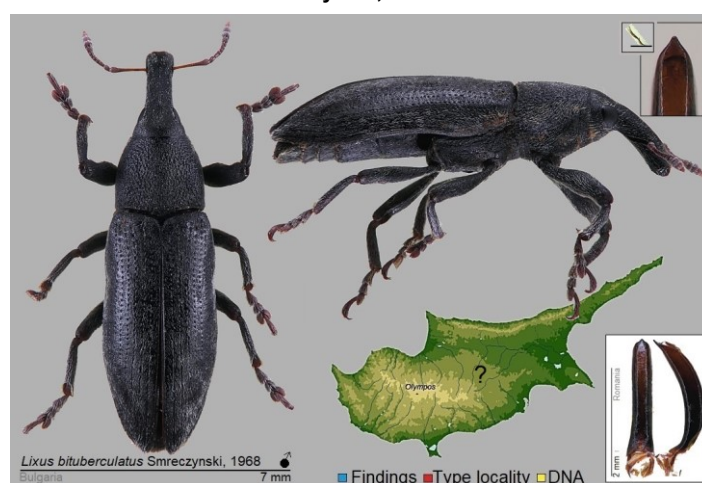
■ *Lixus ascanii* (Linné, 1767)

Distribution. Mediterranean.

Host plants. Capparaceae (*Capparis spinosa*; Dieckmann 1980).

Note. See the comment under *Lixus albomarginatus*. Conclusion: Even Dieckmann, who apparently was able to distinguish between the two 'species', reaches a similar conclusion in this context for northern Italy, an area where the ranges overlap: "Such beetles could also shed light on the definitive taxonomic classification of the two taxa, which I regard as species, but which may also be geographical races of a single species." (Dieckmann 1980). A differential diagnosis could not be more contradictory.

■ *Lixus bituberculatus* Smreczynski, 1968

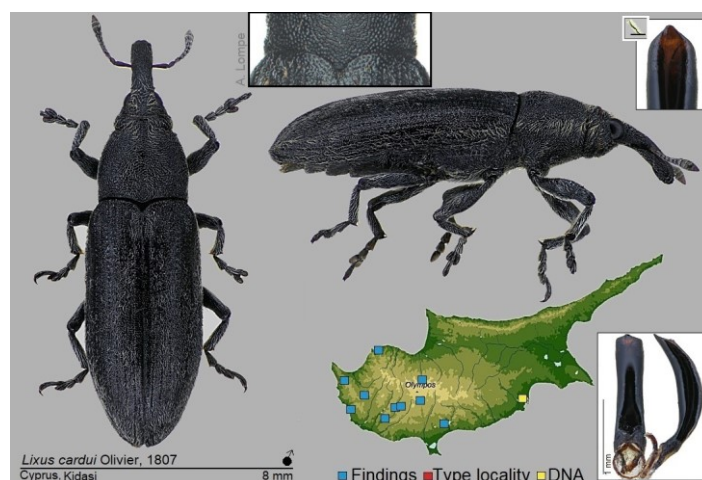


Distribution. Southeast Europe.

Host plants. Asteraceae-Cichorieae (*Cichorium*, *Crepis*, *Picris*), oligophagous.

Note. Although this species is also listed by Aziair (2023) as a possible Lixini species for Cyprus, I do not have any precise details about the locations or circumstances of its discovery. Nevertheless, this species – like many other questionable species for Cyprus – is shown here so that readers can identify it and, if possible, report it to the author.

■ *Lixus cardui* Olivier, 1807



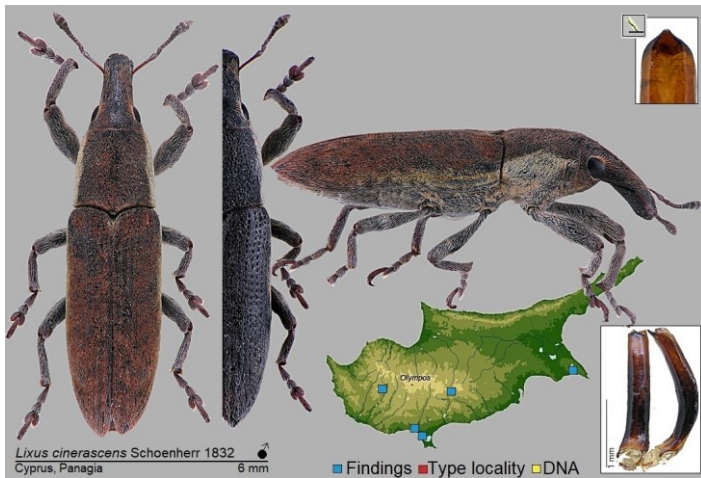
Distribution. Europa, North Africa, Middle East.

Host plants. Asteraceae (*Onopordum*, *Cirsium*, *Carduus*), oligophagous.

Note. The species can be confused with *Lixus filiformis*, which looks similar but is narrower. *L. cardui* has a much broader and finely

grained, non-punctured (!) pronotum and less angular shoulders with significantly broader elytra. It is the shorter, more robust species.

■ ***Lixus cinerascens* Schoenherr 1832 – new for Cyprus!**

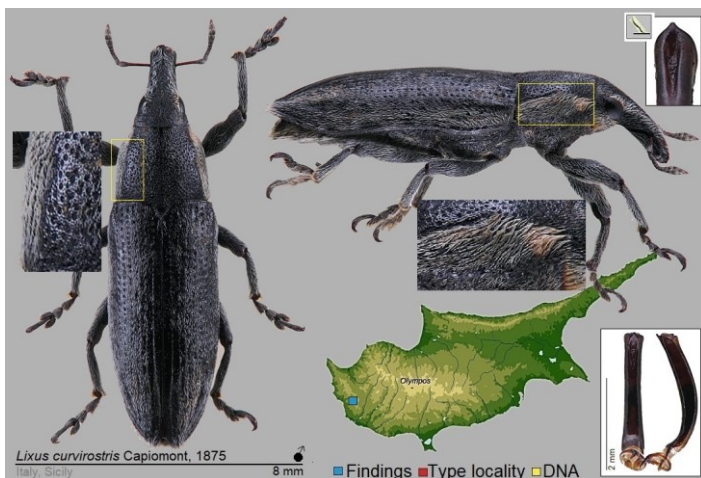


Distribution. Southern Europe, Middle East.

Host plants. Asteraceae (e.g. *Picris hieracioides*; Compte 2026).

Note. 5.5–10 mm. Pronotum subconical, sides almost straight, largely white when viewed from the side, sometimes extending to the prosternum; elytra, pronotum and rostrum rust-coloured, antennae reddish at the base. See key and information on the potential host plants in: Compte (2026): <https://lixusdefrance.blogspot.com>

■ ***Lixus curvirostris* Capiomont, 1875**



Distribution. Circummediterranean.

Host plants. Apiaceae (*Ferula communis*), monophagous.

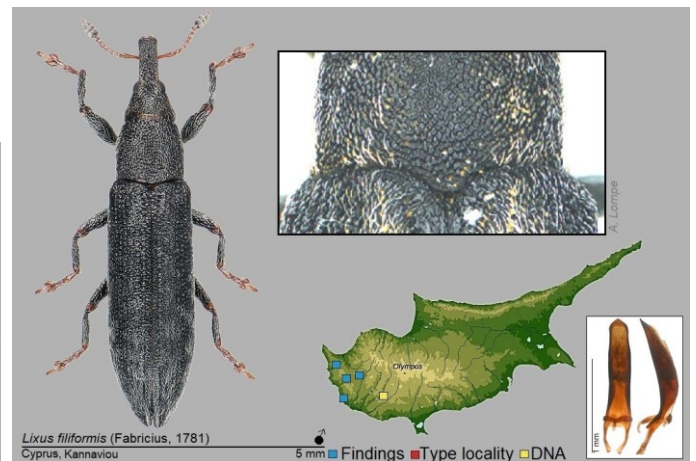
Note. Also mentioned by Alziar (2021) for Cyprus (north of Tsada (Paphos), leg. Frenzel). I only had specimens from other parts of the Mediterranean region. Double punctuation of the pronotum, i.e. fine mixed with larger punctures; the subconical pronotum is broad and white, surrounded by long hairs (see illustration).

■ ***Lixus filiformis* (Fabricius, 1781)**

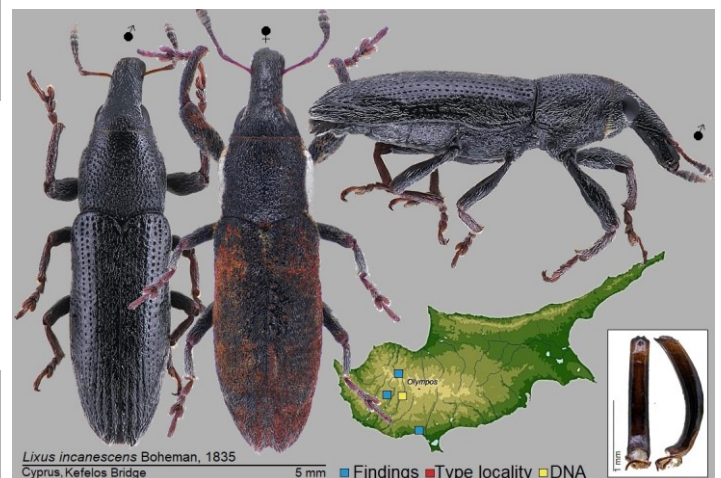
Distribution. Europe, North Africa (incl. Makaronesia), Asia.

Host plants. Asteraceae (*Carduus*, *Cirsium*, *Silybum*), oligophagous.

Note. *Lixus filiformis* is a species complex consisting of at least 4 other species that can be clearly separated molecularly (intraspecific distances: 7%-11%)! (Schütte et al. 2013, Stüben 2022). An integrative taxonomic revision of the *L. filiformis* complex is in the pipeline, partly in order to clearly assign the Cypriot specimens to one of the species! (However, this is not an easy undertaking in view of the numerous synonyms described). For differentiation from *L. cardui*, see there.



■ ***Lixus incanescens* Boheman, 1835**

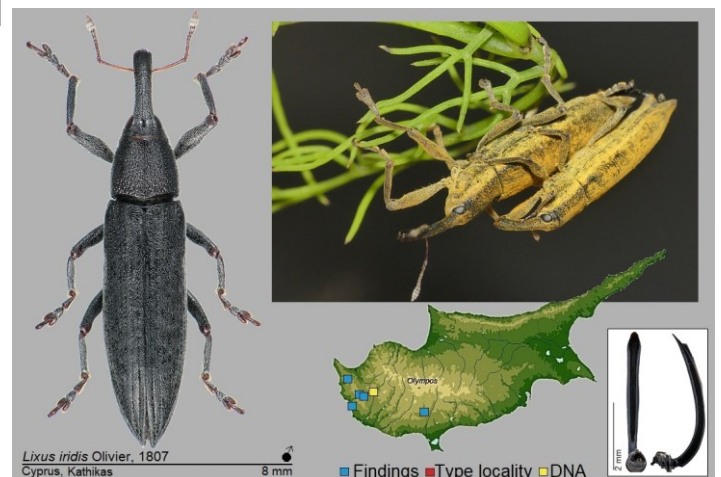


Distribution. France, Eastern Europe, Asia.

Host plants. Amaranthaceae (e.g. *Atriplex*, *Beta*, *Chenopodium*, *Suaeda*), oligophagous.

Note. With nearly parallel, almost straight sides of the pronotum; see the figure in: Compte (2026): <https://lixusdefrance.blogspot.com>. Apparently closely related molecularly to *Lixus cinerascens* (p-distance of only 6% in the CO1 part gene; GenBank: MK891876). Nevertheless, the author is not entirely certain about the identification of the specimens of this *Lixus* species from Cyprus. In particular, the molecular proximity to *Lixus vilis* in the dendrogram (Fig. 2) suggests that this is a case of confusion or misidentification.

■ ***Lixus iridis* Olivier, 1807**



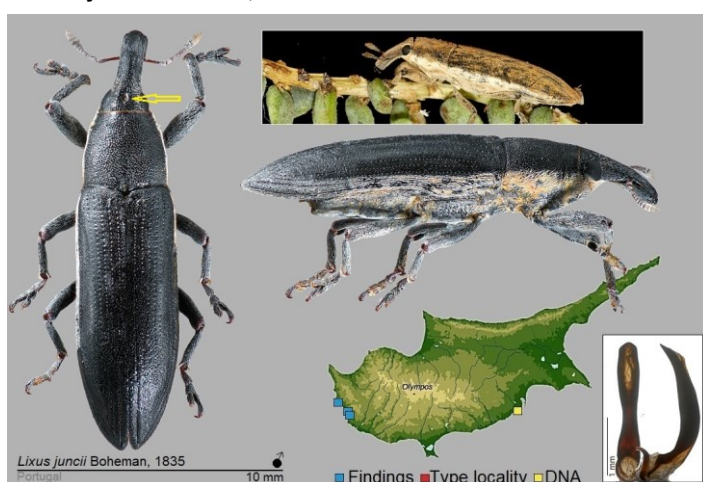
Distribution. Europe, North Africa, Asia minor.

Host plants. Apiaceae, oligophagous: on Cyprus, especially on *Foeniculum vulgare* (det. Sprick, Stüben).



Note. The newly hatched animals are strikingly bright yellow dusted (see photo). I noticed that the mucrons of the elytra are not as long and curved as specimens of this species from Central or Western Europe, and that the antenna segments vary in length (and indeed, there are two separate molecular clades in this species for the mtCO1 gene, p-distance approx. 6.5%). I am not aware that these rather striking morphological and molecular differences have ever been discussed. Does *Lixus irdis* actually represent a species complex comprising at least two (cryptic?) species that also occur in Central Europe (see also Fig. 2)?

■ *Lixus juncii* Boheman, 1835

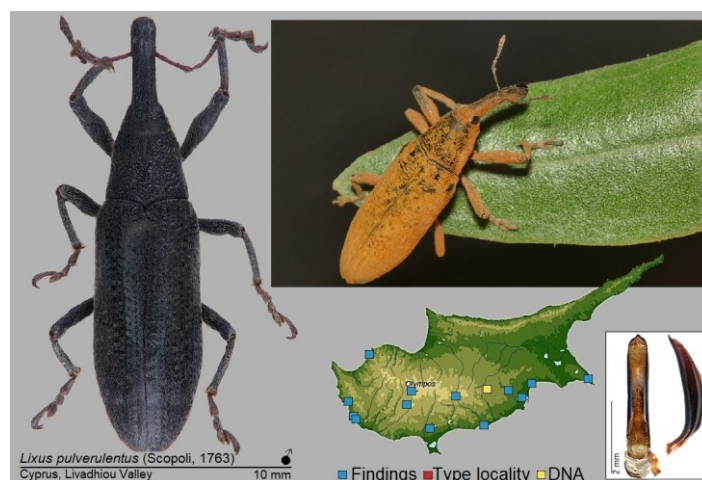


Distribution. Southern Europe, North Africa, Macaronesia, Middle East.

Host plants. Amaranthaceae, oligophagous: *Suaeda maritima* (det. Stüben), *Atriplex rampant* (det. Alziar).

Note. Measuring 9–15 mm, this species belongs to the subgenus *Compsolixus*, with sharply defined white lateral stripes. The species is easily recognisable by its frontal pit and the shape of the aedeagus (ventral view).

■ *Lixus pulverulentus* (Scopoli, 1763)



Distribution. Europe, North Africa, Macaronesia, Asia.

Host plants. Malvaceae, Asteraceae, Fabaceae, polyphagous.

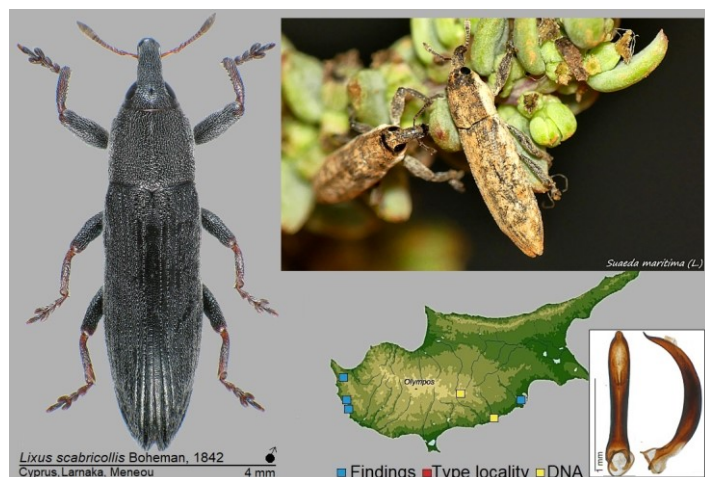
Note. Large species of the subgenus *Dilixellus* (11–18 mm). The roughly punctured pronotum has eye lobes bearing a fringe of long whitish bristles. It appears that several cryptic species are concealed behind the name *L. pulverulentus*. In my book on Macaronesia (2022), I had already pointed out that specimens from the Canary Islands cannot represent the typical form of the species found in the Mediterranean region or Eastern Europe (see also Fig. 2).

■ *Lixus scabricollis* Boheman, 1842

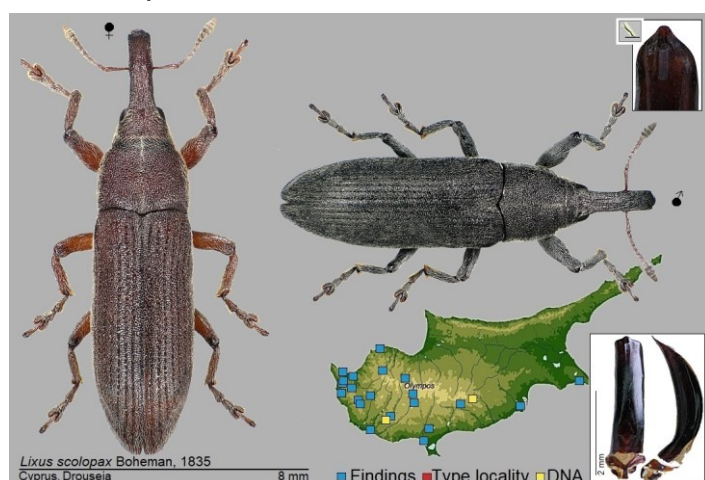
Distribution. Western Europe, Mediterranean, Middle East.

Host plants. Amaranthaceae (e.g. *Atriplex*, *Beta*, *Suaeda*, *Chenopodium*), oligophagous.

Note. Relatively small species of the subgenus *Phillixus* (4–6 mm); characterised by a parallel-sided (cylindrical) pronotum, elytra cover with deep grooves towards the tip, with shorter, blunt mucrons that are slightly curved at the inner edge.



■ *Lixus scolopax* Boheman, 1835



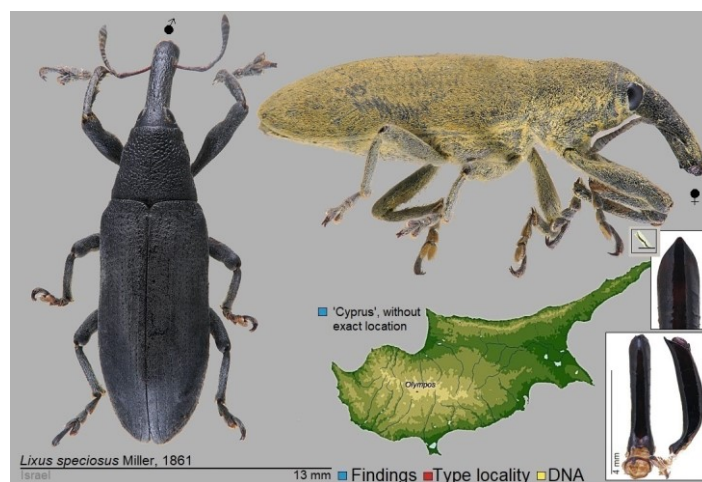
Distribution. Mediterranean, Middle East.

Host plants. Asteraceae, (e.g. *Echinops spinosissimus*, *Cardopatum corymbosum*), oligophagous.

Note. Large species of the subgenus *Epimeces* (10–18 mm); charac-

terised by thin antennae and a pronotum that is not punctured but finely and densely granulated.

■ *Lixus speciosus* Miller, 1861



Distribution. Middle East.

Host plants. Asteraceae (*Carthamus* spp.), monophagous.

Note. Another Lixini species whose occurrence in Cyprus initially seemed questionable to me (see also Alziar 2023), until I came across two 'historical' specimens in the Senckenberg, German Entomological Institute, which originate from the Stierlin and Kraatz collection and were labelled 'Cyprus' but without any precise location information. This seems to justify Petri's (1905) statement that the species was probably detected in Cyprus very early. The species appears to be monophagous on *Carthamus* spp. (Legalov et al. 2010). For its occurrence in southern Turkey, see Avgin & Colonnelli (2011).

■ *Lixus vilis* (Rossi, 1790)

Distribution. Europe, North Africa, Middle East.

Host plants. Geraniaceae (*Erodium cicutarium*), monophagous.

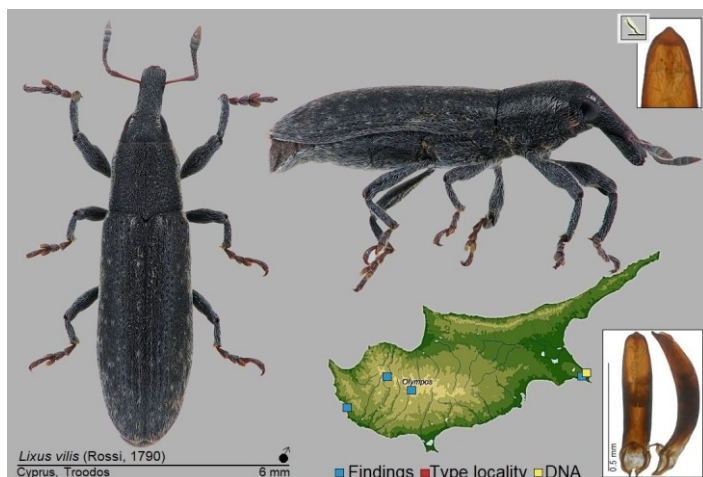
Note. The larvae of this xerothermophile species (8–12 mm) do not pupate in the stem of their host plant (apparently due to lack of space), but in the root (Scherf 1964). Characteristic features of this species of the subgenus *Ortholixus* are the straight rostrum, the conical (trapezoidal) pronotum with white margins, the upper edge of the eyes with light hairs, and elytra with light spots at the base of the second interval.



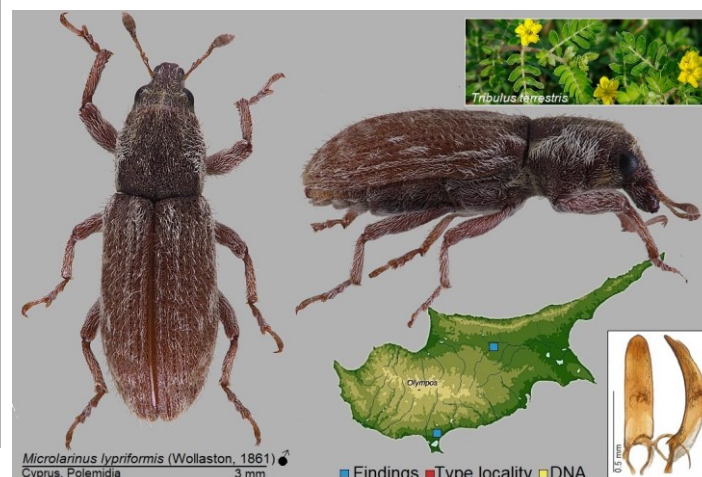
Lixus scolopax
on *Echinops spinosissimus*
near Pano Arodes



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■ *Microlarinus lypriformis* (Wollaston, 1861)

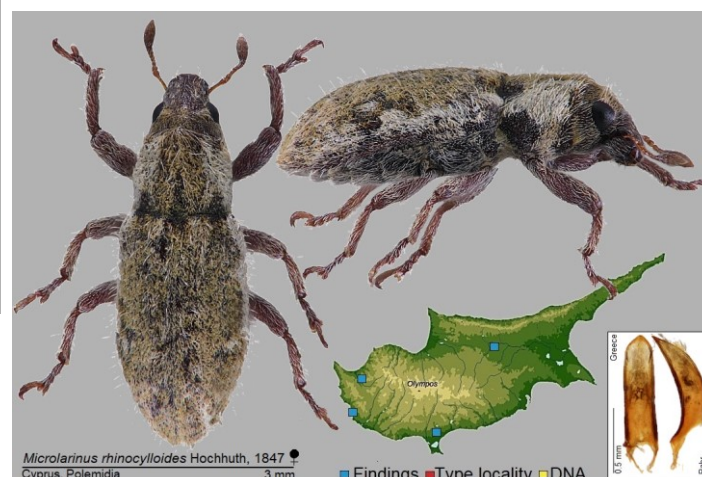


Distribution. Mediterranean, Near East, Nearctic Region.

Host plants. Zygophyllaceae: *Tribulus terrestris*; monophagous.

Note. The eggs are laid in the stems of the host plant, where the larvae also develop. Together with the seed-eating *Microlarinus rhinocylloides* (= *M. lareynii*), it was introduced in the USA and Canada as a biological control agent against *Tribulus terrestris*.

■ *Microlarinus rhinocylloides* Hochhuth, 1847

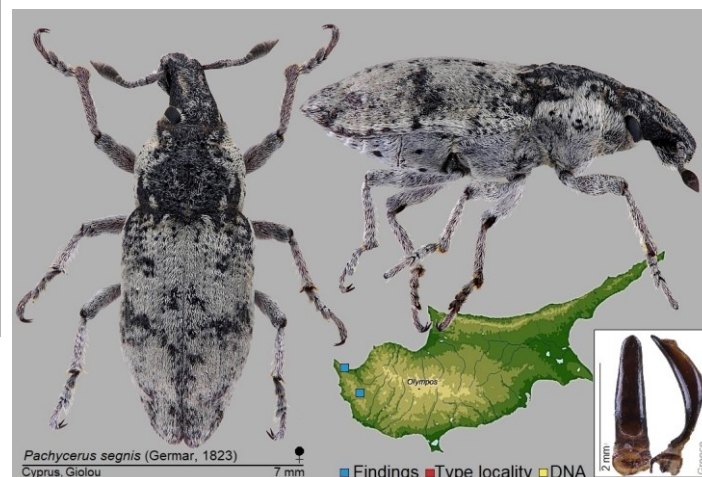


Distribution. Mediterranean, Near East, Nearctic Region (introduced).

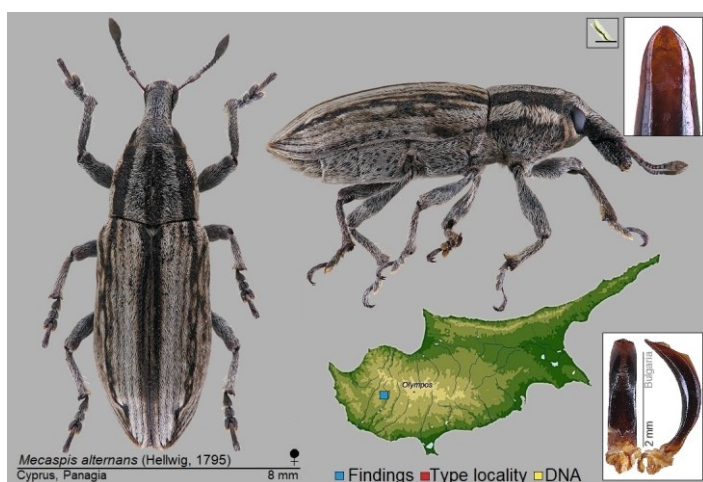
Host plants. Zygophyllaceae: *Tribulus terrestris*; monophagous.

Note. Elytra shorter and pronotum wider than in *M. lypriformis*. For the history and use of the two *Microlarinus* species for biological pest control, see: Bowers & King (2025).

■ *Pachycerus segnis* (Germar, 1823)



■ *Mecaspis alternans* (Hellwig, 1795)

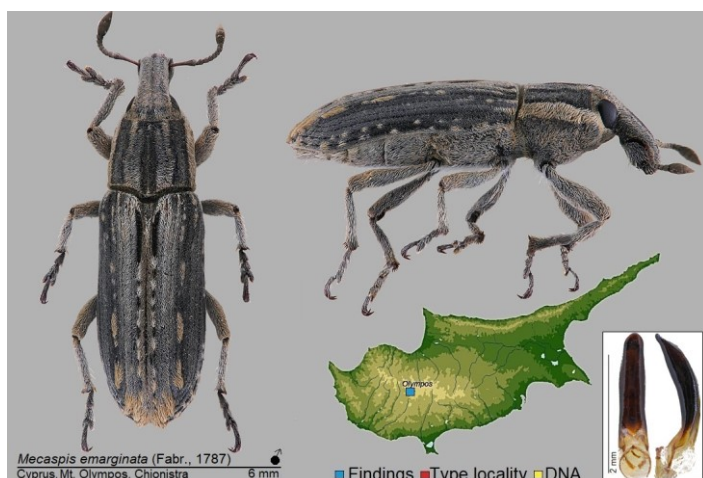


Distribution. Europe, North Africa, Middle East.

Host plants. Apiaceae (*Daucus*).

Note. The species is said to have become harmful to garden carrots (Hoffmann 1950). For differentiation from *M. emarginata*, see also there.

■ *Mecaspis emarginata* (Fabricius, 1787)



Distribution. Southern and Southeastern Europe, Middle East.

Host plants. Apiaceae (*Dichoropetalum*, *Pimpinella*), oligophagous.

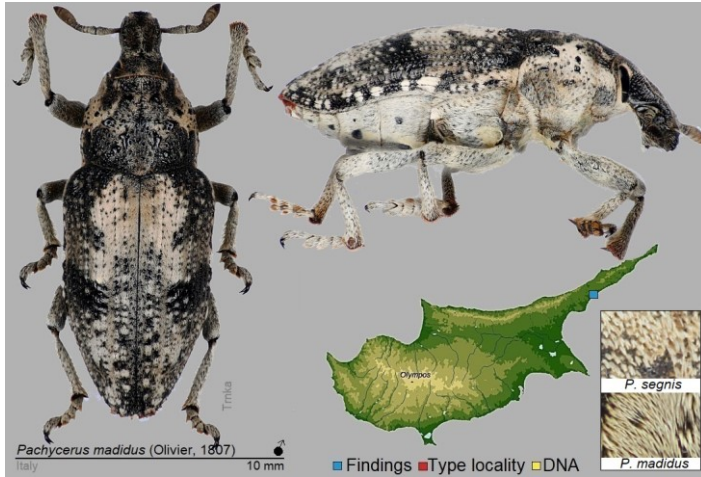
Note. Striae in elytral interstria 1 connected, creating a deep furrow extending at least halfway along the elytra; elytra longer than in *M. alternans*, the second *Mecaspis* species in Cyprus (see also key in: Skuhrovec et al. 2014).

Distribution. Europe, North Africa, Asia.

Host plants. Boraginaceae (e.g. *Anchusa*, *Echium*, *Cynoglossum*), oligophagous.

Note. Like *P. madidus*, this is a warmth-loving steppe species found on sandy soils on Boraginaceae, which is undoubtedly present in Cyprus. For the distinction between the two species, see *P. madidus*.

■ ***Pachycerus madidus* (Olivier, 1807)**



Distribution. Southern and southeastern Europe, Asia minor.

Host plants. Boraginaceae (*Heliotropium* spp.).

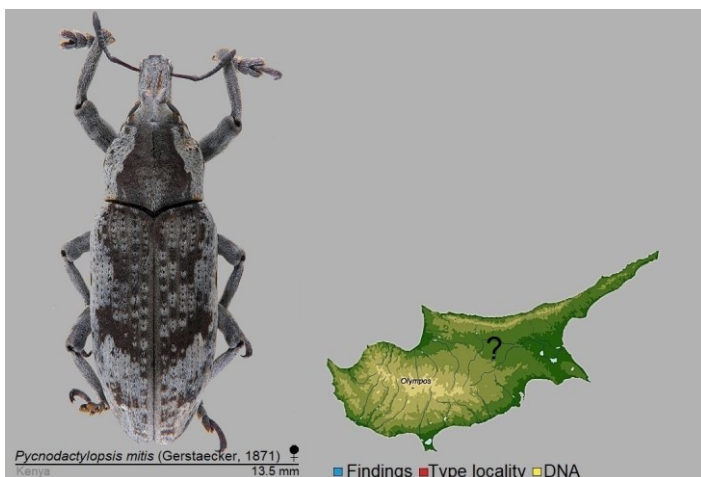
Note. This *Pachycerus* species is said to occur on Cyprus alongside *P. segnis* (Alziar 2023), but differs from it in having a triangular depression at the end of the median keel on the rostrum between the insertion of the antennae, elytral scales divided into two deeply incised lobes apically (see illustrations), and a much more strongly tuberculate pronotum (Skuhrovec et al. 2014). Whether these differences simply reflect the high level of variation within the species *P. madidus* (with *P. segnis* thus representing a junior synonym) is apparently not so easy to say morphologically (Winkelmann & Bahr 2022), but does not appear to hold true at the molecular level (see GenBank: MK891933 vs. MW726799).

■ ***Pycnodactyloopsis mitis* (Gerstaecker, 1871)**

Distribution. Middle East, Afrotropical Region.

Host plants. Unknown.

Note. According to Alziar (2023), this species was apparently also collected in Cyprus. However, I have no further information or data on its occurrence.

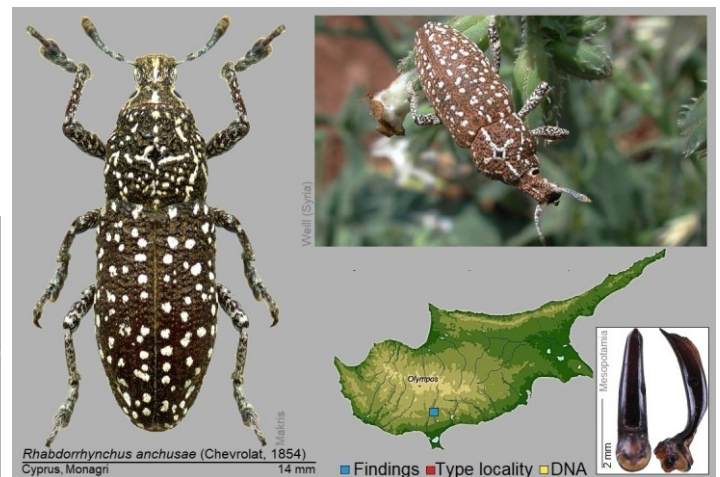


■ ***Rhabdorrhynchus anchusae* (Chevrolat, 1854)**

Distribution. Middle East, Asia.

Host plants. Boraginaceae: *Anchusa strigosa*.

Note. I had the opportunity to examine a specimen of this beautiful Cleonini species collected in Monagri (Lemesos) from the Boraginaceae *Anchusa strigosa* (leg. G. Georghiou) on Cyprus.

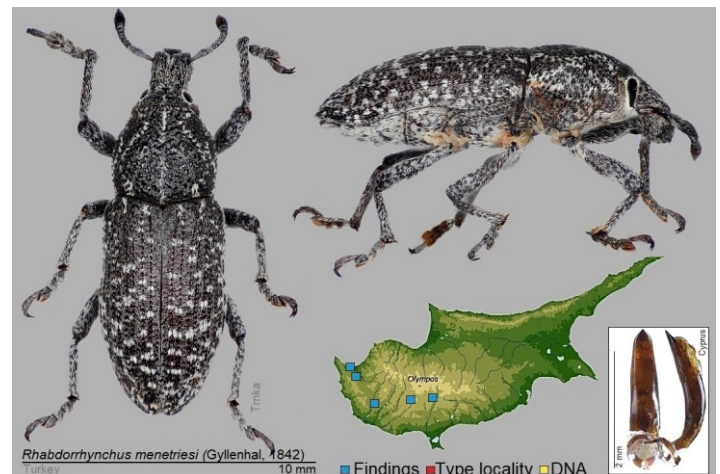


■ ***Rhabdorrhynchus menetriesi* (Gyllenhal, 1842)**

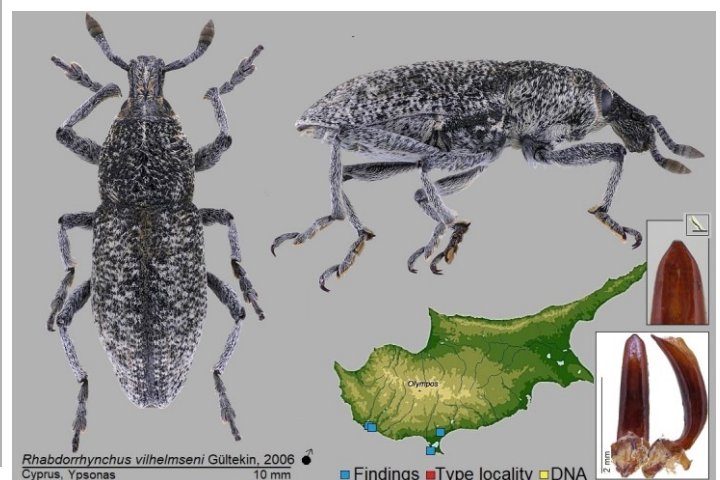
Distribution. Southern and southeastern Europe, Asia.

Host plants. Boraginaceae: *Anchusa azurea* (det. Stüben); monophagous.

Note. The species apparently rarely climbs onto its host plant, *Anchusa azurea*, during the day, preferring to remain on the dead, dried-up rosette leaves close to the ground, where its spotted outfit blends seamlessly with the white-spotted leaves (see photo).



■ ***Rhabdorrhynchus vilhelmseni* Gültekin, 2006**



Distribution. Mediterranean, Middle East.

Host plants. Boraginaceae: *Echium angustifolium* (det. Makris), ?*Anchusa* (det. Hoffmann 1950); oligophagous.

Note. The species has thus far been incorrectly named *Rhabdorrhynchus mixtus* (F.). Gültekin (2006) proposed a new name with the following synonymy: *Rhabdorrhynchus vilhelmseni* Gültekin (= *Lixus mixtus* Olivier, 1807 not *Curculio mixtus* Fabricius, 1792). The species differs from *R. menetriesi* in its predominantly white and densely speckled

elytra and the absence of clearly recognisable white lines on the pronotum (for further morphological identification of the species, see Skuhrovec et al. 2014). Whether *M. vilhelmseni* also mimics the colours

of the withered leaves of its host plant, *Echium angustifolium*, with this outfit is something I have not yet been able to conclusively clarify.



Rhabdorrhynchus menetriesi and its camouflage in the dead foliage of *Anchusa azurea* near Agios Nikolaos.

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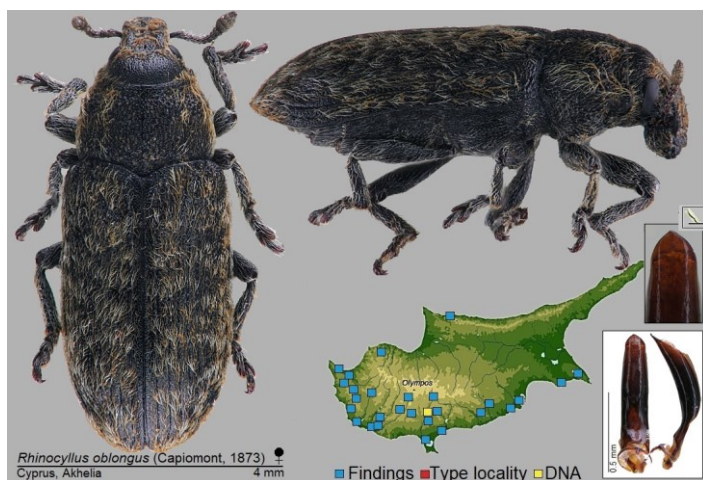


Rhinocyllus oblongus on *Notobasis syriaca* near Agios Theodoros

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■ *Rhinocyllus oblongus* (Capiomont, 1873)



Distribution. Mediterranean.

Host plants. *Notobasis syriaca* (det. Stüben).

Note. This species is unlikely to be *Rhinocyllus conicus* (Frölich, 1792), as Alziar still assumes in 2023, but rather the species *R. oblongus*, which is morphologically difficult to distinguish from it, as molecular analyses in comparison with *R. conicus* from Poland, Czechia and Germany have clearly shown.

■ *Temnorhinus brevisrostris* (Gyllenhal, 1834)

Distribution. Mediterranean, Canary Isl., Asia, Afrotropical and Oriental Region

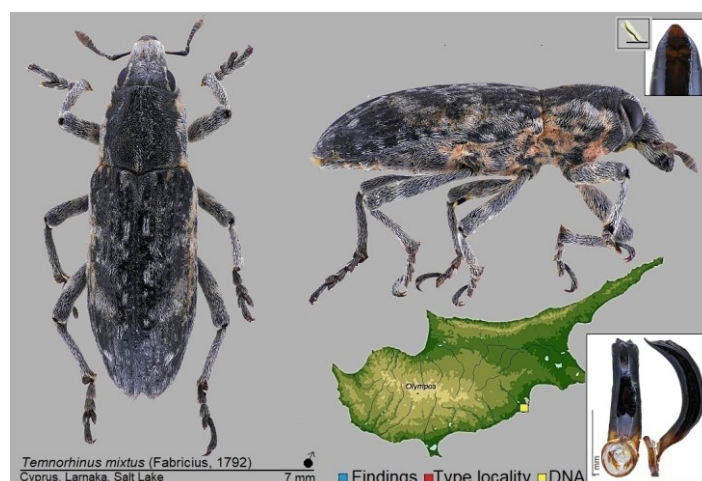
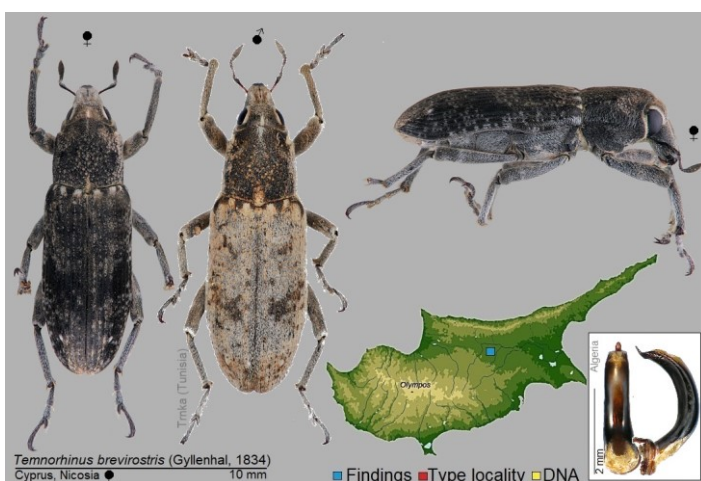
Host plants. *Salicornia* and *Suaeda* (Hoffmann 1950).

Note. Hoffmann (1950) lists coasts and the edges of salt ponds as habitats. On Cyprus, the species was discovered by C. Constantinou in a flower shop as early as 1991 (det., coll. Lienemann). Perhaps an indication of the fact that the species has spread almost worldwide through human activities and trade. The species differs from *T. mixtus* in the rounded tips of the elytra (mucrons), which are distinctly pointed in the latter species (see also determination key by Skuhrovec et al. 2014).



Temnorhinus mixtus
on *Suaeda vera* near Larnaca (Salt Lake)

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■ *Temnorhinus mixtus* (Fabricius, 1792)

Distribution. Mediterranean, Afrotropical Region

Host plants. Amaranthaceae: *Suaeda vera* (det. Stüben).

Note. A halophilic species that I also collected from *Zygophyllum fontanesii* on Lanzarote (Canary Island).

CURCULIONIDAE: Mesoptiliinae

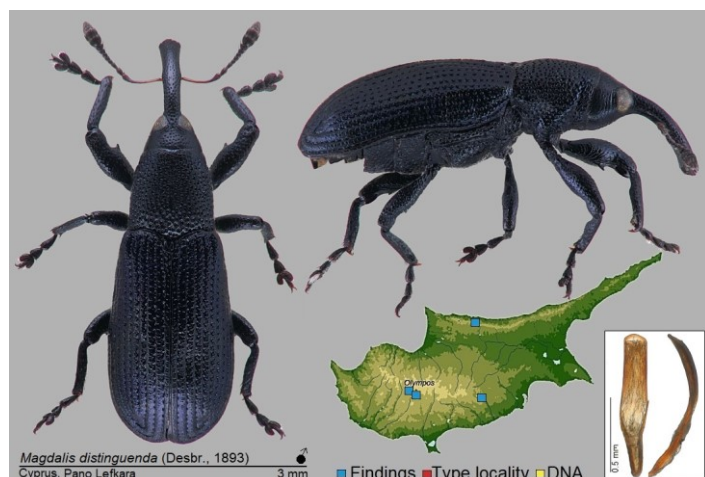
■ *Magdalis distinguenda* (Desbrochers des Loges, 1893)

Distribution. Asia minor.

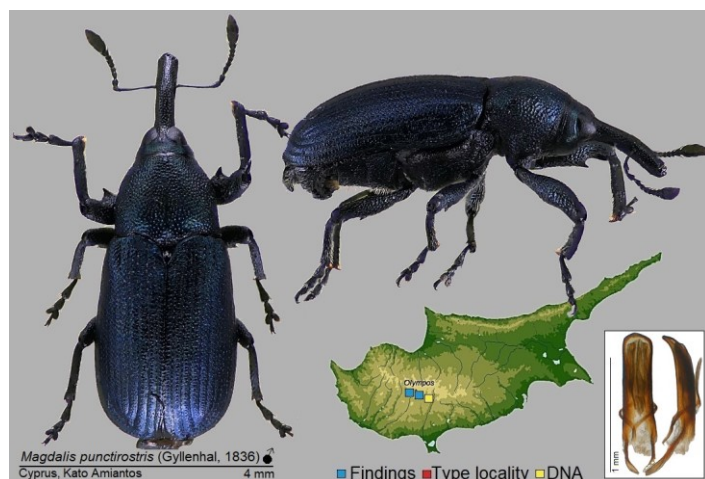
Host plants. Pinaceae: *Pinus brutia*, *P. nigra*, monophagous.

Note. Most specimens were collected from the Troodos Mountains, where I knocked the species down from *Pinus* trees myself in Machairas Forest near Pana Lefkara. Elytra dark blue, widest before the apex;

rostrum strongly curved and thickened at the base of the antennae; intervals of the elytra 2.5x - 2.7x wider than the relatively flat striae; 3.8-6 mm.



■ *Magdalis punctirostris* (Gyllenhal, 1836)

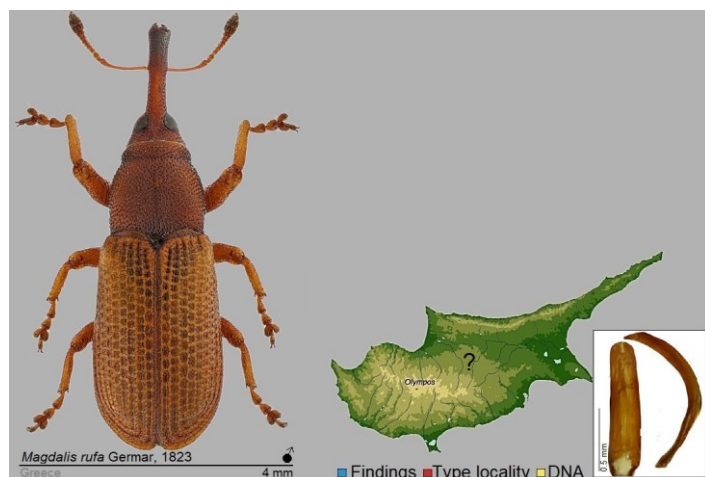


Distribution. Southeastern Europe, Middle East.

Host plants. Pinaceae (*Pinus* spp.), monophagous.

Note. Barrios (1995) provides the following description of this species: The distances between the flat punctures on the pronotum disc are almost as large as their diameter. The base of the pronotum is as wide as the base of the elytra, and the elytra bases are strongly curved. The rostrum is only very slightly curved. Elytra dark blue, sometimes green, shiny; underside of body black; 3.9-5.5 mm.

■ *Magdalis rufa* Germar, 1823

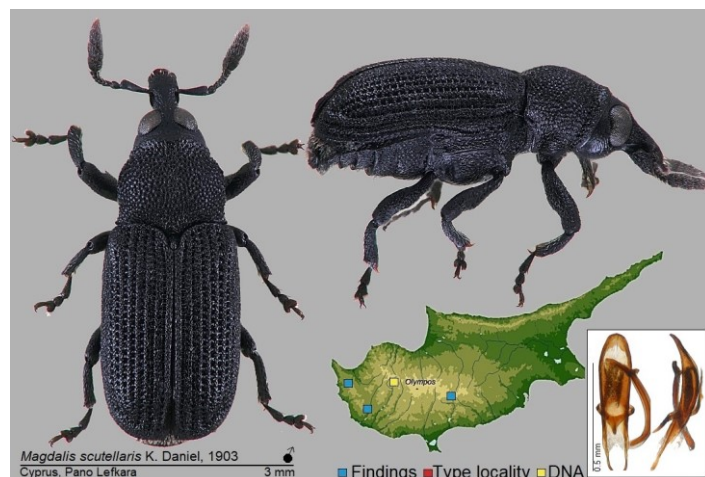


Distribution. Europe, North Africa, Asia minor.

Host plants. Pinaceae, oligophagous.

Note. Alziar (2023) also mentions these brown-coloured Mesoptiliinae, which live on pine trees, as occurring in Cyprus. I do not have any precise records to support this.

■ *Magdalis scutellaris* K. Daniel, 1903

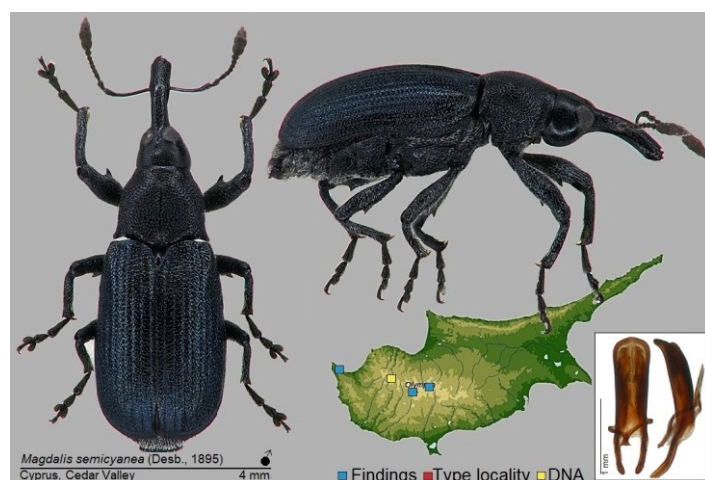


Distribution. Southeast Europe, Middle East.

Host plants. *Quercus*?

Note. Belongs to the subgenus *Laemosaccidius*, like *M. exarata* C.N.F. Brisout, 1862. - Black, rostrum extremely short, at most 1.5 times longer than wide; claws with small teeth at the base. In males, the club of the antennae is 4 times longer than wide.

■ *Magdalis semicyanea* (Desbrochers des Loges, 1895)



Distribution. Asia minor.

Host plants. *Cedrus brevifolia*, ex larva (det. Makris).

Note. Elytra dark blue; pronotum black; elytral intervals extremely heavily punctured, wrinkled, three times wider than the striae; rostrum only slightly curved.

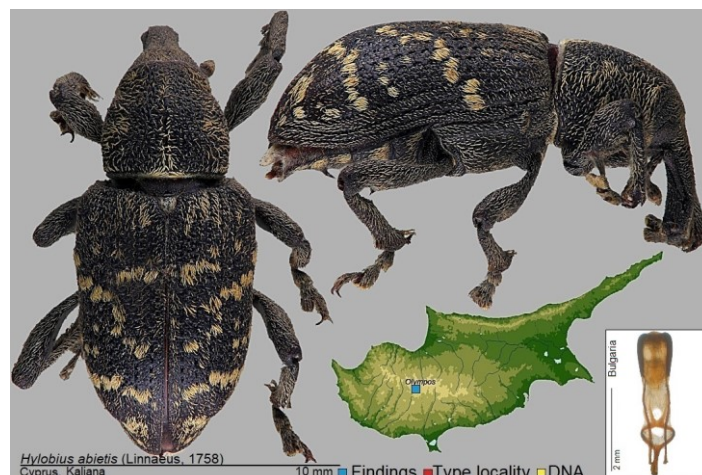
CURCULIONIDAE: Molytinae

■ *Hylobius abietis* Linné, 1758 – new for Cyprus!

Distribution. Palaearctic region.

Host plants. *Picea*, *Pinus*.

Note. The beetles can cause severe damage to conifers. The larvae develop in dead rootstocks and shallow roots, especially of freshly felled or broken trees. One to two years later, the weevils appear and feed mainly on the bark of young conifers. Given the scarcity of records of this species on Cyprus, I am not yet aware of any damage to pine trees (Pinaceae).



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Editor-in-Chief: "Le Charançon"
Peter E. Stüben

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