

A new species of the genus *Metarhynchites* Voss, 1923 (Coleoptera, Rhynchitidae) from Yemen

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A new species *Metarhynchites* (*Metarhynchites*) *kaldeci* Legalov, sp. nov. from Yemen is described and illustrated.

This new species differs from *M. longulus* (Gyllenhal, 1833) in the rostrum slightly longer than pronotum, punctate pronotum, and narrower elytral interstriae. This is the first find of this genus in the Arabian Peninsula.

Key words: Curculionoidea, Rhynchitini, new species, Yemen.

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INTRODUCTION

The family Rhynchitidae of Yemen is studied poorly, only one species of the genus *Socotrorhinus* Skuhrovec et Kresl, 2014 was described from Socotra Island (Skuhrovec, Kresl, 2014).

The genus *Metarhynchites* Voss, 1923 includes 14 described species distributed in the Oriental region (Legalov, 2007). Many species are not described. In this paper, a new species of the genus from West Yemen is described.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Type specimens are kept in the NMPC = National Museum of Natural History (Czech Republic: Prague).

Descriptions, body measuring, and photographs were performed using a Zeiss Stemi 2000-C dissecting stereomicroscope.

The terminology of weevil body is according to Lawrence et al. (2010).

RESULTS

Genus *Metarhynchites* Voss, 1923

Subgenus *Metarhynchites* s. str.

Metarhynchites (Metarhynchites) kaldeci Legalov, sp. nov. (Fig. 1)

Type material: **Holotype.** Male (NMPC), SW Yemen, Wadi Zabid, E Zabid, 14°09' N, 43°31' E, 325 m, 22.III.2007, S. Kaldec; **Paratype.** Female (NMPC), idem.

Description. Male: Body black, which weak bronze lustre, covered with long dense decumbent white hairs.

Head almost subparallel behind eye. Mandibles externally dentate. Rostrum quite long, weakly curved, little longer than pronotum, 3.1 times as long as wide at apex, 3.6 times as long as wide in middle and at base, densely punctate. Eyes large, almost not protruding from contour of head. Forehead flattened, with depression in middle, slightly wider than rostrum base width. Temples shorter than length of eye. Antennae long, inserted near middle of rostrum, reaching apical margin of pronotum. Antennomeres 1 and 2 long-oval, subequal in length. Antennomeres 3-8 conical. Antennomere 3 slightly longer and distinctly narrower than antennomere 2. Antennomeres 4-5 subequal in length. Antennomere 4 shorter than antennomere 3. Antennomere 6 shorter than antennomere 5. Antennomere 7 slightly longer than antennomere 6. Antennomere 8 shorter and wider than antennomere 7. Antennal club loose and wide, weakly fattened. Antennomere 9 as long as antennomeres 7 and 8 combined. Antennomere 10 shorter and narrower than antennomere 9. Antennomere 11 distinctly narrower than antennomere 10.

Pronotum almost bell-shaped, 1.1 times as long as wide at apex, slightly wider than length in middle, equal in length and wide at base. Disk weakly convex, densely punctate. Sides weakly rounded. Scutellum almost rhomboidal.

Elytra 1.5 times as long as wide at base, 1.4 times as long as wide in middle, 1.5 times as long as wide at apical fourth, 2.4 times as long as pronotum. Humeri slightly flattened. Elytral striae distinct, as wide as elytral interstriae. Striae 9 merge with striae 10 before metacoxa. Interstriae weak convex, finely punctate. Epipleura narrow. Pre- and postcoxal portions of prosternum short. Procoxal cavities contiguous. Metanepisternum quite narrow, finely punctate. Metaventrite weakly convex, punctate, slightly longer than metacoxal cavity. Abdomen convex, finely punctate. Ventrites 1 and 2 fused. Ventrites 1, 2 and 3 subequal in length. Ventrite 3 shorter than ventrite 2. Ventrite 4 subequal in length to ventrite 3.

Procoxae large, conical, with pit and hair bunches. Metacoxae transverse. Trochanters small. Femora thickened, lacking teeth. Tibiae almost straight, widened to apex, with costate dorsal margin. Tarsi long. Tarsomere 1 conical. Tarsomere 2 long-conical. Tarsomere 3 bilobed. Tarsomere 5 elongate. Tarsal claws divergent, with long teeth.

Length of body (without rostrum): 2.5 mm. Length of rostrum: 0.6 mm.

Female: Rostrum thicker and longer, 1.3 times as long as pronotum, 3.5 times as long as wide at apex, 4.3 times as long as wide in middle and 4.0 times as long as wide at base. Elytra 1.5 times as long as wide at base, 1.4 times as long as wide in middle, 1.6 times as long as wide at apical fourth, 2.4 times as long as pronotum. Procoxae lacking pit and hair bunches.

Length of body (without rostrum): 2.5 mm. Length of rostrum: 0.7 mm.

Diagnosis. This new species can be compared to *M. longulus* (Gyllenhal, 1833) but differs in the rostrum slightly longer than pronotum, punctate pronotum, and narrower elytral interstriae.

Etymology. In memory of the entomologist Dr. Stanislav Kaldec (Czech Republic).

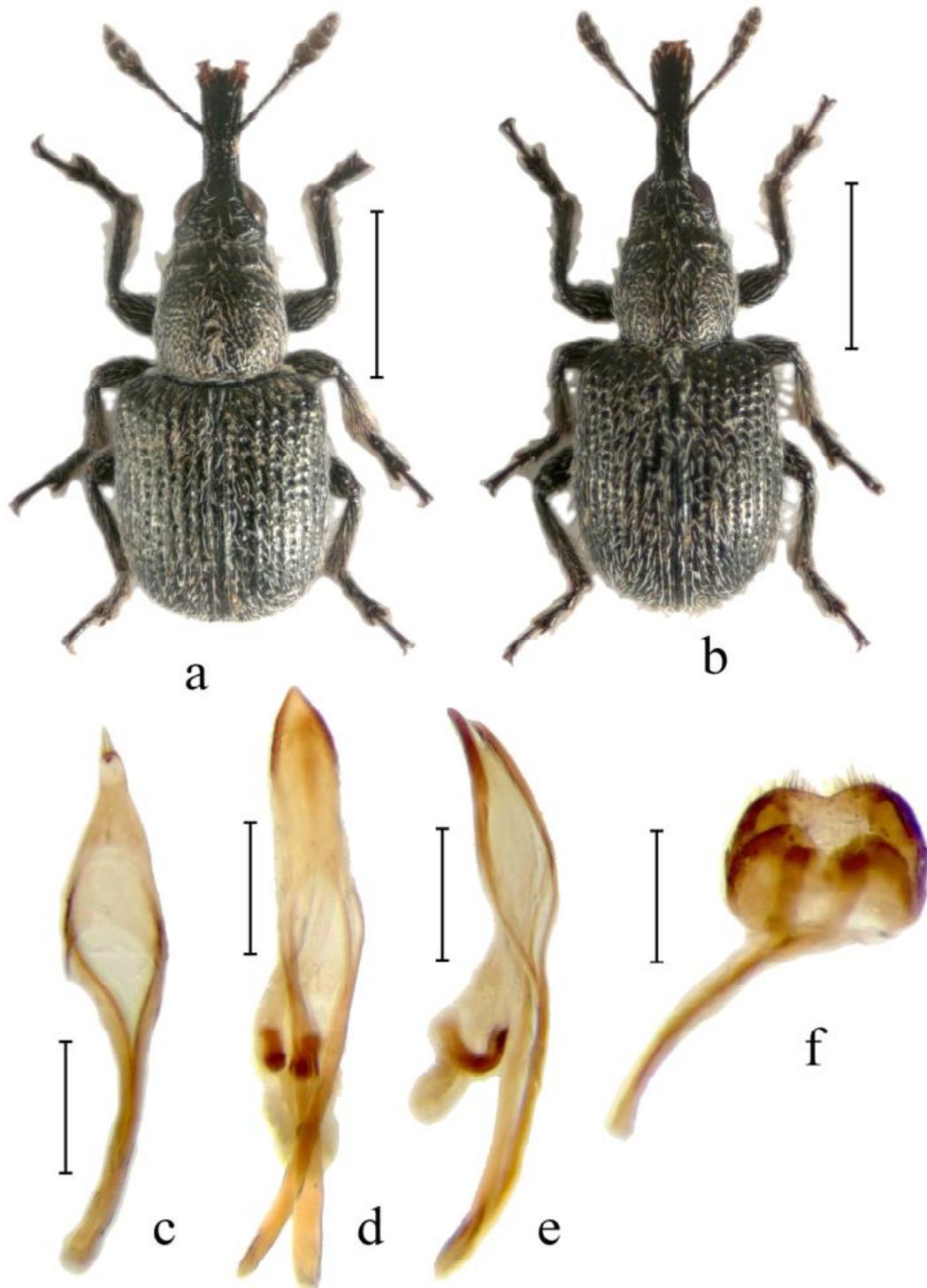


Fig. 1. *Metarhynchites kaldeci*: a - male, holotype, dorsally, b - female, paratype, dorsally, c - tegmen, holotype, dorsally, d - aedeagus, holotype, dorsally, e - aedeagus, holotype, laterally, f - tergite 8, holotype, dorsally. Scale bar = 1.0 mm for a, b; 0.2 mm for c-f.



Fig. 2. Distribution of *Metarhynchites kaldeci*.

Distribution. Yemen (Fig. 2).

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