

A new *Aphodius* species of the subgenus *Mendidius* from East Turkmenia (Coleoptera, Scarabaeidae)

НОВЫЙ ВИД *Aphodius* ПОДРОДА *Mendidius* ИЗ ВОСТОЧНОЙ ТУРКМЕНИИ (Coleoptera, Scarabaeidae)

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КЛЮЧЕВЫЕ СЛОВА: Coleoptera, Scarabaeidae, *Aphodius*, новый вид, Туркмения.

ABSTRACT: *Aphodius zhantievi*, a new species of the subgenus *Mendidius* Harold, 1868, is described from East Turkmenia. The new species is most closely related to *Aphodius tamajevi* (Medvedev, 1968), but is easily distinguishable by the structure of hind tibiae and pronotum, as well as by other characters.

РЕЗЮМЕ: *Aphodius zhantievi* — новый вид подрода *Mendidius* Harold, 1868, описываемый из Восточной Туркмении. Новый вид наиболее близок к *Aphodius tamajevi* (Medvedev, 1968), но хорошо отличается строением задних голеней, переднегруди и другими признаками.

On examining the material of Zoological Museum, Moscow State University (ZMUM), a species of coprophagous beetle of the genus *Aphodius* Illiger, 1798 from East Turkmenia was described as new to science. The holotype and the paratypes of the new species are deposited in the collection of ZMUM.

Aphodius (Mendidius) zhantievi sp.n.

Figs. 1-4.

Type material. Holotype (♀), Turkmenia, Repetek, in wet sand, 25 cm beneath the surface, 6.II.1979. — Paratypes (♂, 4♀♀), same data.

Holotype, female. Body convex, short, somewhat widened in its posterior portion, with sides strongly rounded, bare above (with only a portion of head surface covered with short hairs), ventrally with arcs covered by reddish-yellow hairs (Fig. 1). Shiny, with translucent clytra. Coloration light red; borders of clypeus, frontal suture, teeth of fore tibiae, spots near the middle of pronotal sides, emargination of elytral posterior border, clytral suture, and tips of mid and hind tibiae darkened. 4.3 mm long.

Head strongly convex. Anterior border of clypeus finely but clearly emarginated, with deep indentation delimited by two denticles bent upwards. Lateral borders

of clypeus somewhat elevated, uneven. Preocular lobes only slightly jutting out sideways beyond eyes line, rounded. Head surface from clypeal borders to frontal suture roughly, granularly sculptured, covered with short reddish-yellow hairs directed upwards and slightly backwards. Sinciput and preocular lobes with rough, random punctation. Frontal suture with two transverse protuberances located at a distance only slightly greater than that between clypeal denticles.

Pronotum transverse, 1.6 times as wide as long. Pronotal surface with double punctation which is neither dense nor deep, with weak depressions at sides. Anterior border without emargination, anterior angles only slightly protrusive, strongly rounded, lateral borders finely emarginated, posterior border arcuate, its emargination clearly wider near middle. Posterior border of prothorax bearing a beak-like downward process between fore coxae.

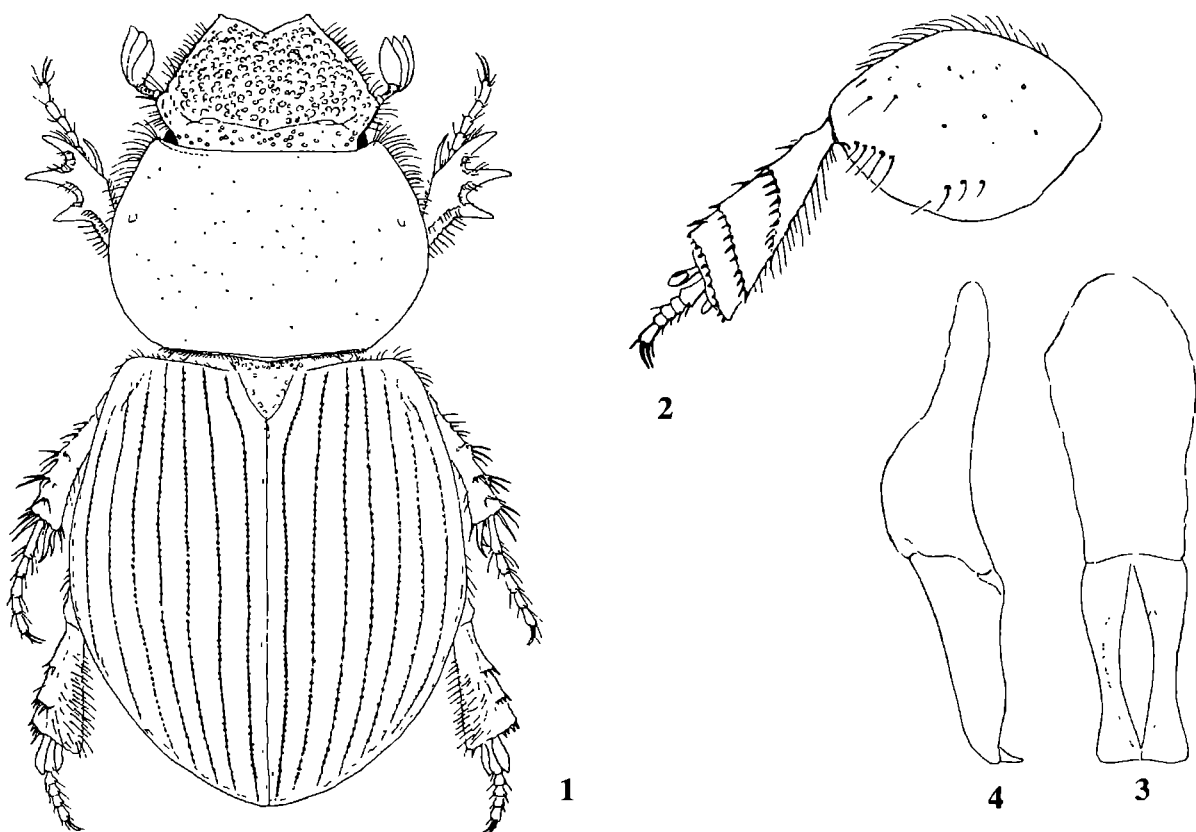
Scutellum triangular, small, 10 times shorter than clytra, its length equal to its width, covered with few unclear punctures that are large but not deep. Elytral surface with rather deep furrows having numerous punctures within, with margins of the punctures protruding into furrow interspaces, distance between neighboring punctures subequal to their diameter. Interspaces only slightly convex, without punctures.

Wings reduced.

Mesothorax finely shagreened, covered with thin, short hairs. The shagreen somewhat rougher, and hairs longer and thicker on sides of metathorax.

Fore femora with scattered punctures on ventral sides. Mid and hind femora with random rough setiferous punctures and an additional short subapical row of similar punctures. Hind femora strongly widened, their length only 1.4 times greater than their maximum width (Fig. 2).

Fore tibiae with three sharp teeth on the outer side, the medial tooth very slightly closer to the apical one, all teeth separated by rounded indentations. Proximal portion of fore tibia's outer margin with small denticles and a row of straight setae between the proximal tooth and tibial base. Apical spur on the inward margin of fore tibia slightly bent down and outwards, attached at the level of proximal margin of the medial tooth. Mid tibiae with



Figs 1-4 *Aphodius zhantievi* sp.n. general view (1), right hind leg, ventral view (2), male genital parts, dorsal and lateral view (3-4)
 Рис 1-4 *Aphodius zhantievi* sp.n. общий вид (1); правая задняя нога, вид снизу (2); гениталии самца, вид сверху и сбоку (3-4)

strong oblique keels bearing multiple long, sharp setae. The larger spur on mid tibia visibly longer than 1st segment of mid tarsus, with its tip bent outwards. Lengths of mid tarsus and mid tibia subequal. Hind tibiae strongly, triangularly widened, approximately 2 times as long as wide, with numerous stout yellow hairs on inward surface and two oblique keels on the outer one, the keels partially extending to the ventral side. Apical margins of hind tibiae with short, broadly separated setae having rounded tips. First tarsomere of hind leg visibly shorter than tarsal segments 2-4 combined. Spurs of hind tibiae lance-like, clearly widened, the larger of them only very slightly longer than first tarsomere. Claws of all tarsi normally formed, not hair-like.

Male genital parts as in Figs. 3-4. Apices of parameres flattened, with rounded margins and a downward denticle set close to interior border.

Body length in the specimens of the type series 3.7-4.3.

The species described is closest to *A. mamajevi* (Medv.) from Uzbekistan, but reliably distinguishable in a number of characters:

A. zhantievi sp.n.

Hind tibiae approximately twice as long as wide.

Process on prothoracal posterior border longer, beak-like, with sharpened tip.

First segment of hind tarsus clearly shorter than segments 2-4 combined.

A. mamajevi (Medv.)

Hind tibiae approximately 3 times as long as wide.

Process on prothoracal posterior border shorter, with rounded tip.

First segment of hind tarsus subequal to segments 2-4 combined.

The type of *A. mamajevi* (Medv.) has been studied by me.

References

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