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A rejection of the subgenus *Trithrix* Schilsky, 1896, and a further contribution to the systematics of the genus *Chaetomalachius* Kraatz, 1882 (Coleoptera, Melyridae, Dasytinae)

by K. Majer

Abstract: The type-species of the subgenus *Trithrix* Schilsky, 1896 of the genus *Dasytiscus* Kiesw. is designated, the subgenus is promoted to generic rank and synonymized with the genus *Chaetomalachius* Kraatz, 1882.

The species *Chaetomalachius largus*, *C. pulcher* and *C. australis* are described as new. The male of *C. reitteri* (Majer, in press) is examined and described.

The type material of *Dasytiscus pilipes* Reitter, 1889; *D. longipilis* Reitter, 1889; *D. nigropilosus* Reitter, 1885 and *D. corvinus* Reitter, 1889 is examined. *Dasytiscus pilipes* Reitt. is transferred to the genus *Chaetomalachius* and *D. pilipes* (together with *Chaetomalachius ruficornis* Schilsky, 1896) is considered as a synonym of *D. longipilis*. *Dasytiscus nigropilosus* is transferred to the genus *Dasytes* F. and *D. corvinus* is synonymized with *Enicopus (Dasytiscus) privignus* Kiesenwetter, 1867.

Key words: Coleoptera Melyridae Dasytinae – *Trithrix* – *Chaetomalachius* – taxonomy – synonymy – new species.

Introduction

Posteriorly to the writing of my paper (MAJER, in press) I received a very interesting material of the genus *Chaetomalachius*, collected in Afghanistan by J. Klapperich; the material is deposited in the Naturhistorisches Museum Basel, Switzerland (NHMB). Also in the Reitter's collection, Természettudományi Múzeum, Budapest (TMB), a very important type- material is deposited. These facts enabled me to make a further step in the study of the genera *Dasytiscus* and *Chaetomalachius*.

Synonymy within the subgenus *Trithrix* Schilsky, 1896

The type-species of this subgenus has not been established; in the year of description SCHILSKY (1896) gives two species only: *Dasytiscus longipilis* Reitter, 1889 and *Dasytiscus nigropilosus* Reitter, 1885.

I have established therefore *D. longipilis* as the type- species of the subgenus *Trithrix* which is consequently promoted to generic rank. Subsequently, the genus *Trithrix* Schilsky, 1896 I consider to be a synonym of the genus *Chaetomalachius* Kraatz, 1882.

Moreover, *Dasytiscus pilipes* Reitter, 1889 and *Chaetomalachius ruficornis* Schilsky, 1896 are synonyms of *Dasytiscus longipilis* Reitter. *Dasytiscus nigropilosus* is transferred to the genus *Dasytes* F. and *D. cornivus* Reitter, 1903 is synonymized with *Enicopus (Dasysoma) privignus* Kiesenwetter, 1867. The new taxonomical situation is as follows:

Trithrix¹ Schilsky, 1896, n. stat.

Dasytiscus (Trithrix) Schilsky, 1896:H – sine nom.sp.); type-species: *Dasytiscus longipilis* Reitter, 1889:111 (present designation).

Trithrix Schilsky, 1896 **n.syn.** for *Chaetomalachius* Kraatz, 1882.

Chaetomalachius longipilis (Reitter, 1889) n. comb.

Dasytiscus longipilis REITTER, 1889: 111.

Dasytiscus (Trithrix) longipilis: SCHILSKY, 1896: H; 56.

Dasytiscus pilipes REITTER, 1889: 111 **n. syn.**

Dasytiscus (Trithrix) pilipes: PIC, 1937: 54.

Chaetomalachius ruficornis SCHILSKY 1896: 52 **n. syn.**; MAJER in press.

Dasytes nigropilosus (Reitter, 1885) n.comb.

Dasytiscus nigropilosus REITTER, 1885: 241.

Dasytiscus (Trithrix) nigropilosus: SCHILSKY, 1896: H; (Holotype ♂ and 8 paratypes deposited in TMB).

Enicopus (Dasysoma) privignus Kiesenwetter, 1867

Henicopus privignus KIESENWETTER, 1867: 113, t.1, Fig. 1 (♂); UHAGON, 1876: 62 (♀); BOURGEOIS, 1888: 14, 31, t.2, Fig. 7.

Henicopus (Dasysoma) privignus: SCHILSKY, 1896: A, 1.

Dasytiscus (Trithrix) corvinus REITTER, 1903: 43, **n.syn.**

Type material of *Dasytiscus corvinus* (TMB): Holotype ♂ (specimen eaten by *Anthrena* and therefore badly damaged) is labelled: «Cerro S. Cristobal Jun.» (Fuente's MS, pink label); «*Dasytiscus corvinus* m.» (Reitter's MS, white label).

¹⁾ SCHILSKY(1896:H) wrote "*Trithryx*" and corrected this spelling on "*Trithrix*" at the end of the same paper (in "Berichtigung").

Descriptive part

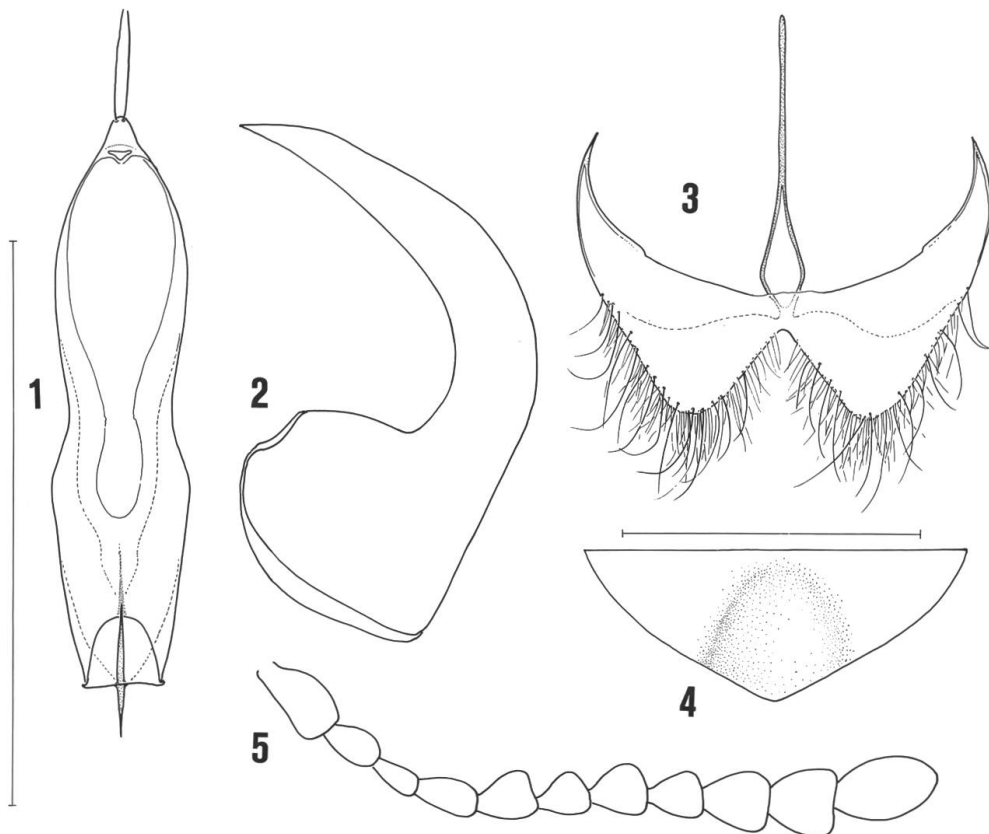
For the abbreviations used see my preceding paper (MAJER, in press).

Chaetomalachius reitteri Majer (in press)

Figs 1–5.

Description of ♂: Externally distinguishable from the female by the following characters: Body more slender and less convex, legs stouter. Antenna (Fig. 5) with segments less transverse.

Pygidium nearly as in *C. cyanellus* (Kiesw.) or *C. marginicollis* (Reitt.). Sternum VII (Fig. 4) tapered and pointed, shallowly excavate. Sternum VIII (Fig. 3) resembling that of *C. dispar* Schilsky (cf. MAJER, in press). Tegmen as figured (Fig. 1). Phallus resembling also that of *C. dispar* but its inner side emarginate at base (Fig. 2). Internal sac with spines of the shape as in *C. dispar* and related species (see MAJER, in press).



Figs 1–5: *Chaetomalachius reitteri* Majer (in pres), ♂: 1, tegmen, dorsally. 2, phallus, laterally. 3, male sternum VIII. 4, male sternum VII. 5, male right antenna. Scale= 1mm.

Body length: 5.2 mm.

Material examined: 1 ♂ (author's collection) labelled: USSR, Azerbaidjan, Nakhichevan, Buzgov, 11.VI.83, M. Danilevski leg.

Notes on taxonomy: according to the characters on terminalia, this species must be classified between *C. dispar* Schilsky and *C. marginicollis* Reitt.

Chaetomalachius longipilis (Reitter, 1889)

Figs 6–10.

The lectotype of *D. longipilis* is externally somewhat different from the type-material of *Chaetomalachius ruficornis* Schilsky, 1896, i.e. relatively smaller, body with greenish lustre; pedicel brightly orange, antennal joints 3–11 brownish, tibiae dark (only posteriorly brownish), tarsi in most part dark; antennal joints rather more transverse (Fig. 10). Terminalia of the lectotype (Figs 6–9) not substantially different from those of lectotype of *C. ruficornis* Schilsky, 1896 (cf. MAJER, in press).

Type material: 2 ♂ and 2 ♀ (TMB). Lectotype ♂ labelled: «*Dasytiscus longipilis* m.n.sp., Turcm» (Reitter's MS, white label). Paralectotypes 1 ♂, 2 ♀ bear typical Reitter's labels with black margins: «Turcmenia, Reitter».

The holotype of *Dasytiscus pilipes* Reitter, 1889 fully corresponds with that of *C. ruficornis* Schilsky, 1896.

Type material of *Dasytiscus pilipes* Reitter, 1889: Holotype, ♂, TMB labelled: «Tachta-basar, 8.IV.87» (Reitter's MS, white label); «*D. pilidens* [sic !!] n. 1888» (Reitter's MS, white label).

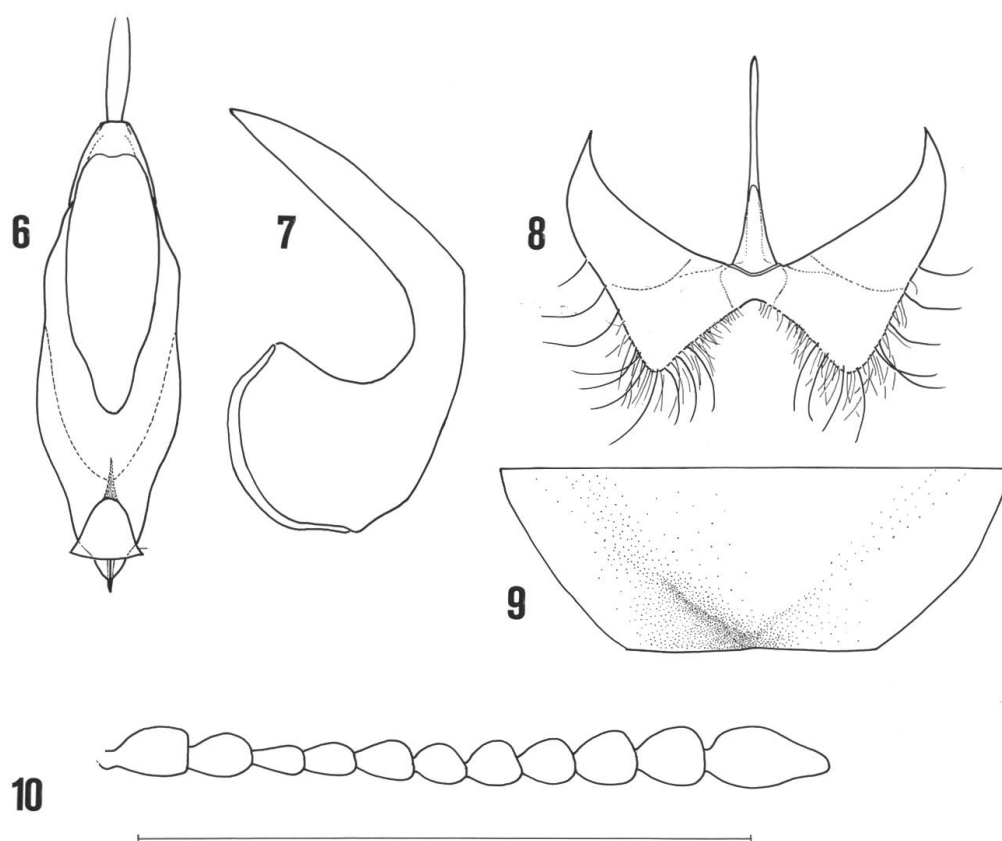
Notes on taxonomy: It is an odd matter that SCHILSKY (1896) did not recognize (and mentioned lateral pronotal ribs) that *D. longipilis* belongs to the genus *Chaetomalachius* and compared it with *Dasytiscus aeneolus* Reitter, 1889, which is entirely unfamiliar species. The specific name *longipilis* must be accepted because the description of *D. pilipes* is situated below the description of *D. longipilis*.

Chaetomalachius largus n. sp.

Figs 11–16.

It is easily distinguishable from all species of this genus by the combination of pale extremities, elytral pubescence only pale and antennal joints strongly transverse (Fig. 17).

The smallest representative of *Chaetomalachius*, strongly transversely convex. Black with green-yellowish lustre; tibiae, tarsi (except apex of metatarsi and claws) and basal half of antenna reddish. Integument finely and regularly punctate; basal pubescence yellowish, the coarse



Figs 6–10: *Chaetomalachius longipilis* (Reitt.), lectotype, ♂ : 6, tegmen, dorsally. 7, phallus, laterally. 8, male sternum VIII. 9, male sternum VII. 10, male right antenna. Scale=1mm.

one is black, erect, and few in number (about 25 setae on head, about 30 on pronotum); the coarse pubescence on elytra is yellowish and rather suberect, also few in number (about 40–50 suberect setae on each elytron). Antennal joints 7–11 transverse (Fig. 16).

Side margins of pronotum and pronotal base jointly broadly rounded, pronotal apex nearly straight; pronotal disc finely and regularly punctate, punctures with no raised margins, interspaces among them polished and almost twice broader than punctures; lateral pronotal ribs little distinct and nearly parallel; lateral pronotal areas weakly wrinkled.

Elytra very narrowly and finely canaliculate along the margins till to the apical elytral quarter; elytral apices jointly rounded.

♂. Elytra nearly parallelsided, less convex; antennal joints less transverse (Fig. 17). Sutural angles very distinct, right-angled, or pointed and nearly sharp-angled. Pygidium (Fig. 15) nearly as in *C. bilyi* Ma-

jer (in press). Sternum VII (Fig. 14) emarginate apically and with a deltoid impression. Sternum VIII (Fig. 13) and tegmen (Fig. 11) as in *C. bilyi*. Phallus with small, arcuate base (Fig. 12); internal sac with several distinct thorns and with a great number of very little spines at base.

Measurements. Length/AL= 3.09–3.52; AL/PL= 1.25–1.27; PW/HW = 1.20–1.28; PW/PL= 1.24–1.28; EL/PL= 2.73–2.80; EW/PW= 1.37–1.45; EL/EW= 1.68–1.69; Length= 2.86–3.33mm, Width= 1.14–1.33mm.

♀. Elytra dilated posteriorly and very strongly convex, antennal joints more transverse. Sutural angles less pointed, rather sharp-angled. Pygidium (Fig. 18) with digitate basal corners, deeply emarginate at apex. Sternum VII nearly straight at apex, sternum VIII as figured (Fig. 16).

Measurements. Length/AL= 3.85–3.95; AL/PL= 1.11–1.15; PW/HW= 1.33–1.38; PW/PL= 1.16–1.20; EL/PL= 2.90–3.00; EW/PW= 1.50–1.56; EL/EW= 1.63–1.65; Length= 3.33–3.86 mm; Width= 1.43–1.67 mm.

Type material: totals 91 ♂, 70 ♀ (8 pairs of them in copula). Holotype ♂, Allotype ♀ and all paratypes are labelled: “J. Klapperich, Kamdesch 2200 m, Nuristan 28.IV.53 Afghanistan” (NHMB, 5 ♂ and 5 ♀ deposited in the author’s collection, 5 ♂ and 5 ♀ in the Entomological Department of National Museum, Prag).

Notes on taxonomy: there are not superficial similarities between *C. largus* n.sp. and *C. bilyi* Majer (in press) but, as for the terminalia, the both species are very closely related.

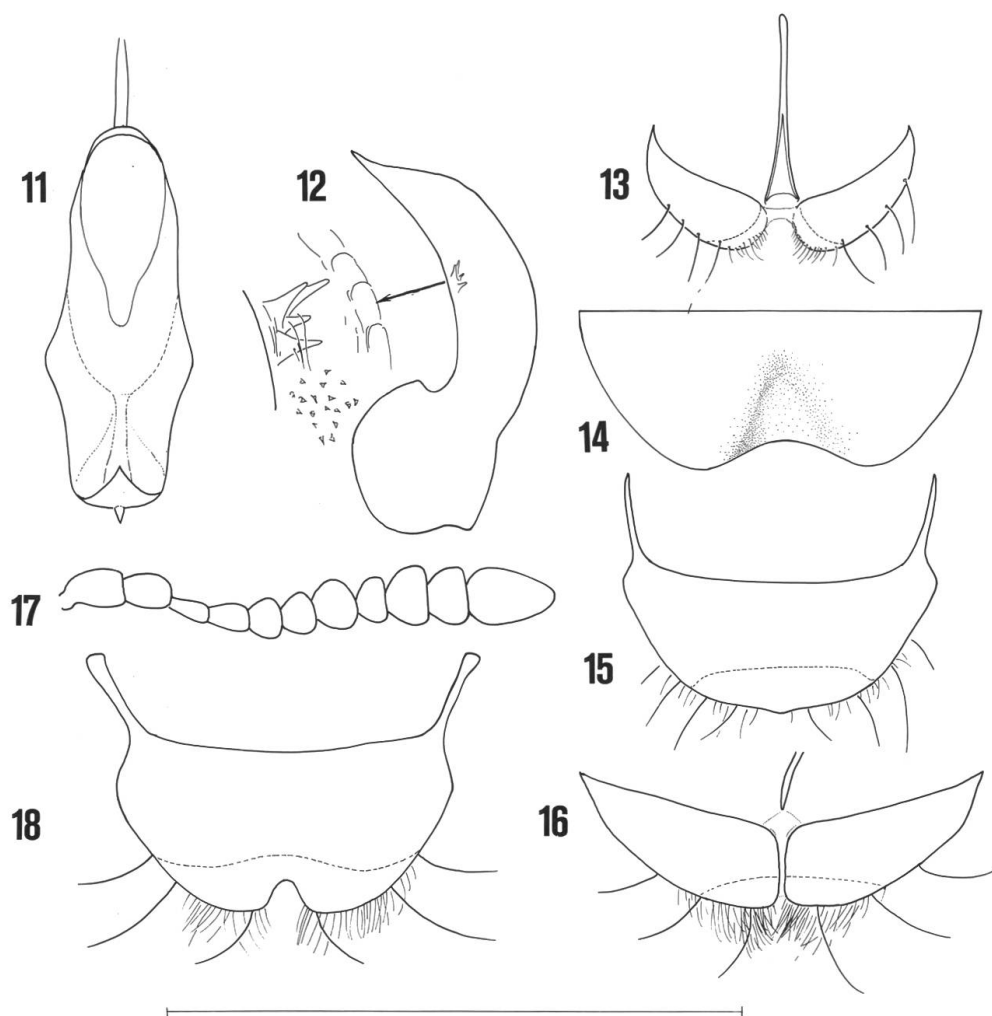
***Chaetomalachius pulcher* n.sp.**

Figs 19–24.

It is distinguishable from the related species *C. acutipennis* Majer (in press) by its violaceous-brown colouration having yellowish tinge.

Antennal joints (Fig. 24) somewhat different. Pronotum less transverse, pronotal disc very densely punctate, more densely than in *C. acutipennis*, side pronotal margins nearly glabrous. Elytral puncturation distinct and deep, intervals among punctures shorter than diameters of punctures.

♂. Subparallel, legs stouter. Elytral apices nearly as in *C. acutipennis*. Pygidium (Fig. 23) nearly straight at apex, with small emargination in middle. Sternum VII as figured (Fig. 22). Sternum VIII with sinuate edges at sides (Fig. 21). Tegmen (Fig. 19) in the basal third somewhat broader than in *C. acutipennis*. Phallus (Fig. 20) with lateral edge in posterior half.

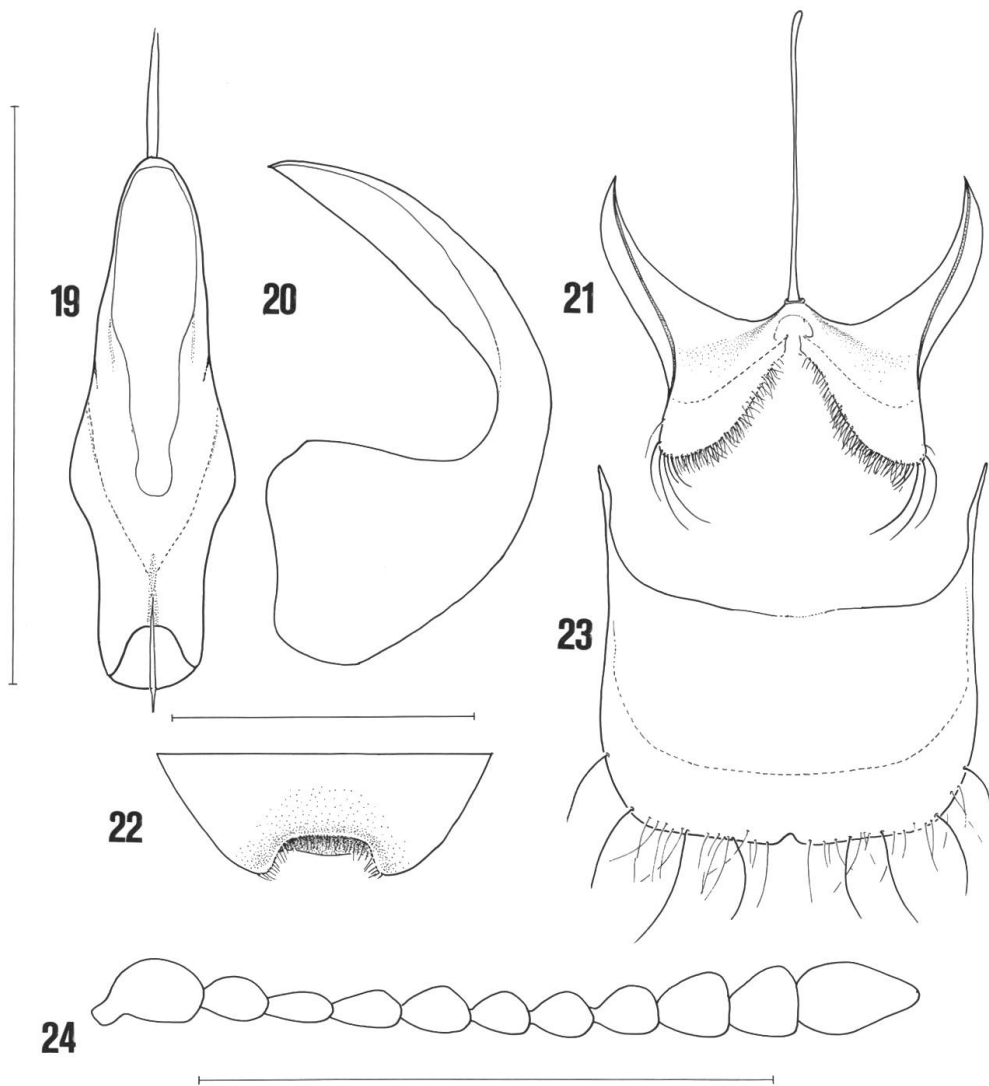


Figs 11–18: *Chaetomalachius largus* n.sp. (12–15,17: holotype ♂ ; 16,18: allotype ♀): 11, tegmen, dorsally. 12, phallus, laterally (arrow-head indicates inner phallic structure). 13, male sternum VIII. 14, male sternum VII. 15, male pygidium. 16, female sternum VIII. 17, male right antenna. 18, male pygidium. Scale= 1mm.

Measurements. Length/AL= 3.00–3.29; AL/PL= 1.47–1.58; PW/HW= 1.23–1.25; PW/PL= 1.32–1.35; EL/PL= 3.00–3.16; EW/PW= 1.23–1.32; EL/EW= 1.82–1.84; Length= 4.29–4.38 mm; Width= 1.52–1.62mm.

♀. More convex posteriorly, less slender. Elytral apices rounded. Pygidium, sternum VII, and sternum VIII with no specific characters.

Measurements. Length/AL= 3.60–3.95; AL/PL= 1.17–1.31; PW/PL= 1.31–1.41; EL/PL= 3.26–3.41; EW/PW= 1.40–1.42; EL/EW= 1.68–1.78; Length= 3.90–4.71mm; Width= 1.62–1.90mm.



Figs 19–24: *Chaetomalachius pulcher* n. sp., holotype ♂ : 19, tegmen, dorsally. 20, phallus, laterally. 21, sternum VIII. 22, sternum VII. 23, pygidium. 24, right antenna. Scale=1mm.

Type material: 3 ♂, 2 ♀. Holotype ♂, Allotype ♀, 1 ♂ paratype (NHMB); 1 ♂ and 1 ♀ in the author's collection; all specimens labelled: "Pagmangebirge 2300 m, 30.V. 1952, Afgh. J. Klapperich".

***Chaetomalachius australis* n.sp.**

Figs 25–29.

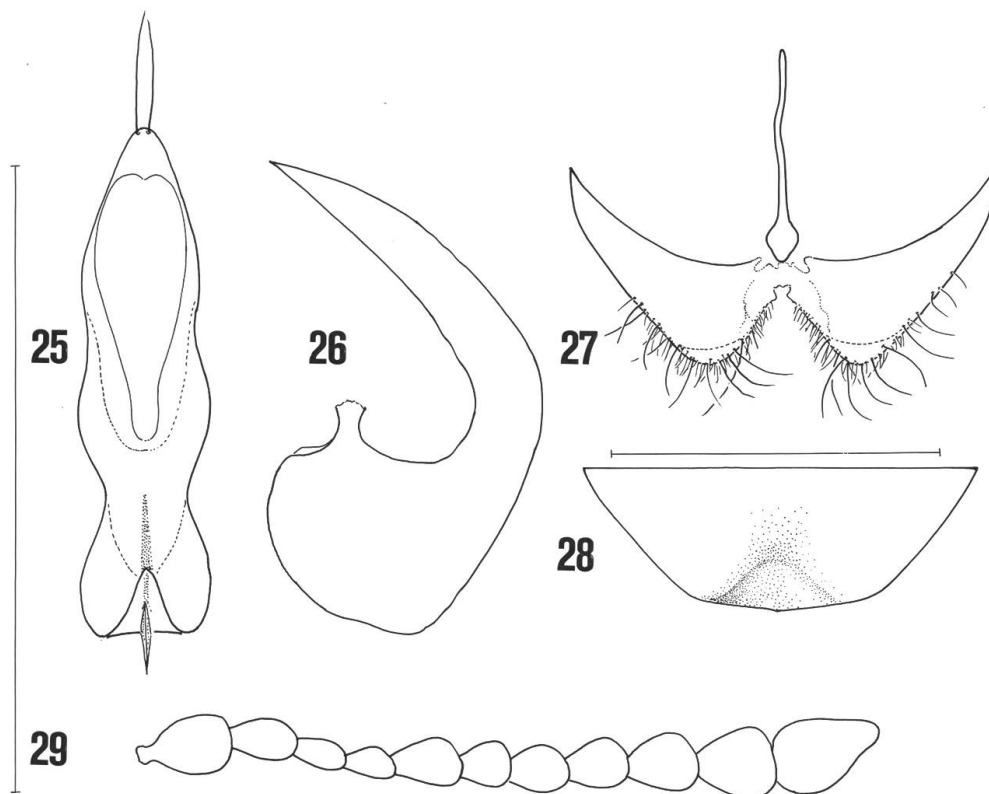
It is remarkable by the violaceous lustre and admixed pale, coarse pubescence on elytra.

Holotype ♂. Colouration black with violaceous-pink lustre having feeble yellowish tinge. Integument regularly and densely punctate, pale

basal pubescence relatively long and rather suberect; the coarse one on head relatively sparse (about 15 black setae). Coarse pubescence on elytra little different from the basal one; the coarse pubescence is black only on the humerus and on other elytral parts is predominantly pale.

Antennal segments transverse (Fig. 29). Pronotum nearly quadrate, side margins slightly narrowing forwards, apex and base subarcuate; pronotal disc rather irregularly punctate, punctures with distinctly raised margins, intervals among punctures nearly glabrous and almost twice or three-times as wide as punctures; lateral pronotal areas narrow. Elytra very densely and relatively deeply punctate, punctures broader than interspaces among them. Sutural angle slightly rounded, scarcely acute.

Pygidium transverse, broadly truncate at apex. Sternum VII nearly straight and with a deltoid impression at apex (Fig. 28). Sternum VIII (Fig. 27) somewhat resembling that of *C. insidiosus* Khnz. (cf. MAJER, in press). Spicular fork with curved apex. Tegmen as figured (Fig. 25). Phallus (Fig. 26) posteriorly nearly parallelsided, its base with a parti-



Figs 25–29: *Chaetomalachius australis* n.sp., holotype ♂ : 25, tegmen, dorsally. 26, phallus, laterally. 27, sternum VIII. 28, sternum VII. 29, right antenna. Scale= 1mm.

cular protuberance on innerside.

Measurements. Length/AL= 3.08; PW/PL= 1.28; EL/PL= 2.94; EW/ PW= 1.35; EL/EW= 1.71; Length= 3.81mm; Width= 1.48mm.

Type material: Holotype ♂ (NHMB) labelled: "J. Klapperich, Kandahar-Kuna 950 m, 5.III, 53, S. Afghanistan".

Notes on taxonomy. This species is similar to *C. insidiosus* Khnz. as regards the structure of pronotum and sternum VIII. As the tegmen and phallus of *C. insidiosus* has been damaged, the mutual relations between both species cannot be hitherto evaluated.

Chaetomalachius klapperichi Khnzorian, 1965

Besides the type-series (19 ex with locality data "Bashgultal 1500 m, Kamu, Nuristan, 26.IV.56, J. Klapperich, Afgh."), I have examined 27 ♂ and 20 ♀, NHMB; 12 ♂ and 3 ♀ of them are with the same locality data as the type-series. "J. Klapperich, Kamdesch 2200 m, 28.IV.53 Nuristan" (15 ♂, and 16 ♀, NHMB); "J. Klapperich, Schiva Hochsteppe, 2800 m, 7.VII.53, Badakschan, NO Afghanistan» (1 ♀, NHMB; 5 ♂ and 5 ♀ deposited in the author's collection).

Discussion

As regards the inner classification of the genus *Chaetomalachius*, the colouration of coarse pubescence is not important from the viewpoint of the specific grouping. The male terminalia appear to be the only reliable clue for the specific taxonomy of this genus.

The species *C. reitteri* Majer (in press) must be re-classified to the proximity of *C. cyanellus* Kiesw.

Colouration of pedicel should not be overvaluated. Similarly, the colouration of other bodyparts is very variable. According to these conclusions the inner classification of this genus runs as follows (cf. MAJER, in press):

Chaetomalachius Kraatz, 1882

Chaetomalachius (s.str.)

The *punctatus*-complex

The *punctatus*-group

1. *C. punctatus* Schilsky, 1896
2. *C. dispar dispar* Schilsky, 1896
3. *C. dispar bodemeyeri* Majer, in press
4. *C. kotschyi* Schilsky, 1896
5. *C. jelineki* Majer, in press

The *cyanellus*-group

6. *C. reitteri* Majer, in press
 7. *C. cyanellus* (Kiesenwetter, 1863)
 8. *C. marginicollis* (Reitter, 1891)
- The *dasytoides*-complex
- The *dasytoides*-group
9. *C. aeneolus* Majer, in press
 10. *C. dasytoides* Kraatz, 1882
 11. *C. wittmeri* Majer, in press
- The *klapperichi*-group
12. *C. klapperichi* Khnzorian, 1965
 13. *C. bactrianus* Khnzorian, 1965
- The *forticornis*-group
14. *C. forticornis* Schilsky, 1896
 15. *C. hauseri* (Schilsky, 1894)
- The *longipilis*-group
16. *C. longipilis* (Reitter, 1889)
- Dasytiscus pilipes* Reitter, 1889 **n.syn.**
- Chaetomalachius ruficornis* Schilsky, 1896 **n.syn.**
- The *aeneus*-group
17. *C. aeneus* Schilsky, 1900
- The *bilyi*-group
18. *C. bilyi* Majer, in press
 19. *C. largus* **n.sp.**
- The *acutipennis*-group
20. *C. acutipennis* Majer, in press
 21. *C. pulcher* **n.sp.**
- The *insidiosus*-group
22. *C. australis* **n.sp.**
 23. *C. insidiosus* Khnzorian, 1965
- Setomalachius* Majer, in press
24. *C. staudingeri* Schilsky, 1900
 - C. crinipes* Khnzorian, 1965

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