

A new species of the genus *Prionus* (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae) from Syria

Jiří Lorenc

Svahová 4956, CZ-430 03 Chomutov, Czech Republic

Abstract. *Prionus komiyai* sp. n. from Syria is described and compared with two closely related species, *P. besicanus* Fairmaire, 1855 and *P. lefebvrei* Marseul, 1856.

Taxonomy, *Prionus komiyai* sp. n., Coleoptera, Cerambycidae, Prioninae, Syria

Introduction

A description of new species of Cerambycidae of the genus *Prionus* Geoffroy, 1762: *Prionus komiyai* sp. n. from Syria, collected by K. Werner, Peiting (Germany) and R. Lízler, Hradec Králové (Czech Republic) is given. The new species is remarkably different from all so far known western Palaearctic species. The comparison is provided with the species *Prionus besicanus* Fairmaire, 1855 and *Prionus lefebvrei* Marseul, 1856.

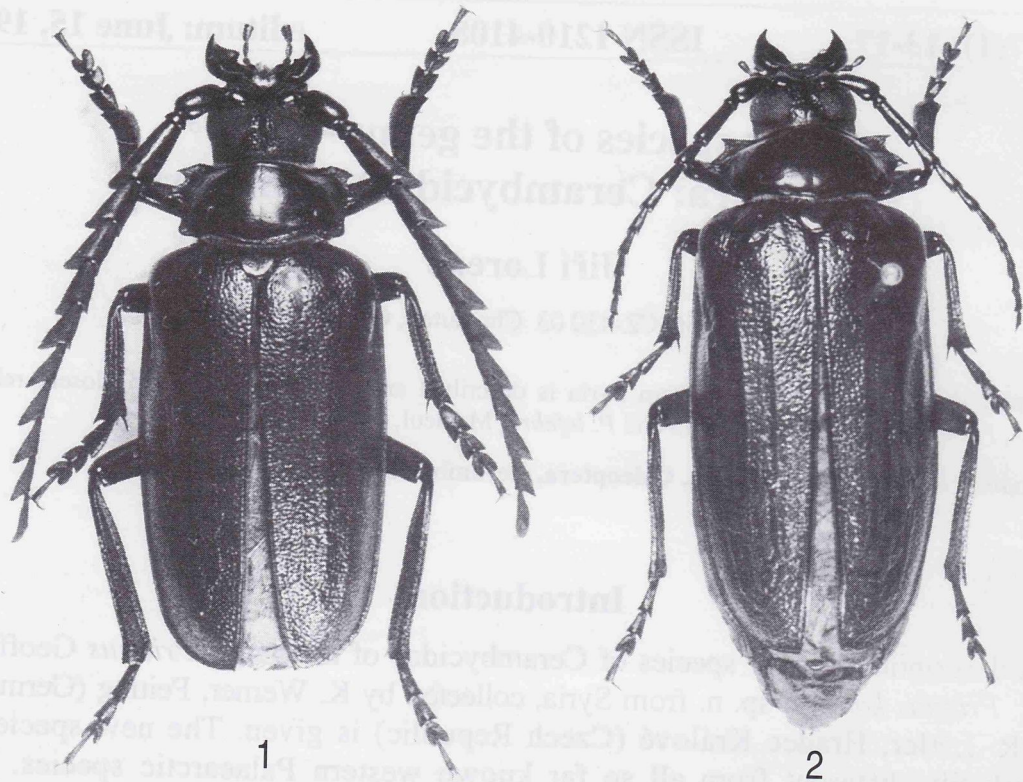
The comparative material of the latter species examined for the purpose of the present paper comes from Bulgaria, Turkey, Iran, Syria, Israel, Jordan.

Prionus komiyai sp. n.

(Figs 1, 2, 5a, 5b, 5c, 5d)

Description. Habitus of holotype as in Fig. 1 and allotype as in Fig. 2. Length of body: males 37-44 mm, females 41-48 mm. Dark brown, head and mandibles black, antennae, pronotum, elytra and tarsi lighter, the underside red-brown, a little bit lighter on the abdomen. Legs dark with reddish femora, sternum and abdomen lines with short yellow setae, metasternum with long yellow setae. The surface of the body wrinkled except for pronotum, antennae and femora, which are punctured.

Head with only narrowly separated eyes, rugose between eyes, frons only slightly impressed on each side, antennal sockets smooth and elevated, mandibles with fine points, labrum with long yellow setae, gula with traverse wrinkles, genae wide, glanced and blunt, maxillary palpus light yellow, setaceous and with extended last segment, which is longer than wide.



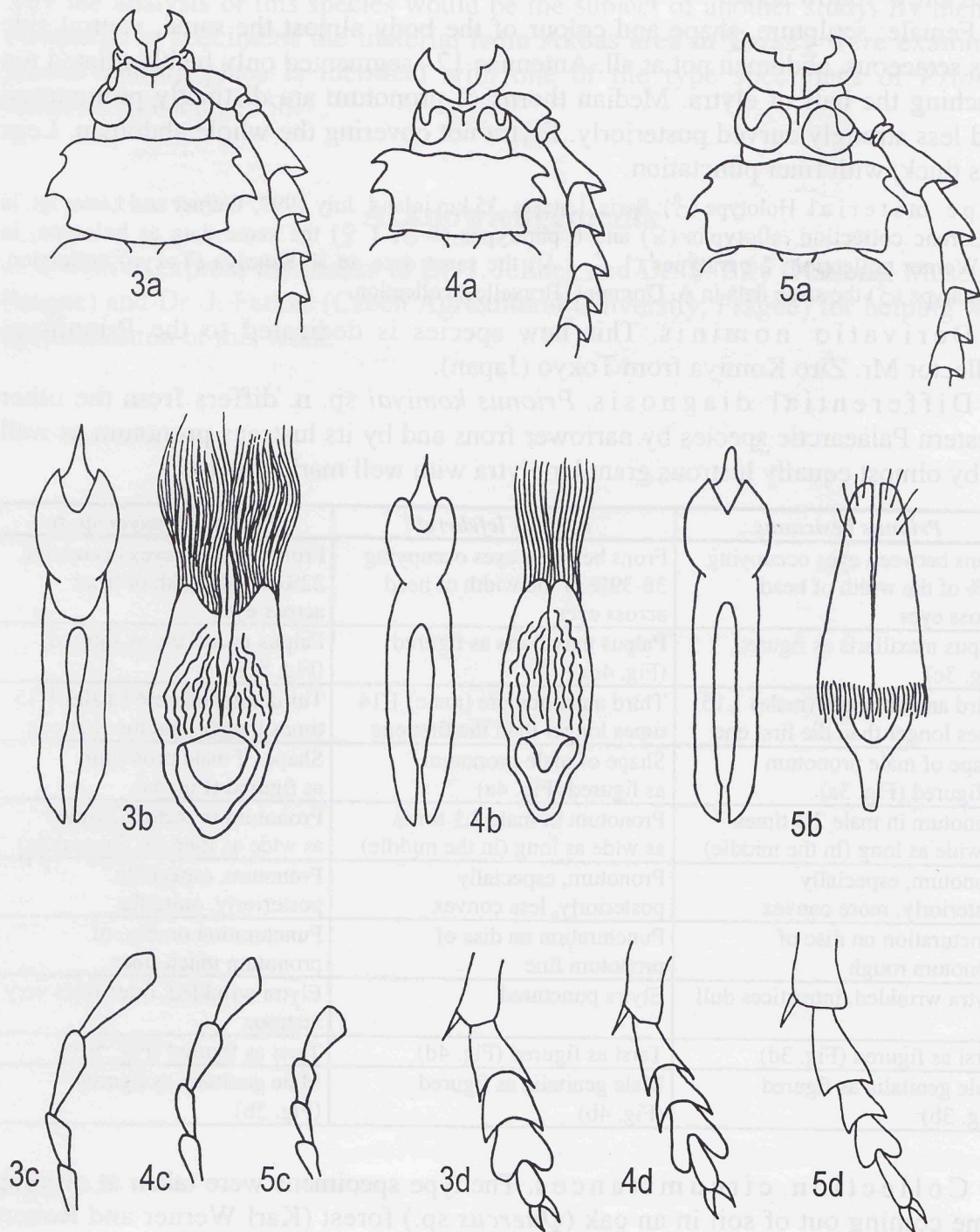
Figs 1-2. Habitus of *Prionus komiyai* sp. n. 1 – holotype; 2 – allotype.

Antenna with 12 segments, reaching $5/6$ of elytron, segment 1 strongly pointed, rounded and oblique at apex, segment 2 very short and conical, segment 3 1.4 times longer than the first, softerly and thickerly pointed, 4 is $3/4$ length of the third, fourth to eleventh decreasing slightly in length, twelfth as long as the eleventh, the third to eleventh segments with two spines, the fourth to twelfth slightly wrinkled.

Pronotum rather flat and in the middle 2.7 times wider than long including thorns. Anterior lateral angle wide, sharp and only a little projecting posteriorly. Median thorns narrower, longer and strongly curved posteriorly. Posterior thorns of pronotum oval and little turned upwards. Disc sparsely punctate, bald and bright. Scutellum punctate in the same way and rounded posteriorly.

Elytra mostly twice longer than wider, parallel, wrinkled, interstices very bright. Each elytron with three well-marked striae.

Legs with femora and tibiae thick and flattened. Femora from the upper side bright, only sparsely punctate, from the lower side cross-wrinkled. Tibiae very thick and granular, from both sides with longitudinal, deep grooves. Tarsi long, the first two segments flattened dorso-ventrally, the third one narrow and oval. Tarsi and tarsal claws with short yellow setae.



Figs 3-5. 3a, b, c, d – *Prionus besicanus* Fairmaire, 1855; 4a, b, c, d – *P. lefebvrei* Marseul, 1856; 5a, b, c, d – *P. komiyai* sp. n. 3a, 4a, 5a – head, antennae and pronotum; 3b, 4b, 5b – aedeagus and parameres; 3c, 4c, 5c – palpus maxillaris; 3d, 4d, 5d – posterior tarsus.

Aedeagus (Fig. 3d) wide and forked, parameres bright, deeply separated, only with a few yellow setae.

Female: sculpture, shape and colour of the body almost the same, ventral side less setaceous, abdomen not at all. Antennae 12-segmented only feebly dilated not reaching the half of elytra. Median thorns of pronotum are distinctly pronounced and less strongly curved posteriorly. Elytra not covering the whole abdomen. Legs less thick, with finer punctation.

Type material. Holotype (♂): Syria, Latakia, 35 km inland, July 1997, Werner and Lizler lgt. in J. Lorenc collection, allotypus (♀) and 6 paratypes (5 ♂, 1 ♀) the same data as holotype, in K. Werner collection, 2 paratypes (1 ♂, 1 ♀) the same data, in Z. Komiya (Tokyo) collection, 1 paratype (♂) the same data in A. Drumont (Bruxelles) collection.

Derivatio nominis. This new species is dedicated to the Prioninae-collector Mr. Ziro Komiya from Tokyo (Japan).

Differential diagnosis. *Prionus komiyai* sp. n. differs from the other western Palaearctic species by narrower frons and by its lustrous pronotum as well as by almost equally lustrous granular elytra with well marked striae.

<i>Prionus besicanus</i>	<i>Prionus lefebvrei</i>	<i>Prionus komiyai</i> sp. n.
Frons between eyes occupying 37% of the width of head across eyes	Frons between eyes occupying 38-39% of the width of head across eyes	Frons between eyes occupying 22% of the width of head across eyes
Palpus maxillaris as figured (Fig. 3c)	Palpus maxillaris as figured (Fig. 4c)	Palpus maxillaris as figured (Fig. 5c)
Third antennomere (male) 1.15 times longer than the first one	Third antennomere (male) 1.14 times longer than the first one	Third antennomere (male) 1.45 times longer than the first one
Shape of male pronotum as figured (Fig. 3a)	Shape of male pronotum as figured (Fig. 4a)	Shape of male pronotum as figured (Fig. 5a)
Pronotum in male 2.3 times as wide as long (in the middle)	Pronotum in male 2.1 times as wide as long (in the middle)	Pronotum in male 2.7 times as wide as long (in the middle)
Pronotum, especially posteriorly, more convex	Pronotum, especially posteriorly, less convex	Pronotum, especially posteriorly, quite flat
Puncturation on disc of pronotum rough	Puncturation on disc of pronotum fine	Puncturation on disc of pronotum much finer
Elytra wrinkled, interstices dull	Elytra punctured	Elytra wrinkled, interstices very lustrous
Tarsi as figured (Fig. 3d)	Tarsi as figured (Fig. 4d)	Tarsi as figured (Fig. 5d)
Male genitalia as figured (Fig. 3b)	Male genitalia as figured (Fig. 4b)	Male genitalia as figured (Fig. 5b)

Collection circumstances. The type specimens were taken at evening time coming out of soil in an oak (*Quercus* sp.) forest (Karl Werner and Robert Lizler, pers. comm.).

Discussion. During the description of the species *Prionus komiyai* sp. n. the problem with the comparative material of the species *Prionus lefebvrei* Marseul, 1856 occurred. During the comparison of the specimens from the areas of northwestern Iran, southeastern and southern Turkey through western Syria, Israel

to western Jordan the essential morphological differences have been shown. That is why the analysis of this species would be the subject of another study. By then as comparative specimens the material from Akbas area in Turkey were examined whose finding place is identical with one of the type specimens of *Prionus lefebvrei* Marseul, 1856.

Acknowledgements

I wish to express my thanks to Dr. J. Jelínek and Dr. S. Bílý (National Museum, Prague) and Dr. J. Farkač (Czech Agricultural University, Prague) for helping with the realization of this work.

WALTER WITTMER, 1997: Revision der im südlichen Afrika vorkommenden Arten der Gattungen *Pelochroides* Wittmer und *Afropelochrus* gen. nov., nebst Beschreibung weiterer Malachiidae. 131 pp. Preis 790 CZK (48 DEM).

Folia Heyrovskyana

Revision der im südlichen Afrika
vorkommenden Arten der Gattungen
Pelochroides Wittmer und *Afropelochrus* gen. nov.,
nebst Beschreibung weiterer Malachiidae
38. Beitrag zu Kenntnis der Fauna Africas
(Coleoptera: Malachiidae)

Walter Wittmer

Supplementum 3
Zlín 1997



Pelochroides pseudobispinosus Wittmer, 1988

The species of *Pelochroides* of South Africa are revised, 21 species are listed and 6 new to science are described. The genus *Afropelochrus* is described. Keys are added for the identification of the genera: *Pelochroides*, *Afropelochrus* and *Gelacondylops*. New species of the genera *Sphinginopalpus*, *Youngatroglops*, *Nepachys*, *Hedybius*, *Gelacondylops*, *Scolocondylops* and *Scelomixis* are described.



KABOUREK

Sokolská 3923, CZ-760 01 Zlín, Czech Republic
tel., fax +420/67/37870, e-mail: kabourek@mbox.mrp.cz