

Sakalianus marietae the new genus and species from Kenya (Coleoptera: Buprestidae: Agrilinae)

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JENDEK, E. 2007. *Sakalianus marietae* the new genus and species from Kenya (Coleoptera: Buprestidae: Agrilinae). *Entomol. Probl.* 37(1–2): 79–80. – A new genus and species from Kenya related to the genus *Agrilus* CURTIS, 1825 is described and illustrated.

Key words: Coleoptera, Buprestidae, Agrilinae, *Sakalianus*, new genus, new species, Kenya, Afrotropical region.

Introduction

During my field trip in Kenya in 2006, I have collected, beside many other interesting buprestids, also very peculiar agriloid species. Detailed examination revealed that this species belongs to the new agrilinae genus which is described herein. The holotype is preserved in the collection of E. Jendek, Slovak Academy of Sciences, Bratislava, Slovakia; paratypes ibidem; in the collection of V. Sakalian, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Sofia, Bulgaria and in the collection of the Národní muzeum, Prague, Czech Republic.

Sakalianus gen.nov.

Figs 1–5

Type species: *Sakalianus marietae* sp.nov. (present designation)

Description. Body small, narrowly elongate, subcylindrical; head and eyes large and strongly convex; lower part of eyes not reaching to antennal sockets (lateral view); antennae very short, not extending to anterior pronotal margin when laid alongside, 11-segmented, serrate from antennomere 4. Pronotum cordiform, posterior angles sharply acute, anterior margin without lobe, disk with smoothed microstructure and very deep, trapezoid posteromedial depression. Prehumerus very excessive, strongly elevate, ridge-like. Lateral pronotal margins with obliterate marginal and submarginal carinae. Fore part of scutellum between anterior margin and transverse carina strikingly expanded and projecting to sharply raised mucro; hind scutellar projection sharp but very short. Elytra without epipleura; humeri prominent, subangulate on tip; apices conjointly arcuate. Prosternal lobe large, evenly arcuate, entire; last abdominal ventrite widely arcuate or almost subtruncate, apically with indication of very weak emargination. Metafemora not incrassate, similar to mesofemora; metatarsi shorter than metafemora; tarsal claws bifid with long, inner tooth.

Etymology. Dedicated to Vladimir Sakalian my very good friend and famous Bulgarian entomologist. The name is defined as masculine.

Comparative notes. *Sakalianus* gen.nov. is habitually and by wing venation (Fig. 4) closely related to the genus *Agrilus* Curtis, 1825 from which it differs by the following combination of characters: pronotal structure smooth, almost fully obliterate; pronotum without anterior lobe, marginal and submarginal pronotal carinae absent; pronotal disk with deep trapezoid posteromedial depression; prehumerus very excessive, ridge-like; scutellum with sharply raised mucro; elytra with prominent subangulate humeri, epipleura missing.

Sakalianus marietae sp.nov.

Figs 1–5

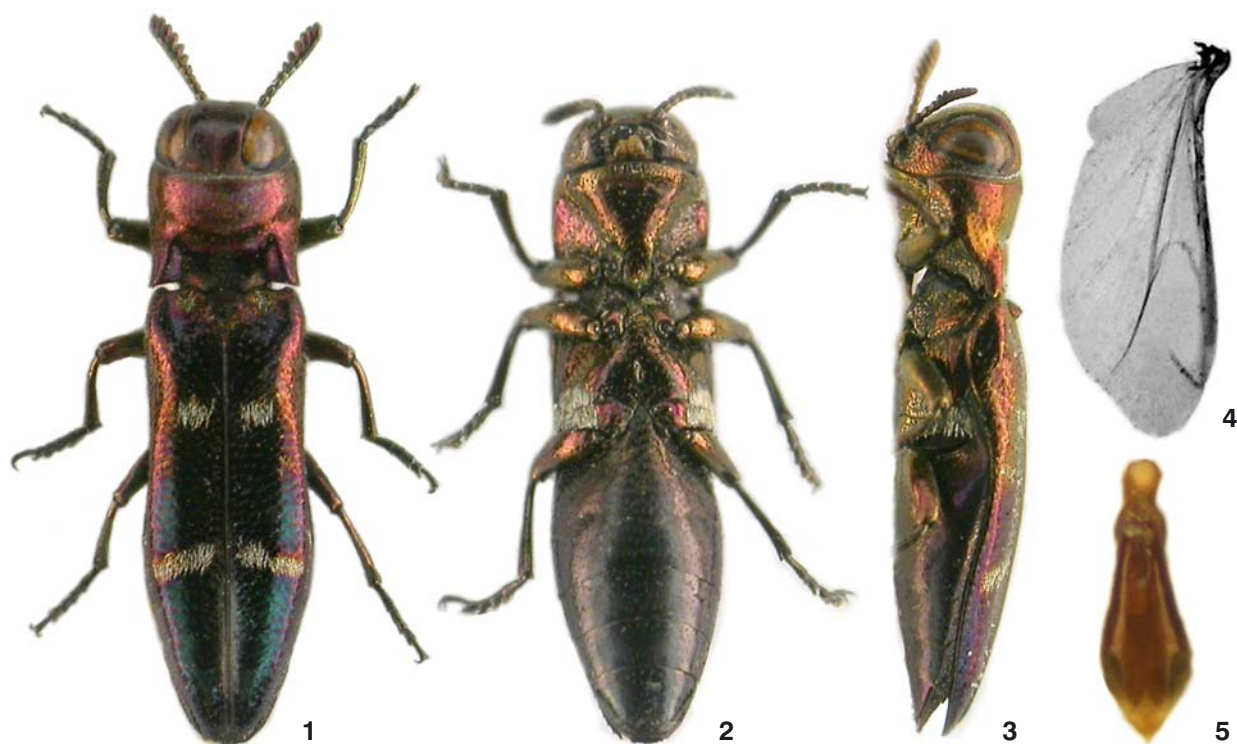
Type locality. Kenya, Ngong Hills, 8 km S of Kiserian, 1°27'S, 36°38'E.

Type material. **Holotype** ♂: “Kenya, Ngong Hills, 8 km S of Kiserian, 1°27'S, 36°38'E, 10-17.iv.2006, E. Jendek leg.”.

Paratypes: 28 exs: with the same locality data as holotype.

Description of holotype. Small, length 4.1 mm; body elongate, subcylindrical; deep purplish-red with violet reflections on elytra and abdominal sides, strongly lustrous. Lower part of frons golden-orange; elytral parts covered with ornamental pubescence golden-yellow. Elytra with ornamental sparse, white, subrecumbent pubescent spots as follows: small, rounded in humeral pit; suboval, adsutural before half of elytral length; small, oblong, near epipleural margin in half of elytral length; large oblique, oblonge in apical third of elytral length. Ventral side with white toment on pleural part of prosternum, latero-posterior part of metasternum and lateral part of metafemora.

Head robust, strongly convex; eyes very large and convex but not projecting beyond outline of head (dorsal view), lower part not reaching to antennal sockets (lateral view). Frontoververtex convex, glabrous, distinctly shagreened; vertex with fine medial impression and with



Figs 1–5 *Sakalianus marietae* gen.nov., sp.nov. male paratype (4.1 mm): 1) dorsal habitus; 2) ventral habitus; 3) lateral habitus; 4) right wing; 5) aedeagus.

sparse superficial punctation in shagreened surface. Clypeus narrow, shallowly arcuately emarginate. Antennae strong and very short, not extending to anterior pronotal margin when laid alongside, 11-segmented, serrate from antennomere 4, 1–4 globoid subequal in length, 5–11 broadly subtriangularly lobate ($5 < 6 < 7 = 8 = 9 = 10 > 11$).

Pronotum cordiform, widest in anterior third; sides distinctly arcuately emarginate before sharply acute posterior angles; anterior margin without lobe, broadly arcuately emarginate; posterior margin distinctly bisinuate. Disk shiny, smooth with almost obliterate microstructure, strongly convex anteriorly and with deep trapezoid depression posteromedially. Prehumerus very prominent, ridge-like, extending from posterior angles to basal third of pronotum, demarcated by lateral pronotal margin and deep posteromedial trapezoid depression. Pronotal margin in anterior half obtusely rounded with fully obliterated marginal and submarginal carinae, posterior half of margin feebly angulate.

Scutellum subpentagonal, fore part between anterior margin and transverse carina strikingly expanded and projecting to sharply raised mucro; hind projection narrowly acute but short, distinctly shorter than rest of scutellum.

Elytra subparallel in basal two-thirds, weakly converging in apical one-third; apices conjointly arcuate with finely serrulate margin. Anterior margin of each elytron deeply bisinuate; humeri very prominent, subangulate on tip. Disk strongly convex transversally, sparsely rugosofoveate. Epipleura absent.

Prosternal lobe evenly arcuate without emargination; prosternal process flat, subparallel between coxae, than

narrowed to sharp apex. Last abdominal ventrite widely arcuate or almost subtruncate apically with indication of very feeble emargination at apex.

Metafemora not incrassate, similar to mesofemora; metatarsi shorter than metafemora; tarsal claws bifid with long, inner tooth.

Aedeagus: Fig. 5.

Wing: Fig. 4.

Sexual dimorphism. Females without substantial differences.

Variability. Length 3.8 mm – 4.6 mm. Color of some specimens is darker and elytral pubescence sometimes caducous.

Distribution. So far known only from the type locality.

Etymology. Named in honour of Marieta Sakalian.

Collecting notes. *Sakalianus marietae* sp.nov. was collected by beating branches of *Acacia* sp.

Acknowledgements

I would like to thank Marieta and Vladimir Sakalian (Bulgaria) for their hospitality and patience during my stay in Kenya.

References

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