

***Ropalopus boreki* n. sp. from Peloponnese, South Greece (Coleoptera Cerambycidae Callidiini)**

Pierpaolo Rapuzzi

Via Cialla, 48, 33040 Prepotto, Udine, Italy; e-mail: info@ronchidicialla.it

ABSTRACT

In this paper is described a new species of *Ropalopus* Mulsant, 1839 from Peloponnese (South Greece) closely related with *Ropalopus siculus* Stierlin, 1864 from Sicily and already known from Greece (Larisa, Ossa Mt.).

KEY WORDS

Coleoptera; Cerambycidae; *Ropalopus*; new species; Greece.

Received 31.08.2017; accepted 24.09.2017; printed 30.09.2017

INTRODUCTION

Studying part of the Cerambycidae collected by my friend and colleague Robert Borek (Aeropolis, Greece) I found several specimens belonging to genus *Ropalopus* Mulsant, 1839 that, after deeper study, appear to belong to an unknown species. The new species is clearly close to *R. siculus* Stierlin, 1864 from Sicily and already known from Greece (Larisa, Ossa Mt.) but easy to distinguish from it according the characters indicated in this paper.

RESULTS

Systematics

Ordo COLEOPTERA
Familia CERAMBYCIDAE
Subfamilia CERAMBYCINAE Latreille, 1802
Tribus CALLIDIINI Mulsant, 1839
Genus *Ropalopus* Mulsant, 1839

***Ropalopus boreki* n. sp.**

TYPE MATERIAL. Holotypus male, Greece: Peloponnese, Lakonia, Neo Itilo, Itilo reg. Avramniaka,

15-25.VI.2017, sugar traps, Robert Borek legit. (Pierpaolo Rapuzzi collection); paratypes: 5 males and 3 females, same data of holotype, Robert Borek collection (Aeropolis, Greece) and Pierpaolo Rapuzzi collection; 1 female, Greece: Peloponnese, 5 km south from Stoupa, 21.VI.1996, M. Egger legit/collection (Wattens, Austria).

DESCRIPTION OF THE HOLOTYPE. Length 22.0 mm, width 10 mm. Body black, shining, elytra with metallic reflex. Head small, heavy punctured with a deep carina between the eyes, antennal tubercles small, moderately flat and impunctate on the apex. The pubescence is made by short and dark brown sparse setae, only close to the labium the pubescence is denser and longer. Head insert deep inside the pronotum that is evidently wider than the head. Pronotum large little larger than longer, hexagonal, deep punctured. The points are denser and smaller at the sides and on the disk, there is a hexagonal area vermiculate with very deep points fused one with the others. Sides of pronotum angulate the largest in the middle. The pubescence on pronotum is made by sparse (sparser than on the head) short black erect hairs. Scutellum



Figure 1. *Ropalopus boreki* n. sp. holotype male. Figure 2. *Ropalopus boreki* n. sp. paratype female.

black, rectangular with several deep points on its surface. Elytra long, flat, evidently enlarged toward the apex. The first half of the elytral length is evidently metallic, golden-green, otherwise in the second half this reflection is less evident, due to the very dense punctuation. The sculpture on the first half of elytra is made by vermiculate points made by the fusion of single points. The space between each point is very shining. Moving from the shoulders to the apex these points become denser and less deep, the space between each point becomes mat due to the micro-sculpture. In this way, the second half of elytra is mat and the metallic reflex is less evident. Elytral apex rounded. Antennae of the same length of the body, blackish-brown with dense isolated points except for the apex that is shortly impunctate. Inner side of antennae with dense, short, stout, erect setae. Antennal segments from the third to the eighth with a

long tooth on the inner side, segments nine and ten with a short tooth in the same position. Legs long, strong, black, quite impunctate with sparse erect black setae. Fore tibiae little arcuate, the others straight.

VARIABILITY. The paratypes are quite homogeneous, the body shape of the females is larger as in other species of the genus *Ropalopus*. The color is the same of the Holotype for all the specimens. The length range is, for the males, between 23 to 34 mm and for the females between 23 and 29 mm.

ETYMOLOGY. I dedicate the new species to Robert Borek from Areopolis (Greece) as thanksgiving to give me the opportunity to study part of his specimens for study.

DISTRIBUTION AND BIOLOGY. This new species is known, at moment, only from Greece (Peloponnese).

The biology of *Ropalopus boreki* n.sp. is unknown. All the specimens were collected using sugar traps hanged on *Acer* trees. It is very likely that this plant is the host of the new species. Moreover all the other species from the same group live only on *Acer*.

REMARKS. The new species is related with *R. siculus* described from Sicily (Italy) (Löbl & Smetana, 2010) and recently discovered in Greece (Ossa mountain, Dutru & Le Restif, 2002: 36) but it is easy to distinguish according to the different elytral sculpture made by deeper and larger points on the basal half, the thinner and denser points on the second half of the elytral length, moreover this area has a “mat aspect” due to the micro-sculpture between the single points. In *R. siculus* this sculpture is not so evidently separated and there is a gradual changing in deep and density of the points. In *R. boreki* n. sp. the pronotum is wider, quite as

large as wide in *R. siculus*. The points on pronotum of *R. siculus* are never vermiculate in the middle but in the middle close to the base of both the sexes there is a more or less small shining area that is totally missing in the new species and it is substituted by vermiculation. Moreover, all the points are denser and less regular in *R. boreki* n. sp. than in *R. siculus*. The antennae are shorter in the new species in both the sexes. The color is normally green with golden reflex in the new species and more reddish-green in *R. siculus*.

REFERENCES

- Dutru C. & Le Restif A., 2002. Rencontres avec quelques Coléoptères spectaculaires de Thessalie (Grèce). *Le Coléoptériste*, 5: 35–40.
- Löbl I. & Smetana A., 2010. Catalogue of Palearctic Coleoptera. 6. Chrysomeloidea. Apollo Books, Stenstrup, 924 pp.

