

Thorictus krasenskyi sp. nov. from Morocco (Coleoptera: Dermestidae: Thorictinae)

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Abstract

Thorictus krasenskyi sp. nov. from Morocco, belonging to the *Thorictus orientalis* species group, is described, illustrated and compared with the similar species *Thorictus orientalis* Peyron, 1857 and *Thorictus tuberosus* Reitter, 1881.

Key words: Taxonomy, new species, Coleoptera, Dermestidae, *Thorictus*, Morocco.

Resumen

***Thorictus krasenskyi* sp. nov. de Marruecos (Coleoptera: Dermestidae: Thorictinae)**

Se describe e ilustra *Thorictus krasenskyi* sp. nov. de Marruecos. Perteneciendo al grupo de especies de *Thorictus orientalis*, es comparada con las especies próximas *Thorictus orientalis* Peyron, 1857 y *Thorictus tuberosus* Reitter, 1881.

Palabras clave: Taxonomía, especie nueva, Coleoptera, Dermestidae, *Thorictus*, Marruecos.

Laburpena

***Thorictus krasenskyi* sp. nov., Marokokoa (Coleoptera: Dermestidae: Thorictinae)**

Thorictus krasenskyi sp. nov., Marokokoa, deskribatu eta irudiztatzen da. *Thorictus orientalis* espezie-taldekoa izanik, antzekoak diren *Thorictus orientalis* Peyron, 1857 eta *Thorictus tuberosus* Reitter, 1881 espezieekin konparatzen da.

Gako-hitzak: Taxonomia, espezie berria, Coleoptera, Dermestidae, *Thorictus*, Maroko.

Introduction

The myrmecophilous dermestid genus *Thorictus* Germar, 1834 currently includes 165 species and subspecies known from the Palaearctic, Oriental and Afrotropical Regions (Háva, 2013, 2014). Twenty-nine species or subspecies have already been known from Morocco (Háva, 2003; Löbl, 2007). In the present paper, the author describes a new species of *Thorictus* recently collected in Morocco: Haut Atlas.

Methods

The following measurements were made:

- BL body length (measured from the head anterior margin to the apex of the elytra).
- BW body width (measured between the two anterolateral humeral calli).
- PL pronotum length (measured from the top of the anterior margin to scutellum).
- PW pronotum width (measured between the two posterior angles of pronotum).

All measurements are given in mm.

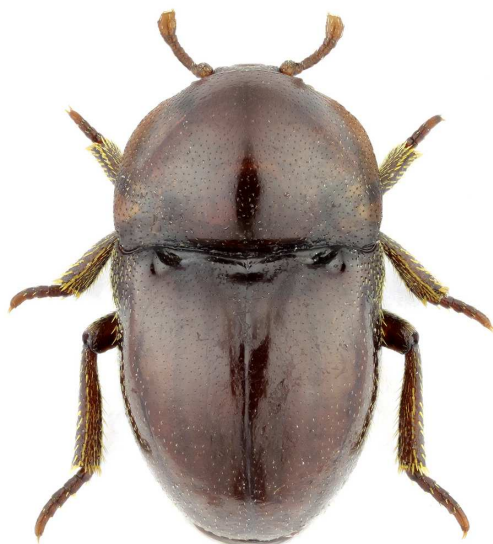


FIGURE 1. *Thorictus krasenskyi* sp. nov.: Habitus, dorsal aspect.



FIGURE 2. *Thorictus krasenskyi* sp. nov.: Head.

Male genitalia were not studied. The differential diagnosis of the aedeagi is often problematical and interspecific differences are currently very poorly defined (John, 1963). The two species groups were stated by John (1963).

The following abbreviations refer to the collection where the examined material is deposited:

JHAC Private Entomological Laboratory & Collection, Jiří Háva, Únětice u Prahy, Prague-west, Czech Republic.

PKPC Pavel Krásenský, private collection, Chomutov, Czech Republic.

Taxonomy

Genus *Thorictus* Germar, 1834

«*T. orientalis* species group»

Thorictus krasenskyi sp. nov. (Figs. 1-3)

Type material:

HOLOTYPE (♂): Morocco, Haut Atlas, Tizi-n-Test env., 30°50,498'N 08°22,743'W, 1488 m, 10.4.2012, Pavel Krásenský lgt. (JHAC). PARATYPE (1 spec.): the same data as the holotype (PKPC).

Type specimens provided with the red label: «HOLOTYPE (or PARATYPE, respectively) *Thorictus krasenskyi* sp. nov. Jiří Háva det. 2014».

Description:

Body large (Fig. 1), castaneous brown, covered by short, yellow setae on dorsal surfaces and short setae on ventral surfaces. Measurements (mm): BL 2.6 BW 1.5 PL 0.9 PW 1.3. Head finely punctate with very short, yellow, recumbent setae. Labial palpi entirely brown. Antennae brown, with 11 antennomeres, antennal club compact, with 3 antennomeres, terminal antennomere with long yellow setae. Lateral eyes on head with very small granules. Pronotum as finely punctate as head, covered by short, yellow, recumbent setation. Lateral margin of pronotum very finely dentate. Posterior angles without long yellow setae. Ventral posterior pronotal angles without yellow setation. Scutellum small, triangular, without setation. Elytra very finely punctate, covered by short, recumbent, yellow setae; lateral yellow setation erect; with two depressions in anterior half near scutellum. Epipleuron finely punctate, anterior angles with large bump; bump coarsely punctured with yellow setation. Prosternum finely punctate. Mesosternum with small, foveolate punctures. Metasternum finely punctate. Visible abdominal sternites very finely punctate, covered by very short, recumbent, yellow setae. Striation on first visible abdominal sternite long (Fig. 3b). Legs brown, covered by long, yellow setae.

Differential diagnosis:

The new species belongs to the «*Thorictus orientalis* species group» according to characters stated by



FIGURE 3. (a)-(b) *Thorictus krasenskyi* sp. nov.: ventral aspect of pubescence on epipleuron and metepisternum (str: striation; bmp: bump) (Photo by Pavel Krásenský).

John (1963) and is similar to the species *Thorictus orientalis* Peyron, 1857 (Figs. 4a-b) (Azerbaijan, Greece, Turkey, «Caucasus», Iraq, Israel, Syria) and *Thorictus tuberosus* Reitter, 1881 (Fig. 4c) (Cyprus, Israel) but differs from them by the size of elytral bumps and structure of lateral eyes on head, pubescence on epipleuron and metepisternum and striation of the first visible abdominal sternite. Another similar species, *Thorictus gigas* Wollaston, 1862, known from the Canary Islands differs by its very large elytral anterior bump and pubescence on epipleuron and metepisternum.

Etymology:

Patronymic, dedicated to my friend and collector of the new species Pavel Krásenský (Chomutov, Czech Republic).

Remarks:

The type specimens were collected in an ant (*Messor* sp.) nest under rocks, in an oak forest, at an altitude of 1488 m (P. Krásenský, pers. comm.).

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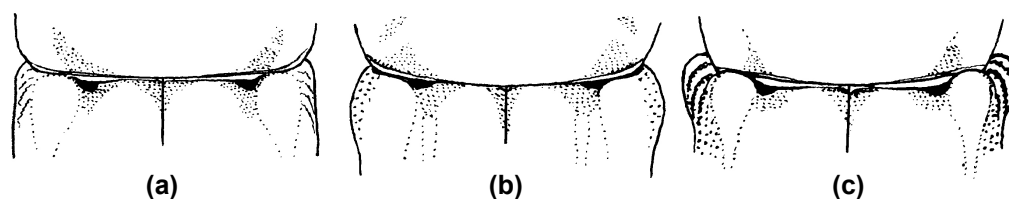


FIGURE 4. Dorsal aspect of the anterior part of elytra: (a)-(b) *Thorictus orientalis* Peyron, 1857: (a) Typical form; (b) Variability; (c) *Thorictus tuberosus* Reitter, 1881: Specimen from Cyprus (original, according to John, 1963).

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