

Two new species in the *Anthaxia* (*Anthaxia*) *candens* (Panzer, 1793) species-group from Iran and Turkey, with taxonomic notes on the group (Coleoptera: Buprestidae)

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Abstract

Two new species in the *Anthaxia* (*Anthaxia*) *candens* (Panzer, 1793) species-group: *Anthaxia* (*Anthaxia*) *jenisi* **new species**, from southern Iran and *A.* (*A.*) *pyrosoma* **new species**, from eastern Turkey, are described, illustrated and compared with related species. *Anthaxia urens* Abeille de Perrin, 1882 is removed from synonymy with *A. lucens* Küster, 1852 and is treated as a well-characterized subspecies. A key to the species of the *A. candens* species-group is provided and short comments on the taxonomic history, distribution and bionomy of the group are given

Key words: Taxonomy, Coleoptera, Buprestidae, *Anthaxia*, new species, Palaearctic Region

Introduction

The *Anthaxia* (*Anthaxia*) *candens* (Panzer, 1793) species-group was characterised by Rikhter (1949) as the subgenus *Callanthaxia* Rikhter, 1949. The subgenus was later synonymised with the subgenus *Anthaxia* s. str. by Obenberger (1958) and this concept has been accepted by subsequent authors (e.g. Cobos, 1986; Curletti, 1994; Bílý, 1997). Rikhter (1949) included *A. passerini* (Pecchioli, 1837) in the group, but it was later transferred to a separate species-group by Bílý (1982).

The *A. candens* species-group is one of the best characterized and most distinct species-groups in the genus *Anthaxia* Eschscholtz, 1829 including large and very colourful species. The species-group can be characterized as follows:

- body large, subparallel, slightly flattened,
- metallic coloured species usually with a conspicuous elytral pattern (Figs 15–24)
- frons widely depressed, vertex very narrow, 0.5–1.0 times as wide as width of eye
- antennae very long, usually reaching posterior pronotal angles