



Two new high-altitude species of the genus *Omphreus* Dejean (Coleoptera: Carabidae: Harpalinae) from Serbia

SREĆKO B. ĆURČIĆ^{1,4}, WOLFGANG WAITZBAUER², PAMELA ZOLDA², NASTAS ILIĆ³ & BOŽIDAR P. M. ĆURČIĆ¹

¹Institute of Zoology, Faculty of Biology, University of Belgrade, Studentski Trg 16, 11000 Belgrade, Serbia and Center for Biospeleology of Southeast Europe, Resavska 53, 11000 Belgrade, Serbia. E-mail: srecko@bf.bio.bg.ac.yu

²Department of Conservation Biology, Vegetation- and Landscape Ecology, Faculty of Life Sciences, University of Vienna, Althanstrasse 14, A-1090 Vienna, Austria. E-mail: wolfgang.waitzbauer@univie.ac.at

³Faculty of Sport and Physical Education, University of Belgrade, Blagoja Parovića 156, 11000 Belgrade, Serbia. E-mail: nastas@dif.bg.ac.yu

⁴Corresponding author

Abstract

Two new ground beetle species from western Serbia are described, *Omphreus* (*Omphreus*) *ovcarensis* **sp. n.** (from Mt. Ovčar) and *Omphreus* (*Omphreus*) *serbooccidentalis* **sp. n.** (from Bukovi Peak, Mt. Maljen). Male and female genitalia and other taxonomically important characters are illustrated. The two new species are clearly distinct from their closest congeners. They have a restricted and probably relict distribution, endemic to the Dinaric Alps in Serbia. A key to five species and two subspecies of the genus *Omphreus* Dejean from Serbia is presented.

Key words: ground beetles, soil fauna, Serbia

Introduction

The genus *Omphreus* Dejean, 1828 comprises three subgenera (*Neomphreus* Winkler, *Omphreus* s. str., and *Paromphreus* Ganglbauer), 14 species, and 13 subspecies, which are endemic to the Balkan Peninsula and Asia Minor (Trautner & Geigenmüller 1987; Bousquet 2003) and most are montane to alpine forms living under stones and bark. These rare carabids are large in size (16–28 mm), black, and recognizable by both their distinctive habitus and their long shaft-like first antennomere. The following *Omphreus* taxa are presently known from Serbia: *Omphreus* (*Omphreus*) *bischoffi* Meschnigg, 1934 (from Mt. Mokra Gora, southern Serbia), *Omphreus* (*O.*) *gracilis* Apfelbeck, 1918 (from Mt. Šar Planina, southern Serbia), *Omphreus* (*O.*) *morio albanicus* Apfelbeck, 1906 (from Mt. Paštrik, southern Serbia), and *Omphreus* (*O.*) *morio serbicus* Winkler, 1933 (from Mts. Murtenica and Zlatibor, western Serbia) (Apfelbeck 1904, 1906, 1918; Winkler 1933; Meschnigg 1934; Drovenik & Peks 1999; Bousquet 2003; Ćurčić *et al.* 2007; Guéorguiev 2007).

Material and methods

Two field trips organized by one of the coauthors of the present study (N. I.) in western Serbia during 1996 and 1997 resulted in the discovery of two new species of the genus *Omphreus* Dejean: *Omphreus* (*Omphreus*) *ovcarensis* **sp. n.** and *Omphreus* (*Omphreus*) *serbooccidentalis* **sp. n.** Specimens of both species were col-