Xantholinus dvoraki Coiffait, 1956, the only valid species of the subgenus *Meneidophallus* Bordoni, 1999, with remarkably variable internal sac of aedeagus (Coleoptera, Staphylinidae)

VLADIMIR I. GUSAROV

Division of Entomology, Natural History Museum, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS 66045-7523, U.S.A.
&
Department of Entomology, St. Petersburg State University, Universitetskaya nab., 7/9, St. Petersburg 199034, Russia; e-mail: vlad@falcon.cc.ku.edu

Abstract

Xantholinus dvoraki Coiffait, 1956 is regarded as the only valid species in the subgenus *Meneidophallus* Bordoni, 1999. *Xantholinus* (*Meneidophallus*) *roubali* Coiffait, 1956, *X.* (*M.*) *dissimilis* Coiffait, 1956, *X.* (*M.*) *alaiensis* Coiffait, 1966, *X.* (*M.*) *schweigeri* Coiffait, 1966, *X.* (*M.*) *balaton* Bordoni, 1973, *X.* (*M.*) *varhegyanus* Bordoni, 1973, *X.* (*M.*) *magyaricus* Tóth, 1985 and *X.* (*M.*) *pseudobalaton* Tóth, 1985 are placed in synonymy with *X.* (*M.*) *dvoraki*. Unusually high variability of the internal sac of aedeagus in *X. dvoraki* is described and discussed.

Key words: Coleoptera, Staphylinidae, *Xantholinus*, *Meneidophallus*, taxonomy, new synonyms, aedeagus variability.

Introduction

The staphylinid genus *Xantholinus* Dejean, 1821 includes 274 species (Herman 2001b). In this genus many species can be reliably identified only by using the characters of male genitalia. In *Xantholinus* the portion of the aedeagus distal of the basal orifice is greatly reduced. As a result, the aedeagus looks like a big bulb with the basal orifice and rudimentary parameres shifted close to the bulb apex. During copulation the aedeagus stays in the male abdomen, while the internal sac is everted. Because of that, in *Xantholinus* the median lobe of aedeagus is relatively uniform, while the internal sac varies greatly between species and may have spines, denticles, scales and other structures of different size, number and arrangement. It is the study of internal sac that allows to distinguish between close species, and many subgenera in *Xantholinus* (for example, *Helicophallus*