



Ilybius thynias sp. n. from European Turkey (Coleoptera: Dytiscidae)

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Abstract

Ilybius thynias sp. n. is a new member of the *Ilybius chalconatus*-group and belongs to the subgroup of the same name. It was collected in the European part of Turkey, not far from the western coast of the Black Sea, some kilometres west of Iğneada and somewhat south of the border with Bulgaria. The species is externally similar to the other members of that subgroup, but males deviate considerably by the shape of the median lobe and the parameres. A detailed description and several figures are given to facilitate an easy identification of the new species. In addition, we have modified the key to species for males of the *chalconatus*- and *erichsoni*-groups given in Fery & Nilsson (1993) by including the new species and the similar, only recently described, *I. adygheanus* Petrov, Shapovalov & Fery, 2010. The genus *Ilybius* Erichson, 1832 contains now 70 members, 21 of which belong to the *chalconatus*-group which includes the *chalconatus*-subgroup with eight species. A synopsis of the *chalconatus*-group is presented.

Key words: Coleoptera, Dytiscidae, Agabini, *Ilybius*, new species, description, European Turkey

Introduction

Nilsson (2001) listed 67 species of the genus *Ilybius* Erichson, 1832 in his world catalogue of Dytiscidae. Six years later *Ilybius minakawai* Nilsson & Ribera, 2007 from Sakhalin (Far East Russia) was published and recently the 69th member of this genus has been found in the Russian Caucasus: *Ilybius adygheanus* Petrov, Shapovalov & Fery, 2010. Together with *I. thynias* sp. n. the genus comprises now 70 species: 67 of them are distributed in the Palaearctic, two in the Nearctic, and one in both regions. Until Nilsson (2000) the members of the *chalconatus*- and *erichsoni*-groups had been placed in the genus *Agabus* Leach, 1817. They were revised by Fery & Nilsson (1993), and Nilsson (2000) transferred them to the genus *Ilybius*, a proceeding that was supported by the chromosomal analyses of Aradottir & Angus, 2004.

In 2003, the junior author received some diving water beetles collected by his friend Piotr Białooki (Sopot, Poland; specialist in Curculionidae) in the European part of Turkey. These specimens were easily classified as *Ilybius* and more precise to the *chalconatus*-group of that genus. However, the specimens could not be keyed to species rank, although they were compared with material of all the other members of the *chalconatus*-group. Finally, a comparison with *I. adygheanus* revealed that the specimens from Turkey are similar to that species, but belong to a new one that is described below as *I. thynias* sp. n.

Material and methods

The following abbreviations are used for collections mentioned in the text:

CHF coll. H. Fery, Berlin, Germany, property of the Naturhistorisches Museum Wien, Austria
CMP coll. M. Przewoźny, Poznań, Poland
USMB Upper Silesian Museum, Bytom, Poland