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## A new species of the genus *Aspidiotes* Schoenherr, 1847 (Coleoptera: Curculionidae: Tanymecini) from Middle Anatolia (Turkey)

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### Abstract

A new species of *Aspidiotes* Schoenherr, 1847 (Curculionidae: Tanymecini) from Turkey is described and illustrated. *Aspidiotes* (*Phaenognathus*) *candani* sp. nov. is closely related to *A. anatolicus* (Colonnelli) but can be separated by eye shape, form of pronotum, form of setae on disc of elytra, surface morphology of scales, structure of aedeagus (in dorsal view) and form of spermatheca.

**Key words:** Coleoptera, Curculionidae, Tanymecini, *Aspidiotes*, new species, Turkey

### Introduction

Schoenherr (1847) described the genus *Aspidiotes* with a single included species, *A. westringii* Schoenherr, 1847 from southern Spain. The genus *Aspidiotes* Schoenherr, 1847 (Curculionidae: Tanymecini) was recently revised by Sanchez-Ruiz and Alonso-Zarazaga (1994) and shown to have 6 valid species (*A. anatolicus* (Colonnelli, 1978), *A. cottyi* (Lucas, 1858), *A. gonzalezi* (Sanchez-Ruiz & Alonso-Zarazaga, 1994), *A. larbii* (Escalera, 1914), *A. thalassinus* (Schoenherr, 1847) and *A. westringii* (Schoenherr, 1847)). A cladistic analysis, based on characters of the external morphology and genitalia, suggested the existence of two subgenera within the genus, *Aspidiotes* and *Phaenognathus* (Sanchez-Ruiz and Sanmartin, 2000). The genus has a Mediterranean distribution in the Western Palaearctic region and the species are thermophilous, mostly associated with coastal scrub or steppe vegetation. Only a couple of species have been found in non-coastal areas (*A. gonzalezi* in the Ebro Basin, and *A. anatolicus* in central Anatolia) (Sanchez-Ruiz and Alonso-Zarazaga, 1994).

This study focuses on description of new species of *Aspidiotes* Schoenherr, 1847 collected in Middle Anatolia (Turkey). A distribution map of species known from Turkey (*A. anatolicus*, *A. thalassinus* and *A. candani* sp. nov.) is given (Fig. 1).

### Material and methods

For morphological study, specimens were examined under the stereomicroscope (Olympus SZX-16) and measurements were taken. The male and female genitalia were prepared by first softening the abdomen in 10% KOH for 24 h at 30°C. Thereafter, tissues were carefully removed and genitalia were placed in glycerin. Photographs were taken with a digital camera (DP26 Digi-CAM) attached to the microscope. For scanning electron microscopy, specimens were mounted with double-sided carbon tape on SEM stubs, coated with gold in a Polaron SC 502 Sputter Coater, and examined with a JOEL JSM 6060 SEM operated at 10 kV. The material examined is deposited in the following collections: ZMGU Ent., Zoology Museum of Gazi University, Kırşehir, Turkey. Structural terms for male and female genitalia follows Tuxen (1970), Pajni *et al.* (1977) and Sert (1997).

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