ON THE TAXONOMY OF TAXA RELATED TO *GRAMMOPTERA AURICOLLIS* MULSANT & REY (Coleoptera, Cerambycidae)

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Abstract. *Grammoptera auricollis samai ssp. n.* from Northern Africa is described and differentiated from closely related taxa.

Description of the new subspecies *Grammoptera auricollis* samai ssp.n. from Algeria is given in the present paper. For detailed differentiation of newly described subspecies the description is given as differential diagnoses containing basic characters of group of the following closely related taxa: *Grammoptera auricollis auricollis* Mulsant et Rey, 1863, *Grammoptera auricollis basicornis* Pic, 1924, and *Grammoptera bipustulata* Steiner, 1975.

The new taxon is mentioned by my friend, Italian colleague Gianfranco SAMA (SAMA, 1996) with information that description will be elaborated by myself. He considers this taxon to be a subspecies of *G. auricollis*. In spite of indubitable close affinity of both taxa I assume this taxon to be a similar species propria, much less similar to nominotypical subspecies of *G. auricollis* than to the following geographically distant subspecies. Some of differences are very significant. From Crete by Pic described *var. basicornis* is correctly considered as a subspecies by HEYROVSKÝ (1965). In 1975 *G. bipustulata* was described by STEINER from Greece. This taxon is considered to be a subspecies of *G. auricollis* by Sama. This opinion is not accepted by me. I agree with STEINER's opinion.

Grammoptera auricollis samai n. ssp.

Holotype: ♂, Tunisia: Ain Draham 6.-7.6.1982, A. Olexa lgt., M. Sláma coll.
Allotype: ♀, Tunisia: Ain Draham 6.-7.6.1982, J.& M. Sláma lgt. Paratypes:1 spec., Tunisia: Ain Draham 6.-7.6.1982, J. & M. Sláma lgt.; 1 ♂ and 1 ♀, Ain Draham G. Sama & G. Magnini ex larva IV.1990; Camp des Chenes, 35 km S of Tabarca 31.V.1995, J. Batelka & H. Podrouzková lgt.; Algeria: Constantine - Bou Snib, Dayrem (1 spec. coll. Nat. Mus. Praha, 1 spec. Coll. Voříšek).

Further material studied

Grammoptera auricollis Mulsant: 1 spec., with blue label Grammoptera auricollis Muls., Opusc. 1863.183, Algeria; red label HOLOTYPUS and further blue label Museum Paris, Coll.Reiche, Coll.Sédillot 1935, Algeria (Coll. Mus. Nat. Paris). 18 ex. Algeria: Kabylia, Tizi Ouzou, Foret de Akfadou - Mourglia et Sama lgt. 1979-1987; Blida, Foret de Mouzaia - Sama lgt. 1987 (coll. Sama & Sláma); Mouzaia VI.1908, name of collector illegible.

Grammoptera auricollis basicornis Pic: 1 ex. Creta, TYPUS (coll. Nat. Mus. Praha) det Pic; 11 ex. Creta, Lefka Ori, Omalos - Brodský, Bílý, Sláma lgt.; Topolia - Kratochvíl. lgt. (coll. Sláma, Kratochvíl).

Grammoptera bipustulata Steiner: 18 ex. Greece, Peloponesos: Vourvoura 6.1984 - J.& M.Sláma lgt., Tripolis 5.1979 - M. & J. Hladil lgt., Sparti 9.6.1991 - P.Vaněk lgt. (coll. Sláma).

Bionomy: Two ♀♀ I swept from leaves of basking in the sun oak branches and two specimens were reared from *Quercus mirbecki* by G. SAMA & G. MAGNINI.

Derivatio nominis: The new subspecies is named after my old friend and excellent Italian cerambycidolog, Gianfranco SAMA.

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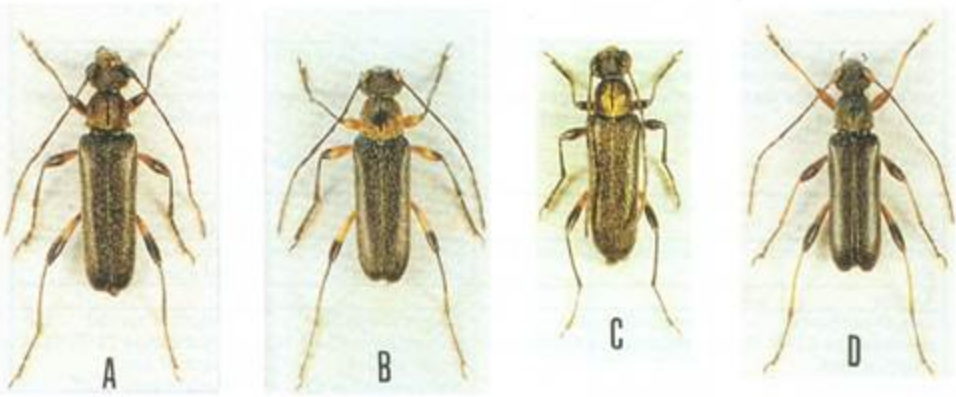
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A: *Grammoptera auricollis auricollis* Mulsant et Rey - B: *Grammoptera auricollis basicornis* Pic - C: *Grammoptera auricollis* samai n.ssp. - D: *Grammoptera bipustulata* Steiner
(Photos: M.E.F. Sláma)

G. auricollis auricollis Mulsant et Rey	*G. auricollis basicornis* Pic	*G. auricollis* **samai** ssp.n.	*G. bipustulata* Steiner
Head			
Head mostly more broad and shorter	head mostly more broad and shorter	head mostly more broad and shorter	head mostly more narrow and longer
Punctures on head less sized	punctures on head less sized	punctures on head less sized	punctures on head larger than in preceding species
Antennae			
Second antennomere 1.1-1.3 times longer than broad	second antennomere 1.1-1.3 times longer than broad	second antennomere 1.3-1.5 times longer than broad	second antennomere 1.8-2.1 times longer than broad
Pronotum			
Basal margin moderately arcuate	basal margin moderately arcuate	basal margin distinctly posteriorly arcuate	basal margin hardly arcuate
Posterior thorns strongly expressed	posterior thorns only little expressed	posterior thorns moderately to strongly expressed	posterior thorns strongly expressed
Medial longitudinal area expressed almost across all pronotum, in posterior half broader, distinctly visible	medial longitudinal area mostly in posterior half narrower, rarely almost absent	medial longitudinal area expressed only in posterior half, mostly well marked	medial longitudinal area almost absent, or absent, rarely well marked
Upper part till sides with mostly rounded, small, nitidous areas, without setae and shallows	upper part till sides without nitidous areas	upper part till sides without nitidous areas, or these only slightly indicated	upper part till sides with distinctly expressed (only very rarely less distinct), longitudinal, small, nitidous areas
Setae golden-yellow	setae golden-yellow	setae yellow, closer and moderately longer	setation golden-yellow
Punctures of pronotum smaller	punctures of pronotum smaller	punctures of pronotum smaller	punctures of pronotum larger than in preceding taxa

Elytra			
elytra black and nitidous	Elytra black and nitidous	elytra black and more nitidous than in the other taxa	Elytra black and nitidous
apex of elytra rounded, internally more obtuse than externally	Apex of elytra rounded, externally projecting into obtuse angle	apex of elytra rounded, external angle indicated or more sharply rounded	Apex of elytra internally rounded to obliquelly posteriorly cut out, mostly finely rounded
width to length ratio of elytra: ♂ - 2.7-2.72 ♀ - 2.65-2.67	Width to length ratio of elytra ♂ - 2.57-2.72 ♀ - 2.48-2.59	width to length ratio of elytra ♂ - 2.57-2.71 ♀ - 2.38-2.50	Width to length ratio of elytra ♂ - 2.69-2.83 ♀ - 2.46-2.62
Punctures in ½ of elytra larger, distance between punctures smaller than their diameter	punctures in ½ of elytra smaller, distance between punctures larger than their diameter	Punctures in ½ of elytra smaller than in *G. auricollis*, but larger than in other taxa, distances between punctures smaller than their diameter	Punctures in ½ of elytra smaller, distances between punctures larger than their diameter
Setation grey with yellowish tinge	setation grey	Setation yellow	Setation grey with yellowish tinge
Setae short and more fine	setae short and more fine	Setae longer 1,5-2 times and more strong	Setae longer 1,5 times and more fine
Tarses			
Length of second protarsomere 67-73 % of length of first protarsomere in ♂, resp. 58-60 % in ♀	length of second protarsomere 60-70 % of length of first protarsomere in ♂, resp. 62-64 % in ♀	Length of second protarsomere 63-65 % of length of first protarsomere in ♂, resp. 56-58 % in ♀	Length of second protarsomere 72-77 % of length of first protarsomere in ♂, resp. 65-67 % in ♀
Second protarsomere approximately 1.4-1.5 longer than wide in ♂, resp. 1.2 in ♀	Second protarsomere approximately 1.42-1.44 longer than wide in ♂ resp. 1.25-1.33 in ♀	Second protarsomere approximately 1.43-1.4 longer than wide in ♂, resp. 1.15-1.17 in ♀	Second protarsomere approximately 1.51-1.8 longer than wide in ♂, resp. 1.48-1.77 in FX
second metatarsomere approximately 2.1-2.5 longer than wide in ♂, resp. 2.35 in ♀	Second metatarsomere approximately 2.81-2.86, longer than wide in ♂, resp. 2.92-3.25 in ♀	second metatarsomere approximately 2.21-2.33 longer than wide in ♂, resp. 2.3-2.5 in ♀	Second metatarsomere approximately 2.40-2.75 longer than wide in ♂, resp. 2.71-3.12 in ♀
third metatarsomere deeply emarginate	third metatarsomere less deep emarginate	third metatarsomere deeply emarginate	Third metatarsomere less deep emarginate
Body colouration			
whole body black, exceptionally posterior and lateral margins of last abdominal segments yellowish in ♀	body black, in ♂ apex of abdomen and in ♀ posterior half of abdomen light yellow-brown	body black, abdomen in ♂ black or lateral margins of last segments yellow-brown, in ♀ whole abdomen yellow-brown	Body black, exceptionally margins of last abdominal segments in both sexes yellow-brown
antennae black, often especially in FX from antennomere 5-6 ventrally dark brown	Antennae black, first antennomere often almost brown, distal half ventrally sometimes dark brown	Antennae partially dark-brown, especially ventrally to almost light brown, exceptionally in proximal half in ♂ almost black	First and second antennomere light, from third antennomere blackish or black
legs black, approximately 1/3 of femora in middle part rather near body light	Legs black, profemora light except for narrow ending, basal 1/3-1/4 of meso- and metafemora black	Femora in middle except for apices and bases broadly light, tibiae black and also light, tarses black	Profemora light, meso- and metafemora ussually with black apex or totally light, tibiae light or apically variously broadly blackish, tarses dark
Body length			
♂: 5.3-7.5 mm	4.7 - 6.5 mm	5.8 - 7.6 mm	6.6 - 8.2 mm
♀: 7.4-8.2 mm	6.4 - 7.7 mm	7.4 - 8.3 mm	7.4 - 9.5 mm