

Notes on the taxonomy of *Urometopus*
with description of a new species from northern Turkey
(Coleoptera: Curculionidae)

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Abstract. *Urometopus angelinii* sp. nov. from northern Turkey (Ordu province) is described and illustrated. Description and illustration of the male of *U. anatolicus* Smreczyński, 1977 with new locality records are also given. *Omius imereticus* Reitter, 1888, is here designated as the type species of *Urometopus* Formánek, 1904. Taxonomy and position of this genus within the tribe Omiini are discussed, and a checklist of its species is included. New synonymies are proposed: *Urometopus* Formánek, 1904 = *Phyllobioides* Formánek, 1923, syn. nov., and *Urometopus strigifrons* (Gyllenhal, 1834) = *Phyllobioides crassirostris* Formánek, 1923, syn. nov. The following revised combinations are established: *Urometopus asiaticus* (Formánek, 1910), comb. nov. (transferred from *Omius* Gernar, 1817), *Urometopus korgei* Smreczyński, 1970, comb. restit. and *Urometopus rugifrons* (Hochhuth, 1851), comb. nov. (both transferred from *Phyllobioides* Formánek, 1923), and *Otiorhynchus malyi* (Obenberger, 1914), comb. nov. (from *Urometopus* Formánek, 1904). *Urometopus rugifrons* (Hochhuth, 1851), stat. restit., is revived from synonymy with *U. strigifrons* (Gyllenhal, 1834). The genera *Amicromias* Reitter, 1913, *Eurosphalmus* Yunakov & Nadein, 2006, *Solarhinomias* Yunakov & Nadein, 2006, and *Turanomias* Yunakov & Nadein, 2006 are included in Omiini.

Key words. Curculionidae, *Urometopus*, taxonomy, new species, new synonymy, new combination, checklist, Turkey, Palearctic Region

Introduction

Among the curculionids collected by Fernando Angelini by sifting leaf-litter in the forested slope of the Pontic mountain range in Turkey in 2009, an undescribed species of *Urometopus* Formánek, 1904 was discovered. Along with the description of this new species, data on

other members of the genus *Urometopus* and some related taxa of small entomines of the tribe Omiini Shuckard, 1840 are provided, aiming at a better knowledge of their taxonomy, since incorrect placements led to some confusion in recent past. It was found that relationships of *Urometopus* itself with other similar geophilic entomines were still in part somewhat unclear, so the aim of this note is also to revise the taxonomic position of this and of some allied genera, and to draw up a list of all *Urometopus* species.

Material and methods

Measurements were taken with a Wild M5 microscope associated with an ocular grid. Total length excluded rostrum, as customary for weevils. Genitalia were mounted in DMHF on a transparent plastic label pinned with the dissected specimen, or glued dry to the same label bearing the insect. Pictures were taken with a microscope Leica Z16 APO and the associated program Leica Application Suite 3.1, and then elaborated using the program Adobe Photoshop PS4. Labels of specimens are quoted as written, a slash separating lines on the same label.

In addition to the specimens collected by Fernando Angelini, examples of other Omiini species identified by Białooki, Borovec, Friedman, Magnano, Pelletier, and Yunakov were at hand. Acronyms of the type depositories are:

ECRI Enzo Colonnelli collection, Rome, Italy;
 FAFI Fernando Angelini collection, Francavilla Fontana, Italy;
 MSNG Museo Civico di Storia Naturale "G. Doria", Genova, Italy;
 NMPC National Museum, Praha, Czech Republic.

The distribution of *Urometopus* in Turkey is shown on Fig. 15.

Taxonomy of the genus *Urometopus*

Urometopus Formánek, 1904

Omius (*Urometopus*) Formánek, 1904a: 17. Type species: *Omius imereticus* Reitter, 1888, here designated.

Phyllobioides Formánek, 1923: 109, **syn. nov.** Type species: *Phyllobioides crassirostris* Formánek, 1923, by monotypy.

Taxonomy. The genus *Urometopus* was established by FORMÁNEK (1904a) as a subgenus of *Omius* Germar sensu SEIDLITZ (1868) not GERMAR (1817), currently *Omiamima* Silfverberg, 1977. *Urometopus* originally included 8 species (FORMÁNEK 1904a): *U. circassicus* (Reitter, 1888), *U. georgicus* (Reitter, 1888), *U. imereticus* (Reitter, 1888), *U. inflatus* (Kolenati, 1858), *U. mingrelicus* (Reitter, 1888), *U. longicollis* (Reitter, 1897), *U. longicornis* (Stierlin, 1893) and *U. swaneticus* (Reitter, 1897). Soon afterwards it was raised to genus by REITTER (1913). However, thus far its type species has never been designated; therefore, *Omius imereticus* Reitter, 1888 is here designated as the type species of *Urometopus* Formánek, 1904.

ARNOLDI et al. (1965) transferred the Ukrainian species *Omius rugifrons* Hochhuth, 1851 to *Phyllobioides* Formánek, 1923 and recognised the synonymy of *Phyllobioides crassicornis*

Formánek, 1923 with *Omius rugifrons*, a taxon considered a 'variety' of *O. strigifrons* Gyllenhal, 1834 by SEIDLITZ (1868) and its synonym by LONA (1938).

BIALOOKI (2007) transferred *Urometopus korgei* Smreczyński, 1970, too, to *Phyllobioides*; he rightly moved this genus from Phyllobiini, where it was placed by LONA (1938) and ALONSO-ZARAZAGA & LYAL (1999), to Omiini. It is worthy to remark that BIALOOKI too (2007: 144) used the name of *Phyllobioides rugifrons* and wrongly stated that this species was assigned to *Phyllobioides* by FORMÁNEK (1923). The same Polish author (BIALOOKI 2007) drew attention to the few characters peculiar to these two species versus other *Urometopus* and speculated that *Phyllobioides* could be considered a subgenus of *Urometopus*, but the size of the funicular segments 4 and 6, larger than that of 3, 5 and 7, is more or less evident in all *Urometopus* (Figs. 9, 10), and the type of clothing of *U. korgei* differs in no way from that of several other species of the genus.

The key trait which should separate *Phyllobioides crassicornis* Formánek, 1923, the type species of *Phyllobioides*, from all known *Urometopus* is its single tarsal claw (FORMÁNEK 1923), but the type actually has two claws. Roman Borovec examined the specimen preserved in NMPC, and wrote to me: 'The holotype of *Phyllobioides crassicornis* is a teneral specimen, most likely female with soft yellowish body but clearly visible characters, and is labelled as follows: 'Crim 913 Gursuf IV' (handwritten) / 'crassirostris Type' (handwritten by Formánek) / 'Holotypus!' (red, printed, subsequently added) / 'Phyllobioides rugifrons Hochh. L. Arnoldi det.' (partly printed and partly handwritten) / 'Urometopus rugifrons Fremuth det.' (partly printed and partly handwritten). The specimen is 3.3 mm long without rostrum, has two equally long claws and not conspicuously prominent shoulders. All the characters, and namely the longitudinally multistriate rostrum, are those of the genus *Urometopus*'. In consequence, the new synonymy: *Urometopus* Formánek, 1904 = *Phyllobioides* Formánek, 1923, syn. nov., is here established.

Discussion. The systematic position of this genus among Omiini Shuckard, 1840 was discussed by BOROVEC (2006) who drew up a checklist of all the known genera and species of the tribe. Just one week before that, YUNAKOV & NADEIN (2006) had described several new taxa of small soil-dwelling entimines from the Balkans, Caucasus and central Asia similar to *Rhinomias* Reitter, 1894. This genus, very close to *Urometopus*, had been included in the Omiini by ALONSO-ZARAZAGA & LYAL (1999) and by BOROVEC (2006). As rightly pointed out by YUNAKOV & NADEIN (2006) and later by BOROVEC (2010), features separating Omiini from Holcorhinini Desbrochers, 1898, Sciaphilini Sharp, 1891, and Phyllobiini Schoenherr, 1826, are of so little phylogenetic importance that the new genera (*Solarhinomias* Yunakov & Nadein, 2006, *Turanomias* Yunakov & Nadein, 2006, and *Eurosphalmus* Yunakov & Nadein, 2006) described by the two Russian authors were deliberately not assigned by them to any tribe. However, the studied specimens of all the above three genera have the features of the Omiini as listed by BOROVEC (2006); also *Amicromias* Reitter, 1913, included by ALONSO-ZARAZAGA & LYAL (1999) in Sciaphilini, has the whole of the same characters. In consequence, *Solarhinomias*, *Turanomias*, *Eurosphalmus* and *Amicromias* are here moved to Omiini, the first three genera being transferred from Entiminae *incertae sedis*, and the last one from Sciaphilini (all new placements).

Urometopus angelinii sp. nov.

(Figs. 1–2, 5–8, 11–12, 15)

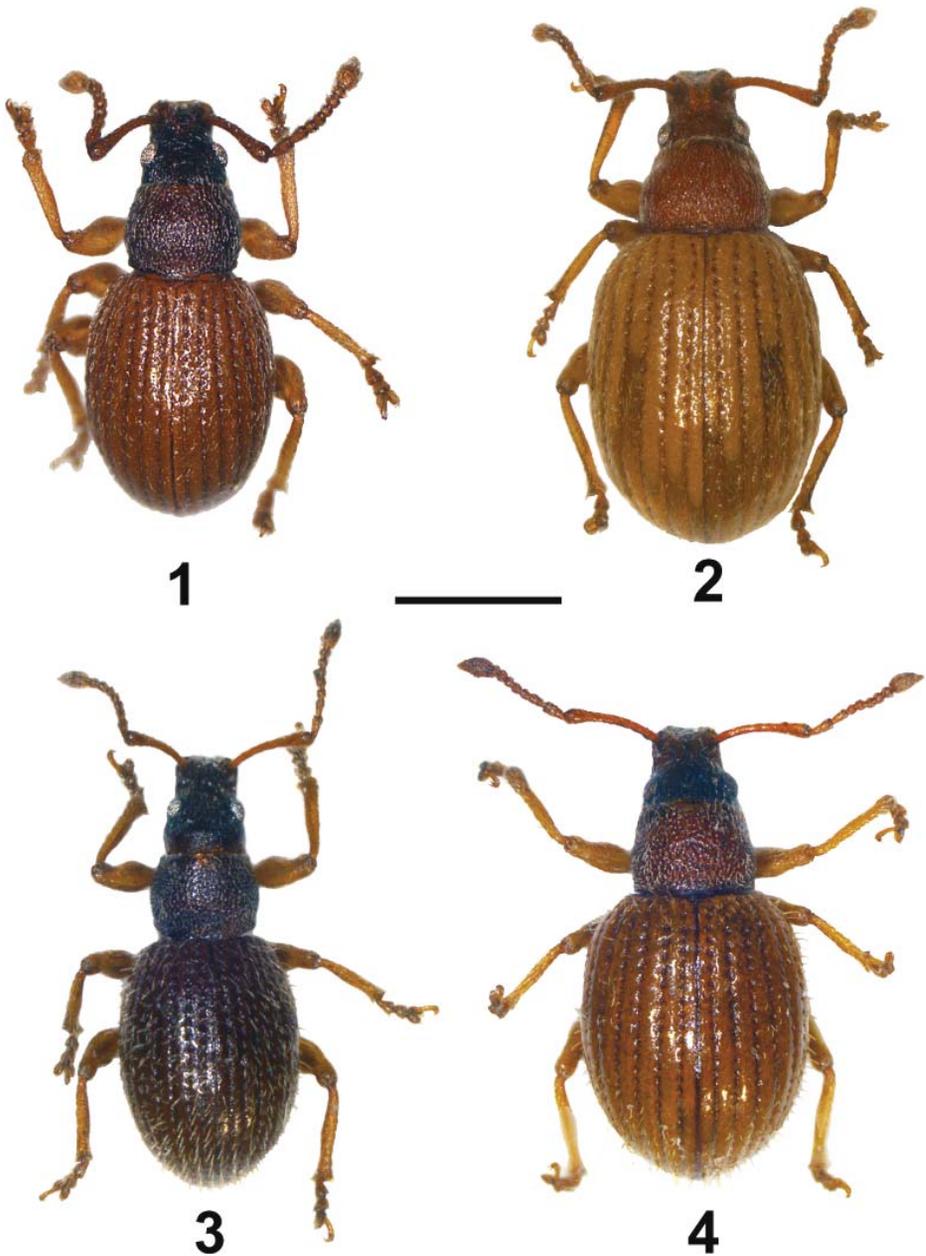
Type material. HOLOTYPE: ♂, **TURKEY: ANATOLIA: ORDU PROVINCE:** 'Türkiye (Ordu) / Akkuş / 8.VI.2009 - F. Angelini leg.' (MSNG). PARATYPES: 4 ♀♀, the same data as holotype (2 FAFI, 1 ECRI, 1 NMPC).

Diagnosis. Closely related to *U. imereticus* (Reitter, 1888), *U. asiaticus* (Formánek, 1910) and *U. ferrugineus* (Formánek, 1904); easily differentiated from the first two species by its frons not continuing the profile of rostrum, and from the last by the pronotal punctures much smaller than those of elytral striae.

Description. *Male (holotype).* Length 2.50 mm. Derm red-brown, head and pronotum much darker than elytra, antennae a little darker than legs. Elytra, pronotum and head sparsely covered by golden, almost recumbent setae, pointing backward on head and elytra and forward on pronotum. Raised shorter setae on antennae, tibiae, and tarsi. Rostrum 1.3 times wider than long, with almost straight sides. Epifrons striate, at the narrowest point about as wide as half of rostrum at the same level, with rather deep longitudinal groove. Epistome V-shaped and separated from the frons by its lack of striae and punctures. Scrobes a little enlarged, entirely visible in dorsal view; in lateral view dorsal border almost coincident with the dorsal surface of rostrum, ventral margin directed towards the middle of the eye. Eyes small, convex. Head longitudinally striate, space between eyes twice as wide as that between antennal insertions, in profile dorsally separated from rostrum by a depression. Antennae quite robust, scape curved, slightly thickening towards apex, regularly curved; funicular segment about 1.5 times longer and slightly wider than 2, second 1.5 times as long as wide, antennomeres 3–5 not or slightly transverse, 6 and 7 strongly transverse, segments 3 and 5 a little smaller than 4 and 6. Club fusiform, slightly longer than the three preceding segments. Prothorax 1.2 times wider than long, sides rounded, widest at basal 3/5, convex in lateral view; anterior margin hardly narrower than basal one, disc with fine, coarse punctures somewhat confluent in ill-visible rugosities near base. Scutellum broadly triangular. Elytra elongate-oval, 1.47 times longer than wide, about 1.7 times as wide as pronotum; intervals smooth, almost flat, about twice as wide as striae which are formed by punctures much larger than those on pronotum. Femora strongly clubbed, edentate. Tibiae quite robust, external margin almost straight up to near apex which is externally dilated, internal margin sinuate, all with an apical internal mucro; apex with a fringe of fine yellow setae. Tarsi short, first segment only a little longer than wide, second strongly transverse, third bilobed and as long as wide, fourth projecting from third by a trifle less the length of third. Claws fused in basal half. Habitus and rostrum: Figs. 1, 5, 7. Aedeagus: Figs. 11, 12.

Female (paratypes). Elytra of females are less elongate-oval, only 1.23 times longer than wide and around 1.86 times wider than pronotum at its widest point; the inner margin of the longer tibiae is less sinuate, and the apical mucro on them extremely minute. Their colour can be slightly paler than that of the holotype. Length: 2.53–3.60 mm. Habitus and rostrum: Figs. 2, 6, 8. Female genitalia have never been used as differential features and are thus not depicted.

Differential diagnosis. *Urometopus imereticus* (Reitter, 1888) from Georgia, *U. asiaticus* (Formánek, 1910) from Armenia, and *U. ferrugineus* (Formánek, 1904) from northwestern



Figs. 1–4. Habitus. 1–2 – *Urometopus angelinii* sp. nov. : 1 – male holotype; 2 – female paratype. 3–4 – *U. anatolicus* Smreczyński, 1977: 3 – male from Ladik-Kiliçarsian pass, Samsun province, Turkey; 4 – female from Abant lake, Bolu province, Turkey. Scale bar: 1 mm.



Figs. 5–14. 5–8 – *Urometopus angelinii* sp. nov. (5 – male holotype, lateral view; 6 – female paratype, lateral view; 7 – head and rostrum, dorsal view; 8 – same, lateral view). 9–10 – antennal funicle (9 – *U. anatolicus* Smreczyński, 1977 from Akkuş, Ordu province, Turkey; 10 – *U. korgei* Smreczyński, 1970 from, Hatip, Sinop province, Turkey). 11–12 – *U. angelinii* sp. nov., aedeagus, holotype (11 – dorsal view, 12 – lateral view). 13–14 – *U. anatolicus* from Ladik-Kiliçarsian pass, Samsung province, Turkey, aedeagus (13 – dorsal view; 14 – lateral view). Scale bar: 1.8 mm (Figs. 5–6), 0.48 mm (Figs. 7–8); 0.42 mm (Figs. 9–10); 0.55 mm (Figs. 11–14).

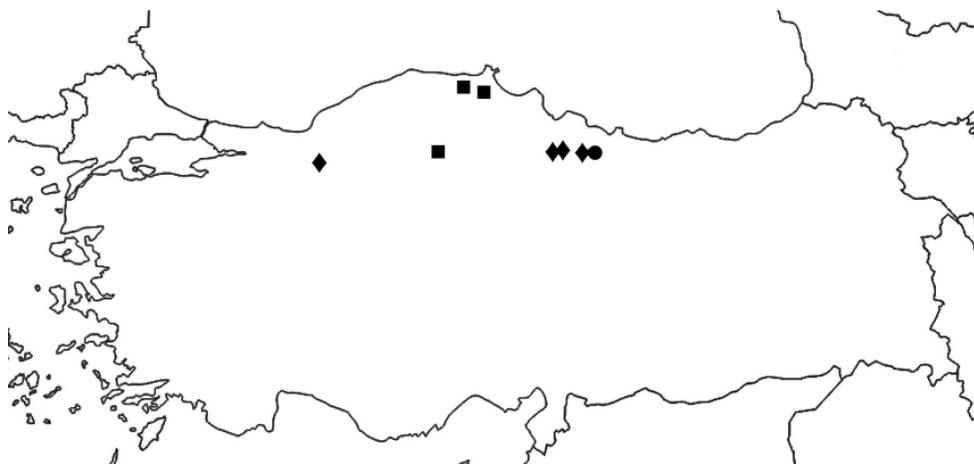


Fig. 15. Distribution of *Urometopus* species in Turkey. Circle = *U. angelinii* sp. nov.; rhomb = *U. anatolicus* Smreczyński, 1977; squares = *U. korgei* Smreczyński, 1970.

Iran are the only species of the genus lacking erect setae like *U. angelinii* sp. nov. The new species cannot be confused with *U. imereticus* and *U. asiaticus* since the outline of frons of these species does not form in profile an obtuse angle like in *U. angelinii* sp. nov. The second funicular segment of *U. imereticus* is as long as the first, and its aedeagus is wider and with a rather sharp apex which in addition is curved upwards (FORMÁNEK 1904a), whereas the prothorax of *U. asiaticus* should be more than 1.3 times wider than long according to the description (FORMÁNEK 1910). On the other hand, *U. ferrugineus* is immediately distinct from the new species already by its pronotal punctures very large, almost as large as those forming the elytral striae, by the uniform reddish colour, the rostrum as long as wide, strongly curved and forming a less obtuse angle with frons, and by aedeagus much more enlarged basally (FORMÁNEK 1904b). All the remaining 14 species of *Urometopus* have a double clothing of recumbent and erect setae at least on elytral declivity, and cannot be mistaken for *U. angelinii* sp. nov.

Etymology. The new species is named after its collector Fernando Angelini as a sign of acknowledgement and friendship.

Habitat. The five specimens were sifted from the leaf-litter of a *Fagus* forest.

Distribution. Turkey, north Anatolia (Ordu province). For the distribution of *Urometopus* in Turkey see Fig. 15.

Urometopus anatolicus Smreczyński, 1977

(Figs. 3–4, 9, 13–15)

Urometopus anatolicus Smreczyński, 1977: 392.

Material examined. **TURKEY: ANATOLIA: ORDU PROVINCE:** Akkuş, 8.vi.2009, 1 ♂, F. Angelini lgt. (ECRI). **SAMSUN PROVINCE:** Ladik, Kiliçarsian Geçidi, 16.vi.2009, 14 spec., F. Angelini lgt. (8 FAFI, 6 ECRI). **BOLU PROVINCE:** near Abant Lake, 27.vi.2003, 1 ♀, P. Białoński lgt. (ECRI).

Description of male. The male of this species was never described; it differs from the female by its much more elongate elytra with less protruding shoulders. Habitus and antenna: Figs. 3, 4, 9. The aedeagus is depicted on figures 13 and 14.

Comment. SMRECZYŃSKI (1977) described this species, not included in the catalogue by BOROVEC (2006), based on a single female from the Samsun province, 27 km SW of Samsun in the direction of Kavak. BIALOOKI (2007) reported the recollection of several specimens near the Abant Lake, Bolu province in north-western Turkey. The studied individual from the latter locality differs in no way from the easternmost specimens.

Distribution. Turkey, north Anatolia (provinces Bolu, Ordu and Samsun) (see Fig. 15).

***Urometopus asiaticus* (Formánek, 1910), comb. nov.**

Omius asiaticus Formánek, 1910: 242.

Taxonomy. Roman Borovec (pers. comm.) drew my attention to the description of *Omius asiaticus* Formánek, 1910 which is surely an *Urometopus* because of its striate frons and epifrons (FORMÁNEK 1910). Although apparently the type(s) are not in the *NMPC*, possibly borrowed by someone, there is no doubt that this species must be moved to *Urometopus* as *Urometopus asiaticus* (Formánek, 1910), comb. nov. from *Omius* Germar, 1817.

***Urometopus korgei* Smreczyński, 1970, comb. restit.**

Urometopus korgei Smreczyński, 1970: 125.

Phyllobioides korgei: BIALOOKI (2007: 143).

Taxonomy. The above generic synonymy of *Phyllobioides* with *Urometopus* implies the new combination of *Urometopus korgei* Smreczyński, 1970, comb. nov.

***Urometopus rugifrons* (Hochhuth, 1851), stat. restit. and comb. nov.**

Omius rugifrons Hochhuth, 1851: 52.

Taxonomy. The above generic synonymy of *Phyllobioides* with *Urometopus* implies the new combination of *Urometopus rugifrons* (Hochhuth, 1851). As for the above discussed synonymy of *U. rugifrons* with *U. strigifrons*, according to an unpublished note by Yunakov they represent two different species (R. Borovec, pers. comm.), and only the latter occurs in Russia (YUNAKOV 2011). Thus *Urometopus rugifrons* (Hochhuth, 1851), stat. restit., is here revived from synonymy with *U. strigifrons* (Gyllenhal, 1934).

Status of *Urometopus malyi*

***Otiorrhynchus malyi* (Obenberger, 1914), comb. nov.**

Urometopus malyi Obenberger, 1914: 141.

Taxonomy. Another species, *Urometopus malyi* Obenberger, 1914 from Uzbekistan, included in this genus also by LONA (1938) was overlooked by BOROVEC (2006). Its inaccurate description (OBENBERGER 1914: 141) does not allow to assign this weevil to any of the genera of Omiini keyed by BOROVEC (2006). The ligulate aedeagus depicted by OBENBERGER (1914: 142) is completely dissimilar from that of members of *Omius* Germar, 1817; only some species

of this genus in Omiini have dark integument and vestiture somewhat like those described by OBENBERGER (1914). According to Josef Jelínek (pers. comm.), the type of *U. malyi* was missing in the Obenberger collection housed in the NMPC, but Borovec (pers. comm.) was able to find it elsewhere in the collection of the National Museum, Prague, *two males; the first labeled*: ‘Jangi Kuduk Buchara c. Malý legit (printed) / Asia centr. Coll. Obenberger (printed) / Urometopus Malýi m. Typus (handwritten) Det. Obenberger (printed)’, and the second: ‘Malýi m. Typus (handwritten) Det. Obenberger (printed)’. Below one of the specimens there is an additional label ‘*Otiorhynchus ?christophi* Fst. / Ing. J. Fremuth det. 1998’; therefore, according to the above notes by Borovec, *Urometopus malyi* should be moved to *Otiorhynchus* Germar, 1822 as *Otiorhynchus malyi* (Obenberger, 1914), comb. nov. Its systematic position will be discussed in a forthcoming paper (R. Borovec, pers. comm.).

Checklist of *Urometopus*

Below is a checklist of all *Urometopus* species known so far which completes the list with literature records and distribution given by country by BOROVEC (2006), and corrects previous errors and omissions. The format follows roughly that used by COLONNELLI (2004) and LÖBL & SMETANA (2011).

Urometopus Formánek, 1904

Omius (*Urometopus*) Formánek, 1904a: 17.

Phyllobioides Formánek, 1923, **syn. nov.**

- anatolicus*** Smreczyński, 1977 Turkey (Anatolia)
Urometopus anatolicus Smreczyński, 1977: 392
- angelinii*** sp. nov. Turkey (Anatolia)
- asiaticus*** (Formánek, 1910) Armenia
Omius asiaticus Formánek, 1910: 242 (present combination)
- circassicus*** (Reitter, 1888) Russia (northwestern Caucasus)
Omius circassicus Reitter, 1888: 262
- daghestanicus*** Korotyaev, 1992 Russia (Daghestan)
Urometopus daghestanicus Korotyaev, 1992: 817
- ferrugineus*** (Formánek, 1904) Iran (Golestan)
Omius (*Urometopus*) *ferrugineus* Formánek, 1904b: 299
- georgicus*** (Reitter, 1888) Caucasus: Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Russia (Daghestan)
Omius georgicus Reitter, 1888: 263
Omius talyschensis Reitter, 1897: 201
- imereticus*** (Reitter, 1888) Georgia (Imeretia, Svanetia)
Omius imereticus Reitter, 1888: 202
- inflatus*** (Kolenati, 1858) Caucasus: Georgia, Azerbaijan
Omius inflatus Kolenati, 1858: 421
Omius strigifrons Gyllenhal sensu Reitter, 1888: 263 nec Gyllenhal, 1834
- korgei*** Smreczyński, 1970 Turkey
Urometopus korgei Smreczyński, 1970: 125
Phyllobioides korgei (Smreczyński, 1970) (combined by BIALOOKI (2007: 143))

<i>longicollis</i> (Reitter, 1897) <i>Omius longicollis</i> Reitter, 1897: 201	‘Caucasus’
<i>longicornis</i> (Stierlin, 1893) <i>Omius longicornis</i> Stierlin, 1893: 410 <i>Omius rosti</i> Reitter, 1896: 77	Georgia (Abkhazia)
<i>mingrelicus</i> (Reitter, 1888) <i>Omius mingrelicus</i> Reitter, 1888: 263	Georgia (Mingrelia)
<i>moczarskii</i> (Penecke, 1929) <i>Omius (Urometopus) moczarskii</i> Penecke, 1929: 139	Ukraine
<i>memorum</i> Arnoldi, 1965 <i>Urometopus memorum</i> Arnoldi, 1965: 451 in ARNOLDI et al. (1965)	Ukraine, European Russia
<i>penevi</i> Behne, 1990 <i>Urometopus penevi</i> Behne, 1990: 137	Bulgaria
<i>rugifrons</i> (Hochhuth, 1851) <i>Omius rugifrons</i> Hochhuth, 1851: 52 <i>Phyllobioides crassirostris</i> Formánek, 1923 <i>Phyllobioides rugifrons</i> (Hochhuth, 1851) (combined by ARNOLDI et al. (1965))	Ukraine
<i>strigifrons</i> (Gyllenhal, 1834) <i>Omius strigifrons</i> Gyllenhal, 1834: 503 in SCHOENHERR (1834)	Ukraine, European Russia
<i>svaneticus</i> (Reitter, 1897) <i>Omius svaneticus</i> Reitter, 1897: 202	Georgia (Svanetia)

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