

**RESULTS OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK-IRANIAN ENTOMOLOGICAL
EXPEDITIONS TO IRAN 1970, 1973 AND 1977****Together with results of collections made in Anatolia
Coleoptera, Melyridae: part I (Prionocerinae)**

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Abstract: *Lobonyx thoracicus* sp. n. is described and illustrated.

The family Melyridae is compared with other coleopteran families, one of the ill-known groups. As regards the Iranian fauna, there are only a few known species described mostly in the nineteenth century. These facts as well as the appreciable collectors' activity of the members of three expeditions, have given me the opportunity to take a further step in the knowledge of the family Melyridae.

My thanks are due to Dr. J. Jelínek (Národní museum, Praha), who enabled me to study this extraordinarily interesting material.

The material forming a subject of this paper is deposited in the collections of the National Museum.

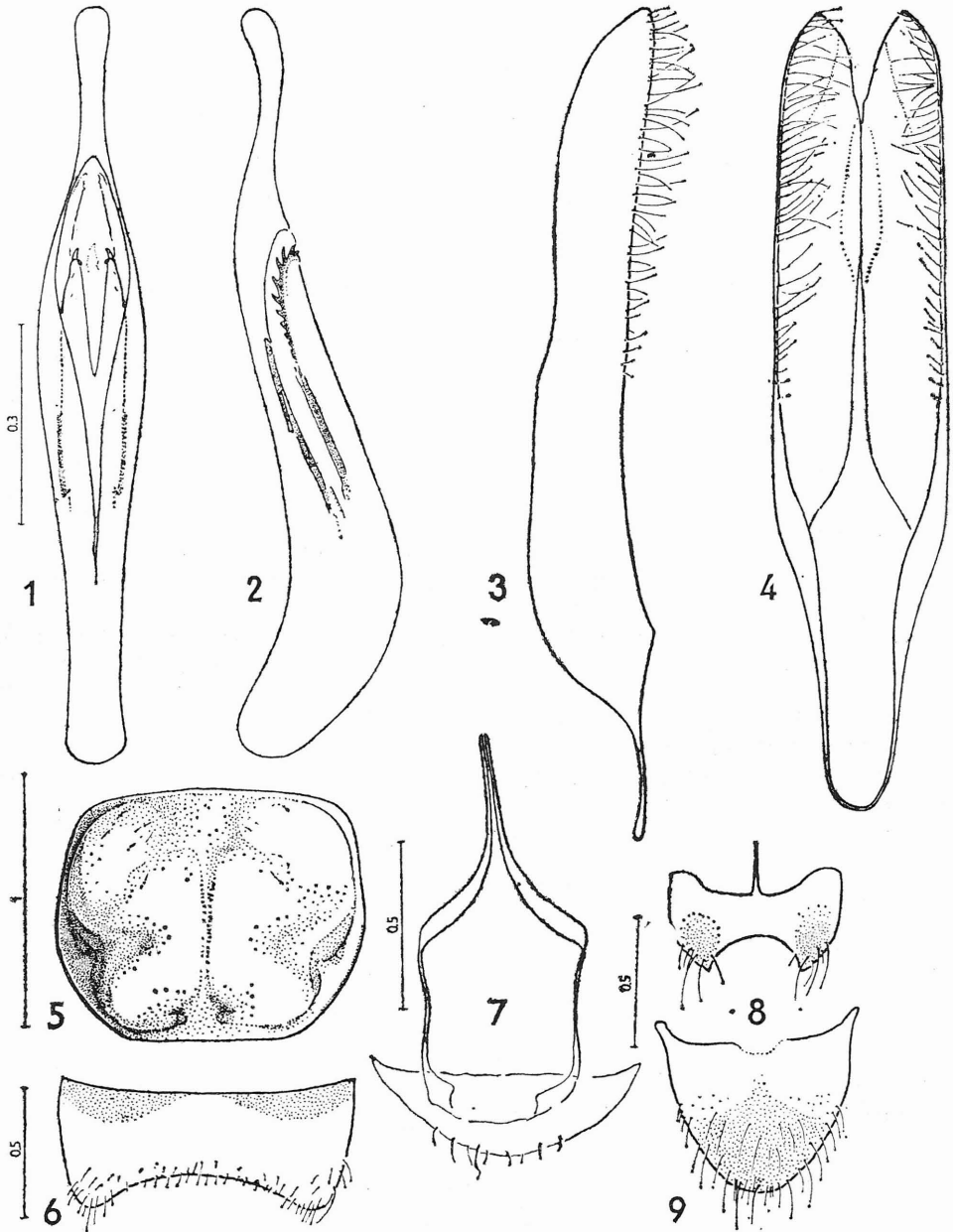
Abbreviations used

- AL = sum of all lengths of antennal segments
- DE = maximal diameter of eye (measured from the lateral side)
- EL = maximal elytral length (from the basal level of humerus to elytral apex)
- EW = maximal combined elytral width
- HW = maximal width of head (distance between outer margins of eyes)
- IOW = minimal distance between eyes
- length = body length (sum of PL, EL, and head length — i. e. from distal margin of clypeus to combined line of posterior margin of eyes)
- PL = maximal pronotal length
- PW = maximal pronotal width
- width = body width, mostly equal to EW

***Lobonyx thoracicus* sp. n.**

(Figs 1—13)

Differs from *Lobonyx bioculatus* Abeille, 1894, by entirely black elytra (pronotum without distinct dark maculae — Figs 5, 11) and by different build of terminalia (Figs 1—4, 6—10, 12—13).

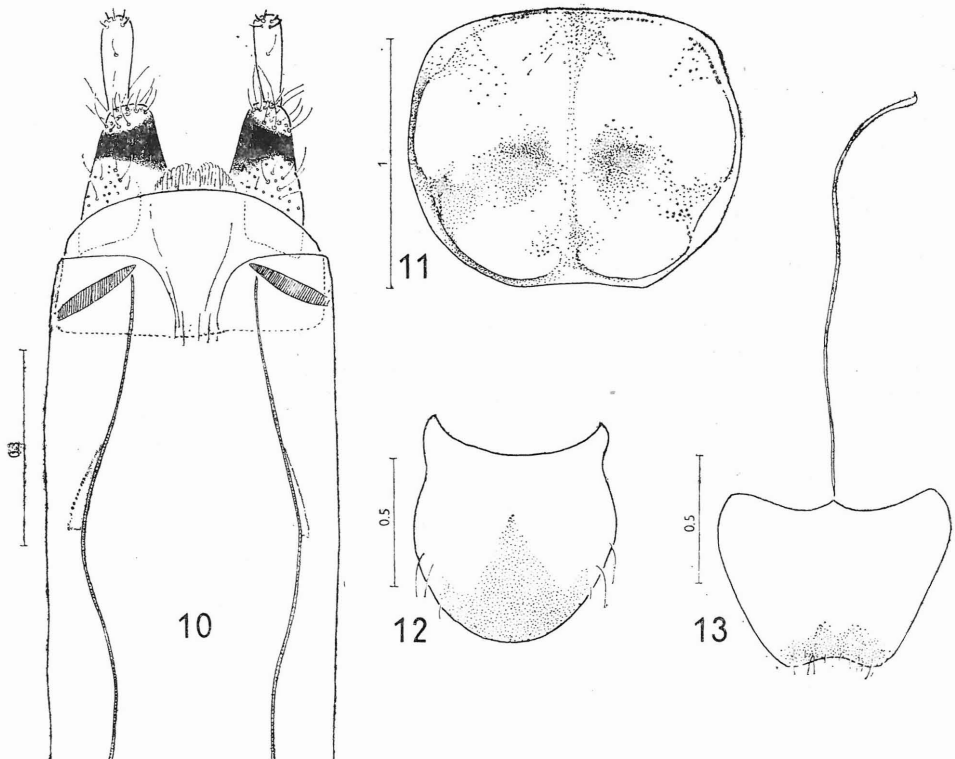


Figs 1—9: *Lobonyx thoracicus* sp. n. (holotype ♂). 1: phallus dorsally; 2: phallus laterally; 3: tegmen laterally; 4: tegmen ventrally; 5: pronotum; 6: sternum VII; 7: spicular fork with sternum IX; 8: sternum VIII; 9: pygidium. Scale in mm.

Cantharoid-like facies with fine coriaceous, rather network-like structure without any trace of puncturation. Recumbent pubescence pale, extraordinarily fine; on the sides of elytra and cranium several erect, dark, stout, and relatively short, setae. Coloration black-brown with greenish lustre; mouthparts, partly genae, first three or four antennal segments, prothorax, partly femorae and tibiae, partly sternum VI—VIII and pygidium yellow or reddish-yellow.

Head between antennal sockets with U-shaped interocular depression, labrum apically feebly emarginate. Pronotum slightly transverse, on its perimeter feebly inflated and rimmed; on its upper surface with shallow impressions (Figs 5, 11). Elytra very flatly and densely papillar, on their lateral margins very finely and flatly denticulate and regularly ciliate (elytral fringe little distinct).

Holotype male (Figs 1—9): Pronotum less transverse, proximally on the sides more rounded (Fig. 5). Elytra more shining and parallel. Fe-



Figs. 10—13: *Lobonyx thoracicus* sp. n. (allotype ♀). 10: ovipositor ventrally; 11: pronotum; 12: pygidium; 13: sternum VIII. Scale in mm.

mora darkened only at the apex; the 1st to 3rd front tarsomere on the innerside provided with a comb.

Sternum VII (Fig. 6) slightly darkened on the sides at base; at the apex broadly and shallowly emarginate. Sternum VIII distally as well as proximally emarginate, mediobasally with short projection; at the apex feebly darkened. Spicular fork (Fig. 7) distally with membranous sternum IX. Pygidium (Fig. 9) oblong-ovate, in the two distal thirds darkened. Tegmen (Figs 3, 4) pincer-shaped, paramerae at the apex of innerside longly and finely pubescent. Phallus (Figs 1, 2) dorsally (Fig. 1) with spoon-like ostium (in which broad, denticulate ostial lamellae inserted) and cudgel-shaped apex; laterally (Fig. 2) with dilated base.

Measurements: Length/AL = 1.98; AL/PL = 2.09; IOW/DE = 1.58; HW/IOW = 1.66; PW/DE = 2.62; PW/HW = 1.11; PW/PL = 1.23; EL/PL = 4.29; EW/PW = 1.48; EL/EW = 2.25; length = 6.92 mm; width = 1.82 mm. Allotype female (Figs 10—13): Pronotum more transverse with shadowy maculae and shallow impressions (Fig. 11). Elytra mat, more inflated. Femora entirely darkened. The 1st to 3rd front tarsomeres merely with stout setae.

Pygidium (Fig. 12) shortly oval, at the apex darkened. Sternum VIII (Fig. 13) conical, its apex truncate; base emarginate, provided with a long and sinuate spiculum ventrale. Ovipositor of a very unusual build (Fig. 10).

HW/IOW = 1.69; HW/DE = 2.65; PW/HW = 1.23; PW/PL = 1.29; EL/PL = 4.75; EW/PW = 1.81; EL/EW = 1.89; length = 8.46 mm, width = 2.92 mm.

Material examined. Holotype ♂: S. Iran, Sísakht Dena, 2500—3000 m, 13.—14. 6. 1973, loc. no. 241. Allotype ♀: SW Iran, Pol-e-Tang, 60 km NW Andimeshk, 10.—11. 4. 1977, loc. no. 284.

References

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Schilsky J., 1897: Die Käfer Europa's. 1—100. Nürnberg.