

MAXIMUS MIMOSAE (OLIVIER, 1807)
FIRST RECORD FROM GREECE AND EUROPE
(COLEOPTERA: CURCULIONIDAE)

Christoph Germann¹, Stefan Wartmann² & Massimo Meregalli³

¹ Naturhistorisches Museum Basel, Augustinergasse 2, 4051, Basel, Switzerland, e-mail: germann.christoph@gmail.com

² Güterstrasse 136, 4053 Basel, Switzerland, e-mail: swartmann@gmx.ch

³ Department of Life Sciences and Systems Biology, University of Turin, Via Accademia Albertina 13, 10123 Torino, Italy, e-mail: massimo.meregalli@unito.it

Published online: May 31, 2021

Abstract

The cleonine weevil *Maximus mimosae* (Olivier, 1807), thus far known only from western and central Palaearctic Asia with an extension to Sinai peninsula, was found in 1997 for the first time in Europe on Tinos Island, Greece. Pictures of the Greek specimen and data on its collecting locality are given.

Keywords: Curculionidae, *Maximus mimosae*, faunistics, new record, Tinos Island, Greece

Although the Curculionoidea fauna of Greece has been and still is an attractive target for excursions of various coleopterists, new and surprising discoveries are regularly made. New species are being described (Colonnelli 2016, 2018, Borovec et al. 2017, Stüben & Kramp 2019) and species new to Greece or to some of its regions or islands are recorded every year (Szénasi 2017, Germann & Braunert 2018, Germann 2020, Winkelmann et al. 2021). Starting from a couple of years ago, published records and label data of specimens from accessible collections are available in the online catalogue « The weevils of Greece » (Germann et al. 2021), where at present more than 1600 species are included, being this number continuously increasing. Here we report a remarkable new record of a member of Lixinae, subfamily of which 98 species are listed for Greece in the catalogue.

The genus *Maximus* Alonso-Zarazaga & Lyal, 2009, originally proposed as replacement name for *Stephanophorus* Chevrolat, 1872 (not *Stephanophorus* Strickland, 1841, Aves), comprises at present 14 species distributed from eastern Europe to Central Asia (Meregalli 2021). *Maximus mimosae* was originally described from Baghdad. The species is known from Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Egypt (Sinai), Pakistan, Syria and eastern Turkey (Meregalli 2021). Its ecology is unknown. Two specimens (Figs 1-3) of this large weevil (16-17 mm) were discovered on Tinos Island, and their label data are given in Fig. 4 (collection S. Wartmann, Basel). The present record is the first outside the biogeographic realm of Asia. The specimens were collected accidentally while walking around on the soil.

Maximus mimosae new to Greece and Europe

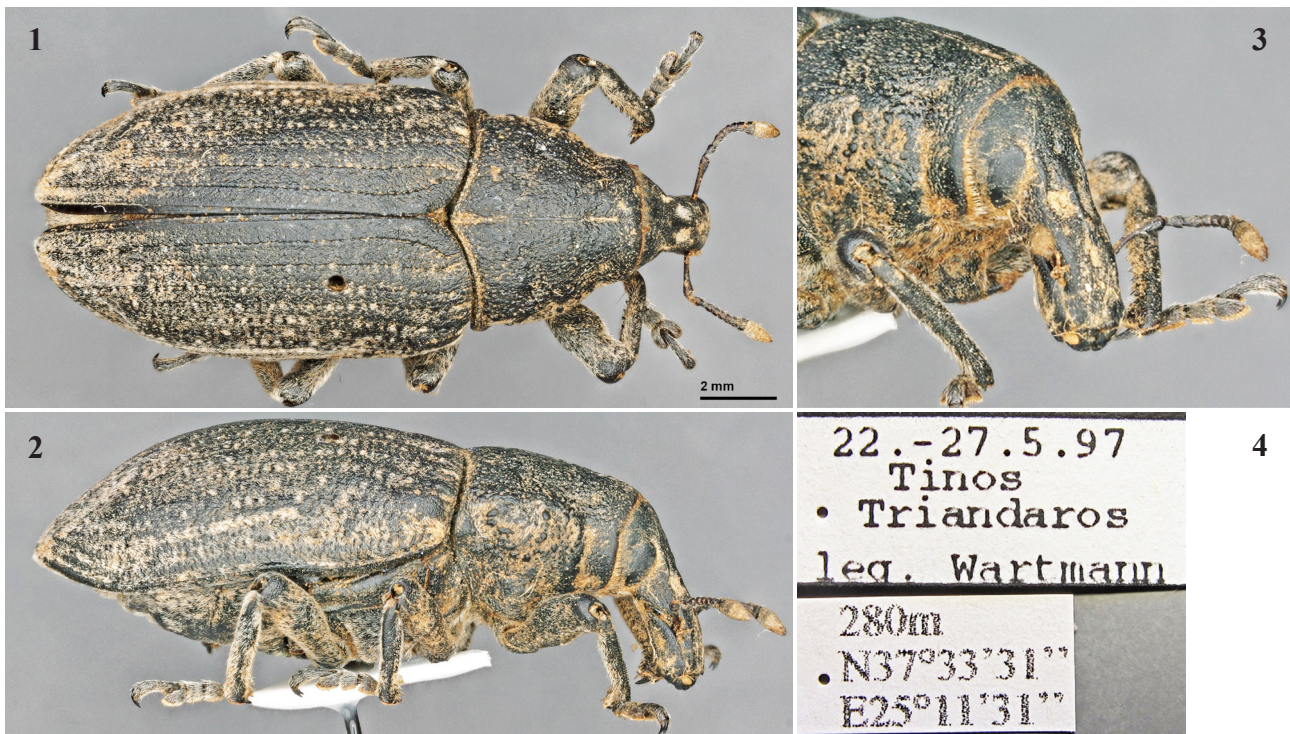


Fig.1-4. *Maximus mimosae*, Tinos Island, Greece.

Acknowledgements

Many thanks to Enzo Colonnelli (Rome) for his helpful corrections on the manuscript.

Literature

- Borovec, R., Kakiopoulos, G. & Germann, C. 2017. Five new species of *Amicromias* Reitter, 1912 from Greece (Coleoptera: Curculionidae: Entiminae: Omiini). - *Zootaxa* 4312 (2): 311-322.
- Colonnelli, E. 2016. Contribution to the knowledge of the weevil fauna of the island of Gavdos (Greece), with description of two new species (Coleoptera: Curculionoidea). - *Arquivos Entomol6xicos* 15: 137-148.
- Colonnelli, E. 2018. Two new *Otiorrhynchus* Germar, 1822 from Greece (Coleoptera, Curculionidae). - *Revista gaditana de Entomologfa* 8 (1): 151-162.
- Germann, C. 2020. Recent records from Greece of *Styphlus ursus* and notes about its recognition (Curculionidae, Curculioninae, Styphlini). - *Parnassiana Archives* 8: 133-139.
- Germann, C., Bahr, F., Braunert, C. & Link, A. 2020. The weevils of Greece. Catalogue of the Curculionoidea of Greece (Coleoptera). Available from: www.curci.site.at [accessed April 16, 2021].
- Germann, C. & Braunert, C. 2018. Contribution to the weevils of Kefalonia (Greece) (Coleoptera, Curculionoidea). - *Parnassiana Archives* 6: 25-40.
- Meregalli, M. 2021. World catalogue of the Curculionidae: Lixinae: Cleonini. Available from: <http://weevil.info/content/world-catalogue-curculionidae-lixinae-cleonini> [accessed April 16, 2021].
- Stüben, P. & Kramp, K. 2019. Neue *Echinodera* aus Griechenland - Beitrag zur integrativen Taxonomie (Coleoptera: Curculionidae: Cryptorhynchinae). - *Contributions to Entomology / Beiträge zur Entomologie* 69 (2): 319-330.
- Winkelmann, H., Bahr, F. & Messutat, J. 2021. First supplement to the checklist of weevil fauna (Coleoptera, Curculionoidea) of Lesbos Island, Greece. - *Parnassiana Archives* 9: 23-39.