



## On the *Aploderus* species of Turkey (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae, Oxytelinae)

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### Abstract

Two microphthalmous species of *Aploderus* Stephens from Turkey are described, illustrated, and distinguished from their closest relative, *A. schweigeri* (Smetana): *A. magniceps* **sp. n.** and *A. capitulatus* **sp. n.** Their distributions are mapped. The first record of *A. endogaeus* Assing since its original description is reported; the previously unknown male sexual characters of this species are illustrated. A key to the Western Palaearctic species of the genus is provided.

**Key words:** Coleoptera, Staphylinidae, Oxytelinae, *Aploderus*, Palaearctic region, Turkey, taxonomy, new species, endemism, distribution, key to species

### Introduction

The oxyteline genus *Aploderus* Stephens, 1833 currently includes 16 species, seven from the Nearctic and nine from the Palaearctic region as defined by Smetana (2004). Of the latter nine species, only *A. caelatus* (Gravenhorst, 1802) has a Palaearctic distribution, four are confined to the Eastern Palaearctic (including Middle Asia), and four to the Western Palaearctic region (Assing 2003, in press; Herman 2001; Makranczy 2006; Shimada 2002; Smetana 1967, 2004).

Four of the five species represented in the Western Palaearctic region have been recorded from Turkey, the widespread *A. caelatus* and three species with restricted distributions. The microphthalmous *A. schweigeri* (Smetana, 1967) from northern Anatolia was originally described in *Bledioschema* Smetana, 1967, a genus synonymised with *Aploderus* by Makranczy (2006). Two additional species, *A. endogaeus* Assing, 2003 and *A. lydicus* Assing, in press were recently reported from southwestern and western Anatolia, respectively (Assing 2003; Assing in press). Based on material from the northern Anatolian provinces Bolu, Zonguldak, Kastamonu, and Sinop, Löbl and Kodada (1996) redescribed the adult and the presumed larva of *A. schweigeri*.

During a field trip to northeastern Anatolia in summer 2006, Michael Schülke (Berlin) and the author collected three specimens of a microphthalmous *Aploderus*, which at first glance seemed to be *A. schweigeri*. A subsequent comparison with two type specimens of *A. schweigeri*, as well as with additional material from Bolu, Zonguldak, and Sinop, however, not only revealed that the specimens from northeastern Anatolia represent a new species, but also that the material studied by Löbl and Kodada (1996) is in fact composed of two species.

### Material, methods, and depositories

The material examined is deposited in the following collections: