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## Two new species of *Ochthebius* Leach (Coleoptera: Hydraenidae) from Turkey

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### Abstract

Two new species of *Ochthebius* Leach (Coleoptera: Hydraenidae) are described from Turkey: *O.* (s.str.) *halophilus* (Kırıkkale Province) and *O.* (*Asiobates*) *arator* (Kütahya and Uşak Provinces). The former is the first member of the *Ochthebius* (s.str.) *notabilis* species group from Turkey, and the latter belongs to the *O.* (*Asiobates*) *bicolon* group. Both of the new species are characterized by a remarkable aedeagus and are very probably endemic to Turkey.

**Key words:** Coleoptera, Hydraenidae, *Asiobates*, *Ochthebius notabilis* group, taxonomy, new species, Turkey

### Introduction

To date, 74 species of *Ochthebius* Leach have been reported from Turkey (Ertorun *et al.* 2011). Twenty-six of these species are regarded as endemic to Turkey. Two new endemic species, collected in the provinces Kırıkkale and Kütahya/Uşak respectively, are described in this paper.

Acronyms:

CEE Coll. Ertorun, Eskişehir, Turkey

NMW Naturhistorisches Museum Wien, Austria

### Material and methods

Materials of this study were collected using sieves. The specimens were preserved in 70% ethanol. Genitalia of the specimens were dissected under Leica-MZ 12.5 stereo microscope and line drawings of the specimens were made by drawing tube. After examination, all dissected parts of the specimens were mounted on 5 x 10 mm. cards, pinned on styrofoam and labelled.

The material examined is deposited in institutional and private collections as follows: CEE—Coll. Ertorun, Eskişehir, Turkey; NMW—Naturhistorisches Museum Wien, Austria.

### Taxonomy

#### *Ochthebius* (s.str.) *halophilus* sp. nov.

**Type locality.** Çoğul salt pond, 39°58'30"N 34°03'50"E, ca. 637 m a.s.l., ca. 4.5 km north-east of Delice, Kırıkkale Province, Central Anatolia, Turkey (Fig. 1a).

The shape of the distal lobe is somewhat intermediate between those of *Ochthebius annae* (Jäch 1990: Fig. 24) and *O. naxianus* (Jäch 1990: Fig. 26): it is more robust and less elongate than in *O. annae*, and it is distinctly longer and more sinuous than in *O. naxianus*.

To a certain degree, the distal lobe of *O. arator* is also somewhat similar to that of *O. laticollis*, but it is slenderer and more sinuous than in the latter (externally, *O. laticollis* differs significantly in the very densely punctate head and pronotum).

**Discussion.** *Ochthebius striatus* is widely distributed from Croatia to southern Russia and Israel. It is so far known from 22 Turkish provinces (Ertorun *et al.* 2011), being one of the most common Turkish species of this genus. It has, however, never been recorded from Kütahya or Uşak.

It should be noted here, that *O. striatus* might well be a complex of different species. Comprehensive comparative studies on the interpopulational variability of the aedeagus of *O. striatus* s.l. have not been carried out so far.

**Etymology.** Arator (Latin): ploughman. The name refers to the remarkable shape of the aedeagal distal lobe, which somewhat resembles a traditional plough.

**Distribution.** So far known only from two localities in western Turkey (Kütahya and Uşak Provinces).

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The photograph of the type locality of *Ochthebius arator* was made by C. Aydınlı (Anadolu University, Eskişehir).

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