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New or interesting Peritelini of the west-palaearctic fauna. XXV. A novel Italian species of the genus *Meira* Jacquelin Du Val (Coleoptera, Curculionidae, Entiminae)

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Abstract

A new species of *Meira* Jacquelin du Val from Island of Elba, *M. tedeschi* sp. n., is described. Some taxonomically important characters, which allow for the separation of this new taxon from other closely related species, are illustrated.

Key words: Coleoptera, Curculionidae, Entiminae, Peritelini, *Meira*, new species, Italy

Several studies concerning the taxonomy of the Italian species belonging to the genus *Meira* Jacquelin du Val, 1852, with the description of some new species, were published in the last few years (Pierotti, 2012; Pierotti, 2013a; Pierotti 2013b). Recently, another species differing from *Meira etrusca* Pierotti, 2012, *M. baudii* Stierlin, 1892 and *M. diottii* Pierotti, 2013—which are the unique species known from the Italian tyrrhenic coasts – was collected at Elba, the largest island of the Tuscan Archipelago. The aim of the present paper is the description and the comparison of this new taxon with some closely related species.

The collections, where the examined specimens are stored, are indicated by the following abbreviations: BEL = coll. C. Bellò, Castelfranco Veneto (TV); CAL = coll. R. Caldara (Milan); DIO = coll. L. Diotti, Cinisello Balsamo (Milan); FOR = coll. L. Forbicioni, Portoferraio (Isl. of Elba); MMI = coll. Museo di Storia Naturale di Milano, Milan; MON = coll. S. Monzini, Milan; OSE = coll. G. B. Osella, Verona; PIE = coll. H. Pierotti, Treviso; TED = coll. M. Tedeschi, Milan.

Meira tedeschi n. sp.

Holotype male: “Elba (LI), Capoliveri, Innamorata, 150 m, 26.XI.2013, leg. Pierotti” (PIE; to be deposited at 'Giacomo Doria' Natural History Museum in Genoa). Paratypes: same data as the holotype except “leg. Diotti” (DIO, 1 ex.), “leg. Forbicioni” (FOR, 6 exx.), “leg. Monzini” (MON, 3 exx.), “leg. Pierotti” (MMI, 1 ex; OSE, 1 ex.; PIE, 16 exx.); “leg. Tedeschi” (CAL, 1 ex.; TED, 5 exx.); “Elba (LI), Capoliveri, Ripe Alte, 27.XI.2013, leg. Forbicioni” (FOR, 4 exx.), “leg. Pierotti” (PIE, 1 ex); “Isola d’Elba (LI), Capoliveri, Innamorata, 150 m, 25.II.2012, leg. Tedeschi (TED, 1 ex.); “Elba (LI), Capoliveri, monte Calamita, c/o pozza antincendio, 340 m, 7.X.2013, leg. Bellò” (BEL, 4 exx.); Capoliveri (LI), M. Calamita, Pontimento, 45°43'56" N 10°22'54" E, 8.I.2014, leg. Forbicioni (FOR, 2 ex); Capoliveri (LI), M. Calamita, Calone, 45°43'24" N 10°24'47" E, 8.I.2014, leg. Forbicioni (FOR, 1 ex).

Description. Body medium sized (length 2.3–3.0 mm), elongate. Dorsal vestiture consisting of small scales, rather or hardly imbricated, pale umber, mostly unicoloured, sometimes in small paler groups along odd interstriae, with or without shiny reflections, and of somewhat short setae, recumbent or subrecumbent on dorsum and elytral sides. Rostrum transverse, pterygia moderately developed, clypeus slightly curved, not or just grooved; frons transverse, somewhat depressed or foveolate. Eyes oval, convex. Antennae quite robust, with scape slightly wider at base than at apex; funicle less robust than scape, with first article longer than subsequent two articles taken together, second article shorter than subsequent two articles taken together, articles 3–6 transverse, similar in length; seventh article a little narrower; club thick, drop-shaped, with first article widely flared. Pronotum more (females) or less (males) transverse,

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