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Review of the genus *Lesteva* Latreille, 1797 of Central Asia (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae: Omaliinae: Anthophagini)

ALEXEY V. SHAVRIN

Daugavpils University, Institute of Life Sciences and Technology, Coleopterological Research Center, Vienības 13, LV-5401,
Daugavpils, Latvia. E-mail: ashavrin@hotmail.com

Abstract

A taxonomic review of the genus *Lesteva* Latreille, 1797 of the Central Asia is presented. The type material of the following species was revised: *L. bucharica* Fauvel, 1900, *L. fasciata* Luze, 1903, *L. nova* Bernhauer, 1902, *L. transcaspica* Bernhauer, 1935 and *L. turkestanica* Luze, 1904. Lectotypes for *L. bucharica* and *L. turkestanica*, a lectotype and paralectotype for *L. transcaspica* are designated. One species is described as new: *L. (s.str.) schuelkei* sp. n. (Tajikistan, NW Pamir: Peter-I Mts. and Hissar Mts.). Three synonyms are proposed: *L. (s.str.) fasciata* = *L. (s.str.) turkestanica*, **syn n.** = *L. (s.str.) transcaspica*, **syn n.**, *L. nova* = *L. (s.str.) aculeata* Shavrin, 2010, **syn n.** Three species are redescribed: *L. (s.str.) bucharica*, *L. (s.str.) fasciata* and *L. (s.str.) nova*. All species are illustrated and their distribution mapped. A key to species known from Central Asia, as well as new provincial records for *L. (s.str.) barsevskisi* Shavrin, 2010, *L. (s.str.) bucharica* and *L. (s.str.) fasciata* are provided.

Key words: Coleoptera, Staphylinidae, Omaliinae, *Lesteva*, Central Asia, new species, new synonymy, new records

Introduction

Lesteva longoelytrata (Goeze, 1777) was the first not confirmed and probably misidentified Central Asian record by Eppelsheim (1892) for "Turcm. [Turkmenistan]". Later, several new species of the genus *Lesteva* Latreille, 1797 were described from Central Asia by Fauvel (1900), Reitter (1901), Bernhauer (1902, 1935) and Luze (1903, 1904). After that, for a long time no papers on the genus from Central Asia appear, except Bordoni (1987) with some data on *L. turkestanica* Luze, 1904 and *L. bucharica* Fauvel, 1900. Recently, I described three new species from Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and Afghanistan (Shavrin 2010). Thus, only nine known species of the genus are known for such an extensive region as Central Asia: *L. (s.str.) aculeata* Shavrin, 2010, *L. (s.str.) barsevskisi* Shavrin, 2010, *L. (s.str.) binotata* Reitter, 1901, *L. (s.str.) bucharica* Fauvel, *L. (s.str.) fasciata* Luze, 1903, *L. (s.str.) longoelytrata*, *L. (s.str.) nova*, *L. (s.str.) transcaspica* Bernhauer, 1935 and *L. (s.str.) turkestanica*.

The present study presents taxonomic and distributional data for five species of the genus in Central Asia, based both on the study of all known types and additional material from several museums and private collections. During the study I revealed that some species are quite variable both in external and internal characters, which was the reason for providing several taxonomic changes. Besides that I designated a lectotype and paralectotype for *L. transcaspica*. The study of the type and additional material allows redescription for three species (*L. (s.str.) bucharica*, *L. (s.str.) fasciata* and *L. (s.str.) nova*), as well as examination of the morphological variability of them. Additionally, I described a new species from the North-Western Pamir Mts. (Tajikistan). All the species including some species described by me recently are reviewed and illustrated; distributional maps for species and a key for the Central Asia are provided. The taxonomic data for *L. (s.str.) binotata* and *L. (s.str.) longoelytrata* mentioned in the present study also can be found in Shavrin (2014).