

Isoclerus succedaneus sp. n. — a new species of the Thanerocleridae
(Coleoptera) from Southern India

Isoclerus succedaneus sp. n. — новый вид Thanerocleridae
(Coleoptera) из Южной Индии

I.V. Melnik
И.В. Мельник

General Glagolev str., 6/1, ap.50, Moscow 123448, Russia.
ул. генерала Глаголева, д. 6/1, кв. 50, Москва 123448, Россия.

KEYWORDS: new species, India, Thanerocleridae, Coleoptera.

КЛЮЧЕВЫЕ СЛОВА: новый вид, Индия, Thanerocleridae, Coleoptera.

ABSTRACT. *Isoclerus (Isoclerus) succedaneus* sp. n. is described on the specimens, collected into Tamil Nadu (Southern India). It's close related to *Isoclerus tuberculatus* (Schenkling, 1906) from Ceylon Isl., but well distinguished by elytral pattern. These both species form a vicariant pair.

РЕЗЮМЕ. По материалу из штата Тамилнад (Южная Индия) описан *Isoclerus (Isoclerus) succedaneus* sp. n., по форме переднеспинки и характеру опушения сходный с *Isoclerus tuberculatus* (Schenkling, 1906) с о-ва Цейлон, однако хорошо отличающийся рисунком надкрылий. Эти виды образуют викарную пару.

Nominative subgenus *Isoclerus* Lewis, 1939 consists of 9 species [Kolibáč, 1992, 1998], 6 of them are distributed in Eastern Asia, from Japan to Ceylon and 3 are known from Australia only.

During the study of materials collected in southern India (Tamil Nadu) by S. Saluk, two specimens of a new *Isoclerus* were found. Description of a new species is given in this paper.

Isoclerus (Isoclerus) succedaneus Melnik, sp. n.
Figs 1–7.

MATERIAL. Holotype: ♂, South India, West Ghats, Tamil Nadu, 35 km SW Kodaikanal, h-2060 m, Kukul Shola, N10°16'23" E77°21'55", in moss on the stem of tree, 30.XI.2003 leg. S.Saluk; Paratypes: 1 ♂ 2 ♀♀, same labeled as holotype. Holotype is kept in collection of Zoological Institute of Russian Academy of Science (St.-Petersburg), paratypes are kept in author's and S. Saluk (Minsk) collections.

DESCRIPTION. Holotype (Fig. 1). Total body length — 2.8 mm. Head large, longer than width, with parallel elongated tempora; strongly punctuated dorsally, punctation closely connected in anterior part of frons and forms longitudinal rugulae. Eyes overflowing the head's contour, black pigmented with large phacetes. Antenna 11-segmented, with distinct 3-segmented club. Maxillary and labial palps, antennomeres and legs yellowish-brown, except slightly darkened tibial base. Pronotum elongated, scyphiformed, equally narrowed

posteriorly; with equal rugged punctuation, one weak oviform longitudinal emargination on disk, and two indistinct rounded lateral pits. Scutellum bicolored, chestnut-brown with broad black border. Elytra oviform, with obtusely rounded humeri; heavily punctuated except narrow humeral areas, punctuation became weaker in apical third, especially in band area.

Body chestnut-brown, frons and lateral parts of pronotum slightly darkened. Elytra yellowish-brown, with developed black pattern, light lateral margin, anteriorly dilated sutural stripe and three incomplete bands (Fig. 5). Anterior humeral band broken by dark pattern to two spots, mid-band fused with external lateral margin in front of the middle of elytron, directed posterior and reaching half of the elytron's width; broadest posterior band, beginning from apical third and directed anterior.

Body wholly covered by heterogeneous pubescence, consisting of thinner and brighter, inclined or half-adhered hairs and thicker, darker erected setae. On inner part of bands and in humeral areas inclined hairs more brighten, seemed almost white. The difference in hairs' pigmentation can be seen better in native (wet) beetles or in diffused light.

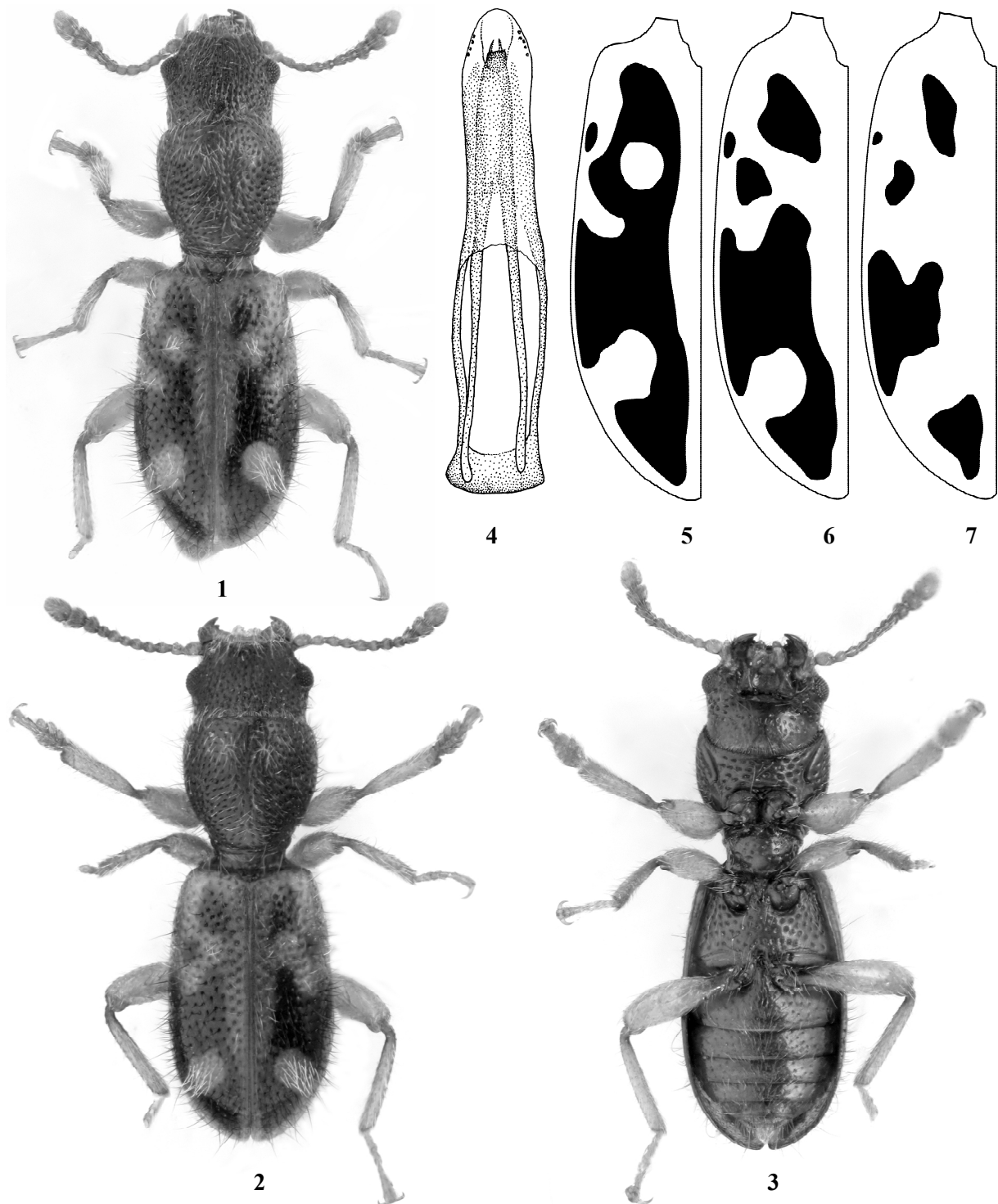
Male genitalia as in Fig. 4.

Paratypes: Total body length — 3.1 (♂), 3.8 (♀) mm. In one paratype (♂) inner parts of anterior and mid-bands merged and dark pattern presented by three pairs of isolated spots (Figs 2, 6), in females hind band reach of sutural strip and fully separate dark apical spot (Fig. 7).

DIAGNOSIS. Tarsal formula 5-4-4 and structure of antenna is an unambiguous evidence of belonging a new species to genus *Isoclerus*. Large eyes and bicolored elytron give us a reason to consider it a nominative subgenus. Within it *I. succedaneus* sp. n. is closeness to *I. tuberculatus* (Schenkling, 1906) from Ceylon by shape of pronotum and character of setation. However *I. succedaneus* sp. n. easily recognized from *I. tuberculatus* by strongly developed elytral pattern and position of bright hairs on posterior band. These two species are undoubtedly vicariant, their areals are separated by Palk stait. The further research can possibly change the rank of this taxon.

ETYMOLOGY. Specific epithet *succedaneus* (from Latin — “substitute”) reflects the vicariant character of new species distributed area in comparison with *I. tuberculatus*.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT. I am very grateful to Mr. Artem Zaitsev for translation of text from Russian into English.



Figs 1-7. *Isoclerus succedaneus* sp.n.: 1-3 — habitus (1-2 — dorsal view, 3 — ventral view); 4 — male's genitalia; 5-7 — elytral pattern; 1, 4-5 — holotype; 2-3, 6-7 — paratypes; 1-6 — ♂; 7 — ♀.

Рис. 1-7. *Isoclerus succedaneus* sp.n.: 1-3 — внешний вид (1-2 — сверху, 3 — снизу); 4 — строение гениталий самца; 5-7 — схема рисунка надкрылий; 1, 4-5 — голотип; 2-3, 6-7 — паратипы; 1-6 — ♂; 7 — ♀.

References

- Corporaal J.B. 1939 (1938). Revision of the Thaneroclerinae (Cleridae, Col.) // Bijdr. Dierk. Vol.27. P.347-363.
 Kolibáč J. 1992. Revision of Thanerocleridae n.stat. (Coleoptera, Cleroidea) // Mitt. Schweiz. Entomol. Ges. Bd.65. S.303-340.

- Kolibáč J. 1998. New Australian Thanerocleridae, with notes on the subtribe Isoclerina Kolibáč (Coleoptera, Cleroidea) // Invert. Taxon. Vol.12. No.6. P.951-975.
 Schenkling S. 1906. Die Cleridae des Deutschen Entomologischen National-Museums, nebs Beschreibungen neuer Arten // Deutsch. Ent. Zetschr. Bd.50. Hf.1. S.241-320.