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**THE FIRST FINDINGS OF *ACALLOCRATES COLONNELLII* BAHR, 2003
(COLEOPTERA: CURCULIONOIDEA, CURCULIONIDAE,
CRYPTORHYNCHINAE) IN CENTRAL SERBIA**

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ABSTRACT. The first data of *Acallocrates colonnellii* Bahr, 2003 findings in Serbia are given. Practically, this is the first time that genus *Acallocrates* has been mentioned on the territory of Serbia.

INTRODUCTION

The weevils are a group, which has been very well researched in Europe. The geophilous species are less known (OSELLA, 1973, 1979) but very interesting group because of their hidden life. OSELLA published revision of blind weevil family Raymondionymidae twenty-seven years ago (1977). He described more new species from the same group after that (OSELLA & NONVEILLER, 1982; OSELLA & GIUSTO, 1983).

In the recent times, Cryptorhynchinae is the main subject of a few German researchers (BAHR & STÜBEN, 2002; BAHR, 2003; STÜBEN *et al.* 2003). How interesting this category of weevils could be is illustrated by the fact that new species were described last year (BAHR, 2003). In the honour of the Italian Ceutorhynchinae specialist, Enzo Colonnelli, who twenty years ago made the last revision of genus *Acallocrates*, the new species is named *Acallocrates colonnellii*. So, at this moment genus *Acallocrates* Reitter, 1913 contains four species: *Acallocrates minutesquamosus* (Reiche, 1860), *Acallocrates denticollis* (Germar, 1824), *Acallocrates fasciatus* Colonnelli, 1980 and *Acallocrates colonnellii* Bahr, 2003. The distribution of genus includes territories from Spain to the Caucasus.

This work is the first about Serbian *Acallocrates* species.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The study of geophylous weevils started in Serbia at the end of 1980s, but results are still mainly unpublished (PEŠIĆ, 1995; 1999). Collecting of litter and soil samples was conducted

throughout Serbia, mostly in deciduous forests. Tulgren-Berleze apparatus was used for the separation of soil organisms. Material is deposited in the collection of authoress.

Species determination by ordinary used weevil keys was not succesful enough. The appearance of the „Digital-Weevil-Determination for Curculionoidea of West Palearctic: Transalpina: Cryptorhynchinae” (BAHR & STÜBEN, 2002) enabled more precise identification. But, the final identification was possible only after the revision of *Acallocrates* (BAHR, 2003) was published.

The sex was determined for all exemplars.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This work treats the material collected on mountains Rudnik, Jastrebac and Ravna Gora (Fig. 1). The exact data of finding are:

- 26th January 1997, Rudnik Mt., Ramački visovi; southeast slope; ≈750m; oak forest; leg. S. Pešić; 1 female;
- 18th April 1998, Jastrebac Mt., Mala Ravan; beech forest; leg. S. Pešić; 1 female;
- 12th December 1999, Ravna Gora, beech forest; leg. S. Pešić; 2 males, 1 female.

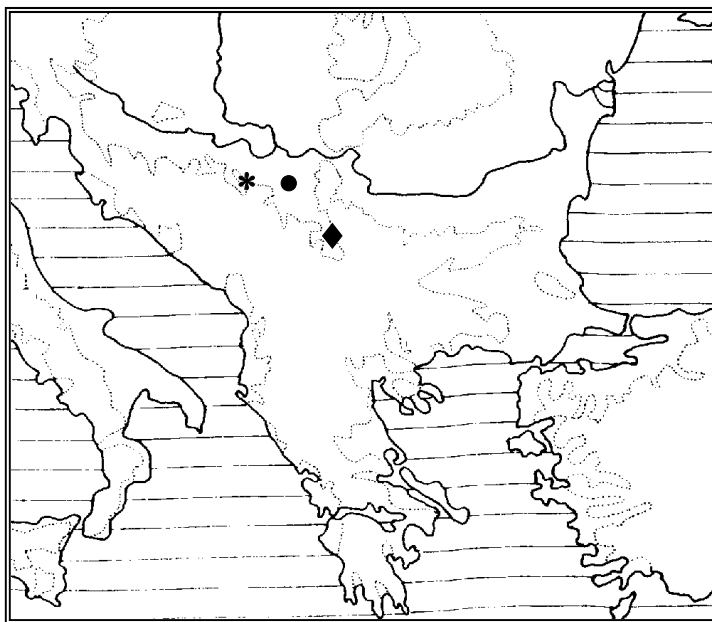


Fig. 1 – Geographical positions of new finding places of *Acallocrates colonnelli*:

● - Rudnik, ◆ - Jastrebac and * - Ravna Gora

According to the D-W-D (BAHR & STÜBEN, 2002), all specimens authoress primary determined as the *Acallocrates denticollis* (Germar, 1824), but after Bahr’s checking of material, identification was changed into *Acallocrates colonnellii* Bahr, 2003.

However, material belongs to genus *Acallocrates*, and this is the first registration of its presence in Serbia.

The mistake was not a coincidence. If we look at the habitus of these two species, it is practically the same (Fig. 2), but after a careful examination we can discover a few differences in

the form of pronotum scales, pronotum sides and in bulging of the first (sutural) elytral interspace of male exemplars (BAHR, 2003) . The greatest difference is in the view of the peak of aedeagus (Fig. 3).



Fig. 2 – Habitus of males of *Acallobrates denticollis* Germ. and *A. colonnellii* Bahr (from BAHR, 2003)

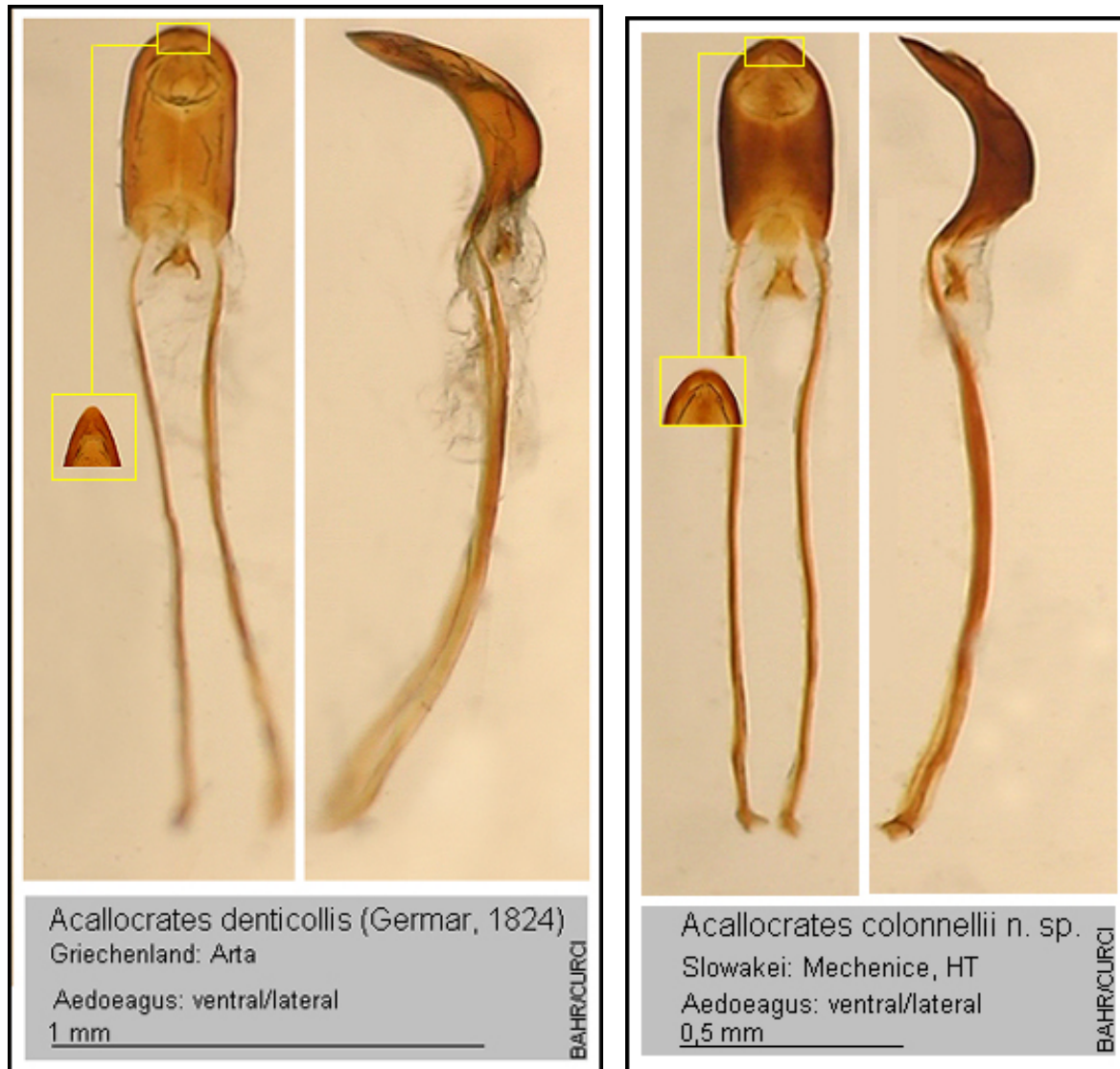


Fig. 3 – Aedeagus of *Acallocrates denticollis* Germ. and *A. colonnellii* Bahr (from BAHR, 2003)

These are the first places in Serbia mentioned as finding places of the new geophilous weevil species. Geographically, the nearest finding place is in Montenegro, in Kolašin to be precise, where one specimen was collected almost fifty years ago (26th May 1956), 1000m above the sea level. There are many finding places in Bulgaria, several in Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina, Slovenia, Austria, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary, Romania, Greece, Turkey and Russia (Caucasus). (Fig. 4)

CONCLUSION

The first registration of a recently described species could be a good reason for continuation of collecting of geophilous weevils on the territory of Serbia.

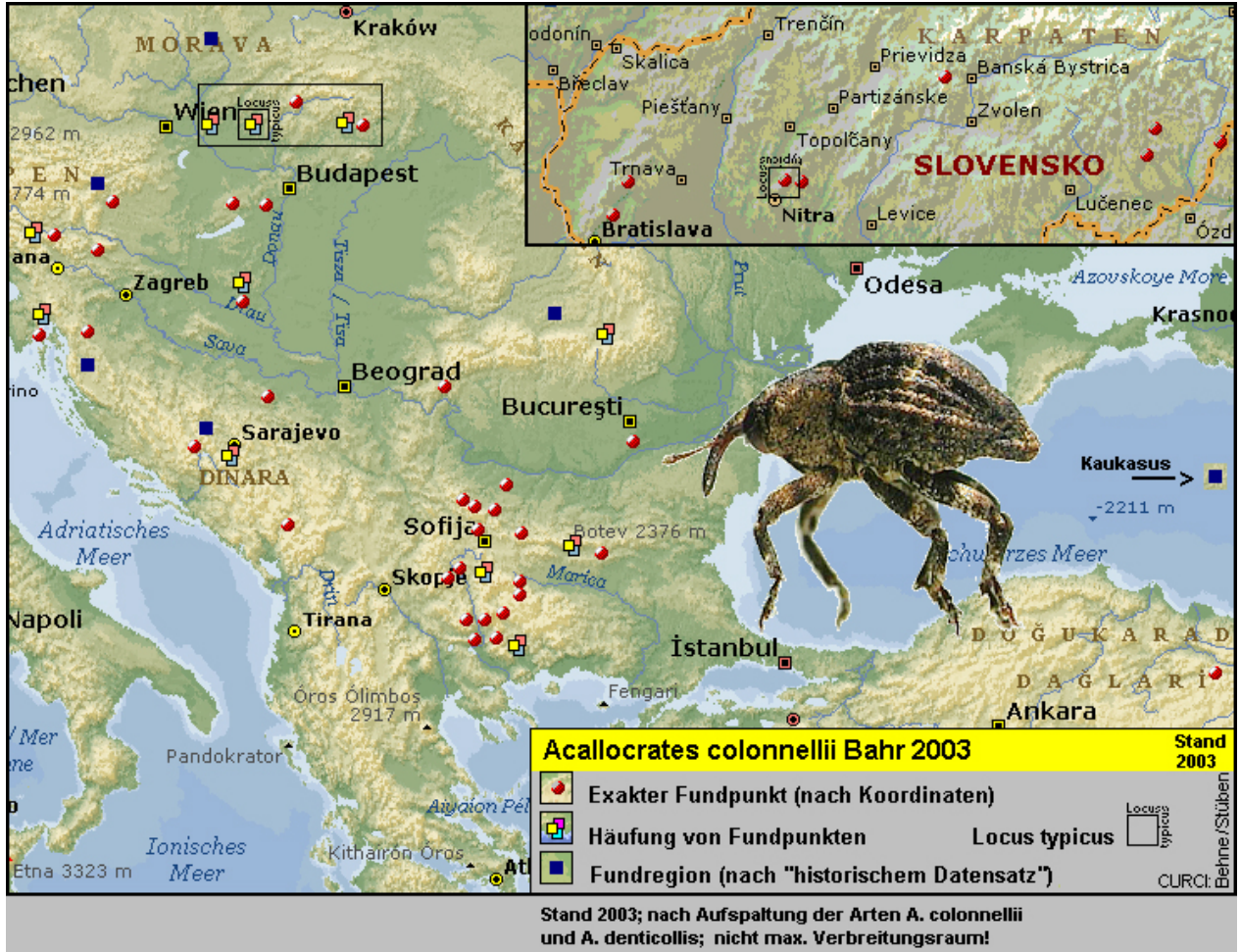


Fig. 4 – Distribution of *A. colonnellii* Bahr (from BAHR, 2003)

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