

How to distinguish *Euonthophagus hazariensis* (Kabakov, 1977) from *E. verberatus* Ziani, 2006 (Coleoptera, Scarabaeidae, Onthophagini)

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Abstract. Characters to separate the Afghan species *Euonthophagus hazariensis* (Kabakov, 1977) from its closely related Iranian species *Euonthophagus verberatus* Ziani, 2006 are supplied.

Keywords. Coleoptera, Scarabaeidae, taxonomy, *Euonthophagus*, Iran, Afghanistan.

After the description of *Euonthophagus verberatus* Ziani, 2006, from Western Iran, I came across two paratypes of *E. hazariensis* (Kabakov, 1977) described from Eastern Afghanistan and unknown to me.

The two species are phaneromorphologically very close, but they can be distinguished by the following characters:

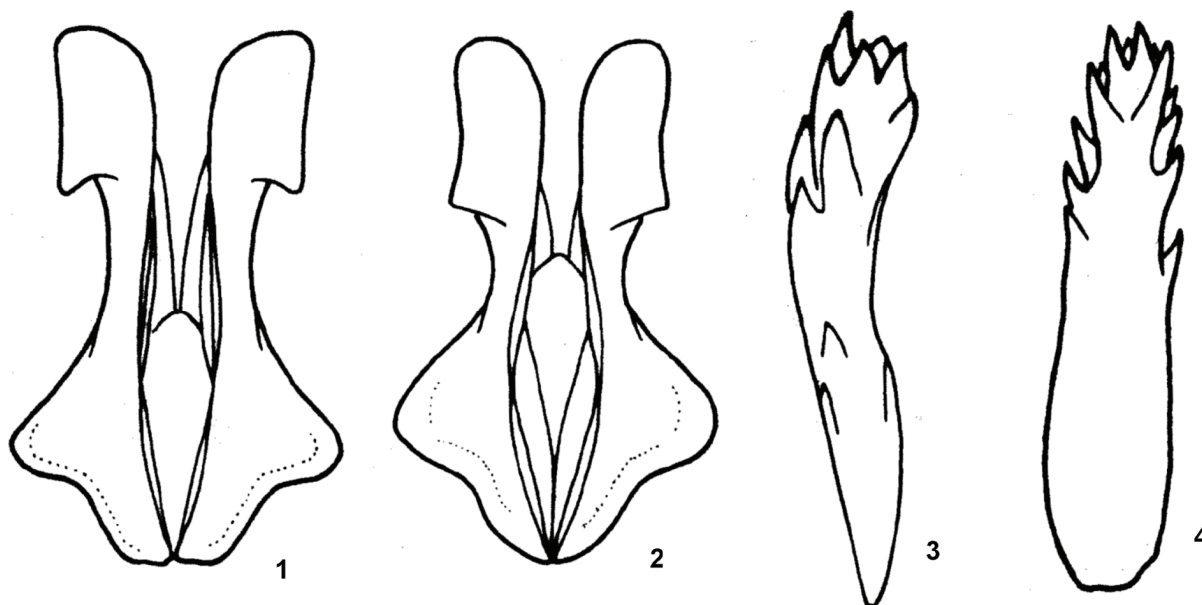
<i>E. hazariensis</i>	<i>E. verberatus</i>
Frons feebly, almost indistinguishably punctate	Frons distinctly punctate
Pronotum with punctures shallowly impressed, the larger ones separated by one to two diameters on disc.	Pronotum with punctures strongly impressed, the larger ones separated by less than half to one diameter on disc.
Parameres apex as fig. 1.	Parameres apex as fig. 2.
Copulatory spicule as fig. 3.	Copulatory spicule as fig. 4.

Furthermore, thanks to their collector László Nádai, it is possible to add another Iranian locality to the distribution of *E. verberatus*, until now known from the type locality only. IRAN: Eşfahān prov., Kuhha-ye-Qohrud, 2500 m, 7.VI.2007 and 16.VI. 2007, L. Nádai leg., 5 and 7 specimens, respectively.

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References: KABAKOV, O. N. 1977. Obzor plastinchatousykh zhukov podroda *Euonthophagus* Balh. roda *Onthophagus* Latr. (Coleoptera, Scarabaeidae) fauny SSSR i sopedel'nykh stran. *Ehntomologicheskoe Obozrenie*, Moskva, 56 (2): 383-394. • ZIANI, S. 2006. Remarks on some Near Eastern *Euonthophagus* species with the description of two new species from Iran (Insecta Coleoptera Scarabaeidae: Onthophagini). *Quaderno di Studi e Notizie di Storia Naturale della Romagna*, Cesena, 23: 95-130.



Figs 1, 3: *Euonthophagus hazariensis* (Kabakov, 1977), paratype (Afghanistan, Ghaznī prov., 20 km N-W Moqur). Figs 2, 4: *Euonthophagus verberatus* Ziani, 2006, holotype (Iran, Eşfahān prov., Qomsheh) (after Ziani, 2006). Figs 1-2: parameres, dorsal view; figs 3-4: Copulatory spicules. Drawings by I. Gudenzi.