

Zeitschrift: Entomologica Basiliensia et Collectionis Frey
Herausgeber: Naturhistorisches Museum Basel, Entomologische Sammlungen
Band: 29 (2007)

Artikel: Aphodius smoliki Käufel, 1914 : a systematic redefinition and a new combination (Coleoptera, Aphodiidae)
Autor: Dellacasa, Marco / Dellacasa, Giovanni
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-980927>

Nutzungsbedingungen

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. [Siehe Rechtliche Hinweise.](#)

Conditions d'utilisation

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. [Voir Informations légales.](#)

Terms of use

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. [See Legal notice.](#)

Download PDF: 06.05.2025

ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, <https://www.e-periodica.ch>

***Aphodius smoliki* Käufel, 1914: A systematic redefinition and a new combination (Coleoptera, Aphodiidae)**

by Marco Dellacasa & Giovanni Dellacasa

Abstract. The systematics of *Aphodius smoliki* Käufel, 1914 are updated on the basis of a study of the type and a new combination into the genus *Grandinaphodius* Ziani, 2002 is formulated.

Key words. *Aphodius smoliki* – *Grandinaphodius* – new combination – systematics – type – Syria

Introduction

Searching for the type material of *Aphodius plasoni* Käufel, 1914 in the Frey collection at the Natural History Museum, Basel, we also traced the type of the poorly known species *Aphodius smoliki* Käufel, 1914. We herein update its systematics and propose its new combination into the genus *Grandinaphodius* Ziani, 2002.

The terminology used in this work to describe the morphological features follows that of DELLACASA et al. (2001).

***Grandinaphodius smoliki* (Käufel, 1914) comb.nov.**

(Figs 1–5)

Aphodius (*Chilothorax*) *smoliki* Käufel, 1914: 143; DELLACASA M. (1988): 200.

Aphodius (*Volinus*) *smoliki*: BALTHASAR (1963): 237.

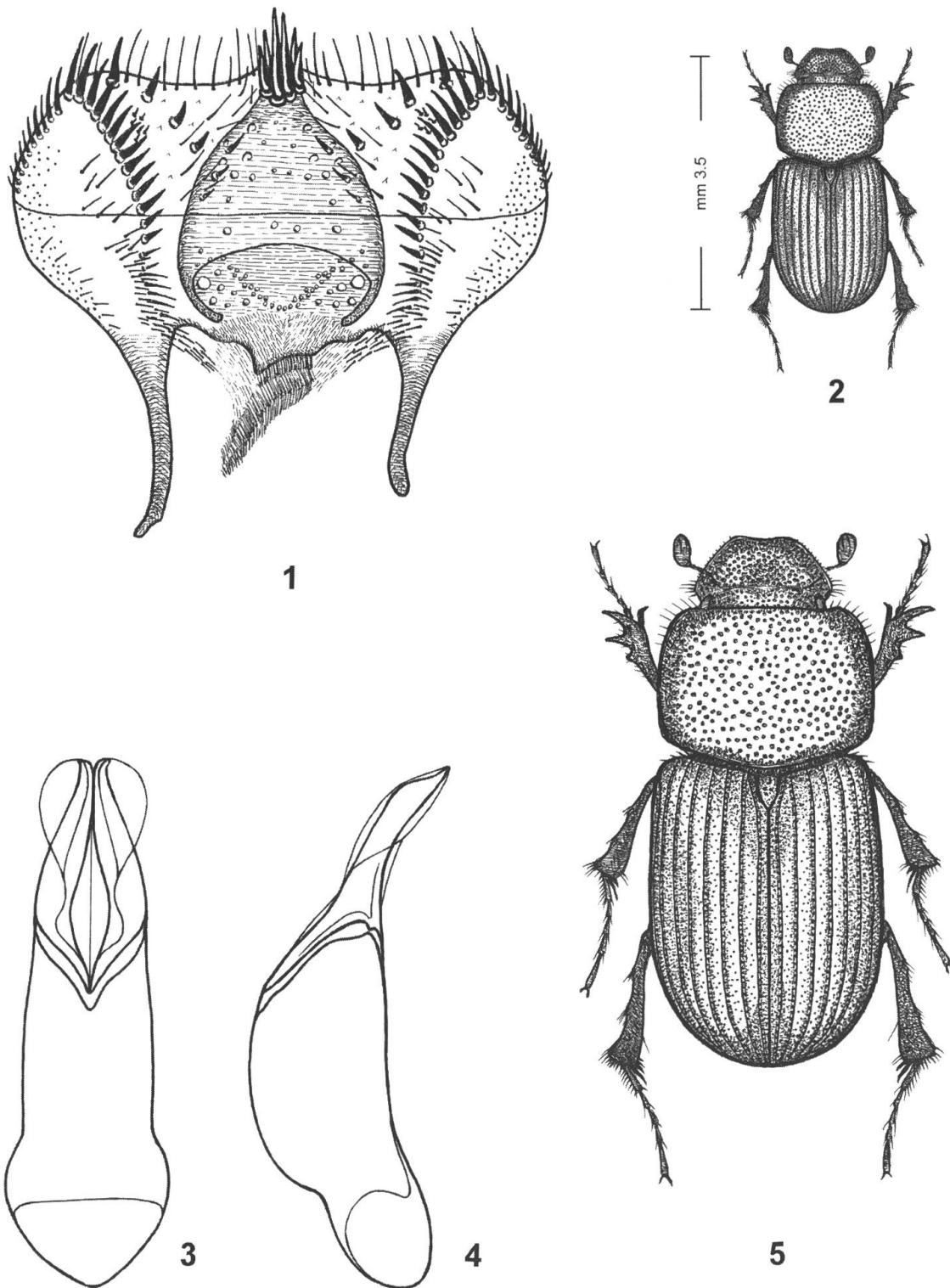
Type locality: Aleppo [Syria].

Material examined. 1 male, bearing the following labels: (1) white, printed: “Aleppo, Asia/ min. c. Plason”; (2) red, printed, “typus”; (3) white, handwritten: “Smoliki/ mihi typ./ det. Käufel”. Deposited in Naturhistorisches Museum, Basel.

Description. Length 3.5 mm; elongate, moderately convex, lustrous, almost glabrous. Head and pronotum piceous, latter with anterior angles shadowy-reddish; elytra brownish, widely shadowy-yellowish on disc; legs reddish-brown; antennal club dirty yellowish.

Head with epistoma almost flat, evenly and coarsely punctured, punctuation somewhat confused distally; clypeus faintly sinuate at middle, rounded at sides, thinly bordered, edge feebly upturned and very shortly bristled laterally; genae obtusely rounded, elongately ciliate, protruding farther than eyes; frontal suture subcariniform, not tuberculate; front coarsely, not closely, and almost evenly, punctured.

Pronotum transverse, moderately convex, almost evenly, coarsely, not very closely punctured; lateral margins feebly arcuate, very thinly bordered, edge with a few elongate, extremely fine setae toward front angles; hind angles obtusely rounded; base regularly arcuate, thinly bordered. Scutellum amygdaliform, flat, finely alutaceous, with a few coarse punctures, widely scattered.



Figs 1–5. *Grandinaphodius smoliki* (Käufel, 1914) [Aleppo, Syria]: 1 – epipharynx; 2 – habitus of male; 3, 4 – aedeagus (dorsal and ventral view); 5 – morphological details of male habitus.

Elytra elongate, subparallel-sided, not denticulate at shoulder, broadly but not deeply striate; striae faintly crenulate; intervals almost flat, sparsely, finely but distinctly punctured, almost imperceptibly pubescent toward apex.

Hind tibiae superior apical spur shorter than first tarsal segment; latter shorter than following two combined.

Male: fore-tibiae apical spur stout, inwardly hooked at tip, bent downwards; aedeagus Figs 3–4.

Female: unknown.

Distribution. known from the type locality only.

Remarks. We deem this taxon belongs to *Grandinaphodius* because it shares a complex of the following generic characters beyond epipharyngeal and aedeagal features:

- head with clypeus sinuate at middle, rounded at sides and with lateral margins shortly bristled; frontal suture not tuberculate
- pronotum with base bordered
- scutellum small, amygdaliform
- elytra not denticulate at shoulder; broadly striate
- fore-tibiae proximally not crenulate at outer margin and dorsally impunctate
- hind tibiae apically fimbriate with elongate spinules irregularly unequal
- first segment of hind tarsi shorter than following two combined

A key to species of *Grandinaphodius*

1. Pronotum almost evenly and subregularly punctured; elytral striae faintly crenulate, intervals almost flat. Head and pronotum piceous, latter with anterior angles shadowy-reddish; elytra brownish, widely shadowy-yellowish on disc. Length 3.5 mm. Syria. ***G. smoliki* (Käufel, 1914)**
- Pronotum dually, somewhat irregularly punctured; elytral striae deep and distinctly crenulate, intervals feebly convex. Shiny black. Length 4.0 mm. Lebanon. ***G. inferorum* Ziani, 2002**

Acknowledgement

Our grateful thanks are due to E. Sprecher-Uebersax (Basel) for the loan of type material.

References

- BALTHASAR V. (1964): *Monographie der Scarabaeinae und Aphodiinae der palaearktischen und orientalischen Region. Band 3: Aphodiidae*. Prag, Verlag der Tschechoslowakischen Akademie der Wissenschaften, 652 pp.
- DELLACASA G., BORDAT P. & DELLACASA M. (2001): *A revisional essay of world genus-group taxa of Aphodiinae*. Memorie della Società Entomologica Italiana **79**[2000]: 1–482.
- DELLACASA M. (1988): *Contribution to a world-wide Catalogue of Aegialiidae, Aphodiidae, Aulonocnemidae, Termitotrogidae. (Part I)*. Memorie della Società Entomologica Italiana **66**[1987]: 1–455.
- KÄUFEL F. (1914): *Beitrag zur Kenntnis der Aphodiina*. Coleopterologische Rundschau **3**(8/9): 142–144.
- ZIANI S. (2002): *A new genus and species of Aphodiini inhabiting burrows of small mammals in Lebanon's mountains*. Zoology in the Middle East **27**: 101–106.

Authors' addresses:

Marco Dellacasa
Museo di Storia Naturale e del Territorio
Università di Pisa
Via Roma, 79
56011 Calci (Pisa)
ITALY
e-mail: dellacasa@museo.unipi.it
&
Giovanni Dellacasa
C.P. 921
16121 Genova
ITALY