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First record of *Phacephorus hirtellus* Faust, 1885 (Coleoptera, Curculionidae) from Siberia, Russia

Первая находка *Phacephorus hirtellus* Faust, 1885 (Coleoptera, Curculionidae) в Сибири

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Key words: Coleoptera, Curculionoidea, Entiminae, West Siberia, Kurganskaya Oblast, first record.

Ключевые слова: Coleoptera, Curculionidae, Entiminae, Западная Сибирь, Курганская область, новая находка.

Abstract. *Phacephorus hirtellus* Faust, 1885 is recorded for Siberia for the first time. This rare semi-desert and desert species was collected in a salt marsh in the southeast of the Kurganskaya Oblast, Russia.

Резюме. В статье приводятся сведения о первой находке *Phacephorus hirtellus* Faust, 1885 на территории Сибири. Этот редкий полупустынно-пустынный вид обнаружен на солончаке на юго-востоке Курганской области.

Phacephorus Schoenherr, 1840 is a comparatively small Central Palaearctic genus of weevils. It includes 15 species, almost entirely distributed in desert and semi-desert areas of Kazakhstan, Central Asia, Mongolia and China [Alonso-Zarazaga et al., 2024]. Four species of the genus are recorded in Siberia. Of those, *Ph. nebulosus* (Fåhraeus, 1840), *Ph. umbratus* (Falderman, 1835) and *Ph. sibiricus* Gyllenhal, 1840 are recorded in Western Siberia [Bukhkalo et al., 2011; Legalov, 2020, 2023; Sergeeva, Dedyukhin, 2024]. Recently, *Ph. nebulosus* has been synonymized with *Ph. umbratus*, while the differences between these forms were suggested to be a manifestation of clinal variability [Legalov, 2023].

In 2024, in the process of complex investigation of the fauna of phytophagous beetles in Kurganskaya Oblast, for the first time in North Asia was found another species of the genus, *Phacephorus hirtellus* Faust, 1885.

The material is kept in the personal collection of the author. The photo of the beetle was made by I.N. Kostin (Udmurt State University, Izhevsk), the photo of the habitat of *Ph. hirtellus* was made by the author of the article.

The present work is registered in ZooBank (www.zoobank.org) under urn:lsid:zoobank.org:pub:314BDE46-6C77-4583-818B-9C304D-DCAC0E

Curculionidae Latreille, 1802:
Entiminae Schoenherr, 1823:
Tanymecini Lacordaire, 1863
Phacephorus hirtellus Faust, 1885

Figs 1–2.

Material. **Russia:** ***Kurganskaya Oblast:*** Chistoozyorskii Distr., 2.8 km NE of Shestakovo vill., northern shore of Gorkoe Lake, 55°25'7" N, 67°58'29" E, salt marsh, sweeping in associations dominated by Chenopodiaceae, 28.VII.2024, S.V. Dedyukhin leg. — 1♀.

Remarks. The species known from Central and Southern Kazakhstan and also from Kyrgyzstan [Bajtenov, 1974; Alonso-Zarazaga et al., 2023]. In Russia, it is known from one record from the Lower Povolzhye region (Saratovskaya Oblast) [Dedyukhin, 2023], as well as from the south of the Orenburgskaya Oblast (unpublished data by the author of the article). An earlier mention of *Phacephorus hirtellus* for the Orenburgskaya Oblast [Yunakov et al., 2012] refers to another species. Thus, *Ph. hirtellus* is firstly registered on the territory of Siberia in southeast of Kurganskaya Oblast.

In Kurganskaya Oblast, one female was collected on a salt marsh near the shore of a hypersaline shallow lake (Fig. 2). In other known locations the species was also found on saline land and salt marshes.

As the results of recent studies show, the concentration of the Holomediterranean species is observed in the southern forest-steppe and steppe landscapes of the Trans-Urals region. Moreover, many of them are distributed much further to the north than in the European Russia. For example, a number of species of this complex are registered in saline landscapes in the very south of the Tyumenskaya Oblast: *Taphrotopium steveni* (Gyllenhal, 1839), *Pseudaplemonus artemisiae* (F. Moravitz, 1861), *Icaris sparganii pertinax* (Gyllenhal, 1835), *Asproparthenis vexata* (Gyllenhal, 1834), *Baris spitzyi* Hochhuth, 1847, *Baris nesapia* Faust, 1887, *Ceutorhynchus scytha* Korotyaev, 1980, *Sibinia beckeri* Desbrochers, 1873, *Megamecus bidentatus* Gebler, 1829, *M. variegatus* (Gebler, 1829) [Sergeeva, Dedyukhin, 2018, 2019, 2022, 2024]. Another semi-desert and desert Central Palaearctic species *Philernus farinosus* (Gebler, 1829) was recently recorded for

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Figs 1–2. External appearance and habitat of *Phacephorus hirtellus* from Kurganskaya Oblast. 1 — dorsal view of the beetle; 2 — salt marsh on the shore of Lake Gorkoye.

Рис. 1–2. Внешний вид и среда обитания *Phacephorus hirtellus* из Курганской области. 1 — вид жука сверху; 2 — солончак на берегу озера Горькое.

the first time on the West Siberian Plain on the shore of saline Lake Medvezhye (20 km to the south from Lake Gorkoye) in Kurganskaya Oblast [Dedyukhin, Komissarov, 2023].

The host plants in the habitat of *Phacephorus hirtellus* have not been reliably determined, but it is probably associated with Chenopodiaceae (as well as other species of the genus whose forage plants are known). Such halophytic Chenopodiaceae as *Suaeda acuminata* (C.A. Mey.) Moq., *Halimione verrucifera* (M. Bieb.) Aellen, were abundant at the place of the record, such as other families – *Artemisia nitrosa* Weber ex Stechm. and *Limonium caspium* (Willd.) Gams. In the Povolzhye region *Ph. hirtellus* was collected on a xerothermic saline land under a clump of *Bassia prostrata* (L.) Beck (= *Kohia prostrata* L.) [Dedyukhin, 2023].

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