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Asian species of the genus *Tolyphus* Erichson, 1845 (Coleoptera: Phalacridae)

Азиатские виды рода *Tolyphus* Erichson, 1845 (Coleoptera: Phalacridae)

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КЛЮЧЕВЫЕ СЛОВА: биогеография, Казахстан, Туркменистан, Центральная Азия, синонимия, средиземноморско-азиатский.

ABSTRACT. The species of the genus *Tolyphus* Erichson, 1845 from Asia, mainly from Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan (*T. bimaculatus* Medvedev, 1963*, T. sedilloti* Guillebeau, 1892), were studied. An identification key to the species of the genus *Tolyphus* is provided. The validity of the species and morphological variability are discussed. The following synonymy is established: *T. jankowskii* Skopin, 1951 = *T. transcaspicus* Reitter, 1913, **syn.n.**, *T. dubius* Gridelli, 1930 = *T. granulatus* Guérin-Méneville, 1834, **syn.n.** The range of one species (*T. sedilloti* Guillebeau, 1892) is significantly expanded: previously, this species was known only from North Africa; in the present paper, it is reported for Kazakhstan for the first time.

РЕЗЮМЕ. Изучены виды рода *Tolyphus* Erichson, 1845 из Азии, преимущественно из Казахстана (*T. bimaculatus* Medvedev, 1963*, T. sedilloti* Guillebeau, 1892). Приведен определительный ключ видов рода *Tolyphus*. Обсуждается валидность видов, изменчивость морфологии. Два вида сведены в синонимы: *T. jankowskii* Skopin, 1951 = *T. transcaspicus* Reitter, 1913, **syn.n.**, *T. dubius* Gridelli, 1930 = *T. granulatus* Guérin-Méneville, 1834, **syn.n.** Ареал одного вида (*T. sedilloti*) значительно расширен, ранее вид был известен только из С. Африки, найден в Казахстане.

Introduction

In the genus *Tolyphus* Erichson, 1845 (type species: *Phalacrus granulatus* Guérin-Méneville, 1834), 8 species are currently known [Svec, 2007; Gimmel, 2013; Svec, Hava, 2025]. In the 19th century, three species were described: *T. punctulatus* Rosenhauer, 1856, *T. granulatus* (Guérin-Méneville, 1834), and *T. sedilloti* Guillebeau, 1892. *Tolyphus punctulatus* and *T. granulatus* have similar Mediterranean distribution in Southern Europe and North Africa, also they are found on the eastern coast of the Mediterranean Sea in Turkey and the Near East, and, additionally, in Saudi Arabia. Previously, *T. sedilloti* was known only from North Africa.

In the 20th century, several Asian species were described: *T. bimaculatus* L. N. Medvedev, 1963 (Kazakhstan), *T. jankovskii* Skopin, 1951 (Kazakhstan), *T. transcaspicus* Reitter, 1913 (Turkmenistan), as well as two species from North Africa: *T. dubius* Gridelli, 1930 (Egypt, Libya) and *T. rufescens* Pic, 1914 (Egypt).

In his revision of the Phalacridae family, Gimmel wrote: “Eight described species, though a revision is necessary to confirm the validity of the names described during the 20th century” [Gimmel, 2013].

Species in need of revision were described in the 20th century primarily from Asia. This article takes steps to clarify the situation with the eastern species of the genus *Tolyphus*.

Material and methods

The materials stored in the Zoological Museum of Moscow State University, mainly from North Africa and Central Asia, were studied. Materials from North Africa are presented in the Viktor Ivanovich Motschulsky’s (1810–1871) collection. V.I. Motschulsky collected beetles during his travels and diplomatic trips, and also exchanged them with other collectors. In 2013, V.I. Motschulsky's memories were published, in which his adventures were described [Motschulsky, 2013]. Motschulsky was the first Russian entomologist-scout. The Motschulsky’s collection of beetles is one of the oldest and largest insect collections in the Zoological Museum of Moscow State University. It contains the types of species described by Viktor Ivanovich, as well as species, which he intended to describe, but that were not

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published by him. Motschulsky did not specialize in the study of Phalacridae, his area of interest were beetles of the families Carabidae, Curculionidae and Chrysomelidae. Motschulsky's collection of beetles contains species from Europe, Asia, Africa, North and South America, as well as Australia [Lyubarsky, 2025].

Specimens in the Motschulsky's collection often lack written labels; they are marked with square or round colored markers, the color of which indicates the geographic region in which the specimen was collected. In the Motschulsky's collection, materials from the Palaearctic (excluding North Africa) have white labels (made of unpainted paper), materials from North Africa have light green labels, materials from sub-Saharan Africa (Ethiopian region) — dark blue.

All labels in the collection are handwritten. The designations of locations in the Motschulsky's collection are very general: usually a country or an entire region is indicated.

Interesting materials on the genus *Tolyphus* were discovered in the collection of N.I. Fursov, also housed in the Zoological Museum of Moscow State University. Nikolai Ilyich Fursov (1882–1950s?) was an amateur entomologist [Lyubarsky, 2009; Mikhailov *et al*., 2025]. He compiled a "Key to Beetles of the USSR", relying primarily on Reitter's books and generously supplementing it with new species. The monograph was never published and is now completely out of date. Many species proposed for description remain unpublished. The Zoological Museum houses a large collection of beetles from various families. These materials are not very well labeled; N.I. Fursov usually indicated only the place of collection, without specifying the region, so one often has to guess where a particular specimen was found.

A specimen of *Tolyphus granulatus* was discovered in Filippov's collection, which is also stored in the Zoological Museum of Moscow State University. Nikolai Nikolaevich Filippov (1895–1972), amateur entomologist [Lyubarsky, 2009; Mikhailov *et al*., 2025]. N. Filippov was a diplomat, major general in counterintelligence, and amateur entomologist. He was the Cheka (All-Russian Extraordinary Commission) employee (since 1918) and a special representative of the Cheka for combating the Basmachi rebellion in the Fergana Valley (1921–1923). He then worked as a diplomatic courier. He served in the Main Military Prosecutor's Office of the Soviet Army with the rank of lieutenant colonel of justice (1941). For a time, he was deputy to the Prosecutor General of the USSR, V.V. Ulrikh; in the postwar years, he was a member of the Collegium of the Supreme Court of the USSR. He retired in the early 1950s. He headed the Zoological Museum of Moscow State University (1939–1941). In publications and on some trips abroad, he used the pseudonyms Filipyev and Zhenzhurist (a modification of the Lithuanian surname of his first wife, Zhenzhuris, a singer at the Bolshoi Theater). He amassed large collections of insects from Europe (Germany, Czechoslovakia, Austria, Italy, Greece, Romania, Bulgaria, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Finland), the USA (Florida, 1930s), east of China, Japan, the Princes' Islands, Georgia, Azerbaijan, Iran, Afghanistan, Yemen, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Ukraine, Primorsky Krai, Sakhalin, and the South Kuril Islands; about a third of his insect collections are housed in the Zoological Museum (the rest are in Moscow State Pedagogical University and the Zoological Institute in Saint Petersburg). The majority of the collections were lost after Filippov's death and were later found in the 1990s, but the material was heavily damaged and of little scientific value [Mikhailov *et al*., 2025].

The following collection acronyms are used in the text: ZMMU — Zoological Museum of Moscow University; ZIN — Zoological Institute of Russian Academy of Sciences, Saint Petersburg.

Taxonomic part

Family Phalacridae Leach, 1815
Genus *Tolyphus* Erichson, 1845

Type species: *Phalacrus granulatus* Guérin-Méneville, 1834

It includes two subgenera that differ in their eye structure. The subgenus *Pharcisinus* has eye with identical facets, while the subgenus *Tolyphus* has eye with facets of varying sizes, with the upper part of the eye having a distinct region with smaller facets.

Subgenus *Pharcisinus* Guillebeau, 1894

Type species: *Tolyphus punctulatus* Rosenhauer, 1856

Tolyphus bimaculatus L.N. Medvedev, 1963

Figs 1, 2, 8.

ORIGINAL DESCRIPTION from Medvedev [1963]:

"The body is elongated-oval, shiny. Black, with a very faint metallic sheen; the elytra are pitch-brown, with a very large, elongated yellow-red spot occupying almost the entire posterior half of the elytron, but not reaching the suture and lateral margin. The antennae, palps and legs are reddish, the basal half of the middle and hind femora is darkened, brownish to blackish-brown, the top of the abdomen is reddish-brown.

The head is slightly convex, densely covered with fairly large dots of varying sizes. The eyes are large, almost round, and evenly faceted (more precisely, the facets at the upper edge are slightly smaller than the others). The first and second antennal segments are thick, the third is long, approximately twice as long as the fourth, the fourth through eighth are short, almost equal in length, and the eleventh has a notch on the outer surface.

The pronotum has bordered edges, it is widest near the base, and clearly narrows anteriorly; the anterior and posterior angles are broadly rounded, with a smoothed lateral border at the posterior angles. The surface of the pronotum is finely, very densely, and irregularly punctate, somewhat finer in the middle of the disc. The elytra have deep, distinct paired grooves that do not weaken toward the lateral margin but become smoothed at the apex; the interstriae are wide, barely convex, and densely dotted with small punctures.

Body length 4.2 mm, width 2.2 mm." (in Russian, translated from the publication: [Medvedev, 1963]).

HOLOTYPE: Kainar-Bastau (Chu River basin), terrace, 05/22/1931, on Tausgyz (N.F. Pravdin), 1 specimen (holotype) in the collection of ZIN.

REDESCRIPTION. Length 3.4–4.5 mm. Length of head 0.3–0.4 mm, pronotum 1–1.4 mm, elytra 2.5–2.8 mm; width of head 1.1–1.2 mm, pronotum 2–2.2 mm, elytra 2.1–2.4 mm.

Head and pronotum black (Fig. 1), elytra black, antennae and legs light-brown. Top of elytron with elongated rufous spot merging with lateral edge and suture, so that entire apex of elytron rufous. Head, pronotum and elytra with distinct shagreening. Underside black.

Head. Eyes with facets uniform (Fig. 2). Finely punctuate, punctures spaced by 1 time of their diameter.

Pronotum. Punctured as head, but little stronger, punctures spaced by 1.5–2 times of their diameter. Anterior margin notched. Lateral margin bordered, rounded, narrowed more strongly towards apex, greatest width of pronotum in posterior third, posterior angles very widely rounded. Posterior margin slightly curved, bordered, without pits.

Elytra. Elytra distinctly striate, suture wholly bordered. Disc with additional superficial thin striae accompanied by rows

of punctures. Interstriations slightly convex, weakly punctate, shagreened, slightly shiny.

Metasternum. With weak puncturation. Puncturation noticeable around middle coxal cavities, on metaventral process, metathoraxal disk very sparsely and weakly punctate.

Protibia of male with 11–19 spines on outer edge and 3 spines on outer apex of tibia (male) and two spurs in inner apex of protibia. Outer edge of apex of protibia clearly but relatively weakly angularly thickened. Metatibia with two broad, flattened spurs, metatarsus of male 4-segmented.

Scutellum black, triangular, finely punctuate.

DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS: "*T. bimaculatus* differs from all known species in its larger size, more elongated body, and the presence of a rufous spot behind the middle of the elytra. It also differs from western Mediterranean representatives of the subgenus in its rufous legs and distinct elytral striae. In addition to the aforementioned characteristics, it differs from the only known representative from the USSR (*T. transcaspicus* Rtt.) in its distinctly punctate head and pronotum." (in Russian, translated from the publication: [Medvedev, 1963]).

MATERIAL. The Zoological Museum of Moscow University (Moscow) collection includes specimens from the N. Fursov collection. Handwritten labels:

1) Kara-Tau, 17.VI.35; type; Tolyphus montanus; Tolyphus bimaculatus L. Medvedev; 2) without label; 3) Tolyphus bimaculatus L. Medvedev det. Lyubarsky.

All specimens are in good condition.

REMARKS. The Chu (from holotype localities) is a river in northern Kyrgyzstan and southern Kazakhstan. The Chu Valley is a large valley located in northern Kyrgyzstan and southern Kazakhstan, in the northern part of the Tian Shan. The eastern part (up to the Aspara River) is within Kyrgyz-

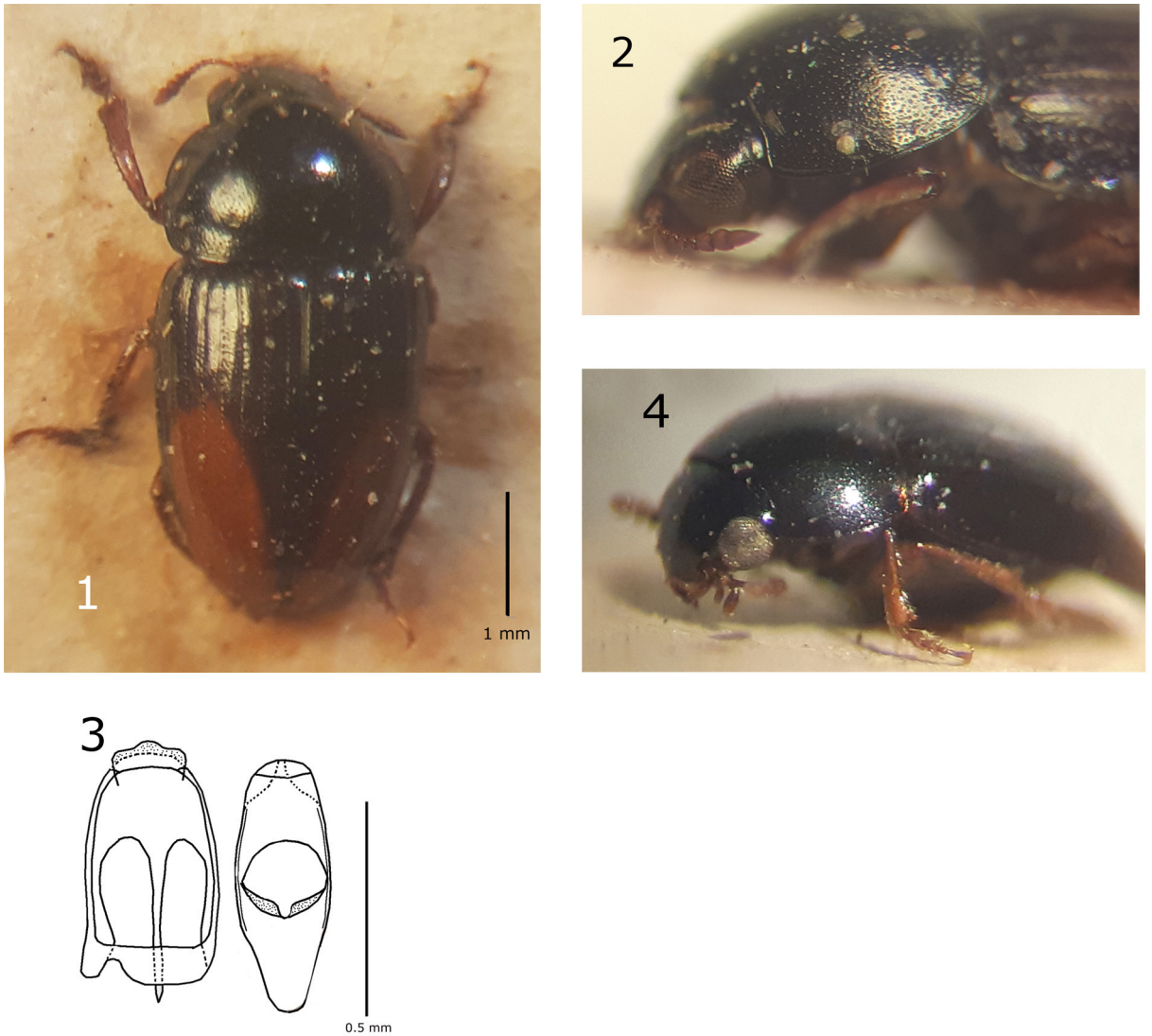

Fig. 1–4. *Tolyphus* spp., photo and drawing: 1 — *T. bimaculatus*, dorsal view; 2 — *T. bimaculatus*, lateral view, eye; 3 — *T. transcaspicus*, tegmen and penis, ventral; 4 — *T. granulatus*, lateral view, eye.

Рис. 1–4. *Tolyphus* spp., фото и рисунок: 1 —*T. bimaculatus*, вид сверху; 2 — *T. bimaculatus*, вид сбоку, глаз; 3 — *T. transcaspicus*, тегмен и пенис, вентрально; 4 — *T. granulatus*, вид сбоку, глаз.

stan (Chuy region), the rest is on the territory of Kazakhstan (Zhambyl region).

The name of "Tolyphus montanus" (from material ZMMU) is the name under which these specimens were stored in the collection of N.I. Fursov; this name is also mentioned in Fursov's unpublished manuscript with a key to the beetles of the Palearctic. The name "Tolyphus montanus" is not published. Karatau is an administrative center in the Talas region located in the Jambyl Region in the south of S Kazakhstan.

DISTRIBUTION: Kazakhstan (Fig.8: 1,2).

Tolyphus bimaculatus L.N. Medvedev, 1963 is a well-distinguished valid species.

Tolyphus jankovskii Skopin, 1951
Fig. 8.

ORIGINAL DESCRIPTION from Skopin's work [1951]:

"The female is elongated-ovate, rather convex, and slopes evenly backward. The clypeus has a fairly deep semicircular notch running along the entire anterior margin; its anterior angles are rounded at the apex. The lateral margins of the head, from the eyes to the anterior margin, are slightly concave and bordered by a thin ridge. The center of the head has a slight longitudinal elevation.

The anterior angles of the pronotum are bluntly pointed, while the posterior angles are almost completely rounded. The entire length of the dorsum is distinctly shagreened, without punctures, and glabrous.

The underparts (including the legs, antennae, and mouthparts) are densely covered with short, light-colored hairs.

The middle of the fore-, mid- and metathorax is finely and sparsely granular.

Black with a faint bronze-greenish sheen.

The antennae, tarsi, and mouthparts are light brown.

The male differs from the female in its elongated-oval, almost parallel-sided, flatter body, a barely notched anterior margin of the clypeus, and longer, denser hair on the underside of the body, especially on the abdomen.

The length of the male and female is 2.9–3.3 mm. The width of the female is 1.6–1.8 mm, and the width of the male is 1.2–1.5 mm.

Location: Northwestern Betpak-Dala, near the Kendyrlyk spring, May 23, 1936, 2 females, 2 males." (in Russian, translated from the publication: [Skopin, 1951]).

DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS: "Our new species differs from *Tolyphus transcaspicus* Reitter by the complete absence of punctation and the presence of longitudinal elevation on the head, the sculpture of the chest and a number of other characters." (in Russian, translated from the publication: [Skopin, 1951]).

MATERIAL. The holotype is unknown. The holotype has not been seen.

REMARKS. Betpak-Dala is a desert zone in the Ulytau, Karaganda, Turkestan, and Zhambyl regions, Kazakhstan. The Kendyrlyk spring is situated in Zaisan audany, East Kazakhstan Region (Kazakhstan) (Fig. 8: 3).

Tolyphus transcaspicus, according to Reiter's description, lacks punctation on the pronotum. Therefore, the basic diagnostic characters of *T. jankovskii* is invalid and do not distinguish this species from *T. transcaspicus*. The remaining characters in the diagnosis of *T. jankowskii* (a very small elevation on the head, punctation on the underside of the body) are not among the characters that distinguish species within the genus *Tolyphus*.

Until the type is studied, it is probably more correct to consider this species a synonym: *T. jankowskii* Skopin, 1951 is a junior synonym of *T. transcaspicus* Reitter, 1913, **syn.n**.

Tolyphus punctulatus Rosenhauer, 1856

MATERIAL. The ZMUM collection includes specimens from the V. Motschulsky's collection.

1) Light-green label "Tolyphus barbarus Motsch. Algeria" (1 specimen destroyed); 2) located nearby specimens with light-green round labels, 4 spec.; 3) white round label "Hisp m." (1 spec.); 4) white round label "Cadix" (1 spec.); 5) white round label, without other labels (1 spec.); 6) light-green round label, light green rectangular label with text: "Tolyphus striatolineatus Pharcisinus Algeria" (3 spec.); 7) light-green round label (1 spec.);

REMARKS. Length of body of the specimens: 2.1–2.9 mm.

The name "Tolyphus barbarus" was not published, as well as the name "Tolyphus striatolineatus". V. Motschulsky outlined these species for description, but did not publish them.

DISTRIBUTION**.** The works [Svec, Angelini, 1996; Ventura, 1997; Catalogue…, 2007; Svec, Hava 2025] indicate findings in Europe, Africa and Asia:

N Africa: Algeria, Libya, Morocco, Tunisia. S Europe: Spain, Italy, Slovakia?, Greece; Asia: Saudi Arabia.

Tolyphus punctulatus Rosenhauer, 1856 is a well-distinguished valid species.

Tolyphus transcaspicus Reitter, 1913
Figs 3, 8.

ORIGINAL DESCRIPTION from Reitter's work [1913]:

"Tolyphus transcaspicus n. sp.

Von allen bekannten Arten durch den chagrinierten, aber unpunktierten Halsschild abweichend. Auch der Kopf ist kaum sichtbar punktiert. Halsschild ringsum fein gerandet, nach vorne deutlicher verengt als zur Basis, alle Winkel sehr stumpf, fast abgerundet, die Basalrandlinie neben den Hinterwinkeln durch eine kurze Punktreihe substituiert. Die Doppelstreifen auf den Fügeldecken innen deutlich, ziemlich fein, die seitlichen viel feiner ausgeprägt; die Naht an der Spitze kurz eingedrückt, schwarz mit Bleiglanz oder schwach grünlichem Scheine, die Beine braun, Fühler und Tarsen gelbrot.

Länge 2 mm.

Transcaspien: Kuschk. Von Firma Staudinger - Bang - Haas ein Stück erhalten" [Reitter, 1913].

HOLOTYPE: Labels: Transkaspia Kuschk; Kuschk; *Tolyphus transcaspicus* m., 1913 type; coll.Reitter; Holotypus 1913 *Tolyphus transcaspicus* Reitter.

REMARKS. Serhetabat (formerly Kushka) is a city in Tagtabazar District, Mary Province, southern Turkmenistan. The holotype is deposited in the Budapest Museum (Hungary).

DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS (with clarifications after examination of the type): Body length 2.7 mm. Dark brown, almost black; antennae, palps and legs light brown. Head and pronotum are extremely heavily shagreened, but almost completely unpunctured. Eyes with facets of equal size. Pronotum very heavily margined on sides and almost not margined at base. Protibia of male with strong tooth at apex.

Elytra strongly shagreened, striae reduced and almost invisible, with dense rows of punctures along them. Interstriae strongly shagreened and almost completely unpunctured. Elytra less shagreened than pronotum.

Hind tibiae of male also with tooth and 2 spurs. Fore tarsi of male widened.

The sides of the pronotum are strongly margined and raised in all *Tolyphus* species, but especially so in *T. transcaspicus*.

The tooth on the male's protibia is present in all *Tolyphus* species, but in *T. granulatus*, for example, it is weaker than the *T. transcaspicus*.

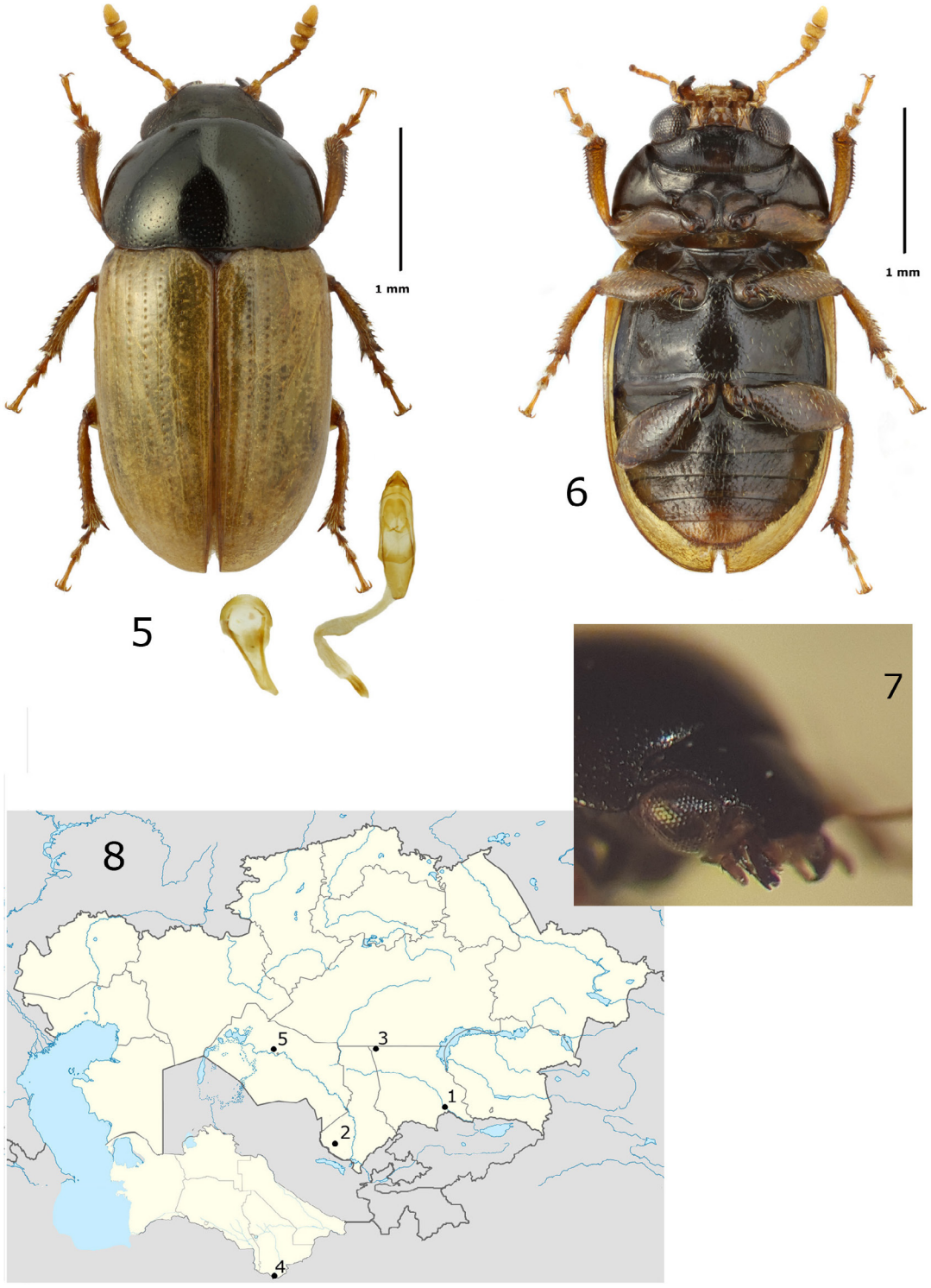

Fig. 5–8. *Tolyphus* spp., photo and map of distribution: 5 — *T. sedilloti*, dorsal view, aedeagus; 6 — *T. sedilloti*, ventral view; 7 — *T. sedilloti*, lateral view, eye; 8 — map of Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan, species locations; on the map, the findings are marked with numbers: 1 — *T. bimaculatus,* Kainar-Bastau (Chu River basin), Kazakhstan; 2 — *T. bimaculatus,* Kara-Tau, Kazakhstan; 3 — *T. jankovskii,* Betpak-Dala, near the Kendyrlyk spring, Kazakhstan; 4 — *T. transcaspicus*, Serhetabat (formerly Kushka), Tagtabazar District, Turkmenistan; 5 — *T. sedilloti* Ayteke-Bi, Kzylorda ar., Kazakhstan.

Рис. 5–8. *Tolyphus* spp., фото и карта распространения: 5 — *T. sedilloti*, вид сверху, эдеагус; 6 — *T. sedilloti*, ventral view; 7 — *T. sedilloti*, вид сбоку, глаз; 8 — карта находок видов, Казахстан и Туркменистан; на карте обозначены номерами: 1 — *T. bimaculatus,* Kainar-Bastau (Chu River basin), Kazakhstan; 2 — *T. bimaculatus,* Kara-Tau, Kazakhstan; 3 — *T. jankovskii,* Бетпак-Дала, близ р.Кендырлык, Казахстан; 4 — *T. transcaspicus*, Серхетабад (бывш. Кушка), Тагтабазарский этрап, Туркменистан; 5 — *T. sedilloti,* Айтеке-би, Кызылординская обл., Казахстан.

Genitalia. Aedeagus as in Fig. 3.

REMARKS. *Tolyphus transcaspicus* (=*T. jankowskii* Skopin, 1951). In addition to Turkmenistan, it is widespread in eastern Kazakhstan (Fig. 8: 4). Body length 2.7–3.3 mm

DISTRIBUTION: Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan. The species is recorded for Kazakhstan for the first time here.

Tolyphus transcaspicus Reitter, 1913 is a well-distinguished valid species.

Subgenus *Tolyphus* Erichson, 1845

Tolyphus dubius Gridelli, 1930

ORIGINAL DESCRIPTION [Gridelli, 1930]: "Corpo nero, con forti riflessi metallici Verdi oscuri. Antenne, palpi e zampe neri.

Difference dal *granulatus algiricus* (1) Guilleb. Per la statura minore, il corpo, e particularmente le elitre, piu stretto e piu convesso, nonche per la punteggiatura finissima ed uniforme del capo e dei lati del pronoto (im tutte le forme del *granulatus* la pumteggiatura e doppia e densa, formata da punti fini, con numerosi punti piu grossi, specialmente sul capo e nelle zone laterali del pronoto).

Per la punteggiatura del capo e del pronoto s'avvicina molto al *syriacus* Reitt. (del quale vidi 4 esemplari di Gerusalemme ex coll. Reitter), pero questo ha il capo nero, senza riflessi metallici, e piu corto e piu largo, meno convesso, con le serie delle elitre formate da punti piu fini e gli intervalli assolutamente piani.

Lungh.: 2–3.3 mm."

REMARKS. The holotype is not studied by us. According to the catalogue [Svec..., 2007], it is distributed in North Africa (Egypt, Libya). In the description by Gridelli [1930], it is already said that this is a form among the variability of *T. granulatus* (*granulatis* + *dubius* + *syriacus*). Based on the description, this species is very closely related to *T. granulatus*. The differences were found in the slightly different density and size of the punctation on the pronotum. According to the catalog [Svec, 2007], the species *T. granulatus* includes the taxa *algiricus* and *syriacus*, with which this species is compared.

Probably it is more correct to consider this species a synonym: *T. dubius* Gridelli, 1930 is a junior synonym of *T. granulatus* Guérin-Méneville, 1834, **syn.n**.

Tolyphus granulatus Guérin-Méneville, 1834
Fig. 4.

MATERIAL. 1) Syrien, Kaifa, Reitter; Tolyphus syriacus Rtt., L.N. Medvedev det. 1969 (2 spec.); 2) Marocco, Casablanca, Reitter; Tolyphus granulatus Guer. L.N. Medvedev det. 1969 (1 spec.); 3) Hispania, N. Filippov (1 spec.); 4) Sicilia, Tolyphus granulatus Guer. (2 spec.); 5) Jerusalem, Reitter; Tolyphus syriacus Reitt. E. Reitter det. (1 spec.); 6) white label "type"; Tolyphus granulatus Dej. Gall. m.; Zool. Mus. Mosc. Univ. (Mosquae, Rossia) ex coll. V.I. Motschulsky (1 spec.) (specimen destroyed); 7) white label "Tolyphus chalconatus Kunze; Gall.occ. Brest"; Zool. Mus. Mosc. Univ. (Mosquae, Rossia) ex coll. V.I. Motschulsky (1 spec.) (specimen destroyed); Israel, Haifa, 11.04.1993, leg. A. Danchenko (1 spec.); 8) white label "Hisp. m.", "Tolyphus granulatus Dej."; Zool. Mus. Mosc. Univ. (Mosquae, Rossia) ex coll. V.I. Motschulsky (1 spec.); 9) light-green round label; light-green rectangular label with text: Tolyphus elongatulus Motsch Algeria (1 spec.);

REMARKS. Length of body of the specimens: 2.2–3.0 mm.

The name "Tolyphus elongatulus" was not published. This specimen is on the same plate with *Tolyphus rufescens*. V. Motschulsky outlined these species for description, but did not publish them.

The specimen from Spain, leg. N. Filippov, related to Filippov's collection, stored in Zoological Museum of MSU.

DISTRIBUTION**.** The works [Svec, Angelini, 1996; Ventura, 1997; Svec, 2007] indicate findings in Europe, Africa, and Asia:

N Africa: Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia. S Europe: Spain, Portugal, France, Italy; Asia: Turkey, Syria, Israel, Lebanon. The species is recorded for Syria here for the first time.

Tolyphus granulatus Guérin-Méneville, 1834 is a well-distinguished valid species.

Tolyphus rufescens Pic, 1914

ORIGINAL DESCRIPTION [Pic, 1914]: "Tolyphus rufescens n. sp. (1). Latus, nitidus, subconvexus, rufescens, oculis et infra corpore pro parte nigris, abdomine apice late rufo. Long. 3 mill. Egypte (coll. Alfieri). Espèce très distincte entre toutes celles du genre par sa coloration générale roussâtre sur le dessus du corps. A placer près de T. Sedilloti Guilb., dont il se distingue, à première vue, parla coloration rousse de l'avant-corps."

MATERIAL. The ZMMU collection includes specimens from the V. Motschulsky's collection.

1) Marocco, Casablanca, Reitter; Tolyphus punctatostriatus L.N. Medvedev det. 1969; 1 spec. 2) light-green round label; light-green rectangular label with text: Tolyphus elongatulus Motsch Algeria; 1 spec.; 3) light-green round label (2 spec.); 4) light-green rectangular label with text: "Lallar" (?) (1 spec.); specimen destroyed; 5) light-green round label (3 spec.).

REMARKS. Length of body of the specimens: 2.4–2.8 mm.

The name "Tolyphus elongatulus" was not published. This specimen is on the same plate with *T. granulatus*. V. Motschulsky outlined these species for description, but did not publish them.

DISTRIBUTION**.** According to the Catalogue [Svec, 2007]: Egypt, Italy. The species is reported for Algeria and Morocco for the first time. Distribution: N Africa: Morocco, Algeria, Egypt. S Europe: Italy.

Tolyphus rufescens Pic, 1914 is a well-distinguished valid species.

Tolyphus sedilloti Guillebeau, 1892
Figs 5, 6, 7, 8.

ORIGINAL DESCRIPTION [Guillebeau, 1892]:

"Tete et corselet d'un noir metallique, elytres et antennes ferrugineux, interstries un peu convexes, derniere range de points s'arretant a la naissance du calus humeral. — Long. 3 1|2 mill. .. .. sedilloti Guillebeau

…Couleur non metallique; tete, corselet et ecusson noiratres, brilliants, avec un reflet metallique verdatre; elytres d'un ferrugineux rougeatre, leur base et leur premiere moitie etroitement rembrunies, antennes ferrugineuses; tete distinctement ponctuee; corselet a punctuation tres fine, sans gros points, les angles posterieurs arrondis, la base bisinuce; ecusson tres finement chagrine; elytres a stries distinctes, les points des rangees peu serres, les interstries un peu convexes a punctuation extremement fine, les cotes obliquement rides. Dessous noir, abdomen et pattes ferrugineux ou d'un brun rougeatre; le prolongement metasternal large, court, tronque au sommet."

REDESCRIPTION. Length 3.4 mm. Head 0.3 mm, pronotum 0.9 mm, elytra 2.2 mm, width of head 0.9 mm, pronotum 1.5 mm, elytra 1.6 mm.

Head and pronotum black, elytra yellow, antennae and legs light-brown. With distinct shagreening in head, pronotum and elytra (Fig. 5). Underside dark-brown.

Head. Eye with dorsal facets smaller than those at underside (Fig. 7). There is no distinct region of the eye separated by a con-

striction from another region (as in *T.granilatus*). However, some refinement of facets in dorsal part of eye can still be seen. Finely punctuate, punctures spaced by 2 times of their diameter.

Pronotum. Punctured as head, but little sparser and weaker, punctures spaced by 3 times of their diameter. Anterior margin notched. Lateral margin bordered, rounded, narrowed more strongly towards apically, greatest width of pronotum in posterior third, posterior angles very widely rounded. Posterior margin bordered, with weakly developed scutellar lobe.

Elytra. Elytra distinctly striate, suture wholly bordered. Additional superficial thin striae on disc accompanied by rows of punctures. Interstriations slightly convex, very weakly punctate, shagreened and slightly shiny.

Metasternum. With weak puncturation (Fig.6). Puncturation noticeable around middle coxal cavities, on metaventral process, metathoraxal disk very sparsely and weakly punctate.

Protibia with spines on outer edge, 10 spines along tibia and 4 spines on outer apex of tibia (male) and two spurs in inner apex of protibia. Outer edge of apex of protibia clearly angularly thickened. Metatibia with two broad, flattened spurs, metatarsus of male 4-segmented.

Scutellum small, black, triangular, finely punctuate.

Genitalia. Aedeagus as in Fig. 5.

MATERIAL. S Kazakhstan, Kzylorda ar., Kazalinsk distr., ~45 km E Ayteke-Bi, 45°45’44” N 62°40’01” E 29–30.IV.2022. M. Smirnov.

REMARKS. The characters of the specimen from Kazakhstan correspond well to those noted in the description of *T. sedilloti*. The description does not mention the eyes, but in the key to the species in Guillebeau [1892], the first thesis separates the subgenera, and *T. sedilloti* belongs to the same subgenus as *T. granulatus*.

DISTRIBUTION. The works [Guillebeau, 1892; Frey, 1939] indicate findings in Africa. The new discovery greatly increases the range of this species. This species has a Mediterranean-Asian type of biogeographic range. The species is recorded for Kazakhstan for the first time here. N Africa: Tunisia, Libya (Uadi Ramlah); Asia: Kazakhstan (Fig.8: 5).

Tolyphus sedilloti Guillebeau, 1892 is a well-distinguished valid species.

Key to the species of the genus *Tolyphus*

1. Elytra from yellow to reddish-brown.....2
– Dorsum metallic, elytra unicolorous black or black with red spots. 3
2. Body unicolorous reddish-brown, legs dark-yellow. Pronotum with greatest width in basal angles. Head and pronotum very slightly punctured, very strongly shagreened. Length 2.4–2.8 mm. S Europe, N Africa. ..... *rufescens* Pic,1914
– Head and pronotum black-brown, elytra lighter, from yellow to reddish-brown, legs light-brown. Pronotum with greatest width in posterior third of this length. Head and pronotum punctured, slightly shagreened. 3.4–3.5 mm. N Africa, Kazakhstan .....*sedilloti* Guillebeau, 1892
3. Eyes with facets uniform. Dorsum with microreticulation. Last abdominal ventrite of male without depression.....4
– Eyes with upper facets distinctly smaller than lower facets. Dorsum without microreticulation. Body black, antennae and legs from black to light-yellow. Last abdominal ventrite of male with median depression. 2.2–3.5 mm. S Europe, N Africa, Near East, Turke..... y*granulatus* Guérin-Méneville, 1834 (=*dubius* Gridelli, 1930)
4. Elytra black with red spots. Antennae and legs red. Dorsum without microreticulation. 3.4–4.5 mm. Kazakhstan .....*bimaculatus* L.N. Medvedev, 1963
– Elytra unicolorous. Dorsum microreticulate 5
5. Head and pronotum strongly punctured, legs black to dark-brown. 2.6–3.5 mm. S Europe, N Africa, Saudi Arabia ....*punctulatus* Rosenhauer, 1856
– Head and pronotum very slightly punctured. Dorsum strongly microreticulated. Legs from dark- to light-brown. 2.7–3.3 mm. Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan ....*transcaspicus* Reitter, 1913 (=*jankovskii* Skopin, 1951)

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