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Addendum to the species list of longhorn beetles (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae) of Sakar Mountains, Bulgaria

DENIS GRADINAROV[1], YANA PETROVA[2,3]

[1] *Faculty of Biology, Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski", 8 Dragan Tzankov Blvd., 1164 Sofia, Bulgaria; e-mail: dgradinarov@abv.bg*

[2] *Faculty of Forestry, University of Forestry, 10 Kliment Ohridski Blvd., 1756 Sofia, Bulgaria; e-mail: yanagradinarova@abv.bg*

[3] *National Genetic Laboratory, 2 Zdrave Str., Sofia, Bulgaria*

Abstract. Four species from the family Cerambycidae – *Cortodera humeralis humeralis* (Schaller, 1783), *Leioderes kollari kollari* L. Redtenbacher, 1848, *Calchaenesthes oblongomaculata* (Guérin-Méneville, 1844) and *Mesosa nebulosa nebulosa* (Fabricius, 1781), are reported as new for Sakar Mountains. Besides these, *Brachyta balcanica* Hampe, 1871 is recorded from the mountain with exact locality data, 75 years after its only historical record. The total number of longhorn beetle species currently known from the mountain is 74. The species *L. kollari kollari* and *C. oblongomaculata* are rarely recorded in Bulgaria.

Key words: Cerambycidae, distribution, Bulgaria, Sakar Mountains.

Introduction

In 2025, a list of 70 longhorn beetle species (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae) from Sakar Mountains was published, compiled from literature sources and original data (Gradinarov & Petrova 2025). Nevertheless, the species composition of the family in the mountains remains insufficiently studied, and new species records are expected.

In this paper, we report new data on the family Cerambycidae from the Sakar region, based on new material collected in 2025 and 2026.

Material and Methods

The material for the present study was collected by the authors in the spring of 2025 and 2026 in the vicinity of the villages of Ustrem (Haskovo Province, Topolovgrad Municipality) and Branitsa (Haskovo Province, Harmanli Municipality). Adult beetles were hand collected from foliage in oak-dominated forests and rarely in flight.

The photographs of the beetles were taken with a Canon EOS R50 camera equipped with a Laowa 90mm f/2.8 2x Ultra Macro APO lens, mounted on a WeMacro rail (Wemacro, Shanghai, China).

The classification of Cerambycidae follows that in Danilevsky (2020). Species new to Sakar Mountains are given with an asterisk.

All examined specimens are catalogued and deposited in the Zoological Collection of Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski", Faculty of Biology, Sofia, Bulgaria (BFUS).

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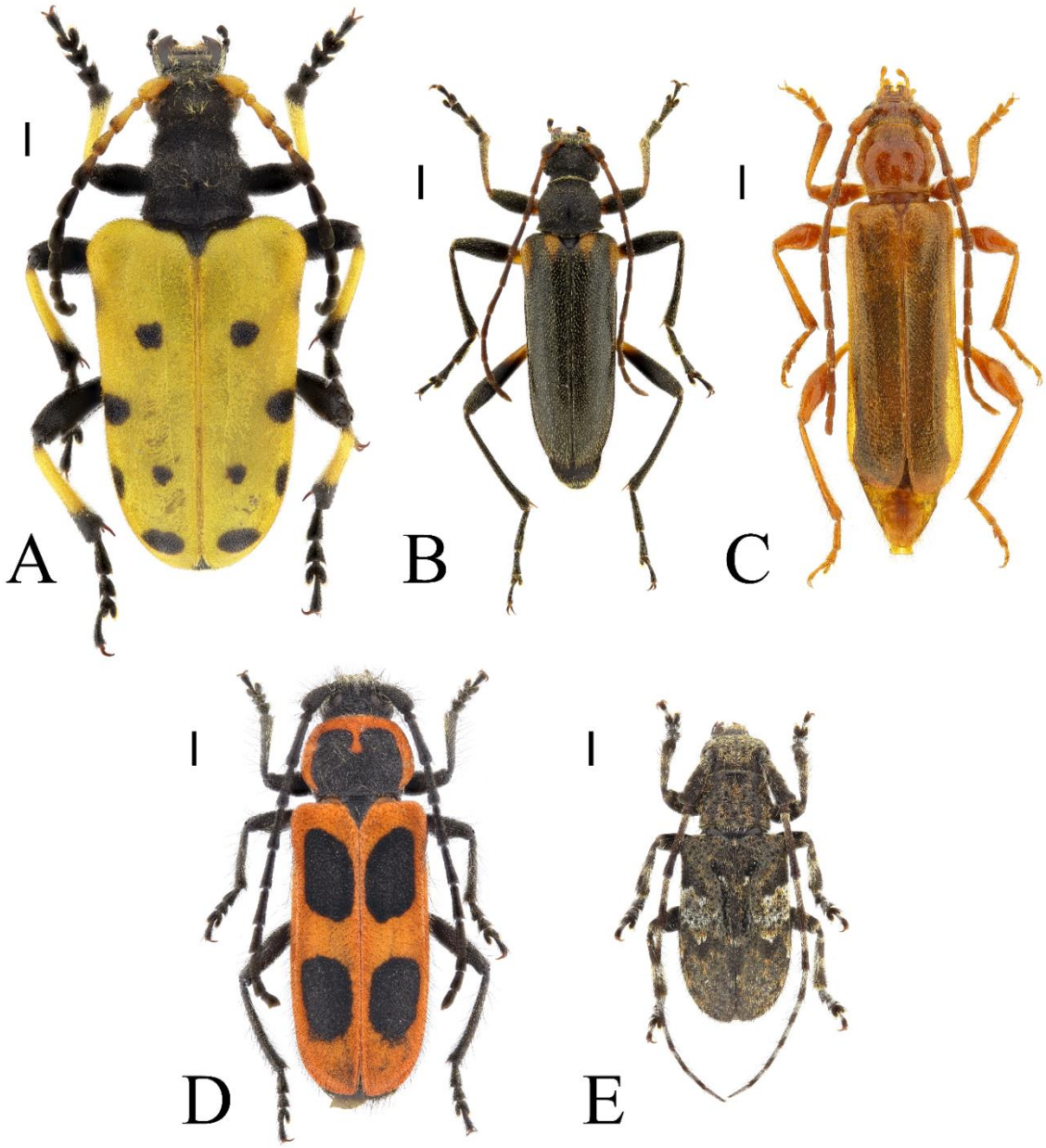


Fig. 1. Species of Cerambycidae from Sakar Mountains, Bulgaria. A – *Brachyta balcanica*, male (BFUS-CER000894); B – *Cortodera humeralis*, male (BFUS-CER000895); C – *Leioderes kollari*, female (BFUS-CER000906); D – *Calchaenesthes oblongomaculata*, female (BFUS-CER000907); E – *Mesosa nebulosa*, male (BFUS-CER000908). Scale bars: 1 mm.

Results and Discussion

Family Cerambycidae Latreille, 1802

Subfamily Lepturinae Latreille, 1802

Tribe Rhagiini Kirby, 1837

***Brachyta* (*Fasciobrachyta*) *balcanica* Hampe, 1871**

New data: Ustrem Vill., 42°01.299'N 26°27.296'E, 101 m a.s.l., on the street, 05.iv.2026, 1 ♂ (BFUS-CER000894), at flight, Y. Petrova & D. Gradinarov leg. (Fig. 1 A).

Notes: This species was previously reported from Sakar Mountains without further locality data based on several specimens collected by Neno Atanassov on May 26, 1951 (Kantardjieva-Minkova 1957: 542). Currently, only one male from this series is preserved in the entomological collection of the National Museum of Natural History in Sofia (NMNHS)

(Rapuzzi *et al.* 2020: 904). Here, we report the first record of the species in nearly 75 years. We collected the single specimen incidentally on a village street, and its association with any natural habitat remains unclear. *Brachyta balcanica* is associated with the host plant *Paeonia peregrina* Mill. (Rapuzzi *et al.* 2020), but, as far as we know, the only natural locality of this plant species in Sakar Mountains is in the vicinity of Kostur Village (Svilengrad Municipality), approximately 16 kilometres from Ustrem.

Subfamily Cerambycinae Latreille, 1802
Tribe Callidiini Kirby, 1837

***Cortodera humeralis humeralis* (Schaller, 1783)**

New data: SE of Ustrem Vill., the road to Radovets Vill., 41°58.375'N 26°28.949'E, 218 m a.s.l., edge of mixed forest, 23.iv.2025, 6 ♂♂ (BFUS-CER000895 – BFUS-CER000900), 1 ♀ (BFUS-CER000901), on flowering *Quercus* sp. and at flight, in the evening, D. Gradinarov & Y. Petrova leg. (Fig. 1 B); W of Branitsa Vill., 42°00.460'N 26°04.601'E, 390 m a.s.l., edge of oak forest, 24.iv.2025, 1 ♀ (BFUS-CER000902), Y. Petrova leg.; W of Branitsa Vill., 42°00.507'N 26°04.619'E, 393 m a.s.l., edge of oak forest, 26.iv.2025, 1 ♀ (BFUS-CER000903), on leaves of *Quercus* sp., in the evening, Y. Petrova leg.; the same locality, 27.iv.2025, 1 ♂ (BFUS-CER000904), D. Gradinarov leg.; W of Branitsa Vill., 42°00.511'N 26°04.607'E, 391 m a.s.l., edge of oak forest, 19.iv.2026, 1 ♀ (BFUS-CER000905), on flowering *Quercus* sp., Y. Petrova leg.

Notes: According to Migliaccio *et al.* (2007), this species is widespread in Bulgaria throughout the elevation range of 0 to 1450 m a.s.l. The species is known to be associated with deciduous trees, including oaks (Bense 1995).

***Leioderes kollari kollari* L. Redtenbacher, 1848**

New data: W of Branitsa Vill., 42°00.507'N 26°04.619'E, 393 m a.s.l., edge of oak forest, 25.v.2026, 1 ♀ (BFUS-CER000906), Y. Petrova leg. (Fig. 1 C).

Notes: In Bulgaria, the species is known from historical records from Gorna Breznitsa Village in Maleshevska Planina Mountains (Heyrovský 1931: 81; Roubal 1931: 454), Petrich town (Heyrovský 1931: 81) and from Balkanski Rozi Hut in Stara Planina Mountains (Angelov, 1995: 169). Recently, this species has also been reported from the Shumensko Plato Nature Park (Gradinarov & Sivilov 2024). The larvae of the species live in the branches and trunks of various deciduous trees, including oaks (Gradinarov & Sivilov 2024).

Tribe Purpuricenini J. Thomson, 1861

***Calchaenesthes oblongomaculata* (Guérin-Méneville, 1844)**

New data: W of Branitsa Vill., 42°00.507'N 26°04.619'E, 393 m a.s.l., edge of oak forest, 26.iv.2025, 1 ♀ (BFUS-CER000907), on leaves of *Quercus* sp., in the evening, Y. Petrova leg. (Fig. 1 D).

Notes: In Bulgaria, this species is known from the historical locality “Sliven: Sotra” [= Sotirya Monastery near Sliven, see Rambousek 1910: 4], based on material collected by František Rambousek (Roubal 1932: 66), and from the vicinity of Kamenitsa Village in Maleshevska Planina Mountains (Gradinarov 2017). The species is associated with host plants of the genus *Quercus* (Gradinarov 2017).

Subfamily Lamiinae Latreille, 1825
Tribe Mesosini Mulsant, 1839

***Mesosa* (*Aplocnemia*) *nebulosa nebulosa* (Fabricius, 1781)**

New data: W of Branitsa Vill., 42°00.460'N 26°04.601'E, 390 m a.s.l., edge of oak forest, 24.iv.2025, 1 ♂ (BFUS-CER000908), Y. Petrova leg. (Fig. 1 E).

Notes: According to Migliaccio *et al.* (2007), *M. nebulosa* is locally distributed in Bulgaria in the elevation range of 0 to 550 m a.s.l. The species is associated with various deciduous trees, including oaks (Bense 1995).

As a result of the present study, four species are added to the list of Cerambycidae of Sakar Mountains. In addition, the presence of *Brachyta balcanica* in the mountain was confirmed. Considering previously published records, the total number of species of the family in Sakar Mountains increases to 74. The species *Leioderes kollari kollari* and *Calchaenesthes oblongomaculata* are rarely recorded in Bulgaria and their reporting from Sakar is of particular interest.

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