

A new genus and species *Lorestania gracilis* gen. n., sp. n. from Iran (Coleoptera: Carabidae: Lebiini)

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A new genus and species, *Lorestania gracilis* gen. n., sp. n. (type locality: Lorestan prov., Iran), is described and illustrated. The new genus is placed in the subtribe Lionychina Jeannel, 1948, according to the structure of the elytral epipleura, of the labium and of the stylomeres.

Key words: Coleoptera, Carabidae, Lebiinae, Lebiini, Lionychina, Iran, taxonomy, new genus, new species.

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INTRODUCTION

The subtribe Lionychina was established by R. Jeannel (1948) as tribe, for the genera characterized by smooth, not toothed claws and a short and transverse labrum. Another important morphological character in this subtribe is the epipleura, well visible from above in the apical part of elytra (Mateu, 1969; Habu, 1967; Basilewsky, 1984).

This subtribe comprises 10 valid genera with about 150 species distributed in all major zoogeographical regions, predominantly in temperate zones (Kabak 2003; Lorenz 2005).

While one of my entomological expeditions in Iran, I collected a series of a highly peculiar species of the subtribe Lionychina in the Lorestan province of western Iran, which, in my opinion,

belongs to a new species and a new genus. Their descriptions are provided in the present paper.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Measurements: body length, from anterior margin of clypeus to apex of elytra along suture; length of pronotum, along midline; width of pronotum, at widest point; length of elytra, from his base to apex along suture; and width of elytra, at widest point.

The type material is deposited in the following institutional and private collections:

cAA – Alexander Anichtchenko private collection (Spain).

MNHN – National Museum of Natural History in Paris (France).

ZIN – Zoological Institute, St. Petersburg (Russia).

High-resolution habitus images of *Lorestania gracilis* sp. n., gen. n. are available at <http://www.carabidae.pro>.

***Lorestania* gen. n.**

Type species. *Lorestania gracilis* Anichtchenko, **new species**, here designated.

Etymology. The generic name is female, referring to the type locality, Lorestan province of western Iran, amidst the Zagros Mountains.

Diagnosis. Within Middle Eastern and Central Asian species of the subtribe Lionychina, the new genus is easily recognized by the following combination of features: body size rather small (overall length about 2.5-2.8 mm); base of pronotum strongly lobate behind indistinct posterior angles, while the related genus *Apristus* Chaudoir, 1846 has the base of pronotum slightly lobate behind distinct posterior angles (Fig. 4); anterior margin of prosternum with 6 long and white setae; ultimate palpomere of labial palpi swollen, not fusiform as in related genera *Apristus* and *Lionychus* Wissmann, 1846. Resembles *Lionychus* in lobate base of pronotum, but can be easily distinguished by elongate body shape, elytra subparallel, setiferous pores on each side of median line of prosternum extremely small, i.e. *Lionychus* and *Eremolestes* Maindron, 1905 has in the middle of prosternum one big sized pore on each side and short and wide body shape.

Description. None required because the genus is monobasic, and its characters are the same as those of its type species.

***Lorestania gracilis* sp. n.**

Type material. Holotype: Male - Iran (Lorestan), 50 km N Ardimeshk, 2000 m, Sar Takht, 3-4.V.07, Anichtchenko A. leg. (ZIN); Paratypes: 4 Males, 3 Females - same label data (CAA, MNHN, ZIN).

Description. Habitus (Fig. 1). Overall body length 2.5-2.8 mm, width 0.8-1.0 mm. Colour of dorsal side of head and pronotum aeneous. Elytra aeneous-brown. Mandibles reddish brown, ex-

cept black scrobe. Antennae and palpi almost black, legs and ventral side aeneous-black, except paler trochanters.

Head wide, almost equal to pronotum across eyes; microsculpture consisting of strong isodiametric meshes. Antennae long, length 1.5 mm; second segment with two irregular rows of setae, one row on tip, another in middle of segment; from third segment antennae pubescent. Second supraocular seta located just anterad the posterior margin of eye; subocular setae absent. Labrum hexasetose, one pair of smaller setae in middle, two pair of longer setae anteriolaterally. Ultimate palpomere of labial palpi swollen. Mentum with median tooth (Fig. 2).

Pronotum 1.04-1.1 times as wide as head, 1.26-1.38 times as wide as long, widest near marginal setae. Anterior angles effaced to faintly marked, posterior angles indistinct; sides bisetose, strongly and almost straightly convergent from lateral seta to base; constriction behind posterior angles inconspicuous; lateral border very narrow; median line very deep, long; basal foveae obsolete; front and basal transverse impression obsolete; base of pronotum strongly lobate (Fig. 3). Microsculpture of pronotal disc consisting of strong isodiametric meshes. Anterior margin of prosternum with six long setae (Fig. 5).

Elytra narrow, 1.4-1.5 times longer than wide; flat; widest at apical fourth; sides almost parallel; shoulders square, apex of elytra straightly truncate, sutural and external angle rounded; elytral striae 1-5 wide and moderately deep on the disc, external striae indistinct; odd intervals of elytra with 3-4 extremely tiny, irregularly situated setae. Marginal channel very narrow. Discal pores indistinct. Scutellar pore present. Umbilical series consisting of 10 setigerous pores, four subhumeral, three fairly wide spaced pores in intermediate group, and three in subapical group. Epipleura visible from above in apical part of elytra, enlarged and explanate on angle of elytra. Microsculpture of elytra strong, isodiametric. Hind wings fully developed.

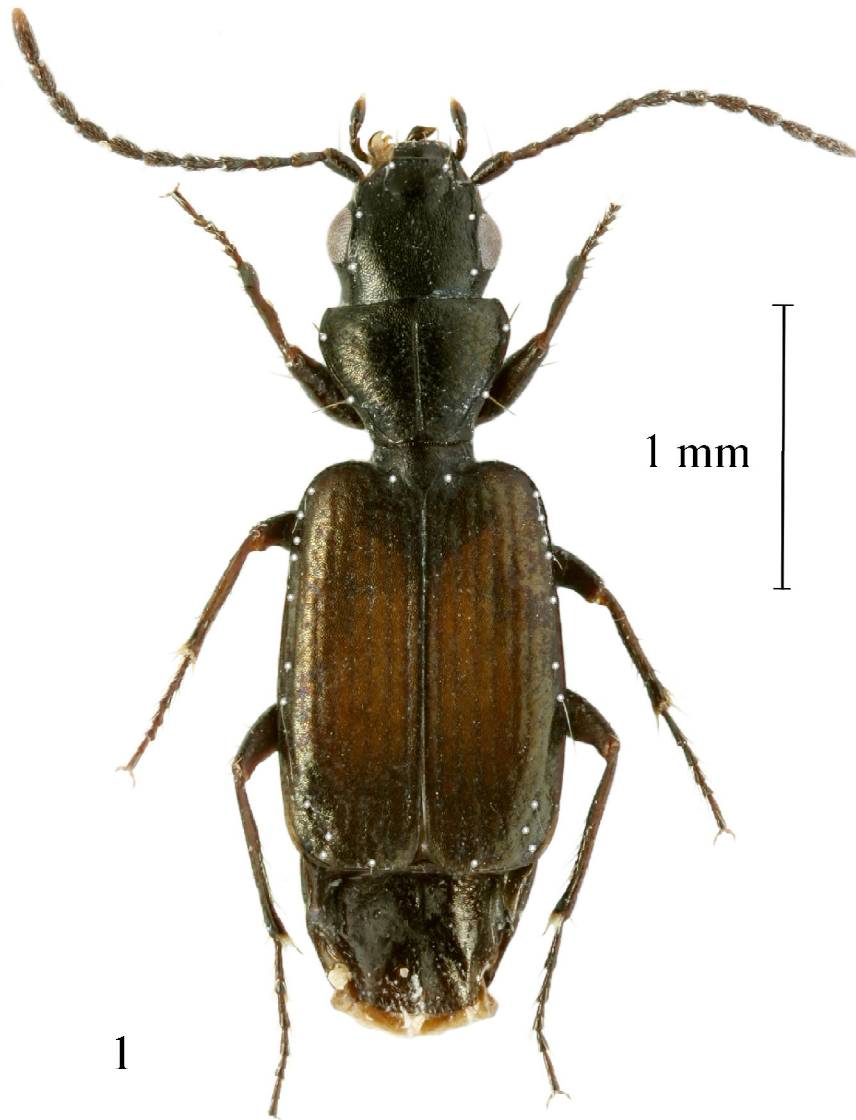


Fig. 1. Habitus of *Lorestania gracilis* gen. n., sp. n., Paratype, female.

Abdominal sternites glabrous, last visible sternite bisetose in males and females. Microsculpture transverse.

Legs rather long, metatarsomere 4 in males narrower than 3rd, slightly cordate. Claws smooth. Aedeagus (Fig. 6), length 0.5 mm. Median lobe of aedeagus moderately broad, median shaft evenly arcuate, apex elongate, slightly downturned at narrowly rounded apex. Internal

sac without apparent spicules or microtrichial patches. Stylomer 1 without lateral apophyse, stylomere 2 big and short, not pointed at apex, without setae (Fig. 7), as in typical members of subtribe *Lionychina*.

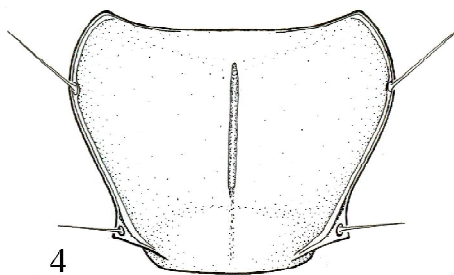
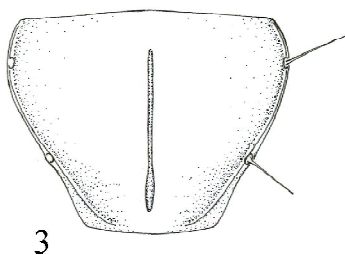
Distribution and habitat. Known only from the type locality. The specimens were collected on sand and gravel bank of a small river (Fig. 8).



Fig. 2. Mouthparts of *Lorestania gracilis* gen. n., sp. n.



Fig. 5. Anterior margin of prosternum of *Lorestania gracilis* gen. n., sp. n.



Figs. 3-4. Pronotum: 3) *Lorestania gracilis* gen. n., sp. n., 4) *Apristus europaeus* Mateu, 1980.

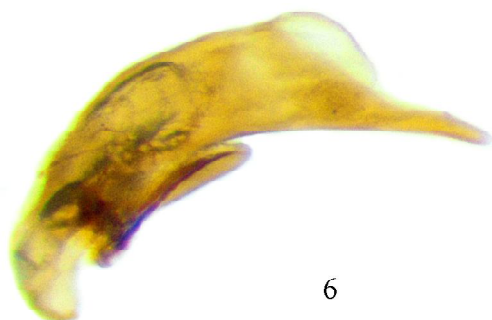


Fig. 6. Aedeagus of *Lorestania gracilis* gen. n., sp. n.

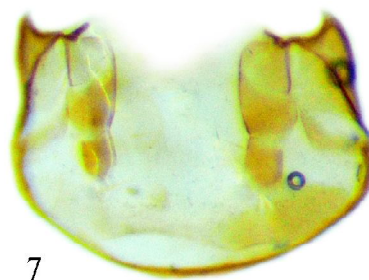


Fig. 7. Stylomere of *Lorestania gracilis* gen. n., sp. n.



Etymology. The species epithet is derived from the Latin *gracilis*, referring to the gracefully slender body of the new species.

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Fig. 8. Habitat of *Lorestania gracilis* gen. n., sp. n.

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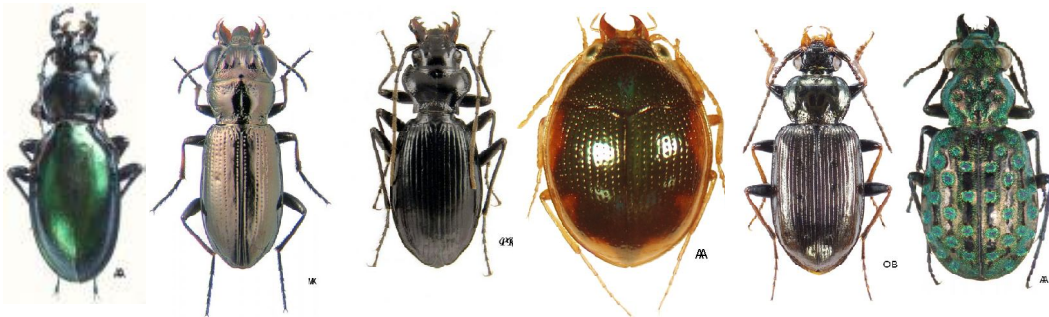
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