

## Revision of *Chitona* species (Coleoptera: Oedemeridae) from the eastern Mediterranean

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**Abstract.** Species of the genus *Chitona* W. Schmidt, 1844, occurring in the eastern part of the Mediterranean are revised, illustrated and keyed. Two species groups are proposed. *Chitona macedonica* sp. nov. is described from Macedonia, southern Bulgaria and northern Greece. *Chitona cretica* Fairmaire, 1863 is removed from synonymy of *C. incana* (Schmidt, 1846). *Chitona fucata tristis* (Faldermann, 1837) stat. nov. is downgraded to a subspecies. The following new synonymies are established: *Chitona* W. Schmidt, 1844 = *Dolichopyga* Seidlitz, 1899 syn. nov., *C. fucata tristis* (Faldermann, 1837) = *C. sieversi* Kiesenwetter, 1878 syn. nov., *C. cretica* Fairmaire, 1863 = *Probosca acuminata* Reitter, 1890 syn. nov. = *Dolichopyga balcanica* Pic, 1913 syn. nov. *Chitona fucata fucata* (Faldermann, 1837) comb. nov. is transferred from *Dolichopyga*.

**Key words.** Coleoptera, Oedemeridae, taxonomy, new species, new synonyms, new combination, new status, key, Palearctic region

### Introduction

The genus *Chitona* W. Schmidt, 1844, consists of 13 known species occurring in the Mediterranean area. Their distribution is, as far as known, discontinuous. Eight species occur in the western Mediterranean (the Iberian Peninsula and Northern Africa from Morocco to Tunisia), while, according to the present paper, other five species are distributed in the eastern Mediterranean (the Balkan Peninsula, Aegean Islands, Turkey, Transcaucasia, northern Iran and western Turkmenistan). The whole genus was last revised by SEIDLITZ (1899).

The species occurring in the eastern Mediterranean have so far been interpreted without examinations of the type material, which caused some confusions and/or misinterpretations. Moreover, the validity of the genus group taxon *Dolichopyga* Seidlitz, 1899, is to be re-evaluated.