

**A taxonomic review of the genus *Eorhipidius*
(Coleoptera: Ripiphoridae: Ripidiinae),
with descriptions of three new species from Asia**

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Abstract. The ripiphorid genus *Eorhipidius* Iablokoff-Khnzorian, 1986 is revised and four species are recognized: *E. januschevi* Iablokoff-Khnzorian, 1986 from Tajikistan, *E. jelineki* sp. nov. from Iran, *E. loebli* sp. nov. from Orissa (India) and *E. ruzickai* sp. nov. from Pakistan. All species are (re)described, their diagnostic characters are illustrated, and an identification key to all species is provided. The systematic positions of the Eorhipidiini and the Ripidiinae are thoroughly discussed.

Key words. Coleoptera, Ripiphoridae, Ripidiinae, Eorhipidiini, *Eorhipidius*, taxonomy, new species, Iran, India, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Palaearctic Region, Oriental Region

Introduction

The ripiphorid subfamily Ripidiinae currently comprises the tribes Ripidiini Gerstaecker, 1855 and Eorhipidiini Iablokoff-Khnzorian, 1986 (cf. BATELKA 2008). Species of the Eorhipidiini are unique within the Ripiphoridae by having filiform antennae in males. In addition, they differ from the Ripidiini by having fully developed mandibles and maxillae with tetramerous palpi, while the mouthparts are modified to form an impaired or bifurcate stylus in the Ripidiini (see KAUPP et al. (2001) for summary). The Eorhipidiini contain two described Palaearctic genera: *Eorhipidius* Iablokoff-Khnzorian, 1986 and *Pterydrias* Reitter, 1895, each with a single known species.

Because of its unusual morphology and some ‘non-ripiphorid’ external features (e.g. simple antennae) given in the original description (IABLOKOFF-KHNZORIAN 1986) and lack of other specimens at that time, ŠVÁCHA (1994) regarded *Eorhipidius januschevi* Iablokoff-