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CONTRIBUTION TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE DORCADION DALM. OF THE BALKANS.

With 19 illustrations.

In June 1927 I ascended for the first time the Thessalian Olympus, where I found a great number of coleopters. In May 1929 I returned to ascend this Olympus the second time, bringing back again a great lot of novelties. Then I went there a third time in June 1931 — it was the last time — and the result was again very satisfactory in new pieces. On each of this travels I collected the *Dorcadion Meschniggi* BREIT at hundredth in a height of 2000 m above the sea — level. This Dorcadion is of a very variable design so that nearly every other coleopter of this species shows a different design. It is quite difficult to find pieces showing the same design. To try to fix a very variation in design with a different name would lead to no end. I will try only to name the most remarkable variations and describe them. The ♂♂ show the difference in the designs quite clearly, but the bigger and completely brown ♀♀ are on the contrary so vague in their design, that it is very hard and often even impossible to recognize the black lines and spots.

After the describer the *Dorcadion Meschniggi* BREIT is a small and delicate coleopter. There is on white ground of the wing — sheaths a lateral stripe, a small suture — stripe and at the base beside the scutellum there is a prolonged black spot ending in a point. These two spots are the beginning of the two first back — stripes.

(Illustration 1)

The suture — stripe has completely disappeared in the case of the *a. immaculare* n. and the surface is whiter than that of the original family.

(Illustration 2)

In the case of *a. bimaculatum* n. the black colouring of the former variety is augmented by a thin suture — stripe going up to the middle of the wing — sheaths. The spot on the scutellum is here wider and joins the suture — stripe at the base. A very thin stripe between the suture stripe and the suture remains white.

(Illustration 3)

The black colouring of the *a. variabile* n. widens in such a way that the whole base of the wing — sheaths becomes black and that

there appears in the middle of the wing — sheaths a short narrow piece of the first back — stripe.

(Illustration 4)

The first back-stripe becomes longer in the case of a. *6 lineatum* n. and reaches nearly the end of the wing-sheaths, but this stripe and the short suture-stripe become very narrow, so that the white colour comes out again.

(Illustration 5)

To the before described design comes in the case of a. *intermedium* n. a very short piece of the second back-stripe behind the middle of the wing-sheaths.

(Illustration 6)

In the case of a. *interruptum* n. the back-stripe of the former design divides in three parts, and aside the short middle piece in the first back-stripe there appears also a short and narrow piece of the second back-stripe.

(Illustration 7)

In the case of a. *speciosum* n. the spot near the scutellum becomes something prolonged and wider. The two short pieces of the suture-stripes join at the suture. The first back-stripe of the former design disappears completely but instead of it there appears at the same height of the third piece a short and thin piece of the second back-stripe.

(Illustration 8)

In the design of a. *perfectum Breit* one has aside the side-stripe a very thin suture-stripe and behind the prolonged spot at the base in the course of the first back-stripe there is a thin and short middle-piece. Another thin and short final piece is found before the end of the wing-sheath.

(Illustration 9)

In the case of a. *elegantum* n. much of the black colouring disappears. There remains only the prolonged spot on the scutellum, a very short and thin piece of the suture-stripe and behind the middle of the wing-sheaths appears a thin and short piece of the second back-stripe.

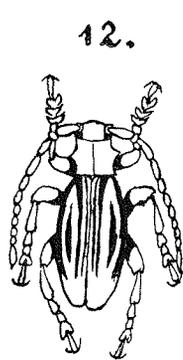
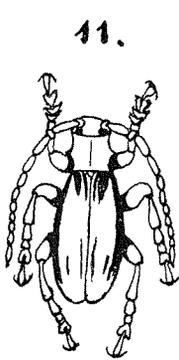
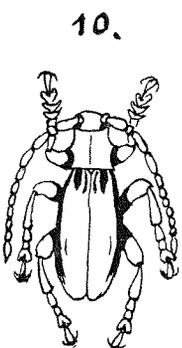
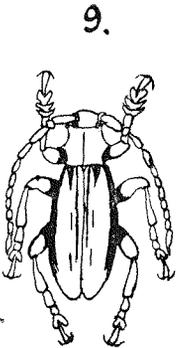
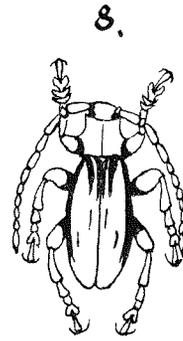
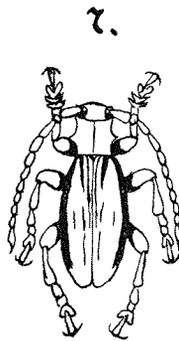
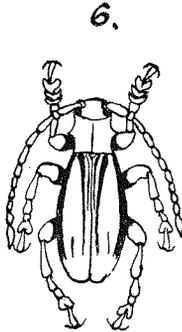
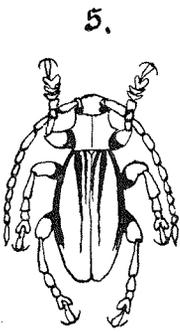
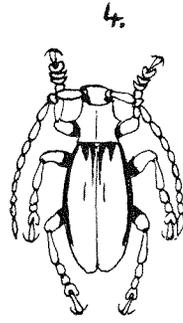
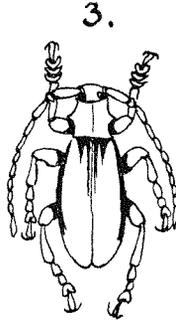
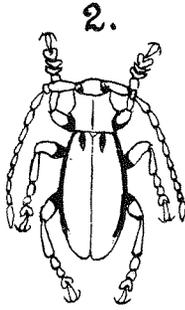
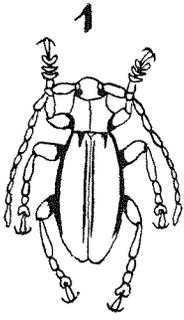
(Illustration 10)

There appears the spot and a thin piece of the suture-stripe in the case of a. *amoenum* n. Before the end of the wing-sheaths there is a longer thin piece of the first back-stripe and aside at the outer end a short and thin piece of the second back-stripe.

(Illustration 11)

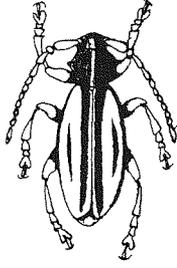
The breadth of the side-stripe is invariable in the designs of all the varieties of *Dorcadion Meschniggi* BREIT.

Amongst the great number of *Dorcadion Meschniggi* I collected I found only one which I cannot consider to be a variety of the *Dorcadion Meschniggi*. There are missing all the transitions to the said form, so that I cannot help to take this as an own and independent variety. I call it:

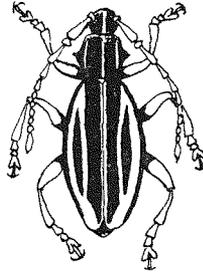


1. *Dorcadion Meschniggi* BREIT. 7. *Dorcadion Meschniggi interruptum* n.
2. *Dorcadion Meschniggi immaculare* n. 8. *Dorcadion Meschniggi speciosum* n.
3. *Dorcadion Meschniggi bimaculatum* n. 9. *Dorcadion Meschniggi perfectum* BREIT
4. *Dorcadion Meschniggi variabile* n. 10. *Dorcadion Meschniggi elegantum* n.
5. *Dorcadion Meschniggi 6. lineatum* n. 11. *Dorcadion Meschniggi amoenum* n.
6. *Dorcadion Meschniggi intermedium* n. 12. *Dorcadion olympianum* n. sp.

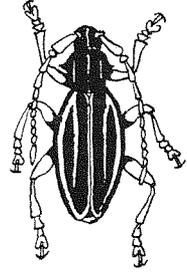
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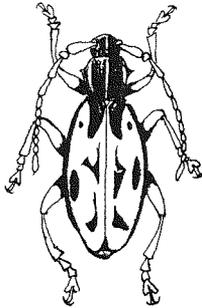
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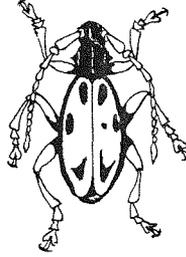
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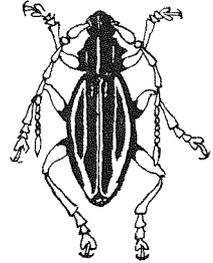
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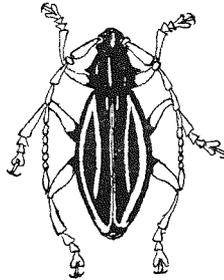
17.



18.



19.



13. *Dorcadion frigidum* n. sp.

14. *Dorcadion ossaum* n. sp.

15. *Dorcadion ossaum confluens* n.

16. *Dorcadion ljubetense* BREIT.

17. *Dorcadion ljubetense scharlagense* n.

18. *Dorcadion Weiratheri* Pic.

19. *Dorcadion Weiratheri dividum* n.

Dorcadion olympianum n. sp.

The side-stripe, suture-stripe and the first back-stripe are complete the second back-stripe is broad, shortened and pointed in front and at the back. No stripe reaches the outer end of the wing-sheaths.

Length: 12 mm.

All the varieties of *Dorcadion* described till this point show a

length of ♂♂ 11 to 13 mm

length of ♀♀ 12 to 14 mm.

I found the *Dorcadion Meschniggi* and the *Dorcadion olympianum* on the bottom of alpine pastures. (Illustration 12)

At the Easternside of the rocky Olympus on a slope in 2300 m above the sea-level I found 3 *Dorcadion* which are standing very near to the *Dorcadion olympianum*.

I call it:

Dorcadion frigidum n. sp.

The suture-stripe is very broad, also the back-stripe, shortened in front and behind and pointed; the side-stripes are very narrow, the suture and the space between the stripes show narrow white colour. The black stripes do not reach the pointed end of the wing-sheaths and are separated.

Length: 12 mm (Illustration 13)

In the Ossa-Mountains I found ad 1000 m above the sealevel 3 *Dorcadions*, which are very near to the above described *Dorcadion frigidum*, being only broader and longer. The basic colouring is white, but not so white as that of the *Dorcadion Meschniggi*, *olympianum* and *frigidum*. It is more brownish. I call this variety:

Dorcadion ossaum n. sp.

The side-stripes, suture-stripes and back-stripes are very wide and do not reach the pointed end of the wing-sheath nor do they join at this point. (Illustration 14)

The suture-stripes of a sample is with the back-stripes before joining the pointed end of the wing — sheaths: *a. confluens* n. (Illustration 15)

Length: 13 to 14 mm.

In the Peristeri Mountains I found a certain number of *Dorcadion ljubetense Breit* with 8 to 10 irregular spots between the two side-stripes.

Length: 11 to 14 mm. (Illustration 16)

In the Schar dagh I found three samples, probably a variety of the *Dorcadion ljubetense Breit*. Between the two side-stripes there are on the wing-sheaths only 6 to 8 very small spots. I call this variety: *a. schardagensis* n. (Illustration 17)

On the Chelmos of Morea Weirather collected a *Dorcadion* which was called *Dorcadion Weiratheri* and described by Pic. This variety shows at the side of the scutellum in the suture-stripe a very thin and short

dash, and all the stripes separate before reaching the pointed end of the wing-sheaths.

Length: 12 to 13 mm. (Illustration 18)

I collected a certain number of this *Dorcadion* on the Northern slope of the Chelmos summit. Amongst them had more than the half a design in which the suture-stripes are connected with the back-stripes before reaching the pointed end of the wing-sheaths. This connection is found either on one wing-sheath or on both. I call this variety: *a. dividum* n.

Length: 11 to 13 mm. (Illustration 19)

All the types described are to be found in my collection.