

TWO NEW SPECIES OF THE GENUS *LATHROBIUM* GRAVENHORST, 1802 FROM SERBIA (COLEOPTERA, STAPHYLINIDAE)

D. PAVIĆEVIĆ¹, M. POPOVIĆ² AND M. STEVANOVIĆ³

¹ Institute of Nature Protection of Serbia, Treći bulevar 106, YU-11070 Novi Beograd

² Geteova 28, YU-11080 Zemun, e-mail: blaza@net.yu

³ Pobede 21/4, YU-18000 Niš, e-mail: mikicsn@bankerinter.net

Two new species of the genus *Lathrobium* (Coleoptera, Staphylinidae) from Serbia are described and figured: *L. irenae* and *L. hlavaci*, respectively. Both species are easily distinguished from all known Balkan species of the genus *Lathrobium* by the peculiar shape of the aedeagus and the thorns of the internal sacus.

KEY WORDS: Coleoptera, Staphylinidae, Paederinae, *Lathrobium*, new species, Serbia.

During the period April-May 2002, the Institute of Nature Protection of Serbia organized seven-day long international entomological excursion in eastern Serbia. Participants were three entomologists from Slovakia (Peter HLAVÁČ, Tomáš LACKNER and Tomáš JASZAY), as well as three entomologists (Dragan PAVIĆEVIĆ, Momčilo POPOVIĆ and Miroslav STEVANOVIĆ) and one biospeleologist (Siniša OGNJENOVIC) from Serbia. The purpose of the excursion was to collect representatives of endogean and troglobiontic fauna. Numerous sites were surveyed in the Jerma Gorge, in Odorovačko Polje, and on Vidlič Mt. and Stara Planina Mt.

A colleague from Slovakia, Peter HLAVÁČ, collected one subanophthalmous male specimen of the genus *Lathrobium* in Zvonačka Banja, by soil-sifting; our subsequent examination revealed that it belongs to a new, undescribed species. One of us (M.S.) collected a female specimen of the same genus, above Vlasi (village in the Jerma Gorge), and we established that it is conspecific with the male from Zvonačka Banja.

Another new species was collected by one of us (M.S.) during an earlier excursion to the Šar-planina Mt., in July 1997. Eight subanophthalmous species

of *Lathrobium* were known from Serbia so far (NONVEILLER *et al.*, 2001). The discovery of the two new species shows that the territory of Serbia is still insufficiently studied, so that the number of representatives of the genus *Lathrobium* would significantly increase through the systematical field investigations.

***Lathrobium irenae* Pavičević, Popović et Stevanović, n. sp.**
(Figs. 1, 2, 3)

Length 6.0-6.2 mm. Colour reddish-yellow, similar to other subanophthalmous representatives of the genus *Lathrobium*. Head almost as wide as long. Genae weakly rounded, almost subparallel, widest in their posterior quarter. Eyes large and oval, visible from the above, with notable depigmented ommatidia (hence non-functional). Second antennal article shorter than the first one, the third one longer than the second. Head covered with irregularly spaced, moderately deep puncturation, interspaces reticulate. Pronotum narrower than the head, somewhat longer than wide, widest in its first quarter and then subtly narrowing posteriorly, covered with denser and slightly deeper puncturation than that on the head, interspaces smooth and shining, without reticulation. Elytrae longer than wide, subtly narrowed towards their base, somewhat shorter than pronotum, covered with irregularly spaced shallow puncturation (Fig. 1).

Penultimate sternite of the male medially incised (Fig. 3a), that of the female rounded apically (Fig. 3c).

Aedeagus (Fig. 2), from both dorsal and ventral views asymmetrically oval. Ventral lamina elongate, feebly bent in the last third, its tip curved downwards like a fish-hook. Operculum markedly shorter than the ventral lamina, strongly narrowed towards the apex. Internal sacus with four short thorns that reach the distal pore. Basal part of the sacus with four sclerotized thorns, of which two long ones being unifid and two short ones bifid.

HOLOTYPUS: male, Serbia, Kosovo and Metohija, Šar-planina Mt., Gužbaba, 2450 m, 02.VII 1997, leg. M. Stevanović. PARATYPUS: female, same data as the holotypus. Specimens were collected under a stone covered with snow, in a very cold valley just below the Gužbaba Peak. Both specimens are deposited in the collection of the Institute of Nature Protection of Serbia, Belgrade.

DERIVATIO NOMINIS: In honour of the daughter of the junior author (M.S.), Irena Stevanović, who helped us in our field-work throughout Serbia.

DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS: This new species is very different from the other Balkan species of the genus *Lathrobium*, on the basis of the distinctive struc-

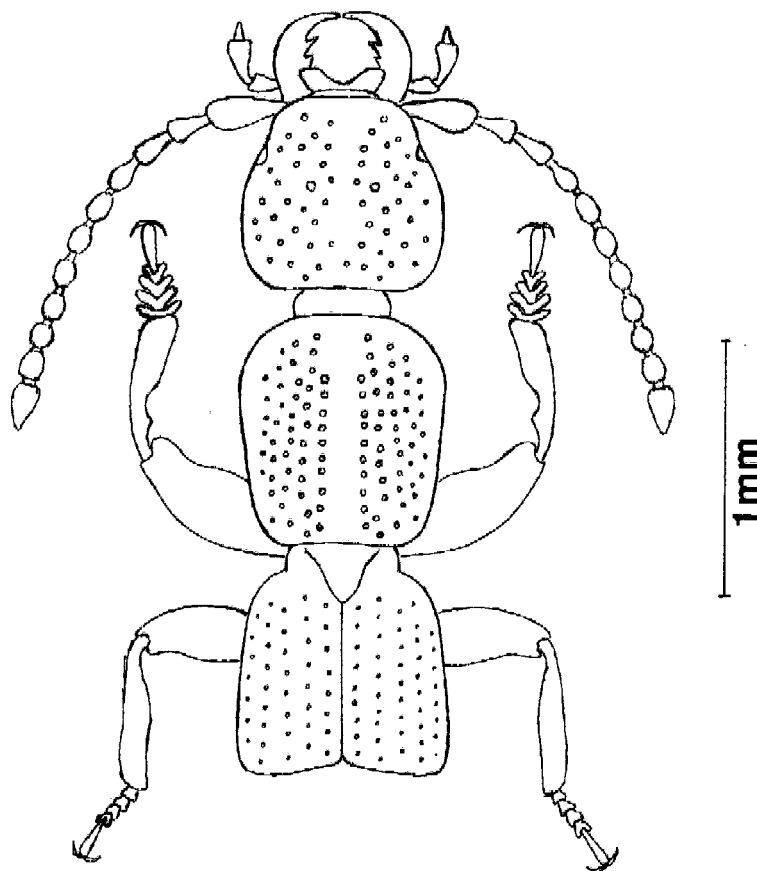


Fig. 1. *Lathrobium irenae* sp. n. – head, pronotum and elytrae.

ture of its aedeagus, in particular the number, shape and disposition of thorn-like structures of the internal sacus. Only *Lathrobium knirschi* Rambousek, 1928, also described from Šar-planina, has four thorns that reach the distal pore, but these are much longer, and also, the internal sacus lacks the basal thorns, instead of which there are only hardly visible chitinous spiculae. Ventral lamina and operculum have a completely different shape. On the other hand, *Lathrobium knirschi* has strongly reduced eyes, which are not visible from the above, thus it belongs to a completely different group of the Balkan species of this genus (PACE, 1984).

It is interesting to emphasize that this is the fourth subanophthalmous species of *Lathrobium* endemic to Šar-planina Mt.

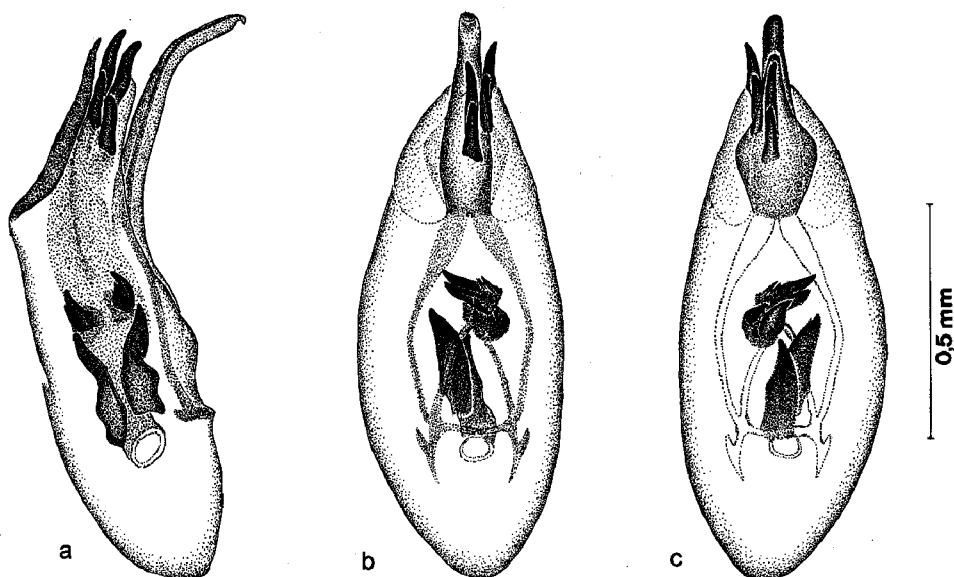


Fig. 2. *Lathrobium irenae* sp. n. – aedeagus laterally (a), dorsally (b) and ventrally (c).

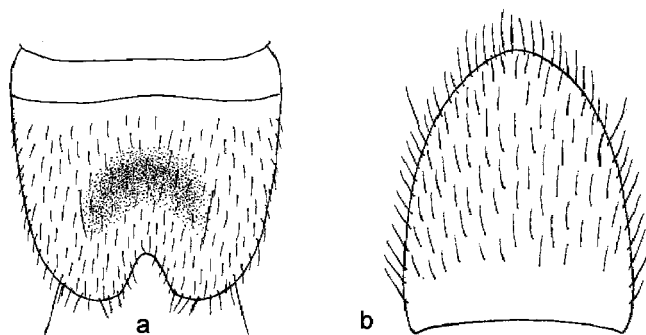


Fig. 3. *Lathrobium irenae* sp. n. – penultimate sternite of the male (a) and the female (b).

***Lathrobium hlavaci* Pavićević, Popović et Stevanović, n. sp.**
(Figs. 4, 5, 6)

Length 5.5-6.2 mm. Colour as in the preceding species. Head hardly longer than wide, widest in its posterior third. Genae weakly rounded, narrowing anteri-

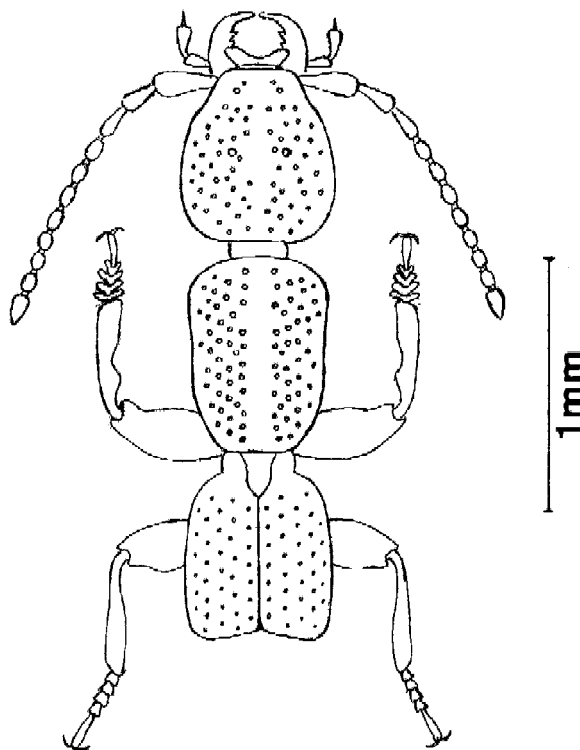


Fig. 4. *Lathrobium hlavaci* sp. n. – head, pronotum and elytrae.

only. Eyes reduced to depigmented macula, not visible from the above, without any ommatidia. Second antennal article narrower and shorter than the first one, the third one hardly shorter than the second. Head covered with irregularly spaced deep puncturation, interspaces reticulate. Pronotum narrower than the head, its length one third longer than its width, widest in the first quarter of its length, subtly narrowed posteriorly, weakly concave in the middle, covered with denser and stronger puncturation than that on the head. Interspaces smooth and shining, without reticulation. Elytrae longer than wide, subparallel, shorter than the pronotum, covered with irregularly spaced shallow puncturation (Fig. 4).

Penultimate sternite of the male deeply incised (Fig. 6), that of the female rounded apically, similar to the preceding species.

Aedeagus (Fig. 5), elongate. Ventral lamina markedly bent in its posterior third, strongly narrowed apically and directed upwards, with one wide subapical

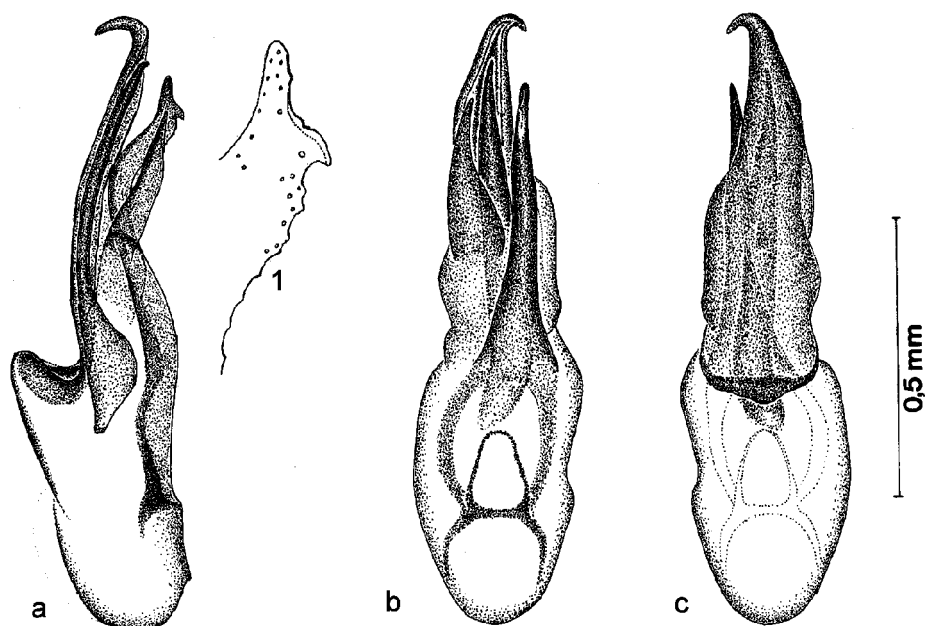


Fig. 5. *Lathrobium hlavaci* sp. n. – aedeagus, laterally (a), dorsally (b) and ventrally (c).

thorn. Apical part of the ventral lamina crenulate (Fig. 5a-1). Operculum longer than ventral lamina, narrowed and hook-like curved at the apex. Internal sacus with two sclerotized thorns of unequal length and width, both thorns reach the distal pore.

HOLOTYPUS: male, Serbia, Zvonačka Banja, Prskalo, 520 m, 28.IV 2002, leg. P. Hlavač. **PARATYPUS:** female, Serbia, Zvonačka Banja, village of Vlasi, 620 m, 29.IV 2002, leg. M. Stevanović. The male was collected at the locality Prskalo, about twenty meters above the right bank of the Jerma River; the female

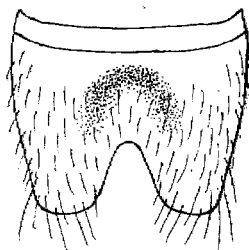


Fig. 6. *Lathrobium hlavaci* sp. n. – penultimate sternite of the male.

was found above the village of Vlasi, under a deeply positioned stone. Both specimens are deposited in the collection of the Institute of Nature Protection of Serbia, Belgrade.

DERIVATIO NOMINIS: In honour of our colleague from Slovakia, Peter HLAVÁČ, who firstly collected this species.

DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS: The species is distinguished from all other known species of the genus *Lathrobium* primarily on the basis of a characteristic shape of the ventral lamina.

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**ДВЕ НОВЕ ВРСТЕ РОДА *LATHROBIUM* GRAVENHORST, 1802
ИЗ СРБИЈЕ (COLEOPTERA, STAPHYLINIDAE)**

Д. Павићевић, М. Поповић и М. Стевановић

И з в о д

Из Србије је до сада било познато осам врста анофталмних краткокрилаца из рода *Lathrobium*, од којих су три врсте ендемичне за Шар-планину.

У овом раду су дати описи две нове врсте: *Lathrobium irenae*, која је нађена јула месеца 1997. године, на Шар-планини (и представља четвртог ендемита ове планине), и *Lathrobium hlavaci*, која је нађена априла месеца 2002. године, на два локалитета у клисури Јерме (источна Србија).

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