

**NEW RECORDS OF THE RECENTLY DESCRIBED GEOPHILIC
WEEVIL *EUROSPHALMUS* (*EUROSPHALMUS*) *ZERCHEI* YUNAKOV &
NADEIN, 2006 (COLEOPTERA: CURCULIONIDAE) IN SERBIA**

S. PEŠIĆ¹ AND N. ILIĆ²

¹Faculty of Science; P.O. Box 60; 34000 Kragujevac; Serbia snpesic@kg.ac.yu

²Vidikovački Venac 83/102, 11000 Belgrade; Serbia ilbor@ptt.yu

ABSTRACT: New records of the geophilic weevil *Eurospalmus* (*Eurospalmus*) *zerchei* Yunakov & Nadein 2006 are given. Very precise data about the place of finding contribute to knowledge of its ecology.

KEY WORDS: weevils, *Eurospalmus*, Serbia, Balkan Peninsula, endemic

The genus *Eurospalmus* belongs to the family Curculionidae, subfamily Entiminae (short-nosed weevils). It is divided into two lineages (subgenera): the *Eurospalmus* s.str. inhabit humid forests of the south Carpathians and Stara Planina Range; and the *Rhinomiamima* inhabit more arid biotopes on the west coast of the Black Sea. (YUNAKOV and NADEIN, 2006).

Among the six species of the genus *Eurospalmus*, only *E. (E.) zerchei* Yunakov & Nadein (Fig. 1) has been recorded for Serbia.

In the spring (28th April to 15th June) of 2000, Nastas Ilić found three specimens of *E. (E.) zerchei* on Mt. Bukulja. Material was collected using pitfall traps (plastic cups) with the red wine or vinegar. Many soil dwellers were attracted. Among them were one female (collected during the period 28th April – 23rd May) and two males (23rd May – 15th June) of *E. (E.) zerchei*.

YUNAKOV and NADEIN (2006) gave some ecological data about all members of the genus *Eurospalmus*. They conclude that it inhabits foothills and lowlands with altitudes not higher than 1045 m.

We can give much more precise data about the ecology of *E. (E.) zerchei*. The habitat was a very mixed forest (beech, oak, sweet cherry, pine...), located on the southern and northern expo-

sures of Mt. Bukulja, at 550 m of altitude, approximately 200 m from the Garaši Reservoir.

We initially identified these specimens as suspicious *Amicromias rhilensis* Yunakov, 2005. But after a visit in summer of 2006 to the Entomological Department of the Zoological Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences (ZIN RAS), proper identification was made by the Nikolai Yunakov [one of the authors of the description of the species *E. (Eurospalmus) zerchei* Yun. & Nad., which was published in June 2006].

Eurospalmus (Eurospalmus) zerchei (Yunakov & Nadein, 2006) is named in honor of Dr. L. Zerche, who collected most of the material of this species, mostly in the Stara Planina Mountains in Bulgaria.

Before our records, only two specimens collected in Serbia were identified as *E. zerchei* (YUNAKOV and NADEIN, 2006):

- One is a female collected by Kraatz, without any label data about the place and time of collecting. This specimen was identified by Formánek as *Pseudoptochus rumelicus*. In view of the time when Formánek actively worked as the describer of many weevil species, viz., at the beginning of the 20th century, we can suppose that the specimen is about a hundred years old.

- The other specimen is a male from the private Borovec collection. The data on its label are as follows: Serb., Bukulja, leg. Tadić, 23.VI'54.

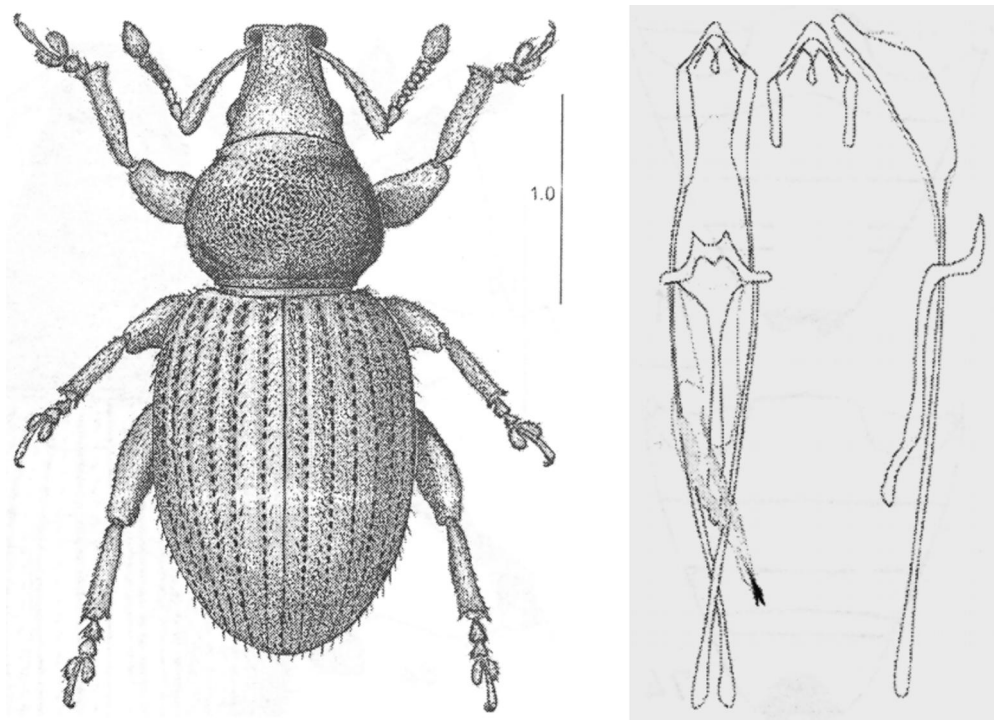


Fig. 1. - *E. (Eurospalmus) zerchei* male, general view and aedeagus (dorsal aspect, apex, and lateral aspect) (after YUNAKOV and NADEIN, 2006).

Our findings confirm Mt. Bukulja as the westernmost point of geographical distribution of the Balkan endemic species *E. zerchei* Yun. & Nad.

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REFERENCE: YUNAKOV, N.N., NADEIN, K.S. (2006): New taxa of geophilic *Entiminae* (Coleoptera: Curculionidae) from the Balkan Peninsula, Caucasus and Central Asia. Entomologische Abhandlungen, 63 (1-2): 77-98.

**НОВИ НАЛАЗИ НЕДАВНО ОПИСАНОГ ЗЕМЉИШНОГ СУРЛАША
EUROSPHALMUS (EUROSPHALMUS) ZERCHEI YUNAKOV &
NADEIN, 2006 (COLEOPTERA: CURCULIONIDAE) У СРБИЈИ**

С. Пешић и Н. Илић

ИЗВОД

У пролеће (28. април – 15. јуни) 2000. године на Букуљи су на око 550м н.в., приближно 200м од акумулационог језера Гараши, у мешовитој шуми (буква, храст, дивља трешња, бор...) сакупљена 2 мужјака и једна женка врсте *Eurospalmus (E.) zerchei* Yunakov & Nadein 2006. Коришћена је техника лова укопаном клопком са атрактантом (црно вино или сирће). *E. (E.) zerchei* припада подфамилији *Entiminae* (сурлаши са краћом «сурлом»). О њеној екологији до сада није било никаквих података. Ово је прва регистрација ове врсте на истој планини након 52 године. Налазом је Букуља потврђена као крајње западна тачка у ареалу ове врсте ендемичне за Балканско полуострво (до сада се зна за њено присуство махом у Бугарској и пре нашег налаза само две јединке из Србије).

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