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***Eulasia (Rudeulasia) daccordii*, a new species from southern Levant, with notes on *E. pietschmanni* Breit and *E. baumannii* Mitter (Coleoptera: Scarabaeoidea: Glaphyridae)**

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Abstract

Eulasia daccordii **new species** is described from Jordan, West Bank, and Israel, where it is known from the Jordan Valley and the Negev. It was previously confused with *E. pietschmanni* Breit, to which it is very similar and from which it can be recognized mainly for the structure and distribution of the pronotal setae and the shape of the protibia of males. Remarks on distribution and colour range of *E. pietschmanni* Breit are provided, and its year of description is corrected from 1919 to 1920. In addition, taxonomic and diagnostic remarks on the poorly known sympatric species *E. baumannii* Mitter are presented: it is clarified that this poorly known taxon is related to *E. papaveris* (Sturm), whose Levantine populations require a taxonomic reassessment.

Key words: Glaphyridae, *Eulasia*, taxonomy, Syria, Jordan, Israel, West Bank

Introduction

An intensive field sampling with special focus on Glaphyridae, carried on in the Levant mostly by GS and various colleagues in the years 2006–2010, resulted in the accumulation of a considerable number of specimens. The taxonomic study of this material led to the identification of various new taxa (Sabatinelli 2008; Sabatinelli & Uliana 2009; Uliana & Sabatinelli 2010; Sabatinelli et al. 2012).

The purpose of this paper is to describe a new species of *Eulasia*, which was already present in collections but previously misidentified as *E. pietschmanni* Breit; and to comment on *Eulasia (Rudeulasia) baumannii* Mitter, an obscure species that appears to be syntopic with the new species.

Material and methods

Specimens examined. We examined 85 specimens of *Eulasia pietschmanni*, including the type series, and 252 specimens of *Eulasia daccordii* **new species**, either recently collected or examined from collections of colleagues and institutions. The holotype of *Eulasia baumannii* Mitter was unavailable for study. The following list indicates the collections where the material is preserved (with codes used in the text).

DK: Denis Keith (Chartres, France); GM: Geoffrey Miessen (Liège, Belgium); GS: Guido Sabatinelli (Prévessin, France); JM: Jan Matějček (Hradec Kralove, Czech Republic); MHNG: Musée d'Histoire Naturelle de Genève (Switzerland); MT: Michele Tedeschi (Milano, Italy); NHMW: Naturhistorisches Museum Wien (Austria); MU: Marco Uliana (Codevigo, Italy); OR: Oz Rittner (Rishon Lezion, Israel); PL: Pietro Lo Cascio (Lipari, Italy); TAU: National collection of Insects, Department of Zoology, Tel Aviv University (Israel).

Specimens treatment. In order to better appreciate setal characters, dirty and greasy specimens were cleaned by soaking them in a solution of 50% water and 50% acetone for a few days to some weeks, changing the solution when it became too greasy. Setae were then gently combed with a soft brush before complete drying. Treatment of aedeagi (including eversion of the endophallus) and of the female genital sclerites follows Uliana & Sabatinelli (2010).