

Six new species of the subgenus *Pseudoleirides* (Coleoptera: Carabidae: *Amara*) from Iran

Šest nových druhů podrodu *Pseudoleirides* (Coleoptera: Carabidae: *Amara*) z Íránu

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Abstract. The following six new species of the subgenus *Pseudoleirides* Kryzhanovskij, 1968 of the genus *Amara* Bonelli, 1810 from Iran are described, illustrated and compared with closely related species: *A. (P.) escalerae* sp. n., *A. (P.) hamadanensis* sp. n., *A. (P.) kermanensis* sp. n., *A. (P.) khorramabadensis* sp. n., *A. (P.) shirazica* sp. n., and *A. (P.) yasujensis* sp. n. The new species live in the mountains at 2000-4000 m a.s.l. (alpine occurrence is only supposed in *A. shirazica* sp. n.). The type series of the new species are small, only 1-5 specimens each. The specific name of *A. (P.) loeffleri* Jedlička, 1963 is restored from the subspecific to full species rank (status restitutus). All known Iranian species of the subgenus *Pseudoleirides* are reviewed and keyed.

INTRODUCTION

Fifteen taxa (species or subspecies) of the subgenus *Pseudoleirides* Kryzhanovskij, 1968 of the genus *Amara* Bonelli, 1810 are known from southwestern, southern and central Asia (Hieke 2007): *A. bucharica bucharica* Tschitschérine, 1898 (type locality in Turkmenistan), *A. bucharica kopetdaghi* Kryzhanovskij, 1968 (Turkmenistan), *A. bucharica mazandarana* Hieke, 1976 (Iran), *A. cadoudali* Morvan, 1977 (Iran), *A. chodjajii* Morvan, 1975 (Iran), *A. hermoniensis* Hieke, 1997 (Israel), *A. iranica* Kryzhanovskij, 1968 (Iran), *A. jordanica* Hieke, 2002 (Jordan), *A. lopatini* Kryzhanovskij, 1968 (Tajikistan), *A. mukusensis* Hieke, 1997 (Turkey), *A. pakistana* Jedlička, 1963 (Pakistan), *A. szekessyi loeffleri* Jedlička, 1963 (Iran), *A. szekessyi szekessyi* Jedlička, 1953 (Iran), *A. turcica* Hieke, 1976 (Turkey), and *A. zagrosensis* (Morvan, 1973) (Iran).

That is, seven taxa of the subgenus have been described from Iran so far. With the exception of the widely distributed *A. szekessyi*, all of them most likely inhabit small areas, probably only one mountain range each. Additional six new species of the subgenus *Pseudoleirides* are described below from Iran, along with comments on the previously described seven species. Moreover, the occurrence of *A. bucharica kopetdaghi* known from the Kopet Dag Mountains in southern Turkmenistan and *A. mukusensis* known from southeastern Turkey is possible in Iran, raising the number of *Pseudoleirides* known to occur in Iran to 13-15.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

In total, 99 specimens of Iranian *Pseudoleirides* were studied. The specimens are deposited in the following collections: HEI – coll. W. Heinz, Schwanfeld, Germany; HEJ – coll. J. Hejkal, Kraslice, Czech Republic; HNHMB – Hungarian Natural History Museum, Budapest, Hungary (Gy. Szél); HOV – coll. O. Hovorka, Dobříš, Czech