

**Amphigonic populations of the weevil species *Brachysomus echinatus*
and *Cathormiocerus aristatus* (Coleoptera: Curculionidae: Entiminae)
in the Western Carpathians**

**Amfigonní populace nosatců *Brachysomus echinatus* a *Cathormiocerus aristatus*
(Coleoptera: Curculionidae: Entiminae) v Západních Karpatech**

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Abstract. Amphigonic populations of the weevil species *Brachysomus echinatus* (Bonsdorff, 1785) and *Cathormiocerus aristatus* (Gyllenhal, 1827) are presented from several localities in Slovakia. The first species has been considered exclusively parthenogenetic so far and the second one has been known in the amphigonic population only from Spain. Male of *Brachysomus echinatus* is described and its aedeagus is illustrated and amphigonic specimens are compared to parthenogenetic females. The origin of these amphigonic populations in the Carpathians is briefly discussed.

INTRODUCTION

During field sampling in central Slovakia I discovered amphigonic (two-sex) populations of *Brachysomus echinatus* (Bonsdorff, 1785) and *Cathormiocerus aristatus* (Gyllenhal, 1827). Since the first species has been considered as exclusively parthenogenetic (Dieckmann 1980, Formánek 1905, Smreczyński 1966, Wanat et Mazur 2005, Yunakov 2006) and an amphigonic population of the second one is known only from Spain (Borovec 1989), the purpose of this paper is to discuss these findings and describe the male of *B. echinatus*.

RESULTS

***Brachysomus echinatus* (Bonsdorff, 1785)**

Brachysomus echinatus is a common Central European forest weevil. It is the most widespread *Brachysomus*, which is distributed from England to Caucasus, Siberia and Asia Minor. Most other *Brachysomus* are restricted to small areas, often as endemics of various mountain regions and only several species are distributed over large territories. The number of *Brachysomus* species has varied very markedly during the last 30 years. Dieckmann (1980) mentioned about 30 known species. Later on, five of them have been transferred to other genera but 34 additional species have been newly described (Košťál 1991a, 1991b, 1992; Benedikt 2001; Wanat & Mazur 2005; Yunakov 2006; Bialooki 2008).

Brachysomus echinatus has also been considered the only parthenogenetic species in the genus (Dieckmann 1980, Formánek 1905, Smreczyński 1966, Wanat et Mazur 2005, Yunakov