

Orijinal araştırma (Original article)

**A new *Atheta* species from Turkey (Coleoptera:
Staphylinidae: Aleocharinae, Athetini) ¹**

Türkiye'den yeni bir *Atheta* türü
(Coleoptera: Staphylinidae: Aleocharinae, Athetini)

Osman SERT² Senem FIRAT² Yavuz TURAN^{2*} Burcu ŞABANOĞLU²

Summary

In this study, *Atheta camardiensis* sp. n., is described from Niğde province in Turkey. Photographs of the habitus are given and aedeagus (ventral and lateral view), antenna, male tergite VIII and male sternite VIII are drawn. The habitus and aedeagus are distinguished from similar species *Atheta hygrotopora* (Kraatz, 1856). Furthermore, a checklist of the subgenus *Philhygra* of Turkey is presented.

Key words: Staphylinidae, Aleocharinae, *Atheta*, new species, Turkey

Özet

Bu çalışmada, *Atheta camardiensis* sp. n., Türkiye'nin Niğde ilinden yeni tür olarak tanımlanmıştır. Vücut yapısının fotoğrafı verilmiş ve erkek genital organ yapısının ventral ve lateral görünüşleri, anten, erkek 8. tergite ve sternit yapıları çizilmiştir. Benzer tür olan *Atheta hygrotopora* (Kraatz, 1856)'dan dış morfolojisi ve erkek genital organ yapısı bakımından farklılıkları verilmiştir. Ayrıca Türkiye'deki *Philhygra* altcinsine ait olan türlerin listesi verilmiştir.

Anahtar sözcükler: Staphylinidae, Aleocharinae, *Atheta*, yeni tür, Türkiye

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² Hacettepe University Faculty of Science, Biology Department, Applied Biology Department, 06800, Beytepe, Ankara

* Sorumlu yazar (Corresponding author) e-mail: yturan@hacettepe.edu.tr

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Introduction

According to Smetana (2004), there are 782 species belonging to the genus *Atheta* Thomson, 1858 and 71 species belonging to subgenus *Philhygra* Mulsant et Rey, 1873 in the Palaearctic region. The Subgenus *Philhygra* is represented by nine species in Turkey (Anlaş, 2009; Assing, 2009, 2011). This could be seen as a low number because Turkey has a very large Staphylinidae fauna (Assing, 2009).

Materials and Methods

The present paper is based on material collected during field studies in Niğde province in 2010 and twice in 2011. The general morphology of the new species was compared with that of *Atheta (Philhygra) hygrotopora* (Kraatz, 1865) which is a closely related species according to general appearance, and a differential diagnosis is given.

Photographs of the body of a male specimen and aedeagus were taken using a Leica MZ 16A stereoscopic microscope system and drawings were made using a Nikon SMZ-U stereoscopic binocular microscope. Important morphological structures as antenna and aedeagus of male *A. camardiensis* sp. n. are drawn. The material referred to in this study is deposited in our private collection. The male genital organ of the new species was removed using the standard methods. The new species and *A. hygrotopora* were identified by us and confirmed by Volker Assing.

A picture of the habitus of *A. (Philhygra) hygrotopora* from Brundin (1944) is given for morphological comparison. Aedeagus structures of the new species and *A. (Philhygra) hygrotopora* were compared.

Results

Atheta camardiensis sp. n.

Types: Holotype Turkey, Niğde province, Çamardı county, near creek, 1483 m., 37°49'56"N, 34°58'57"E, 19.VIII.2009, 1 male.

Description

Body length 3.9 mm. Habitus as in Fig. 1a. body brownish; legs pale brown; antennae brownish.

Head (Fig. 1a.) approximately 1.2 times as wide as long, widest at eyes; dorsal surface with fine and dense punctuation, almost matt; eyes weakly projecting from lateral margins of head, almost as long as postocular region in dorsal view. Antennae slender; antennomere III almost as long as II; IV-X almost equal in length as width (Fig. 1c.)

Pronotum approximately 1.27 times as wide as head and 1.2 times as wide as long, widest in anterior half just before medial (Fig. 1a); posterior angles weakly marked; dorsal surface with fine and dense punctuation, almost matt; pubescens of midline directed anteriorly, and diagonally antero-laterad to transversely laterad in lateral areas.

Elytra long, approximately 1.3 times as long and 1.4 times as wide as pronotum (Fig. 1a); microsculpture fine and dense similar of head and pronotum; punctuation indeterminate than that of head and pronotum; hind margin slightly convex on each elytron. Hind wings complete.

Abdomen approximately as wide as elytra, widest at segment VI (Fig. 1a); posterior margin of tergite VIII acutely convex (Fig. 1e)

♂: sternite VIII much longer than tergite VIII, its posterior margin extendedly convex (Fig. 1f); median lobe of aedeagus with ventral process is rounded fork shaped at apex from ventral view (Fig. 2a); apical lobe of paramer as in Fig. 2a.

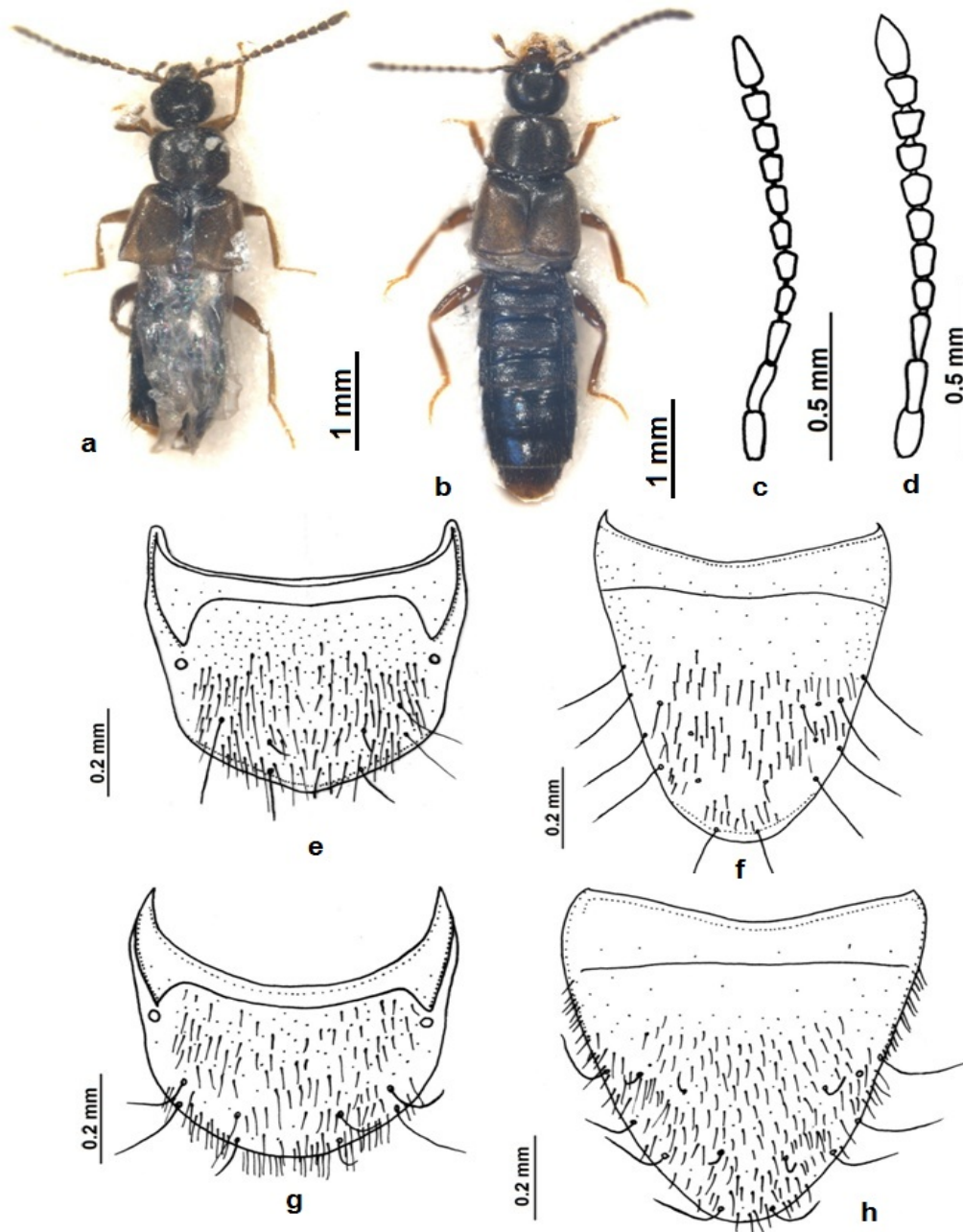


Figure 1. *Atheta camardiensis* sp. n.: a: habitus, c: antenna, e: tergit VIII, f: sternit VIII; *Atheta (Philhygra) hygrotopora* (Kraatz, 1865): b: habitus, d: antenna, g: tergit VIII, h: sternit VIII.

Etymology The name of the new species is derived from the *locus typicus* (type locality) which is the Çamardı County in Niğde Province, Turkey.

Comparative Notes

Atheta camardiensis sp. n. is separated from *A. hygrotopora* by the rounded fork shape of ventral process from ventral view of median lobe which is spattle-shaped in *A. hygrotopora*, slightly protruding eyes, the shape of the head (in *A. hygrotopora* it is rounded at posterior angles), postoccipetal region of the head (in *A. hygrotopora* it is widely convex), the shape of the hind margin of elytra (in *A. hygrotopora*

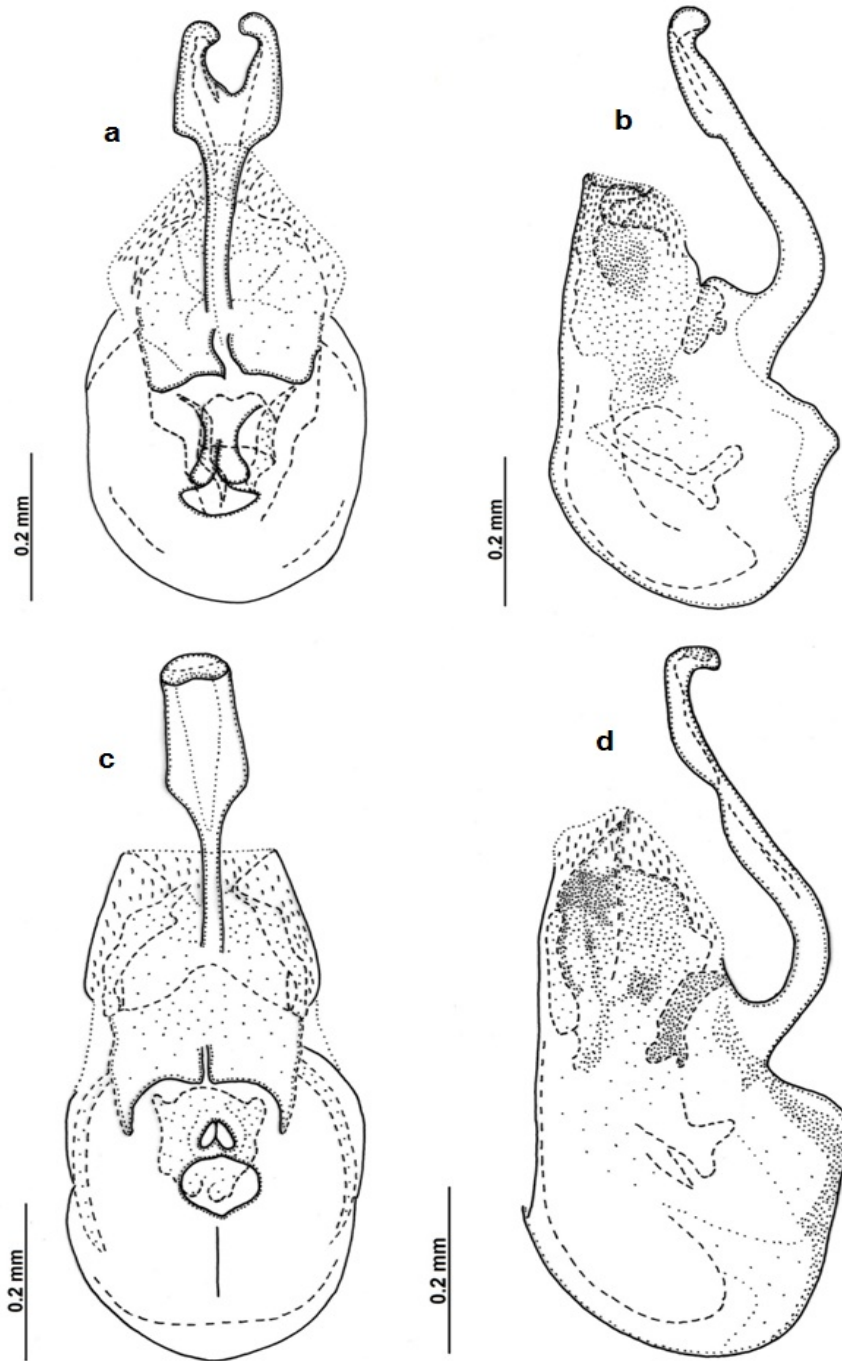


Figure 2. *Atheta camardiensis* sp. n.: a, b: aedeagus in ventral and lateral view; *Atheta (Philhygra) hygrotopora* (Kraatz, 1865): c, d: aedeagus in ventral and lateral view.

it is more or less straight). For illustrations of the genitalia of *A. hygrotopora* see (Brundin 1944: Fig. 98) and Figs 2 c and d.

Distribution And Bionomics

The type locality is situated in the northwestern part of Çamardı county, Niğde province near Ecemiş river between Üçkapılı and Örenköy villages in Turkey. The specimens were collected by sifting gravel near the Ecemiş river at an altitude of 1,483 m.

Table 1. Checklist of the subgenus *Philhygra* of Turkey

Taxon	Provinces	References
<i>Atheta camardiensis</i> sp. n.	Niğde	Present Paper
<i>A. balcanicola</i> Scheerpeltz, 1968	Konya	Brundin (1944), Smetana (2004)
<i>A. elongatula</i> (Gravenhorst, 1802)	Amasya, Antalya	Assing (2009), Anlaş & Rose (2011)
<i>A. laevigata</i> (Hochhuth, 1849)	Erzurum, Gümüşhane, Muğla	Assing (2007)
<i>A. luridipennis</i> Mannerheim, 1830	Rize	Assing (2007)
<i>A. monstruosa</i> (Assing, 2011)	Kastamonu, Çankırı	Assing (2011)
<i>A. palustris</i> (Kiesenwetter, 1844)	Bursa	Assing (2011)
<i>A. sequanica</i> (Brisout De Barneville, 1860)	Not cited	Smetana (2004)
<i>A. tmolosensis</i> Bernhauer, 1940	İzmir, Manisa or Aydın	Bernhauer (1940), Smetana (2004)
<i>A. volans</i> (Scriba 1859)	Mersin	Assing (2006)

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