

A NEW SPECIES OF CLADA (COLEOPTERA: ANOBIIDAE) FROM ISRAEL

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ABSTRACT

Clada halperiri, a new species of Anobiidae from 'En Gedi Israel, is described. It is compared with its oldej congeners *C. tricostrata* Baudi, *C. abyssinica* Pic, *C. oromii* Espanol and *Hedobia pubescens* (Olivier).

INTRODUCTION

Several accessions of Anobiidae beetles collected in Israel were kindly received from Dr. J. Halperin, Agricultural Research Organization, Ilanot, Israel. One of these included specimens of an undescribed species of *Clada* Pascoe, that will be described here.

Clada halperini n. sp.

FEMALE. Body elongate, cylindrical; length 5.0-7.8 mm; body and legs yellowish-brown.

Elytra generally brighter in colour than head and pronotum. Pubescence formed by fine and long hairs, alternating with much shorter ones, all erect and evenly distributed on dorsal surface of the body. The sculpture of the head and pronotum is finely granulate; on the elytra it is more coarse and longitudinally arranged. Distance between eyes a little more than twice the diameter of the eye. Antennae (Fig. 1) filiform; segments three to eleven longer than wide. Prothorax (Fig. 2) transverse; broadest in the middle, narrowing toward the anterior and posterior ends, gibbous from above, and with a clearly distinct depression on the base of each lateral lobe.

Elytra without distinct ribs or bands of pubescence ; hairs sparingly and evenly distributed in the elytral surface. Punctation coarse and impressed, forming longitudinal more or less equidistant rows. Tarsi (Fig. 4) slender; length of distal segment equals that of the two preceding ones.

MALE. Distinguished from the ♀ by smaller size of the body - 4.0-5.3 mm, and bigger eyes. Antennae similar to female, but a little longer. Genitalia: see Fig. 6.

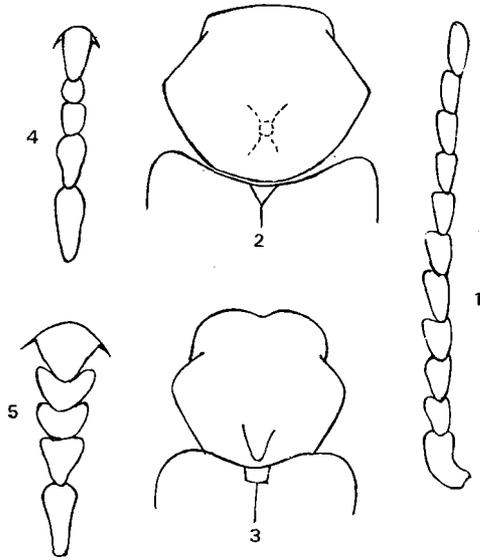
MATERIAL EXAMINED

Holotype, female, Israel, En Gedi (Western shore, Dead Sea), 23.IX.69, J. Halperin. Paratypes, 29 females and 22 males, emerged between 21.XI.71 and 17.X.76 from dry branch of *Tamarix tetragyna*, collected in 'En Gedi on 11.4.71, J. Halperin.

The holotype and most of the paratypes are deposited in the collection of the Entomology Laboratory, Institute of Plant Protection, Agricultural Research Organization, Ilanot, Israel; some of the paratypes will be deposited in the following collections: three (two males and one female) Dept. of Entomology, Institute of Plant Protection, Agricultural Research Organization, Bet Dagan, Israel; three (two males and one female) Dept. of Zoology, Tel-Aviv University, Israel; three (one male and two females) Zoological Museum, Municipal Institute of Natural Sciences, Barcelona; four (two males and two females) National Museum of Natural Sciences, Paris; four (two males and two females) British Museum (Natural History) London.

DISCUSSION

Clada halperini belongs, according to my revision (Español 1969), to the first of the three groups of the Ethiopian species of *Clada*, a group to which belongs also *C. tricostata* Baudi, and which is characterized by the filiform or serrate antennae in both sexes. The species differs, however, from *C. tricostata* in the shape of the pubescence covering the surface of the body; in the elytral sculpture without longitudinal ribs, which are typical of *C. tricostata*; in the coarse, more regularly impressed punctation, and in the shape of the male genitalia (Figs. 6 and 7).



Figs. 1, 2, 4 - *Clada halperini* n.sp. 1. antenna,
 2. prothorax, 4. anterior tarsus,
 Figs. 3, 5. *Hedobia pubescens* (Olivier), 3. prothorax,
 5. anterior tarsus.

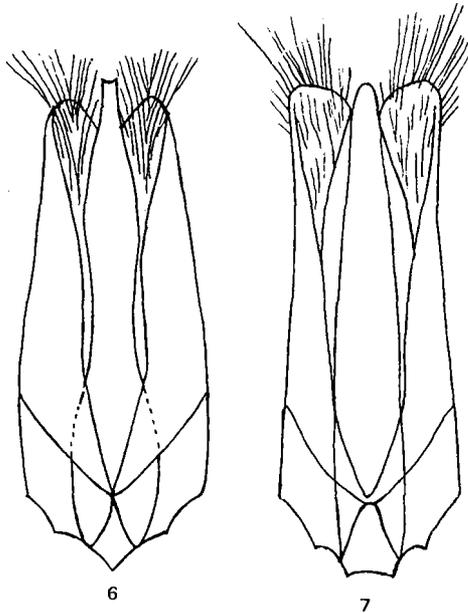


Fig. 6. *Clada halperini* n.sp., male genitalia.
 Fig. 7. *Clada tricostata* Baudi, male genitalia.

The new species is closely related to *C. abyssinica* Pic, but differs from it by having a more developed pubescence, a less regularly depressed punctation, and by the absence of ribs, which are typical of *C. abyssinica*. It differs from *C. oromii* Español, which has a much shorter, thicker and only partly erect pubescence, covering the tegument, and has also a quite different pattern of elytral sculpture - irregular and a little disordered (Español 1978).

The shape of the antennae, the development and disposition of the pubescence, and the shape of elytral sculpture, distinguish the new species from other members of the genus, none of which present all the above characters.

Clada halperini might be referred to the genus *Hedobia* Latreille, because the former has long and erect pubescence without distinct ribs on the elytra, and longitudinal series of more or less evenly distributed depressions. It differs, however, from *Hedobia pubescens* (Olivier), the type species of this genus (Español, 1970), in the general aspect of the body, the different shape of the pronotum (Figs. 2 and 3), the slender tarsi, the distal segment of which is longitudinal (Fig. 4) rather than triangular in *H. pubescens* (Fig. 5), and the uniform colour of the body and legs. Therefore, this species is assigned to the genus *Clada*.

REFERENCES

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