

A new species of the genus *Leistus* Froehlig (Coleoptera, Carabidae, Nebriini) from Tajikistan

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This publication contains the description of a new species of the genus *Leistus* Froehlig collected by Dr. V. Michailov (Khar'kov) in the Darvazskiy Mountain Range (Tajikistan). The single known male specimen is kept in the collection of the Zoological Institute of Russian Academy of Sciences (St-Petersburg, ZISP) and bears the label "Holotypus *Leistus darvazicus* Kryzh. et Mich." but the species has not been described yet. Its description under the original name is given here according to the agreement with one of the authors (V. Michailov).

The following measurements were taken: body length from the anterior margin of the labrum to the elytral apex; head width across eyes; width of the forehead between the internal margins of eyes; pronotal length along its median line; elytral length from the scutellum to the apex of elytra; width of both pronotum and elytra at their broadest part; pronotal base at the hind angles; elytral base at the humeral angles.

Leistus (Pogonophorus) darvazicus Kabak, sp. nov. (Figs. 1-4)

Description. Medium-sized species with elongate and subparallel habitus (fig. 1), body length 8.7 mm, apterous. Pitchy-brown, moderately shining; mandibles, labrum, appendages and lateral gutter of pronotum reddish-brown; femora weakly obscured.

Head 1.20 times narrower than pronotum and 1.41 times as wide as forehead, which is convex and smooth medially, irregularly striate and shallowly punctate on sides. Frontal foveae wide but superficial, reaching level of anterior margin of eyes. Clypeus rugulose along anterior margin and on sides. Eyes hemispheric, very strongly convex (fig. 2). External margin of mandibles moderately well sinuate. Antennae long, reaching posterior third of elytra; 5th antennomere 1.32 times longer than 3rd one. Gular carina arched, bearing 9 setae.

Pronotum (fig. 2) large-sized, cordiform, 1.42 times as wide as long and 1.70 times as wide as its base; broadest near midlength. Lateral margins strongly and gradually rounded, briefly and deeply sinuate just before hind angles. The latter rather small, acute, pointed at apices, strongly projecting backward and outward. Anterior margin convex in the middle, its border deep laterally, briefly interrupted medially; anterior angles widely rounded and strongly protruding. Posterior margin of pronotum distinctly concave, basal border thin. Sides of pronotum very broadly reflexed throughout. Basal foveae deep, vaguely outlined. Both anterior and posterior transverse impressions deep, the latter more sharply engraved. Disk convex, feebly rugulose and not punctate medially, roughly punctured along margins of pronotum. Median line impressed, strongly shortened anteriorly and posteriorly.

Elytra ovate and convex, barely flattened on disk, broadest at posterior third, 1.74 times as long as wide combined, 1.66 times as wide as their base, 2.96 times longer and 1.70 times wider than pronotum. Shoulders narrow, humeral denticles acute and attenuate. Basal border oblique, weakly arched. Sides evenly rounded anteriorly and posteriorly, partly subrectilinear in the middle. Marginal bead narrow, especially near humeri. Elytral striae very deep, roughly punctate till apical slope; intervals convex throughout, interval 3 bearing 3-4 pores in posterior half.

Microsculpture composed of small isodiametric meshes, superficial on elytra, well-developed on head and pronotum.

Prosternum roughly punctured, less densely in lateral parts. Ventrites 1-3, meso- and metasternum distinctly punctate on sides, punctures of hind coxae superficial. Ventrites 3-5 with two pairs of setae along posterior margin.

Legs slender, usual in length, posterior tarsi 1.18 times shorter than posterior tibiae. Anterior face of femora covered with long and erect setae, pubescence of both tibiae and tarsi short and oblique (fig.3).

Aedeagus (fig. 4) small, its apical lamella rounded.

Female unknown.

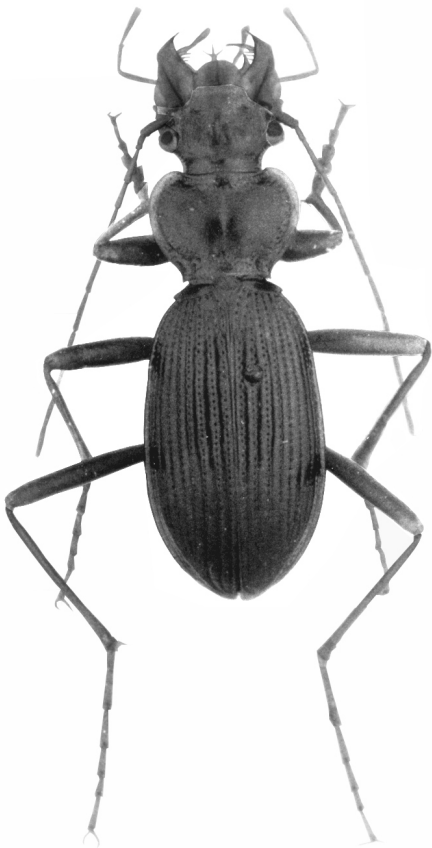
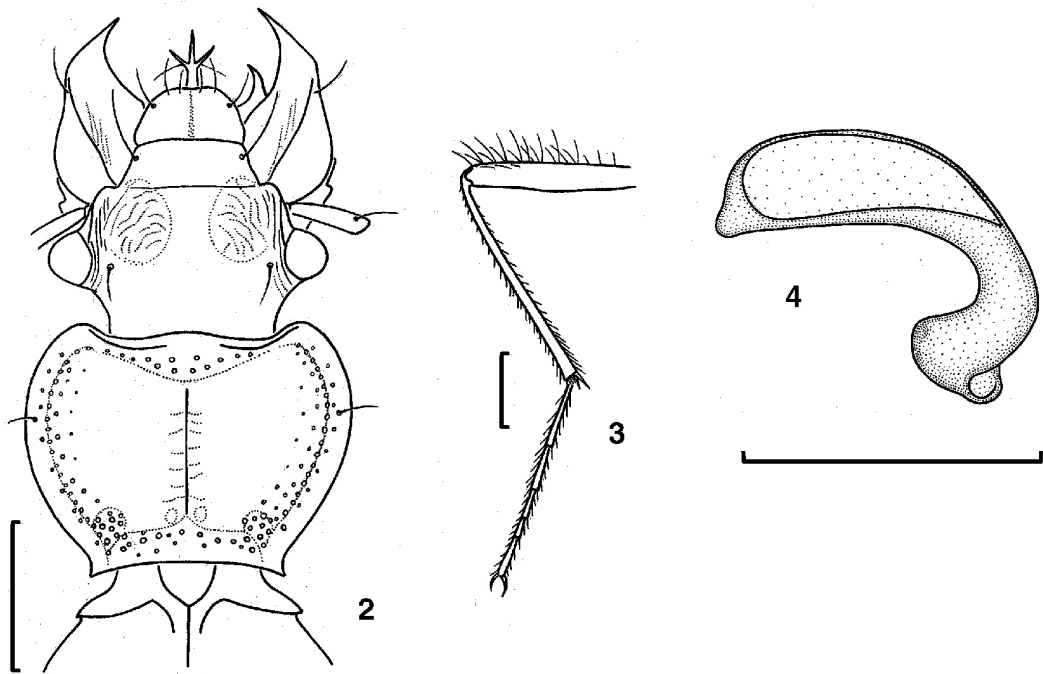


Fig.1. *Leistus darvazicus* sp n., holotype, habitus



Figs 2-4. *Leistus darvazicus* sp n., holotype; 2 - shape of forebody; 3 - posterior leg; 4 - median lobe of aedeagus, lateral view. Scale - 1 mm

Types. Holotype: male (ZISP), labeled: "Дарвазский хр., ю. скл., ущ. Рогак, кленовн. л – 1400-1600 м, Михайлов, 7.VI.1975" in English: Darvazskiy Mt. R., S. slope, Rogak Gorge, *Acer* forest, h – 1400-1600 m, Michailov, 7.VI.1975; "Holotypus *Leistus darvazicus* Kryzh. et Mich."

Notes. The new species belongs to the subgenus *Pogonophorus* Latreille, sensu G. Perrault (1980, 1982). As for the chaetotaxy of legs, *L. darvazicus* sp. n. is intermediate between two groups of its centralasiatic consubgenera. *L. darvazicus* sp. n. shares the comparatively short and oblique pubescence of tibiae with the species from Tien Shan (*L. depressus* Breit, *L. glasunovi* Sem. et Zn., *L. ferganensis* Sem. et Zn., and *L. alaiensis* Kabak), while the long and erect pubescence of femora makes it closer to the species from Ghissaro-Darvaz (*L. relictus* Sem., *L. zarudnyi* Sem. et Zn., and *L. sogdianus* Putshkov et Dolin). From the all members of the latter group, *L. darvazicus* sp. n. is distinguished by shorter and wider mandibles, strongly convex eyes, large-sized and wider pronotum with broadly depressed sides, and by large and distinctly protruding humeral denticles.

In addition to the above mentioned characters, *L. darvazicus* sp. n. differs from *L. relictus* Sem. (Semenov, 1904), described from the Ghissarskiy Ridge, by short legs, cordiform pronotum and convex intervals of the elytra.

The new species differs from *L. zarudnyi* Sem. et Zn. (Semenov-Tian-Shanskij, Znojko, 1928, Kabak, 1997), inhabiting the Turkestanskiy and the western part of the Alaiskyi Ridges, by smaller and darker body as well as by elytral stria 3 not impressed and by lamella of the aedeagus more rounded apically.

L. darvazicus sp. n. is easily distinguished from *L. sogdianus* Putshkov et Dolin (Putschkow, Dolin, 1998) known from the western part of the Zeravshanskiy Ridge, by pronotal shape with more protruding anterior angles and distinctly concave basal margin as well as by less developed microsculpture.

From *L. alaiensis* Kabak (Кабак, 1994) which occupies the eastern half of the Alaiskyi Ridge and the southeastern part of the Ferganskiy Ridge, the new species is distinguished by wider mandibles, smaller and more strongly protruding eyes, larger pronotum with lateral margins more widely rounded anteriorly and more briefly sinuate posteriorly, narrower elytra with sides weakly arched behind shoulders, larger humeral denticles as well as by distinctly concave apex of the aedeagus.

Externally *L. darvazicus* sp. n. is very similar to *L. ferganensis* Sem. et Zn. (Semenov-Tian-Shanskij, Znojko, 1928) from the eastern part of Western Tien Shan, but is easily to be recognized by less developed humeral denticles, more convex elytral intervals and by distinct microsculpture. The pronotum of the new species is narrower, with less reflexed sides and briefly sinuate lateral margins.

Distribution. The new species is only known from the southwestern spur of the Darvazskiy Mountain Range (Tajikistan), 38°07'58"N 70°28'43"E. For the moment, that is the southernmost finding of *Leistus* species in Middle Asia.

Habitats. The typical specimen was found in the *Acer* forest at 1400-1600 m a.s.l.

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Резюме

Кабак И.И. Новый вид рода *Leistus* Froehlig (Coleoptera, Carabidae, Nebriini) из Таджикистана.

Описан *Leistus* (*Pogonophorus*) *darvazicus* Kabak, sp. n. из юго-западных отрогов Дарвазского хребта (Таджикистан). Обсуждено его систематическое положение и отличия от среднеазиатских представителей подрода.