

## **Contribution to the knowledge of *Thorictus* Germar, 1834 from Iran (Coleoptera: Dermestidae: Thorictinae)**

## **Príspevek k poznání rodu *Thorictus* Germar, 1834 z Íránu (Coleoptera: Dermestidae: Thorictinae)**

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**Abstract.** The following three species are newly recorded from Iran: *Thorictus irakensis* John, 1963, *Thorictus orientalis orientalis* Peyron, 1857 and *Thorictus lederi* Reitter, 1881.

**Key words:** faunistics, new records, Coleoptera, Dermestidae, Thorictinae, *Thorictus*, Iran.

### **INTRODUCTION**

The myrmecophilous dermestid genus *Thorictus* Germar, 1834 currently includes 171 species and subspecies known from the Palearctic, Oriental and Afrotropical Regions (Háva 2015, 2020). Eight species are known from Iran (Ghahari & Háva 2015). In the present article, the authors mentioned new records of three species recently collected in Iran.

### **MATERIAL AND METHODS**

The two *Thorictus* species groups were stated by John (1963). The following abbreviations refer to the depositories of the material studied:

JHAC Jiří Háva, Private Entomological Laboratory & Collection, Únětice u Prahy, Prague-West, Czechia;

MSPC Martin Švarc, private collection, Liberec, Czechia.

### **RESULTS**

#### **Genus *Thorictus* Germar, 1834**

#### ***Thorictus orientalis* species group**

#### ***Thorictus lederi* Reitter, 1881**

(Fig. 1)

**Material examined:** Iran, West Azerbaijan prov., 11 km SE of Serow, 2000 m, N37°38'30"E44°44'04", 25.v.2019, Martin Švarc lgt., 70 spec., J. Háva det., (62 MSPC, 8 JHAC); Iran, Kordestan prov., 3 km E of Morvarid, 2250 m, N34°52'29"E47°00'04", 21.v.2019, Martin Švarc lgt., 21 spec., J. Háva det., (17 MCPC, 4 JHAC); Iran, Qazvin prov.,

3.5 km W of Kouhin, 1500 m, N36°22'17'' E49°37'21'', 28.v.2019, Martin Švarc lgt., 2 spec., J. Háva det., (1 MCPC, 1 JHAC).

**Host ant:** *Pheidole* sp.

**Distribution.** A species known from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Iran: Azerbaijan province and Uzbekistan, new locality data from Kordestan and Qazvin provinces.

### *Thorictus irakensis* John, 1963

(Fig. 2)

**Material examined:** Iran, Kordestan prov., 3 km E of Morvarid, 2250 m, N34°52'29'' E47°00'04'', 21.v.2019, Martin Švarc lgt., 10 spec., J. Háva det., (8 MCPC, 2 JHAC); Iran, West Azerbaijan prov., 11 km SE of Serow, 2000 m, N37°38'30'' E44°44'04'', 25.v.2019, Martin Švarc lgt., 1 spec., J. Háva det., (MSPC).

**The host ant:** *Cataglyphis* sp.

**Distribution.** A species described by John (1963) from Iraq: Baghdad, new to Iran: Kordestan and Azerbaijan provinces

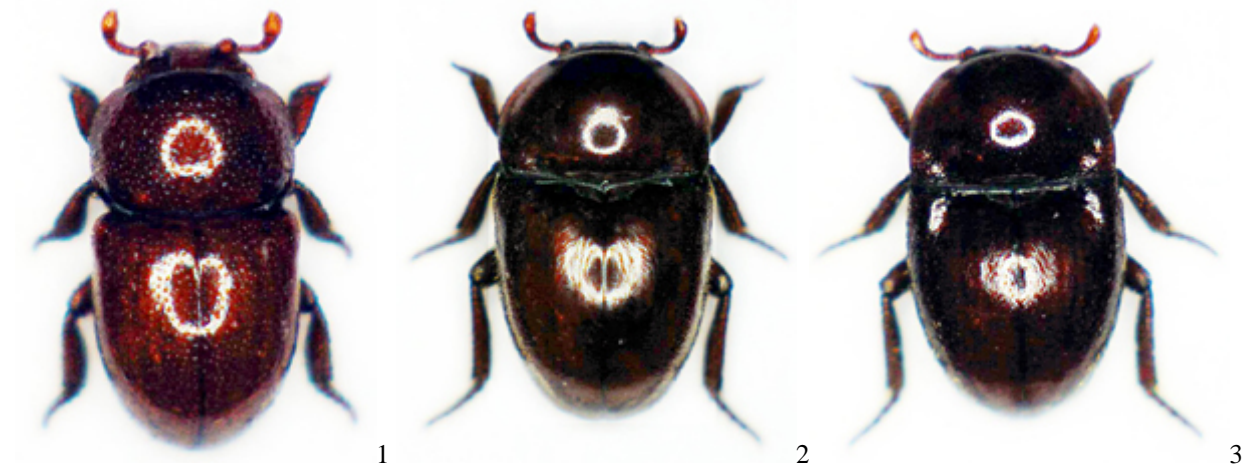
### *Thorictus orientalis orientalis* Peyron, 1857

(Fig. 3)

**Material examined:** Iran, Kerman prov., 20 km NE of Jiroft, 1734 m, N28°49'15'' E57°51'47'', 18.v.2019, Martin Švarc lgt., 1 spec., J. Háva det., (MSPC); Iran, Chaharmahal & Bakhtiari prov., 9 km W of Aluni, 1870 m, N31°33'05'' E50°56'41'', 12-13.v.2019, Martin Švarc lgt., 1 spec., J. Háva det., (MSPC).

**The host ant:** *Cataglyphis* sp.

**Distribution.** A species known from Greece, Iraq, Israel, Syria and Turkey, new to Iran: Chaharmahal & Bakhtiari and Kerman provinces.



Figs. 1-3. Habitus: 1- *Thorictus lederi* Reitter, 1881, 2- *Thorictus irakensis* John, 1963, 3- *Thorictus orientalis orientalis* Peyron, 1857

## REMARKS ON LOCALITIES



Fig. 4. The location Aluni: a sparse oak forest on a slope, 1 specimen of *Thorictus orientalis* dug from the depth of a *Cataglyphis* sp. ant colony together with an individual of a rare histerid species *Sternocoelis grandis* (Histeridae: Hetaeriinae).



Fig. 5. The location Jiroft: a gravel lake shore, 1 specimen of *Thorictus orientalis* dug out of the depth of a *Cataglyphis* sp. ant colony together with 2 specimens of a staphylinid species *Piochardia* sp. (Staphylinidae).



Fig. 6. The location Morvarid: a steppe hillside high in the mountains, 10 specimens *Thorictus irakensis* found under stones with small rusty ants *Pheidole* sp. together with more numerous specimens of *Thorictus lederi*.



Fig. 7. The location Serow: a valley of a stream, pastures with many stones, 1 specimen *Thorictus irakensis* under a larger stone in an ant colony of *Cataglyphis* sp. In the same pasture, under smaller stones, more numerous specimens of *Thorictus lederi* found in ant *Pheidole* sp. colonies, together with 3 specimens of *Paussus turcicus* (Carabidae: Paussinae) and 1 specimen of a very rare histerid species *Satrapes talyschensis* (Histeridae: Hetaeriinae).



Fig. 8. The location Kouhin: an erosion valley between fields, 2 specimens of *Thorictus lederi* under a stone in an ant colony of *Pheidole* sp.

## LIST OF *THORICTUS* SPECIES RECORDED FROM IRAN

*Thorictus doriae* Escalera, 1942  
*Thorictus irakensis* John, 1963  
*Thorictus kamil* Háva, 2015  
*Thorictus kurdistanus* John, 1965  
*Thorictus lederi* Reitter, 1881  
*Thorictus myrmecophilus* Reitter, 1881  
*Thorictus orientalis orientalis* Peyron, 1857  
*Thorictus petranus* John, 1965  
*Thorictus taftanus* Háva, 2008  
*Thorictus yazdensis* Háva, 2015

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