Amberophlus niger gen. nov. and sp. nov. of the tribe Cteniopodini Solier, 1835 (Coleoptera: Tenebrionidae: Alleculinae) from Baltic Amber

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Abstract. A new genus and species *Amberophlus niger* gen. and sp. nov. from Baltic amber, Russia: Kaliningrad are described, illustrated and compared with similar genera.

INTRODUCTION

Fossils Tenebrionidae were recently studied by more authors, fossil genera and species of subfamily Alleculinae Laporte, 1840 were published by Chang Huali et al. (2016) and Nabozhenko et al. (2015, 2018 and 2019). In the present article a new genus with one species of fossil Alleculinae (tribe Cteniopodini Solier, 1835) is described.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The type material is deposited in the collection of Jiří Háva, Private Entomological Laboratory & Collection, Únětice u Prahy, Prague-West, Czech Republic (JHAC).

The size of the beetles or of their body parts can be useful in the species recognition and thus, the following measurements were made: OI= ocular index; HL/PL= ratio head length/pronotal length; PL/EL= ratio pronotal length/elytral length; PtW(1-3)/WAT= ratio between maximum wide of protarsomeres 1-3/maximum wide of anterior tibia; PTL= ratio between lengths of protarsomeres 1-5 (1=1.0); MSTL= ratio between lengths of mesotarsomeres 1-5 (1=1.0); MTTL= ratio between lengths of metatarsomeres 1-4 (1=1.0); RLA(1-11; 3=1.0)= ratio between lengths of antennomeres 1-11, length of antennomere 3=1.0.

Measurements were made with Olympus SZ 40 stereoscopic microscope with continuous magnification and with Soft Imaging System AnalySIS.

The specimen of the presently described species is provided with red, printed label with texts as follows: „HOLOTYPE *Amberophlus* gen. nov. *niger* sp. nov. V. Novák & J. Háva det. 2019".

TAXONOMY

Genus *Amberophlus* gen. nov.

(Figs. 1-4)

Type species. *Amberophlus niger* sp. nov. (by monotypy).

Description. Body elongate (as in Figs. 1-2) from dark brown to black, relatively short and narrow. Head narrow and long, black, elongate, eyes relatively large, not distinctly emarginate, space between eyes approximately as wide as diameter of one eye. Genal edge not incising eyes, insertion of antennae visible from above. Antenna dark, long and narrow with 11 antennomeres, antennomere 2 shortest, antennomeres 4-11 distinctly longer than antennomere 3. Antennomeres 3-10 slightly, but distinctly widest in apex. Pronotum longer than wide, long and narrow, black, slightly longer than head. Elytra black, more than three times longer than pronotum, elytral epipleura narrow and distinct in basal half. Legs long, blackish brown, femora stronger, tibiae long and narrow, slightly widened apically. Tarsal formula 5:5:4. Penultimate tarsomeres not widened and lobed. Protarsomeres 1-3 wide and flat, wider than widest part (apex) of anterior tibia, protarsomeres 2 and 3 wider than long. Protarsomeres 1-3 wider than mesotarsomeres 1-3. Mesotarsomeres 1-3 slightly wider than metatarsomeres 1-3. PTL(1-5): Teeth in tarsal claws not clearly visible. Ventral side of body dark brown or blackish brown, abdomen with six visible ventrites.

Differential diagnosis. The new genus distinctly belongs to the tribe Cteniopodini. Similar genera in the Palaearctic Region are *Omophlus* and *Omophlina*.
Amberophlus gen. nov. differs from species of genera *Omophlus* and *Omophlina* mainly by flat and wide protarsomeres 1-3, which are wider than apex of protibia and by relatively narrow space between eyes, which is approximately as wide as diameter of one eye. Species of genera *Omophlus* and *Omophlina* have protarsomeres 1-3 not flat and almost not wider than apex of protibia and space between eyes is distinctly wider than diameter of one eye.

Etymology. The name is composed of the word amber and ending "*-ophlus*", marking similarity to the genus *Omophlus*. Gender: masculine.

Distribution. Baltic amber: Russia.

***Amberophlus niger* sp. nov.**

(Figs. 1-4)

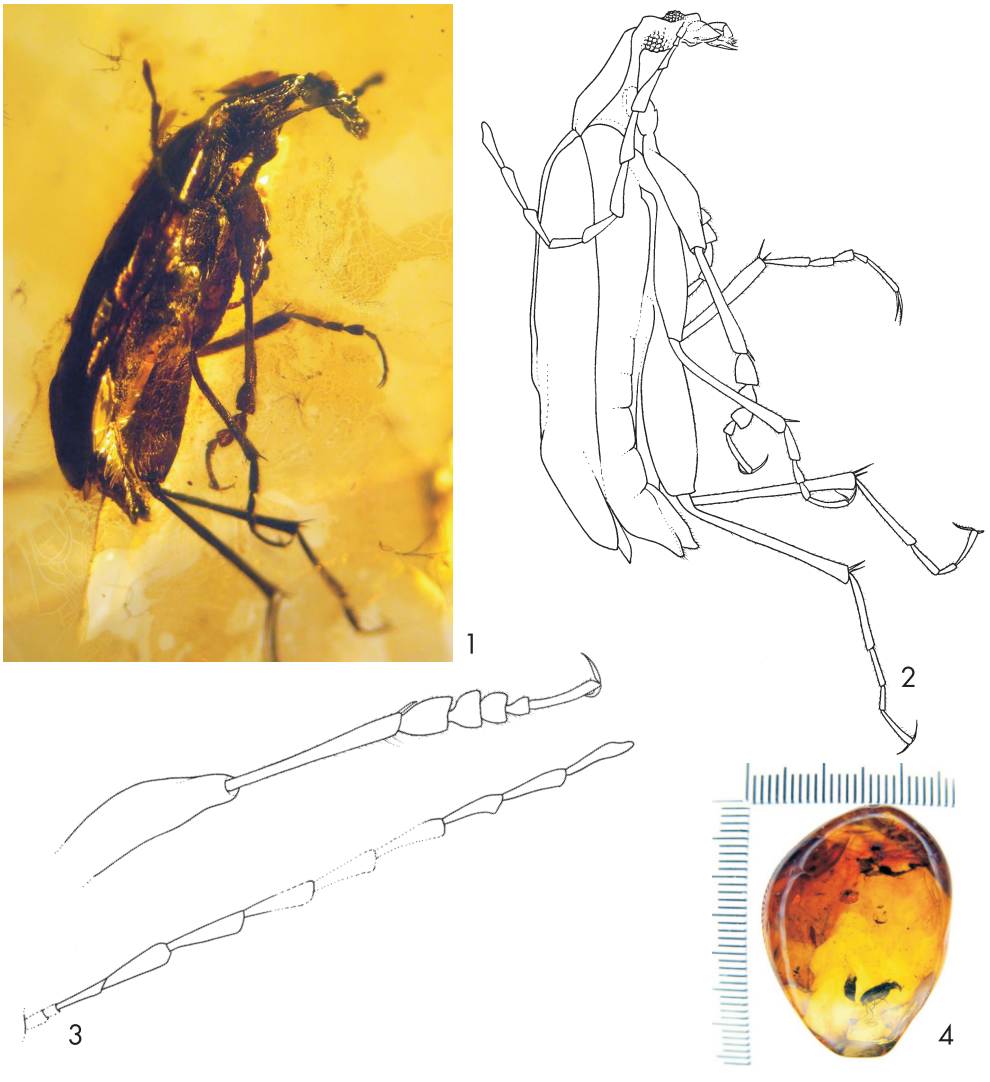
Type material. Holotype (sex unknown): Baltic amber inclusion (ALE1/2018), Russia, Kaliningrad Region, (JHAC).

Description. Body elongate (as in Figs. 1 and 2) from dark brown to black, relatively short and narrow. Head narrow and long, HL/PL 0.8, black, elongate, eyes relatively large, not distinctly emarginate, space between eyes approximately as wide as diameter of one eye, OI approximately 37. Genal edge not incising eyes, insertion of antennae visible from above. Antenna as in Fig 3, dark, long and narrow with 11 antennomeres, antennomere 2 shortest, antennomeres 4-11 distinctly longer than antennomere 3. Antennomeres 3-10 slightly, but distinctly widest in apex. RLA(1-11; 3=1.0) 0.4 : 0.3 : 1.0 : 1.5 : 1.6 : 1.5 : 1.3 : 1.5 : 1.3 : 1.4 : 1.5. Pronotum longer than wide, long and narrow, PL/EL 0.3, black, slightly longer than head. Elytra black, more than three times longer than pronotum, elytral epipleura narrow and distinct in basal half. Legs long, blackish brown, femora stronger, tibiae long and narrow, slightly widened apically. Tarsal formula 5:5:4. Penultimate tarsomeres not widened and lobed. Protarsi 1.1 times longer than protibia. Protarsomeres 1-3 wide and flat (Fig. 3), wider than widest part (apex) of anterior tibia, PtW(1-3)/WAT=1.7; 1.8; 1.5, protarsomeres 2 and 3 wider than long. Protarsomeres 1-3 wider than mesotarsomeres 1-3. Mesotarsomeres 1-3 slightly wider than

metatarsomeres 1-3. PTL (1=1.0) 1.0 : 0.7 : 0.5 : 0.5 : 1.6; MSTL (1=1.0) 1.0 : 0.5 : 0.4 : 0.3: 0.9; MTTL (1=1.0) 1.0 : 0.5 : 0.3 : 0.5.Teeth in tarsal claws not clearly visible. Ventral side of body dark brown or blackish brown, abdomen with six visible ventrites.

Differential diagnosis. See the diagnosis of the genus.

Etymology. Named after its dominant color of surface "niger" (black).



Figs. 1-4. *Amberophlus niger* sp. nov., holotype: 1- Habitus, 2- drawing of habitus, 3- antenna and fore leg, 4- amber inclusion with holotype.

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