

## ARTIGO / ARTÍCULO / ARTICLE

Description of a new dermestid species belonging to the genus  
*Attagenus* Latreille, 1802 (Coleoptera: Dermestidae) from  
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**Abstract:** *Attagenus pushkini* sp. n. (Coleoptera: Dermestidae), a new species from Dagestan (Russia), is described, illustrated and compared with other closely related species in Russia.

**Key words:** Coleoptera, Dermestidae, *Attagenus*, taxonomy, description, new species, Dagestan, Russia.

**Resumen:** Descripción de una nueva especie de derméstido perteneciente al género *Attagenus* Latreille, 1802 (Coleoptera: Dermestidae) de Daguestán. Se describe e ilustra *Attagenus pushkini* sp. n. (Coleoptera: Dermestidae), una nueva especie de Daguestán (Rusia), y se compara con otras especies próximas de Rusia.

**Palabras clave:** Coleoptera, Dermestidae, *Attagenus*, taxonomía, descripción, nueva especie, Daguestán, Rusia.

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## Introduction

Between the many material of dermestid beetles recently collected in the Federal Republic of Dagestan (Russia), located in the North Caucasus region, by the Russian entomologist Sergey Pushkin and then sent to the first author for help with identification, a single male specimen belonging to a so far unknown species from the genus *Attagenus* Latreille, 1802 (Coleoptera: Dermestidae) was detected. The genus includes species defined by the following set of features: first segment of hind tarsi almost half as long as the second, free mouthparts, three-jointed antennal club and lack of distinct antennal cavity on the hypomeron. The most characteristic feature of the larvae is an extremely long caudal brush and elongated, cylindrical, strongly sclerotized body (Peacock 1993; Kadej & Háva 2014, 2015). About 200 different species (with respectively subspecies) are included in the genus *Attagenus* worldwide (Háva 2015). Till today, less than one tenth of them have been recorded from Russia, being reported from Dagestan only one species so far, *Attagenus pulcher* Faldermann, 1835, according to Háva (2015). In the present paper the authors describe another new species belonging to this genus.

## Material and methods

The specimen was stored for 5 days in a solution of 1% pepsin in hydrochloric acid to free it roughly from protein tissues and making the extremities of the body moveable. The abdomen was separated from the body and glued upside-down onto the same cardboard plate, just behind the beetle. Before this, the genitalia was extracted and then cleaned with a fine needle in a drop of 99 percent glycerol. Afterwards it was also glued onto the plate behind the beetle, firmly embedded in a drop of a solution consisting of polyvinylpyrrolidone, aqua demineralisata and diglycerin (the liquid solution becomes permanently solid after a few minutes). Photos of body and abdomen were taken with a digital camera Sony SLR alpha 35, connected with an objective Nikon CF N Plan Achromat 4x 160/- and extension rings; for the photos of the genitalia and antenna a Bresser Junior USB-Handmikroskop at 200x magnification was used. Because of the low depth of field all photos were taken as layered images, afterwards combined on a PC by software. Nomenclature and systematics in this paper follow Háva (2015).

The size of the beetle and of its body parts can be useful in species recognition, so following measurements were made:

- total length (TL) - linear distance from anterior margin of pronotum to apex of elytra.
- pronotal length (PL) - maximal length measured from anterior margin to posterior margin.
- pronotal width (PW) - maximal linear transverse distance.
- elytral length (EL) - linear distance from shoulder to apex of elytron.
- elytral width (EW) - maximal linear transverse distance.

The single specimen of the described species is provided with a red, printed label showing the following text: "HOLOTYPE, *Attagenus* (s. str.) *pushkini* n. sp., Herrmann, Kadej & Háva det. 2015".

## Description

### *Attagenus (Attagenus) pushkini* sp. n. (Figs. 1-4)

#### Type material.

Holotype (male) labeled: "Russia: Dagestan, Tlyaratinsky District, near Kamiluh vill., 10-19.7.2015 leg. S.V. Pushkin". The specimen is incomplete, missing both front tarsi, the left hind leg and the second half of the right antenna. The holotype is deposited in the collection of the first author.

#### Description.

**Male.** Body entirely black on dorsal and ventral surface; somewhat dull because of the dense puncture, robust, longish oval (Fig. 1). Body measurements (in mm): TL 3.4, PL 0.9, PW 1.7, EL 2.6, EW 1.9. Head with dense and coarse punctation, covered quite densely with long recumbent bright hairs; palpi brown. Eyes large with short and hardly visible erected microsetae. Median ocellus distinctly present on front. Antennae entirely yellowish brown, the club as well as the first antennomer slightly darker brown, 11-segmented, the last three segments forming a distinct club covered densely by fine recumbent brown pubescence; the terminal segment approximately as long as the two preceding combined (Fig. 2); shaft a little bit longer than the club, sparsely provided with some strong, erected brown hairs. Pronotum slightly bulged, broadest at the apical edges, narrowed towards the front, dense and distinctly punctured, covered with recumbent bright hairs, lateral margins smooth, untoothed, not visible from above. Scutellum small, black and triangular, with the same kind of punctures and pubescence as in the elytrae. Elytrae black, covered and punctured in the same way as in the pronotum, humeri with a little indistinct bump. The pubescence

of the whole surface of the beetle consists of uniform and unicoloured bright hairs which have a very slight brownish shine. Legs robust, brown to darkish brown, covered sparsely with erected, short bright hairs. All tibiae with several rows of strong brown spines at their lateral margins. Tarsi quite long, roughly as long as the tibiae, brown. Mesosternum black, punctured and furnished as in the body surface. Abdominal sternites brownish black, dense and coarsely punctate, covered quite densely with recumbent light brown hairs (Fig. 4). Genitalia as shown in Fig. 3.

**Female.** Unknown.

#### Differential diagnosis.

The new species differs from the closely related *Attagenus ionicus* Zhantiev, 2005 mainly by the slenderer form of the body (Fig. 5), the lack of elytral fasciae (Fig. 5) and deviating shape of the aedeagus (Fig. 6), which is conspicuously rhombic in *A. ionicus*, and more or less broadly wedge-shaped in *A. pushkini* n. sp. From all other similar looking species of the nominal subgenus (*Attagenus* s. str.) occurring in Russia it could easily be distinguished by the combination of the shape of the antennal club, the uniform elytral pubescence and the form of the genitalia.

#### Etymology.

The name of the new species is dedicated to Sergey Viktorovich Pushkin from Stavropol/Russia, the collector of the holotype.

#### Acknowledgements

We are very obliged to Sergey Viktorovich Pushkin from Stavropol/Russia for giving us the interesting dermestids recently collected in Dagestan.

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**Figs. 1-4.** - Male of *Attagenus (Attagenus) pushkini* sp. n.  
 1. - Habitus. 2. - Antenna. 3. - Genitalia. 4. - Abdomen.



**Figs. 5-6.** - Male of *Attagenus (Attagenus) ionicus* Zhantiev, 2005.

5. - Habitus. 6. - Genitalia.

