

NOTA / NOTE

First record of *Itamus castaneus* Schmidt-Goebel, 1846
(Coleoptera: Carabidae: Paussinae) for Pakistan.Zubair Ahmed¹, Tasmia Kabir¹ & M.A. Akhter²

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Abstract: The species *Itamus castaneus* Schmidt-Goebel, 1846 is first time reported from Pakistan. Data on its distributional status are also provided.

Key words: Coleoptera, Carabidae, Paussinae, *Itamus castaneus*, new record, Pakistan.

Resumen: Primera cita de *Itamus castaneus* Schmidt-Goebel, 1846 (Coleoptera: Carabidae: Paussinae) en Pakistán. Se cita por primera vez para Pakistán la especie *Itamus castaneus* Schmidt-Goebel, 1846 (Coleoptera: Carabidae: Paussinae). Se aportan datos sobre su distribución.

Palabras clave: Coleoptera, Carabidae, Paussinae, *Itamus castaneus*, primera cita, Pakistán.

Recibido: 16 de diciembre de 2014

Publicado on-line: 31 de diciembre de 2014

Aceptado: 20 de diciembre de 2014

The family Carabidae comprises more than 40,000 species, which more than 30% of species are arboreal, though in general temperate species are terrestrial, most are also flightless and predatory (Stork, 1990). They are efficient predators of different crops included cotton (Ghahari et al., 2009).

Within the subfamily Paussinae, the tribe Ozaenini is divided into two subtribes, Ozaenina and Pseudozaenina. The subtribe Pseudozaenina, where *Itamus castaneus* Schmidt-Goebel, 1846 is placed, contains 59 species with mainly an Oriental and Indo-Malayan distribution. The genus *Itamus* Loew, 1849 contains four species worldwide, being *Itamus castaneus* distributed in Laos, Sri Lanka, Taiwan and now, for the first time, also in Pakistan (Lorenz, 2005; Löbl & Smetana, 2003).

The ground beetle fauna of Pakistan is inadequately known. Some works were carried out on biodiversity and systematics of ground beetles from District Poonch, Azad Kashmir (Rahim et al., 2013a; 2013b). Chaudhry et al. (1966) listed twelve species from West Pakistan, while Hashmi & Tashfeen (1992) gave an inventory of species, listing only eight species under the family Paussidae.

In September 2013, *Itamus castaneus* was collected by the first author in Thar Desert Sindh (Pakistan) at lights of a petrol pump in the entry of Mithi Town. Along petrol pump, xerophytic plants spread and in the population areas, they cultivate pulses, legumes et con small scale. The species is deposited in the Zoological Museum, Federal Urdu University of Arts, Science & Technology, Karachi (Pakistan). In May 2014, this species was also collected at the super highway petrol pump in Noshehroferoz, Sindh.

Diagnostic characters:

Head slightly convex with fine longitudinally serrate at sides, paraglossae completely fused with ligula and form corneous whole; eyes not prominent as large as genae; prothorax slightly convex, apex

projected, widely explanate and scarcely reflexed at sides, transverse impression rather deep, disc rugosely striate; elytra twice as long as wide, shoulder forming a short tooth; legs with tibiae crenulate.

Material examined:

Pakistan: Sind Province, Tharparkar, 5.IX.2014, 1♂, leg. Ahmed, Z.; Sind Province, Noshehroferoz, 13.V.2014, 1♂, leg. Ahmed, Z.

This research work is part of the B.S. Thesis of the second author who is studying in the Department of Zoology, Federal Urdu University of Arts, Science & Technology, Karachi, Pakistan.

Acknowledgement

We are indebted to Dr. Alexander Anichtchenko, who identified the species.

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