

A NEW SPECIES OF CARABIDAE (INSECTA: COLEOPTERA) FROM  
IRAQ

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ABSTRACT

*Aniera desert/cola* was found new to science and to the Iraqi fauna. The description was mainly based on external features and male genitalia

INTRODUCTION

The Carabidae of Iraq were very poorly studied and were only known from faunistic. The first list made by Heyden (1888), comprised only six species one of which determined only to genus. Holdhaus (1919) identified 18 species in a collection of Iraqi carabids. 5 of these were described as new. Raubal (1932) recorded seven species from Baghdad and described one as new. Andrewes (1927) identified 18 species in a collection from Arabian Gulf. Ali (1966) made an extensive work on Iraqi carabidae identified and keyed in the Department of Entomology of British Museum (N.H.). Fauna of Iraq still need further investigation which may introduce more records and new species.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Small collection of carabids containing 12 specimens were taken by the author to the Dept. of Entomology of the British Museum (N. H.) in 1990. Where this species was isolated, compared and named.

The genitalia were described by pulling the aedeagus through the opening between the last abdominal plates. The genitalia were then softened in warm 10% in solution of KOH. To evert the interval sac of the aedeagus, pressure was applied to the basal part of the median lobe while pulling the internal sac through the median orifice. The genitalia were preserved in glycerin in a microvial and pinned with the type specimen which have been kept in the British Museum (N.H.).

*Aniera desert/cola* sp. n.

Male-length 11.5 mm. width 4.5mm.

Head length 2.4mm. Width 2.2mm.

Pronotum 2mm. Width 2.5mm.

Body uniformly pale yellow. Head convex, smooth with small but prominent eyes. front foveae short and fairly deep. Pronotum with convex disk, apex slightly emarginate. base truncate sides rounded in front and strongly contracted behind forming with basal margin right angles, median line fine and distinct. Both pronotal apex and base punctate. sides with two marginal setae.

Elytra oval, with fine distinct setae. Punctuations of striae slightly separated and marked by black dots. Lateral border of elytra angulate at shoulders. Scutellary striole present. Striae 6 and 7 not reaching the basal margin of elytra. Intervals flat and smooth.

The whole ventral side of abdomen smooth and glabrous except the presence of a transverse row of setae along the hind margin of the last abdominal sternite. The anal margin of the last abdominal sternite has 3 fixed setae on each side.

#### Inheritance of dark head

Distribution —Holotype from a mud desert south of Baghdad March 1935. (British Museum)  
Comparative notes- *Ainasa deserticola* sp. n. is closest to *A. rut/iena* Tsch. from Arabia can be distinguished by having flat elytra with shallow striae *A. deserticola* can also be differentiated by its yellowish white color while *A. ruthena* being yellowish red. *A. deserticola* has distinctive male genitalia (Fig.1).

Holotype >

Paratype 11 specimens > & ♀

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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List of Abbreviations

B.M.=Basal membrane

B.P.=Basal piece

E.D.=ejaculatory duct

I.S.Internal sac

L. P.=Lateral Paramere

M.L.=Median lobe

M.O.=Median orifice

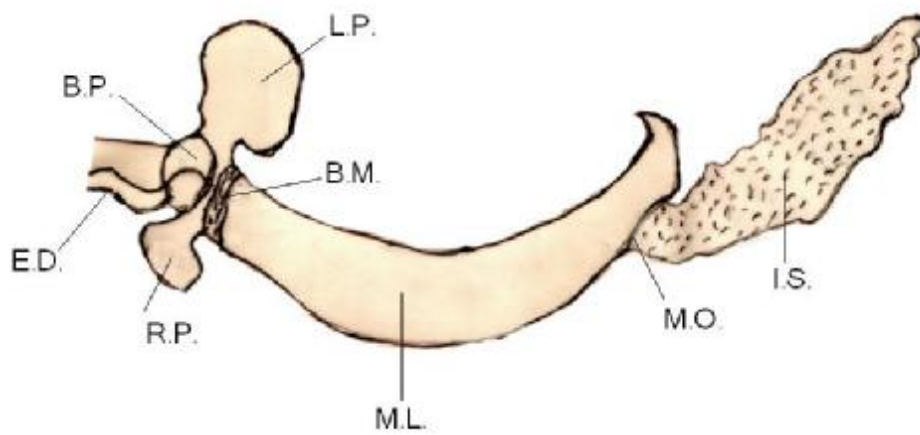


Fig.1

List of Ablevation

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