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ON TAXONOMIC POSITION OF SOME HORSEFLY SPECIES (DIPTERA, TABANIDAE) FROM TALYSH PROVINCE

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On Taxonomic Position of Some Horsefly Species (Diptera, Tabanidae) from Talysh. Andreeva R. V., Zeynalova Z. A. — *Atylotus talyschensis* sp. n. is described; it is similar to *A. rusticus ochraceus* Olsufjev et Melnikova, differing by elongate appendage of R₄ vein, abdomen coloration, shape of frontal calluses and 3rd antennal joint. Species rank is given to *T. terterjani* Andreeva et Dolin, 1982 (originally described in subspecies rank, as *Tabanus canipalpis terterjani* Andreeva et Dolin), based upon comparison with characters of nominotypical subspecies.

Key words: Diptera, Tabanidae, horse-flies, Azerbaijan, new species, new rank.

К таксономии некоторых видов слепней (Diptera, Tabanidae) Тальша. Андреева Р. В., Зейналова З. А. — Описан *Atylotus talyschensis* sp. n., сходный с *A. rusticus ochraceus* Olsufjev et Melnikova и отличающийся удлиненным отростком R₄, окраской брюшка, формой лобных мозолей и 3-го членика усиков. Придан видовой ранг *T. terterjani* Andreeva et Dolin, 1982 (первоначально описанному в подвидовом ранге как *Tabanus canipalpis terterjani* Andreeva et Dolin) на основании сравнения с признаками номинативного вида.

Ключевые слова: Diptera, Tabanidae, слепни, Азербайджан, новый вид, новый ранг.

Talysh, the south-eastern province of Azerbaijan, is a well-reputed region among entomologists as a refuge of relict insect fauna elsewhere extinct, including rare southern European and Mediterranean forms and endemic species of several insect orders.

Five endemic tabanid species have been recorded for Talysh (Zeynalova, 2001) including the part, which extends into adjoining territories of Iran; one species, belonging to the genus *Atylotus* Osten Sacken, is found to be new for science. Its description is given below. *Tabanus canipalpis terterjani* Andreeva et Dolin, originally described from Armenia (Andreeva, Dolin, 1982) recently was found in Talysh.

Atylotus talyschensis Andreeva et Zeynalova, sp. n.

Type material. Holotype ♀, Azerbaijan, Bilasuvar reg., near village Samedabad, 1.07.2000 (Zeynalova) (SIZK); paratypes: 3 ♀, same data as in holotype (SIZK, APUB).

Description. Female. Eyes bare, frontal strip parallel, 4–4.2 times as long as broad, sometimes a little broader in the middle, covered with light, yellow incrustation and short sparse aureate-bronze hairs (fig. 1). Frontal calluses well-marked, large and shining; lower frontal callus nearly circular, light-brown, divided in halves by a vertical groove; middle frontal callus ovate, oblong antero-posteriorly, sometimes a little narrower than lower callus (fig. 1), and black. Occiput posterior to eyes clothed with short, rather sparse light hairs. Antennae pale-yellow, 3rd antennal segment 1.5 times as long as its maximal breadth (fig. 2), its angle obtuse and rounded, located in basal third of segmental facet. Antennal palpi pale-yellow; apical segment slender, strongly ensiform, covered with dense light hairs with several black hairs interspersed (fig. 3). Prothorax greyish-black, notopleura light-brown. Legs light-brown, or sometimes dark-yellow; tarsi and tips of hind tibiae darkened. Wings hyaline; R₄ vein with long appendage. Abdomen reddish-brown with spots of short, yellow and black hairs. Ab-

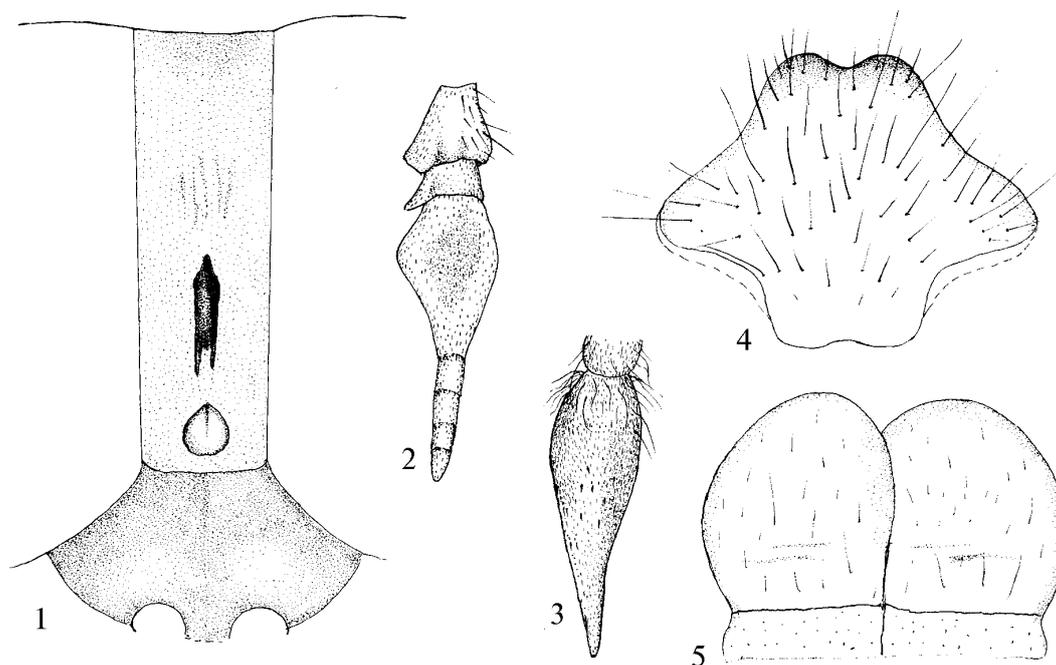


Fig. 1–5. *Atylotus talyschensis*: 1 – frontal stripe; 2 – antenna; 3 – palpus; 4, 5 – terminalia (4 – subgenital plate, 5 – cerci).

Рис. 1–5. *Atylotus talyschensis*: 1 – лобная полоска; 2 – усик; 3 – щупик; 4, 5 – терминалии (4 – VIII стернит, 5 – церки).

dominal tergites I and II with narrow black median strip, less than 1/5 the breadth of tergite; tergite have with black transverse spot in the middle; tergites VI and VII almost entirely black. Gonapophysis (subgenital plate, fig. 4) moderately wide, with a small apical notch in the middle; cerci oval, rounded at apex (fig. 5). Abdomen ventrally reddish-yellow-brown with a small black spot in the middle of sternite I, which extends to and on anterior margin of sternite II. Body length 12.0–13.3 mm.

Male unknown.

Position of *A. talyschensis* sp. n. is intermediate between the groups of yellow-brown and bluish- or blackish-grey species (Olsufiev, 1977: 283). The new species shares reddish-yellow-brown gaster with the first group, while in its dark thorax and the absence of ochreous hairs on gastral tergites the new species resembles species in the second group. Frontal calluses of *A. talyschensis* are similar to those of *A. rusticus* Linnaeus, differing in the lower callus brown in *A. talyschensis* (as in *A. quadrifarius* Low) whereas in *A. rusticus*, it is black. Shape of the apical segment of antennal palpi, also is similar to that in *A. rusticus*. In *A. talyschensis* it the apical segment is clothed with more uniformly light hairs with only occasional admixture of black ones. Otherwise *A. talyschensis* sp. n. is clearly distinct from *A. rusticus* in the coloration and piliation of abdomen, in the shape of terminalia and by the longer appendage of the R₄ vein.

***Tabanus terterjani* Andreeva et Dolin, 1982, change of rank**

Tabanus canipalpis terterjani Andreeva et Dolin, 1982 (description of imago and larva); Andreeva, 1990.

Described from Armenia (Garni area of the Khosrov Reserve) as a subspecies of *Tabanus canipalpis* Bigot occurring in south-eastern Iran (Baluchistan province in subtropics, on date palm cultivation lands). Based on examination of specimens of *T.*

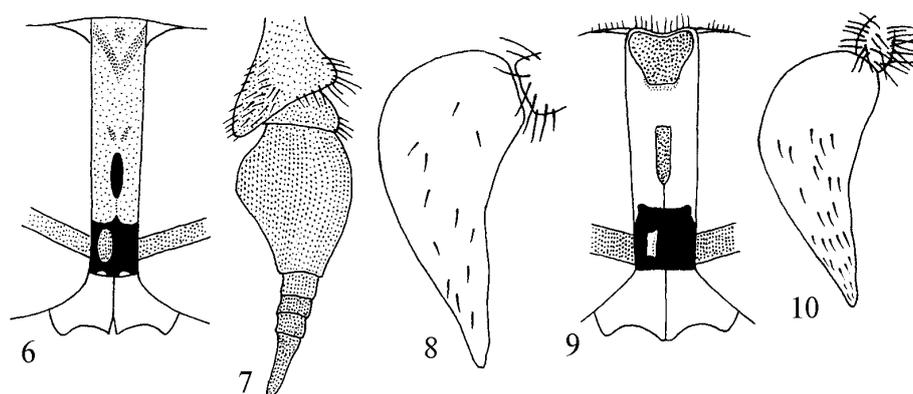


Fig. 6–10. 6–8 — *Tabanus terterjani*; 9, 10 — *T. canipalpis*. 6, 9 — frontal stripe; 7 — antenna; 8, 10 — palpi.
Рис. 6–10. 6–8 — *Tabanus terterjani*; 9, 10 — *T. canipalpis*. 6, 9 — лобная полоска; 7 — усик; 8, 10 — щупик.

Table 1. Morphological differences of *T. canipalpis* and *T. terterjani*

Таблица 1. Морфологические отличия *T. canipalpis* и *T. terterjani*

Morphological characters	<i>T. canipalpis</i> Bigot	<i>T. terterjani</i> Andr. et Dolin
	♀	
Frontal stripe	4–4.5 times as long as broad at base (fig. 9)	5–5.5 times as long as broad at base (fig. 6)
Middle frontal callus	rectangular	narrowly fusiform
Palpae	1.5 times longer as wide (fig. 10)	2.2 times longer as wide (fig. 8)
Ocular strip	broader, abutting on eye margin	narrow, not reaching eye margin
Angle between ocular and frontal strip	73° (fig. 9)	65° (fig. 6)
Prevailing colour of body	pale-yellowish	dark-greyish
Tarsi	only fore tarsi black	all black
	♂	
Smaller facets of eye occupying	3/4 of eye surface	2/3 of eye surface
Dorsal angle of 3rd antennal segment	rounded	right and pointed
Apical palpal segment	1.5 times as long as broad	2–2.2 times as long as broad
Body length	11–12 mm	9.5–11.0 mm

canipalpis Bigot s. str., however, several important differences between them were found. It allows us to raise *T. terterjani* from subspecies to the full species rank.

Main differences are in the characters of the frontal stripe, in the inclination of ocular stripe, the colour of body and legs, on the terminalia, and in average body length. The differences are summarised in the table 1.

No doubt, therefore, these two morphological forms represent two separate species based on differences of examined characters.

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