

***Phymatodes (Phymatoderus) vandae* sp. nov. from Greece  
(Coleoptera: Cerambycidae)**

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**Abstract.** *Phymatodes (Phymatoderus) vandae* sp. nov., close to *P. (P.) lividus* (Rossi, 1794), is described from Kefalonia Island (Greece) from two female specimens. The new species is characterized by the very wide black prothorax which is laterally angulate. The description is accompanied with a color photo of the holotype and differential diagnosis.

**Taxonomy, new species, Coleoptera, Cerambycidae, *Phymatodes*, *Phymatoderus*, Greece**

The genus *Phymatodes* Mulsant, 1839 (currently with about 29 species in the Palaearctic region) is traditionally accepted in the current publication to consist of six subgenera: *Melasmetus* Reitter, 1913, *Paraphymatodes* Plavilstshikov, 1934, *Phymatodellus* Reitter, 1913, *Phymatoderus* Reitter, 1913, *Phymatodes* and *Poecilium* Fairmaire, 1864.

Recently such a system was used by NIISATO (2007) for the *Phymatodes* of Japan. Each of the *Phymatodes* subgenera was regarded as a separate genus by VILLIERS (1978), that cannot be considered an adequate decision in comparison with 'neighboring' genera of Callidiini Kirby, 1837. Partial raising of subgenera to genus level together with partial synonymy of those six names by certain authors (SAMA 2002, SLÁMA 2006) without analyses of their relations is quite ambiguous and unnatural. The species described below is a typical representative of the subgenus *Phymatoderus* (currently with about eight species in the Palaearctic region).

***Phymatodes (Phymatoderus) vandae* sp. nov.**

(Fig. 1-2)

**Type locality:** Greece, southeastern Kefalonia Island, ca. 6 km northwestern of Póros, southern border of Ágios Nikólaos village, ~ 38°09'47"N 20°43'04"E, ~250 m.

**Type specimens.** Holotype ♀ (National Museum, Prague, Czech Republic): "Greece, SE Kefalonia Isl., ca. 6 km NW of Póros: Ágios Nikólaos village (S env.), ~ 38°09'47"N 20°43'04"E, ~250 m, 10.ix.2004, ex larva iv.2005, J. Bořucký leg.". Paratype ♀ (without antennae and with slightly deformed elytra), the same data, but: v.2005 (J. Bořucký Collection, Vizovice, Czech Republic).

**Description.** Female (male unknown). Body of moderate size, length 9.7-10.0 mm (holotype 10.0 mm), width 2.7-2.8 mm (holotype 2.7 mm). Dark-brown, prothorax nearly black, head, antennae and legs lighter, elytra dark-blue with metallic luster.

Head reddish brown with slightly darker temples and occiput; visible portion strongly transverse with long erect brownish setae; occiput with rough irregular punctation; antennal tubercles smooth, shining; antennae widely separated, the distance between antennal insertions

about three times wider than width of 1<sup>st</sup> antennal joint, a little more than the distance between dorsal eye margins; depression between antennal tubercles deep, but wide. Antenna a little shorter, than body; 1<sup>st</sup> joint short, about two times longer than elongated 2<sup>nd</sup> joint; 3<sup>rd</sup> joint the longest, about 1.4 times longer than 1<sup>st</sup> and about 1.2 times longer than 4<sup>th</sup>; other joints gradually decreasing in length to antennal apex; distal joints a little darker than basal, slightly angulate apically.

Prothorax strongly transverse, widest near middle, about 1.5 times wider than long, laterally strongly angulate at middle; pronotum slightly convex, shining, covered with moderately long erect brownish setae, with rough dense irregular punctuation laterally, which become sparse at middle, with two distinct pits near lateral angulations, with several smooth irregular areas (distinct in the holotype and poorly pronounced in the paratype): small central anterior, larger central posterior and pair of largest mediolateral; prosternal intercoxal process very short, triangular, not reaching coxal middle; scutellum glabrous, transverse, semicircular.

Elytra long, 2.5-2.6 times longer, than basal width, parallel-sided, with independently rounded apices, moderately dense semi-erect short pubescence, several long erect setae near scutellum; elytral punctuation fine, dense, regular, rather deep anteriorly, becoming shallow at middle and disappearing posteriorly, modified to irregular sculpture, each puncture surrounded by small wrinkles forming more or less dull surface.

Legs with slightly clavate, slightly darkened femora, each femur without dark transverse stripe; 1<sup>st</sup> joint of posterior tarsi short, about as long as 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> together.

Abdomen slightly shining, with distinct microsculpture, relatively sparse moderately long semierect setae; last visible abdominal tergite and sternite truncated apically.

**Biology and collecting circumstances.** Reared from the dying branch of *Quercus coccifera* Linnaeus (Fagaceae), diameter ca. 5 cm. The proper tunnel was not identified. Reared together with other beetles, e.g. *Acmaeodera ottomana ottomana* (Fivaldszky, 1840), *Anthaxia hungarica hungarica* (Scopoli, 1772), *A. sponsa* Kiesenwetter, 1857 (all Buprestidae) and *Callimus angulatus angulatus* (Schrank, 1789), *Penichroa fasciata* (Stephens, 1831) *Xylotrechus arvicola* (Olivier, 1795) and *Trichoferus* spp. (all Cerambycidae). The infested wood was taken on September 10, 2004 in the sparse forest of low *Q. coccifera* along the road from Póros to Ágios Nikólaos, south of Ágios Nikólaos (Fig. 2). Adults emerged in the laboratory in April and May 2005.

**Etymology.** Accordingly to the request of the collector, the new species is named in honour of his wife Vanda.

**Distribution.** Greece, Kefalonia Island and very probable the nearest areas of the mainland Western Greece.

**Differential diagnosis.** The new species is close to *Phymatodes (Phymatoderus) lividus* (Rossi, 1794) – a very rare Mediterranean species distributed eastwards to South Russia, but not known from Western Greece. The main distinguishing character is the shape of prothorax, which is never as transverse and angulate laterally in *P. (P.) lividus*; sometimes the prothorax in *P. (P.) lividus* can be elongate and evenly rounded laterally; the smooth pronotal areas in *P. (P.) lividus* are usually raised; the antennae are not darkened distally, uniformly brown; 5<sup>th</sup>

Fig. 1. *Phymatodes (Phymatoderus) vandae* sp. nov., holotype ♀, 10.00 mm.



Fig. 2. *Quercus coccifera* along the road from Póros to Ágios Nikólaos, Greece, south-eastern Kefalonia Island, September 10, 2004. Type locality of *Phymatodes (Phymatoderus) vandae* sp. nov.



antennal joint in *P. (P.) lividus* is longer than 3<sup>rd</sup>, while in *P. (P.) vandae* sp. nov. – shorter; besides prothorax in *P. (P.) lividus* is usually orange-yellow, though forms with dark-brown or black prothorax are also known. Elytral shape and sculpture in *P. (P.) lividus* are about same as in *P. (P.) vandae* sp. nov. Most probably *P. (P.) vandae* sp. nov. is a vicariant of *P. (P.) lividus* in Southwest Greece.

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