

**A new species of *Stenus* LATREILLE of the *glacialis*-group
from Portugal
(Insecta: Coleoptera: Staphylinidae: Steninae)**

With 2 figures

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Abstract. *Stenus (Parastenus) vidua* sp. n. is described from the Algarve in southern Portugal. It is attributed to the *glacialis*-group of the subgenus *Parastenus* and distinguished from similar congeners without clearly bilobed fourth tarsomeres. The spermatheca and the valvifers are illustrated.

Introduction

Several species of the *glacialis*-group occur in the Western Mediterranean, all of them with a relict distribution (PUTHZ 1993). From the Iberian Peninsula and Morocco, four species with a simple (i. e. not or not clearly bilobed) fourth tarsomere have become known: *Stenus cyanomelas* PUTHZ (Haut Atlas, Morocco), *S. festivus* L. BENICK, *S. bussacoensis* PUTHZ, and *S. virgo* ASSING (all of them from Spain). The fact that the original descriptions of these taxa are all based on single specimens reflects their utmost rarity (ASSING 1996; PUTHZ 1967, 1971).

Material sent to me by Benedikt FELDMANN, Münster, contained a single female *Parastenus* of the *glacialis*-group from southern Portugal (Algarve), which is here hypothesized to represent a new species closely related to *S. cyanomelas* PUTHZ.

I am grateful to Dr. Volker PUTHZ, Schlitz, for the loan of material of *Stenus bussacoensis*, *S. festivus* and *S. cyanomelas* from his collection and for his comments on the manuscript, and to Benedikt FELDMANN for the gift of the holotype.

Stenus (Parastenus) vidua sp. n.

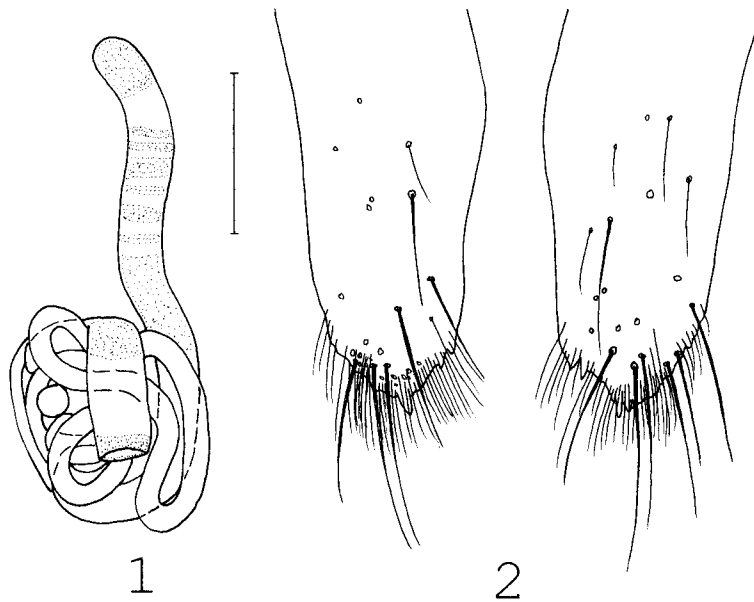
Holotype ♀: Portugal - Algarve, östl. Lagos, XII.1997, leg. C. REUTER (coll. ASSING).

Diagnosis: Measurements of holotype (in mm): body length from labrum to hind margin of abdominal tergum VIII (with abdomen fully extracted): 5.8; head width: 1.03; pronotal width: 0.72; pronotal length: 0.78; elytral width: 1.16; length of elytra at suture: 1.03.

In external morphology highly similar to *S. cyanomelas*.

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Figs 1–2: *S. vidua* sp. n.: spermatheca (1); hind part of valvifers (2). Scale: 0.1 mm.

Description:

Dorsal surface very shiny, without microsculpture. Colour of head, thorax and abdomen black, without bluish hue; maxillary palpi and antennae yellowish brown, slightly darkened apically; legs yellowish with the distal half of the femora darkened. Pronotum, elytra and abdomen with inconspicuous short and decumbent pubescence. Forebody with very coarse and dense punctation, interstices mostly very narrow.

Head narrower than elytra (see measurements); frons similar to *S. cyanomelas*, with distinct central elevation and lateral furrows. Antennae and pronotum as in *S. cyanomelas*. Elytra with distinct shoulders, surface uneven and anteriorly with distinct protuberance between suture and shoulder; elytra longer and wider than in *S. cyanomelas*, 1.32x (*S. cyanomelas*: ca. 1.20x) longer and 1.60x (*S. cyanomelas*: ca. 1.40x) wider than pronotum. Legs long and slender; tarsomeres IV simple. Punctation of abdominal terga similar to the related species.

♀: Spermatheca as in Fig. 1, proximal end very wide; hind margins of valvifers serrate, centrally distinctly denticulate, and with long and dense setae (Fig. 2).

♂: Unknown.

From the similar Western Mediterranean species with a simple fourth tarsomere *S. vidua* can be distinguished as follows:

In the externally similar *S. cyanomelas*, the surface has a bluish hue, the elytra are shorter and narrower (see diagnosis above), the valvifers are not distinctly denticulate posteriorly, and the spermatheca has more coils (see Figs 7–8 in PUTHZ 1967).

In *S. festivus*, the pronotum is dorsally ± callous, with the punctation somewhat unevenly spaced, the elytra are shorter (1.05–1.09x the length of pronotum), narrower (1.35–1.40 the width of pronotum) and more flattened in profile, the femora are stouter, and the spermatheca is much larger and only weakly coiled (see Fig. 2 in ASSING 1996).

In *S. bussacoensis* and *S. virgo*, the pubescence of pronotum, clytra and abdomen is much longer and \pm erect. Moreover, the elytra are narrower, their shoulders are less distinct, their surface is almost smooth, and the spermatheca is of different shape (see ASSING 1996).

References

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