

Kalikius schawalleri gen. et sp. nov., a new genus and species from Kashmir, India (Coleoptera: Dermestidae: Megatominae)

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Abstract: The species *Kalikius schawalleri* **gen. et sp. nov.** from India: Kashmir is described, illustrated and compared with similar genera and species.

Keywords: Taxonomy, Coleoptera, Dermestidae, Megatominae, *Kalikius*, Kashmir, India

Introduction

The new genus here described belongs to the subfamily Megatominae, tribe Megatomini, subtribe Megatomina Leach, 1815; the subtribe currently includes the genera *Cretomegatoma* Háva, 2021, *Dearthrus* LeConte, 1861, *Globicornis* Latreille in Cuvier, 1829 (*Elania* Mulsant & Rey, 1868, *Globicornis* s. str., *Hadrotoma* Erichson, 1846, *Pseudomesalia* Ganglbauer in Bodemeyer, 1900), *Hirtomegatoma* Pic, 1931, *Megatoma* Herbst, 1791 (*Megatoma* s. str., *Pseudohadrotoma* Kalík, 1951), *Socotracornis* Háva, 2013, *Sodaliatoma* Háva, 2013, *Turcicornis* Háva, 2000 and *Zhantievus* Beal, 1992 (HÁVA 2021, 2024).

While examining the unidentified material deposited in the Staatliches Museum für Naturkunde, Stuttgart, Germany, the author identified a new genus and species collected in India, Kashmir (Jammu and Kashmir), which is described here.

Material and methods

The size of the beetles or of their body parts can be useful in species recognition and thus, the following measurements were made (in mm):

total length (TL) - linear distance from anterior margin of pronotum to apex of elytra.

elytral width (EW) - maximum linear transverse distance.

head width (HW) - maximum linear transverse distance with eyes.

pronotum width (PW) - maximum linear transverse distance.

pronotum length (PL) - linear distance from anterior margin to apex of pronotum (in the middle).

Photographs were made with a Canon EOS 550 D camera, and the images were modified with Helicon Focus 7.7.5. software.

Nomenclature and systematics in this paper follow MOTYKA et. al. (2022) and HÁVA (2024).

The type material mentioned is deposited in following collection:

SMNS - Staatliches Museum für Naturkunde, Stuttgart, Germany (W. Schawaller).

The type specimen are provided with red printed labels with texts as follows: „HOLOTYPE *Kalikius* gen. nov. *schawalleri* sp. nov. Jiří Háva det. 2025”.

Taxonomy

Subfamily **Megatomini** Leach, 1815

Tribe **Megatomini** Leach, 1815

Subtribe **Megatamina** Leach, 1815

Genus ***Kalikius*** gen. nov.

Type species: *Kalikius schawalleri* **sp. nov.** (by monotypy).

Description. Body parallel, brown, covered by recumbent yellow setation, TL 2.8, (Figs. 1, 3a,b). Antennae with 9 antennomeres (Figs. 2, 5). Pronotum broader than long (PL 0.5 PW 0.9), latero-posterior parts raised, flat, discally convex (Fig. 4a,b). Prosternum forming a “collar” under which mouthparts fit when head is retracted. Legs: femora and tibiae narrow and long (Fig. 6). Tarsomeres 5-5-5. Male genitalia (Fig. 7).

Differential diagnosis. The new genus differs from other *Megatamina* genera by the 9 antennomered antennae; similar genera with 9 antennomere antennae are *Dearthrus* LeConte, 1861 and *Globicornis* subgenus *Pseudomesalia* Ganglbauer in Bodemeyer, 1900; the new genus differs from them by the following characters:

- elytra bicolorous; each elytron with red or orange fasciae or patterns (or with fasciae of white setation) - *Pseudomesalia* Ganglbauer in Bodemeyer, 1900,
- elytra unicolorous without fasciae or patterns,
- pronotum narrow in the middle, laterally flat, discally convex; posterior parts not dentate; India (Kashmir) - *Kalikius* gen. nov.,
- pronotum broad in the middle, convex; posterior parts dentate; Nearctic - *Dearthrus* LeConte, 1861.

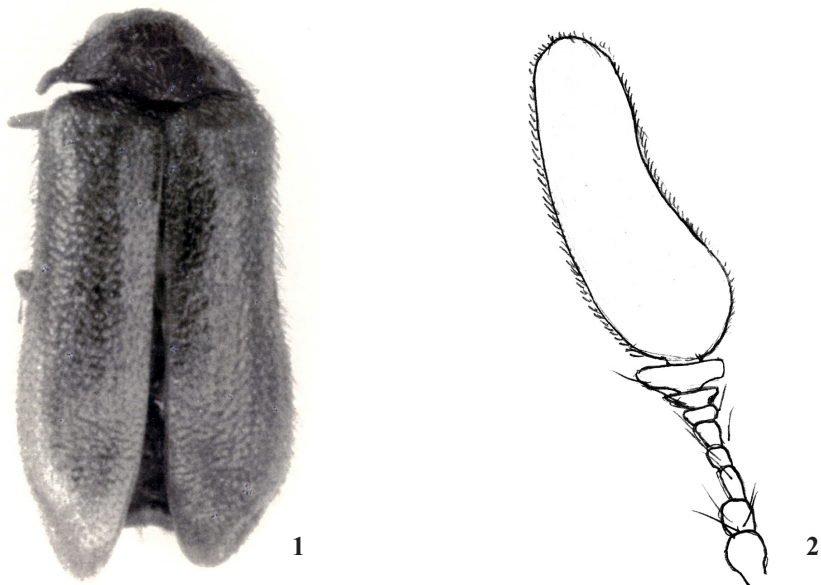
Etymology. Patronymic, dedicated in memoriam to Vladimír Kalík, specialist in Dermestidae (Coleoptera). Masculine gender.

Note. The specimen was loaned by Mr. Kalík in 1990. The specimen was severely damaged during preparation and study by Mr. Kalík. During this study, the specimen was reconstructed and glued to a new label.

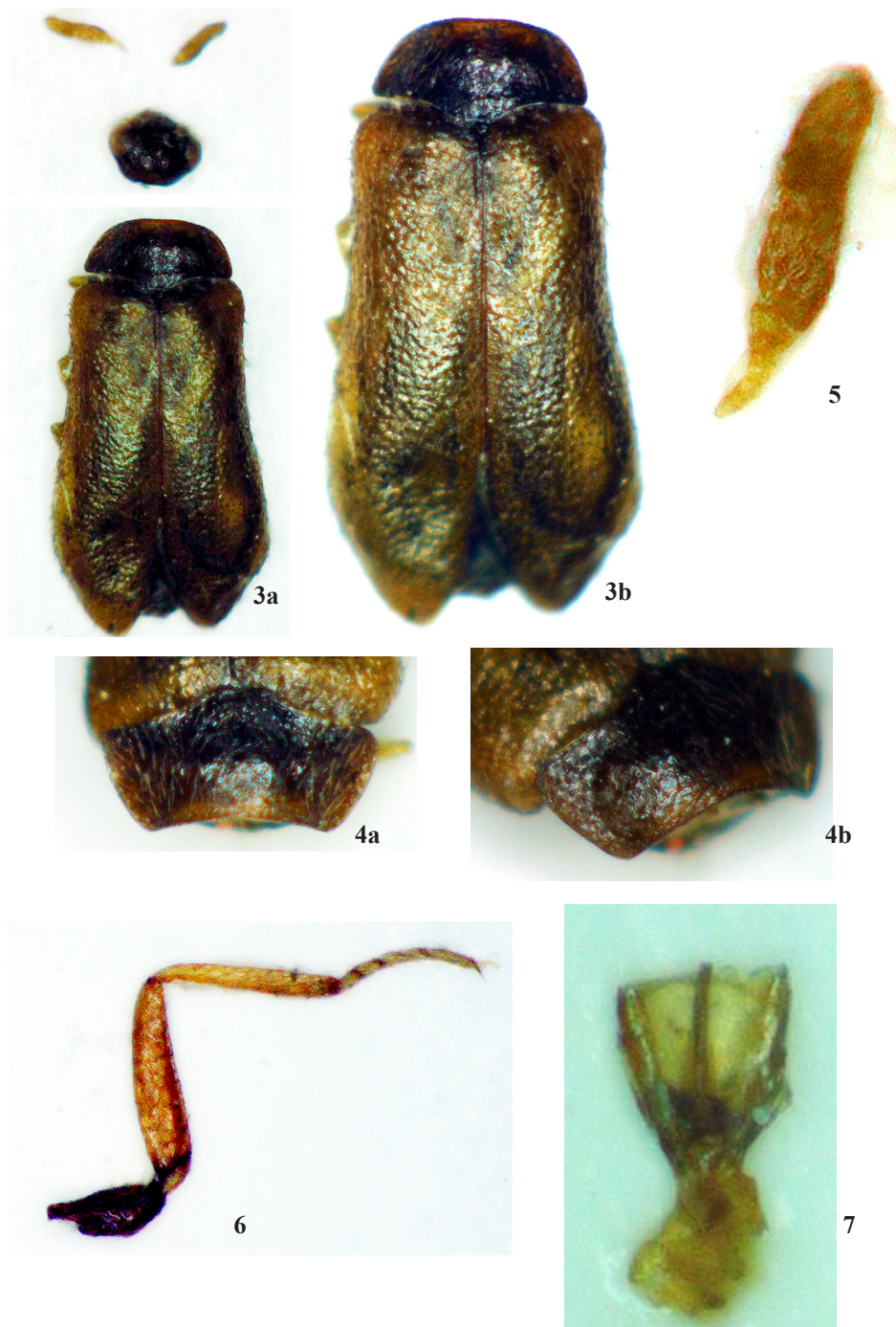
***Kalikius schawalleri* sp. nov.**
(Figs. 1-7)

Type material. Holotype (♂): „INDIA: Kashmir: Tangmarg, Pir Panjal Gebirge, 2600 m, 21-25.v.1976, Martens & Schawaller leg.“ / *Dearthrus* sp. n. V. Kalik det. 1990 / *schawalleri* sp. n. V. Kalik det. 1990, (SMNS).

Description. Male. Body parallel, dorsal surfaces brown, covered by yellow, recumbent, long setation (Figs. 1, 3a,b). Body measurements TL 2.8 EW 1.5. Head dark brown, broader than long HW 0.6, coarsely punctate, covered by yellow setation. Labial and maxillary palpomeres dark brown. Eyes large with brown microsetae, with entire median margin. Ocellus present on front. Antennae light brown covered by short yellow setation, with 9 antennomeres, terminal antennomere large (Figs. 2, 5). Antennal cavity open, finely punctate. Pronotum broader than long PL 0.5 PW 0.9, dark brown covered by yellow, recumbent setation, coarsely punctate as on head (Fig. 4a,b). Latero-posterior parts raised, flat, discally convex, without denticles. Scutellum brown, small, triangular without setation. Elytral cuticle brown, without fasciae or spots, covered by long, recumbent, yellow setation. Each elytron on anterior part near pronotum EW 1.2, in posterior part EW 1.5. Each elytron with large humeral bump. Epipleuron short, brown, with yellow setation. Prosternum forming a “collar” under which mouthparts fit when head is retracted. Mesoventrite finely punctate, with yellow, recumbent setation. Metaventrite finely punctate with yellow recumbent setation. Visible abdominal ventrites brown, covered by yellow, recumbent setation. Pygidium brown with short yellow setation. Legs light brown with short yellow setation, femora and tibiae narrow, long. Tarsomeres 5-5-5. Male genitalia (Fig. 7). The tips of the parameres curled downwards as they dried.



Figs. 1-2. *Kalikius schawalleri* sp. nov.: 1- original Kalik's photo (Stuttgart, XI.1989, Foto-Lumpe); 2- original Kalik's draft of antenna, (both before damage).



**Figs. 3-7. *Kalikius schawalleri* sp. nov.: 3a,b- habitus, dorsal aspect;
4a – pronotum dorsal aspect; 4b – pronotum, dorso-lateral aspect; 5- antennal club;
6- posterior leg; 7- male genitalia.**

Female. Unknown.

Differential diagnosis. See diagnosis of the genus.

Etymology. Patronymic, dedicated to the collector of the new species Wolfgang Schawaller (Stuttgart, Germany).

Distribution. India: Jammu and Kashmir (Fig. 8.)

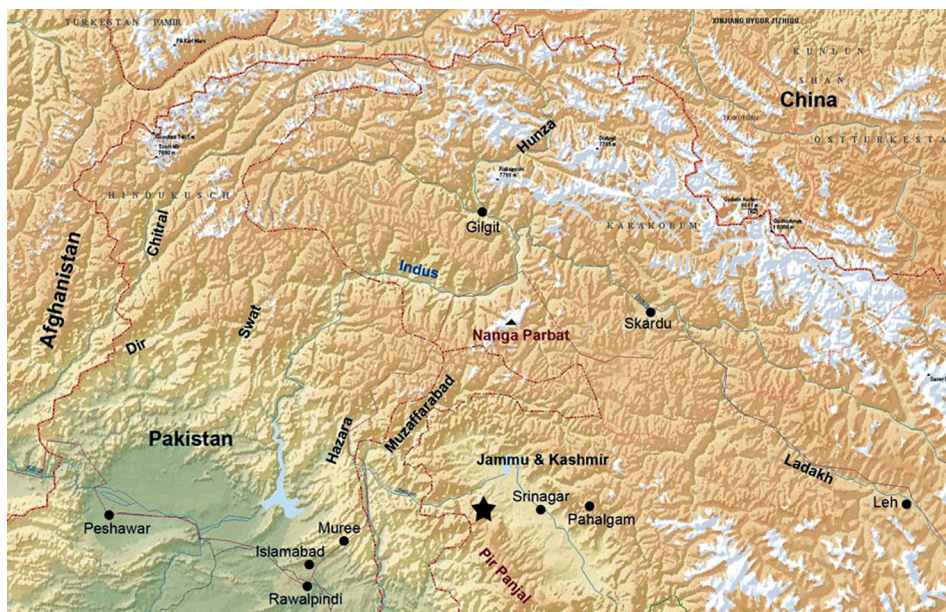


Fig. 8: The investigated area with record of *Kalikius* in the Indian Kashmir.

Names of regions are used in a geographical, not political sense, because some country borders are disputed. (according to SCHAWALLER 2014)

Acknowledgements

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