

## ***Dolichus halensis* (Schaller, 1783) (Coleoptera: Carabidae) and *Mogulones abbreviatulus* (Fabricius, 1792) (Coleoptera: Curculionidae) new to Estonia**

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Two species of Coleoptera are reported as new to Estonia. Two specimens of the ground beetle *Dolichus halensis* (Schaller, 1783) were recorded in Saare County and a single specimen of the true weevil *Mogulones abbreviatulus* (Fabricius, 1792) was recorded in Pärnu County during the years 2015–2019. Both species are likely to have recently spread to Estonia from more southern regions.

Kaksi kovakuoriaislajia ilmoitetaan ensimmäistä kertaa Virosta. *Dolichus halensis* (Schaller, 1783) -maakiitäjäinen tavattiin kahdesti Saarenmaalta ja *Mogulones abbreviatulus* (Fabricius, 1792) -kärsäkäs kerran Pärnumaalta vuosina 2015–2019. Molemmat lajit ovat todennäköisesti levinneet hiljattain Viroon etelän suunnasta.

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After the publication of the latest checklist of Northern European Coleoptera (Silfverberg 2010), a large number of new beetle species have been reported from Estonia (particularly in Roosileht 2015, also Siitonen 2013, Silfverberg 2014, Siitonen & Salokannel 2015). Active entomologists and expanding southern and southeastern species will probably ensure that the trend will continue in the future. In this short communication, *Dolichus halensis* (Schaller, 1783) and *Mogulones abbreviatulus* (Fabricius, 1792) are reported as new species to Estonia with some further information about the records.

### *Dolichus halensis* (Schaller, 1783)

The first Estonian specimen of *D. halensis* was found in Saare County, Saaremaa Parish, Mändjala village, 58.209 °N, 22.313 °E (WGS84), on 27th July, 2015 (J. Siitonen leg.). The specimen was found on a sandy beach under seaweed and other debris flushed to the shore by a strong southeastern wind. It seemed probable that the specimen was a drift from the mainland, Kolka cape in Latvia, or further south.

The second specimen (Fig. 1) was found in Saare County, Saaremaa Parish, Paimala village, 58.282 °N, 22.584 °E (WGS84), on 18th August, 2019 (M. Mustonen leg., ID: MMu19-608). The single specimen was found on the ground in a harvested grainfield (Fig. 2). The weather was warm and sunny and the specimen was actively running. The place of discovery was located approximately four kilometers from the seashore. An inland record from a habitat that is typical for the species may indicate that the species has an established local population.



**Figure 1.** *Dolichus halensis* (Schaller, 1783), 15.8 mm (specimen MMu19-608). Photo by Keijo Mattila.



**Figure 2.** Harvested grainfield in Paimala village, the habitat of *Dolichus halensis*. Photo by Matias Mustonen

The ground beetle (Carabidae) *D. halensis* (Schaller, 1783) is a rather large (13–19 mm) predatory beetle with a Palearctic distribution. It is the only European species of its genus and usually easily recognizable by its size, yellow slender appendages, yellow pronotal side margins and the large rufo-testaceous patch in the anterior half of its elytra. It prefers habitats with cultural influence and lives especially on open, cultivated fields (Lindroth 1944, 1986, Freude *et al.* 1976). The adults are most numerous in the breeding time in late summer. Only larvae overwinter.

According to Lindroth (1986), the species is a pronounced steppe element in Swedish fauna which probably only intermittently breeds in the country, population maintenance being dependent on immigration from the south or east. During the 19th century it was a rather common species in Denmark and in the western parts of Scania but in the beginning of the 20th century it virtually disappeared from these countries (Lindroth 1944, Hallqvist *et al.* 2010). In Sweden, the species was classified as a nationally extinct in the early 21st century (Gärdenfors 2005). Some older records from Latvia and Lithuania have been reported (Ogijewicz 1933, Lindroth 1944) but the possible changes in the Baltic populations are inadequately known.

However, at present the species seems to have established populations both in southern Sweden and southern Baltic area. In Sweden, the species was rediscovered in 2003 after a long absence and since that it has been recorded in the six southernmost Swedish provinces up to Gotland (Hallqvist *et al.* 2010, ArtDataBanken 2019).

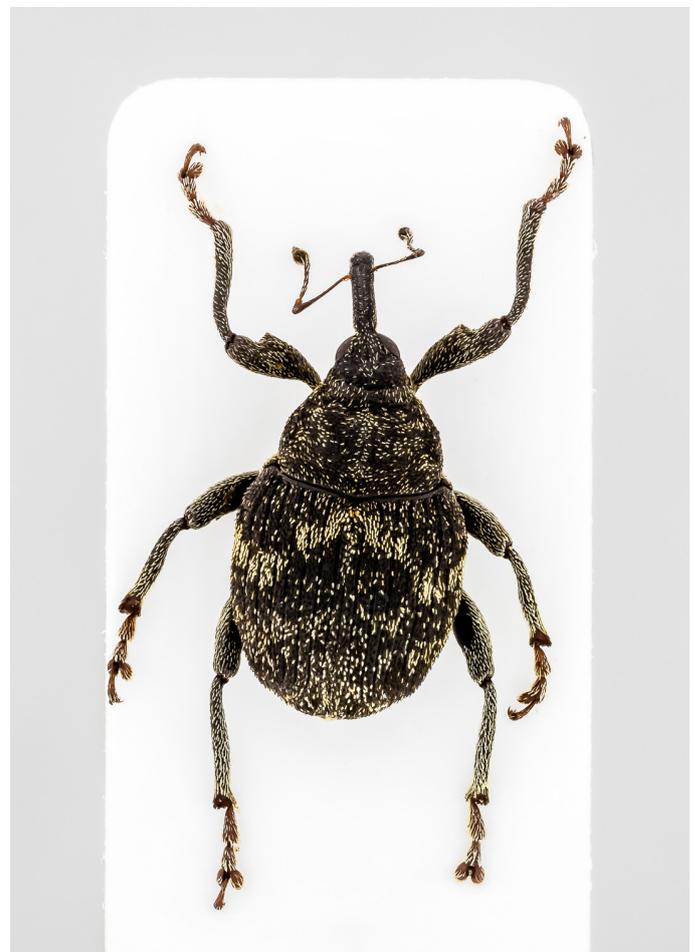
In Lithuania, the species has been regularly caught by pit-fall traps in grainfields during recent years (e.g. Tamutis *et al.* 2004, 2007, Kazlauskaitė *et al.* 2015) and it has also been found in several locations in Latvia (Telnov *et al.* 2016). There are no records from Finland or Norway, but it may be expected that the species continues its expansion further in Northern Europe.

### *Mogulones abbreviatulus* (Fabricius, 1792)

The first Estonian specimen of *M. abbreviatulus* (Fig. 3) was found in Pärnu County, Tori Parish, Tori alevik, 58.483 °N, 24.816 °E (WGS84), on 18th June, 2018 (M. Mustonen leg., ID: MMu18-350). The specimen was found by sweep-netting on the bank of Pärnu river, under the well-known sandstone outcrops (Fig. 4). The species composition of vegetation was not recorded, but the host plant species *Symphytum officinale* was probably present.

The weevil (Curculionidae) *M. abbreviatulus* (Fabricius, 1792) is a comparatively large (4.6–5.7 mm) member of the subfamily Ceutorhynchinae. The species has a Central European distribution, from Spain in the west to the southeastern parts of European Russia in the east (Rheinheimer & Hassler 2010). It lives mainly on sandy riverbanks, feeding exclusively on comfrey, *Symphytum officinale*. It is separated from the related species especially by its large size, smooth prosternum without a rostrum furrow, and the rather indistinct white transverse band on its elytra (Dieckmann 1972, Freude *et al.* 1999).

*M. abbreviatulus* is already known from Lithuania (Silfverberg 2004) and Latvia where it was first recorded in 2003 (Telnov *et al.* 2005). In Germany, it is a widely distributed but rare



**Figure 3.** *Mogulones abbreviatulus* (Fabricius, 1792), 6.0 mm (specimen MMu18-350). Photo by Keijo Mattila.



**Figure 4.** The bank of Pärnu river in Tori, the habitat of *Mogulones abbreviatulus*. Photo by Matias Mustonen

species (Rheinheimer & Hassler 2010). The species has not yet been recorded in Denmark or Fennoscandia, but the beetle could be found from suitable habitats in other new regions as well as its host plant *S. officinale* is relatively common in the southern parts of the Nordic countries.

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