

# Additions to our knowledge of the ground beetle (Coleoptera: Carabidae) fauna of Cyprus

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**Abstract.** Twelve species of ground beetle (Coleoptera: Carabidae) previously unreported or considered unconfirmed from Cyprus are listed as new or confirmed for the island on the basis of new material and re-examination of museum specimens. Additional information is provided on the date, method of capture and locality. Notes are provided on specimens from four species previously reported from the island which were re-examined and found to have been incorrectly determined.

**Key words.** Carabidae, Coleoptera, ground beetles, faunistics, Cyprus.

## Introduction

The first significant set of records of Carabidae from the island of Cyprus dates back to Eugenio TRUQUI, a Sardinian consul resident on the island in the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century. After TRUQUI'S death, his collection was examined by the eminent coleopterist BAUDI DI SELVE, whose publication included the descriptions of several new species, e.g. *Amara aberrans*, *Amblystomus picinus*, and a total Carabidae list of 188 species from Cyprus and surrounding countries (BAUDI DI SELVE 1864). The French collector PIOCHARD DE LA BRÛLERIE extended his trip to Palestine by visiting Cyprus for several weeks in early spring 1869 and his publication (LA BRÛLERIE 1875) added to the known fauna of the island, listing 66 species from Cyprus and also describing further new endemics, e.g. *Platyderus cyprius* and *Trechus olympicus*.

In the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, during the era of British administration, both Cypriot and UK appointed entomologists were active on the island. Most notable amongst these were H. M. MORRIS, TH. SHIAKIDES and G. MAVROMOUSTAKIS, and it is from a small part of their collections, held at the Ministry of Agriculture, Nicosia, that GEORGHIOU (1977) drew up his list of the island's Carabidae. JEANNE'S (1986) paper on Cyprus ground beetles provided a significant modern era benchmark bringing together the findings of previous authors, updating nomenclature, making several new additions from his own short visit, and in total listing 142 species.

Currently the *Fauna Europaea* database (VIGNA TAGLIANTI 2004) lists 171 species as recorded from the island, and a further 26 species are listed as doubtfully recorded. A number of those species considered doubtful are due to questions raised by JEANNE (1986) about the determination of several of the specimens from which GEORGHIOU (1977) compiled his list. It is important to note also that the *Fauna Europaea* (VIGNA TAGLIANTI 2004) adopts the same protocol as both LA BRÛLERIE (1875) and JEANNE (1986) and only confirms 23 species listed in BAUDI (1864) for which the citation of Cyprus is explicit. Ambiguity still surrounds the exact provenance of over 150 species listed for Cyprus and Turkey in BAUDI'S paper