

FIRST RECORD OF *BOSTRICHUS CAPUCINUS* (L.) (COLEOPTERA:  
BOSTRICHIDAE) IN IRAQ

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ABSTRACT

The species *Bostrichus capucinus* (L.) (Coleoptera:Bostrichidae) was reported as a new record for Iraq. Diagnostic characters and some information are given.

Key word: Bostrichidae, *Bostrichus*, *capucinus*, first record, Iraq.

INTRODUCTION

Bostrichidae is a medium sized (~ 500 species) family of beetles, often referred to as powder-post beetles because of their ability to reduce wood or bamboo to thin external shell covering the frass produced by the boring activities of the adult and larvae (Roger *et al* 2011). The borers (Bostrichidae, Curculionidae, Platypodidae, and Scolytinae) attack the wood at all stages from log to seasoned wood and furnished products (Findlay, 1985).

The species *Bostrichus capucinus* (L.) is found in all Europe (except in Norway, Sweden, Scotland, Ireland and Northern Russia), Mediteranian Islands, Morocco, Algeria and Northern Tunis, Asia Minor, Syria and Caucasus (Fisher, 1950).

In 1843, Du Boys presented to A Coleopterous insects, also the Soclete d Agriculture of Limoges some stereo typed plates composed as is known, of very hard alloy formed of antimony and lead which had been pierced and riddled with holes by 2 specimens of *Bostrichus*.

The holes were seventh of an inch in diameter, by 2 inches in depth. Before this, parts of leaden roofs at La Rochelle had been noticed not only gnawed but pierced from one side to the other by the larvae of *Bostrichus capucinus* (Figuier, 1968). Experiments indicating that larvae of *B. capucinus* developed faster in roots than in branched (Pranter, 1960).

During field study carried out in Diyala Governorate, middle of Iraq in 2011, we collected unknown insects from branches of pomegranate trees from Gesub Village in Khalis directorate (about 15 km north of Baquba city).

The insect has been identified by Dr. M. S. Abdul-Rassoul and Dr. R. S. Augul at Iraq National History Research Center and Museum, according to the letter No. 488 on 7<sup>th</sup> April 2013 as *Bostrichus capucinus* (L.) (Coleoptera: Bostrichidae). It is important to mention that this is the first record to this species in Iraq.

DIAGNOSTIC CHARACTERS

The descriptions given below are based on those of Fisher, 1950: Male: Elongate, slightly depressed, black,except elytron and four posterior abdominal sternites, which are red, antenna palpi, labrum and tarsi reddish brown.

### First Record of *Bostrichus capucinus*

Head much narrower than pronotum, uneven, sometimes with more or less distinct longitudinal groove on vertex, coarsely confluent, rugosely punctate, sparsely clothed with long, erectate and inconspicuous hairs.

Pronotum slightly wider than long. Widest near middle, strongly deflexed on apical half. Surface uneven, densely, irregularly punctate, coarsely confluent, granulate between punctures with numerous, irregularly placed, broad, rasplike teeth at sides on anterior half, and a transversely arcuate ridge. Which is interrupted at middle, near anterior margin, rather densely clothed with long, erect, brownish hairs, at sides and long anterior margins.

Elytra at base subequal in width, to pronotum at middle with narrow, smooth, costa, extending along lateral margins, surface glabrous shining, densely, deeply coarsely punctate. Body beneath densely, finely punctate, sparsely clothed with long, semierect hairs on sternum and apex of last abdominal sternite, with very short and recumbent inconspicuous hairs on abdomen, posterior tarsi armed on under side with long silky, brown hairs.

**Female:** different from the male in not having the long, silky, brown hairs on the underside of the posterior tarsi. Length: 7.5 -16 mm, width 2.5 – 5.5 mm.

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تسجيل جديد لـ (*Bostrichus capucinus* (L.) (Coleoptera:Bostrichidae)) لأول مرة في  
العراق

جورج سيمون  
جامعة ديالى/ كلية العلوم/ قسم علوم الحياة  
العراق - ديالى

الخلاصة

تضمنت الدراسة الحالية تسجيل الحشرة (*Bostrichus capucinus* (L.) لأول مرة في  
العراق مع ذكر الصفات التشخيصية للنوع ومعلومات اخرى عنه.