

# *Capnodis carbonaria*, a new species for the Bulgarian fauna (Coleoptera: Buprestidae)

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**Abstract.** *Capnodis carbonaria* (Klug, 1829) is reported as a new species for the fauna of Bulgaria. Twelve specimens were collected in SW Bulgaria, Volcanic Hill of "Kozhouh" near "Roupite", Petrich District. All specimens were collected sitting on *Prunus delipavlovii* S. Seraf., which is probably the food plant of *C. carbonaria*.

**Samenvatting.** *Capnodis carbonaria*, een nieuwe soort voor de Bulgaarse fauna (Coleoptera: Buprestidae)

*Capnodis carbonaria* (Klug, 1829) wordt hier voor het eerst uit Bulgarije vermeld. Twaalf ex. werden in Zuidwest-Bulgarije verzameld op de vulkaan "Kozoech" bij Rupite in het Petrich district. Zij zaten alle op *Prunus delipavlovii* S. Seraf., waarschijnlijk de voedselplant van *C. carbonaria*.

**Résumé.** *Capnodis carbonaria*, une espèce nouvelle pour la faune bulgare (Coleoptera: Buprestidae)

*Capnodis carbonaria* (Klug, 1829) est mentionné ici pour la première fois de Bulgarie. Douze ex. furent capturés sur le mont volcanique "Kozouch", près de Rupite, district Petrich dans le Sud-Ouest de la Bulgarie. Tous les exemplaires étaient posés sur *Prunus delipavlovii* S. Seraf., qui est probablement la plante nourricière de *C. carbonaria*.

**Key words:** *Capnodis carbonaria* – Coleoptera – Buprestidae – distribution – Balkan Peninsula – Bulgaria.

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## Introduction

In May 1997, in Southwestern Bulgaria, at the Volcanic Hill of "Kozhouh" near "Roupite", Petrich District, several specimens of a *Capnodis* species were collected. A few years later, in May and July 2004, in the same site some more specimens of the same species were collected. A picture of one of the specimens was sent to Dr. Maurizio Gigli for identification. His answer was that the specimens in the picture, without any doubt, belong to *Capnodis carbonaria* (Klug, 1829). All the specimens collected were shown to Dr. Vladimir Sakalian, who expressed the same opinion about the species identity.

According to Sakalian (2003) four species of the genus *Capnodis* Eschscholtz, 1829 are recorded: *Capnodis tenebricosa* (Olivier, 1790), *Capnodis tenebrionis* (Linnaeus, 1761), *Capnodis cariosa* (Pallas, 1776) and *Capnodis porosa* (Klug, 1829). All the specimens of the new species for Bulgaria, *Capnodis carbonaria*, were found sitting on branches of *Prunus delipavlovii* S. Seraf. (= *Prunus webbii* (Spach) Vierh.), a rare bush at the site. According to Popova (1984: 182), the Volcanic Hill of "Kozhouh" is the only locality of *Prunus delipavlovii* in Bulgaria. *C. carbonaria* can be found together with *Capnodis tenebrionis* and *Chalcophorella stigmatica* (Shoeherr, 1817). Both these species are reported from the same locality in Sakalian (2003), but *C. carbonaria* is not reported from there, neither from Bulgaria. In the locality *C. carbonaria* has never been collected on any other tree or bush species yet. This

suggests that in Bulgaria its host plant choice must be restricted only to *Prunus delipavlovii*, the more while both the beetle and its host plant up to now are known as sympatric in this country. In other parts of its range *Armeniaca* Mill., *Cerasus* Juss., *Malus* Mill., *Persica* Mill., *Rhus* L. and *Prunus* L. are reported as host plants of *Capnodis carbonaria* (Mühle *et al.* 2000).



Habitus of *Capnodis carbonaria* (Klug, 1829), female and male.

### **Material examined**

In all 12 specimens were collected at the locality mentioned above as follows: 05–06.V.1997, 2♂ and 1♀; 09.V.1997, 2♀ in coll. Gashtarov and 1 specimen in coll. G. Murzov; 11.IV.2004, 2♀ and 1♂ in the collection of the author, 1 in coll. J.-C. Ringenbach (France), 1 in coll. T. Kurihara (Japan). One specimen from 11.IV.2004 was collected by E. Migliaccio and is presented in his collection.

### **Distribution**

The range of *Capnodis carbonaria* covers Crimea, Georgia, Armenia, Balkans, Cyprus, Turkey, Egypt, Palestine, Syria, Jordan, Lebanon and Iran (Mühle *et al.* 2000). It was reported for Former Yugoslavia and Greece (Mühle *et al.* 2000) in Balkan Peninsula.

### **Conservation status**

Up to now *Capnodis carbonaria* in Bulgaria is known only from the Volcanic Hill of "Kozhouh" near "Roupite", Petrich District. It is possible that it will be found in other localities in this part of Bulgaria. This site is some kind of protected area, but *Capnodis carbonaria* is an endangered species because of illegal human activities. Its host plant in the locality, respectively in Bulgaria, is

represented by a few bushes only, covering only a dozen of square meters. If the population of *Prunus delipavlovii* there becomes extinct, we will lose two invaluable species. Therefore, it is strongly recommended that *C. carbonaria* be included in the planned Red Data Book of Bulgaria.



View of the collecting locality of *Capnodis carbonaria*: Volcanic Hill of "Kozhouh".

### Acknowledgments

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