

Two new Acrididae from the neighbourhood
of lake Zaisan
(Orthopt.)

BY

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The following two new Acrididae were taken by me in July and August, 1928 in the valley of the lake Zaisan and in the western part of Saur Mountains.

1. **Chorthippus (Stauroderus) uvarovi** sp. nov. (fig. 1).

♂. Related to *Ch. (St.) jakobsoni* Ikonn. but differing from it in many features.

Body somewhat stout. Head with not strongly oblique face, rather thick; frontal ridge sulcate, gradually widening downwards; fo-veolae of the vertex deep, with sharp margins; antennae half again as long the as the head and pronotum taken together. Lateral keels of pronotum strongly incurved in the middle of prozona and regularly diverging both for-

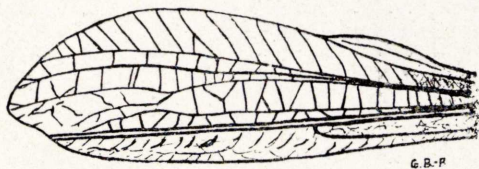


Fig. 1.—Left elytron of ♂ of *Chorthippus (Stauroderus) uvarovi* sp. nov.

wards and backwards; transverse sulcus placed a little behind the middle; hind margin roundly angulate. Elytra broad and somewhat pointed on the apex, extending beyond the middle of hind femora and almost reaching to the apex of the abdomen; mediastinae area broad, not extending to the middle of the anterior margin, with distinct false vein; scapular area not strongly expanded and not shining, subpellucid, with oblique, more or less regular veinlets; second radial

vein somewhat incrassate; longitudinal axis of elytron lies in the discoidal area near the hind radial vein; discoidal area parallel-sided, reaching to the base of the apical third, as broad as, or narrower than, the scapular area; transverse veinlets irregular; first ulnar vein straight, practically parallel to the third radial and the second ulnar veins, or feebly diverging from the latter. Wings strongly abbreviated, half as long as elytra. Subgenitale plate obtuse, short; cerci somewhat flattened, narrowly-triangular, with pointed apex. Hind femora short, thick.

General coloration dark-brown or greyish-brown. Antennae black. Lateral keels of pronotum margined with velvety-black; metazona on lateral keels with very distinct white stripes which are indistinct or absent in prozona. Hind femora with indefinite dark fasciae on outside and with a longitudinal blackish stripe at the base of the inner side; knees black; hind tibiae dirty-red with a black condylus. Apex of the abdomen reddish.

♀. Fastigium of the vertex with a distinct transversal bow-shaped impression; antennae a little longer than the head and pronotum. The latter distinctly gibbose. Elytra sharpened on the apex, not reaching to the middle of hind femora, covering somewhat more than three tergites but less than four. Valvae of the ovipositor short, without teeth.

General coloration darker than in the male sex. Antennae brownish-dark. Pronotum with narrow but distinct white stripes on the lateral keels of prozona and with very distinct broad stripes in metazona. Hind femora with more distinct dark fasciae on the outside.

Length of body ♂, 15-16 mm.; ♀, 24-26; pronotum ♂, 3.2-3.5; ♀, 4.4-4.6; elytra ♂, 9-10; ♀, 8-8.5; hind femora ♂, 9.2-10.2; ♀ 11-12.

The male type and paratypes (8 ♂♂ and 7 ♀♀) are from the western part of the Saur Mountains: the river Tshur-tsutsu, about 25 km. SSW. from Zaisansk, 29-31.VII.1928.

Ch. uvarovi is a very distinct species related to *Ch. jacobsoni* from which it differs specially by distinctly longer elytra, by venation, and by coloration of the pronotum. It was taken on the sunny stony slopes with sparse xerophilous vegetation.

I name this species in the honour of my teacher and friend, the well-known orthopterologist Mr. B. P. Uvarov.

2. *Sphingonotus halophilus* sp. nov. (fig. 2).

♂. Small, robust. Head with strongly prominent eyes, but feebly prominent above the pronotum; foveolae of the vertex very indistinct; frontal ridge in profile convex and slightly prominent above the base of antennae; fastigium of the vertex sloping, impressed but with not strongly elevated margins, median keel practically absent; face somewhat reclinate; antennae as long as the head and pronotum together. Pronotum short; median keel not elevated in prozona, but distinct; metazona half again as long as pronotum; hind margin obtusely rounded; lateral lobes with rounded fore and hind lower angles. Elytra short broad, parallel-sided, with sparse venation, reaching slightly beyond the apex of hind femora; intercalate vein in discoidal area thick, practically parallel to the third radial or, rarely, somewhat approaching it in the apical third. Wings short and broad, with sparse transversal veinlets; square cells in the middle of wing distinctly longer than broad. Hind femora short and thick. Hind tibiae considerably shorter than femora, with very thin and sparse pubescence.

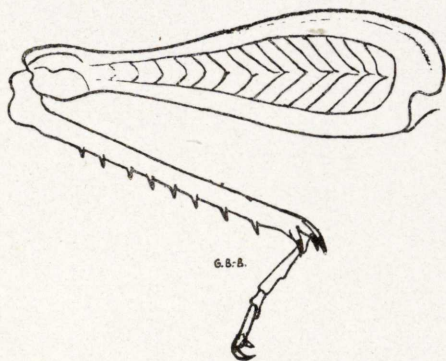


Fig. 2.—Posterior leg of *Sphingonotus halophilus* sp. nov., ♂.

General coloration pale-sepia with dark spots or somewhat darker. Antennae whitish with dark rings. Elytra with two dark transverse fasciae and with small spots in the apical third or, rarely, elytra only with some small dark spots not forming fasciae; veins darkened. Wings hyaline, shiny and pellucid as glass; veins dark. Hind femora with dark fasciae on the outside and whitish on the inner and lower sides. Hind tibiae whitish; apices of spines black.

♀. As the male but larger. Fastigium of the vertex without any trace of median keel. Antennae a little shorter than the head and pronotum together.

Coloration as in the male.

Length of body ♂, 13-14 mm.; ♀, 18-18.5; of pronotum ♂, 2.8; ♀, 3-3.1; of elytra ♂, 12-12.5; ♀, 14-14.5; hind femora ♂, 6.5-7; ♀, 8; hind tibiae ♂, 5-5.4; ♀, 6.

Described after 14 ♂♂ and 5 ♀♀ taken by me near Topolev Mys, lake Zaisan, on dried saline soil («takyr») 25-26.VII.1928 in association with *Sphingonotus salinus* Pall.

This beautiful species differs from other species of the genus *Sphingonotus* in its small size, short and broad elytra and wings which also characterised by a sparse venation; in hyaline and pellucid wings; and in short hind tibiae. It is very probable that it is related to another small species viz. *Sph. halocnemi* Uvarov described recently from the shores of the lake Tungurluk-Sor, prov. Uralsk, S. E. Russia¹, but differs from it in many features, described above. *Sph. halophilus* differs also from *Sph. halocnemi* in its ecology, as the former occurs on dried saline soil and the latter on the damp.

¹ Uvarov (B. P.): «Notes on the Acrididae (Orthoptera) of Central Asia, with descriptions of new species». *Journ. Bombay Natural Hist. Soc.*, 1925, t. xxx, N. 2, pp. 265-266.