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A NEW SUBSPECIES OF *PHYTOECIA AENIGMATICA* SAMA, RAPUZZI & REJZEK (CERAMBYCIDAE: LAMIINAE: PHYTOECIINI) FROM TURKEY

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ABSTRACT: The following new subspecies is described: *Phytoecia* (s.str.) *aenigmatica samarapuzzii* ssp. nov. from Kızıltepe district of Mardin province (Turkey), close to nominal subspecies of *Phytoecia* (s.str.) *aenigmatica aenigmatica* Sama, Rapuzzi & Rejzek.

KEY WORDS: Cerambycidae, Lamiinae, Phytoeciini, *Phytoecia, Phytoecia aenigmatica*, new subspecies, Turkey

Genus ***Phytoecia*** Dejean, 1835: 351
[Type species. *Cerambyx cylindricus* Linnaeus, 1758]

Subgenus ***Phytoecia*** Dejean, 1835: 351
[Type species. *Cerambyx cylindricus* Linnaeus, 1758]

The genus is a member of the tribe Phytoeciini Mulsant, 1839 of subfamily Lamiinae Latreille, 1825 in family Cerambycidae Latreille, 1802. The Palaearctic genus has twenty-two subgenera including the nominate subgenus. According to Tavakilian (2026), the nominate subgenus *Phytoecia* (s.str.) Dejean, 1835 includes a total of 57 species-group taxa (45 species and 12 non-nominal subspecies).

The nominate subgenus is currently represented with 26 species-group taxa (20 species and 6 non-nominal subspecies) in Turkey as below:

Phytoecia aenigmatica Sama, Rapuzzi & Rejzek, 2007: 166
Phytoecia annulipes Mulsant & Rey, 1863: 165 # ***
Phytoecia asiatica Pic, 1891: 102 # ***
Phytoecia bangi Pic, 1897: 189 #
Phytoecia bialookii Danilevsky, 2010: 22 # ***
Phytoecia bodemeyeri Reitter, 1913: 665
Phytoecia croceipes Reiche & Saulcy, 1858: 17 [RN] #
Phytoecia cylindrica Linnaeus, 1758: 394 (*Cerambyx*)
Phytoecia gamzeae Özdikmen, 2017: 23 # ***
Phytoecia geniculata geniculata Mulsant, 1862: 420 #
Phytoecia geniculata nazarena Reiche, 1877: cxxxvi
Phytoecia icterica Schaller, 1783: 292 (*Cerambyx*)

Phytoecia kartalensis Danilevsky, 2010: 21 # ***
Phytoecia manicata Reiche & Saulcy, 1858: 17
Phytoecia nigricornis Fabricius, 1782: 499 (*Saperda*)
Phytoecia pubescens Pic, 1895: 64
Phytoecia pustulata cihanae Özdikmen, 2017: 54 #
Phytoecia pustulata pilipennis Reitter, 1895: 161
Phytoecia pustulata pustulata Schrank, 1776: 66 (*Cerambyx*)
Phytoecia rufipes latior Pic, 1895: 66 #
Phytoecia rufipes rufipes Olivier, 1800: 25 (*Saperda*)
Phytoecia subannularis Pic, 1901: 14 # ***
Phytoecia sublineata Holzschuh, 1984: 159
Phytoecia virgula centaureae Sama, Rapuzzi & Rejzek, 2007: 163
Phytoecia virgula major Pic, 1901: 14 #
Phytoecia virgula virgula Charpentier, 1825: 225 (*Saperda*)

In the above list:
Taxa originally described from Turkey
*** Endemic to Turkey

As seen in the above list, 12 species-group taxa (9 species and 3 non-nominal subspecies) of 26 species-group taxa (20 species and 6 non-nominal subspecies) determined in Turkey are originally described from Turkey. Known taxa originally described from Turkey consist of 46.15% of total taxa known from Turkey. Among them, 6 species are still endemic to Turkey (Özdikmen, 2021, 2024, 2025, 2026).

Phytoecia aenigmatica Sama, Rapuzzi & Rejzek, 2007: 166

Phytoecia aenigmatica aenigmatica Sama, Rapuzzi & Rejzek, 2007: 166
(Figs. 1a, 2a)

The species or the nominate subspecies was recently described by Sama, Rapuzzi & Rejzek (2007: 166) from 10 km NE of Nishapur in Khorasan province of North-Eastern Iran. After original description, the species was also collected from Kohgiluyeh and Boyer-Ahmad province in South-Western Iran according to Rapuzzi et al. (2021). Also, Rapuzzi et al. (2021) reported this species from Mardin province in the same publication, thus recording the species from Türkiye for the first time. Thus, the species currently has a SW-Asiatic (Irano-Anatolian) chorotype (Fig. 3).

***Phytoecia aenigmatica samarapuzzii* ssp. nov.**
(Figs. 1b, 2b)

I've got a male specimen whose is in bad condition. This specimen collected about 14 years ago from Kızıltepe district of Mardin province in Turkey. Apparently, this specimen clearly differs from the specimens in Iran. A photograph of holotype was given in Sama et al. (2007) and a photograph of another specimen from "Kohgiluyeh and Boyer-Ahmad province" (SW Iran) was presented in Kasatkin (2026). Seeing a photograph of another specimen given from "Artuklu district" (Turkey, Mardin province) in Rapuzzi et al. (2021) with

the same characteristics as my single specimen encouraged me to describe this new taxon. So, I propose below a description of a new subspecies based on this single male specimen and the photograph of another specimen given by Rapuzzi et al. (2021).

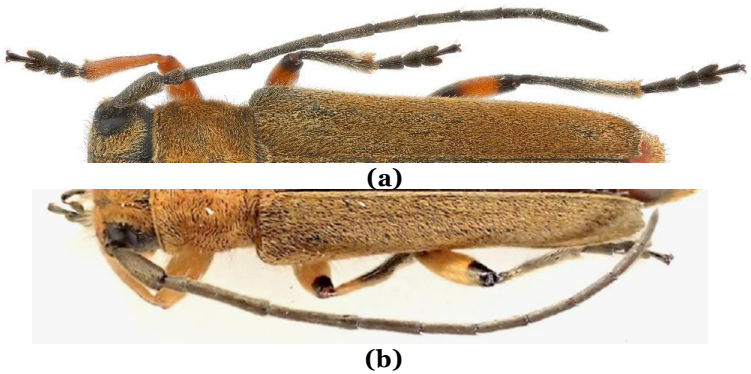
Type material: Holotype male: Turkey, Mardin province, Kızıltepe district, Uzunkaya village env., 16.IV.2012, 1083 m. The holotype is preserved author's collection at Gazi University (Turkey, Ankara prov.).

Diagnosis. The new subspecies is like as the nomino-typical subspecies *Phytoecia aenigmatica aenigmatica* Sama, Rapuzzi & Rejzek, 2007 from Iran. Diagnostically, its antennae are longer and its legs are lighter colored than the nominate form.

Thus, the new subspecies clearly differs from the nominate subspecies by longer antennae and lighter coloration of legs.

Antennae slender, longer than elytral apex in the new subspecies (antennae slender, shorter than elytral apex in the nominate subspecies). Fore legs almost completely orange except for completely black tarsi in the new subspecies (fore legs almost completely orange except for a black, short ring on the base of femora, and completely black tarsi in the nominate subspecies); middle legs with black, short rings on the base and the apical part of femora, the remaining part of femora orange; middle tibiae orange on basal third and black in the remaining part; middle tarsi completely black in the new subspecies (middle legs with black on the basal half nearly and the apical part of femora, the remaining part of femora orange; middle tibiae and tarsi completely black in the nominate subspecies); hind legs with black on the basal part and the apical part of femora, the remaining part of femora orange; hind tibiae and tarsi completely black in the new subspecies (hind legs with black on the basal half and the apical part of femora, the remaining part of femora orange; hind tibiae and tarsi completely black in the nominate subspecies) (Figs. 1b, 2b).

Apparently, this diagnostic characters of the new subspecies are stable in Turkish populations of the species.



(a)

(b)

Figure 1. (a) *Phytoecia aenigmatica aenigmatica* Sama, Rapuzzi & Rejzek, 2007 [taken from Kasatkin (2026)], (b) *Phytoecia aenigmatica samarapuzzii* ssp. nov. [taken from Rapuzzi et al. (2021)].

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Distribution. According to the type locality Kızıltepe district of Mardin province, the new subspecies is distributed in South-Eastern Anatolian region of Anatolian part in Turkey (Figs. 3, 4). Moreover, all Turkish populations should be attributed to the new subspecies *Phytoecia aenigmatica samarapuzzii* ssp. nov.. Therefore, the old record was reported by Rapuzzi et al. (2021) also from Artuklu district of Mardin province in South-Eastern Anatolian region of Anatolian part in Turkey of the nominate subspecies should be attributed to the new subspecies, *Phytoecia aenigmatica samarapuzzii* ssp. nov..

Etymology. The compound name of the new subspecies is dedicated to well-known cerambycidologist Gianfranco Sama (Italy) who has passed away and Pierpaolo Rapuzzi (Italy).

Accordingly, the species *Phytoecia aenigmatica* Sama, Rapuzzi & Rejzek, 2007 includes two subspecies:

Phytoecia aenigmatica aenigmatica Sama, Rapuzzi & Rejzek, 2007
Iran
***Phytoecia aenigmatica samarapuzzii* ssp. nov.**
Turkey



(a) **(b)**

Figure 2. (a) *Phytoecia aenigmatica aenigmatica* Sama, Rapuzzi & Rejzek, 2007 [taken from Kasatkin (2026)], (c) *Phytoecia aenigmatica samarapuzzii* ssp. nov. [taken from Rapuzzi et al. (2021)].



Figure 3. (1) The type locality (Khorasan province, NE Iran) of *Phytoecia aenigmatica aenigmatica* Sama, Rapuzzi & Rejzek, 2007, (2) The second record (Kohgiluyeh and Boyer-Ahmad province, SW Iran) of *Phytoecia aenigmatica aenigmatica* Sama, Rapuzzi & Rejzek, 2007, (3) Turkish records (type locality and another record in Mardin province of SE Turkey) of *Phytoecia aenigmatica samarapuzzii* ssp. nov..



Figure 4. The type locality "Mardin province, Kızıltepe district, Uzunkaya village env." of *Phytoecia aenigmatica samarapuzzii* ssp. nov..

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