

***Corticaria johnsonii*, a new species of the *sylvicola* group within the genus *Corticaria* Marsham, 1802 (Coleoptera: Latridiidae)**

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A new species, *Corticaria johnsonii* sp. n. is described from the Iberian Peninsula. The species belongs to the *sylvicola* group within the genus *Corticaria* Marsham, 1802 (Coleoptera: Latridiidae). The species is added to a published key.

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1. Introduction

The species of group *sylvicola* within the genus *Corticaria* are characterized by a series of distinctive morphological traits (Dajoz 1969). Despite its restricted distribution in the western Mediterranean region and Iberian Peninsula, this group is relatively poorly known, so that studies of the materials collected in recent decades in Spain may throw up interesting information and reveal previously undescribed species.

Here we report a new species on the basis of an individual collected in the Sierra de Gredos (Ávila Province) at 1,100 m a.s.l.

2. Methods

Terminology and measurements for the new species follow Otero (2001, 2002). Structures were measured under an Olympus SZX12 stereomicroscope equipped with an image analysis system (MicroImage Version 4.0 for Windows).

3. *Corticaria johnsonii* sp. n.

Type material. Holotype ♂. Puerto de Casillas, 1,100 m. Sierra del Valle, Gredos; Ávila; 1.XI. 1975. (Leg. L. Gil). Holotype in Coll. J. C. Otero, University of Santiago de Compostela, Spain.

Description. Length 1.9 mm. Body oval, flattened. Colour dark brown. Elytra with 8 striae made up of rows of weakly marked punctures. Long white pubescence (L = 70–100 µm). Wingless.

Head transverse (Fig. 1a), 2.6 times wider than long, semicircular. Eyes large (L = 125 µm) and scarcely prominent (E = 0.49). Eyebrows protruding (L = 24.9 µm). Antennae (Fig. 1b) with 11 antennomeres, almost reaching the posterior margin of the pronotum (L = 600 µm). First antennomere 1.5 times longer than second; second oval, 2 times longer than wide, 0.3–0.4 times longer than third; third almost 2 times longer than wide; fourth, fifth and sixth 0.5 times longer than wide; seventh and eighth sub-square; ninth, tenth and eleventh forming club, the ninth and eleventh

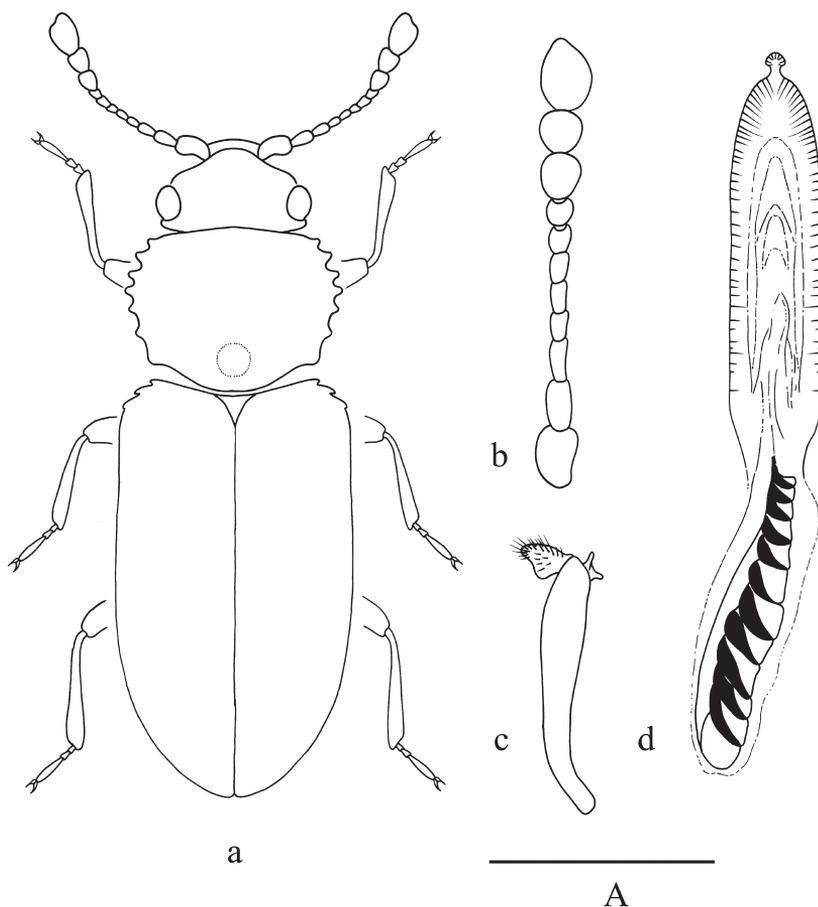


Fig. 1. *Corticaria johnsonii* sp. n. – a. General view (A= 580 μ m). – b. Antenna (A= 304 μ m). – c. Protibia. – d. Aedeagus (A= 308 μ m).

longer than wide, the tenth transverse. Below the clypeus and the forehead are two pits with openings conspicuous in frontal view ($\text{\O} = 25\text{--}30 \mu\text{m}$), and reaching half the depth of the eyes. These invaginations probably have hygrosensory function.

Pronotum flat (Fig. 1a), 0.3 times wider than long, with width maximal in the anterior third. Anterior margin longer than posterior margin. Basal pit present, but faintly marked. Lateral margins forming a not pointed angle at the point of maximum pronotum width, with 8–9 conspicuous teeth. Pronotal puncturation fine ($\text{\O} = 20\text{--}25 \mu\text{m}$).

Scutellum flat, transverse (Fig. 1a). Elytra oval (L = 1220 μm , W = 790 μm), 1.5 times longer than wide, 3 times longer and 0.3 times wider than pronotum. Elytral width maximal in the medial part. Lateral margin well marked anteriorly, with conspicuous shoulders (L = 30 μm). Elytral

striae with weakly marked punctures ($\text{\O} = 30\text{--}40 \mu\text{m}$). Pubescence long (L = 60–100 μm) but scarce.

Protibiae (Fig. 1c) with two spines in their internal apical angles.

Aedeagus (Fig. 1d) elongated to the final quarter of its length, in which it acquires a triangular lance-like shape. Anteriorly, the aedeagus gradually narrows, with an abrupt curve at the anterior tip. The tip gives rise to a small petiole (L = 38 μm) terminating in a semicircular dilatation. Internal sac with a dorsal row of 10 long slightly curved rods (L = 60–100 μm).

Female. Not known.

Habitat. Specimen collected from oak leaf.

Etymology. The species is named in honour of Dr. Colin Johnson, Manchester Museum, England.

Remarks. From the thirteen species of this group known (Dajoz 1970), *C. johnsonii* can be

readily separated using the key provided by Dajoz (1970). Below we present the relevant part of that key with its original numbering, but modified to include *C. johnsonii*:

4. External margin of elytra well marked 5
 - External margin of elytra poorly marked, almost invisible from above except at anterior-most extreme 6
5. Body convex. 7th and 8th antennomeres subquadrate. Lateral margin of pronotum with 7–8 large well-spaced teeth of similar size. External margin of elytra well marked, raised in anterior half. Aedeagus with pointed tip and internal sac with 12 elongated rods in saw-tooth-like pattern. Length 1.8–2.0 mm

C. convexa

- Body flattened. 7th and 8th antennomeres subquadrate. Lateral margin of pronotum with 8–9 large teeth. External margin of elytra well marked, forming conspicuous shoulder in anterior part. Aedeagus tip with small peduncle terminating in a semicircular swelling. Internal sac with 10 rods. Length 1.8 mm

C. johnsonii

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