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**DESCRIPTION OF GENITAL STRUCTURES OF
VELLEIOPSIS MARGINIVENTRIS FAIRMAIRE, 1882
(COLEOPTERA: STAPHYLINIDAE: STAPHYLININAE)
FROM TURKEY¹**

Senem Firat² and Osman Sert³

Male and female genital structures of *Velleiopsis marginiventris* Fairmaire, 1882 (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae: Staphylininae) collected in Ankara, Turkey, are here described and illustrated for the first time.

V. marginiventris was described by Fairmaire in 1882 from Bulgaria, and it also occurs in Turkey (Scheerpeltz, 1933; Coiffait, 1978) having been collected from Gümüşhane (Smetana, 1995). Male genitalia and the genital segments of both sexes were extracted using standard methods; figures were drawn using a Leica MZ16A stereoscopic microscope. Material examined consisted of one male and one female, both collected in Ankara: 2 exs, 1♀, 1♂, 01.XI.2010, Elmadağ district, Lalahan, Odabaşı village, 39°55'52"N, 33°07'39"E, 1173 m., Leg. K. Koyuncu. Specimens are deposited in Hacettepe University Zoology Museum (Ankara, Türkiye) (HUZOM). Nomenclature of the male and female genital structure parts follows Coiffait (1972), Bordoni (1982) and Naomi (1989).

Male genitalia (ventral aspect): Median lobe longer than paramere, almost parallel-sided through distal and sinuate, asymmetrically narrowed through apex; paramere widened basally, split into two branches, narrowest at medial part, slightly widened at distal part, asymmetrically narrowed between distal and apex, apex with "V" shaped indentation; with 8 and 11 peg setae on each lateral margin between distal and apex. With one pair of short lateral and three short apical setae on both sides (Fig. 1A); **Lateral aspect:** Median lobe longer than paramere, slightly convex, gradually narrowed through apex, narrowly rounded at apex, distal pore distinctly concave, with short acute projection at apical on inner margin; paramere ovally widened at base, parallel-sided through distal part, gradually narrowed through apex, narrowly rounded at apex, with peg setae on distal part of inner margin (Fig. 1B); **Genital segment:** X. tergite long, isosceles triangular shaped (Fig. 1C); IX. sternite shaped as a reversed leg (Fig. 1D).

Female genitalia (genital segment): X. tergite triangular shaped, slightly short and more acute at anterior corners according to male (Fig. 1E); gonocoxite cugdel shaped and acute at anterior (Fig. 1F).

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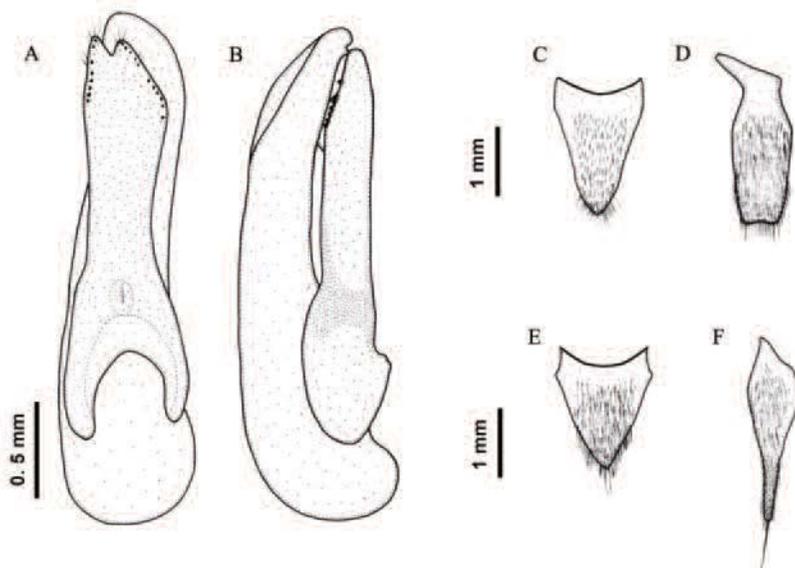


Fig. 1. *Velleiopsis marginiventris*. A. Aedeagus ventral aspect; B. Aedeagus lateral aspect; C. Male tergite X; D. Male sternite IX; E. Female tergite X; F. Female gonocoxite

According to Herman (2001) and Smetana (2004) there are only two species of *Velleiopsis*, both from the Palaearctic Region. *Velleiopsis marginiventris* occurs in Bulgaria and Turkey and *V. varendorffi* in Azerbaijan. Scheerpeltz (1933) and Coiffait (1978) cite Markovitch (1915) recording this species from Turkey. The only locality was given as Gümüşhane by Smetana (1995) as “[Turchia]: Anatolia bor., cca 7 km NW Köse, 1,700-2,000 m, 20-VII-76, W. HEINZ (ASCC) 1.”

The structure of male genitalia of genus *Velleiopsis* has been studied only by Coiffait (1978) and only the drawings of median lobe and paramere of male genital structure of *V. varendorffi* were given but tergite X and sternite IX were not. When our results were compared with *V. varendorffi*, the genitalia greatly differed by the shape of median lobe and paramere and also with the arrangement of peg setae. While median lobe is asymmetrically sinuate in *V. marginiventris*, it is symmetric and straight in *V. varendorffi*. In *V. marginiventris* the paramere narrows from distal through apex, whereas it gradually and distinctly narrows from proximal through apex in *V. varendorffi*. Additionally, *V. marginiventris* have peg setae situated at lateral margins between distal and apex, while in *V. varendorffi* they are arranged as two stacks at distal part.

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