

Nagy-szenas, 5.4.1987, leg. Merkl (1, TMB); Pest m., Valkó, Szentpál-hegy, 6.7.1991, leg. Merkl (3, CSK, TMB); Siofok, leg. Lichtneckert (1, TMB); Szóreny m., 1877, leg. Pável (1, TMB); Töttösi erdő, Fakares alol, 25.3.1992, leg. Sár (5, TMB); Velencei-hegys (Hungaria occ.), 1951, leg. Kaszab (2, TMB); **ITALY**: Mte. Gargano (1, DEI); Napoli (10, DEI, HUB, MSNG); TOSCANA: Arezzo, Sintigliano, 15.9.1925, leg. Andreini (1, MLSF); **ROMANIA**: Baile Herculeane, 1895, leg. Ganglbauer (1, NMW); Baile Herculeane, leg. Mihók (1, TMB); Baile Herculeane, leg. Stiller (1, TMB); Baile Herculeane, leg. Pável (1, TMB); Hovina, 23.10.1980, leg. Hescáros and Ronkoy (1, TMB).

*Synchita fallax* sp.nov.

(Figs 8, 15, 16, 21)

*Cicones pictus* auctorum nec Erichson (partim): Rey 1889: 35. – Fauvel 1895: 107. – Ganglbauer 1899: 862. – Reitter 1922: 34. – Méquignon 1949: 184. – Kocher 1956: 82. – Horion 1961: 87. – Vogt 1967: 208. – Dajoz 1977: 66. – Ślipiński and Merkl 1993: 33.

**Type locality.** France: Hyères.

**Types.** Holotype (male): “Hyères \ Holotypus *Synchita fallax* sp.n. det. Schuh 1998” (NMW).

Paratypes (111 exs): **ALGERIA**: “Algerie, Edough \ Coll. Desbrochers” (1, ISNB); “Edough 9.3.18 ecorces liège \ Coll. De Borde 1942” (8, MHNL, CSK); “Algier: Kabylie: Bou-Berak \ *Cicones pictus* Er., F. Español det.” (2, ZSM); “Kabylie: Bou-Berak L. Puel” (2, NMW, CSK); “Kabylie: Yakouren leg. L. Puel” (1, NMW); **FRANCE**: “Hyères \ Coll. DEI Eberswalde” (3, DEI, CSK); “Var Hyères \ Coll. Fauvel” (8, ISNB, IZPAN, CSK); “Hyères \ Coll. C. Ach. 1. 90 \ P. de Borre \ *Cicones pictus* Er. det. Ślipiński 84” (1, MHNG); “Hyères \ Coll. Schaum” (3, HUB); “Hyères \ G. Lewis Coll., B.M. 1910-248” (1, BML); 1 ex.: “Hyères \ *pictus* Er. \ *Cicones pictus* Er. R.D. Pope det. 1984” (1, BML); “Gallia \ Coll. Leveille \ Coll. Mancini” (1, MSNG); “France centr. \ Coll. Morel \ Coll. Binaghi” (1, MSNG); “Le Trayaz (Var) Méquignon 27.3.1937” (1, MHNG); “Mittelfrkr. Coll. O. Leonhard \ *Cicones pictus* Er. \ Coll. DEI Eberswalde” (1, DEI); “Gall. mer. \ Coll. DEI Eberswalde” (2, DEI); “Sos Gall. mer. Bauduer” (2, NMW); “F. Pyr. or., St. André Umg., Gorge de Lavail oberh. Lavail, 700m, 26.9.1993, leg. C. Wurst” (4, CSK, CWH); “Corsica” (1, NMP); **GREECE**: “Morea, Cumani, Brenske \ *Cicones pictus* Er. \ Coll. Reitter” (1, TMB); **ITALY**: “Italia: Novara: Varallo-Pombia, 31.3.1993, leg. Pescarolo \ *Cicones pictus* Er.” (8, MSNC, CSK); “Italia: Novara: Bellinzago, Brughiere, II.1980, leg. Pescarolo” (1, MSNC); “Italia: Val Sesia, dint. Vocca, 1.5.1993, leg. Pescarolo” (4, MSNC, CSK); “Italia: Novara: Mezzomerico, Bindillina, 5.9.1994, leg. Pescarolo \ *Cicones pictus* Er.” (3, MSNC), with same locality data, but 20.2.1993 (14, MSNC, CSK), with same locality data, but 1.2.1993 (1, MSNC); “Italia: Valle Ticino: Crmeri, 13.3.1994, leg. Pescarolo” (3, MSNC, CSK), with same locality data, but 4.4.1994 (1, MSNC); “Italia: VC: Sostegno, XI.1996, leg. Pescarolo \ *Cicones pictus* Er.” (8, MSNC); “Italia: Novara: Romagnano S., Piano Rosa, 31.3.1994, leg. Pescarolo” (3, MSNC, CSK), with same locality data, but 12.9.1993 (1, MSNC), with same locality data, but 12.4.1993 (1, MSNC), with same locality data, but 7.3.1993 (2, MSNC); “Lazio, Sasso, Patrizi 4.10.1919” (1, MSNM); “Lazio, Sasso, Giaq.

4.10.1919 \ Coll. Mancini” (2, MSNG); “Firenze: Cascine (sotto corteccia) 10.9.1959 \ *Cicones pictus* Er.” (1, MLSF); “Firenze: Cascine 8.4.1961 S. Failla” (1, MLSF); “Sardia” (NMW); 1 ex.: “Sard., Orune, De Marchi, Coll. Binaghi” (2, MSNG); “Sardegna: Orune, Baudi \ Coll. Fiori \ *Cicones quadricollis* m. sp.n.” (2, HUB, CSK); **MOROCCO**: “Morocco: El Ksar El Kbir, leg. Prudek” (1, CPB); **TURKEY**: “Anatolie, Jelski \ G. Lewis 1910-248” (1, BML); “TR: Namrun IV-VI 1967 leg. Ressler” (1, NMW); “Sartorius 1869” (1, NMW); “Sartorius 1876” (1, NMW); “Coll. Reitter \ *pictus* Er.” (1, TMB); without exact locality data (6, CSK, DEI, HUB); “Hung. Merkl \ Coll. Binaghi” (1, MSNG).

**Description.** *Synchita fallax* sp. nov. is very similar to *S. undata*. Therefore, only a comparative description is given.

TL 2.4–3.5 mm. PW/PL: 1.14–1.23; EL/EW: 1.63–1.77. Coloration: antennae, tarsi, lateral pronotal margins, clypeus and mouthparts reddish, tibiae and femora reddish to dark brown; head and pronotum dark brown; dark markings on elytra usually more extended than in *S. undata*, partly connected.

Head (HW/HL: 1.6–1.7). Eyes (HW/EYL: 4.2). Antennomere 3 1.3–1.6× as long as wide; antennomere 4 1.15–1.4× as long as wide.

Pronotum transverse (PW/PL: 1.14–1.23). Lateral margins less convex and more narrowly explanate (about half width of tibiae) than in *S. undata*; denticulation more obvious, less concealed by apicad directed, shorter setae; transverse impression on lateral declivity less distinct.

Elytra (EL/EW: 1.63–1.77). Each interval with single row of semierect (ca. 40°), squamiform setae, being shorter than in *S. undata*; setae about half as long as distance between them, apices rather broadly rounded or subtruncate; striae setae as in *S. undata* (Fig. 8).

Ventral side as roughly punctured as in *S. undata*, but ridges between punctures less elevated. Sculpture of ventrite 1 similar to that of lateral parts of metasternum. Ventrite 2 without distinct sculpture, only with irregular, shallow, small punctures and sparse rudiments of flat ridges. Pubescence of abdomen consisting of finer hairs than in *S. undata*.

Legs: length to width ratio of metatibiae 6.2–6.8.

Aedeagus as in Figs 15 and 16.

**Biology.** The specimens from St. André (France: East Pyrenees) have been found under mouldy bark of *Quercus suber* (C. Wurst, personal communication). The specimens from Algeria, Bou Berak (MHNL), have been found in the same habitat according to label data.

Although it has to be supposed that *S. fallax* is primarily associated with one or more species of fungi rather than certain tree species, it can be assumed that the fungus itself has a preference for *Quercus suber*. The distribution range of *S. fallax* coincides with the distribution of *Quercus suber* in the western Mediterranean region. For the eastern Mediterranean region no biological data are available. Because of the absence of *Quercus suber* in that region it has to be supposed that *S. fallax* itself or the fungus species, respectively, is associated with another tree species.

**Distribution.** (Fig. 21) Mediterranean and Maghrebian: Morocco, Algeria, Southern Europe north to southern and central France, Italy, Greece and Turkey. The limits of the distribution in Turkey (eastward) and on the Balcan Peninsula (northward) have to be confirmed.

*Synchita oculata* (Sharp)

(Figs 9, 17, 18)

*Cicones oculatus* Sharp 1885: 67. Type locality: Japan: Nikko. – Yablokov-Khinzoryan 1978: 254. – Dajoz 1977: 67. – Kurosawa *et al.* 1985: 293.

*Cicones ocellatus* Sharp 1885: 67 (= multiple original spelling).

*Cicones oblongus* Sharp 1885: 68 (= syn. nov.). Type locality: Japan: Sapporo. – Yablokov-Khinzoryan 1978: 254. – Dajoz 1977: 67. – Kurosawa *et al.* 1985: 293.

**Type material.** *Synchita oculata* (Sharp): Lectotype and 1 paralectotype in BML (examined). The specimen with the red-margined circular type label has been selected lectotype. *Cicones oblongus* Sharp: Holotype in BML (examined).

**Synonymies.** Sharp (1885) gives a short description of *Cicones oblongus* in which he mentions only some characters in comparison to *S. oculata*. Some of these characters are not useful to distinguish different species without examination of larger series of specimens. Other characters could not be verified by the author and no additional specific differences could be found.

**Description.** *Synchita oculata* (Sharp) is very similar to *S. undata*. Therefore, only a comparative description is given.

TL 2.8–3.6 mm. PW/PL: 1.14–1.21; EL/EW: 1.55–1.64. Coloration: extent of dark areas on elytra as in *S. undata*; on lateral two thirds of elytra markings of light brown color or nearly obsolete; lateral margins of pronotum dark; clypeus darker than in *S. undata*.

Head (HW/HL: 1.5–1.7). Eyes (HW/EYL: 3.1) larger and more convex than in *S. undata*, width of head (across eyes) to width of head (between hind margin of eye) ratio: 1.125 in *S. oculata* and 1.077 in *S. undata*; interfacetal setae yellowish-white (light brown to black in *S. undata*). Antennomere 3 1.4–1.7× as long as wide; antennomere 4 1.15–1.5× as long as wide.

Pronotum transverse (PW/PL: 1.14–1.21); lateral margins scarcely or not at all explanate.

Elytra (EL/EW: 1.55–1.64) more convex transversally; lateral margins not explanate and, particularly in basal half, scarcely or not at all visible from above. Setae of intervals as in *S. undata*, but slightly more truncate apically; length of setae 0.75–0.9× the distance between them; strial setae as in *S. undata* (Fig. 9).

Ventrites 1 to 3 slightly convex transversally; sculpture of ventrite 1 as in *S. undata*; ventrite 2 irregularly wrinkled; sculpture of ventrite 3 similar to that of ventrite 2. Pubescence of abdomen with finer hairs than in *S. undata*.

Tibiae with whitish scales on outer edge (in *S. undata* scales partly brown, particularly on middle part of outer edge); length to width ratio of metatibiae 6.0–7.4.

Aedeagus as in Figs 17 and 18.

**Biology.** No data available.

**Distribution.** Japan: Hokkaido, Honshu.

**Additional material examined.** JAPAN: Route de Chuzenji à Yumoto, 24.7.1909, leg. Gallois (1, IZPAN).

*Synchita iranica* (Dajoz)

*Cicones iranicus* Dajoz 1973: 79. Type locality: Iran: Assalam. – Dajoz 1977: 66. – Yablokov-Khinzoryan 1979: 134.

**Type material.** Holotype (female) in NMB (examined). The following labels are attached to the holotype: “Assalam 1300m \ 10. Iran 1970 5. Wittmer, v. Bothmer \ Type (red) \ Holotypus Nr. \ *Cicones inexpectatus* n. sp. R. Dajoz det. 1974 \ *Cicones undatus iranicus* Dajoz ssp. (comb.n.) det. S.A. Ślipiński 1987 \ *Cicones iranicus* Dajoz det. Schuh 1996”.

**Remarks.** The available name is *S. iranica* (Dajoz, 1973). *Cicones inexpectatus* might be a manuscript name, although the label seems to have been added after the publication date of *S. iranica*. *Synchita iranica* is so similar to *S. undata* that it could be regarded as a local variation of *S. undata* or possibly as a synonym of it. Due to lack of material this question can only be solved when more specimens from different regions become available. Yablokov-Khinzoryan (1979) cites *S. iranica* from Armenia, but the real identity of these specimens could not be checked.

**Description.** *Synchita iranica* (Dajoz) is very similar to *S. undata*. Therefore, only a comparative description is given.

TL: 3.35 mm. PW/PL: 1.23; EL/EW: 1.70. Coloration: apical half of head, apical margin (one fifth of PL) and lateral margins of pronotum yellowish-brown. Extent of dark areas on elytra as in *S. undata*. Head: Antennomeres 2 and 7 shorter than in *S. undata*. Pronotum transverse (PW/PL: 1.23). Basal admedian depressions shallower and area between them and lateral declivity less convex. Squamiform pubescence on anterior margin sparse and procumbent, in *S. undata* more or less semierect, particularly in median part of anterior margin. Elytra (EL/EW: 1.70). Setae of intervals slightly longer than in *S. undata*, on 1st, 3rd and 7th intervals partly in irregular double rows. Sculpture of ventrite 1 as in *S. undata*; ventrite 2 with rudiments of net-like structures latero-basally. Tibiae with fine whitish scales on outer edge (in *S. undata* scales less fine and partly brown, particularly at middle part of outer edge); length to width ratio of metatibiae 6.85.

**Biology.** No data available.

**Distribution.** Known only from the type locality (Iran: Assalam)

*Synchita ussuriensis* (Yablokov-Khinzoryan)

(Figs 10, 19, 20)

*Cicones ussuriensis* Yablokov-Khinzoryan 1978: 252.

**Type material.** Russia: Primorskiy kray, Ussuri region, Hasan. 30.8.1971, 1 ex (Deposited in Zoological Museum Erewan?)

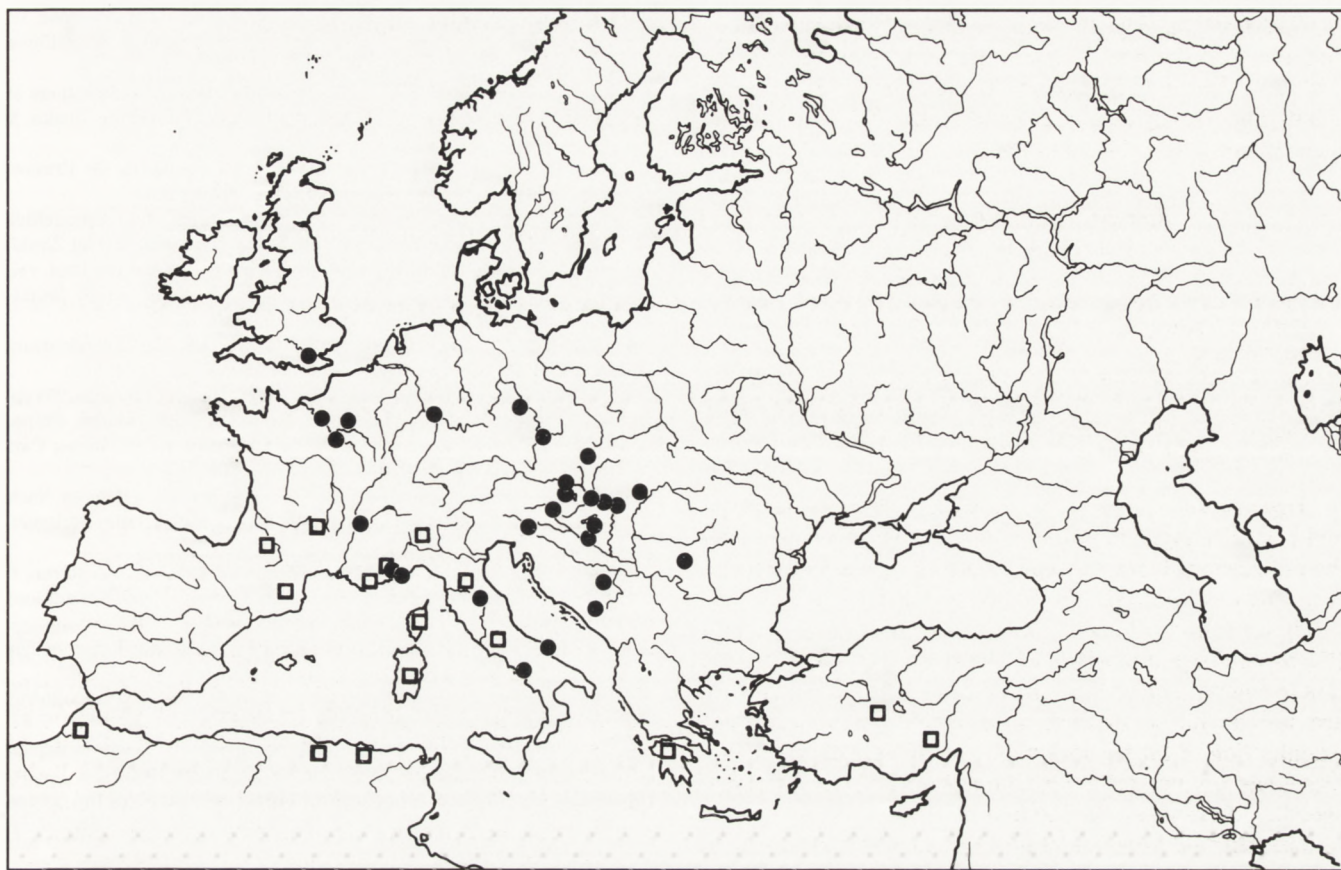


Figure 21. Distribution of *Synchita undata* (full circles) and *Synchita fallax* (squares).

**Description.** *Synchita ussuriensis* is similar to *S. undata*. Therefore, only a comparative description is given.

TL 3.0–3.7 mm. PW/PL: 1.16–1.20; EL/EW: 1.61–1.66. Coloration: antennae, clypeus and mouthparts reddish; tibiae and femora reddish to dark brown; head and pronotum dark brown; dark areas on elytra more extended than in *S. undata*, even more than in *S. fallax*. Head (HW/HL: 1.6–1.8). Eyes (HW/EYL: 3.2–3.5). Antennomere 3 1.3–1.7× as long as wide; antennomere 4 1.2–1.5× as long as wide. Pronotum transverse (PW/PL: 1.16–1.20); lateral margins not or indistinctly explanate, denticulation more obvious, less concealed by apicad directed, shorter setae (in this respect similar to *S. fallax*). Posterior angles obtuse, nearly rounded, marked by very small denticle. Dorsal sculpture, in contrast to all other species of this group, densely set with shiny large granules, each bearing squamiform seta; granules to some extent irregularly rounded and partly confluent. Elytra (EL/EW: 1.61–1.66); lateral margins not explanate, scarcely visible from above. Striae broader than in *S. undata* and *S. fallax*. All intervals with irregular, single row of semierect (ca. 25°), squamiform setae; on third intervals setae partly arranged in double rows; length of setae of intervals 0.75–1.0× distance between them; strial setae longer and slightly broader than in *S. undata*, *S. fallax* and *S. ocu-*

*lata* (Fig. 10). Ventral side deeper and more roughly punctured than in *S. undata*. Sculpture of ventrite 1 with small and deep punctures, partly confluent in form of short winding furrows; ventrite 2 with punctures similar to ventrite 1, but finer and more shallow, confluent to a greater extent, resulting in longer and still more sinuous furrows. Legs: length to width ratio of metatibiae 6.4–7.3. Aedeagus as in Figs 19 and 20.

**Biology.** According to the original description (Yablokov-Khinzoryan 1978) the type specimens have been found on *Quercus* sp. damaged by fire.

**Distribution.** Russia Far East: Ussuri Region.

**Material examined:** RUSSIA: Primorskiy kray, Ussuriysk, Kaymanovka, 1.–4.8.1990, leg. Snížek (4, CSK); Primorskiy kray, Arsenev env., 27.5.–5.7.1991, leg. Sausa (1, NMW).

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