

Rhacocleis ferdinandi, a new species from the Greek mainland (Orthoptera: Tettigoniidae)

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Abstract: *Rhacocleis ferdinandi* sp. nov. from the Greek province of Akarnania is described and illustrated.

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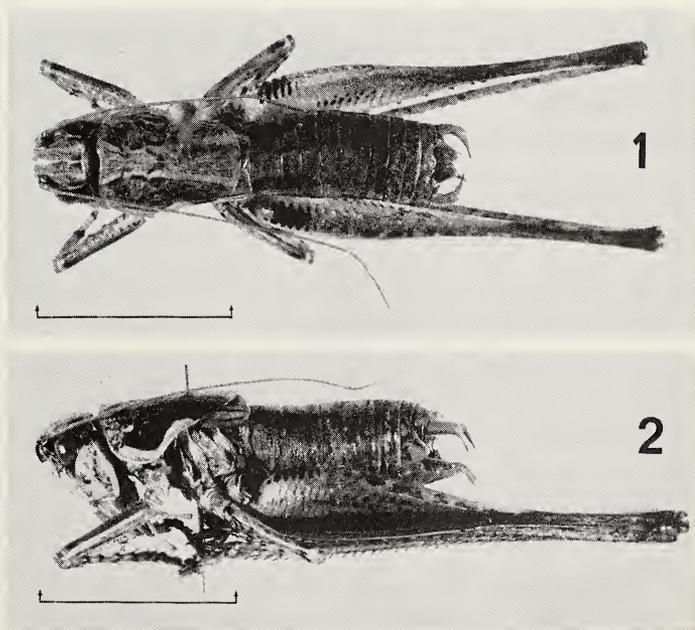
Introduction

During the last twenty years our knowledge of the Orthoptera fauna of Greece has increased considerably. The distributional data and maps of Orthoptera in Greece as presented by Willemse (1984) nevertheless show that some areas of the Greek mainland and a number of Greek islands are still poorly known as far as Orthoptera are concerned.

In July 1983 the junior author visited one of the poorly known areas of the Greek mainland, the region around the Gulf of

Amvrakikos in the province of Akarnania situated in the south-west opposite the island of Levkas. He collected two male *Rhacocleis* in thickets along the coastal part of the road between Arta and Agrinion, near Anixiatikon. These males are not conspecific with any of the species reported from Greece (Willemse, 1982) or with any of the known *Rhacocleis* species.

This new species is dedicated to Dr. Fer Willemse, who aroused interest in Orthoptera in both authors.



Figs. 1-2. *Rhacocleis ferdinandi* sp. nov., holotype. 1, dorsal view; 2, lateral view. Scale-lines: 9 mm.

***Rhacocleis ferdinandi* sp. nov.**
(figs. 1-6)

♂ Holotype (in collection Tilmans) and 1 ♂ paratype (in collection Willemse) labelled: Hellas, nomos Akarania, 4 km N.W. Anixiatikon, 100 m, 13.vii.1983, legnt. J. M. Tilmans & fam. Smid.

Description

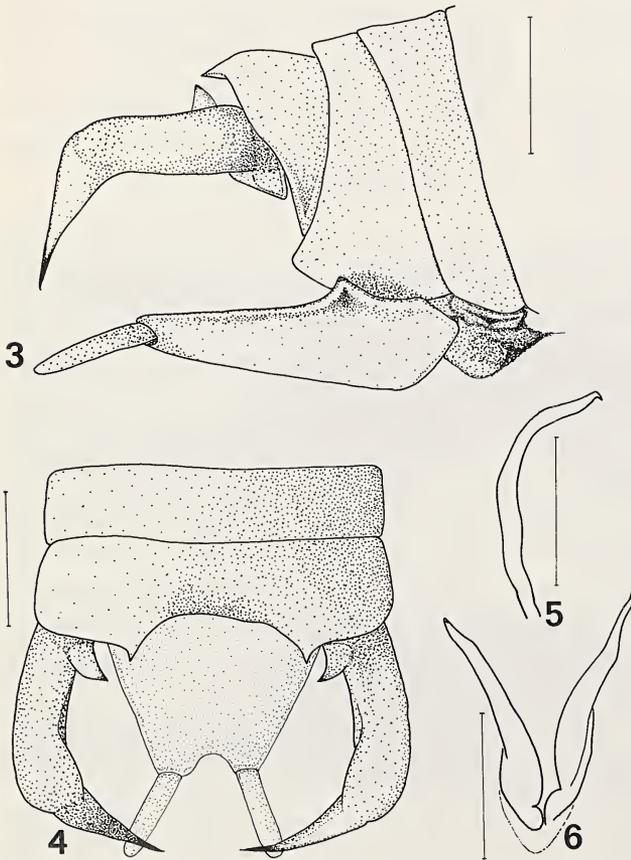
Male: slender, medium-sized, rather shiny, similar in general appearance (figs. 1-2) to *Rhacocleis germanica* (Herrich-Schäffer).

Thorax: Pronotum with front margin slightly concave medially, hind margin convex; metazone without carinula. Elytra reaching or slightly surpassing hind margin of first abdominal tergite, in dorsal view almost completely covered by pronotum. Legs: front femora with 2-3 ventral spines, middle femora with 0-1 ventral spine, hind femora with 7-9 and 1-3 spines on the inner

and outer ventral carina respectively; planulae of hind tarsus as long as first segment.

Abdomen: Tergites 2-6 with a weakly developed medial keel; hind margin of 10th tergite (fig. 4) medially with a wide shallow concave incision with short acute lateral lobes. Cercus (figs. 3-4) conical, medially slightly bulbous with a subbasal, short, dorso-lateral tooth, pointing inward; apical half spine-like, strongly incurved downwards and inwards. Titillator (figs. 5-6) slender, strongly downcurved towards the apex; basal part slightly bulbous; apex hook-shaped. Subgenital plate slightly longer than wide, apex between styli with a concave incision; styli cylindrical, about one third as long as length of subgenital plate.

Colouration: Generally marbled brown. Head below eyes whitish with small dark dots. Pronotum with ventral and hind margins of paranota with a clearly defined whit-



Figs. 3-6. *Rhacocleis ferdinandi* sp. nov., holotype. 3, tip of abdomen in lateral view; 4, tip of abdomen in dorsal view; 5, left titillator in lateral view; 6, titillators in frontal view. Scale-lines: 1 mm.

ish band. Legs brownish with basal part of spines, dots on outer sides of medial and hind femora, and some streaks on dorsal parts of base of hind femora blackish. Abdomen unicolorous.

Measurements (in mm): Length of body: 18.8; length of pronotum: 5.8-6.1; width of pronotum: 4.6-4.8; length of hind femora: 18.2-19.1; width of hind femora: 3.2-3.4.

Female: unknown.

Differential diagnosis

Rhacocleis ferdinandi males can be easily recognized from all other described *Rhacocleis* species by the remarkably shaped cerci.

Acknowledgements

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References

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