

Pentanota meuseli (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae: Aleocharinae) erroneously recorded from North America

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Abstract—*Pentanota meuseli* Bernhauer was erroneously reported from Alaska, based on a misidentification of a specimen of *Neothetalia* sp. near *N. columbiana* Klimaszewski, and is here removed from the list of genera and species occurring in North America. A lectotype and a paralectotype are designated for the species from the only two existing original Bernhauer specimens. External and genital illustrations are provided to avoid identification problems in the future.

Résumé—La découverte de *Pentanota meuseli* Bernhauer en Alaska est erronée, car elle se base sur une mauvaise identification d'un spécimen de *Neothetalia* sp. près de *N. columbiana* Klimaszewski; l'espèce est donc retirée de la liste des genres et des espèces retrouvés en Amérique du Nord. Un lectotype et un paralectotype sont désignés pour l'espèce à partir des deux seuls spécimens subsistants de la série d'origine de Bernhauer. Des illustrations de l'habitus et des génitalia permettront d'éviter les erreurs d'identification dans le futur.

[Traduit par la Rédaction]

Genus *Pentanota* Bernhauer 1905

Pentanota Bernhauer 1905: 591; Blackwelder 1952: 298; Seevers 1978: 251; Ashe 2001: 362; Smetana 2004: 486.

Type species: *Pentanota meuseli* Bernhauer 1905: 591, by monotypy.

Pentanota meuseli Bernhauer

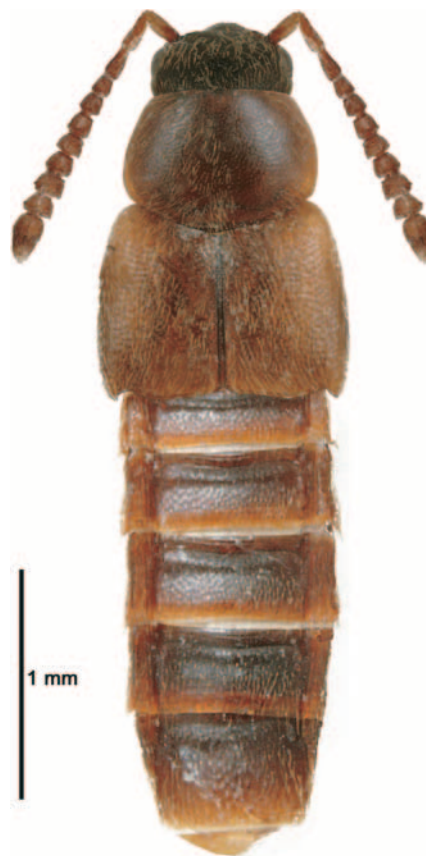
(Figs. 1–8)

Pentanota meuseli Bernhauer 1905: 591.

Lectotype (male): [RUSSIA]: Amurgebiete ded. Muesel; *Pentanota meuseli* Brh. [Bernhauer] Type; *Meuseli* m. Type *Pentanota*, det. Bernhauer [label handwritten by Bernhauer]; Chicago NHMus, Bernhauer Collection; Lectotype, male, *Pentanota meuseli* Bernhauer designated by Klimaszewski 2006 (The Field Museum, Chicago (FMNH)). Specimen dissected and examined. Present designation.

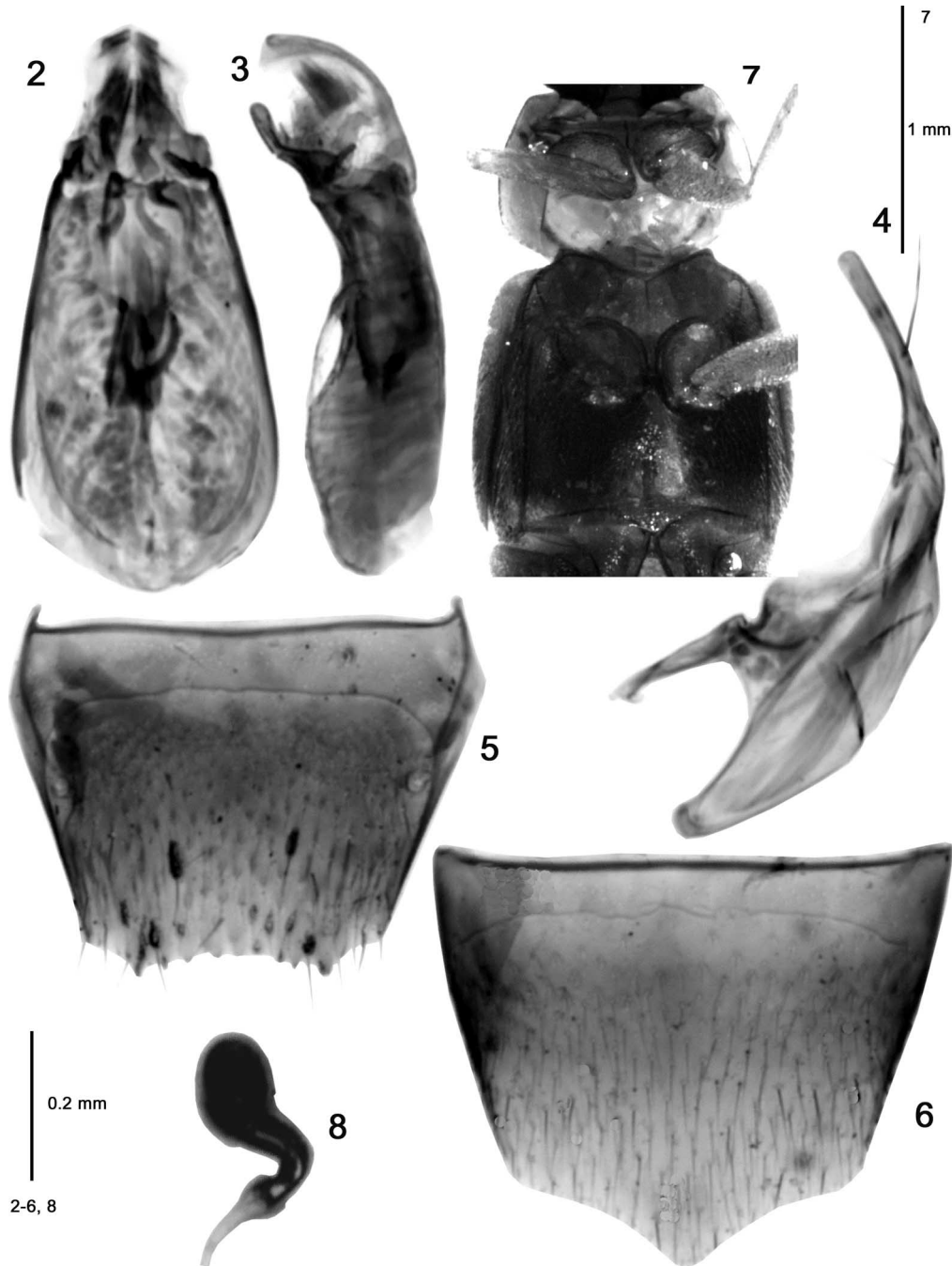
Paralectotype (female): [RUSSIA]: Sud West Baikal; 135; Eppelsh.[eim]; Baikalsis Solsky; Fauvel; *Pentanota Meuseli* Brh., Cotypus [orig. Bernhauer label]; ex Coll. Skalitzky; Cotypus *Pentanota Meuseli* Bernhauer [Scheerpeltz label]; Paralectotype, *Pentanota meuseli* Bernhauer,

Fig. 1. Colour image of *Pentanota meuseli* Bernhauer (based on the lectotype); length 4.0 mm.



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Figs. 2–8. *Pentanota meuseli* Bernhauer: 2, median lobe of the aedeagus in dorsal view; 3, median lobe of the aedeagus in lateral view; 4, paramere; 5, male tergite 8; 6, male sternite 8; 7, pro- and meso-thorax with visible mesosternum; 8, spermatheca.



des. Klimaszewski 2006 (Natural History Museum, Vienna (NHMV)). Specimen dissected and examined. Present designation.

Diagnosis (based on the lectotype)

Diagnosed by means of the following combination of characters: integument densely punctate, punctures coarse on elytra and in abdominal impressions (Fig. 1); pronotum transverse and distinctly narrower than elytra, elytra transverse; four basal tergites with deep basal impressions; antennae with article 4 slightly elongate, articles 5 and 6 approximately quadrate, and articles 7–10 transverse (Fig. 1); mesosternum long, partial carina present in basal part (Fig. 7), mesosternal process narrow and reaching two-thirds of mesocoxal length (Fig. 7), isthmus short (Fig. 7); paramere with four setae on apical lobe, apical vestigial seta, median long and strong seta, one median seta missing, and one moderately long basal seta (Fig. 4); male tergite 8 serrated and with two larger lateral dents (Fig. 5), the serrated margin of male tergite 8 is unique in this genus within the *Ocalea* group of genera; sternite 8 produced apically (Fig. 6); median lobe of the aedeagus with exceptionally large bulbous in dorsal view (Fig. 2) and small tubus with sinuate and narrow subapical part in lateral view (Fig. 3). Female spermatheca as illustrated (Fig. 8) and not consistent in general shape with those of the other genera of the *Ocalea* group (for illustrations of spermathecae in other *Ocalea* genera see Klimaszewski and Pelletier 2004).

Pentanota meuseli was erroneously reported from Alaska by Seevers (1978), and his record was subsequently published as valid by Ashe (2001) and Smetana (2004). Seevers (1978) reported this species from Russia and Alaska. His Alaskan record was based on a single male specimen from the Bernhauer collection (FMNH) from Sitka Island and represented a misidentification (Gouix and Klimaszewski 2007). This specimen belongs to the genus *Neothetalia* Klimaszewski near *N. columbiana* Klimaszewski (Figs. 9–15). It has the median lobe of the aedeagus weakly sclerotized and slightly distorted (Figs. 10–12), so positive species-level identification is problematic. Bernhauer (1905) described *P. meuseli* from Russia on three specimens from the Lake Baikal region (“Südwest-Baikalggebiete”) and the Amur River region (“Amurgebiete”). One original male specimen under this name from Lake Baikal is housed in the FMNH and one female specimen is housed in the NHMV. These

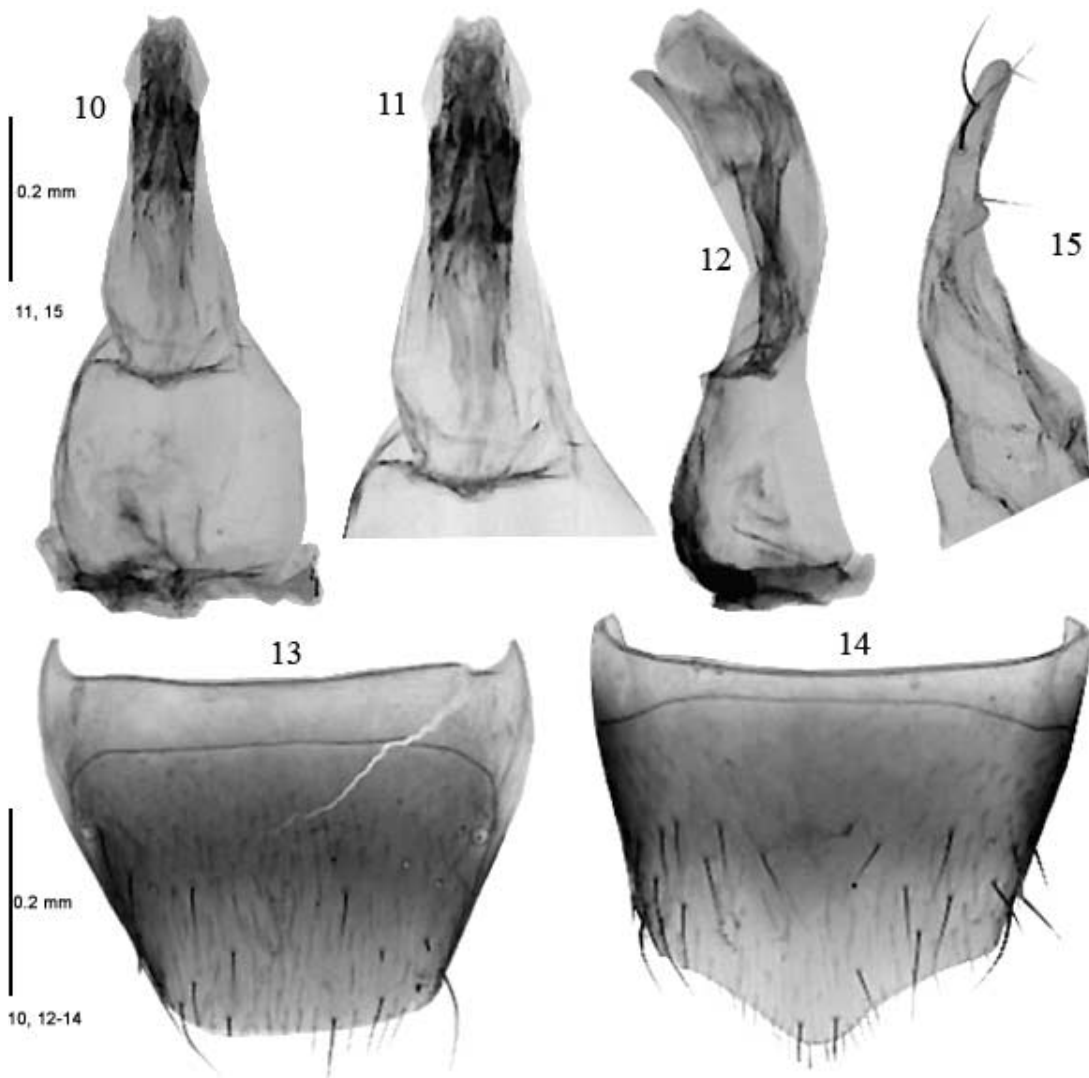
Fig. 9. Colour image of *Neothetalia* sp. near *N. columbiana* Klimaszewski (based on the specimen from Sitka Island, Alaska, erroneously published as *Pentanota meuseli* Bernhauer (Seevers 1978; Ashe 2001; Smetana 2004).



are the only two out of the three original type specimens that are available, and I have examined them. The male specimen from the “Amurgebiete” bearing the original Bernhauer labels with Type indication is designated here as the lectotype and the female specimen from the NHMV is designated as the paralectotype.

Pentanota is a distinct genus unknown from North America and most likely restricted in distribution to the Palearctic region. The record of *Pentanota* from Alaska is not supported by any specimens known to me from North America. In Europe, “*Pentanota meuseli*” was recoded by Palm (1972) and Lohse (1989). However, these records were based on unspecified specimens. Lohse (1989) provided line drawings of a body, median lobe of the

Figs. 10–15. *Neothetalia* sp. near *N. columbiana* Klimaszewski (Sitka Island, Alaska): 10, median lobe of the aedeagus in dorsal view; 11, tubus of the median lobe of the aedeagus in dorsal view, with structures of the internal sac; 12, median lobe of the aedeagus in lateral view; 13, male tergite 8; 14, male sternite 8; 15, apical part of the paramere.



aedeagus in dorsal and lateral aspects, apical portion of male tergite 8, and spermatheca. His drawings of the median lobe and the apex of male tergite 8 are similar to those of the lectotype of *P. meuseli*, but the spermatheca is different and represents a different species. These drawings are not very precise and need further verification by examining the specimens on which they were based. It is possible that Lohse's illustrations were based on another, possibly undescribed species or on a mixed series of two species, with male and female representing

different species. I am calling this fact to the attention of European specialists to encourage them to investigate this matter and revise the specimens examined and illustrated by Lohse (1989).

The mouthparts of the lectotype specimen were missing on arrival from the FMNH and therefore their description is not included in the diagnosis. The female paralectotype is similar to the male lectotype in general appearance but lacks the antennae, is smaller (length 3.5 mm) than the male (length 4.0 mm), and was collected from a different locality in the Lake Baikal

region, leaving some doubt regarding its conspecificity with the male.

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