The Megalodontesidae of Europe (Hymenoptera, Symphyta)

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Abstract: A key to the European species of Megalodontesidae is presented. The characters used for identification are briefly discussed. The following synonymies are established: Tarpa loewii Stein, 1876 syn. nov. of Megalodontes eversmanni (Freymuth, 1870), Tarpa flabellata Eversmann, 1847 and Megalodontes xanthocerus Gussakovskii, 1935 syn. nov. of Megalodontes plagiocephalus (Fabricius, 1804). Megalodontes mocsaryi (André, 1881) is considered to be a valid species, and no longer a form of Megalodontes flabellicornis (Germar, 1825). Megalodontes turcicus (Mocsáry, 1881) is recorded from Europe for the first time. Megalodontes thor sp. nov. is described. This widely distributed species has been mistaken for Megalodontes cephalotes (Fabricius, 1781) and Megalodontes plagiocephalus (Fabricius, 1804).

Introduction

The Megalodontesidae (= Megalodontidae; Opinion 1829, 1996) is exclusively Palaearctic. Most species occur in the Mediterranean, three are known from Siberia, and five from Central Asia. Some species from Turkey, the Middle East, the Transcaucasus, and Northern Africa will be described by Springate, Taeger & Burckhardt (submitted) and in an additional paper of the present author (Taeger in prep.). In these papers information on the types (including the selection of lectotypes), as well as redescriptions and detailed information on the distribution of all species will be, given, too. The aim of the present paper is to enable the user of the key to identify all European species. Taeger (1998) stated that most European species seem to be known and gave a key to the European taxa. Since that time many more specimens have been examined. This required the revision of several opinions published by Taeger (1998).

The characters given in the key are sometimes fairly weak, but they seem to be useful for practical reasons. There is no problem in uniting forms which are dealt with as species in the key if they are found to be conspecific. On the other hand, it is impossible to separate the data of erroneously united taxa without checking the material again. Though in some species (e.g. *cephalotes*) the forms show a more or less distinct geographical restriction, their treatment as subspecies seems to be unreasonable, according to our present knowledge. For these forms I prefer to use epithets without nomenclatorial relevance.

As far as known, the larvae feed on Apiaceae (=Umbelliferae), Rutaceae, and Lamiaceae. Most species occur in steppes and even in semi-deserts. In the temperate zone they prefer warm habitats.

Taxonomy

The Pamphilioidea (Megalodontesidae + Pamphiliidae) form a well founded monophylum (based on the structure of the head capsule and the ovipositor; VILHELMSEN 1996, 1997, 2001).

The monophyly of the Megalodontesidae is well supported by the following characters. The first five seem to be unique within the Symphyta.

- 1. Clypeus covered by the mandibles (in other Symphyta the clypeus more or less covers the mandibles).
- 2. Labrum membranous.
- 3. Tergum 1 deeply emarginated in the middle, but undivided, lateral parts separated by a deep furrow.
- 4. Vein 2A&3A in fore wing straight (area aspera within the anal cell).
- 5. Flagellomeres (flagellar segments of the antenna) with more or less elongated, flattened projections (flabelli; sometimes very short), only some apical flagellomeres may be simple.
- 6. Larvae on Umbelliferae, Rutaceae, and Lamiaceae. Abdominal segments of the larvae with six dorsal annulets.

Additionally Springate (1994) pointed out an unique shape of digitus and cuspis in the male genitalia.

Character assessment

A short assessment of the characters applied for the separation of the taxa in the key is to be given, to enable the user of the key to decide which couplet best fits a specimen.

Generally, all characters are to be considered as an entirety, because the variability within the species sometimes results in single specimens that do not fit in all respects with the "usual set" of characters of the species. For example, *M. skorniakowii* from Central Asia varies in size between 8 and 14 mm and the sculpture and colouration are highly variable. In European species such a strong variability is not to be found. Only in *M. phaenicius* the variability of colour and sculpture seems to be unusually great, but in this case it is not certain, if the specimens united under this name really belong to the same species.

Obviously some species have local forms. Looking at the distinguishing characters in the whole range of the species, the characterization of these taxa may become difficult. Because often 2–3 well separated forms can be found sympatrically, it is very likely that they are not conspecific. On the other hand, it is sometimes not quite clear, if the different forms from different places (which are treated here as belonging to the same species) are really conspecific.

Colour. The colour can often be used for the separation of the species. Because of the variability mainly the pattern und tendencies of the colour must be considered. Sometimes the colour alone allows the identification of the species (e.g. M. fabricii). Distinguishing groups with the help of the number of yellow spots on the mesonotum as done by Gussakovskii (1935) is very uncertain. The differentiation of species based on the intensity of the yellow colour (whitish yellow or yellow) cannot be applied in European species. Specimens are to be found with differing intensities of yellow, but these differences seem not to be of specific value. In the non-European M. judaicus and M. parvus the pale colour seems to be always whitish.

Antennae. The length of the flabelli (projections of the flagellomeres) was a main reason for describing the genera *Tristactus*, *Melanopus* and *Tristactoides* and the subgenus *Rhipidioceros*. The differences in the length are graduated, and therefore not sufficient for the separation of genera. On the other hand, the relative length of the flabelli, compared with the length of other flabelli or the length of the following antennomeres is a valuable character for species identification. Nevertheless there is a certain variability, as in other characters, too. Measuring the relative length of the flabelli is often difficult, because the antennae are often distorted. In these cases the data are to be interpolated. Usually the length of flabelli is similar in both sexes, only in *M. spiraeae* and *M. interruptus* were slightly longer flabelli found in the males. Sometimes the relative length of the antennomeres or the number of antennomeres show specific differences. The length of the antennomeres is measured on the upper side without flabellum (fig. 1). The number of antennomeres varies more in species with a greater average number of antennomeres.

Mouthparts. There are often distinct differences in the shape of the mouthparts. Glossa, paraglossa and prementum are usually more or less elongated. In *M. merceti* und the Central Asian *M. kuznetzovi* the galea is strongly enlarged. The shape of the mouthparts is difficult to use for species identification because of the distortion caused by drying.

Genitalia. Springate (1994) analysed the structures of the male genitalia. He discovered partly good distinguishing characters for the species. Usually the greatest differences are to be found in species which show greater differences in their external morphology, too. Otherwise, in groups with few external differences between the taxa, the genitalia are usually also similar. An exception is *M. phaenicius* and *M. olivieri*: the females can be separated only with some doubt, whereas the males are well separated by the different shape of the gonostyli. As

the latter species does not occur in Europe, is it not necessary to deal with the genitalia in the key given below.

Other characters. There are clear sculptural differences between the species, but the variability seems to be no less than in other characters. Tergum 8 in males shows different forms, which can be used for the separation of species groups. The postgenal carina is reduced in several (not closely related) taxa. The claws are usually cleft, only in *M. kuznetzovi* from Central Asia is the inner tooth small.

Key to the European species of Megalodontesidae

The division of the group into various (sub-)genera as used in the past is not supported by phylogenetic analysis. As only about 40 Megalodontesidae species are known, there is no need to divide Megalodontes into different genera. The names used in the key are based on the examination of the types in connection with the revision of the group (Springate, Taeger & Burckhardt, submitted). The males of M. dusmeti, flavicornis, krausi and scythicus are unknown. Characters, which are given as supplementary information without counterpart are in small print.

1	Females 2 Males 29
2(1)	Flabellum of the 3rd antennomere well developed (usually longer than the following 3 antennomeres together), at least 0.75 times as long as the flabellum of the 4th antennomere (fig. 5)
	Flabellum of the 3rd antennomere about half long as the flabellum of the 4th antennomere or shorter, sometimes extremely short, usually shorter than the following 3 antennomeres together (fig. 1–4)
3(2)	Gena not carinate (fig. 6) or carina obsolete; vertex nearly always yellow posteriorly and without lateral stripes (if rarely lateral stripes present, hind margin broad yellow). Mesonotum with 0-2 (rarely 4) yellow spots; flabellum of the 3rd antennomere as long as the following 4-5 antennomeres together. Larva on Sphallerocarpus gracilis. Eastern Europe (Russia: Bashkiria) to Eastern Siberia. Megalodontes spiraeae (KLUG, 1824) ?
	Gena carinate (fig. 7); vertex nearly always with distinct lateral yellow stripes, hind margin usually at least partly black
4(3)	Flabellum of the 3rd antennomere as long as the following 10-12 antennomeres together
5(4)	3rd antennomere broader than long, about as long as the pedicel; sterna more or less yellow; eastern mediterranean species. Highly variable, perhaps more than one species included. Larva on <i>Haplophyllum thesioides</i> . SE Europe (Bulgaria, Greece, Moldavia, Ukraine, Yugoslavia); Azerbaijan, Egypt, Iran and Turkey.

Megalodontes phaenicius (LEPELETIER, 1823) 9

- 3rd antennomere clearly longer than broad and longer than the pedicel; sterna black or with very narrow yellow hind margins; western mediterranean species. Hitherto only two ℜ known. The few differences given in the key leave some doubt about the validity of the species. On the other hand, these differences are more distinct than the differences between the females M. olivieri (Brulle, 1846) and M. phaenicius, which are different species without doubt because of the completely different male genitalia. Perhaps the unknown σ can answer the question in future. Spain.

 Megalodontes dusmeti Enslin, 1914 ♀
- 6(4) Malar space clearly broader than the half diameter of the anterior ocellus; lower face largely yellow; larger species, usually about 12-13 mm; galea enlarged; glossae short. Central Spain.

 Megalodontes merceti Konow, 1904 ?

- Head between the eyes above the antennal sockets punctate or punctulate, more or less rugose shining between the punctures; eastern mediterranean species9
- 8(7, 15) Flabellum of the 3rd antennomere about as long as the following 4.5 antennomeres together; head between the eyes above the antennal sockets rugose; tergum 3 with broad yellow hind margin; last abdominal segment mainly black. Portugal, Spain.

Megalodontes krausi TAEGER, 1998?

— Flabellum of the 3rd antennomere about as long as the following 2.5–3 antennomeres together; head between the eyes above the antennal sockets with deep, dense punctures; tergum 3 only laterally yellow; last abdominal segment mainly yellow. Spain.

Megalodontes gratiosus (Mocsáry, 1881) ?

9(7) Scape about as long as the basal 6 flagellomeres together; 3rd antennomere about as long as the pedicel; larger species, up to 15 mm. SE Europe (Bulgaria, Greece), Caucasus region (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Iran, Russia), Turkey. Cf. p. 475.

Megalodontes eversmanni (FREYMUTH, 1870) 9

- 10(9) Tergum 3 with a complete yellow hind margin, which is enlarged laterally; rather large species, usually 11–12 mm; yellow hind margins of terga 4–7 comparatively narrow and not enlarged laterally, each occupying about one third of the visible part of the terga; yellow spot in the middle of the face usually does not include the whole clypeus (at least area above the mandible bases remains black); scape and tegula (mainly) yellow. Tergum 1 often yellow; tergum 8 with yellow hind margin; sterna 5+6 distinctly marked with yellow; area behind cenchri black. In the typical form (eastern coast of Adriatic Sea, W Greece) the mesonotum is more or less densely punctured, without large smooth areas; 3rd antennomere about 2 times as long as broad. There are single specimens from other places (Moldavia, NW and NE Turkey) which are similar to the typical specimens, but slightly differ in reduced sculpture of the

mesonotum and/or by a slightly shorter 3rd antennomere. Eastern coast of Adriatic Sea (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Italy, Slovenia, Yugoslavia), Greece, Moldavia, Turkey.

Megalodontes flabellicornis (GERMAR, 1825) ?

- 11(10) Yellow hind margin of tergum 3 (often also that of tergum 4) interrupted in the middle or only yellow spotted laterally; yellow margins of terga 4-7 somewhat broader laterally than in the middle; tegulae and terga 1+8 black; sterna usually ± marked with yellow, but sometimes nearly completely black; mesonotum with large smooth areas; 7.5-10mm.
 - (= M. flabellicornis forma c sensu Taeger, 1998). Bulgaria, Greece, Romania, Yugoslavia, Turkey. Cf. p. 475. **Megalodontes mocsaryi** (Ed. André, 1881) ?
- Characters not in this combination. The following forms are only known from few specimens.
 More material is required to find a reasonable taxonomic placement.
 - A Yellow hind margin of tergum 3 not interrupted in the middle; area behind cenchri yellow; scutellum black; tegulae yellow; tergum 8 black or yellow laterally; sculpture similar to *M. mocsaryi*, perhaps a pale form of this species; 9–10mm. (Greece: Peloponnes, Ionanina) (= *M. flabellicornis* forma a sensu TAEGER, 1998). *Megalodontes mocsaryi* forma a
 - Yellow hind margin on tergum 3 interrupted in the middle; area behind cenchri black; scutellum with yellow spot; tegulae black; tergum 8 black; sculpture as in typical *M. flabelli-cornis* and perhaps a form of this species; 11 mm. If considered to be a valid species, the name *Megalodontes exornatus* (ZADDACH, 1863) is to be used (loc. typ. unknown, ? SE Europe). (= *M. flabellicornis* forma b, TAEGER, 1998).

Megalodontes flabellicornis forma b

- Hind coxa black or pale marked apically and/or ventrally; lower face marked with black; mesonotum with 0-4 yellow spots; yellow spot on mesepisternum usually small
 14
- 13(12) Gena without distinct carina (cf. fig. 6); longest flabelli about as long as the following 1.5 antennomeres together; sterna apically broad yellow; 3rd antennomere mainly black. Portugal, Spain

 Megalodontes bucephalus (Klug, 1824) ?
- Gena with distinct carina (fig. 7); longest flabelli about as long as the following 2.5 antennomeres together; sterna marked with yellow only laterally; 3rd antennomere yellow. SW France, Portugal, Spain. *Megalodontes capitalatus* Konow, 1904 ?
- 14(12) Flabellum of the 3rd antennomere about as long as the following 2 antennomeres together

	together
_	Flabellum of the 3rd antennomere about as long as the following 1.5 antennomeres together or shorter (cf. fig. 4); longest flabelli about as long as the following 1.5-3 antennomeres together
15(14	4) Clypeus yellow; vertex with pale lateral stripes; mesonotum with 4 yellow spots; species from Spain; (cf. gratiosus)
_	Clypeus partly or completely black; vertex without pale lateral stripes; mesonotum with 2-4 yellow spots; Eastern Mediterranean species
16(15	5,24) Tegula, scape and usually terga 1-2(-3) black, terga 1-3 sometimes with yellow spots; face between ocelli and eyes more or less rugulose punctate; mesonotum with 2 yellow spots; femur of front leg with more than basal third black. Bulgaria (Melnik) Syria, Turkey. **Megalodontes turcicus** (Mocsáry, 1881) 9 Tegula yellow; scape yellow or black on outer side; terga 1-3 with large yellow spots; face punctate, not rugulose; mesonotum with 2-4 yellow spots; anterior femora usually black only in the basal quarter. E Europe (Ukraine: Saporishshja, Kerch; Russia: Novorossiisk, Gelendshik) Azerbaijan, Turkey. Also 1 9 from "Griechenland" (coll. Hiendlmayr, Zoologische Staatssammlung, München; labels unreliable). **Megalodontes medius** Konow, 1897 9 **Megalodontes medius** Konow, 1897 9
17(14	4) Face only with lateral yellow spots; apical 7-9 antennomeres without distinct flabelli other flabelli not longer than the following antennomere (fig. 2). Terga 1-3 and usually 7 black, terga 4-5 and 8 with yellow margin; tergum 6 laterally yellow, tergum 7 sometimes with narrow yellow margin. Larva according to Móczár & Zombori (1973) on Salvia sylvestris. C and SE Europe (Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Macedonia, Moldavia Romania, Russia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Ukraine, Yugoslavia), Turkey. **Megalodontes fabricii* (Leach, 1817) 9
_	Face with at least 3 yellow spots (one in the middle of the face); apical 3-5 antennomeres without distinct flabelli, other antennomeres at least partly with longer flabell (fig. 3-4)
18(17	7) Very dark: yellow hind margins on terga 5-6 laterally broad, but interrupted in the middle; tegulae black or yellow marked on outer side. Longest flabelli somewhat longer than the following 1.5 antennomeres together; sculpture as in <i>plagiocephalus</i> , perhaps an unusual coloured form of this species. E Europe (Russia: Orenburg, Krasninsk; Ukraine: Sevastopol) Kazakhstan (Uralsk). <i>Megalodontes scythicus</i> ZHELOCHOVTSEV, 1988 (Yellow hind margins on terga 5-6 not interrupted; tegulae often mainly yellow or yellow marked on inner side.
19(18	3) Yellow hind margins of terga 5-8 about of the same width (cf. fig. 8); tegula more of less yellow; if terga very broadly yellow, then tegula yellow
20(19	0,26) Tergum 1 black or with small lateral yellow spots which are clearly smaller than

-	between eyes and ocelli partly rugulose; mesonotum with smooth areas. σ unknown, most likely a parthenogenetic species (specimens claimed to be the σ of M . flavicornis belong to a hitherto undescribed species). C, E and SE Europe (Austria, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Russia, Slovakia, Ukraine), Caucasus region (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, N Iran), Turkey, Turkmenistan. Megalodontes flavicornis (Klug, 1834) ? Characters not in this combination: tergum 1 with yellow spots, which are usually clearly larger than the spots on tergum 2 (tergum 2 sometimes, rarely both tergum 1 and tergum 2 black; exceptionally tergum 1 black and tergum 2 broad yellow, but then mesonotum with 4 yellow spots and outer orbits not yellow towards the mandibles); mandibles often mainly black; outer orbits usually less yellow; mesonotum frequently with 4 yellow spots; (flagellum sometimes darkened; sculpture often different)
21(20) —	Flagellum yellow or reddish, mesonotum with 4 (rarely 2) yellow spots
22(21) —) Area between eyes and ocelli, and mesonotum rugose; about 12mm. Vertex with lateral yellow stripes, which are connected on hind margin of vertex
23(22)	Yellow hind margins of terga very broad (fig. 10); mandibles largely yellow. Yellow spots behind the cenchri present; perhaps only a large pale form of <i>cephalotes</i> . Central Spain. **Megalodontes mundus** Konow, 1904 9
_	Yellow hind margins of terga not broader than the half of the length of the terga; mandibles mainly black. Sterna 5+6 largely yellow apically, the yellow color often slightly interrupted in the middle; terga 1–3 largely yellow spotted laterally, black in the middle. Perhaps only a large form of <i>M. panzeri</i> . SE Europe (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Romania). **Megalodontes laticeps** Konow, 1897 9
24(22) —) Longest flabelli about as long as the following 3 antennomeres together (cf. medius and turcicus)
25(24)	Mesonotum usually with 4 yellow spots; scape and tegulae yellow. In SE European specimens sometimes tergum 1 black and tergum 2 more or less yellow; longest flabelli about as long as the following 1.5 antennomeres together; yellow hind margins of sterna 5–6 usually continuous; mandibles usually mainly black. Large forms with much more dense sculpturing cf. M. laticeps. Larva on Peucedanum cervaria. C and SE Europe (Albania, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, E France, S Germany, Greece, Hungary, N Italy, Macedonia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Switzerland, Yugoslavia). (= M. cephalotes auct.). Megalodontes panzeri (Leach, 1817) 9
_	Mesonotum with 2 yellow spots; scape and tegulae usually more or less black 26
26 (19	2,25) Tergum 1 black or with small lateral yellow spots which are clearly smaller than the spots on tergum 2; antenna yellow; mandibles mainly yellow; outer orbits yellow

	towar	rds the base of the mandibles; mesonotum with 2 yellow spots (cf. <i>flavicor</i> , 2	
_	Colou	uration different	
27 (2)	tinct s antenn (fig. 4 some of ter additi rupted market less di and all Peucee Austri Germa	Head between eyes and ocelli rugose; mesonotum closely punctate, with a smooth areas; longest flabelli usually about as long as the following 2.5 following together; flagellum darkened towards the apex, never completely 4); hind margins of terga 5–7 about of the same width (fig. 8) or tergum what broader margin; hind margin of tergum 8 usually clearly narrower the gum 7; hind margin of sterna 3–4 usually yellow in the middle (sometime ional lateral spots), sterna 5–6 usually with yellow hind margin which is not did in the middle; mesonotum with 0–2 (exceptionally 4) yellow spots; tellow with yellow and tegulae mainly yellow, exceptionally black. Species with distinct local forms, but intermediates occur (?? subspecies). Most records from mour pine places (up to 2 400 m), but also in the lowlands. Larva on Laserpitium latifolium, adanum cervaria, P. alsaticum and Seseli libanotis. Europe except N and NW (An and Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Europe, any, Italy, Macedonia, Poland, Romania, Russia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Swittslavia), P NW Turkey. (= M. spissicornis, M. klugii, nec M. cephalotes auct.). Megalodontes cephalotes (FABRICIUS, 1)	llowing yellow 7 with an that es with ot intergum 1 more on the containous, L. siler, Andorra France tzerland
	<u>A</u>	Scape reddish brown or mainly yellow, tegulae mainly yellow. Scape mainly black, tegulae sometimes black (forms named according to TAEGER,	1998).
	В	Yellow hind margins of terga narrow, terga 2-3 often black; scape usually brown, f lagellum distinctly darkened towards the apex; mesonotum with 0-2 spots; (= M. cephalotes forma a sensu TAEGER, 1998). C Europe, France.	2 yellow
	_		s; scape w spots curopear forma
	C —	Tergum 1 and tegulae black. NE Europe. Tergum 1 and tegulae more or less yellow	forma o
	D —	Sculpture as dense as in Central European specimen. SE- and E Europe. Sculpture not as dense as in Central European specimen. Perhaps not conspeci	forma d
	closel clearl ellum than t only often	acters not in this combination: head between eyes and ocelli not rugose, but punctate; mesonotum often with distinct smooth areas; longest flabelli ly shorter than the following 2.5 following antennomeres together (fig. 3 in sometimes yellow; yellow hind margins of terga 5–6 usually clearly not that of tergum 7 (fig. 9); hind margin of sterna 3–4 usually black or yellow laterally; sterna 5–6 with yellow hind margin interrupted or not; meson with 4 yellow spots; tergum 1 and tegulae often black. Mostly found in the located from mountainous places (usually not higher than 1 000 m) are known.	usually i); flag- arrower spotted onotum

28(27) Mesonotum with distinct smooth areas; scape usually mainly black or yellow with two dark stripes, exceptionally reddish brown; yellow hind margins of sterna 5-6 usually continuous, rarely interrupted on sternum 5 or 5-6; yellow margin of the pronotum in dorsal view distinctly broadened in outer direction, nearly triangular. Larva on *Peucedanum alsaticum* and *Seseli libanotis* (?). C, W, E and SE Europe (Andorra, Austria, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, France, SW Germany, Hungary, N Italy, Romania, Russia, Slovakia, NE Spain, Ukraine, Yugoslavia); Caucasus (Armenia, Georgia), NW Kazakhstan. Cf. p. 475.

Megalodontes plagiocephalus (FABRICIUS, 1804) ♀

There are more or less distinct forms, which have a more or less distinct restricted distribution. Therefore these forms might be considered to be subspecies. Intermediates between the forms occur.

	A	Femora of front and middle legs reddish yellow, at most slightly darkened basally. (Tegula black, rarely yellow on inner margin; terga 1 and 3 sometimes yellow spotted, tergum 2 nearly always black; scape and pedicel black, exceptionally reddish brown; mesonotum with 0-2 yellow spots; longest flabelli about as long as the following 2 antennomeres together.) [= M. flabellatus (EVERSMANN, 1847)]. E Europe, Caucasus, Southern Russia, Ukraine, Romania.
		Femora of front and middle legs largely darkened basally
	В	Scape mainly black, more or less yellow dorsally; mesonotum with 2 (rarely 4) yellow spots; longest flabelli usually about as long as the following 1.5 antennomeres together. C Europe. M. plagiocephalus s. str.
	_	Scape yellow with 1–2 black stripes; mesonotum with 4 (rarely 2) yellow spots; longest flabelli usually about as long as the following 2 antennomeres together (= <i>M. cephalotes</i> forma f sensu TAEGER, 1998, part.).
	C	Tegulae black or yellow on inner side. France. (= <i>M. xanthocerus</i> Gussakovskii, 1935). forma b
		Tegulae mainly yellow. Spain. forma c
	margins of rather narra front and mantennomes M. cephalo Larva on H. Republic, S.	m without larger smooth areas; scape usually reddish brown; yellow hind- of sterna 5–6 usually interrupted; yellow margin of the pronotum usually row, not distinctly broadened in outer direction, nearly parallel sided. Femora of hiddle legs darkened basally; longest flabelli usually about as long as the following 2 res together; tegulae usually more or less yellow on outer side, rarely yellow or black. (= tes forma b sensu Taeger, 1998 part.). Peucedanum oreoselinum. C, SE and E Europe (Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech E France, S Germany, Hungary, N Italy, Poland, Romania, Russia, Slovakia, Slovenia, d, Ukraine), NW Kazakhstan (Janvarcevo, Uralsk). Cf. p. 476. Megalodontes thor sp. n. 9
29(1)	flabellum	of the 3rd antennomere well developed, at least 0.75 times as long as the of the 4th antennomere, usually longer than the following 3 antennomeres
_	Flabellum antennome	of the 3rd antennomere about 0.5 times as long as the flabellum of the 4th ere or shorter, sometimes extremely short, usually shorter than the following meres together

30(29)	Gena not carinate or carina obsolete; vertex nearly always yellow behind and without lateral stripes (if rarely lateral stripes present, hind margin broadly yellow); Mesonotum with 0-2 (rarely 4) yellow spots; tergum 8 simple, without distinct
	impression, at most impression faintly indicated; flabellum of the 3rd antennomere as long as the following 5-7 antennomeres together. Eastern Europe (Bashkiria) to Eastern Siberia. 9 cf. couplet 3. **Megalodontes spiraeae** (Klug, 1824) of the sp
_	Gena carinate; vertex nearly always with distinct lateral yellow stripes, hind margin usually at least partly black (if lateral stripes reduced, hind margin black); sometimes thorax ventrally completely yellow, mesonotum usually with 4 yellow spots; tergum 8 often with distinct impression or divided in the middle; flabellum of the 3rd antennomere as long as the following 3–12 antennomeres together. Western Palaearctic
31(30)	Tergum 8 simple; flabellum of the 3rd antennomere as long as the following 10-12 antennomeres together. The hitherto unknown male of <i>M. dusmeti</i> from Spain is most likely
	similar to this species. ? cf. couplet 4. Megalodontes phaenicius (LEPELETIER , 1823) σ Tergum 8 divided in the middle by a furrow or a distinct impression; flabellum of the 3rd antennomere as long as the following 3-8 antennomeres together
32(31)	Propleura at least mainly yellow, abdomen below nearly completely yellow; scape usually yellow, rarely black dorsally; pronotum mainly yellow with few black markings. Femora often completely yellow
	Propleura black, rarely with few yellow markings; abdomen below usually distinctly marked with black; scape more or less black dorsally, rarely yellow; if lower corners of pronotum marked with yellow, the yellow colour is not connected with the yellow colour of the upper corners
33(32)	Body completely yellow below; impression on tergum 8 V-shaped; flabellum of the 3rd antennomere about as long as the following 3 antennomeres together; 3rd antennomere about 1.5-2 times as long as the pedicel; galea enlarged, short. • couplet 6. **Megalodontes merceti* Konow, 1904 or
	Body below with distinct black markings; impression on tergum 8 usually furrow-shaped; flabellum of the 3rd antennomere about as long as the following 5–6 antennomeres together; 3rd antennomere about as long as the pedicel; galea not enlarged
34(32)	3rd antennomere about twice as long as the pedicel; flabellum of the 3rd antennomere about as long as the following 2 antennomeres together. Spain. 9 cf. couplet 8. **Megalodontes gratiosus** (Mocsary, 1881) of the 3rd antennomere about as long as the following 2 antennomeres together. Spain. 9 cf. couplet 8.
	3rd antennomere about 1–1.5 times as long as the pedicel; flabellum of the 3rd antennomere as long as the following 4–6 antennomeres together; Eastern Mediterranean species
35(33,	34) Scape about as long as the first 6 flagellomeres together; flabellum of the 3rd antennomere about as long as the following 6 antennomeres together; tergum 1 partly vallows 2 of counter 0.

There are more or less distinct forms:

A Face with 3 (often large) yellow spots; femora of front and middle legs more or less black basally; mesepisternum usually with small yellow spot. B Face yellow, only somewhat darkened near the base of antenna; femora of front and middle legs usually completely yellow; mesepisternum largely yellow. Mainly found in southern Transcaucasia.(= M. loewii sensu Konow). forma a Propleura with yellow markings; abdomen below nearly completely yellow. (Greece, Bulgaria, W Turkey).(= M. loewii (STEIN, 1876)). Propleura black; abdomen below distinctly marked with black. (NE Turkey, Transcaucasia, Caucasus). M. eversmanni s. str. Scape about as long as the first 4-5 flagellomeres together; flabellum of the 3rd antennomere about as long as the following 4-5 antennomeres together; tergum 1 black or with two yellow spots on each side (a small one dorsally and a larger one ventrally)... 36(35) Tergum 3 with yellow hind margin; tegulae mainly yellow; mesonotum more or less densely punctured, without large smooth areas; rather large species, usually 11-12 mm. **9** cf. couplet 10. Megalodontes flabellicornis (GERMAR, 1825) o Tergum 3 yellow only laterally; tegulae black (mocsaryi s. str.) or more or less yellow; mesonotum with large smooth areas; smaller species, 7.5-10 mm. 9 cf. couplet 11. Megalodontes mocsaryi (Ed. André, 1881) o 37(29) Clypeus yellow, often lower face completely yellow; yellow spot on mesepisternum usually large; antenna with about 15 antennomeres; species from the Iberian Peninsula..38 Clypeus mainly or completely black, face with 2-3 yellow spots (the spot in the middle sometimes divided into several smaller spots); yellow spot on mesepisternum small (except in mundus from Spain); antenna usually with more than 15 antennomeres. ..40 38(37) Hind coxa nearly completely black; face with 3 yellow spots; 3rd antennomere yellow or infuscated basally. Longest flabelli about as long as the following 2-3 antennomeres together; genal carina distinct. 9 cf. couplet 8. Megalodontes gratiosus (Mocsáry, 1881) o Hind coxa nearly completely yellow or at least with lateral yellow stripes and ventrally yellow spots; face completely yellow; 3rd antennomere usually mainly or completely 39(38). Propleura, mesepisternum and hind coxa nearly completely yellow, sometimes also mesosternum yellow; longest flabelli usually about as long as the following 1.5 antennomeres together; gena without distinct carina. 9 cf. couplet 13. Megalodontes bucephalus (Klug, 1825) o Propleura black, mesepisternum and hind coxa partly black; longest flabelli about as long as the following 2.5 antennomeres together; gena with distinct carina. ? cf. couplet Megalodontes capitalatus Konow, 1904 o 40(37) Face only with lateral yellow spots; apical 7-9 antennomeres without distinct flabelli;

other flabelli usually not longer than the following 1.5 antennomeres together. Terga

	1-3 and 7 black, 4 and 8 with yellow margin; 5-6 laterally yellow. 9 cf. couplet 17. Megalodontes fabricii (LEACH, 1817) σ
_	Face with at least 3 yellow spots; apical 3(-5) antennomeres without distinct flabelli, other antennomeres at least partly with longer flabelli
41(40) Flabellum of the 3rd antennomere about as long as the following 2 antennomeres together or somewhat longer; longest flabelli about as long as the following 3-4 antenno-
	meres together
_	Flabellum of the 3rd antennomere about as long as the following 1.5 antennomeres together or shorter; longest flabelli about as long as the following 1.5-3 antennomeres together. The male specimens of the following species, all belonging to the <i>cephalotes</i> complex, sometimes are not separated for sure. The characters (colour, sculpture) seem to be somewhat less stable than in the females
42(41	rugulose; mesonotum with 2-4 yellow spots; anterior femora black only in the basal quarter; sterna mainly yellow. ? cf. couplet 16.
	Megalodontes medius Konow, 1897 o
	Tegula, scape and often terga 1-2(-3) black; face between ocelli and eyes more or less rugulose punctate; mesonotum with 2 yellow spots; femora of front legs with more than basal half black; sterna mainly black. 9 cf. couplet 16. **Megalodontes turcicus** (Mocsáry, 1881) σ
43(41	Femora of front and middle legs reddish yellow, at most slightly darkened basally; tegula black, rarely yellow on inner margin; terga 1 and 3 sometimes yellow spotted, tergum 2 nearly always black; scape and pedicel black, exceptionally reddish brown; mesonotum with 0-2 yellow spots; head and mesonotum punctate, with smooth interspaces
44(43	A7) Mesonotum closely punctate, without distinct smooth areas; head between eyes and ocelli rugose; flagellum darkened towards the apex, never completely yellow; tergum 1 and tegulae marked with yellow, exceptionally black; longest flabelli about as long as the following 2.5 following antennomeres together. Most records from mountainous and alpine places (up to 2 400 m), but also in the lowlands. Yellow hind margins of terga variable: interrupted on terga 5–7, or margin about of the same width on terga 5–7, or yellow hind margin of tergum 7 somewhat broader than on terga 5–6; yellow hind margin of tergum 8 usually clearly broader than that of tergum 7; mesonotum with 0–2 (exceptionally 4) yellow spots. The species occurs as local forms, which are more distinct in females. On the Iberian Peninsula very light forms are to be found with scape yellow and flagellum only slightly darkened, terga 1–3 with yellow spots and other terga with broad yellow hind margins, mesonotum sometimes with 4 yellow spots, rarely also scutellum with yellow spot (cf. mundus). 9 cf. couplet 27. **Megalodontes cephalotes** (Fabricius, 1781) σ
_	Characters not in this combination: mesonotum often with smooth areas; head

between eyes and ocelli often not rugose; tergum 1 frequently black; flagellum often

	completely yellow; longest flabelli sometimes distinctly shorter than the following 2 antennomeres together
	Yellow hind margins on terga 5-6 interrupted in the middle or clearly narrower than on tergum 7 (margin on tergum 7 usually yellow at least in the middle); scape often marked with black; tegula often black
	Yellow hind margins on terga 5-7 about of the same width, exceptionally interrupted on terga 5-7; scape often yellow; tegula mainly yellow
	45,51) Mesonotum with distinct smooth areas; yellow margin of the pronotum in dorsal view distinctly broadened in outer direction, nearly triangular; tegula usually yellow on inner margin, sometimes mainly yellow or black. 9 cf. couplet 28. **Megalodontes plagiocephalus** (FABRICIUS, 1804) σ
	Mesonotum without larger smooth areas; yellow margin of the pronotum usually rather narrow, not distinctly broadened in outer direction, nearly parallel sided; tegula usually yellow on outer margin, sometimes mainly yellow or black. ? cf. couplet 28. Megalodontes thor sp. n. σ
_	Flagellum more or less darkened, mesonotum with 0-2 (very rarely 4) yellow spots; area between ocelli and eyes rugose, mesonotum rugose (cf. cephalotes)
	Area between eyes and ocelli rugose; mesonotum closely punctate, usually without distinct smooth areas; about 12 mm
	Yellow spot on mesepisternum enlarged downwards; propleura and hind coxae with yellow spots. Perhaps only a pale local form of <i>cephalotes</i> from Spain. 9 cf. couplet 23. **Megalodontes mundus** Konow, 1904 or
<u> </u>	Yellow spot on mesepisternum small, not enlarged downwards; propleura and hind coxae black, Perhaps only a larger local form of panzeri from SE Europe. 9 cf. couplet 23. Megalodontes laticeps Konow, 1897 \(\sigma \)
	Femora of front and middle legs mainly yellow, at most the basal quarter black; longest flabelli about as long as the following 3 antennomeres together (cf. <i>medius</i>)
	Femora of front and middle legs behind at least black in the basal half; longest flabelli about as long as the following 1.5-2 antennomeres together
	Scape at least partly black, tegula usually black or with yellow margin on inner or outer side (cf. plagiocephalus and thor)
	Antenna and tegula yellow. 9 cf. couplet 25. Megalodontes panzeri (LEACH, 1817) o

Remarks on some species

Megalodontes eversmanni (FREYMUTH, 1870)

= Tarpa loewii Stein, 1876, syn. nov.

TAEGER (1998) treated *Megalodontes loewii* (STEIN, 1876) with some doubt as valid species. The material examined (87 specimens) makes it likely that the characters given by TAEGER fall into the range of *M. eversmanni* (FREYMUTH, 1870). The European specimens, especially the males, are usually paler ("loewii") than the typical specimens of *eversmanni* from the Caucasus region.

Megalodontes mocsaryi (Ed. André, 1881), sp. rev.

M. mocsaryi (Ed. André, 1881) is considered to be a valid species, and no longer as a form of M. flabellicornis (Germar, 1825). About 50 specimens of mocsaryi and 100 specimens of flabellicornis were examined. Though there is an overlapping variability of the characters given in the key, the different distribution is an additional indication for the validity of both taxa. In Greece (Pelopónnisos: Zachlorou) the species were sympatric. Apart from the characters given in the key, the longest flabelli of M. flabellicornis are usually longer than the following 4 antennomeres (up to 5 antennomeres), whereas the longest flabelli in M. mocsaryi are usually somewhat shorter than the following 4 antennomeres.

Megalodontes plagiocephalus (Fabricius, 1804)

- = Tarpa flabellata Eversmann, 1847, syn. nov.
- = Megalodontes xanthocerus Gussakovskii, 1935, syn. nov.

As pointed out in the key above, *flabellata* and *xanthocerus* belong most likely to *plagiocephalus* and represent more or less regional forms of this species. This conclusion is based on the examination of about 900 specimens of *plagiocephalus* (as defined here in the key). The species is distinguished from *M. cephalotes* and *M. thor* by the complex of characters given in the key. *M. plagiocephalus* has been confused in the past mainly with *M. thor* (compare below). It should be noted that the average length of the flabelli seem to be slightly different in the various forms. The more or less vicarious distribution of the forms and the overlapping variability of the characters make it likely that the forms belong to the same species, at most forming subspecies. The host plants are to be confirmed, as the data may be confused with *M. thor*.

Megalodontes thor sp. n.

Description: **q.** 9–12 mm; antenna with 15–17 antennomeres; flabellum of 3rd antennomere about as long as antennomere 4, longest flabelli about as long as the following 1.5 antennomeres, sometimes somewhat longer; apical 2–3 antennomeres without distinct flabelli; face densely punctate; upper head less densely punctate, with some smooth areas; mesonotum densely punctate, areas between punctures usually not larger than the diameter of the punctures.

Black with yellow pattern. Antenna usually reddish, with darkened flabelli; mandibles black, apically brown; face in the middle with yellow spot, inner orbits yellow in the middle; upper head with yellow stripes reaching from the middle of outer orbits to the hind corners of vertex; vertex black or with more or less yellow marked hind margin; pronotum with yellow upper margin, which is usually only slightly broader than the diameter of the ocelli; tegulae black or with yellow outer margin, exceptionally mainly vellow; mesonotum black or with 2 yellow spots on hind lateral lobes, rarely praescutum with yellow markings; upper corner of mesepisternum yellow spotted; coxae and trochanters black; femora of front legs mainly black, apically yellow and/or reddish; femora of middle legs similar, but somewhat less black; hind femora reddish, at most slightly darkened basally; tibiae yellow, more or less reddish towards the apex, tarsi reddish; usually terga 1-2 black and tergum 3 yellow spotted laterally, terga 4-9 yellow apically, the yellow colour usually slightly broader laterally; yellow hind margin of tergum 4 rather broad, covering about the half tergum, margins of terga 5-7 clearly narrower than on tergum 4, and margin of tergum 7 somewhat narrower than margins on tergum 5-6 (cf. fig. 9); tergum 8 mainly yellow, tergum 9 with narrow yellow hind margin; hind margins of sterna 5-6 usually spotted yellow laterally, exceptionally with continuous yellow hind margin. σ similar to Θ ; scape and pedicel mainly black; mandibles often more or less yellow on outer side; terga 4 and 8 largely yellow; terga 2 and 3 usually spotted laterally, terga 5-7 with more or less dissolved yellow hind margin, tergum 7 usually yellow laterally and in the middle, terga 5-6 often yellow only laterally; subgenital plate more or less yellow apically; wings yellowish, fore wing anteriorly darkened, veins more or less brown, pterostigma darkened in the middle.

Material examined: 210 σσ, 313 σρ. Holotype, ρ: Germany, Bavaria: "TK 7341 Dingolfing Ost. rechts 4542640 hoch 5391690. 14.6.2001 leg. A. Liston. NSG Rosenau. Lkr. Dingolfing, Niederbayern, BRD" in coll. Deutsches Entomologisches Institut, Eberswalde, Germany. Paratypes from several places (C, SE and E Europe: Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, SE France, S Germany, Hungary, N Italy, Poland, Romania, W Russia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Switzerland, Ukraine; NW Kazakhstan: Janvarcevo, Uralsk) from the following collections: Museum für Naturkunde der Humboldt-Universität, Berlin, Germany (Frank Koch); Stephan M. Blank Collection, Eberswalde, Germany; Hungarian Natural History Museum, Budapest, Hungary (Lajos Zombori); Zoological Museum, University of Copenhagen, Copenhagen, Denmark (Roy Danielsson); Deutsches Entomologisches Institut, Eberswalde, Germany; Museo Civico di Storia Naturale, Ferrara, Italy (Fausto Pesarini); Zoologie Generale et Appliquée, Gembloux, Belgium (Raymond Wahis); Museo Civico di Storia Naturale "Giacomo Doria", Genova, Italy (Valter Raineri); Martin Hauser Collection, Urbana/Ill., USA; University of Helsinki, Zoological Museum, Helsinki, Finland (Matti Viitasaari); Ewald Jansen Collection, Leipzig, Germany; Staatliches Museum für Naturkunde Karlsruhe, Karlsruhe, Germany (Paul Westrich); Manfred Kraus Collection, Nürnberg, Germany; Nationaal Natuurhistorisch Museum, Leiden,

The Netherlands (Cornelius van Achterberg); Oberösterreichisches Landesmuseum, Linz, Austria (Fritz Gusenleitner); Andrew D. Liston Collection, Frontenhausen, Germany; Museo Nacional de Ciencias Naturales, Madrid, Spain (Isabel Izquierdo); Nikolaus Mohr Collection, Bergisch-Glattbach, Germany; Zoologische Staatssammlung, München, Germany (Erich Diller); Landesmuseum Natur und Mensch, Oldenburg, Germany (Carsten Ritzau); Russian Academy of Sciences, Zoological Institute, St. Petersburg, Russia (Alexeij Zinovjev); National Museum (Natural History), Prague, Czech Republic (Jan Macek); Wolfgang Schedl Collection, Innsbruck, Austria; Naturhistoriska Riksmuseet, Stockholm, Sweden (Fredrick Ronqvist); Staatliches Museum für Naturkunde, Stuttgart, Germany (Till Osten); Andreas Taeger Collection, Eberswalde, Germany; National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C., USA (David R. Smith); Naturhistorisches Museum, Wien, Austria (Maximilian Fischer).

Etymology: The specific name is a noun, derived from the name of the Germanic deity Thor.

Biology: A. D. LISTON and J. SPÄTH observed at the type locality the oviposition on *Peucedanum oreoselinum*. It is likely that some host plant records of *M. plagiocephalus* (and *M. cephalotes*?) really refer to *M. thor*. A detailed description of the biology of the new species will be given elsewhere.

Discussion: This species has been mixed in the past mainly with *M. plagiocephalus* (about 900 specimens examined) and *M. cephalotes* (about 1300 specimens examined). It caused most likely most of the confusion of Central European species of the *cephalotes* complex. Morphologically, *M. panzeri* (about 350 specimens examined) is similar to *M. thor*, too. The distinctly different colour pattern will avoid a confusion of these two species.

According to the labels, the species can be found at the same places, in some cases two of the mentioned species were collected on the same day. The question, if the species occur exactly on the same sites has to be left open. Rather long mixed series of *M. thor* and *M. plagiocephalus* from Stúrovo and Vienna (Bisamberg) make this very likely. As pointed out in the key, *M. cephalotes* usually is to be found at higher altitudes than *plagiocephalus* and *thor*.

List of the European Megalodontesidae

Megalodontes Latreille, 1803

Tarpa Fabricius, 1804 Tristactus Konow, 1897 Melanopus Konow, 1897 Megalodontes (Rhipidioceros) Konow, 1897 Megalodontes (Forficulotarpa) Pic, 1918 Tristactoides Chevin, 1985

Megalodontes bucephalus (Klug, 1824)

Tarpa bucephala Klug, 1824 Tarpa hispanica Spinola, 1843

Megalodontes capitalatus Konow, 1904

Megalodontes cephalotes (FABRICIUS, 1781)

Tenthredo cephalotes Fabricius, 1781 Tarpa klugii Leach, 1817 Tarpa spissicornis Klug, 1824

Megalodontes dusmeti Enslin, 1914

Megalodontes escalerai Konow, 1899

Megalodontes eversmanni (FREYMUTH, 1870)

Tarpa eversmanni Freymuth, 1870 Tarpa loewii Stein, 1876 Tarpa (Megalodontes) multicincta Mocsáry, 1891

Megalodontes fabricii (LEACH, 1817)

Tarpa fabricii Leach, 1817 Tarpa megacephala Klug, 1824

Megalodontes flabellicornis (GERMAR, 1825)

Tarpa flabellicornis Germar, 1825 Tarpa coronata Zaddach, 1866 Tarpa exornata Zaddach, 1866 Tarpa albicincta Stein, 1876 Tarpa speciosa Mocsáry, 1877

Megalodontes flavicornis (Klug, 1824)

Tarpa flavicornis Klug, 1824

Megalodontes gratiosus (Mocsáry, 1881)

Tarpa gratiosa Mocsáry, 1881 Megalodontes castiliensis Enslin, 1914

Megalodontes krausi TAEGER, 1998

Megalodontes laticeps Konow, 1897

Megalodontes medius Konow, 1897

Megalodontes merceti Konow, 1904

Megalodontes mocsaryi (Ed. André, 1881)

Tarpa mocsaryi André, 1881 Megalodontes (Tarpa) anatolicus Mocsáry, 1883

Megalodontes mundus Konow, 1904

Megalodontes panzeri (LEACH, 1817)

Tarpa panzeri LEACH, 1817 Megalodontes cephalotes auct.

Megalodontes phaenicius (LEPELETIER, 1823)

Tarpa phaenicia Lepeletier, 1823 Tarpa caucasica Ed. André, 1882 Megalodontes imperialis Konow, 1897 Megalodontes kohli Konow, 1897 Megalodontes phoenicius ett.

Megalodontes plagiocephalus (Fabricius, 1804)

Tarpa plagiocephala Fabricius, 1804 Tarpa flabellata Eversmann, 1847 Megalodontes aquilus Konow, 1902 Megalodontes nigritegulis Konow, 1904 Megalodontes xanthocerus Gussakovskii, 1935

Megalodontes scythicus Zhelochovtsev, 1988

Megalodontes eversmanni Gussakovskij, 1935

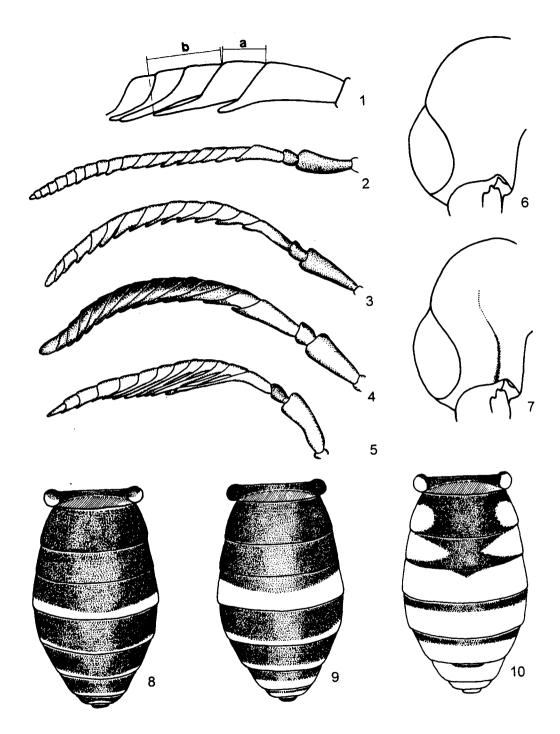
Megalodontes spiraeae (Klug, 1824)

Tarpa spiraeae Klug, 1824
Tarpa pectinicornis Klug, 1824
Tarpa ruthena Jakovlev, 1888
Tarpa borealis Jakovlev, 1891
Megalodontes (Rhipidioceros) siberiensis
Rohwer, 1925
Megalodontes coreensis Takeuchi, 1927

Megalodontes thor sp. n.

Megalodontes turcicus (Mocsáry, 1881)

Tarpa turcica Mocsáry, 1881 Tarpa orientalis Mocsáry, 1881 Megalodontes pectinicornis auct.



Figs. 1–10. Megalodontes. Fig. 1. Basal part of antennal flagellum. a. Measuring the length of flagellomere. b. Measuring the relative length of flabelli in relation to the number of flagellomeres. Figs. 2–5. Antennae. 2. M. fabricii. 3. M. plagiocephalus. 4. M. cephalotes. 5. M. krausi. Figs. 6–7 Left gena. 6. Gena carinate. 7. Gena not carinate. Figs. 8–10. Schematic colour pattern of female abdomen. 8. M. cephalotes. 9. M. plagiocephalus. 10. M. mundus.

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