Taxonomic notes for some Caucasian *Temnothorax* Mayr, 1861 species (Hymenoptera: Formicidae), with descriptions of three new species

Abstract. Three new ant species are described form the North Caucasus (Russia): *Temnothorax dlusskyi* sp. n., *T. arnoldii* Radchenko et Fedoseeva, sp. n., and *T. tembotovi* Radchenko et Yusupov, sp. n. *Temnothorax dlusskyi* sp. n. is characterized by the long head, the low and long mesosoma without metanotal groove, by propodeum without teeth; the head dorsum is densely punctated and longitudinally rugulose, mesosoma is coarsely longitudinally rugose; body is reddish-brown, head is darker; 1st gastral tergite is completely brownish, without lighter spot at the base. *Temnothorax arnoldii* sp. n. is characterized by the long head, the low and long mesosoma without metanotal groove, propodeum with very short but distinct, acute triangular teeth; the head dorsum with dense straight longitudinal rugulosity and punctuation; mesosoma laterally and pronoatal dorsum with coarse longitudinal sinuous rugae; mesosoma and waist are reddish-brown, head dorsum is dark brown; 1st gastral tergite is brownish, its base a little lighter. *Temnothorax tembotovi* sp. n. is characterized by the long head; mesosoma of moderate length, without metanotal groove, propodeum with teeth or spines of various length, they are almost straight and slightly widened at the base; head dorsum is densely punctated, appears dull, the fine longitudinal rugulosity or striation may be developed on frons; mesosoma and waist are densely punctated, appears dull; mesosoma and waist are dark-yellow to ochreous-yellow, the head dorsum somewhat darker, 1st gastral tergite is bright yellow, with brownish band posteriorly. Taxonomic position of *Temnothorax alpinus* and *T. korbi* are reassessed; the name *T. werneri* is considered as a junior synonym of *T. alpinus*; *T. korbi* is transferred to the *corticalis* species group.

Резюме. Три новых вида муравьев описано с Северного Кавказа (Россия): *Temnothorax dlusskyi* sp. n., *T. arnoldii* Radchenko et Fedoseeva, sp. n., и *T. tembotovi* Radchenko et Yusupov, sp. n. *Temnothorax dlusskyi* sp. n. характеризуется длинной головой, низкой и длинной грудью без метанотального вдавления, проподеум без зубчиков, угловатый; верх головы густо пунктирован и продольно морщинистый, грудь с грубыми продольными морщинами; тело красновато-коричневое, голова более темная; 1-й терgit брюшка полностью коричневый, без светлого пятна у основания. *Temnothorax arnoldii* sp. n. характеризуется длинной головой, низкой и длинной грудью без метанотального вдавления, проподеум с очень короткими, но явственными острыми зубчиками; верх головы густо пунктирован и продольно морщинистый, грудь с грубыми продольными морщинами; тело красновато-коричневое, верх головы темно-коричневый; 1-й террит брюшка коричневый, его основание немного светлее. *Temnothorax tembotovi* sp. n. характеризуется длинной головой, грудью средней длины, без метанотального вдавления, проподеум с зубчиками различной длины, которые почти прямые и слабо расширенные у основания; верх головы густо пунктирован, матовый, нежные продольные морщины могут быть на абдомене, грудь и стебелек густо пунктированы, матовые; цвет груди и стебелек от темно-желтого до охристо-желтого, верх головы немного темнее, 1-й террит брюшка светло-желтый, позади с коричневой перевязью. Пересмотрена таксономическая позиция *Temnothorax alpinus* и

Key words: Hymenoptera, Formicidae, taxonomy, new synonymy, new species, Caucasus.
Temnothorax korbi; название T. werneri предложено считать младшим синонимом T. alpinus; T. korbi перенесен в группу видов corticalis.

Introduction

Temnothorax Mayr, 1861 is the most specious ant genus not only in Europe (about 100 species), but in the whole Palearctic Region (more than 200 species) [Radchenko, 1994a, b, c, 1995a, b, 1996, 2004; Terayama, Onoyama, 1999; Guénard, Dunn, 2012; Bharti et al., 2012; Borowiec, 2014].

Temnothorax korbi was the first new species of the genus Temnothorax described from the Caucasian region (Azerbaijan: Talys) [Emery, 1898; unavailable name in this paper, the first available use of the name – Emery, 1922; this and following species were originally placed to the genus Leptothorax Mayr, 1855; for details of further separation of these genera see Bolton, 2003; Radchenko, 2004]. Two succeeding new species were described by Ruzsky [1902a, b] – T. satunini (Armenia) and T. alpinus (North Caucasus: Russia and Georgia). Somewhat later Ruzsky [1905] added to this fauna one more new species, T. braueneri (North Caucasus: Russia and Georgia), and later on Karawajew [1926] described T. shelkovnikovi from Armenia. Any more new species have not been described from the Caucasian region within the next 50 years, until Arnoldi [1977] described a set of new Temnothorax taxa, four of which are considered now as good species: T. anodonta, T. sevanensis (Armenia), T. discoloratus and T. tsesquorum (North Caucasus: Russia). At last, Radchenko [1994a] added to this region two more new species: T. tamarae and T. werneri (North Caucasus: Russia), and one more new species was described from Balcan-Caucasian Region very recently [Seifert, Csösz, 2015]. As a result, 20 Temnothorax species are known from the Caucasian region nowadays.

Below we revived the taxonomic position of T. korbi and T. alpinus, provided new synonymy, and described three new species form the North Caucasus.

Material and methods

We investigated the type and non-type material from the following institutions: Museo Civico di Storia Naturale “Giacomo Doria” (MCSNG, Genoa, Italy); Museum d’Histoire Naturelle (MNHN, Geneva, Switzerland); Zoological Museum of the Moscow State University (ZMMU, Moscow, Russia); I. I. Shmalhausen Institute of Zoology of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine (SIZK, Kiev, Ukraine); Tembotov Institute of Ecology of Mountain Territories of the Kabardino-Balkarian Scientific Centre, Russian Academy of Science (IEKT, Nalchik, Russia).

The photographs of the specimens have been made using the Leica MZ16 stereomicroscope, connected to the camera IC.3D. Fixed points for measurements were chosen based on scheme proposed for Myrmica Latreille, 1804 [Radchenko, Elmes, 2010].

Measurements of the specimens (accurate to 0.01 mm) were taken and these were used to calculate various indices: HL (head length) – maximum length of the head in dorsal view; measured in a straight line from the most anterior point of theclypeus to the mid-point of occipital margin; HW (head width) – maximum width of the head in dorsal view behind (above) the eyes; SL (scape length) – maximum straight-line length of the scape from its apex to the articulation with condylar bulb; OL (ocular length) – maximum length of the eye; FW (frontal width) – minimal width of the frons between the frontal carinae; FLW (frontal lobes width) – maximum distance between the outer borders of the frontal lobes; AL (mesosomal (= alitrunk) length) – diagonal length of the mesosoma (seen in profile) from the anterior end of the neck shield to the posterior margin of the propodeal lobes; AH (mesosomal height) – measured in profile from the imaginary line connecting uppermost points of promesonotum and propodeum perpendicularly to the lowestmost point of mesopleuron; PNV (pronotum width) – maximum width of the pronotum in dorsal view; HTL (hind tibia length) – maximum length of the hind tibia; PL (petiolar length) – maximum length of the petiole in dorsal view, measured from the posteroventral margin of petiole to the articulation with propodeum (just below the posterior visible margin of propodeum); the petiole should be positioned so that measured points lay on the same plane; PW (petiolar width) – maximum width of the petiole in dorsal view; PH (petiolar height) – maximum height of petiole in profile, measured from the uppermost point of the petiolar node perpendicularly to the imaginary line between the anteroverentral (just behind the subpetiolar process) and postoverentral points of petiole; PPL (postpetiolar length) – maximum length of postpetiole in dorsal view between its visible anterior and posterior margins; PPW (postpetiolar width) – maximum width of the postpetiole in dorsal view; PPH (postpetiolar height) – maximum height of the postpetiole in profile from the uppermost to the lowestmost point, measured perpendicularly to the tergo-sural suture; ESL (propodeal spine length) – length of propodeal spine, measured in lateral view from its tip to the base.

Indices: CI (cephalic index) – HL/HW; FLI (frontal lobe index) – FLW/FW; SI1 (scape index 1) – SL/HL; SI2 (scape index 2) – SL/HW; OI1 (ocular index 1) – OL/HL; OI2 (ocular index 2) – OL/HW; PI (petiolar index) – PL/PH; PPI (postpetiolar index) – PPL/PPH; ESL1 (propodeal spine index) – ESL/HW; AI (mesosomal index) – AL/AH.

Results

Taxonomic position of Temnothorax korbi. Radchenko [1994c] has established 12 species groups for the Central and East Palearctic Temnothorax, and the group korbi among them. The proposed diagnosis of this group was: mesosoma low, long, coarsely longitudinally rugose; petiole low; with the very massive node; propodeum with the very short denticles or only with the blunt tubercles. He placed 5 species to this group: T. korbi, T. caucasicus (Arnoldi, 1977), T. anodonta, T. anodontoides (Dlussky et Zabelin, 1985), and T. iranicus (Radchenko, 1994).

Nevertheless, the previous treatments of T. korbi by Arnoldi [1948, 1977] and by Radchenko [1994a, b,
proposed here the nadiqi species-group, placing to it T. nadiqi itself, T. anodontia, T. anodontoides, T. iranicus, and T. dlusskii sp. n. described below.

Reassessment of the taxonomic position of Temnothorax alpinus. As mentioned above, Ruzsky [1902b] described based on workers a new species, Leptothorax alpinus (now Temnothorax), from North Caucasus (now Russia: North Ossetia, and Georgia). For many years this taxon seemed to be quite enigmatic, until Radchenko [1994b, 1996] provided treatment of this species, placing it to the serviculis species-group.

Seeing that Ruzsky’s [1902: 22–23] original description of Leptothorax alpinus was in Russian, we propose here its translation in English (using the modern taxonomic terminology): “Antennae 12–segmented. Mesosoma without metanotal groove. Propodeal spines very short, wide, dentiform, equal to 1/3 of length of dorsal surface of propodeum. Petiole with short peduncle, its node narrowly rounded, anterior face of petiolar node concave, posterior one convex.

Head long, its length almost equal to length of mesosoma. Clypeus slightly convex, with longitudinal rugae. Posterior part of head dorsum and frons densely striated, temples punctato-striated. Mesosoma coarsely rugose, petiole and postpetiole with finer and shorter rugosity [striation?] and punctures. Body matt; gaster smooth and shiny. Mandibles with 5 teeth, apical and preapical ones are the largest; surface of mandibles almost smooth, with short longitudinal rugulae [striation?] only.

Body with long [“big”] and blunt standing hairs; additionally, head, legs, antennae and ventral surface of body with dense, fine, quite long light-yellow subdecumbent pilosity.

Body colour rather dark, brownish-red, head and antennal club blackish-brown, gaster dark brown, occasionally with reddish tint near base. Tibiae and femora brown; antennae, mandibles and tarsi lighter (yellowish-brown). Body length 2–3 mm.

Caucasus: Mamisowski Pass and vil. [aul] Lisri (1899); Gudaur (Satunin, 1901).

Inhabits rocky mountain meadows at the altitudes 7,000–10,000’ in subalpine zone of the Great Caucasus. Nests build under stones”.

When Radchenko revised the Palearctic Temnothorax at the beginning of 1990s, he found in the ZMMU collection 8 specimens collected by Arnoldi in the North-West Caucasus, which fit quite well (or at least does not contradict) to the description of Leptothorax alpinus, particularly, by the long and narrow head, short propodeal teeth, by the coarsely rugose mesosoma, and by many other not so important diagnostically features (see above). As he thought that type specimens of T. alpinus have been lost, he designated the neotype of this species – worker from North-West Caucasus (ZMMU); the labels of this specimen are: “C-3 Кахка К. Арнольд [N-W Caucasian, K. Arnoldi], “A 6141, “Neotypus Leptothorax alpinus” [Radchenko, 1995b].

Nevertheless, one worker from the original Ruzsky’s type series of T. alpinus was found lately in the collection of Forel (MHNG) and labelled as the lectotype [http://www.antwiki.org/wiki/Wiki?Category:Temnothorax alpinus]. The labels of this lectotype specimen are: “Kaukasus, 7000–9000’ Höhe (Rücken des Grosses Kaukasus) 1899 M. Ruzsky”, “Leptoth. tuberum var. alpinus, nov. var. m. [w] (Beschreib. in russisch. sprache)” (both written by Ruzsky’s own hand), “L. tuberum var. alpinus [w] Ruszky”, “L. alpinus Ruszky”, “Coll. Forel”, “Cotypus”, “Lectotype Leptothorax alpinus Ruszky, 1902 det. A. Schulz & M. Verhaagh 1999”, “ANTWEB CASENT 0909041”. Since we could not find any publication with the formal designation of the lectotype of T. alpinus, we may agree with the proposed fixation of the lectotype and formally designate it here.

At the first sight, one may think that all taxonomic problems regarding T. alpinus are successfully resolved after finding the original material of Ruzsky, but the situation becomes more complicated: some features of the lectotype specimen do not fully correspond with the original description, particularly character of the sculpture of mesosoma.

Based on the modern Temnothorax taxonomy, the most important diagnostic features of T. alpinus may be the following: dark body colour (i.e. body not distinctly bicoloured); elongated head; mesosoma without metanotal groove; completely sculptured head, mesosoma and waist; coarsely rugose mesosoma; short, dentiform propodeal teeth.

Ruzsky stressed that mesosoma in T. alpinus is coarsely longitudinally rugose, while in the lectotype specimen it is mostly punctated and with the fine rugosity or even striation only. Moreover, the lectotype specimen of T. alpinus is without any doubt the same species that was described by Radchenko [1994a] as Leptothorax werneri from Elbrus region!

To elucidate the existing discrepancy between the original description and the lectotype specimen of T. alpinus (particularly, the sculpture of mesosoma), we may only suppose that Ruzsky originally included in the type series two different species. This assumption is based also on our long-term experience with reading of Ruzsky’s original descriptions and examining the type material of many taxa described by him, when we have found the similar situation in other genera [e.g. see Radchenko, Elmes, 2010]. Anyway, now it is the most logic and taxonomically correct to consider the name Temnothorax werneri [Radchenko, 1994a] as a junior synonym of Temnothorax alpinus (Ruzsky, 1902). Accordingly, the neotype specimen of T. alpinus, designated by Radchenko (see above), is having lost its taxonomic value. Furthermore, we ascertained that the “neotype” of T. alpinus and 6 other specimens with the same collecting number belong to the new species, which we describe below as T. arnoldii sp. n.

Notes for Temnothorax nadiqi. This species was described by Kutter [1925] (as Leptothorax nadiqi) based on the workers and queens from Switzerland, and for more than 50 years after that it was known from the...
Descriptions of new species

Temnothorax dlusskyi Radchenko, Yusupov et Fedoseeva, sp. n. (Figs 1–3)

Material. Holotype: worker, Russia, Kabardino-Balkarian Republic, Elbrus region, upper flow of Malka River, Dzhilly-Su, alt. 2649 m a.s.L. 43°26′25″ N, 42°33′37″ E, 10.07.2010, leg. Z. Yusupov (ZMMU). Paratypes: 31 workers from the nest of holotype (ZMMU, IEMT, SIZK).

Description. Workers. Head distinctly elongate (to be more correct in terminology, head is rather narrowed than elongate, e.g. head length is commensurable with those of the related species, but head width in the describing species is distinctly less), with almost parallel sides, somewhat convex occipital margin and widely rounded occipital corners. Anterior clypeal margin convex but not prominent, gradually rounded, not-notched medially. Eyes of moderate size, distinctly shorter than length of genae, situated approximately at middlelength of sides of head. Frontal lobes somewhat extended, so that distance between their outer margins distinctly larger than width of frons. Scape of moderate length, does not reach occipital margin approximately by its maximal width at the apex. Masticatory margin of mandibles with 5 teeth, apical and preapical ones are the largest.

Mesosoma long and low, without metanotal groove, its dorsum very feebly and gradually convex, promesonotal suture developed (seen from above), while not very sharp. Propodeum without spines or teeth, only angulated or at most with blunt tubercles. Petiole with distinct, but not very long peduncle and massive node, distinctly longer than height, its anterior surface concave, posterior one convex, petiolar node widely rounded dorsally, without dorsal plate. Postpetiolar subglobular, slightly shorter than height.

Whole head dorsum usually with fine longitudinal, almost straight rugulosity and distinct punctuation; rugulosity may be reduced in various extents, developed only on the central part of head dorsum, and surface laterally to this area may be predominately punctated. Seen in profile, genae with quite coarse longitudinal rugae, while temples with reduced sculpture, at most with fine striation and superficial punctuation, appear shiny. Clypeus with central and several lateral longitudinal carinae, occasionally central carina may be very feebly developed, surface of clypeus smooth and shiny. Mandibles not coarsely longitudinally rugulose.

Mesosoma and waist coarsely sculptured. Mesosomal dorsum with quite coarse straight to slightly sinuous longitudinal rugae, sides of pronotum with very coarse straight rugae, mesopleura and sides of propodeum with coarse sinuous longitudinal rugae. Surface between rugae at most finely punctated, appears shiny. Whole petiolar node with quite coarse short sinuous rugosity and reticulation, postpetiolar mainly with short longitudinal rugae; surface between rugae punctated at various extents, appearing shiny or somewhat dull. Gaster smooth and shiny.

Whole body with numerous straight, not long and blunt standing hairs, legs with not coarse decumbent pubescence, scape with abundant short subdecumbent pilosity. Whole body reddish-brown, head darker, dark brown to blackish-brown, appendages and mandibles somewhat lighter, reddish- to yellowish-brown. First gastric tergite completely brownish, without lighter spot at the base.

Measurements (in mm), ordered as: holotype (min-max) [mean±SD]: HL 0.69 (0.68–0.76) [0.71±0.021], HW 0.55 (0.53–0.59) [0.56±0.013], SL 0.51 (0.49–0.55) [0.51±0.015], FW 0.21 (0.2–0.23) [0.21±0.007], FLW 0.25 (0.23–0.26) [0.25±0.008], OL 0.12 (0.12–0.16) [0.14±0.012], AL 0.97 (0.95–1.05) [1.00±0.023], AH 0.35 (0.33–0.38) [0.36±0.016], PNW 0.43 (0.4–0.47) [0.44±0.018], HTL 0.46 (0.46–0.51) [0.49±0.02], PL 0.28 (0.28–0.31) [0.30±0.009], PH 0.21 (0.21–0.26) [0.23±0.013], PW 0.18 (0.17–0.22) [0.19±0.012], PPL 0.2 (0.18–0.22) [0.21±0.010], PPH 0.21 (0.2–0.25) [0.22±0.010], PPW 0.24 (0.22–0.26) [0.25±0.011].

Indices: CI 1.27 (1.23–1.34) [1.27±0.023], SI 0.73 (0.7–0.77) [0.72±0.018], SII 0.93 (0.89–0.98) [0.92±0.018], FLI 1.16 (1.12–1.22) [1.16±0.032], OLI 0.17 (0.16–0.23) [0.20±0.019], OII 0.22 (0.21–0.29) [0.25±0.021], PI 1.32 (1.2–1.35) [1.29±0.042], PH 0.92 (0.86–1) [0.91±0.04], AL 2.77 (2.61–3.08) [2.78±0.121].

Queens and males. Unknown.

Ecology. The species was found in the alpine meadow at the altitude about 2650 m a.s.L, nest was built in a rock crevice.

Distribution. North Caucasus, Russia: Kabardino-Balkarian Republic.

Comparative diagnosis. Temnothorax dlusskyi sp. n. by the general appearance is similar to T. nadigi and T. anodontoides, but well differs from both by the much narrower head (mean CI 1.27 vs. 1.14…1.15; min 1.23 vs. max 1.2) and by the distinctly extended frontal lobes (mean FLI 1.16 vs. 1…1.01; min 1.12 vs. max 1.02). Additionally, it differs from T. nadigi by the completely sculptured head dorsum (in the latter species at least the longitudinal central band on the head dorsum is smooth), by the not-notched medially anterior clypeal margin, etc., and differs also from T. anodontoides by the shorter petiole with the less developed peduncle (max PI 1.35 vs. min >1.5).

By the long (narrow) head T. dlusskyi sp. n. resembles T. anodontata but differs from it by the distinctly extended frontal lobes (mean FLI 1.16 vs. 1…1.01; min 1.12 vs. max 1.01), by the somewhat smaller eyes (their maximum diameter is distinctly less than the length of genae, but two these values are subequal in the latter species), by the higher petiole (max PI ≤1.35 vs. >1.45), by the rounded petiolar node, etc. Temnothorax dlusskyi sp. n. well differs from another Caucasian species with long head, T. alpinus, by the other character of the sculpture of mesosoma (it is coarsely rugose vs. predominately punctuated).

Temnothorax iranicus unquestionably differs from T. dlusskyi sp. n. by the much shorter head (mean CI 1.15 vs. 1.27), by the smooth head dorsum, presence of thin and acute propodeal teeth, by the not punctated head dorsum and mesosoma, etc.

Temnothorax dlusskyi sp. n. also well differs from other unicolour (brownish or brownish-red) Caucasian Temnothorax. Thus, mesosoma of T. brauneri is with the metanotal groove; mesosoma of T. alpinus is mostly densely punctated, without rugae; propodeum of T. tamarae is with...
Figs 1–10. Species of the genus Temnothorax Mayr, 1861.
1–3 – T. dlusskyi Radchenko, Yusupov et Fedoseeva, sp. n., worker, holotype: 1 – head, dorsal view; 2 – body, lateral view; 3 – body, dorsal view; 4–6 – T. arnoldii Radchenko et Fedoseeva, sp. n., worker, holotype: 4 – head, dorsal view; 5 – body, lateral view; 6 – body, dorsal view; 7–10 – T. tembotovi Radchenko et Yusupov, sp. n., worker, holotype: 7 – head, dorsal view; 8 – body, lateral view; 9 – body, dorsal view; 10 – gaster, dorsal view. Scale bars 1 mm. 4–6 – photos of V.G. Radchenko.
thin and quite long teeth, its head is much wider than in *T. dlusskyi* sp. n. Propodeum of *T. tesquorum* is with quite long spines and petiole is much higher, with the narrowly rounded node dorsum [see also Arnoldi, 1977; Radchenko, 1994b].

**Etymology.** The species is dedicated to the memory of outstanding Russian myrmecologist, our teacher Prof. G.M. Dlussky (1937–2014).

**Temnothorax arnoldii** Radchenko et Fedoseeva, sp. n. (Figs 4–6)

**Material.** Holotype: worker, “C-З Кавказ К. Арнольди” [N-W Caucasus, K. Arnoldi], “А 6141” (ZMMU). Paratypes: 6 workers, “A 6141” (ZMMU).

**Description.** Workers. Head distinctly elongate (narrowed), with almost parallel sides, very feebly concave occipital margin and quite narrowly rounded occipital corners. Anterior clypeal margin slightly convex, gradually rounded, not-notched medially. Eyes of moderate size, somewhat shorter than length of genae, situated approximately at midlength of sides of head. Frontal lobes not extended, so that distance between their outer margins subequal to width of frons. Scape of moderate length, does not reach occipital margin somewhat more than its maximal width at the apex. Masticatory margin of mandibles with 5 teeth, apical and preapical ones are the largest.

Mesosoma long and low, without metanotal groove, its dorsum somewhat flattened, promesonotal suture very feebly developed (seen from above), but visible. Propodeum with very short but distinct, acute triangular teeth. Petiole relatively short, with distinct, but not long peduncle, its anterior surface strongly concave, petiolar node distinctly truncated, with well-developed horizontal or somewhat inclined posteriorly dorsal plate. Postpetiolar subglobular, slightly shorter than height.

Whole head dorsum with fine but dense straight longitudinal rugulosity and fine, but distinct punctuation. Seen in profile, genae with quite coarse sinusous longitudinal rugae, while temples with fine longitudinal striation only. Clypeus with fine lateral longitudinal carinæ, its surface smooth and shiny. Mandibles with very fine superficial striation appear shiny. Surface between rugae densely but not coarsely punctuated, appears shiny. Petiolar node and postpetiolar densely punctuated only, but in some specimens short rugae and reticulation also present. Gaster smooth and shiny.

Whole body with numerous straight, not long and blunt standing hairs, legs with not coarse decumbent pubescence, scape with abundant short subdecumbent pilosity. Mesosoma and waist reddish-brown, head dorsum dark brown, appendages and mandibles somewhat lighter, yellowish-brown, antennal club somewhat darkened. First gastric tergite brownish, its base a little lighter.

Measurement (in mm), ordered as: holotype (mean±SD): CI 0.74 (0.67–0.74) [0.71±0.029], HW 0.59 (0.5–0.59) [0.56±0.025], SL 0.52 (0.45–0.63) [0.50±0.027], FW 0.24 (0.17–0.24) [0.20±0.025], FIW 0.24 (0.17–0.24) [0.21±0.026], OL 0.16 (0.14–0.16) [0.15±0.007], AL 1.01 (0.9–1.02) [0.97±0.042], AH 0.36 (0.34–0.36) [0.35±0.012], PWN 0.43 (0.4–0.43) [0.42±0.016], HTL 0.51 (0.41–0.51) [0.47±0.038], PL 0.3 (0.25–0.3) [0.28±0.018], PH 0.26 (0.21–0.26) [0.23±0.016], PW 0.2 (0.16–0.2) [0.18±0.013], PPL 0.21 (0.16–0.21) [0.19±0.012], PPH 0.22 (0.16–0.22) [0.20±0.021], PPW 0.23 (0.19–0.23) [0.22±0.015], ESL 0.08 (0.08–0.09) [0.09±0.006], ESD 0.23 (0.14–0.21) [0.18±0.026].

Indices: CI 1.27 (1.25–1.33) [1.28±0.032], SI 0.71 (0.67–0.73) [0.71±0.02], SI2 0.89 (0.85–0.96) [0.91±0.033], FLI 1 (1–1.11) [1.03±0.039], OLI 0.21 (0.2–0.22) [0.21±0.008], OI2 0.3 (0.25–0.3) [0.27±0.020], PI 1.15 (1.09–1.22) [1.16±0.042], PFI 0.91 (0.89–1) [0.96±0.0480], ESL 0.13 (0.13–0.16) [0.15±0.017], ESD 0.36 (0.31–0.38) [0.33±0.027], AI 2.84 (2.84–2.92) [2.87±0.046].

Queens and males. Unknown.

**Ecology.** Unknown.

**Distribution.** North-West Caucasus, Russia.

**Comparative diagnosis.** By the long (narrow) head *T. arnoldii* sp. n. resembles *T. alpinus*, *T. anodonta* and *T. dlusskyi* sp. n., but well differs from the first one by another character of sculpture of mesosoma. It differs from two latter species by the much shorter petiole (max PI 1.17 vs. min 1.2), by the presence of the short while distinct and acute propodeal teeth. Additionally, it differs from *T. dlusskyi* sp. n. by the distinctly truncated petiolar node with the dorsal plate. *Temnothorax arnoldii* sp. n. differs from *T. nadigi* and *T. anodontoides* by the much narrower head (mean CI 1.28 vs. 1.14...1.15; min CI 1.25 vs. max 1.2).

**Etymology.** The species is dedicated to the memory of outstanding Russian myrmecologist, Prof. K.V. Arnoldi (1901–1982).

**Temnothorax tembotovi** Radchenko et Yusupov, sp. n. (Figs 7–10)

**Material.** Holotype: worker, Russia, Kabardino-Balkarian Republic, vicinity of vil. Verhniaja Balkaria, 1232 m a.s.l., 17.06.2007, leg. Z. Yusupov (ZMMU). Paratypes: 15 workers from the nest of holotype (ZMMU, IEMT, SIZK).

**Description.** Workers. Head distinctly elongate (narrowed), with very feebly convex sides, straight occipital margin and widely rounded occipital corners. Anterior clypeal margin slightly convex, gradually rounded, not-notched medially. Eyes rather big, subequal to length of genae, situated approximately at midlength of sides of head. Frontal lobes not extended, so that distance between their outer margins subequal to width of frons. Scape of moderate length, does not reach occipital margin approximately by its maximal width at the apex. Masticatory margin of mandibles with 5 teeth, apical and preapical ones are the largest.

Mesosoma of moderate length, without metanotal groove, its dorsum eventually convex, promesonotal suture absent (seen from above). Propodeum with teeth or spines of various lengths, but in any cases they are almost straight and slightly widened at base. Petiole quite high, with distinct, but not long peduncle, its anterior surface strongly concave, petiolar node truncated dorsally, with well-developed horizontal or somewhat inclined posteriorly dorsal plate. Postpetiolar subglobular, slightly shorter than height.

Whole head dorsum densely punctuated, appears dull, fine longitudinal rugulosity or striation may be developed on frons; seen in profile, temples with dense punctuation, genae with coarser short longitudinal rugae. Clypeus longitudinally ruguloso-striated, its surface between rugae smooth and shiny. Mandibles with very fine longitudinal striation, appears shiny.

Whole mesosoma and waist densely punctuated, appears dull. Fine longitudinal rugulosity or striation may be developed on sides of pronotum, lower part of mesopleura, and on mesonotal dorsum.

Whole body with not abundant straight, not long and blunt standing hairs, legs with sparse decumbent pubescence, scape with abundant short subdecumbent pilosity. Mesosoma and waist dark-yellow to ochreous-yellow, head dorsum somewhat darker, appendages and mandibles bright yellow, antennal club somewhat darkened, concolour with head dorsum. First gastric tergite bright yellow, but with brownish band posteriorly, subsequent tergites bright yellow.

Measurements (in mm), ordered as: holotype (mean±SD): CI 0.70 (0.55–0.68) [0.61±0.032], HW 0.46 (0.43–0.55) [0.48±0.031], SL 0.45 (0.4–0.49) [0.46±0.024], OL 0.12 (0.12–0.16) [0.14±0.013], AL 0.73 (0.72–0.86) [0.78±0.044], AH 0.29...
Ecotone. It was found in the arid depression at the altitude somewhat over 1200 m a.s.l. Nest was found in a soil on the stony south-eastern mountain slope with xerophytic steppe-like vegetation.

Distribution. North Caucasian, Russia: Kabardino-Balkarian Republic.

Comparative diagnosis. Temnothorax tembotori sp. n. belongs to the tuberum species-group, and by the colour of the first gastral tergite is similar to T. unifasciatus (Latreille, 1798). Nevertheless, it well differs from any Temnothorax species of this group from the Caucasus and adjacent regions by the much longer (narrower) head (mean CI 1.26 vs. < 1.2).

Etymology. The species is dedicated to the memory of Russian teriologist and ecologist, founder of the Institute of Ecology of Mountain Territories, Prof. A.K. Tembotov (1932–2006).

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