

A new soldier beetle from Eocene Baltic amber

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The family Cantharidae is a worldwide distributed group of flattened and soft-bodied beetles displaying aposematic

colouration. These beetles, commonly known as soldier beetles, have an extensive fossil record dating back to the

Lower Cretaceous. The majority of fossil material, referred to Cantharidae, is known from amber inclusions. In

this paper we describe and illustrate a new soldier beetle *Kuskaella macroptera* gen. et sp. nov. from the Baltic amber. It is characterised by pronotum of the male parallel-sided in basal third and abruptly narrowed towards apex, and

of the female gradually and steadily narrowing from the basal margin to the apex; globular head; unequal maxillary

palpomeres with the last segment elongated-globular and pointed; long elytra slightly surpassing the last abdominal

segment. This finding is the first described species of both sexes preserved in a single amber piece.

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