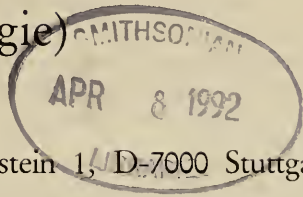


# Stuttgarter Beiträge zur Naturkunde

## Serie A (Biologie)

Herausgeber:



Staatliches Museum für Naturkunde, Rosenstein 1, D-7000 Stuttgart 1

Stuttgarter Beitr. Naturk.	Ser. A	Nr. 467	12 S.	Stuttgart, 30. 9. 1991
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## Histeridae from the Nepal Himalayas, II\*) (Insecta: Coleoptera)

By Sławomir S. Mazur, Warszawa

With 8 figures and 1 table

### Summary

An up-dated list of Nepalese histerid beetles is compiled including 55 species, 19 of which are recorded for the first time from Nepal. One genus and three species are described as new to science: *Exotoxus crypticus* n. gen., n. sp. (Exosternini), *Australomalus sherpa* n. sp. and *A. schawalleri* n. sp. A short key to the species of *Australomalus* Mazur 1981 is given.

### Zusammenfassung

Eine aktuelle Liste der in Nepal nachgewiesenen Histeriden-Arten wird erstellt, die 55 Arten enthält; 19 davon werden das erste Mal für Nepal gemeldet. Eine neue Gattung und 3 neue Arten werden beschrieben: *Exotoxus crypticus* n. gen., n. sp. (Exosternini), *Australomalus sherpa* n. sp. und *A. schawalleri* n. sp. Ein kurzer Bestimmungsschlüssel der Arten der Gattung *Australomalus* Mazur 1981 wird beigelegt.

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### 1. Introduction

This paper is based on materials collected in Nepal by J. MARTENS & W. SCHAWALLER in 1988, by I. LÖBL & A. SMETANA in 1981, 1983 and 1984, by A. & Z. SMETANA in 1982 and by J. MARTENS & A. AUSOBSKY in 1980. This is in continuation of my previous papers on Nepal histerids (MAZUR 1984, 1987).

\*) Results of the Himalaya Expeditions of J. MARTENS, No. 167. – For No. 166 see: Koleopt. Rdsch., 61, 1991. – J. M. sponsored by Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst and Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft.

## Material and acknowledgements

The materials collected by J. MARTENS, A. AUSOBSKY and W. SCHAWALLER are kept in the Staatliches Museum für Naturkunde Stuttgart (SMNS), Federal Republic of Germany, those by I. LÖBL, Z. and A. SMETANA are deposited in the Muséum d'Histoire naturelle, Genève (MHNG), Switzerland, some duplicates as indicated below have been retained in the author's collection (SMC).

The author wishes to express his sincere thanks to Dr. W. SCHAWALLER of the Staatliches Museum für Naturkunde in Stuttgart and to Dr. I. LÖBL of the Muséum d'Histoire naturelle in Genève, for the opportunity to study this extremely interesting material.

## 2. New records for Nepal

2.1. *Chaetabraeus connexus* (Cooman 1935)

1935 *Abræus controversus* var. *connexus* Cooman, Rev. franç. Ent., 2: 221.

1937 *Abræus connexus* Cooman, Rev. franç. Ent., 4: 38.

Material: Parbat distr., Ghoropani pass, N slope, 2750 m, 5. X. 1983, 1 ex.; — prov. Bagmati, Pokhara, NE Barabhise, 2700 m, 2. V. 1981, 2 ex.; — prov. Bagmati, Chaubas, 5. IV. 1981, 1 ex., all lots leg. LÖBL & SMETANA (MHNG); — Panchthar distr., Paniporua 2300 m, mixed broad-leaved forest, 16.–20. IV. 1988, 1 ex., leg. MARTENS & SCHAWALLER (SMNS).

Distribution: Hitherto known only from Viet-Nam.

2.2. *Acritus komai* Lewis 1879

1879 *Acritus komai* Lewis, Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist., (5) 4: 461.

1885 *Acritus insularis* Sharp, Sci. Trans. Roy. Dublin Soc., (2) 3: 129.

1901 *Acritus volitans* Fall, Occ. Pap. Calif. Acad. Sci., 8: 238.

1947 *Acritus optatus* Cooman, Not. Ent. chin., 11: 423.

1962 *Acritus oregonensis* Hatch, Univ. Wash. Publ. Biol., 16 (1961): 255.

Material: Kathmandu distr., Kathmandu Valley, Baneshwar, cultural land, gardens, 1400 m, 30. III.–2. IV. 1988, 2 ex., leg. MARTENS & SCHAWALLER (SMNS, SMC).

Distribution: Nearly cosmopolitan, recorded from many localities in the world.

2.3. *Trypeticus beesoni* Desbordes 1922

1922 *Trypeticus beesoni* Desbordes, Bull. Soc. Ent. France, 1922: 8.

Material: Sankhua Sabha distr., above Sheduva, 3000 m, 31. III.–1. IV. 1982, 1 ex., leg. A. & Z. SMETANA (SMC).

Distribution: Hitherto known only from Bangla-Desh.

2.4. *Saprinus optabilis* Marseul 1855

1855 *Saprinus optabilis* Marseul, Essai Monogr. Histér., p. 438.

1911 *Saprinus dives* Lewis, Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist., (8) 8: 88.

Material: Sankhua Sabha distr., Arun Valley, bottom between Hedangna and Num, sub-tropical forest, 950–1000 m, 6.–8. VI. 1988, 2 ex., leg. MARTENS & SCHAWALLER (SMNS).

Distribution: Records were published from India, China, Indochina, Taiwan and New Guinea.

2.5. *Hypocaccus sinæ* (Marseul 1864)

1864 *Saprinus sinæ* Marseul, Abeille, 1: 496.

Material: Gorkha distr., Darondi Khola below Barbak to Doreni, forest remnants, 900–1100 m, 12. VIII. 1983, 1 ex., leg. MARTENS & SCHAWALLER (SMNS).

Distribution: China, Japan, Ussuriyskiy Kray, Korea, Afghanistan, Oriental Region, Australia. New to Nepal.

### 2.6. *Antongilus bengalensis* Mazur 1989

1989 *Antongilus bengalensis* Mazur, Rev. suisse Zool., 96: 729.

Material: Ilam distr., Mai Pokhari, 2100–2200 m, *Castanopsis* forest remnants, 9.–10. IV. 1988, 2 ex.; – Taplejung distr., Yamputhin, cultural land, open forest, 1650–1800 m, 26. IV.–1. V. 1988, 2 ex., both lots leg. MARTENS & SCHAWALLER (SMNS, SMC).

Distribution: Type locality in W Bengal. The Nepal records are close to it.

### 2.7. *Bacanius (Mullerister) lotus* Marseul 1880

1880 *Bacanius lotus* Marseul, Ann. Mus. Stor. Nat. Genova, 14: 159.

Material: Sankhua Sabha distr., Arun Valley near Num, 1050 m, 22. IV. 1984, 1 ex., leg. LÖBL & SMETANA (SMC).

Distribution: Former records from Java and Viet-Nam.

### 2.8. *Australomalus sherpa* n. sp. (fig. 1)

Holotype (♂): Nepal, Sankhua Sabha distr., Arun Valley between Mure and Hurure, mixed broad-leaved forest, 2050–2150 m, 9.–17. VI. 1988, leg. MARTENS & SCHAWALLER (SMNS).

Paratypes: Same locality and date as the holotype, 6 specimens of both sexes (4 in SMNS, 2 in SMC).

Description: Body oval, convex, black, shiny. Head flat, finely and sparsely punctulate (3–5)<sup>1)</sup>. Clypeofrontal stria thin but complete. Labrum short, transverse, with two setae. Mandibles convex, smooth. Antennae rusty-red, the antennal club yellowish-red, tomentose, with two distinct sutures.

Pronotum narrowed anteriorly, with two indistinct postocular foveae. Marginal stria distinct, complete, gradually diverging from lateral margin basally. The pronotal punctation moderately dense (1–4), not too coarse. A basal row of punctures distinct, the punctures large with flat bottom.

Elytra as long as wide at humeri, with some indistinct, oblique traces of striae antero-laterally. Elytral punctation distinct, the punctures a little elongate, larger as on pronotum, especially at sides (1–4). Marginal elytral stria thin, abbreviated basally, reaching only to the middle. Epipleural stria complete, hamate under the humeral knob, prolonged at apex as an apical stria.

Propygidium convex, transverse, very finely and sparsely punctulate, nearly smooth, transversely aciculate. Pygidium convex, more distinctly punctulate as propygidium.

Prosternal lobe (fig. 1) long, rounded, distinctly margined anteriorly, finely and sparsely punctulate. Prosternum punctured as on prosternal lobe. Carinal striae parallel, with a tendency to unite at both ends. Mesosternum emarginate, finely punctulate. Marginal striae present anteriorly, narrowly interrupted at middle. Median stria complete, distinctly tripartite, its median part nearly straight. Meso-

<sup>1)</sup> The numbers (in brackets) are the ratio of the distance between the points and the point diameter (see also chapters 2.9. and 2.19.2.).



metasternal suture and median metasternal line not marked. Metasternum more coarsely punctured, but as densely as the mesosternum. Lateral stria strongly curved outward to the metasternal-metepisternal suture. Abdominal segment I long, finely and sparsely punctulate.

Sexual dimorphism. Female: Pygidial apex rather strongly transversely impressed. Male: Without such an impression.

Body size. Total length: 3.0 mm; length of pronotum/elytrae: 2.3 mm; maximal width: 1.6 mm.

### 2.9. *Australomalus schawalleri* n. sp. (fig. 2)

Holotype (♀): Nepal, Panchthar distr., between Gitang Khola Valley and Dhorpar Kharka, cultural land, mixed forest, 1750–2100 m, 13. IV. 1988, leg. MARTENS & SCHAWALLER (SMNS).

Paratype: Nepal, Sankhua Sabha distr., above Tashi gaon, 3100 m, 7. IV. 1982, leg. A. & Z. SMETANA, 1 ♀ (SMC).

Derivatio nominis: Named in honor of Dr. WOLFGANG SCHAWALLER, a specialist and explorer of the Nepalese Coleoptera.

Description: Body oval, convex, shiny. Colour pitch-black, anterior part of pronotum, pro- and pygidium paler, reddish-brown. Head distinctly but not too densely punctate (2–4), a little depressed behind the complete clypeofrontal stria. Antennae yellowish-red, the antennal club paler, with two sutures, tomentose.

Pronotum narrowed anteriorly, its anterior angles jutting. Marginal stria complete, progressively diverging from margin. Pronotal punctation distinct but not too dense (1.5–3.0), uniformly distributed. Basal row of punctures weakly marked.

Elytra broadest at humeri, more coarsely but as densely punctured as pronotum, the punctures a little elongate. Dorsal striae marked only as indistinct, oblique traces at the base, the first of them reaching nearly to the apex. Marginal elytral stria abbreviated basally, reaching only the middle. Epipleural stria complete, angulate medially and prolonged at the elytral apex as an apical stria extending a little along the suture.

Propygidium and pygidium convex, finely punctulate (1–3).

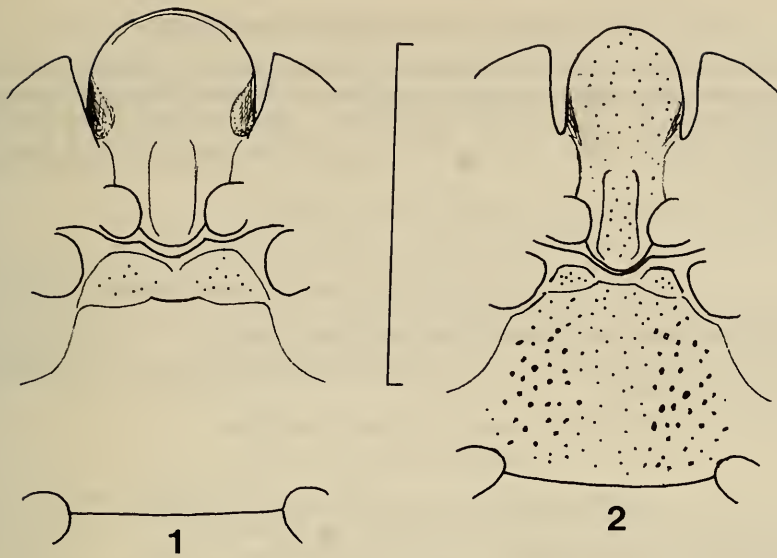
Prosternal lobe relatively long, finely and sparsely punctulate, rounded anteriorly, its marginal stria broadly interrupted, marked at sides only.

Prosternum flat, depressed apically, more distinctly but as sparsely punctured as the prosternal lobe. Carinal striae straight convergent anteriorly. Mesosternum deeply emarginate, with some punctures at sides. Marginal stria broadly interrupted anteriorly and replaced by a median triarticulated stria (fig. 2). Mesometasternal suture very indistinct, the median line of metasternum absent. Metasternum convex, covered at sides with flat, large punctures not too densely distributed. Abdominal segment I similarly punctured as on metasternum, the punctures becoming gradually finer apically.

Legs paler as body, rusty-red, the fore tibiae with 4 spinules at outer margin, the mid ones with 3 (+ 2) spinules and some setae and the hind tibiae with one spinule at outer margin.

Sexual dimorphism. Female: Pygidium convex, finely and moderately densely punctulate, with small longitudinal circle at the apex. Male: Unknown.

Body size. Total length: 2.3 mm; length of pronotum/elytrae: 2.0–2.1 mm; maximal width: 1.4 mm.



Figs. 1–2. Punctuation on thoracal sternites. – 1. *Australomalus sherpa* n. sp., – 2. *Australomalus schawalleri* n. sp. – Scale: 1.0 mm.

Species key to the genus *Australomalus* Mazur 1981

- 1 Body oval, strongly convex. Metasternum and abdominal segment I very coarsely and densely punctate . . . . . *A. fijianus* Mazur
- Body elongate, less strongly convex. Sternal punctation normal, not so coarse and dense . . . . . 2
- 2 Marginal mesosternal stria widely interrupted anteriorly, replaced by a median stria . . . . . 3
- Marginal mesosternal stria narrowly interrupted, not replaced by a median stria . . . . . 5
- 3 Upper body surface micro-reticulate . . . . . *A. torquisulcus* (Cooman)
- Upper body surface glabrous . . . . . 4
- 4 Pronotal punctation uniform, the punctures oval . . . . . *A. schawalleri* n. sp.
- Pronotal punctation fine and rather sparse anteriorly, becoming progressively stronger basally, with punctures slightly elongate . . . . . *A. kuscheli* Mazur
- 5 Pronotal base with a striiform crenulation. Head, anterior pronotal angles and pygidium alutaceous . . . . . *A. montivagus* (Lewis)
- Pronotal base only with a row of punctures. Head, pronotum and pygidium glabrous . . . . . *A. sherpa* n. sp.

2.10. *Platylomalus gardineri* (Scott 1913)

1913 *Paromalus gardineri* Scott, Trans. Linn. Soc. London, (2, Zool.), 16 (2): 226.

Material: Kathmandu distr., Kathmandu Valley, Baneshwar, cultural land, gardens, 1400 m, 30. III.–2. IV. 1988, 2 ex., leg. MARTENS & SCHAWALLER (SMNS).

Distribution: Former records from the Seychelles, Mascarene and Comoro Islands, Indonesia; introduced to Spain.

2.11. *Platylomalus indicus* (Lewis 1892)

1892 *Paromalus indicus* Lewis, Ann. Mus. Stor. Nat. Genova, (2) 12 (32): 32.

Material: Panchthar distr., between Gitang Khola Valley and Dhorpar Kharka, cultural land, mixed forest, 1750–2100 m, 13. IV. 1988, 1 ex.; – Panchthar distr., Paniporua, 2300 m, mixed broad-leaved forest, 16.–20. IV. 1988, 3 ex., both lots leg. MARTENS & SCHAWALLER (SMNS, SMC).

Distribution: The only records are from Burma.

2.12. *Platylomalus tonkinensis* (Cooman 1937)

1937 *Paromalus tonkinensis* Cooman, Not. Ent. chin., 4: 151.

Material: Sankhua Sabha distr., Arun Valley near Num, 1050 m, 22. IV. 1984, 1 ex., leg. LÖBL & SMETANA (SMC).

Distribution: The only records are from Viet-Nam.

2.13. *Parepierus salvazai* (Desbordes 1919)

1919 *Anaglymma salvazai* Desbordes, Ann. Soc. Ent. France, 87: 406.

Material: Sankhua Sabha distr., Arun River at Num, 1500–1600 m, IV. 1982, 1 ex., leg. A. & Z. SMETANA (SMC).

Distribution: The only records are from Viet-Nam.

2.14. *Hister thibetanus* Marseul 1857

1857 *Hister thibetanus* Marseul, Essai Monogr. Histér., p. 412.

Material: Kaski distr., oberhalb Dhumpus, Laubwald, 2100 m, 8.–10. V. 1980, 2 ex., leg. MARTENS & AUSOBSKY (SMNS, SMC).

Distribution: Hitherto known from Assam, Burma, Taiwan and China.

2.15. *Atholus torquatus* (Marseul 1854)

1854 *Hister torquatus* Marseul, Essai Monogr. Histér., p. 587.

1888 *Hister genuae* Lewis, Ann. Mus. Stor. Nat. Genova, (2) 6 (26): 639.

1902 *Hister mundulus* Lewis, Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist., (7) 10: 238.

Material: Sankhua Sabha distr., Arun Valley near Num, 1050 m, 22. IV. 1984, 1 ex., leg. LÖBL & SMETANA (SMC); – Sankhua Sabha distr., Arun Valley, bottom between Hedangna and Num, subtropical forest, 950–1000 m, 6.–8. VI. 1988, 2 ex., leg. MARTENS & SCHAWALLER (SMNS, SMC).

Distribution: Former records originate from India, Burma, Viet-Nam, Laos, Java, Sumatra.

2.16. *Eblisia integrum* (Schmidt 1889)

1889 *Platysoma integrum* Schmidt, Ent. Nachr., 15: 334.

Material: Taplejung distr., SE Yamputhin to Yamputhin, 1650–2000 m, forest mainly *Alnus*, 26.–30. IV. 1988, 1 ex.; – Sankhua Sabha distr., Arun Valley between Mure and Hurure, mixed broad-leaved forest, 2050–2150 m, 9.–17. VI. 1988, 3 ex.; – Arun Valley, Chichila, 1900–2000 m, *Quercus* forest, bushes near village, 18.–20. VI. 1988, 1 ex., all lots leg. MARTENS & SCHAWALLER (SMNS).

Distribution: Known only from North India.

2.17. *Platysoma (Platylister) sororium* (Lewis 1904)

1904 *Platylister sororius* Lewis, Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist., (7) 14: 142.

Material: Sankhua Sabha distr., Arun Valley near Num, 1050 m, 22. IV. 1984, 2 ex., leg. LÖBL & SMETANA (SMC).

Distribution: Described from India.

2.18. *Hololepta cavata* Lewis 1912

1912 *Hololepta cavata* Lewis, Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist., (8) 10: 255.

Material: Taplejung distr., Omje Kharka, NW Yamputhin, mature mixed broad-leaved forest, 2300–2500 m, 1.–6. V. 1988, 3 ex., leg. MARTENS & SCHAWALLER (SMNS, SMC).

Distribution: Former records from Burma.

2.19.1. *Exotoxus* n. gen.

Body elongate, slightly convex. Frontal stria present. Labrum transverse. Pronotum punctured, without lateral striae, angulate laterally. Elytral striation reduced, both subhumeral striae absent. Elytral apex punctate. Propygidium transverse. Carinal striae present, united anteriorly. Mesosternum very short, traversed medially by a crenate stria. Median mesosternal projection indistinctly marked, obtuse. Legs of normal length, covered with spinules at outer margin.

This genus belongs to the tribe Exosternini and should be placed near *Epitoxasia* Cooman.

Type species: *Exotoxus crypticus* n. sp. by monotypy and present designation.

2.19.2. *Exotoxus crypticus* n. sp. (figs. 3–8)

Holotype (♂): Nepal, Taplejung distr., Yamputhin, cultural land, open forest, 1650–1800 m, 26. IV.–1. V. 1988, leg. MARTENS & SCHAWALLER (SMNS).

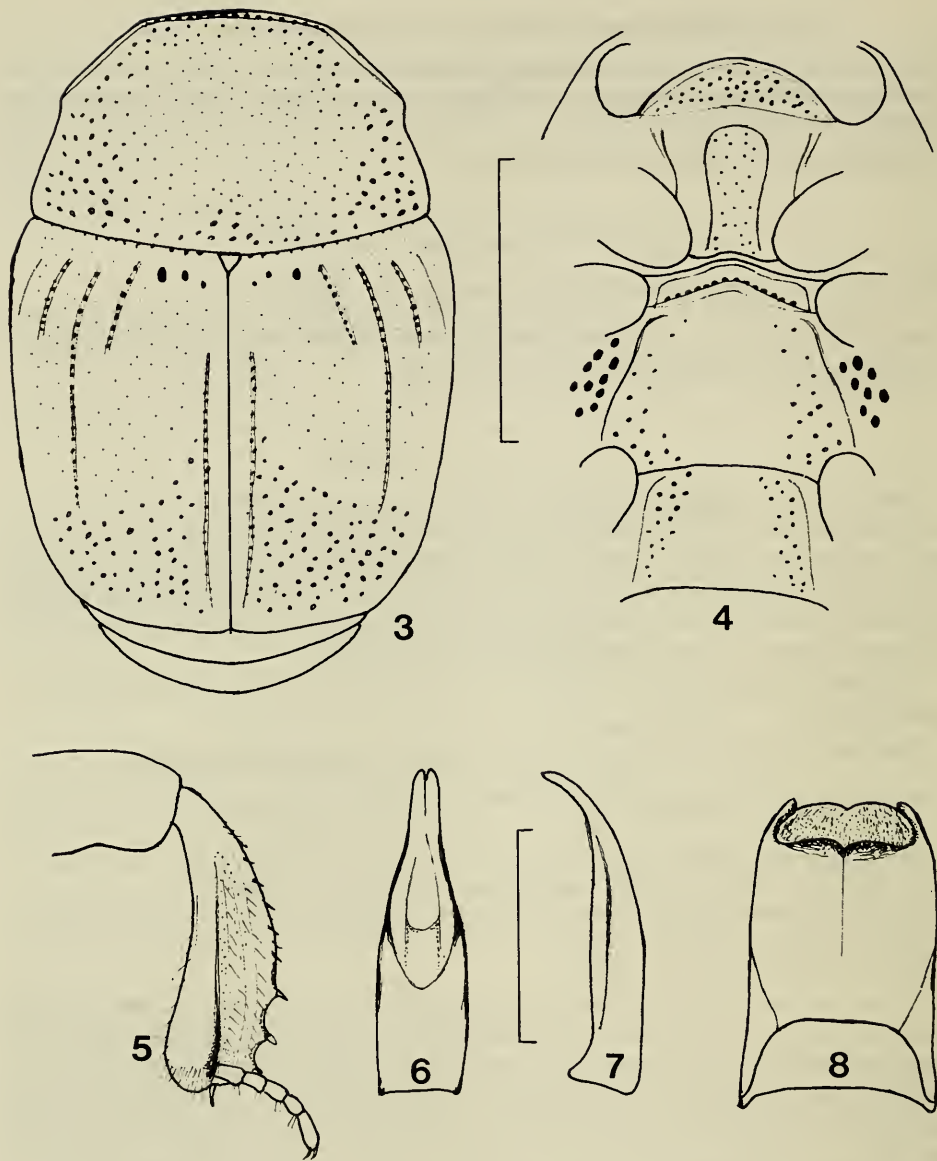
Paratypes: Same locality and date as holotype, 3 specimens of both sexes (2 in SMNS, 1 in SMC); Thailand, Chiang Mai province, 20 km E Pai, Huang Nam Dong, 1620 m, 5. VIII. 1986, leg. SCHWENDIGER, 1 ex. (SMC).

Description: Body elongate-oblong (fig. 3), convex, its colour varying from rusty-red to dark brown, shiny. Head distinctly but not too densely punctate (1–4), forehead a little concave anteriorly. Frontal stria complete, straight in middle and united laterally with the supraorbital one. Mandibulae convex, not margined, finely and sparsely punctulate. Labrum transverse. Epistoma flat, covered with as dense punctation as forehead. Antennae as colored as body, scapus enlarged, with some setae dorsally. Antennal club tomentose, with two distinct sutures.

Pronotum narrowed laterally, distinctly but rather rarely punctate (2–5), the punctures becoming coarser laterally and in the scutellar region. Pronotal margins angulate in anterior third of pronotal length. Marginal stria complete, crenulate behind the head, invisible, beyond the angulation, covered by the margin.

Elytra 1.5 times longer than pronotum. Dorsal striae abbreviated apically, deeply punctate. The 1st one strongly shortened, reaching nearly to midlength, the 2nd one almost complete, the 3rd shortest, reaching at most to  $\frac{1}{3}$  of elytral length. There are also two or three points in prolongation of 4th, 5th and sutural stria at base. Sutural stria abbreviated basally, reaching to  $\frac{2}{3}$  of elytral length. Humeral stria very indistinct, oblique. Both subhumeral striae absent. Marginal epipleural and marginal





Figs. 3–8. *Exotoxus crypticus* n. gen., n. sp. – 3. Dorsal view, – 4. punctation on the thoracic sternites, – 5. anterior tibia, – 6. aedeagus from ventral, – 7. aedeagus from lateral, – 8. eighth sternite of male. – Scale: 1.0 mm (3–4), 0.4 mm (5–8).

elytral stria complete. Epipleurae smooth. Elytral apex coarsely but rarely punctate (2–4), the punctures reaching to midlength of sutural stria.

Propygidium and pygidium convex. Pygidium transverse, covered with coarse punctation (0.5–2.0), the punctures with flat bottom. Pygidial punctation as coarse as on propygidium but distinctly rarer (2–4).

Prosternal lobe (fig. 4) relatively short, rounded and margined anteriorly, coarsely but not densely punctured (1–3). Prosternum rather wide, shallowly emarginate



basally, distinctly but rarely punctate (3–5). Carinal striae a little convergent basally, then nearly parallel, united in a noose at apex. Mesosternum short, bisinuate anteriorly, its median projection obtuse, indistinct. Marginal stria complete. There is also a crenate medial stria besides the indistinct meso-metasternal suture. Metasternum very finely punctulate thoroughly, more distinctly and coarsely at sides and basally. Median line distinct. Lateral metasternal stria distinct, accompanied by a row of punctures. Metepisternal plates coarsely and densely punctured (0.1–0.5). Abdominal segment I long, margined laterally, covered with distinct but not too dense punctation (1–4), especially at sides and base.

Legs brownish-red, the fore tibiae (fig. 5) a little expanded, covered with 7 (+ 2) spinules, the mid ones with several spinules, the hind tibiae with 2–3 spinules and some setae at outer margin.

Aedeagus rather wide (fig. 6), shortly bent ventrally at apex (fig. 7). Eighth sternite of male as figured (fig. 8).

Body size. Total length: 3.0–3.2 mm; length of pronotum/elytrae: 2.3–2.4 mm; maximal width: 1.6–1.7 mm.

### 3. New records of species already known from Nepal

#### 3.1. *Saprinus frontistrius* Marseul 1855

1855 *Saprinus frontistrius* Marseul, Essai Monogr. Histér., p. 450.

Material: Ilam distr., Sanishare, 5 km N, feet of Siwalik Mts., 270–300 m, mixed *Shorea* forest, 3.–5. IV. 1988, 1 ex., leg. MARTENS & SCHAWALLER (SMNS).

Distribution: Pakistan, E-India, Nepal, Sri-Lanka, Viet-Nam, China.

#### 3.2. *Anapleus cyclonotus* (Lewis 1892)

1892 *Triballus cyclonotus* Lewis, Ann. Mus. Stor. Nat. Genova, (2) 12 (32): 35.

1892 *Abraeus stigmaticus* Schmidt, Ent. Nachr., 18: 29.

Material: Taplejung distr., confluence of Kabeli Khola and Tada Khola, 1000 m, mixed broad-leaved forest, 22.–23. IV. 1988, 13 ex.; – Yamputhin, cultural land, open forest, 1650–1800 m, 26. IV.–1. V. 1988, 6 ex.; – Yamputhin, left bank of Kabeli Khola, bushes, open forest, 1650–2000 m, 26. IV.–1. V. 1988, 1 ex.; – Ilam distr., Sanishare, 5 km N, feet of Siwalik Mts., 270–300 m, mixed *Shorea* forest, 3.–5. IV. 1988, 2 ex., all samples leg. MARTENS & SCHAWALLER (SMNS, SMC).

Distribution: Burma, Nepal.

#### 3.3. *Abraeomorphus himalayae* Gomy 1980

1980 *Abraeomorphus himalayae* Gomy, Nouv. Rev. Ent., 10: 171.

Material: Ilam distr., Mai Pokhari, 2100–2200 m, *Castanopsis* forest remnants, 9.–10. IV. 1988, 4 ex.; – Sankhua Sabha distr., above Pahakhola, 2600–2800 m, *Quercus semecarpifolia* – *Rhododendron*, 31. V.–3. VI. 1988, 21 ex., all lots leg. MARTENS & SCHAWALLER (SMNS, SMC).

Distribution: Nepal.

#### 3.4. *Abraeomorphus topali* Gomy 1981

1981 *Abraeomorphus topali* Gomy, Fol. Ent. Hung., 42 (34): 80.

Material: Ilam distr., Mai Pokhari, 2100–2200 m, *Castanopsis* forest remnants, 9.–10. IV. 1988, 44 ex.; – Panchthar distr., Paniporua 2300 m, mixed broad-leaved forest, 16.–20. IV. 1988, 3 ex.; – Taplejung distr., Omje Kharka NW Yamputhin, mature mixed

broad-leaved forest, 2300–2500 m, 1.–6. V. 1988, 44 ex.; – Sankhua Sabha distr., Arun Valley between Mure and Hurure, mixed broad-leaved forest, 2050–2150 m, 9.–17. VI. 1988, 7 ex., all lots leg. MARTENS & SCHAWALLER (SMNS, SMC).

Distribution: W-Bengal, Nepal.

### 3.5. *Abraeomorphus atomarius* (Sharp 1855)

1855 *Bacanius atomarius* Sharp. Sci. Trans. Roy. Dublin Soc., (2) 3: 128.

Material: Ilam distr., Gitang Khola Valley, *Alnus* forest along river, 1750 m, 11.–15. IV. 1988, 17 ex.; – Sankhua Sabha distr., Arun Valley, bottom between Hedangna and Num, subtropical forest, 950–1000 m, 6.–8. VI. 1988, 4 ex., both lots leg. MARTENS & SCHAWALLER (SMNS, SMC).

Distribution: Tropicopolitan, already recorded from Nepal.

### 3.6. *Eutriptus punctatostriatu*s Olexa 1989

1989 *Eutriptus punctatostriatu*s Olexa, Acta Ent. Bohemoslov., 86: 309.

Material: Taplejung distr., descent from Pass Deorali to Hellok, 2600–2800 m, mature mixed forest, 17. V. 1988, 1 ex.; – Panchthar distr., Dhorpar Kharka, mature *Rhododendron* – *Lithocarpus* forest, 2700 m, 13.–17. IV. 1988, 1 ex.; – Sankhua Sabha distr., Arun Valley between Mure and Hurure, mixed broad-leaved forest, 2050–2150 m, 9.–17. VI. 1988, 1 ex., all lots leg. MARTENS & SCHAWALLER (SMNS, SMC).

Distribution: Described from E-Nepal: Koshi zone, Gafa-Gorza, 2100–2800 m.

### 3.7. *Onthophilus sculptilis* Lewis 1892

1892 *Onthophilus sculptilis* Lewis, Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist., (6) 9: 354.

1978 *Onthophilus rugatus* Thérond, Senckenbergiana biol., 59: 238.

Material: Kathmandu distr., Kathmandu Valley, Baneshwar, cultural land, gardens, 1400 m, 30. III.–2. IV. 1988, 1 ex.; – Ilam distr., Mai Pokhari, 2100–2200 m, *Castanopsis* forest remnants, 9.–10. IV. 1988, 2 ex.; – Gitang Khola Valley, *Alnus* forest along river, 1750 m, 11.–15. IV. 1988, 1 ex.; – Taplejung distr., Yamputhin, cultural land, open forest, 1650–1800 m, 26. IV.–1. V. 1988, 5 ex.; – above Yamputhin, left bank of Kabeli Khola, bushes, open forest, 1800–2000 m, 27.–29. IV. 1988, 4 ex.; – confluence of Kabeli Khola and Tada Khola, mixed broad-leaved forest, 1000–1050 m, 23.–25. IV. 1988, 4 ex., all lots leg. MARTENS & SCHAWALLER (SMNS).

Distribution: Burma, W-Bengal, Nepal.

### 3.8. *Hister pullatus* Erichson 1834

1834 *Hister pullatus* Erichson, Jb. Ins.kunde, 1: 137.

1854 *Hister scissifrons* Marseul, Essai Monogr. Histér., p. 240.

1900 *Hister frontalis* Lewis, Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist., (7) 6: 282.

Material: Ilam distr., Sanishare, 5 km N, feet of Siwalik Mts., 270–300 m, mixed *Shorea* forest, 3.–5. IV. 1988, 1 ex., leg. MARTENS & SCHAWALLER (SMNS).

Distribution: E-India, Assam, Nepal, Tenasserim, Afghanistan.

### 3.9. *Platysoma assamense* Lewis 1900

1900 *Platysoma assamense* Lewis, Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist., (7) 6: 273.

Material: Taplejung distr., SE Yamputhin to Yamputhin, 1650–2000 m, forest mainly *Alnus*, 26.–30. IV. 1988, 1 ex.; – Sankhua Sabha distr., Arun Valley between Mure and Hurure, mixed broad-leaved forest, 2050–2150 m, 9.–17. VI. 1988, 13 ex.; – Arun Valley

Table 1. List of the Nepalese histerids (55 species) with vertical distribution. — *Pal* = Palearctic distribution, *Hol* = Holarctic distribution, *Pan* = Palearctic distribution, *End* = Endemic, *s. cort.* = subcortical way of living.

Species	Vertical distribution (m)	Pal	Hol	Pan	End	s. cort.
<i>Chaetabraeus connexus</i> (Cooman)	2300–2750	+				
<i>Acritus nepalensis</i> Gomy	2000–2250				+	
<i>A. komai</i> Lewis	1400			+		
<i>Aeletes perroti</i> (Cooman)	2100–2400	+				
<i>Trypeticus beelsoni</i> Desbordes	3000	+				+
<i>Saprinus optabilis</i> Marseul	950–1000	+				
<i>S. frontistrius</i> Marseul	270–2300	+				
<i>S. subcoeruleus</i> Théron	3200				+	
<i>Hypocaccus sinae</i> (Marseul)	900–1100	+				
<i>Anapleus cyclonotus</i> (Lewis)	270–2000		+			
<i>Antongilus bengalensis</i> Mazur	1650–2200	+				
<i>Bacanius lotus</i> Marseul	1050	+				
<i>Abraeomorphus himalayae</i> Gomy	2100–2800				+	
<i>A. topali</i> Gomy	2050–2500	+				
<i>A. atomarius</i> (Sharp)	950–2450			+		
<i>Eutriptus punctatostriatus</i> Olexa	2050–2800	+			+	
<i>Australomalus sherpa</i> n. sp.	2050–2150	+			+	
<i>A. schawalleri</i> n. sp.	1750–3100	+			+	
<i>Platylomalus gardineri</i> (Scott)	1400	+		+		+
<i>P. indicus</i> (Lewis)	1750–2300	+				+
<i>P. tonkinensis</i> (Cooman)	1050	+				+
<i>Eulomalus brevipes</i> (Lewis)	1050–1400	+				+
<i>E. pupulus</i> Cooman	1050	+				+
<i>Onthophilus sculptilis</i> Lewis	1000–2800		+			
<i>Epiechinus hispidus</i> (Paykull)	600–700	+				
<i>E. taprobanae</i> (Lewis)	530–750	+				
<i>Parepierrez amandus</i> (Schmidt)	1500–1600	+				+
<i>P. corticola</i> Bickhardt	600–700	+				+
<i>P. salvacai</i> (Desbordes)	1500–1600	+				+
<i>Tribalus ogieri</i> Marseul	600–1700	+				
<i>Margarinotus incognitus</i> (Marseul)	2800–3400		+			
<i>M. kathmandu</i> Mazur	1400		+		+	
<i>M. indicola</i> (Desbordes)	3300–3400		+			
<i>M. navus</i> (Marseul)	1400–2900		+			
<i>Pactolinus chinensis</i> (Quensel)	2100–2300	+				
<i>Hister tibetanus</i> Marseul	2100	+				
<i>H. pullatus</i> Erichson	270–2300	+				
<i>Zabromorphus punctulatus salebrosus</i> (Schleicher)	600–1600	+			+	
<i>Atholus pirithous</i> (Marseul)	2100	+				
<i>A. torquatus</i> (Marseul)	950–1050	+				
<i>Eblisia integrum</i> (Schmidt)	1650–2150	+				+
<i>E. crassum</i> (Bickhardt)	1050	+				+
<i>E. duplicans</i> (Cooman)	1050	+				+
<i>Platysoma cambodjense</i> Marseul	530–2300	+				+
<i>P. suturale</i> Lewis	1050	+				+
<i>P. sororium</i> (Lewis)	1050	+				+
<i>P. striale</i> Marseul	100–850	+				+
<i>P. cavifrons</i> (Lewis)	700–800	+				+
<i>P. schaumii</i> (Marseul)	1050	+				+
<i>P. assamense</i> Lewis	1650–2500	+				+

<i>P. confucii</i> Marseul	530–1700	+			+
<i>Liopygus diopsipygus</i> (Marseul)	1050	+			+
<i>Hololepta cavata</i> Lewis	2300–2500	+			+
<i>H. nepalensis</i> Lewis	?	+			+
<i>Exotoxus crypticus</i> n. sp.	1650–1800			+	

between Chichila and Bhotebas, *Quercus* forest, 1850–2000 m, 20. VI. 1988, 1 ex.; – Arun Valley, Chichila, 1900–2000 m, *Quercus* forest, bushes near village, 18.–20. VI. 1988, 1 ex., all leg. MARTENS & SCHAWALLER (SMNS, SMC).

Distribution: Assam, Nepal.

#### 4. General remarks on the Nepal histerid fauna

The extensive explorations of J. MARTENS and W. SCHAWALLER raised the number of histerids known to occur in Nepal to 55 species (table 1). This extension of our knowledge confirm the tendencies observed hitherto. The bulk of the Nepal histerids belongs to the ancient Palearctic faunistic complex (51.8%), representing mostly the species of subcortical way of living (40.7%). The histerids of open land belong, as a rule, to genera of world-wide distribution such as *Saprinus* Erichson, *Hister* Linné and *Atholus* Thomson. It is noteworthy that they mainly live in lowlands under 1000 m (*Saprinus optabilis*, *Hister pullatus*), sometimes in the „Himalayan“ belt of medium altitudes (*Chaetabraeus connexus*).

The second, so-called Holarctic faunistic complex comprises only 7.4% of total species. The genera of this complex are peculiar to the temperate, mainly forest landscapes of Eurasia and N-America, only few species of these genera penetrate into the tropical zone.

The characteristic feature of the Nepalese histerid fauna is the presence of Palearctic elements (5.5%) the number of which raised from one to three species. Simultaneously, caused by available substantial new collections, the degree of endemism diminished from 28.6% to 14.8%. For details of the classification used here see MAZUR (1984, 1987).

#### 5. Literature

- MAZUR, S. S. (1984): Description of a new *Margarinotus* species with additional notes about two histerids from Nepal (Col., Histeridae). – *Rev. suisse Zool.*, **91**: 163–167; Genève.  
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Band/Volume: [467\\_A](#)

Autor(en)/Author(s): Mazur Slawomir

Artikel/Article: [Histeridae from the Nepal Himalayas. \(Insecta: Coleoptera\) 1-12](#)