New records, synonyms and nomenclatorial changes in the tribe Staphylinini (Insecta: Coleoptera: Staphylinidae)

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Abstract

New records, new synonyms and some nomenclatorial changes are presented for various, mainly Asian, representatives of the tribe Staphylinini (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae). New records: *Philonthus aeger* EPPELSHEIM, 1895 (Vietnam); *P. cyanelytrius* KRAATZ, 1859 (Vietnam); *P. lan* SCHILLHAMMER, 2000 (China: Hubei); *Rhynchocheilus monstrosipes* (SCHILLHAMMER, 2002) (China: Hainan); *Stevensia longipennis* CAMERON, 1932 (Nepal). New synonyms: *Gabrius dieckmanni* SMETANA, 1957 (= *G. mandli* SCHILLHAMMER, 1992), *Jurecekia asphalitina* (ERICHSON, 1840) (= *Jurecekia rufipes* COIFFAIT, 1969); *Philonthus aeneipennis* BOHEMAN, 1858 (= *P. erythropus* KRAATZ, 1859); *Philonthus cliens* EPPELSHEIM, 1890 (= *P. aeneipennis* var. *lindemanni* SCHEERPELTZ, 1960); *Eucibdelus gracilis* KRAATZ, 1859 (= *E. rufipennis* COIFFAIT, 1982); *Creophilus maxillosus* LINNÉ, 1758 (= *C. sikkimensis* WENDELER, 1927). New combinations: *Hesperus chinensis* CAMERON, 1940 has been transferred to *Paederomimus* SHARP; *Eucibdelus cariniceps* SCHEERPELTZ, 1976 and *Rhynchocheilus monstrosipes* SCHILLHAMMER, 2002 to *Rhynchocheilus* SHARP. *Philonthus cliens* has been revalidated as a distinct species, and the known distribution of *Gabrius imitator* FAUVEL, 1895 has been confirmed.

Key words: Insecta, Coleoptera, Staphylinidae, Staphylininae, Staphylinini, Philonthina, Staphylinina, Gabrius, Hesperus, Jurecekia, Paederomimus, Philonthus, Eucibdelus, Rhynchocheilus, Stevensia, Creophilus, new synonyms, new combinations, new records, systematics, taxonomy.

Zusammenfassung


Introduction

At regular intervals, it seems necessary to publish some new facts in Staphylinid taxonomy and nomenclature which are not covered by current revisions. The nomenclatorial
changes published herein mainly serve the purpose of making the data available for use in the forthcoming Palearctic catalog by I. Löbl and A. Smetana.

**Abbreviations and acknowledgement**

CKB  coll. A. Kleeberg, Berlin  
CKE  coll. S.M. Khnzorian, Erevan (M. Kalashian)  
DEI  Deutsches Entomologisches Institut, Eberswalde (L. Zerche)  
HUB  Museum der Alexander-Humboldt-Universität, Berlin (M. Uhlig, J. Frisch)  
MHNP  Muséum national d’Histoire naturelle, Paris (N. Berti)  
NMP  Narodni Museum, Praha (J. Jelinek)  
NMW  Naturhistorisches Museum, Wien  
NSMT  National Science Museum, Tokyo (M. Maruyama, S. Nomura)  
SMF  Senckenberg Museum, Frankfurt (D. Kovac)  
ZISP  Zoological Institut, Russian Academy of Sciences, St. Petersburg (A. Solodovnikov)

Many individuals continuously contribute to the progress of my scientific work and the improvement of Staphylinidae systematics in general. I express my gratitude to those people but in particular to those mentioned above for making the material available which this paper is based on.

**Subtribe Philonthina**

*Gabrius dieckmanni* SMETANA, 1957


When I described *G. mandli* I studied the single type specimen of *G. dieckmanni*. The subtle aedeagal differences I found were caused by the fact that this type specimen was slightly aberrant, something I recognized after studying a large series of *G. dieckmanni* which had been found at and in the closer surroundings of the type locality (see WILLERS 2001). In addition, the species was also found in the European part of Russia. The specimens from the East ("*G. mandli*") are slightly smaller but I have no doubt that they are conspecific with the European ones.

**Additional material:**

**Russia:** Samarskaya Oblast, Bolshe Chernigovskiy Distr., Umg. Polyakovo, 6./7.VIII.1997, leg. I. Goreslavets, 2 exs. (ZISP).

*Gabrius imitator* (FAUVEL, 1895)

In my *Gabrius* revision (SCHILLHAMMER 1997), I did not explicitly mention that all records of *G. imitator* from the Himalaya (mostly by authors such as Bernhauer & Schubert, Cameron and Coiffait) actually refer to other species (mainly *G. falsimitator* SCHILLHAMMER, 1997 and *G. capucinus* SCHILLHAMMER, 1997). The confirmed distribution range of *G. imitator* is restricted to a rather small area in Myanmar (Kayin State and Shan State) and the bordering area in northwestern Thailand.
**Jurecekia aphaltina** (ÉRICHSON, 1840)

*Philonthus asphaltinus* ÉRICHSON, 1840: 436
*Jurecekia paradoxa* RAMBOUSEK, 1920: 17
*Jurecekia rufipes* COIFFAIT, 1969: 39 syn.n.

During the last few years I was able to study a large material of *Jurecekia*. According to COIFFAIT (1974) all these specimens should apply to *J. rufipes*. This fact raised strong doubt about the correctness of Coiffait's studies. Consequently, I asked for the types of *J. aphaltina* and its synonym (*J. paradoxa*) and the study revealed that they are identical with *J. rufipes*. However, the solution of the problem what caused Coiffait to make such a mistake was still pending. During a visit to Armenia I was able to study the collection of Yablokov-Khnzorian, and the puzzle was solved: Coiffait misinterpreted *Philonthus piochardi* FAUVEL for *J. aphaltina*. My friend Alexey Solodovnikov checked the specimens in the Coiffait collection in MHNP and confirmed my conclusion. Indeed, *P. piochardi* shows a striking external similarity with *Jurecekia* but lacks the generic character of the latter. In addition, both taxa seem to share similar habitats (subterranean burrows). In fact, Coiffait must have known *J. aphaltina* because in CKE there is a correctly identified specimen from southern Armenia ("Megri Berechki ASSR. 31.5.53 [in Russian]").

**Type material:** *Philonthus asphaltinus*: Holotype ♀: "Type \ 6038 \ n.2 6038 Philonthus asphaltinus Er. Germ. mer. \ Hist.-Coll. (Coleoptera) Nr. 6038 Philonthus asphaltinus Erichs. German. merid., Dod. Zo-ol. Mus. Berlin" (HUB).

*Jurecekia paradoxa*: 6 syntypes: "Tockoe Ross. or. Gub. Samara Dr. Jurecek 1916" (5 NMP, 1 NMW).


**Paederomimus chinensis** (CAMERON, 1940) comb.n.

*Hesperus chinensis* CAMERON, 1940: 252

The unique holotype of this species bears (among others) one label indicating "China". The species definitely belongs to the genus *Paederomimus* SHARP and has most certainly been mislabeled because it seems highly unlikely that the genus *Paederomimus* occurs in China. During a visit to the NHML I compared it with many of the described species of *Paederomimus* but was not successful in finding out whether it has already been described in this genus or not.

**Philonthus aeger** EPPELSHEIM, 1895

**Additional material:**


This first record from Vietnam somehow supports the assumption that the single female from China (SCHILLHAMMER, 2000: 141), also belongs to *P. aeger*. 
Philonthus aeneipennis BOHEMAN, 1858

Philonthus erythropus KRAATZ, 1859: 88 syn.n.
Philonthus kulvenesis SCHUBERT, 1908: 617
Philonthus punctatissimus SCHUBERT, 1908: 619

Type material: Philonthus aeneipennis: 2 syntypes (RMS): 1 ♀: "China Kinb. Type. \ aeneipennis Bhn. [folded] \ Typus [red label] \ 4766 E91 + [blue label]" [plus several labels indicating loan records and a determination label by Gusarov]; 1 ♀: "China \ Kinb. \ 4768 E91 +"

Philonthus erythropus: I have studied the types of P. erythropus on an earlier occasion but the file with the label data was accidentally deleted.

The status of this species has been doubtful for a long time and has been published by various authors with constantly changing synonymy lists (occasionally also including P. cliens, P. lewisius and P. tricoloris). Especially Coiffait nearly always neglected the name P. aeneipennis and used P. erythropus instead. GRIDELLI (1936) had published a study on this species group with correct conclusions but it seems that every subsequent author ignored this paper.

Philonthus cliens EPPELSHEIM, 1890 stat.n.

Philonthus aeneipennis var. lindemani SCHEERPETZ, 1960: 5 syn.n.

Type material: Philonthus aeneipennis var. lindemani: Holotype ♀: "cliens Kr. Nagpore India centr. Dr. Bomford. \ cliens Eppsh. spec. propr. det. Gridelli \ aeneipennis Boh. var. \ quisquiliarius v. inquinatus" (NMW).

Philonthus cliens EPPELSHEIM has been treated as a synonym or variety of P. aeneipennis BOHEMAN till now. CAMERON (1932) listed the species as a variety, with P. tricoloris SCHUBERT as a synonym, this was a very obvious misinterpretation because the characters given by Cameron apply to P. tricoloris but not to P. cliens.

In fact, P. cliens does not even belong to the aeneipennis species group. TOTTENHAM (1962: 226) was the first to recognize this mistake and placed it in the caffer species group. Unfortunately, COIFFAIT (1982, 1982a, 1984) either overlooked or ignored Tottenham's conclusion and copied the systematic situation of the older papers. Thus, P. cliens again ended up as a synonym of P. aeneipennis in Lee Herman's catalog (HERMAN, 2001).

The species also occurs in the Afrotropical Region.

Philonthus cyanelytrius KRAATZ, 1859

Additional material:


This first record from Vietnam extends the species' known distribution range enourmously. The aedeagus of the male specimen is slightly more slender than that of the Himalayan specimens, but this might be explained by variability.
**Philonthus lan** SCHILLHAMMER, 2000

Additional material:


The species was described from Yunnan and Sichuan. This is the first record for Hubei.

**Philonthus piochardi** FAUVEL, 1875

*Jurecekia asphaltina* sensu COIFFAIT 1974

For more information see above under *Jurecekia asphaltina*.

Subtribe Staphylinina

**Eucibdelus gracilis** KRAATZ, 1859

_Eucibdelus gracilis_ KRAATZ 1859: 71
_Eucibdelus rufipennis_ COIFFAIT 1982: 73 syn.n.

Type material: *Eucibdelus gracilis*: There are 2 syntypes (♀ ♂) in DEI from "India borealis".


The species displays a remarkable variability in elytral coloration, particularly of the integument. Many specimens tend to have a somewhat dark reddish to reddish-brown surface shining through the dense pubescence. The specimen of _E. rufipennis_ is just such a reddish variant, otherwise it is absolutely identical with other specimens (including types) of _E. gracilis_.

**Rhynchocheilus cariniceps** (SCHEERPELTZ, 1976) comb.n.

_Eucibdelus cariniceps_ SCHEERPELTZ, 1976: 137

This species is a good example of how inconveniently the generic characters have been handled in this group during the time of Bernhauer, Cameron and Scheerpeltz, who separated _Eucibdelus_ KRAATZ and _Rhynchocheilus_ FAUVEL mainly by the proportions of the hind tarsal segments. Indeed, the species externally resembles larger _Eucibdelus_ because of its slender appearance, but the shape of the labrum and the mandibular dentation are doubtless indications for its assignment to the genus _Rhynchocheilus_ SHARP.

**Rhynchocheilus monstrosipes** (SCHILLHAMMER, 2001) comb.nov.

_Rhynchocheilus monstrosipes_ SCHILLHAMMER, 2001: 88

When I described the species I was not aware of the discrepancy between _Rhynchocheilus_ FAUVEL and _Rhynchocheilus_ SHARP which was recently pointed out by HAYASHI (1999).
This is the first record of the species for the island of Hainan.

**Material examined:**

**China:** Hainan, Wuzhi Shan, 2. - 19.VIII.2000, leg. J.Li; 1♂ (NMW).

**Stevensia longipennis** CAMERON, 1932

The species was described from Sikkim. This is the first record for Nepal.

**Material examined:**

**Nepal:** "Ostnepal Umg. Shivalaya Ufer Kimti Khola 2.5.1993 leg. A. Kleeberg" 1♂ (CKB).

**Creophilus maxillosus** (LINNÉ, 1758)

*Creophilus sikkimensis* WENDELER, 1927: 8 syn.n.

**Type material:** Holotype ♂: "♂ Sikkim \ Erworben von Alexander Heyne Berlin – Wilmersd. \ Creophilus sikkimensis n.sp. Wendeler det. \ Holotypus \ Zool. Mus. Berlin" (HUB).

The type specimen of *C. sikkimensis* appears dull black because it lacks most of the pubescence. It has been dissected (probably by Wendeler). The aedeagus does not differ from that of *C. maxillosus*.

**References**


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