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

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Abstract

New records, new synonyms and some nomenclatoral 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 asphaltina (Erichson, 1840) (= Jurecekia rufipes Coiffait, 1969); Philonthus aeneipennis Boheman, 1858 (= P. erythropus Kraatz, 1859); Philonthus cliens Eppelsheim, 1890 (= P. aeneipennis var. lindemanni Scheerpeitz, 1960); Eucibdelus gracilis Kraatz, 1859 (= E. rufipennis Coiffait, 1982); Creophilus maxillosus Linne, 1758 (= C. sikkimensis Wendeler, 1927). New combinations: Hesperus chinensis Cameron, 1940 has been transferred to Paederomimus Sharp; Eucibdelus cariniceps Scheerpeitz, 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 nomenclatoral

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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:


**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.
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. asphaltina 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. asphaltina. 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 fact, Coiffait must have known J. asphaltina because in CKE there is a correctly identified specimen from southern Armenia ("Megri Bereg rechki 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).


**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 kuluensis_ 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 cliens_ Eppelsheim, 1890: 277
_Philonthus aeneipennis_ var. _lindemanni_ Scheerpelz, 1960: 5 syn.n.

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

_Philonthus aeneipennis_ var. _lindemanni_: 2 syntypes ♂♀: "West Pakistan Rawalpindi Umg. \ 20 km O. 13.XII.55 Chr. Lindemann leg." (NMW).

_Philonthus cliens_ Eppelsheim has been treated as a synonym or variety of _P. aeneipennis_ Bohemian 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 Ian** 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:**


**Stevensia longipennis CAMERON, 1932**

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

**Material examined:**


**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*.

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