A new species and new records of *Amaurodera* FAUVEL from Nepal

(Coleoptera: Staphylinidae, Aleocharini)

With 10 figures and 2 maps

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**Summary**

*Amaurodera kleebergi* sp. n. (eastern Nepal: Rolwaling Himal), the 16th Himalayan representative of the genus, is described, illustrated, and distinguished from the similar *A. granata* ASSING. Additional records of four species are reported from Nepal. Updated distribution maps are provided for *A. bomfordi* (Eppelsheim) and *A. soror* CAMERON.

**Zusammenfassung**


**Keywords**


**Introduction**

The genus *Amaurodera* FAUVEL, 1905 of the Lomechusini currently includes some 30 species and is distributed in the Eastern Palaearctic and Oriental regions. Of the 17 Eastern Palaearctic species, two were reported from China (Yunnan) (PACE 1998a, b) and 15 species had become known from the Himalaya range. Based on their external and sexual characters, the Himalayan representatives form three species groups: the *veluticolitis* group (three species), the *bomfordi* group (eight species), and the *silvana* group (four species) (ASSING 2003, 2005).

Recently examined material of *Amaurodera* from Nepal not only yielded various additional records of *Amaurodera*, but also included an undescribed species of the *silvana* group from the Rolwaling Himal, a poorly studied region in eastern Nepal.
Material and methods

The material treated below is deposited in the following public and private collections.

SNSD  Staatliche Naturhistorische Sammlungen [previously Staatliches Museum für Tierkunde], Dresden (O. Jäger)
cAss  author’s private collection
cHir  private collection G. Hirthe, Rostock
cKle  private collection A. Kleeberg, Berlin

Head length was measured from the anterior margin of the clypeus to the posterior constriction of the head, elytral length from the apex of the scutellum to the posterior elytral margin. The maps were generated using the online generic mapping tool (GMT) of the Geomar website at www.aquarius.geomar.de/omc.

Species description and additional records

Amaurodera silvana PACE

Additional material examined: Nepal: 22 exs., Annapurna region, Marsyandi K holy Valley, Temang - Thancha, E Temang, 2500-2700 m, 18.IV.1999, leg. Hirthe & Krüger (cHir, cAss); 15 exs., SW-Dhaulagiri, Rahughat K holy valley, above Dwari, SW Lete pass, 28°34N, 83°32E, 2500 m, 12.V.2002, leg. Jäger (SNSD, cAss); 1 ex., SE-Dhaulagiri, 3 km NE Dwari, 28°34N, 83°32E, 2200 m, river bank, 11.V.2002, leg. Jäger (SNSD); 1 ex., Dhaulagiri, Baglung Lekh, upper Tara K holy, 2600 m, 18.V.2004, leg. Kleeberg (cKle, cAss); 3 exs., Dhaulagiri, Baglung Lekh, ca. 30 km W Baglung, northern Tara K holy, 2800 m, 20.V.2004, leg. Kleeberg (cKle, cAss); 2 exs., same data, but 2500-2700 m, 18.V.2004 (cKle); 1 ex., Dhaulagiri, Parbat region, Nange Thaty, 2500 m, moss, 28.V.2004, leg. Kleeberg (cKle).

This species has become known only from the Annapurna and the Dhaulagiri ranges, from where it has been recorded repeatedly, occasionally in large numbers.

Amaurodera kleebergi sp. n. (Figs. 1-10)

Type material:
Holotype ♂: Ost-Nepal, Rolwaling Himal / oberh. Simigaon, 2700-2800 m, 01.06.2000, leg. A. Kleeberg / Holotypus ♂ Amaurodera kleebergi sp. n. det. V. Assing 2006 (cAss). Paratypes: 7 exs.: same data as holotype (cKle, cAss); 1 ex., Nepal, Rolwaling Himal, upper Simigaus village, 27-2800 m, 1.6.2000, leg. J. Schmidt (cKle).

Description:
5.5-6.7 mm. Coloration: Body uniformly blackish brown to black, with the tarsi pale brown and often also the apical 1-4 antennomeres paler.

Head as long as wide; eyes of moderate size, distinctly projecting from lateral outline of head and approximately half the length of distance between posterior margin of eye and posterior constriction of head; microsculpture absent; punctuation very fine and very sparse; antennae very long and slender (Figs. 1-2).
Figs. 1-10: *Amaurodera kleebergi* (2, 3, 6: holotype): habitus (1); forebody (2); elytra (3); ♂ tergite VIII (4); ♀ sternite VIII (5); median lobe of aedeagus in lateral and in ventral view (6-8); ♀ sternite VIII (9); spermatheca (10). Scale bars: 1-2: 1.0 mm; 3-9: 0.5 mm; 10: 0.2 mm.

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Amaurodem bomfordi (Eppelsheim) (Map 1)

Additional material examined: Nepal: 1 ex., Annapurna region, Khare - Pothana, 1950-2000 m, Rhododendron forest, 10.V.2001, leg. Hirthe (cHir); 1 ex., Kali Gandaki valley, bank of Sirkgung Khola, 28°40N, 83°36E, 2520 m, 27.V.2002, leg. Jäger (SNSD); 5 exs., Rolwaling Himal, Tama Koshi valley, Chet Chet, 1300 m, 3.VI.2000, leg. Schmidt (cKle, cAss); 5 exs., same locality, 1000-1300 m, 15.V.2000, leg. Schmidt (cKle, cAss).

The species is widespread in the Himalaya, from Himachal Pradesh to Sikkim (Map 1).
Amaurodera soror Cameron (Map 2)

Additional material examined: Nepal: 1 ex., Rolwaling Himal, Tama Koshi valley, Biguhi, 900 m, 13.V.2000, leg. Schmidt (cKle); 8 exs., Rolwaling Himal, Tama Koshi valley, Suri Dhoban, 1200 m, 14.V.2000, leg. Kleeberg (cKle, cAss); 1 ex., Dhaulagiri, Parbat region, near Chitre, 2400-2600 m, leaf litter, 27.V.2004, leg. Kleeberg (Kle).

The previously known distribution of this widespread Himalayan species (see map in Assing 2003) extended from Himachal Pradesh to central Nepal. The above specimens from the Rolwaling Himal represent the first records from eastern Nepal. The currently known distribution is illustrated in Map 2.

Amaurodera martensi Coiffait

Additional material examined: Nepal: 1 ex., Rolwaling Himal, Simigaon - Dugong Kharka, 2100 m, 16.V.2000, leg. Schmidt (cAss).

Amaurodera martensi was previously known only from several localities in central Nepal (Assing 2005). It is here reported from eastern Nepal for the first time.
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References


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