

New species and new synonymy in the genus *Nitidotachinus* CAMPBELL (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae)

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Abstract

Nitidotachinus javanus sp.n. is described from one female collected from "central Sarangoni, Java". The terminal segments of the abdomen are illustrated with line drawings. My earlier key to the species of the genus is modified to include this new species. A male and two additional females of the Manchurian species *Nitidotachinus excellens* (BERNHAEUER, 1938) were discovered from eastern Siberia confirming that it is conspecific with *N. sawadai* (WATANABE & SHIBATA, 1961) from Honshū, Japan.

Introduction

On a recent visit to study types of Tachyporinae in a number of European collections, I discovered the female of an unusual new species of the genus *Nitidotachinus* CAMPBELL from Java, and three specimens of a species later proven to be *N. excellens* (BERNHAEUER) collected in eastern Siberia. I would like to thank Ottó Merkl of the Hungarian Natural History Museum, Budapest and Harald Schillhammer, Naturhistorisches Museum, Vienna, for the loan of these specimens.

The genus *Nitidotachinus* was described and the ten known species reviewed in a recent paper by CAMPBELL (1993). The species of *Nitidotachinus* had formerly been included in the Tachyporoides and Impunctatus groups of the genus *Tachinus* GRAVENHORST. Species of *Nitidotachinus* were hitherto known to occur in Canada, the United States, China and Japan. This is the first report of species of the genus from Java and Siberia.

Nitidotachinus javanus sp.n.

Diagnosis. Brunneous, sides and base of pronotum, and femora testaceous; lacking metallic sheen. Length 3.6 mm, width 1.6 mm.

Head and pronotum smooth, shining, without punctation or microsculpture. Elytra, along suture, 1.6 times longer than pronotum; surface moderately coarsely punctate, punctures arranged in 7 somewhat irregular discal rows; surface lacking microsculpture. Abdomen with fine, scattered punctation; with microsculpture of fine, transverse striations.

Male. Unknown.

Female. Eighth sternite (Fig. 1) with median fimbriate lobes moderately broad, deeply separated. Eighth tergite (Fig. 2) with lateral lobes narrow, reaching nearly to level of apex of median lobes; median lobes narrowly, acutely triangular, broadly separated by deep triangular emargination

Description. Head with surface smooth, shining, without microsculpture or punctation. Eyes large, strongly protuberant, temples short, less than half length of eye. Antenna elongate, when

extended posteriorly, apex of segment 7 reaching to base of pronotum; segment 3 2.0 times longer than 2 and 1.2 times longer than 4; segment 5 2.7 times longer than wide, segments 6 - 10 each elongate, segment 10 1.4 times longer than wide. Maxillary palpus with with ratio of length of apical three segments from base to apex 0.7 : 0.5 : 1.0; apical segment long, narrow, with sides gradually and evenly converging approaching apex.

Pronotum 0.56 times as long as wide; surface without punctation or microsculpture. Elytra, along suture, 1.6 times longer than pronotum at midline; surface smooth, shining, without microsculpture; punctures moderately coarse, arranged in 7 somewhat irregular, discal rows; discal rows not impressed between punctures.

Abdomen with sides evenly narrowed from base to apex; surface with fine, transversely striate microsculpture; with fine, scattered punctation; apical margin of seventh tergite with distinct palisade fringe. Wings fully developed.

Male. Unknown.

Female. Eighth sternite (Fig. 1) with median, fimbriate lobes moderately broad, deeply separated by wide, U-shaped emargination; each fimbriate lobe with 7 apical fimbriate setae. Eighth tergite (Fig. 2) with lateral lobes narrow, triangular, extending apically almost to level of apex of median lobes; median lobes narrow, acutely triangular, separated by wide, deep, acutely triangular median emargination.

Type. Holotype, ♀, with labels as follows: "JAVA, cent. Sarangoni, D. Limnol. Exp./ Coll. E. Csiki/ HOLOTYPE ♀. *Nitidotachinus javanus*, desig. 1993, J. M. Campbell". The holotype is in the collection of the Hungarian Natural History Museum, Budapest.

Remarks. *Nitidotachinus javanus* is presumed to be the sister species of *N. taiwanensis* (SHIBATA), known only from the island of Taiwan. However, because of the lack of males, it is not possible to compare its phylogeny with that presented for the species of the genus in my earlier review (CAMPBELL 1993). Adults of *N. javanus* differ from those of all other species of the genus in having the elytra moderately coarsely punctate with the punctures arranged in seven irregular rows. Only *N. javanus* and the North American species *N. scrutator* (GEMMINGER & HAROLD) have the head and pronotum strongly shining and completely devoid of all punctation and microsculpture. Females of *N. javanus* differ from those of *N. scrutator* in having the median emargination of the eighth sternite much deeper and the median lobes of the eighth tergite longer than the lateral lobes. Females of *N. javanus* differ from those of *N. taiwanensis* in having the elytra much longer (1.6 times longer than the pronotum, compared with 1.0 - 1.1 times longer in *N. taiwanensis*), in lacking any trace of a metallic sheen, in having the punctation of the elytra arranged in distinct, although somewhat irregular, rows, in having the wings fully developed, and in the very different shape of the female eighth sternite (compare Fig. 2 with Fig. 5 in SHIBATA 1979).

My earlier key to the species of *Nitidotachinus* (CAMPBELL 1993) should be modified as follows to include the female of this species.

11. Surface of head and pronotum smooth, shining, without punctation or microsculpture; elytra moderately coarsely punctate with punctures arranged in irregular rows; known from Java
..... *N. javanus* sp.n.
- Surface of head and pronotum usually with fine, sparse punctation (impunctate in *N. adachii* from Japan); with distinct striate or reticulate microsculpture; elytra impunctate or finely, sparsely punctate, punctures never arranged in distinct rows 11a.
- 11a. change from couplet 11 in previous key

***Nitidotachinus excellens* (BERNHAUER)**

Tachinus excellens BERNHAUER, 1938, p. 23.

Tachinus sawadai WATANABE & SHIBATA, 1961, p. 36. syn.n.

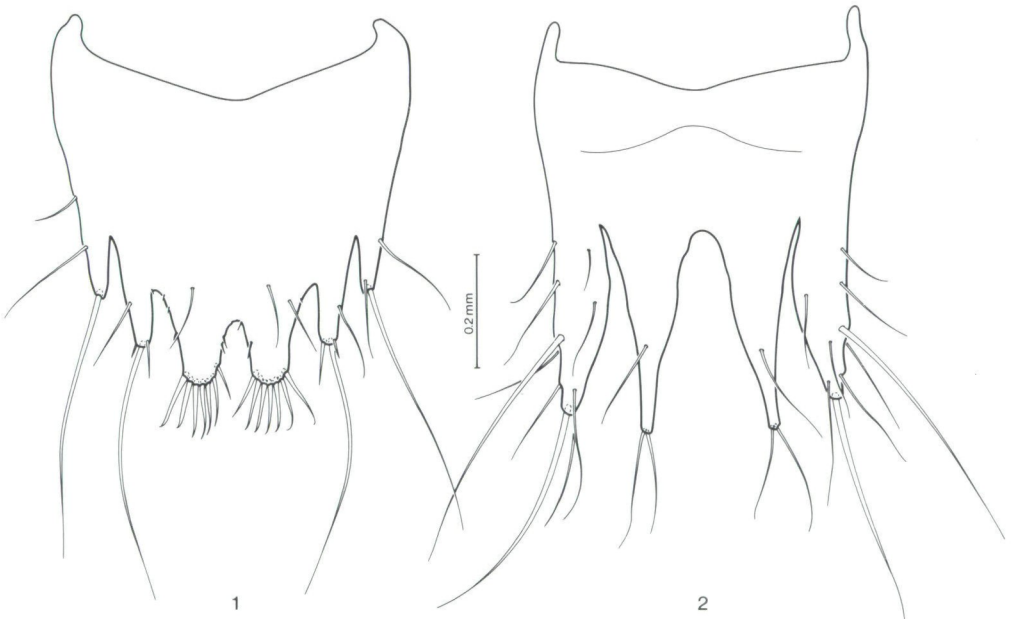
Nitidotachinus excellens: CAMPBELL, 1993, p. 530.

Nitidotachinus sawadai: CAMPBELL, 1993, p. 531.

I have examined a male and two additional females of this species from the following localities: USSR, E-SIBIRIEN, Primorskij kr., Arsenev env./27.V.-5.VII.1991, leg. O. Sausa; Seitengraben des Piwaja Rietscha-Flusses b.-Vladivost(ok), 1918-1920, H. Frieb. The three specimens are in the collection of the Naturhistorisches Museum, Vienna, Austria.

Nitidotachinus excellens was described from a unique female from Manchuria. In my previous review of the species of the genus (CAMPBELL 1993) I pointed out that the species was almost indistinguishable from *N. sawadai*, differing only in the slightly different color of the elytra. At that time I chose to not put the species in synonymy until males of *N. excellens* had been discovered. The three specimens cited above, particularly the male, are identical with the type specimen of *N. excellens* except that they are slightly longer (length 5.9 - 6.1 mm) and the elytra are colored as in specimens of *N. sawadai*. Therefore, I consider *N. sawadai* to be a junior synonym of *N. excellens*.

The species is known to occur in Manchuria, Primorskij krai (near Vladivostok), Russia, and in Honshû, Japan.



Figs. 1 - 2: *Nitidotachinus javanus* sp.n., female; 1) eighth sternite; 2) eighth tergite.

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