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Revision of *Philomyceta* **CAMERON** (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae: Staphylininae)

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Abstract

The genus *Philomyceta* CAMERON, 1944 (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae: Staphylininae) is revised. Four new species are described: *Philomyceta asperipennis* (China, Yunnan), *P. kleebergi* (Nepal), *P. schawalleri* (Nepal) and *P. spoerrii* (Nepal). *Philomyceta caeruleipennis* CAMERON, 1944 and *P. affinis* CAMERON, 1944 are redescribed. *Montguillonius sikkimensis* (COIFFAIT, 1982) is synonymized with *P. caeruleipennis*.

Key words: Coleoptera, Staphylinidae, Staphylininae, Staphylinini, Anisolinina, *Philomyceta*, new species, new synonymy, lectotype designation, taxonomy.

Introduction

The genus *Philomyceta* was described by CAMERON (1944) based on two new species from Darjeeling (typus generis: *P. caeruleipennis* CAMERON, 1944). COIFFAIT (1982) described the genus *Hesperopsis* (typus generis: *H. sikkimensis* COIFFAIT, 1982) and later renamed it into *Montguillonius* (COIFFAIT 1987) because the name was preoccupied by *Hesperopsis* DYAR, 1905. The genus *Philomyceta* remained unnoticed for many years until, during a visit to London, the author recognized it as belonging to the subtribe Anisolinina. After a personal notification, HAYASHI (2002) redescribed the genus and type species. SCHILLHAMMER (2004) synonymized *Montguillonius* with *Philomyceta* leaving the status of *M. sikkimensis* unresolved.

The discovery of additional species of *Philomyceta* induced a revision of the genus, which also revealed a misinterpretation of a character in the key to genera of the *Anisolinus* lineage (SCHILLHAMMER 2004).

Acknowledgements and abbreviations

The material treated in this paper is deposited in the following institutional and private collections. The cooperation and help of the affiliated curators and colleagues is greatly appreciated.

BMNH	The Natural History Museum, London, UK (R. Booth)
CKB	Coll. Andreas Kleeberg, Berlin, Germany
IZ-CAS	Institute of Zoology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, China (H. Zhou)
NHMB	Naturhistorisches Museum Basel, Switzerland (M. Brancucci)
NME	Naturkundemuseum Erfurt, Germany (M. Hartmann)
NMW	Naturhistorisches Museum Wien, Austria
SMNS	Staatliches Museum für Naturkunde, Stuttgart, Germany (W. Schawaller)

In addition, I thank Volker Assing for his suggestions to improve the manuscript.

Philomyceta CAMERON, 1944

Philomyceta CAMERON 1944: 12 Hesperopsis COIFFAIT 1982: 268 Montguillonius COIFFAIT 1987: 497 (replacement name for Hesperopsis COIFFAIT, 1982)

Type species: Philomyceta caeruleipennis CAMERON, 1944 - by original designation.

DIAGNOSIS: The genus shares virtually all characters with *Hesperosoma* SCHEERPELTZ, but differs by the strongly deflexed lateral portions of the pronotum with the superior lateral line hidden from view for almost its entire length when viewed from above – only a very short portion is visible at the very base of the pronotum. In addition, tergites III–VI have a tranverse basal depression and (also tergite VII) a biangulate or strongly bisinuate basal line (in *Hesperosoma* tergites III–V with transverse basal depression, basal line on tergite VI straight or very slightly bisinuate). From *Misantlius* SHARP, which has a similar pronotal situation, it differs by the apically more distinctly widened and conspicuously pubescent segment 3 of the maxillary palpus, and by the chaetotaxy of segment 2 of the labial palpus: of the four setae in the basal half along the medial margin, the third seta is distinctly moved ventrad, in most cases situated close to the fourth seta, and is as short and as fine as the proximal two setae – in *Misantlius* all four setae are lined up in a straight row and the third seta is as long and about as stout as the fourth. In addition, *Misantlius* also has transverse basal depressions only on tergites III–V.

In the key to genera of the *Anisolinus* lineage (SCHILLHAMMER 2004: 254), *Philomyceta* was separated from *Hesperosoma* and *Misantlius* by the pair of carinae at the base of tergites III–VI (vs III–V) and by the asymmetrical aedeagus. Since *P. affinis* CAMERON and *P. schawalleri* sp.n. also have no or very inconspicuous carinae on tergite VI and, at least *P. schawalleri*, an almost symmetrical paramere, couplet 4 should be modified as follows:

- 4 At least tergites III–VI with transverse medio-basal depression, basal line of tergites III–VI biangulate or distinctly bisinuate; median lobe of aedeagus distinctly asymmetrical *Philomyceta*
- Tergites III–V with transverse medio-basal depression; basal line of tergite VI straight or only inconspicuously bisinuate; aedeagus more or less symmetrical

During the work on this revision, a few more issues at the generic level within the *Anisolinus* lineage have been detected, therefore, a re-assessment of this group is inevitable and an improved key to genera will be provided in due course.

Key to species of Philomyceta

1	Apical margin of elytra narrowly but sharply delimited yellow in lateral half, antennae with three distal segments creamy white asperipennis
-	Elytra entirely dark, antennae with four distal segments creamy white 2
2	First three visible abdominal tergites with transverse basal depression and pair of distinct subparallel to very slightly oblique carinae, tergite VI with much weaker depression and either without carinae or carinae very indistinct and short (Fig. 7)
-	First four visible tergites with distinct transverse basal depression and pair of distinct and markedly oblique carinae (Figs. 6, 8)
3	Eyes larger, tempora less than 1.3 times as long as eyes; median lobe of aedeagus with apex simple (Fig. 14) affinis
-	Eyes smaller, tempora at least 1.4 times as long as eyes; median lobe of aedeagus with apex deeply bifurcate (Fig. 15)
4	Legs red, rarely dark reddish brown caeruleipennis
_	Legs black

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5	Aedeagus as in Fig. 13	spoerrii
_	Aedeagus as in Fig. 12	leebergi



Figs. 1–2: Fore body of 1) Philomyceta caeruleipennis, 2) P. affinis.

Philomyceta caeruleipennis CAMERON, 1944

Philomyceta caeruleipennis CAMERON 1944: 12 Montguillonius sikkimensis (COIFFAIT, 1982) syn.n. Hesperopsis sikkimensis COIFFAIT 1982: 268

TYPE MATERIAL: Lectotype σ : "Ghum dist., Lepchajagat, v-vi-3, Dr. Cameron \ Philomyceta caeruleipennis, TYPE, Cam. \ Type [round red-margined label] \ M.Cameron.Bequest. B.M.1955-147 \ Holotype of Philomyceta caeruleipennis CAMERON, det. Yasuhiko HAYASHI '02" (BMNH). – Paralectotypes (3 exs.): 1 σ : "Ghum dist. Tiger Hill, 8,500-10,000 ft., v-vi-31, Dr. Cameron \ M.Cameron.Bequest. B.M.1955-147 \ Paratype of Philomyceta caeruleipennis CAMERON, det. Yasuhiko HAYASHI '02"; 1 $_{\phi}$: "Ghum dist., Rongdong Valley, v-vi-31, Dr. Cameron \ M.Cameron.Bequest. B.M.1955-147 \ Paratype of Philomyceta caeruleipennis CAMERON, det. Yasuhiko HAYASHI '02"; 1 $_{\phi}$: "Ghum dist., Rongdong Valley, v-vi-31, Dr. Cameron \ M.Cameron.Bequest. B.M.1955-147 \ Paratype of Philomyceta caeruleipennis CAMERON, det. Yasuhiko HAYASHI '02"; 1 $_{\phi}$: "Ghum dist., Mangpo, v-31, Dr. Cameron \ M.Cameron.Bequest. B.M.1955-147" (all BMNH).

Hesperopsis sikkimensis: Holotype & (by monotypy): "Dzongri, 16.10.1977, 3000 m \ Sikkim Bhakta B." (NHMB).

REDESCRIPTION: Fore body: Fig. 1. Body length 10.0–12.3 mm (5.2–5.9 mm, abdomen excluded). Fore body rather opaque; head and pronotum black, mandibles reddish brown to black with reddish tips, palpi lighter or darker reddish brown, last segments usually paler, antennae black with basal one or two segments reddish brown (exceptionally also black), four distal segments creamy white; elytra metallic violaceous blue, base sometimes narrowly or more extensively greenish, rarely also apically narrowly greenish; abdominal segments black, often apically obscurely brownish to various extent, apical margin of segment VII and entire segments VIII and X bright reddish yellow, styli of tergite IX with yellowish proximal half and blackish distal half; legs usually bright reddish to reddish brown, exceptionally dark brown (see "Remark" for notes on the species' variability).

Head rounded quadrangular to slightly trapezoid, 1.23-1.26 (males) or 1.18-1.21 (females) times as wide as long, distinctly wider than pronotum; eyes very small, slightly protruding, tempora parallel or weakly narrowed behind eves, at about half distance rounded toward neck in almost regular arc, 1.50–1.75 times as long as eves, surface of head densely and coarsely punctate, punctures separated by exceedingly narrow interstices, forming penta- or hexagonal ridges, anterior portion of clypeus narrowly impunctate, with narrow and shallow transverse depression immediately behind anterior margin; pubescence inconspicuous, blackish to dark rusty red; antennae with segments 4-8 markedly oblong, segments 9 and 10 about as long as wide; pronotum 1.11-1.21 times as long as wide, widest at about level of large antero-lateral seta, narrowed toward base in variably distinct concave arc; surface with dense and coarse punctation similar to that on head, with very fine and extremely narrow indication of a shiny midline in apical half, near base usually with a small but distinct specular spot; elytra along sides markedly longer than pronotum, with distinct depression at base, along scutellum and along distinctly elevated suture, shoulders and mediobasal portion along basal depression thus appearing slightly bulging, also scutellum slightly elevated; elytral punctation very dense, punctures almost contiguous but without the ridge-like interstices of head and pronotum; pubescence black on disc, silvery in basal third, along deflexed sides and apical margin; punctation of abdominal tergites coarse at base, becoming increasingly finer toward apical margin, laterad of oblique carinae on first four visible tergites impunctate, but with rather distinct, short-meshed microreticulation.

Aedeagus (Figs. 9–11) with short, strongly asymmetrical median lobe, paramere (Figs. 9c–11c) asymmetrical, distinctly longer than median lobe, shape extremely variable, apex variably notched.

ADDITIONAL MATERIAL EXAMINED:

I N D I A: "India \ Sharp Coll. 1905-313." (*d*; BMNH) – The specimen bears a small round "type" label but it is doubtful whether it belongs to the type series or not. The aedeagus lacks the paramere.

N E P A L: "324 Panchthar distr., Dhorpar Kharka, mature Rhododendron-Lithocarpus forest, 2700 m, 13.-16. Apr 88, Martens & Schawaller" (3; SMNS).

REMARK: The species displays a remarkable variability in color, body shape and genital characters. Moreover, the aedeagal differences posed initial problems in interpreting the species. Since there are not two externally identical specimens among the specimens studied and also the aedeagi of all males look individually different, it must be assumed (at least for the time being) that this is indeed a very variable species. The specimen from Nepal looks even more different because of the much darker legs and the slightly shorter pronotum, but the aedeagus fits well into the variability range displayed by the other populations.

DISTRIBUTION: The species is currently known from NE-India (Darjeeling, Sikkim) and Eastern Nepal.

Philomyceta spoerrii sp.n.

TYPE MATERIAL: **Holotype** σ : "404 Sankhua Sabha Distr., above Pahakhola, 2600-2800 m, Quercus semecarpifolia Rhododendron, 31 May to 3 June 88, Martens & Schawaller" (SMNS). – **Paratypes**: 2 $_{\varphi \varphi}$ with same data as holotype (SMNS, NMW).

DESCRIPTION: Habitus: Fig. 3. Body length 11.5–12.9 mm (5.9–6.3 mm, abdomen excluded). The limited material suggests that this species hardly differs from *P. caeruleipennis* externally, except for the entirely black legs, the slightly less transverse head and the longer tempora.

Measurements: head 1.17–1.19 times as wide as long, tempora 1.85 (male holotype) and 1.62–1.68 (females) times as long as eyes, pronotum 1.14–1.16 times as long as wide. Tergites III and VI (Fig. 6).

Aedeagus (Fig. 13); apex of median lobe with slender bifurcate extension; paramere (Fig. 13c) widened toward apex, apical margin not notched.

DISTRIBUTION: The species is at present known only from the type locality in eastern Nepal.

ETYMOLOGY: The species is named after Daniel Spörri, controversial artist from Switzerland with strong ties to the NMW.

Philomyceta kleebergi sp.n.

TYPE MATERIAL: **Holotype** ♂: "Ostnepal, Rolwaling Himal \ oberh. Simigaon, 2700-2800 m, 31.05.2000, leg. A. Kleeberg" (CKB). – **Paratype** _♀: "Ostnepal, Rolwaling Himal \ oberh. Simigaon, Shapka Kharka, 2600 m, 02.06.2000, leg. A. Kleeberg" (NMW).

DESCRIPTION: Body length 11.5-13.0 mm (6.2–6.6 mm, abdomen excluded). The two specimens of the type series do not differ from *P. caeruleipennis* externally, except for the entirely black legs. The species differs from *P. spoerrii* by the slightly more transverse head (1.2 (female) – 1.22 (male) times as wide as long) and by the somewhat less rugose punctation of the pronotum. The eye/temple ratio is intermediate between *P. caeruleipennis* and *P. spoerrii* – tempora 1.63 (female) – 1.71 (male) times as long as eyes.

Aedeagus (Fig. 12) very similar to that of *P. caeruleipennis* but median lobe as long as paramere, apex with slender extension on left side (ventral view).

DISTRIBUTION: The species is at present known only from the type locality.

ETYMOLOGY: The species is named after its discoverer Andreas Kleeberg.

Philomyceta affinis CAMERON, 1944

Philomyceta affinis CAMERON 1944: 13

TYPE MATERIAL: **Lectotype** σ (present designation): "Type [round red-margined label] \ Ghum district, v-vi-31, Dr. Cameron \ M.Cameron.Bequest. B.M.1955-147 \ P. affinis TYPE Cam." (BMNH). – **Paralectotypes** (6 exs.): σ_{φ} : same locality data as lectotype; σ_{φ} : "Ghum dist., Rongdong Valley, v-vi-31, Dr. Cameron"; 2 $_{\varphi,\varphi}$: "Ghum dist., Mangpo, v-31, Dr. Cameron" (all BMNH).

REDESCRIPTION: Fore body: Fig. 2. Body length 8.5–12.7 mm (4.6–6.0 mm, abdomen excluded). Moderately shiny; head and pronotum black, mandibles dark reddish brown to blackish brown, palpi dark reddish brown, last segments somewhat paler, at least their tips; antennae black with four distal segments creamy white; elytra metallic violaceous on disc, at base and apical margin broadly metallic blue to greenish blue; abdominal segments black, apical portion of segment VII and entire segments VIII and X bright reddish yellow, styli of tergite IX with yellowish proximal half and blackish distal half; legs black, tarsi sometimes dark brown.



Fig. 3: Habitus of Philomyceta spoerrii

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Fig. 4: Habitus of Philomyceta schawalleri.

Head trapezoid, 1.16–1.17 (exceptionally 1.21, one female paralectotype) times as wide as long, slightly wider than pronotum; eves moderately small, rather distinctly protruding, tempora narrowed toward neck in almost regular arc, 1.20-1.25 times as long as eves; punctation coarse and dense, with interstices forming round ridges, with narrow but distinct impunctate midline reaching beyond vertex and ending about 1/3 of head length in front of neck, clypeus with broad impunctate area behind anterior margin and with narrow transverse depression; pubescence silvery to yellowish; antennae with segments 4-8 markedly oblong, segments 9 and 10 about as long as wide; pronotum 1.16–1.19 times as long as wide, widest at about level of large anterolateral seta, narrowed toward base in very shallow concave arc; punctation as coarse and dense as on head but ridge-like interstices more pronounced, rounded to polygonal or even slightly oblong, base of pronotum much less densely punctate, thus more shiny, without any indication of a shiny midline but with a specular patch mediobasally; elytra very densely, moderately strongly punctate, pubescence black on violaceous parts, silvery on bluish/greenish parts, scutellum rather coarsely and densely punctate, interstices with exceedingly fine, inconspicuous microsculpture, setation silvery; abdominal tergites with coarse, almost fossulate punctation at base, restricted to portion between oblique basal carinae on first three visible tergites, posterior portion of tergites rather finely and sparsely punctate; microreticulation on first three visible tergites in area laterad of basal carinae exceedingly fine, sometimes hardly noticeable.

Aedeagus (Fig. 14) slightly asymmetrical, paramere (Fig. 14c) about as long as, or slightly shorter than median lobe.

DISTRIBUTION: The species it at present known only from two places in Darjeeling.

Philomyceta schawalleri sp.n.

TYPE MATERIAL: Holotype σ : "525 NEPAL: Solukhumbu Distr., Hinku Drangka Khola bridge 2000 m, 18.-19.V.1997, leg. W. Schawaller" (SMNS). – **Paratype** $_{Q}$: "537 NEPAL: Bhojpur Distr., NW Phedi, 1900-1500 m, 26.V.1997, leg. M. Hauser" (NMW).

DESCRIPTION: Habitus: Fig. 4. Body length 10.5-11.1 mm (5.5 mm, abdomen excluded). Externally, the species is very similar to *P. affinis*, but differs mainly by the slightly broader head (1.23–1.30 times as wide as long) and the much longer tempora (1.47 times as long as eyes). Tergites III and VI: Fig. 7.

Aedeagus (Fig. 15) very different from that of *P. affinis*; median lobe very similar to that of *P. spoerrii*; paramere (Fig. 15c) long and slender, almost symmetrical, only slightly bent to left side (ventral view).

DISTRIBUTION: The species is at present known only from two places in eastern Nepal.

ETYMOLOGY: The species is named in honor of Wolfgang Schawaller (SMNS) who collected the holotype.

Philomyceta asperipennis sp.n.

TYPE MATERIAL: Holotype σ : "CHINA, Yunnan Prov. Tengchong. Jietou Datang, Dahelingganjiao, 25.73939°N, 98.69633°E \ 2010 m, 2006.5.20 day Liang H.B., Hu P., California Academy and IOZ, Chinese Acad. Sci. \ IOZ (E) 1771176" (IZ-CAS).

DESCRIPTION: Habitus: Fig. 5. Body length 12 mm (6 mm, abdomen excluded). Head and pronotum black with slight metallic blueish hue, elytra black with suture and deflexed portion at shoulders reddish, apical margin of elytra well delimited yellowish red, very narrowly near suture and more broadly laterally; abdomen with first three visible segments (III–V) reddish brown, medio-posterior portion darkened on segments IV and V, segment VI black with basal

Head rounded rectangular, 1.23 times as wide as long, tempora broadly and regularly rounded almost immediately from hind margin of eves, about twice as long as eves; surface densely and coarsely punctate, narrow transverse area between antennal sockets impunctate; all antennal segments oblong, but distad decreasing in length, segment 10 weakly oblong; pubescence of head very short, decumbent, mostly dark; pronotum 1.16 times as long as wide, widest at level of large anterior lateral seta, strongly narrowed toward base in almost straight line, punctation similar to that on head but some punctural grooves confluent so that interstices form short rugae: elvtra along sides markedly longer than pronotum, with very characteristic features: each elvtron with two blunt longitudinal carinae, one near lateral outline and one half-way between suture and lateral carina (possibly a sexual dimorphism); entire surface exceedingly densely covered with very tiny gibbosities, giving the elytra a rasp-like appearance; pubescence short and inconspicuous; abdomen with very deep transverse depression at base of tergites III-VI (Fig. 8) and with distinct pair of carinae, depression between carinae with irregular longitudinal grooves, even tergite VII with a shallow depression at base and basal line medially sharply extended posteriad into that depression; paraterga of all visible segments unusually broad; punctation of tergites dense and fine posteriad of depressions, scarce and coarse in depressions.

Aedeagus (Fig. 16) small, median lobe slightly asymmetrical; paramere (Fig. 16c) distinctly shorter than median lobe, strongly asymmetrical, with notched apex.

Female unknown.

DISTRIBUTION: The species is at present known only from the type locality.

ETYMOLOGY: The name is derived from the Latin words *asper* (rough) and *penna* (wing) and refers to the rasp-like surface of the elytra.

Philomyceta sp.

MATERIAL EXAMINED:

1 ç: "NEPAL [Sankhua Sabha Distr.], Prov. Koshi, Tashigaon bis Sedua, 2100 – 1600 m NN, 12.X.2002, leg. J. Weipert" (NME).

This female might be conspecific with *P. schawalleri* but differs mostly by the shorter tempora (1.31 times as long as eyes). The head shows a clear impunctate midline like that of the male of *P. schawalleri*, but since the variability potential of the *Philomyceta* species is not yet assessed due to the scarcity of material, it cannot be ruled out that this specimen belongs to an undescribed species.

Philomyceta sp.

MATERIAL EXAMINED:

1 g: "CHINA, Tibet, Mêdoc, Baibung, Hanmi, on vegetation, beating 29.36637°N, 95.12770°E \ 2120 m, 2006.8.11 day Liang H.B., Bai M., California Academy and IOZ, Chinese Acad. Sciences \ IOZ (E) 1771166" (IZ-CAS).



Fig. 5: Habitus of Philomyceta asperipennis.





6a

6b





7a

7b



8a

Figs. 6–8: Abdominal tergites of 6) *Philomyceta spoerrii*, 7) *P. schawalleri*, 8 *P. asperipennis*. Tergites III (a), VI (6b, 7b) and V–VI (8b).



Figs. 9–10: Aedeagus of *Philomyceta caeruleipennis*; 9) lectotype, 10) paralectotype. Ventral (a) and lateral (b) view, paramere (c). Scale bars: 0.5 mm (a, b), 0.25 mm (c).

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Figs. 11–12: Aedeagus of 11) *Philomyceta caeruleipennis* (Nepal); 12) *P. kleebergi*. Ventral (a) and lateral (b) view, paramere (c). Scale bars: 0.5 mm (a, b), 0.25 mm (c).



Figs. 13–14: Aedeagus of 13) *Philomyceta spoerrii*; 14) *P. affinis*. Ventral (a) and lateral (b) view, paramere (c). Scale bars: 0.5 mm (a, b), 0.25 mm (c).



Figs. 15–16: Aedeagus of 15) *Philomyceta schawalleri* (Nepal); 16) *P. asperipennis*. Ventral (a) and lateral (b) view, paramere (c). Scale bars: 0.5 mm (a, b), 0.25 mm (c).

The specimen shows some dermestid damage: small part of the right posterior portion of the pronotum, part of abdominal segment VII and the entire segment VIII and genital segment are missing. The body size given below refers to the measurement without the missing segments.

Body length 12 mm (6.2 mm, abdomen excluded). Black, head and pronotum without the slightest metallic hue, elytra dark metallic blue to greenish blue, posterior margin sharply yellowish, narrowly near suture and more broadly laterally, and shortly extending on to hypomeron, remaining portion of hypomeron dark; abdominal segments III–VII black, antennae with segments 1–7 black, segment 2 narrowly reddish at base, segments 8–11 creamy white.

Head and pronotum similar in shape as in *P. asperipennis*, but with slightly larger eyes, tempora about 1.6 times as long as eyes, frons with indistinct indication of an impunctate midline, antennae shorter, segment 8 about as long as wide, 9–10 inconspicuously transverse; elytra slightly asperate but without the characteristic rasp-like structures of *P. asperipennis*, abdominal segments with transverse basal depression on tergites III–VI, but tergite VI with very indistinct depression and without carinae.

REMARK: The species from Nepal and Darjeeling have clearly shown that geographically close species may be extremely similar externally. Although the above specimen clearly differs from all known *Philomyceta* species, it is not formally named here because additional species might be discovered in that area and subsequent assignment might be difficult or impossible.

Zusammenfassung

Die Gattung *Philomyceta* CAMERON, 1944 wird revidiert. Vier neue Arten werden beschrieben: *Philomyceta asperipennis* (China, Yunnan), *P. kleebergi* (Nepal), *P. schawalleri* (Nepal) and *P. spoerrii* (Nepal). *Philomyceta caeruleipennis* CAMERON, 1944 und *P. affinis* CAMERON, 1944 werden redeskribiert. *Montguillonius sikkimensis* (COIFFAIT, 1982) wird mit *P. caeruleipennis* synonymisiert.

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