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A new species of the genus *Tachyta* KIRBY, 1837 from the Oriental Region (Coleoptera: Carabidae: Bembidiinae: Bembidiini: Tachyina)

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Abstract

A new species of the tachyine genus *Tachyta* KIRBY, 1837 (Coleoptera: Carabidae: Bembidiinae: Bembidiini: Tachyina) is described: *T. quadriplagiata* from South Vietnam. The species is rather similar and probably most closely related to the southern Oriental species *T. malayica* (ANDREWES, 1925), and is differentiated from that species.

Key words: Coleoptera, Carabidae, Bembidiinae, Bembidiini, Tachyina, *Tachys*, Oriental Region, taxonomy.

Introduction

While sorting through the unidentified material of Oriental Carabidae of the Naturhistorisches Museum Wien, I found two strikingly coloured specimens of the genus *Tachyta* KIRBY, 1837 from South Vietnam that represented a new species described in the present paper and differentiated from the most similar species.

Tachyta is a genus of small tachyine carabid beetles that presently includes 25 species. The genus occurs almost worldwide but is absent from the Neotropical Region, except for a single species from Haiti. Seven species were recorded from the Oriental Region so far.

The genus was divided by ERWIN (1975) into two subgenera, namely *Tachyta* s.str., that, according to ERWIN (1975) includes depressed species with more or less distinct, but always present microreticulation on the dorsal surface, and *Paratachyta* ERWIN, 1975, that comprises few very glossy species which lack any microreticulation except on the labrum. However, at least the Malayan species *T. malayica* (ANDREWES, 1925), currently placed in the nominate subgenus lacks the microreticulation on the entire surface of pronotum and elytra, as does the new species described in the present paper. Therefore, the status of the subgenera should be critically revised and additional distinguishing character states should be looked for. A third subgenus, *Australotachyta* BAEHR, 2012 was erected for a markedly convex, glabrous species from north-eastern Australia (BAEHR 2012).

Methods

For the taxonomic treatment standard methods were used. The genitalia were removed from specimens, relaxed in a jar under moist atmosphere for one night, then cleaned for a short while in hot 10 % KOH. The habitus photograph was obtained by a digital camera using ProgRes CapturePro 2.6 and AutoMontage and subsequently was worked with Corel Photo Paint X4.

Measurements were taken using a stereo microscope with an ocular micrometer. Length was measured from the apex of the labrum to the apex of the elytra. Length of pronotum was measured along midline. Length of elytra was taken from the most advanced part of the humerus to the most advanced part of the apex.

The holotype of the new species is stored in the Naturhistorisches Museum Wien (NMW), the paratype in the working collection of the author in the Zoologische Staatssammlung, München (CBM).

Genus *Tachyta* KIRBY, 1837

Tachyta KIRBY 1837: 56. – ERWIN 1975: 5.

Type species: *Tachyta picipes* KIRBY, 1837 (= *Tachyta nana inornata* (SAY, 1823)).

DIAGNOSIS. Genus of the bembidiine subtribe Tachyina. Small, most commonly depressed species, characterized by the recurrent stria at the apex of the elytra being straight and oblique and situated close to the lateral margin of the elytra, and by denticulate tarsal claws.

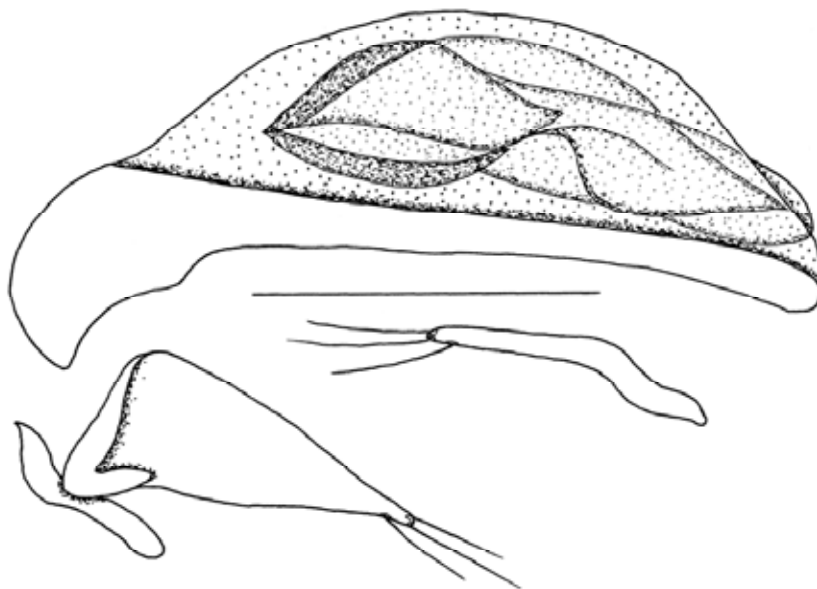


Fig. 1: *Tachyta quadriplagiata* sp.n. Aedeagus, left side, and left and right parameres. Scale bar: 0.2 mm.

Tachyta quadriplagiata sp.n. (Figs. 1–2)

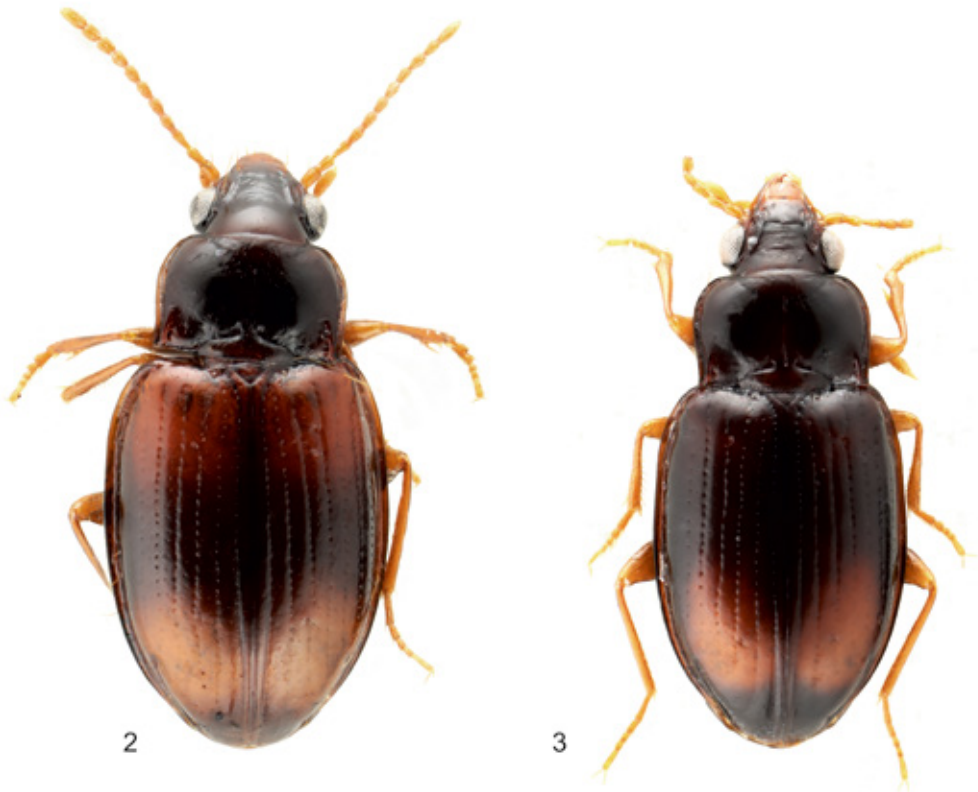
Holotype ♂: “S-VIETNAM 40km NW An Khe Buon Luoi, 620-750m / 14°10’N 106°30’E 28.3.-12.4.1995 Pacholatko & Dembicky” (NMW). **Paratype** ♂, same data (CBM).

DIAGNOSIS: A moderately convex species of the nominate subgenus with inconspicuously quadrimaculate elytra and glabrous, not microreticulate surface of pronotum and elytra, distinguished from the most similar species *T. malayica* (see Fig. 3) from Malaysia by presence of a reddish spot at the base of the elytra, slightly larger body size, and shorter and wider elytra. Measurements and ratios of the new species and of *T. malayica* are presented in Table 1.

Table 1: Measurements and ratios of *Tachyta quadriplagiata* sp.n. and *T. malayica*. N: number of specimens measured; l: body length in mm; w/l pr: ratio width/length of pronotum; d/b pr: ratio width widest diameter/base of pronotum; l/w el: ratio length/width of elytra.

	N	l	w/l pr	d/b pr	l/w el
<i>quadriplagiata</i>	2	2.50	1.45	1.02	1.38–1.40
<i>malayica</i>	3	2.25–2.30	1.43–1.46	1.02–1.04	1.45–1.47

DESCRIPTION: Measurements. Length: 2.50 mm; width: 1.12–1.14 mm. Ratios. Width/length of pronotum: 1.45; width of widest diameter/base of pronotum: 1.02; length/width of elytra: 1.38–1.40.



Figs. 2–3: Habitus (body lengths in brackets), 2) *Tachyta quadriplagiata* sp.n., holotype (2.5 mm), 3) *T. malayica* (2.3 mm).

Habitus and colour as in Fig. 2. Head and pronotum dark piceous to almost black, lateral margin of pronotum narrowly and inconspicuously reddish; elytra in middle piceous, base with wide, ill delimited reddish spot, also apex with a large, oval shaped, likewise rather ill delimited spot.

Lateral margin of elytra inconspicuously reddish. Labrum and mandibles dark reddish, palpi, antenna, and legs pale reddish.

Head. Eye large, laterally well projected, orbit short, almost perpendicular. Frontal furrows straight, elongate, attaining about middle of eye. Frons rather convex, with a few very shallow transverse furrows. Antenna short, median antennomeres slightly longer than wide. Labrum and anterior part of clypeus with very superficial, about isodiametric microreticulation, rest of surface without microreticulation, very glossy.

Pronotum. Wide, at base about as wide as in middle, narrowed to apex; dorsal surface gently convex. Apex with very shallow excision, apical angles barely projected and very widely rounded. Lateral border in basal half straight to very slightly concave. Base laterally straight, in middle produced, basal angles angulate, slightly less than rectangular. Lateral sulcus deep, anteriorly narrow, basal slightly widened. Apex laterally finely margined, base completely margined. Median line distinct, deepened basal, not attaining apex or base. Anterior transverse impression barely perceptible, posterior impression deep, indistinctly crenulate, in middle with an elongate sulcus. Basal grooves barely perceptible, base near lateral margin with a short, slightly oblique carina. Anterior lateral seta inserted at apical third, posterior lateral seta inserted at basal angle. Apex in middle with some inconspicuous, short, longitudinal furrows, rest of surface very glossy, without microreticulation.

Elytra. Wide and rather short, slightly oviform, lateral margin even in middle slightly convex; dorsal surface moderately convex. All striae distinct, rather coarsely punctate, inner five striae at least on disk impressed, apically becoming weaker, lateral striae not attaining apex. Median intervals on disk slightly raised. Recurrent stria deep, elongate, oblique, situated close to the lateral margin, ending in a pit. Third interval bipunctate, the anterior puncture located at basal quarter or fifth and adjacent to fourth stria, posterior puncture located in apical third and adjacent to third stria. Intervals with a distinct and moderately coarse row of punctures. Microreticulation absent, surface very glossy.

Ventral surface: Prosternum and mesoventrite in middle with sparse, very short, erect pilosity. Abdomen impilose. Metepisternum about $1.5 \times$ as long as wide at apex. Terminal abdominal sternum in male bisetose.

Male genitalia (Fig. 1). Genital ring large and triangular, almost symmetric. Aedeagus short and stout, ventral surface almost straight in middle, in apical third very slightly directed down. Apex short and stout, obtusely rounded; internal sac elongate, slightly twisted, with a gently sclerotized fold in middle. Parameres very dissimilar, left one large, triangular, right one small and very narrow, both with three elongate apical setae.

Female genitalia. Unknown.

Variation. Very little variation noted.

DISTRIBUTION: South Vietnam. Known only from the type locality.

COLLECTING CIRCUMSTANCES: Little recorded, collected at median altitude.

RELATIONSHIPS: The species is very similar, and probably closely related to *T. malayica* from Malaysia, but is distinguished by size, body shape, and colouration as mentioned above, under "Diagnosis". The close relationship of these two species is also corroborated by the absence of any microreticulation on the dorsal surface. The aedeagi also are quite similar, but differ slightly in shape and structure of the folds of the internal sac (see ERWIN 1975: fig. 64).

ETYMOLOGY: The name refers to the four spots on the elytra.

Remarks

All species of the genus *Tachyta* are believed to live under the bark of trees in a variety of forest types from tropical rain forest to deciduous or even coniferous forests in temperate regions. Unfortunately nothing has been recorded about the habits of the new species. However, because *T. malayica* has been found under bark (ANDREWES 1925), this may well be also the habitat of the new species.

Together with *T. malayica* and perhaps also with the New Guinean *T. barda* DARLINGTON, 1962 the new species forms a distinctive species group within the nominate subgenus, that is characterized by rather pale or even maculate colour and reduced (*T. barda*) or even lacking microreticulation on almost the whole body surface.

Acknowledgements

My sincere thanks are due to M.A. Jäch and H. Schillhammer (NMW) for the kind loan of the specimens of the new species and to B. Garner (Natural History Museum, London) for the loan of the types of *T. malayica*.

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MITTEILUNGEN

Harald May (1945–2012)

Am 10. März 2012 verstarb der eher bescheiden und zurückgezogen agierende Wiener Sammler Harald May (geb. 8.II.1945). Seine Vorliebe galt den Scarabaeidae, speziell den Rosenkäfern (Cetoniinae).

Die vorbildlich geführte Sammlung, die etwa 3400 Scarabaeidae und 780 Lucanidae enthält, wurde 2014 vom Naturhistorischen Museum Wien angekauft.

H. SCHILLHAMMER

Einschleppung von Käfern durch Verpackungsholz

Seit dem 1. April 2013 sind die EU-Mitgliedsländer verpflichtet, Verpackungsholz von Steinen (z.B. Granit) aus China einer Kontrolle zu unterziehen.

Im Zeitraum vom 1. April 2013 bis 11. April 2014 wurden von den Kontrollorganen des Bundesamtes für Wald 451 Sendungen in ganz Österreich untersucht. In manchen Fällen wurden sogar ausgebildete Spürhunde eingesetzt. Bei 38 Sendungen wurde Schädlingsbefall mit lebenden Bockkäfern (u.a. *Anoplophora glabripennis* MOTSCHULSKY, 1853, *Apriona germari* HOPE, 1831, *Trichoferus campestris* (FALDERMANN, 1835)) festgestellt. Auf einem Lagerplatz wurde auch ein frisch abgestorbener Eukalyptus-Bockkäfer (*Phoracanta recurva* NEWMAN, 1842) entdeckt.

Neben Bockkäfern fanden sich auch Anobiidae, Buprestidae, Curculionidae (incl. Scolytinae), und Lyctidae im Verpackungsholz.

KREHAN, H. 2014: Erste Erfahrungen bei Verpackungsholzkontrollen in Österreich entsprechend dem Durchführungsbeschluss 2013/92/EU der EU-Kommission. – Forstschutz Aktuell 59: 3–7.

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