

Rhynchocheilus popeye sp.n. from China (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae: Staphylininae)

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Abstract

A new species of *Rhynchocheilus* SHARP, 1889 (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae: Staphylininae) is described from Yunnan Province, China: *R. popeye*. The species is compared to its closest relative *R. monstrosipes* (SCHILLHAMMER, 2001). Habitus images of both species are provided, and morphological and genital details of both species are illustrated.

Key words: Coleoptera, Staphylinidae, Staphylininae, Staphylinina, *Rhynchocheilus*, new species, systematics, taxonomy.

Introduction

Rhynchocheilus SHARP, 1889 is a moderately speciose genus within the *Eucibdelus* lineage. The genus is still in need of revision, but sometimes a species stands out and can be described without any doubt about its identity.

The new species from Yunnan Province, China, which is described below, is closely related to a species from Fujian Province (SCHILLHAMMER 2001). Both species have a very unique habitus, substantially different from all other congeners.

The single holotype is deposited in the collection of the Natural History Museum Vienna (Naturhistorisches Museum Wien, Austria).

Rhynchocheilus popeye sp.n.

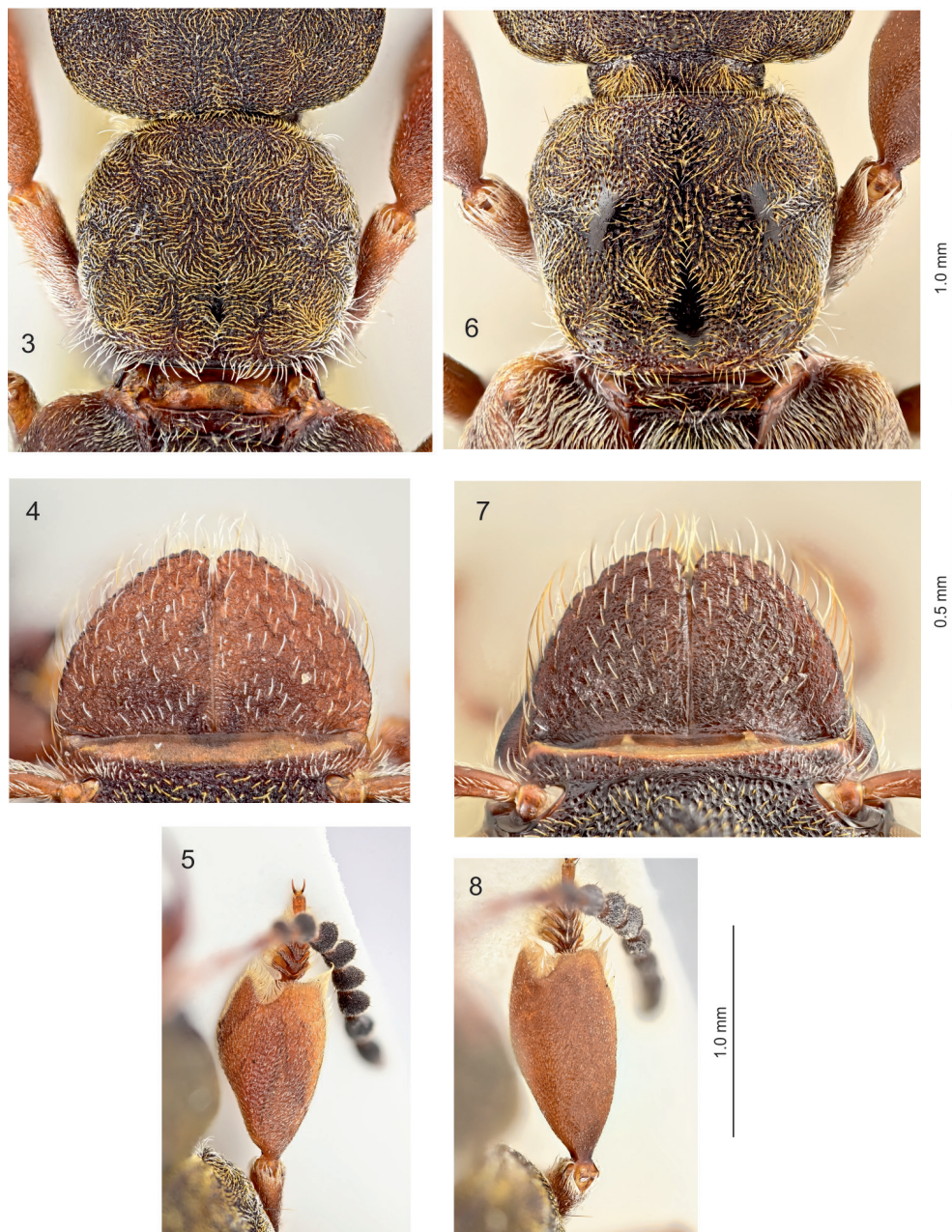
Holotype ♂: "CHINA: SE-Yunnan prov., Guangnan, Kuisheng, 23°59'N 105°3'E, 1500 m, 26.V.2011 \ NHMW-ZOO-COL-0058037".

DESCRIPTION: Habitus as in Fig. 1. 19 mm long (9 mm, abdomen excluded). Fore body matt, dark reddish brown, head and pronotum with irregular pattern of difficult to discern black spots; labrum reddish brown with very narrow blackish margin, mandibles reddish testaceous with black medial and lateral margins; antennae with segments 1–3 reddish, remaining segments black, 4–6 with very narrow reddish base; posterior margin of elytra very narrowly pale reddish; abdomen black, posterior margin of segments variably broadly, very obscurely reddish, segment VIII also with broad dark reddish anterior margin; legs reddish, all femora becoming darker toward base.

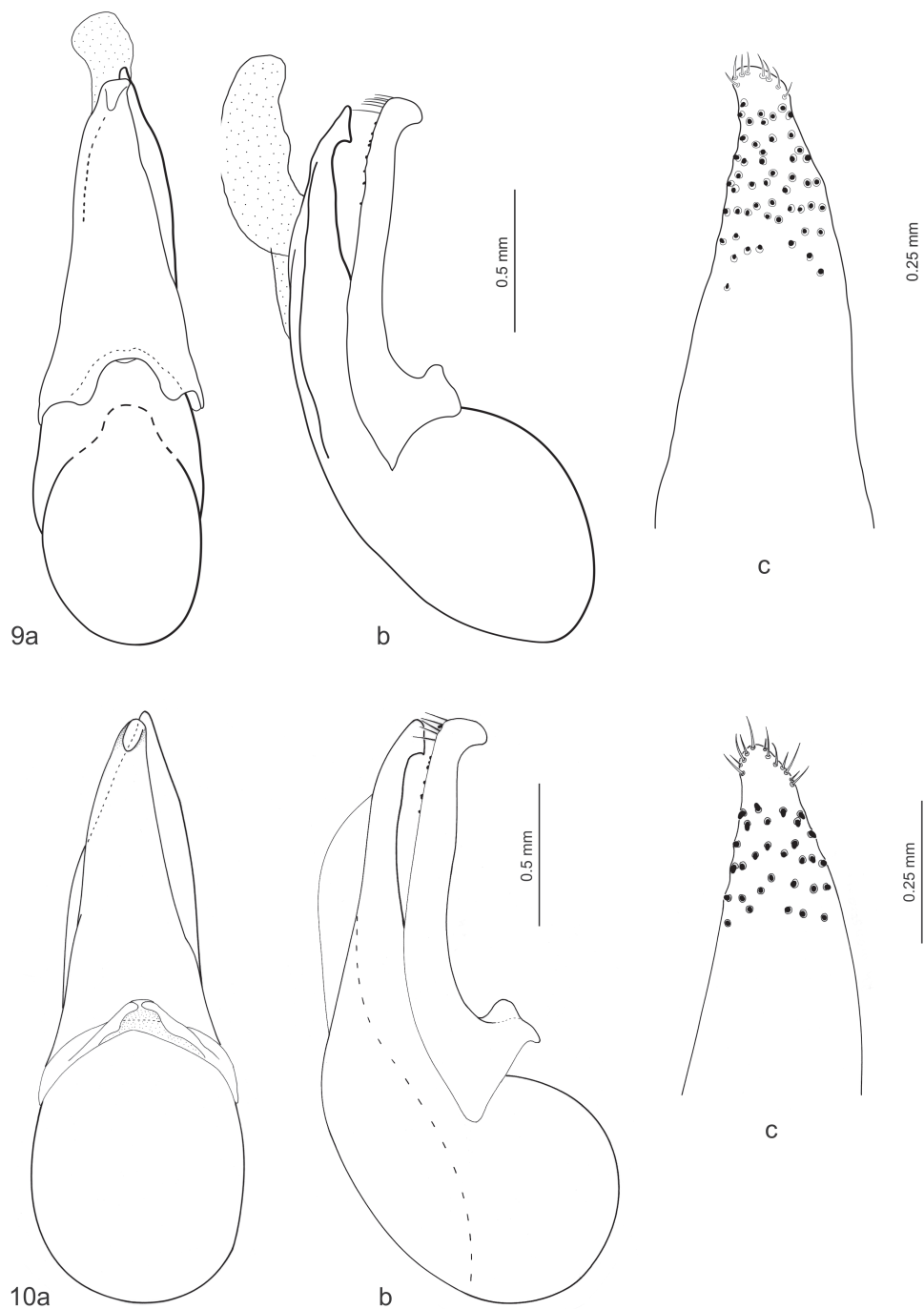
Head heart-shaped, 1.2 times as wide as long, wider at tempora than at eye level, tempora convex, bulging, 1.4 times as long as eyes, base of head almost straight; dorsal surface of head rather flat, exceedingly densely punctate, each puncture bearing a short golden seta, punctural grooves contiguous, interstices very narrow, almost ridge-like; labrum huge (Fig. 4), flat, moderately densely, almost uniformly punctate, each puncture bearing a silver seta, surface between punctures with dense vermicular microsculpture; antennae with basal three segments very long, segments 4–10 about as long as wide, subserrate, segment 11 slightly shorter than 9 and 10 combined.



Figs. 1–2: Habitus of 1) *Rhynchocheilus popeye*; 2) *R. monstrosipes*.



Figs. 3–8: 3–5) *Rhynchocheilus popeye*, 6–8) *R. monstrosipes*; pronotum (3, 6), labrum (4, 7), protibia (5, 8).



Figs. 9–10: Aedeagus of 9) *Rhynchocheilus popeye*; 10) *R. monstrosipes*; ventral view (a), lateral view (b), paramere (c).

Pronotum (Fig. 3) slightly wider than long, widest shortly behind rounded anterior angles; surface somewhat uneven, along midline with slight depression, with an indistinct and short indication of an impunctate midline in front of base; punctation and pubescence as on head.

Elytra very finely and densely punctate, with moderately long, dense silvery pubescence.

Abdominal tergites III–VI with oblique accessory lines and distinct depression between them, tergite VII with shallower depression at base, but with short longitudinal medio-basal elevation; tergite VIII with a weaker indication of a medio-basal elevation; surface densely and coarsely punctate in basal depressions, much finer in posterior half of tergites.

Protibiae (Fig. 5) only slightly longer than wide, densely punctate and with short pubescence.

Aedeagus (Fig. 9) similar to that of *R. monstrosipes* (SCHILLHAMMER, 2001) (Fig. 10), hardly differing in ventral (parameral) view, but with markedly pointed apex of median lobe in lateral view (Fig. 9b), somewhat more rounded parameral tip and more numerous peg setae on the paramere (Fig. 9c).

DIAGNOSIS: Externally, the new species is very similar to *R. monstrosipes* (Figs. 2, 6–8), but differs in the smaller body size, matter fore body, head with less dilated temples, slightly shorter and broader labrum, pronotum without specular patches (*R. monstrosipes*, Fig. 6), less dense elytral pubescence and shorter protibiae (*R. monstrosipes*, Fig. 8).

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

ETYMOLOGY: The species is named after the famous comic figure “Popeye the Sailor”. The protibiae of the new species strongly remind of Popeye’s massive fore arms.

Zusammenfassung

Eine neue Art der Gattung *Rhynchocheilus* SHARP, 1889 wird aus China (Yunnan) beschrieben: *R. popeye*. Die Art wird mit der nächstverwandten Art *R. monstrosipes* (SCHILLHAMMER, 2001) verglichen. Der Habitus beider Arten sowie morphologische Details und die Kopulationsorgane werden abgebildet.

Reference

SCHILLHAMMER, H. 2001: Studies on the *Eucibdelus* lineage: 1. *Trichocosmetes* Kraatz, *Sphaeromacrops* gen.n., *Guillaumius* gen.n., and *Rhynchocheilus* Sharp. – Koeopterologische Rundschau 71: 67–96.

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Zeitschrift/Journal: [Koleopterologische Rundschau](#)

Jahr/Year: 2025

Band/Volume: [95_2025](#)

Autor(en)/Author(s): Schillhammer Harald

Artikel/Article: [Rhynchocheilus popeye sp.n. from China \(Coleoptera: Staphylinidae: Staphylininae\) 83-87](#)