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A new species of *Sunius* CURTIS from China (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae, Paederinae)

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Abstract: *Sunius puetzi* sp.n. (China: Sichuan) is described, illustrated, and distinguished from the similar and closely related *S. cordiformis* ASSING.

Key words: Coleoptera, Staphylinidae, Paederinae, *Sunius*, Palearctic region, China, taxonomy, new species.

Introduction

The *Sunius* fauna of China is poorly known; for a discussion see ASSING (2002). Recently examined material of Palearctic Staphylinidae made available to me by Andreas Pütz, Eisenhüttenstadt, included two specimens of a new species from China, which is evidently closely related to *S. cordiformis* ASSING from Shaanxi and which is described below.

Sunius puetzi sp.n. (Figs 1-8)

Holotype ♂: China, W-Sichuan, Ya'an Pref., Tianquan Co., Jiajin Shan, valley above Labahe, / N. R. Station, 57 km W Ya'an, 30.06.63N, 102.25.18, light forest, 1800 m, 12.VII.1999, leg. A. Pütz / Holotypus ♂ *Sunius puetzi* sp.n. det. V. Assing 2002 (author's collection).

Paratype: 1♀: China, W-Sichuan, Ya'an Pref., Tianquan Co., Jiajin Shan, below Labahe, N. R. St., 54 km W Ya'an, 30.02.90N, 102.26.71, 1500 m, 12.VII.1999, leg. A. Pütz (author's collection).

Description: 4.7-5.5 mm. Body uniformly blackish; antennae, mouthparts, and legs dark brown to blackish brown.

Habitus as in Fig. 1. Head (Fig. 2) large in relation to pronotum, weakly oblong (length measured from anterior margin of clypeus, width across eyes); eyes large and prominent, almost as long as temples dorsal view; the latter weakly converging posteriad; puncturation coarse, well-defined, and rather dense, interstices (except for small median area) on average narrower than punctures; microsculpture absent in the middle, shallow traces present in lateral and posterior area. Anterior margin of labrum on either side of middle only with indistinct obtuse projection. Gular sutures partly indistinct, relatively narrowly separated.

Pronotum (Fig. 1) approximately as wide as long and as wide as head; puncturation similar to that of head; median line impunctate; microsculpture absent.

Elytra long and wide, approximately 1.25 times as wide and at suture 1.2 times as long as pronotum, slightly wider than abdomen (Fig. 1); puncturation much finer, denser, and less well-defined than that of head and pronotum; hind wings fully developed.

Abdomen with very fine and dense puncturation and with transverse microsculpture; maximal width at segments V-VI (Fig. 1); tergum VII at posterior margin with fully developed palisade fringe.

♂: sternite VII in posterior median area slightly flattened, posterior margin weakly concave in the middle (Fig. 3); posterior margin of sternite VIII with deep and relatively broad median incision (Fig. 4); aedeagus of distinctive morphology both in lateral and in ventral aspect (Figs 5-8).

Derivatio nominis: The species is dedicated to my friend Andreas Pütz, who collected the types.

Comparative notes: As can be inferred from the similar morphology of the male primary and secondary sexual characters, *S. puetzi* is closely related to *S. cordiformis* from Shaanxi and Beijing. It is distinguished from that species especially by the shape of the aedeagus, by the darker legs and antennae, and by the slightly longer elytra. For illustrations of the sexual characters of *S. cordiformis* see ASSING (2002).

Distribution and bionomics: The type localities are situated in western Sichuan, China. The types were collected at altitudes of 1500 and 1800, at least one of them in a forest.

Acknowledgement

I am most grateful to Andreas Pütz for the generous gift of the type material.

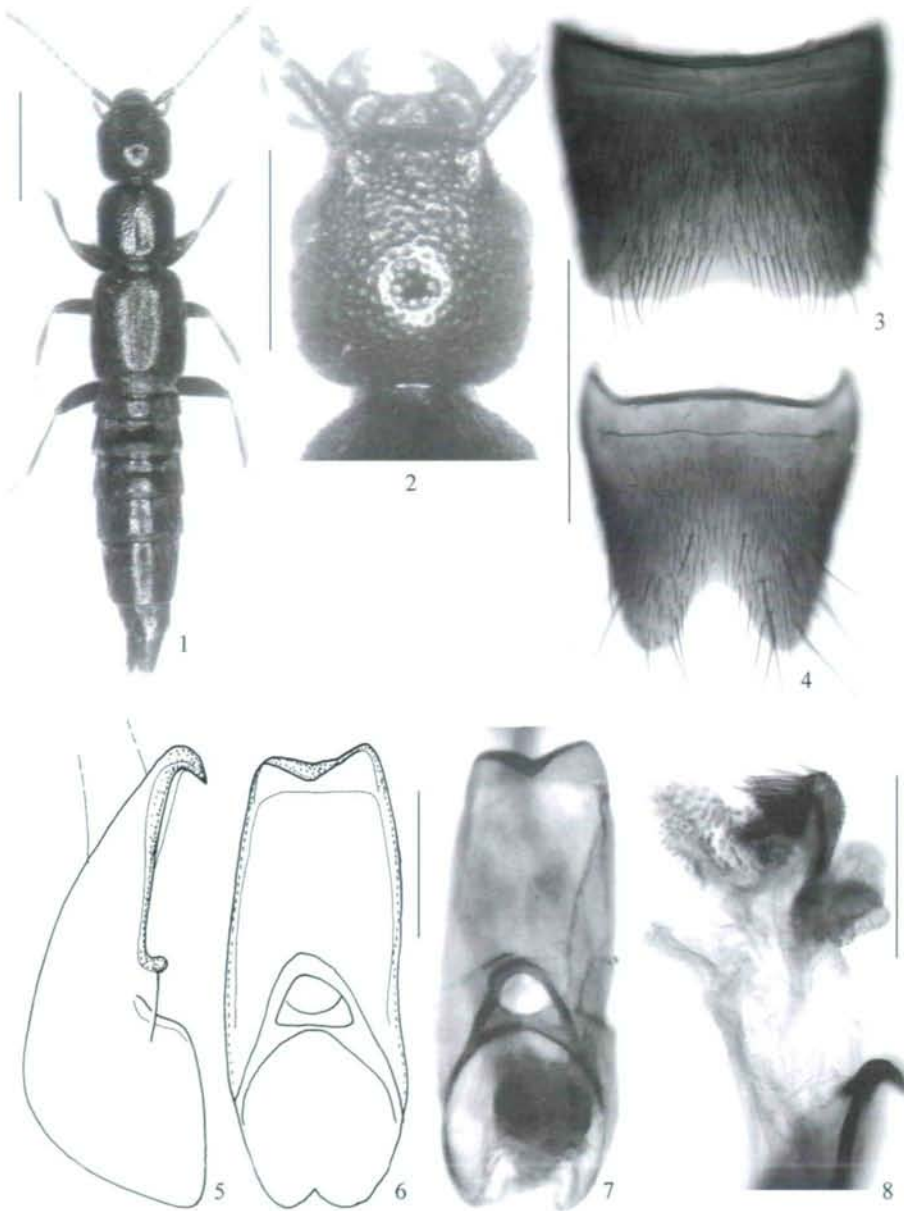
Zusammenfassung

Sunius puetzi sp.n. (China: Sichuan) wird beschrieben, abgebildet und von dem ähnlichen, nah verwandten *S. cordiformis* ASSING unterschieden.

Reference

ASSING V. 2002: New species of *Sunius* CURTIS from China and Iran (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae, Paederinae). — Linzer Biol. Beitr. 34 (1): 289-296.

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Figs 1-8: *Sunius puetzi* sp.n. (2-8: holotype): 1 – facies; 2 – head; 3 – ♂ sternite VII; 4 – ♂ sternite VIII; 5-7 – aedeagus in lateral and in ventral view; 8 – internal sac (extruded). Scale bars: 1: 1.0 mm; 2-4: 0.5 mm; 5-8: 0.2 mm.

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