

A new Tiger Beetle species from Sulawesi ¹⁾

(Coleoptera: Cicindelidae)

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Abstract: *Thopeutica (Pseudotherates) palapoensis* n. sp. is described. It is distinguished by the longitudinal striae between the eyes, its elytral maculation and the stout shape of the aedeagus.

Zusammenfassung: *Thopeutica (Pseudotherates) palapoensis* n. sp. wird beschrieben. Das Taxon ist durch die Längsfurchen zwischen den Augen, die Zeichnung auf den Flügeldecken und die Form des Aedeagus charakterisiert.

Key words: Tiger beetles, Cicindelidae, *Thopeutica*, *Pseudotherates*, new species, Sulawesi

Repeatedly the biodiversity of the island of Sulawesi reveals species new to science. From the most recent data, 117 tiger beetle species are known from Sulawesi, 4 % of the world's 2754 species. The genus *Thopeutica* is represented here with 38 species (58 % of all 65 species of this genus). The endemic subgenus *Pseudotherates* is represented by the following 18 species:

<i>guttula</i> (Fabricius, 1801)	Sulawesi Tengah, Tenggara.
<i>muna</i> Cassola, 1997	Sulawesi Tenggara.
<i>flavilabris</i> (W. Horn, 1913)	Sulawesi Utara, Tengah.
<i>viridimetallica</i> (W. Horn, 1934)	Sulawesi Tenggara.
<i>paluensis</i> Cassola, 1991	Sulawesi Tengah.
<i>pseudopaluensis</i> Sawada & Wiesner, 1994	Sulawesi Tengah.
<i>afonini</i> Matalin, 1998	Sulawesi Tengah.
<i>alexanderriedeli</i> Werner & Wiesner, 1999	Sulawesi Barat, Tengah.

¹⁾ 115. Contribution towards the knowledge of *Cicindelidae*.

<i>punctipennis</i> (Jordan, 1894)	Sulawesi Utara.
<i>parva</i> Cassola, 1991	Sulawesi Selatan, Tengah.
<i>luwuk</i> Cassola, 1991	Sulawesi Tengah.
<i>albapicalis</i> (W. Horn, 1892)	Sulawesi Utara, Tengah, Selatan, Tenggara.
<i>apiceflava</i> Cassola, 1991	Sulawesi Tengah, Selatan.
<i>beccarii</i> Cassola, 1991	Sulawesi Tenggara.
<i>djufriana</i> Matalin, 1998	Sulawesi Tengah.
<i>hiro</i> Cassola, 1991	Sulawesi Selatan.
<i>theratoides</i> (Schaum, 1861)	Sulawesi Utara, Tengah.
<i>gerstmeieri</i> Werner & Wiesner 1997	Sulawesi Tengah.

Recently Igor OVSYANNIKOV, of Espoo, Finland, sent me several specimens of *Thoeputica* (*Pseudotherates*) collected at Palopo Pass, Sulawesi Selatan, that proved to be previously undescribed.

***Thoeputica* (*Pseudotherates*) *palopoensis* n. sp.**
(figs 1 – 6)

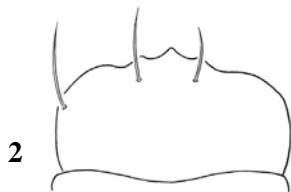
Material examined: Holotype ♂ INDONESIA, S Sulawesi, Puncak Palopo, iii.2013, in coll. WIESNER (later SMNS, Staatliches Museum für Naturkunde, Stuttgart); paratype (1 ♀), same locality, in coll. Igor OVSYANNIKOV, Espoo, Finland.

Diagnosis: *Th. palopoensis* is similar to *Th. gerstmeieri* from Sulawesi Tengah. Both have, unlike the other members of the subgenus, four labral seta, not six or more. This new species has longitudinal striae on the interocular carina, which are smooth in *gerstmeieri*. There are large bright yellow elytral dots on the elytra in the new species, while the dots are small or extinctly and rufescent in *gerstmeieri*. The aedeagus of *palopoensis* is more slender than that of *gerstmeieri*. Body size of *Th. palopoensis* is larger than that of *gerstmeieri*.

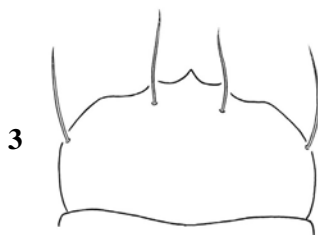
Description: Head shining black violet with green reflections; glabrous, with four sensorial setae near the eyes. Clypeus smooth, frons finely striated, strongly striated longitudinally between eyes. Labrum (figs 2–3) testaceous, transverse, feebly tridentate in the middle, with four setae. Mandibles rufescent, darkened on teeth. Palpi testaceous. Antennae dark brown, Basal segment of antennae and following three joints rufescent, remainder dark brown. When extended back, the antennae almost reach



1

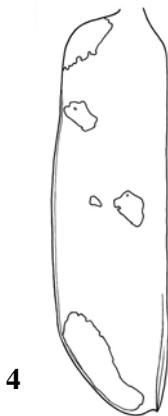


2



3

Figs 1–3: *Thopeutica (Pseudotherrates) palopoensis* n. sp.: 1) habitus holotype male; 2) labrum holotype male; 3) labrum paratype female. Scale = 1 mm



4



5



6

Figs 4–6: *Thopeutica (Pseudotherrates) palopoensis* n. sp.: 4) right elytron, holotype male, 5) right elytron, paratype female; 6) aedeagus holotype male. Scales = 1 mm

half way back on the elytra in the ♂, shorter in the ♀. Basal joint and following three nearly bare, the remainder finely and even pubescent. Pronotum somewhat longer than wide, rounded at sides, globose on disc, smooth, glabrous, shining black violet. ♀ mesepisterna with broad longitudinal groove. Elytra are somewhat wider than the eyes, slightly rounded at the sides, reduced at the sutural apex, with a small sutural spine. Ground color of elytra rufescent, with a small dull black smudge beyond the yellow posthumeral spot and a larger dull black patch in the apical part above the yellow apical spot. Elytral yellow markings (figs 4–5) comprising a large humeral dot, a large posthumeral spot, a large discal dot with some tiny spots and a large subapical spot. Epipleura testaceous. Abdominal sternites rufescent. Legs rufescent, tarsal segments darkened at the apex. Aedeagus (fig. 6) 2,7 mm long, narrow, straight, elongate. Total length (without labrum) 10,0–11,0 mm, mean 10,5 mm.

Etymology: This new *Thopeutica*-species is named after the site from which it was collected, Puncak Palopo.

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