A THIRD SPECIES OF STEREOPALPUS (COLEOPTERA: ANTHICIDAE: EURYGENIINAE) FROM CHINA*

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Eurygenius asiaticus Pic has been transferred to *Stereopalpus* Ferte-Senectere and a new combination has been proposed. The holotype of *S. asiaticus* (Pic), deposited in the Paris Museum collection, has been described and compared with other species. A key to the three Chinese species is given.

Introduction

Dr. Guy Colas of the Museum National d' Histoire Naturelle, Paris, kindly allowed me to examine the holotype of *Stereopalpus asiaticus* (Pic). The species keys out to the *rufipes* group and to the Nearctic species *S. rufipes* Casey in my key (Abdullah, 1964a). The female of *S. asiaticus* is not known but the male differs from *S. rufipes* as follows.

Tegmen stout, median apical sulcus long and distinct; China—*S. asiaticus* (Pic)

Tegmen moderate, median apical sulcus short (Ref. 1, figs. 83-84); Eastern U.S.A. and South-eastern Canada—*S. rufipes* Casey

The *rufipes* group resembles the *centroasiaticus* group (*S. afghanicus* from Afghanistan and *S. centroasiaticus* from Turkestan) closely. The median lobe is shorter in *S. asiaticus* (Fig. 2) and *S. rufipes* (Ref. 1, Fig. 85) than in *S. afghanicus* (Kaszab) (Ref. 2, Fig. 9) or in *S. centroasiaticus* (Semenow).

There are two previously recognized Chinese species of *Stereopalpus*, namely, *S. chinensis* Abdullah and *S. minutus* Pic. In the shape of the tegmen and most other features *S. asiaticus* is more similar to *S. chinensis* than any other species of *Stereopalpus*. But since the elytra are maculate and the vestiture dimorphic in the former, the species does not key out to the *chinensis* group in my key (Ref. 1, p. 32). However, the degree of development of the elytral spots is a variable character in this genus and, for example, in *S. californicus* Abdullah (Ref. 1, p. 38) the maculations may be prominent to nearly absent. I am, therefore, placing *S. asiaticus* in my *chinensis* group. The three Chinese species could be distinguished with the help of the following key.

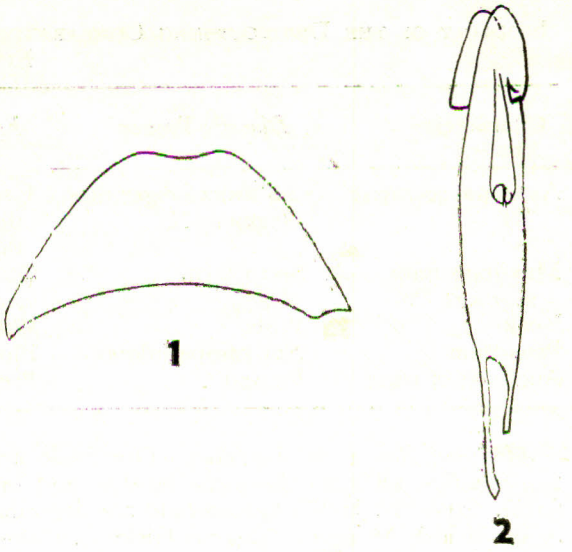
Key to the Chinese species of *Stereopalpus*

1. Vestiture uniform, elytra immaculate—2
   Vestiture dimorphic elytra maculate —*S. asiaticus* (Pic) Abdullah, **comb. nov.**
2. In the male, tegmen stout, with a pair of ventral ridges (Ref. 1, Fig. 16); seventh abdominal sternite nearly entire (Ref. 1, Fig. 12)—*S. chinensis* Abdullah.

   In the male, tegmen narrow, without ridges (Abdullah, 1964a, Fig. 59); seventh abdominal sternite distinctly emarginate (Ref. 1, Fig. 56)— *S. minutus* Pic

Description

Stereopalpus asiaticus (Pic). Abdullah, **new combination**.



Figs, 1 and 2.—*Stereopolpus asiaticus* (Pic) Abdullah, holotype, male: Fig. 1, seventh sternite, Fig. 2, median lobe, ventral view.

Eurygenius asiaticus Pic, 1942, p. 12, Echange Num. Spec. (Opusc. mart. VIII).

Holotype.—Male (author's no. 427), China: Tatsienlu-Kiulung (Reitter), in the Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris, France.

*Publication number 61 on the Coleoptera.

Colour.—Black; elytra with microscopic white maculations; eyes dark brown; mandibles reddish-brown sub-apically; tibiae and tarsi light brown to piceous.

Vestiture.—Pubescence consisting of short, decumbent, sparsely, generally distributed brown hairs on body; dimorphic on elytra with a few white hairs responsible for weak elytral maculations, especially towards apex.

Head.—Nearly as wide across eyes as across tempora, nearly as wide here as pronotum at its widest part.

Thorax.—Pronotum deeply sulcate medially. Hind-wing with cross-vein between 2d A_2 and $2dA_3$ incomplete, between 3d A_1 and 3d A_2 absent.

Abdomen.—Seventh sternite emarginate at apex (Fig. 1). Seventh tergite entire at apex. Eighth sternite entire at apex. Eighth tergite entire at apex. Aedeagus with tegmen ventral, median lobe dorsal in orientation. Tegmen stout, apex tapering; median apical sulcus long, distinct; a pair of lateral ridges visible on ventral surface; spines irregularly distributed dorsolaterally sub-apically to near middle; basal-piece short (artificially damaged in the specimen). Median lobe with sub-apically, basally serrate cuticular blades; median struts short (Fig. 2).

Measurements in mm.—Total length 7. Antennal length: total 2.74; segments I-XI: 0.32, 0.18, 0.28, 0.28, 0.24, 0.24, 0.24, 0.24, 0.21, 0.21 and 0.30 respectively. Maxillary palp: total 0.82; segments I-IV: 0.04, 0.24, 0.12 and 0.42 respectively. Head: width across eyes 1.26; minimum dorsal interocular distance 0.60. Pronotum: length 1.20; width at apex 0.66; maximum width 1.24; width at base 1.15. Elytron: length 4.5; maximum width 1.40. Front tarsus: total 1.08; segments I-V: 0.36, 0.18, 0.12, 0.06 and 0.36 respectively. Middle tarsus: total 1.22; segments I-V: 0.42, 0.21, 0.17, 0.06 and 0.36 respectively. Hind tarsus: total 1.53; segments I-IV: 0.72, 0.30, 0.15 and 0.36 respectively. Hind tibial spur 0.16.

References

1. M. Abdullah, Opusc. ent., **30,** 25 (1964 a).
2. M. Abdullah, Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist., **13(7),** 385 (1964 b).