

One new species of the genus *Neotriplax* (Coleoptera: Erotylidae) from China

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Abstract

One new species of the genus *Neotriplax* Lewis (Coleoptera: Erotylidae), *N. minima* **sp. nov.**, from China is described in this paper. It can be distinguished from *N. arisana* Miwa by body length less than 4.0mm, head black with basal area brown, sparsely punctured; posterior border of pronotum strongly narrowed backwards, with a narrow lobe in the middle. Compound eye, stridulatory file, terminal segment of antenna and maxillary palpus are illustrated as scanning electron micrographs. Type specimens are deposited in the Museum of Hebei University, China.

Key words: Coleoptera, Erotylidae, *Neotriplax*, new species, China

Introduction

Erotylidae are a medium-sized and diverse family with about 125 genera and 2500 described species worldwide (McHugh 2001). Species are more diverse in the tropics than in the temperate regions (Essig 1942). This family is characterised by antennae with 11 segments, apical 3 to 4 segments transverse and forming a club; closed procoxal cavities; tarsal formula 5–5–5, with segment 4 usually reduced (Goodrich & Skelley 1993; Zheng & Gui 1999). Many species are important fungus-eaters. Some inhabit dead wood and others live in fungi.

The genus *Neotriplax* was established by Lewis for *Neotriplax atrata* Lewis, 1887. To date, seven species in this genus have been described worldwide (Hope 1831; Lacordaire 1842; Crotch 1873; Lewis 1887; Miwa 1929; Nakane 1961 & 1966; Chûjô 1936 & 1969; Arrow 1925), with three in Japan: *N. atrata* Lewis, 1887, *N. delkeskampi*, Nakane 1961 and *N. lewisii* (Crotch, 1873); one in Java: *N. melanostomus* (Lacordaire, 1842), and three