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***Geoparnus loebli*, a new species of terrestrial dryopid from Peninsular Malaysia (Coleoptera: Dryopidae)**

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Abstract

Three species have been recognized in the genus *Geoparnus* Besuchet, 1978, all collected by sifting ground debris from tropical rainforests of Malaysia. The new species *Geoparnus loebli* **sp. nov.** is described; morphological similarities to known species *G. setifer* Besuchet, 1978 and *G. rhinoceros* Kodada, Jäch, Čiampor Jr & Čiamporová-Zaťovičová, 2007 are discussed. Habitus of adult, male and female genitalia as well as other diagnostic characters are illustrated.

Key words: Coleoptera, Dryopidae, *Geoparnus*, new species, Malaysia

Introduction

Only four terrestrial dryopid genera are known from the Oriental region, *Monstrosostea* Kodada & Boukal, 2000 from India, *Spalacosostea* Kodada, 1996 from Sumatra and Borneo, *Sostea* Pascoe, 1860 with numerous species mainly distributed in tropical and subtropical Asian forests and *Geoparnus* Besuchet from Peninsular Malaysia and Borneo. From the adjacent Australian region there are two genera of terrestrial Dryopidae recorded which are confined to New Zealand (*Parnida* Broun, 1880) and New Caledonia (*Drylichus* Heller, 1916) Kodada & Jäch 2005, Kodada 1996, Kodada & Boukal 2000, Kodada *et al.* 2007.

Currently, two species of the genus *Geoparnus* Besuchet have been described. The type species *G. setifer* Besuchet from the Cameron Highlands and *G. rhinoceros* Kodada, Jäch, Čiampor Jr & Čiamporová-Zaťovičová from Borneo (Besuchet 1978, Kodada *et al.* 2007). All *Geoparnus* are wingless and characterized by a very compact, convex and heavily sclerotized body with meso- and metaventrites extremely short, surface with conspicuous stiff setae with an enlarged multifurcated apex as well as all species possess similar types of antennal sensilla. Specimens were collected by sifting ground debris with leaf litter, decaying wood and other plant material accumulated near large trees. Generally the terrestrial Dryopidae are rarely collected and descriptions of several species are usually based on a single type specimen. The exception is *G. rhinoceros* with nearly 400 specimens collected and *G. setifer* in which the type material consists of three specimens. Our examination of the material sampled by Ivan Löbl (Genève) from Peninsular Malaysia has revealed a third species new to science.

Material, methods and abbreviations

To study morphology in detail, specimens were relaxed in warm water with several drops of acetic acid, cleaned from dirt and secretions and then disarticulated. The abdomens were cleared in cold lactic acid for several days and were washed in distilled water; genitalia were later dissected. The body parts were studied under a Leica DM1000 microscope as temporary glycerol slides at magnifications up to 630×. Dry preparations of specimens were