



Taxonomy and distribution of *Sternotrigon* Skopin in China (Coleoptera, Tenebrionidae)

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Abstract

Sternotrigon Skopin is reviewed. One new species, *Sternotrigon albipulis* **sp. nov.**, is described and *Sternotrigon zichyi* Csiki, 1901 is newly recorded in China. A key to the species of *Sternotrigon* is included. Species of *Sternotrigon* are divided into two distributional types: an Inner Asian and Mongolian tableland type; the distribution pattern is briefly described. The type and other materials examined are deposited in the Museum of Hebei University (MHBU), Baoding, China.

Key words: Tenebrionidae, *Sternotrigon*, biogeography, new species, China

Introduction

Sternotrigon is a small tenebrionid genus proposed by Skopin (1973), with *Trigonoscelis setosa* Bates, 1879 as the type species, it is assigned to the tribe Pimeliini. Before our study, this genus included seven species and one subspecies: Reitter (1893, 1907) described two species, and Faldermann (1835), Bates (1879), Frivaldszky (1889), Cisiki (1901), Kaszab (1964b) and Skopin (1973) each described one species; all occur in China, Inner Asia, and Mongolia. Six species are found in China, from Gansu, Ningxia, Inner Mongolia, and Xinjiang. While examining tenebrionid specimens deposited in the Museum of Hebei University, we found a species of *Sternotrigon* new to science, and a species newly recorded in China. We conclude with an examination of the distribution pattern of the genus, according to specimen data and the literature (Reitter 1887, 1889, 1893, 1907; Kaszab 1964a, 1964b, 1967; Skopin 1973).

Material and methods

Male specimens were relaxed in warm water (60°C), cleaned for five minutes with ultrasonic cleaning (KQ118), and then the aedeagus was dissected. Observations and drawings were done under a compound microscope (Nikon K-800). The photos were taken with a digital camera (Fujifilm F700). The type material and other specimens examined are deposited in the Museum of Hebei University (MHBU), Baoding, China. Arcview 3.2 was used to build the distributional map (Fig. 85) based on georeferenced localities drawn from museum specimens and the literature.

Taxonomy

Genus *Sternotrigon* Skopin, 1973

Sternotrigon Skopin, 1973: 109.

Type species: *Trigonoscelis setosa* Bates, 1879.