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Description of two new species of the genus *Tmesiphodimerus* gen. n. (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae: Pselaphinae) from South Asia

ZI-WEI YIN¹, GEORGES COULON² & LI-ZHEN LI^{1,3}

¹Department of Biology, College of Life and Environmental Sciences, Shanghai Normal University, Shanghai, 200234, P. R. China

²4053 Manitoba Avenue, Powell River, BC, V8A 2W9, Canada

³Corresponding author. E-mail: pselaphinae@gmail.com

Abstract

Tmesiphodimerus Coulon and Yin, **new genus** (Pselaphitae: Tmesiphorini) is proposed for *T. sinensis* Yin and Coulon, **new species** from Hainan, South China (type species), and *T. malaysianus* Coulon and Yin, **new species** from Perak, West Malaysia. The new taxa are described, with their major diagnostic features illustrated. The taxonomic placement of *Tmesiphodimerus* is discussed.

Key words: Staphylinidae, Pselaphinae, taxonomy, *Tmesiphodimerus*, new genus, new species, China, Malaysia

Introduction

The tribe Tmesiphorini Jeannel, 1949 currently contains 29 extant genera worldwide (Newton & Chandler 1989, Chandler 2001, Hlaváč & Chandler 2005, Yin *et al.* 2013), and one extinct genus, *Tmesiphoroides* Motschulsky, 1856, of doubtful status. Members of Tmesiphorini are primarily defined and separated from those of the other tribes of the Pselaphitae by the presence of U-shaped or C-shaped setose sulci that partially encircle the bases of antennal insertions (except in *Jardine* Chandler, 2001), coupled with the deep looped notch of metaventral apex, and the often arcuate protibiae after Chandler (2001).

Among the pselaphines recently collected during an expedition in South China, and those deposited in the Natural History Museum of Geneva, two species were found to possess a unique form of the subantennal setose sulci—each sulcus is divided into two branches by a smooth ocular plate above the eyes. Both species are recognized as new, and represent a new genus of the Tmesiphorini which is proposed and described herein.

Material and methods

The following acronyms are used in the text to indicate the institutions where the material used in this study is deposited:

MHNG Muséum d'histoire naturelle de la Ville de Genève, Switzerland (Giulio Cuccodoro)

SNUC The Insect Collection of Shanghai Normal University, Shanghai, China (Zi-Wei Yin)

The collection data of the referred material are quoted verbatim. A slash (/) is used to separate lines on the same label, and a double slash (//) is used to separate different labels. All type material bear the following label: 'HOLOTYPE [red] or PARATYPE [yellow] / [genus name, species name] / sp. n., [authors of the species] / det. 2013'. The depository is indicated after the collection data of the respective species.

Measurements are in millimeters. The following abbreviations are applied: **AL**—length of the abdomen along the midline; **AW**—maximum width of the abdomen; **EL**—length of the elytra along the sutural line; **EW**—