



## Notes on synonymy of *Diartiger* Sharp with *Microdiartiger* Sawada (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae: Pselaphinae), with description of two new species from East China

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### Abstract

The relationship of the clavigerite genera *Diartiger* Sharp and *Microdiartiger* Sawada is discussed, and the synonymy of the two genera proposed by Besuchet (1986) is followed. This results in two new combinations: *D. thinhi* (Nomura), **comb. n.** and *D. songxiaobini* (Yin & Li), **comb. n.** Two new species, *D. dentatus* Yin & Li, **sp. n.** and *D. yaoluopingensis* Yin & Li, **sp. n.** are described from Anhui, East China, and new locality data for *D. songxiaobini* from Anhui and Jiangxi is provided. The new species and *D. songxiaobini* from Anhui were simultaneously collected from colonies of *Lasius* sp. nesting under stones. The *Diartiger* species are newly placed in two groups: the *D. japonicus*-group and the *D. fossulatus*-group. A key is provided to assist in identification of the *Diartiger* species from China.

**Key words:** Clavigeritae, taxonomy, *Diartiger*, *Microdiartiger*, synonym, new species, new combination, myrmecophily, *Lasius*, Asia

### Introduction

Four species of the genus *Diartiger* Sharp of the pselaphine supertribe Clavigeritae are currently known: *D. fossulatus* Sharp (with nine subspecies), *D. spinipes* Sharp, *D. kubotai* Nomura from Japan, and *D. kunmingensis* Nomura from China (Nomura 1997, 2012; Nomura & Lee 1992, 1993). *Diartiger* was either placed close to *Microdiartiger* Sawada by sharing the similar structures of the antennae, and the elytral and abdominal trichomes (Sawada 1964, Nomura 2007), or treated as a senior synonym of the latter (Besuchet 1986, Nomura 1997).

Members of *Diartiger* are known inquiline of a number of ant species scattered in the genera *Lasius*, *Paratrechina*, and *Formica* (Nomura 1997, 2012). During a recent expedition (June, 2013) to the Yaoluoping Natural Reserve by our colleagues Cong-Chao Dai and Zhong Peng, more than 180 clavigerite specimens were collected from five colonies of a *Lasius* sp. nesting under stones on the ground. Among this material, two new species of *Diartiger* and a small series of *D. songxiaobini* Yin & Li (transferred from *Microdiartiger* in the present study), originally described from the Tianmushan Mountain in Zhejiang Province, were recognized. The relationship of *Diartiger* with *Microdiartiger* is discussed based on the newly collected material. The synonymy of the two genera proposed by Besuchet (1986) is followed, and two new combinations are established. The new *Diartiger* species are described, and representatives of the genus are placed in two groups. Additional data of a single specimen of *D. songxiaobini* from Jiangxi is also provided. An identification key to males of *Diartiger* from China is included.

### Material and methods

The material treated in the present study is housed in the Insect Collection of Shanghai Normal University, Shanghai, China (SNUC)

All type specimens bear the following label: 'HOLOTYPE [red] or PARATYPE [yellow] / [genus name, species name] / sp. n., [authors of the species] / det. 2013, SNUC'.