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Two new species of *Mesostrix* Mazur, 1994 (Coleoptera: Histeridae) from Southeast Asia

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Introduction

The genus *Mesostrix* Mazur, 1994 was erected to include a single species, *M. pentatoma* Mazur, 1994. It was originally placed within the tribe Platysomatini (Mazur, 1994: 46) as occupying an intermediate position between *Eblisia* and *Platysoma*. Subsequently, Ôhara & Mazur (2002: 20; Figs. 10A–F, 11A–F) redescribed the genus, providing additional characters separating the genus from other members of the tribe and giving a detailed description and figures of external and internal morphology of the type species, *M. pentatoma*. Most recently Mazur & Ôhara, 2009: 247) placed *Mesostrix* in the “Platysoma-section” of the tribe Platysomatini, having a longitudinal carina on the mesocoxa such as that found in the genera of this section. Among these genera the outwardly projected anterior pronotal margin and the presence of two metaventral depressions are also distinctive for the genus.

The aims of this paper are to describe two new species of *Mesostrix* and provide an identification key for all known species. *Mesostrix* is thus now composed of the three species, with a known distribution in Indonesia (Sulawesi: *M. nigropyga*, *M. pentatoma*) and Malaysia (Sarawak: *M. bimaculata*). Nothing is known about the biology and ecology of the species.

Dried specimens were placed in water and boiled for 30 minutes in order to study the genitalia. The specimens were glued to a sheet of paper and the sex was verified by pulling the pygidium. The pygidial segments were separated from the rest of the body, and the genitalia were subsequently removed. Digital photographs were taken by a Nikon D 7000 camera and edited in Corel Draw 12. When specimen date is quoted directly, separate lines of the same label are marked by a single slash (/); separate labels are marked by a double slash (//). The following acronyms for collections and morphological measurements are used in the text:

CHLE	L. Erbeling collection, Plettenberg, Germany
CHSM	S. Mazur collection, Warsaw, Poland
MNE	Museum für Naturkunde, Erfurt, Germany
MSNG	Museo Civico di Storia Naturale “Giacomo Doria”, Genova, Italy
PE	length from the anterior pronotal margin to the elytral apex (0.1–1.0) distance between punctures measured by their diameters

Taxonomy

Mesostrix bimaculata sp. n.

(Figs. 1a–e)

Type locality. Malaysia: Sarawak: Long Lihau.

Type material examined. Holotype, ♂: [Malaysia] Borneo: Sarawak / Belaga-Distr. Long Lihau / 17.- 21.3.1990; leg. A. Riedel (printed); // Holotype (red label, printed) // *Mesostrix bimaculata* sp. n / Det. S. Mazur, 2013 (white label, printed) (MNSG). Paratype, ♀: same data as holotype (CHSM).

Etymology. The name of this species refers to its completely black pygidial segments.

Distribution. Known only from N Sulawesi, Indonesia.

Differential diagnosis. See following key.

Key to the species of the genus *Mesostrix*

- 1 Elytra with red maculae. Pygidium with elevated margin *M. bimaculata* **sp. n.**
- Elytra without maculae. Pygidial margin not elevated 2
- 2 Fourth dorsal stria abbreviated basally. Pygidial segments reddish *M. pentatoma* Mazur
- Fourth dorsal stria complete basally. Pygidial segments black. *M. nigropyga* **sp. n.**

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