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A new species of soft-winged flower beetles of the genus *Platybaeus* Wittmer, 1995 (Coleoptera, Cleroidea, Malachiidae) from Philippines

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Abstract

A new malachiid species of the genus *Platybaeus* Wittmer is described: *P. quirinicus* sp. n., from the Sierra Madre mountain range in Quirino province, Luzon Island, Philippines. Figures of male habitus, elytral apical third profile, genitalia, and a map showing the type locality are given for the new species. A determination key to the 3 species belonging to *Platybaeus* is also provided.

Key words: Coleoptera, Malachiidae, *Platybaeus*, new species, Luzon, Sierra Madre mountain range, Quirino, Philippines

Introduction

The genus *Platybaeus* Wittmer, 1995 was described as monotypical for a peculiar species of Ebaeini found in China. The main diagnostic characters were the lack of male secondary sexual structures at elytral apices the distinctly impressed elytral apical slope, an undivided apical tergite and the presence of a comb on the second segment of the anterior tarsi. Particularly the latter two characters differentiate *Platybaeus* from the closely related genera *Epiebaeus* Wittmer, 1996 and *Holtzschuhus* Wittmer, 1996.

The type species of the genus, *Platybaeus bellulus* Wittmer, 1995, was described from Weishan in Yunnan Province of China; four years later a second species, *P. kubani* Wittmer, 1999, was recorded from a different part of Yunnan, Henguan Mountains (Fig. 8). At the beginning of 2014 I purchased a batch of soft-winged flower beetles from the Philippines. Amongst other materials, five specimens of a new species of *Platybaeus* were found, the description of which is the aim of this paper. This is the first record of *Platybaeus* outside of China.

Platybaeus quirinicus sp. n., from Philippines, differs from the two other known *Platybaeus* species for the peculiar apical tergite: stretched and apically X-shaped, and the narrow and strongly emarginated apical sternite. These differences being rather important, a doubt remains about the possible creation of a new subgenus for it.

Male genitalia have been mounted, embedded in DMHF (Dimethylhydantoin-Formaldehyde), onto a transparent card which has been pinned under the specimen. All material studied is deposited in the author's collection, deposited in the Institute of Animal Systematics and Ecology, Siberian Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Novosibirsk, Russia (SCH).

Platybaeus quirinicus Tshernyshev, 2015 sp. n.

(Figs. 1–7)

Type material. Holotype, male: “Philippines: Luzon Island Cagayan Valley Quirino province, Sierra Madre mountain range, 16°17'N 121°35'E, March 2014”—printed label on white paper, “Holotypus *Platybaeus quirinicus* Tshernyshev, sp.n.”—printed label on red paper. Paratypes, same labeling but “March-May 2014”, 2 ♂ and 2 ♀ (SCH).

1. *P. bellulus* Wittmer, 1995 (China: Yunnan, Weishan City environs) (Fig. 8, triangle).
2. *P. kubani* Wittmer, 1999 (China: Yunnan, Hengduan Mts., Meili) (Fig. 8, circle).
3. *P. quirinicus* Tshernyshev, 2015 **sp. n.** (Philippines: Luzon, Sierra Madre mountain range) (Fig. 7, asterisk).

Key to the species of the genus *Platybaeus* Wittmer

1. Pronotum uniformly orange, elytra almost completely black or orange, legs yellow, sometimes with slightly darkened tibiae and tarsi 2
- Only lateral sides of pronotum orange, elytra black with straw slopes and orange-yellow apices, intermediate and posterior legs black with anterior legs yellow with narrow black stripes above (Philippines: Luzon) *quirinicus* Tshernyshev, **sp. n.**
2. Antennae and elytra uniformly black, legs yellow, intermediate and posterior tibiae and tarsi darkened (China: Yunnan)
- Antennomeres 1–4 and base of 5th antennal segment orange, the remainder black; elytra almost completely orange with black stripes at base and near suture and two black elongate spots in the middle; legs yellow with posterior femora basally black (China: Yunnan) *bellulus* Wittmer, 1995
- Antennomeres 1–4 and base of 5th antennal segment orange, the remainder black; elytra almost completely orange with black stripes at base and near suture and two black elongate spots in the middle; legs yellow with posterior femora basally black (China: Yunnan) *kubani* Wittmer, 1999

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