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Two new species of the genus *Platambus* Thomson, 1859 from China (Coleoptera: Dytiscidae, Agabinae)

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Abstract

One new species of the genus *Platambus* Thomson, 1859 from Ganzi Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, Sichuan Province (*P. brancuccii* **sp. n.**) and one from Chengdu, Sichuan Province (*P. korgei* **sp. n.**) are described. They belong to the *Platambus semenowi*-group sensu Nilsson (2000). Important species characters (median lobes and colour patterns) of the two new species are figured, and notes on their distribution are given. Altogether seven species of the *semenowi*-group are now known from higher mountain regions in Central Asia, northern India, Nepal, Bhutan, Pakistan and China. Six of them are illustrated with habitus photos and a modified key to all species of the *semenowi*-group is presented.

Key words: Coleoptera, Dytiscidae, Agabinae, *Platambus*, China, new species

Introduction

The dytiscid genus *Platambus* Thomson, 1859 of the tribe Agabini contains 62 rheophilic species that are restricted to the Nearctic, Palaearctic and Oriental regions (Brancucci 1988, 2005; Hájek & Brancucci 2006; Nilsson 1995, 2003, 2015 and Wewalka & Brancucci 1995). In the last 20 years extensive collections of aquatic beetles have been made in China by various European and Chinese collectors and revealed steadily new and undescribed dytiscid species. In 1995 and 2012 the authors obtained from Czech colleagues a few specimens of two *Platambus* species of the *semenowi*-group sensu Nilsson (2000), formerly listed in the subgenus *Anagabus* Jakovlev, 1897. Nilsson (2000) synonymised *Anagabus* with *Platambus* and stated species-group instead of them. We agree with Hájek & Brancucci (2006) that *Anagabus* (*semenowi*-group) should represent a monophyletic taxon within the genus *Platambus*. This status is supported by two apomorphies: (1) reduced setal row at posterolateral angle of metafemur; (2) distinct pronoto-elytral angle.

The aims of this paper are to describe two new species of the *semenowi*-group from Central China and to present a new key for the group. Except of *P. striatus* (Zeng & Pu, 1992), where no specimens were available for study, all species are illustrated with colour photos of the habitus. At present, 24 species of the genus *Platambus* are known from China (Nilsson 2015, Nilsson & Hájek 2015).

Material and methods

Beetles were studied with a Leica MZ 12.5 microscope at 10–100x. Photographs of the habitus were taken with a Nikon SMZ1000 on bellows attached to a Canon EOS50D camera; an image stack was produced, aligned and combined with Helicon Focus 4.77™ software (www.heliconsoft.com).

Male median lobes and parameres were studied wet in a temporary glycerine mount, using a Leica transmitted light microscope at magnifications of up to 40–180×; the genitalia were subsequently washed in distilled water and mounted in 2,5-dimethyl-4-hydroxy-3(2H)-furanone (DMHF) on the same card as the beetle. Photos of the male

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yellowish bands on elytron obscure and narrower . . . . . *P. brancuccii* **sp. n.** (Figs 5, 6, 7, 9)

- Pronotum less cordiform, sides almost straight before posteriors angles. Anterior angles of pronotum broadly yellowish. Longitudinal yellowish bands on elytron clear and broader . . . . . *P. sogdianus* (Jakovlev, 1897) (Figs 3, 13)

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