

Description of a new species of *Paratropus* Gerstaecker, 1867 (Coleoptera: Histeridae) from Vietnam

Описание нового вида *Paratropus* Gerstaecker, 1867 (Coleoptera: Histeridae) из Вьетнама

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КЛЮЧЕВЫЕ СЛОВА: Coleoptera, Histeridae, Exosternini, *Paratropus fedorenkoi*, новый вид, Вьетнам.

ABSTRACT. Description of new species of clown-beetles, *Paratropus fedorenkoi* sp. n. from southern Vietnam, is given. The description based on a single female specimen collected by window traps.

РЕЗЮМЕ. Описывается новый вид *Paratropus fedorenkoi* sp. n. из южного Вьетнама. Описание базируется на одном экземпляре (самке), собранной оконными ловушками.

Introduction

The myrmecophilous and termitophilous genus *Paratropus* Gerstaecker, 1867 is distributed in tropical forests and savannas of Africa and Oriental Region. The genus comprises 84 described species, including only eleven Oriental species [Kanaar, 1997, 2004; Mazur, 2011]. Numerous African *Paratropus* specimens were collected in decaying substrates and even were attracted to lights, but a substantial part of species known only from few specimens and requires specific collecting methods. Many species are hard to distinguish, especially without examination of male genitalia. This paper is based unique female specimen, which however noticeably differs from rest species of the genus. During expedition sponsored by Russian-Vietnamese Tropical Centre were collected numerous uncommon and undescribed histerids including this new *Paratropus* species. Measurements are abbreviated as follows: L — total length of pronotum and elytra, without head, propygidium and pygidium, Lp — pronotal length, Le — length of elytron along elytral suture, Wpb — pronotal width across base, We — elytral width across humeri, H — distance from metaventricle to maximal high of elytra, measured in lateral position.

Genus *Paratropus* Gerstaecker, 1867

Paratropus fedorenkoi Sokolov, sp.n.

Figs 1–3.

MATERIAL. Holotype, ♀, labeled: “S Vietnam, 120 km NNE Ho Chi Minh, env. Cat Tien Nat. Park h=150-170m. 19.05.18.06.2005 leg. D. Fedorenko Ок.л. 2 / HOLOTYPE *Paratropus fedorenkoi* sp. n. A. Sokolov des. 2019.” Holotype is deposited in author’s collection.

DESCRIPTION. Habitus as illustrated (Figs 1–2). L=3.6 mm, We= 2.9 mm, H=2.0 mm. Body broadly oval, strongly convex. Colour reddish brown, darker along sutures, shiny, legs and antennae ferruginous. Dorsal surface smooth, very feeble punctures visible at 60X magnification only. Head (Fig. 3). Labrum strongly emarginate. Clypeus transversely concave, planes of clypeus and front forming distinct angle. Frontal stria complete, semi-hexagonal, with rounded angles. Interocular margins slightly divergent anterad. Frontal impression barely marked. Eyes flat in dorsal view.

Lp = 1.6 mm. Wpb = 2.6 mm. Pronotum about 1.6 times wider than long along the median line, convex, pronotal sides strongly convergent to front. Marginal striae obsolete. Lateral stria complete, anterior marginal stria not interrupted, there is pair poorly visible punctures behind the eyes. Antescutellar pronotal impression indistinct.

Le=2.0mm. We =2.9 mm. Epipleural striae obsolete, epipleurae convex, smooth. Outer subhumeral striae complete. Inner subhumeral stria absent. Dorsal striae reduced, 1-st striae only present, reaching slightly beyond the middle of elytra posteriorly. Humeral stria poorly visible. Propygidium and pygidium smooth, without any punctures and microsculpture. Marginal stria of pygidium fine, interrupted medially at either side, with small fragment present along the apex.

Prosternal lobe truncate and slightly emarginated in front, with well impressed marginal stria, abbreviated at middle. Prosternal keel slightly convex in lateral view, carinal striae fine, slightly divergent anteriorly and markedly posteriorly. Lateral prosternal striae absent. Inner lateral metaventral stria abbreviated anterad, not reaching mesometaventral suture, connected with their recurrent arms forming round loop. There is not



Figs 1–3. *Paratropus fedorenkoi* sp.n.: 1 — habitus, dorsal view; 2 — ditto, ventral view; 3 — head, dorsal view.
 Рис. 1–3. *Paratropus fedorenkoi* sp.n.: 1 — габитус, сверху; 2 — то же, снизу; 3 — голова, сверху.

punctures on ventral surface. Lateral stria of 1-st abdominal ventrite recurved laterally to hind margin. Legs strongly broadened, linear microsculpture present on inner surface of tibia.

COMPARATIVE REMARKS. Easily distinguished from all species of the genus by the absence of punctures and microsculpture, shortened anteriorly inner lateral metaventral stria, reduced elytral striae and marginal pronotal striae.

ETYMOLOGY. The new species is dedicated to Dr. Dmitriy Fedorenko, who collected this specimen and many other interesting hister-beetles.

BIOLOGY. Single specimen (female) was collected by window traps together with other myrmecophilous and termitophilous histerids, *Paratropus termitophilus* (Desbordes, 1925) and *Ceratohister camelus* Tishechkin and Sokolov, 2009. Biotope of collecting is monsoon semideciduous tropical forest.

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