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## A new species of the genus *Tropihypnus* REITTER, 1905 from Laos (Coleoptera: Elateridae)

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ABSTRACT. A new species of the subfamily Negastrinae NAKANE & KISHII, 1956 from Laos: *Tropihypnus kubani* sp. nov. is described and illustrated. The record of *Tropihypnus kubani* sp. nov. is the first of a species of the genus *Tropihypnus* from Laos. *T. kubani* is similar to *T. tongshanensis*, but can easily be distinguished from this species by a larger body, slightly longer antennae, dark-brown elytra and the form of aedeagus.

Key words: entomology, taxonomy, Coleoptera, Elateridae, Negastrinae, *Tropihypnus* new species, Laos.

### INTRODUCTION

Through our dear colleague and friend, Mr. V. KUBÁŇ, Brno, we have recently received fresh material of the subfamily Negastrinae from Laos. Among the material, we found two specimens of a new species of the genus *Tropihypnus*, which we describe and illustrate below. The species of the genus have been revised by SCHIMMEL & TARNAWSKI (2008), and as a result of this work, 16 species have been recognized in *Tropihypnus*. Only one of them, *T. bicarinatus* (FLEUTIAUX, 1907), was known so far from the Indochinese sub-region, while six of these species are known from China, four species from Central Asia, and thirteen species are known from northern India, Pakistan and Nepal. The new species, *T. kubani* sp. nov. is the first *Tropihypnus* recorded from Laos.

## ABBREVIATIONS AND METHODS

## ABBREVIATIONS

The following abbreviations have been used in this study:

CSV Coll. SCHIMMEL, Vinningen, Germany;

TICB Coll. Tamin Insect Collection, Brno, Czech Republic.

## METHODS

The examination of the collected material has been executed using a ZEISS Stemi 2000-C binocular with a micron insert. Photographs were taken with a NIKON E4500 camera with an TV2/3" C 0.63x adaptation to the binocular.

Body length of the specimens has been measured from the apical margin of the frons to the apex of elytra, and body width along base angles of pronotum by using ocular micrometer.

The examined specimens are fixed on white pasteboard. The genitalia of the males have been pulled out of the abdomen, cleaned and fixed beside the body of the specimen using water-soluble transparent glue.

## TAXONOMY

**Genus *Tropihypnus* REITTER, 1905**

*Tropihypnus* REITTER, 1905: 9.

*Crypnoidus* FLEUTIAUX, 1928b: 252.

***Tropihypnus kubani* sp. nov.**

(Figs. 1-2)

## TYPE LOCALITY

Laos: Louangnamtha province.

## TYPE MATERIAL

**Holotype** ♂ (CSV): Laos: Louangnamtha province, from Namtha to Muang Sing, 900-1200 m, 5.-31.V.1997, leg. V. KUBÁŇ.

**Paratype** ♀ (TICB): same data as holotype.

## DIAGNOSIS

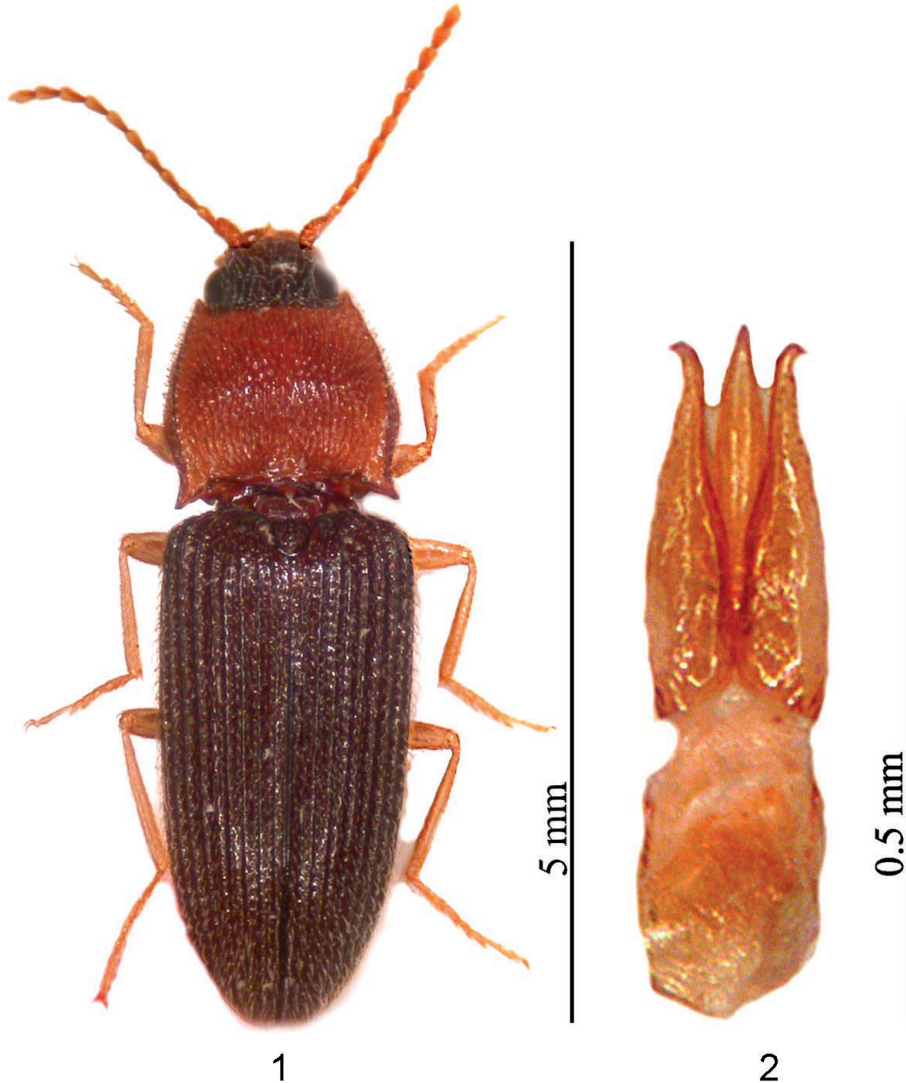
Holotype ♂: Sub-parallel, flat, very slightly raised and shiny species; yellowish-brown, pronotum reddish-yellow, antennae and legs yellow, elytra dark-brown; pubescence short, bristly, uncinata, and white; dimensions: length: 5.00 mm, width: 1.50 mm.

## DESCRIPTION

Head flat, disk humpy; frons slightly arcuate and projecting clypeus, conspicuously raised above base of antennae and completely edged; punctures on head less dense,

coarse and deep, interstices once to twice their diameter; antennae elongate, extending posterior angles of pronotum by length of half of last antennomere, second and third antennomere cylindrical, second antennomere slightly shorter than third antennomere, fourth to tenth antennomere fusiform and as long as third antennomere, last antennomere oval, subapically bevelled; antennae covered with short and bristly hairs.

Pronotum campaniform, along median line as long as wide posteriorly and widest behind middle, flat, slightly raised centrally, conspicuously arcuate laterally, base of



1-2: *Tropihypnus kubani* sp. nov., 1 – habitus, 2 - aedeagus

posterior angles constricted, apexes strongly divergent and acute apically; pronotum with complete lateral carina, extending from posterior up to anterior angles and with second complete carina sublaterally; third short and weak carina at inner sides of base of pronotum just reaching basal fifth; punctures dense and oval, interstices raised, wrinkled and micropunctate, forming longitudinal raised striae; hairs short, bristly and uncinata, mostly declivous from base to apex of pronotum.

Scutellum cuneate, slightly convex basally, medially with slightly raised hump, laterally straight and arcuate apically; surface flat, punctures fine, just visible, interstices three to four times their diameter; pubescence fine and longer than that on pronotum and elytra, and pointed from base to apex.

Elytra sub-parallel, flat and cuneate, after apical third narrowed to apex; apexes arcuate, without inner tooth; base slightly wider than that of pronotum, flat, not depressed at scutellum; basal margin raised, shoulder slightly prominent (winged species); striae on elytra with longitudinal paired rows of fine, dense, simple punctures, interstices of striae finely punctate and shiny, laterally conspicuously raised and carinate; pubescence short, bristly and declivous from base to apex.

Pro-, meso- and metathorax with dense and rugose punctures, interstices slightly raised and moderately shiny; pubescence short and uncinata.

Legs slender, moderately long and thin, femora thickened, tibiae covered with short bristles, tarsi covered with long and fine hairs, claws simple, tarsomeres up to claws of decreasing length.

Aedeagus trilobate, with median lobe slightly outreaching apices of paramere; paramere with fine, just visible lateral edge, arcuate apex and long apical hairs.

Female (paratype) have slightly shorter antennae than male (holotype), just reaching posterior angles of pronotum.

#### DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS

*T. kubani* is similar to *T. tongshanensis*, but can be easily distinguished from this species by larger body, slightly longer antennae, dark-brown elytra and form of aedeagus.

#### ETYMOLOGY

The name of the new species refers to the collector, Mr. V. KUBÁŇ, Brno.

#### DISTRIBUTION

Laos: Louangnamtha province.

#### REMARKS

The above mentioned record is the first of a species of the genus *Tropihypnus* from Laos.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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