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Stenichnus grebennikovi n. sp. from Yunnan, China (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae: Scydmaeninae)

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Abstract. A new species of Cyrtoscydmini, *Stenichnus* (s. str.) *grebennikovi* n. sp. is described and illustrated. This is only the third species of this large and diverse genus known to occur in the People's Republic of China, and the second discovered in Yunnan.

Key words: taxonomy, Coleoptera, Staphylinidae, Scydmaeninae, Cyrtoscydmini, *Stenichnus*, new species, East Palearctic, China.

INTRODUCTION

The majority of species of *Stenichnus* Thomson inhabit the western part of Palaearctic region (Davies 2004), while merely fourteen species are known to occur in the Far East and the transitional Oriental-Palaearctic zone. The first far eastern species of *Stenichnus* was described by Sharp (1886) from Japan, but most of Russian, Chinese, Japanese and Taiwanese taxa were described or revised relatively recently (Franz 1985; Kurbatov 1993; Jałoszyński 2004, 2006, 2009; Jałoszyński & Arai 2009). Certainly this small number, especially in regard of such a vast territory as China, is a result of an inadequate study and sampling efforts. Nearly every new sample of Chinese material reviewed by the author in museum and private collections contains undescribed species of *Stenichnus*, although represented mostly by females. East Palaearctic species of *Stenichnus* seem to be rare and mostly restricted to mountainous areas, which makes field studies difficult. In the present paper a new, remarkably bicolorous *Stenichnus* from Yunnan is described, extending the still exceptionally short list of Chinese species to three.

The type material is deposited in the Museum of Natural History, University of Wrocław, Wrocław, Poland (MNHW).

TAXONOMY

Stenichnus (s. str.) *grebennikovi* n. sp.

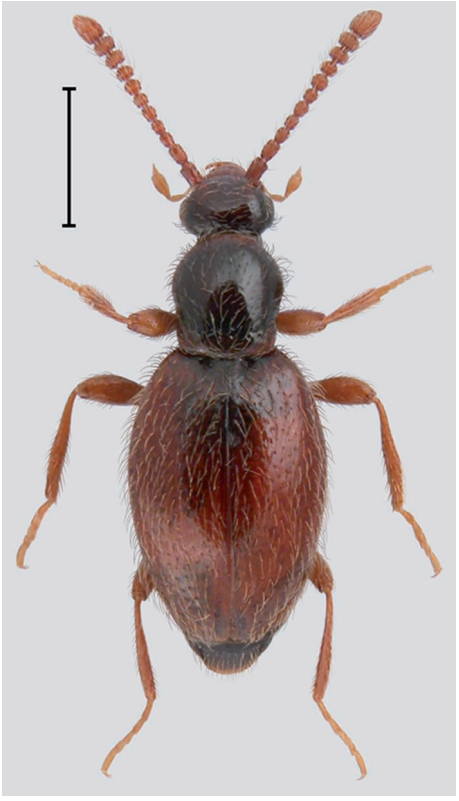
(Figs. 1-3)

NAME DERIVATION

This species is dedicated to Vasily GREBENNIKOV who collected the type material and kindly offered me specimens from his collection for study.

DIAGNOSIS

Body of male brown and indistinctly bicolorous, with dark head, prothorax, meso- and metaventrites and abdominal sternites and lighter elytra and appendages; head and pronotum with sparse and shallow unremarkable punctures, punctures on elytra more distinct and denser but also shallow; profemora only slightly expanded dorsally in sub-apical region; aedeagus without ventral projection, median lobe with darkly sclerotized sub-apical plate with emarginate apical margin and large membranous internal sac covered with microgranules. Females and their diagnostic characters remain unknown.



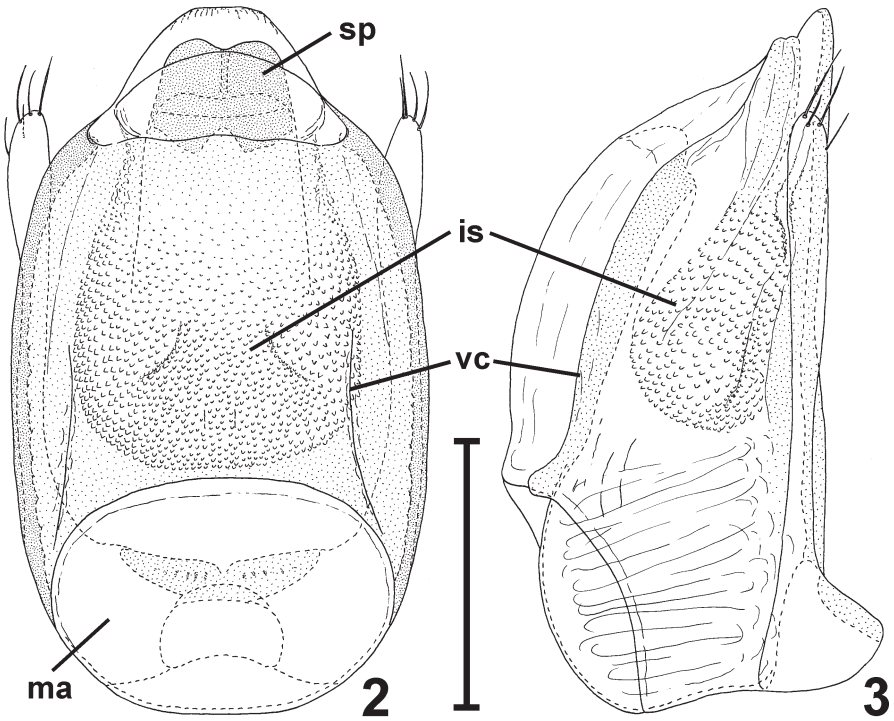
1. *Stenichnus grebennikovi* n. sp. Dorsal habitus of holotype male (scale bar: 0.5 mm)

Description

Male. Body (Fig. 1) small, slender, strongly convex, shiny and brown, with dark head, prothorax, meso- and metaventrites and abdominal sternites and lighter elytra and appendages; overall vestiture distinct and brown, slightly lighter than cuticle; body length 1.78 mm.

Head broadest at moderately large and moderately convex eyes, length 0.30 mm, width 0.34 mm; tempora about as long as eye in dorsal view and evenly arcuate; vertex convex; frons flattened; supraantennal tubercles barely marked. Punctures on frons and vertex sparse and shallow; setae sparse, moderately long and suberect to erect. Antennae moderately long, slender, length 0.75 mm, antennomeres I–V elongate, VI–VII about as long as broad, VIII–X transverse, XI nearly twice as long as broad.

Pronotum distinctly elongate, small in relation to elytra, broadest near anterior third, length 0.45 mm, maximum width 0.40 mm, width at base 0.34 mm; narrow posterior part demarcated from disc by irregular transverse row of multiple shallow, small and diffused punctures, distinctly more impressed in middle of pronotal base. Disc with fine, shallow and sparse punctures; setae similar to those on frons and vertex but slightly longer.



2-3. *Stenichnus grebennikovi* n. sp. Aedeagus in dorsal (2) and lateral (3) views. Abbreviations: is, internal sac; ma, membranous area; sp, sub-apical plate; vc, ventral costa (scale bar: 0.1 mm)

Elytra moderately slender, strongly convex, broadest near middle, length 1.03 mm, width 0.75 mm, elytral index (length / width) 1.37. Humeri well-marked; basal impressions short; apices of elytra separately rounded. Punctures on elytra more distinct than those on head and pronotum, dense but small and shallow, with diffused margins; setae similar to those on pronotum but slightly longer and slightly lighter in color. Metathoracic wings well developed.

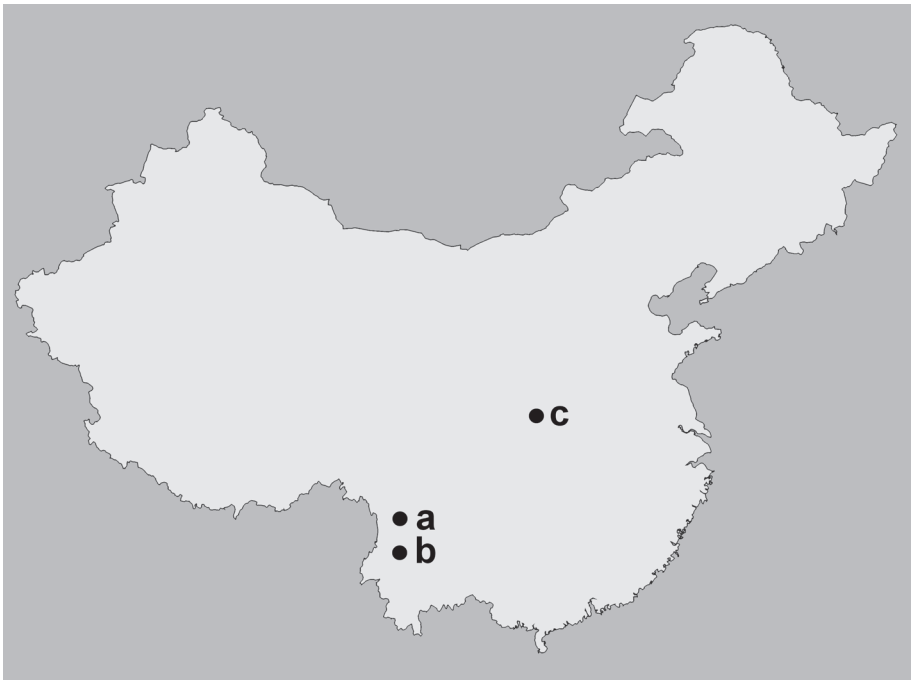
Legs moderately long and slender, profemora with slightly expanded sub-apical part of dorsal margin forming blunt and obtuse angle.

Aedeagus (Figs. 2–3) 0.26 mm in length; median lobe in ventral view oval with distinctly demarcated subtrapezoidal apical part, without ventral projection but with lateral pair of ventral costae, basal membranous area oval; sub-apical region with darkly sclerotized plate; internal sac membranous, large and densely covered with microgranules; parameres broad and short, not reaching apex of median lobe, each with several apical and sub-apical setae.

Female. Unknown.

Type material

Holotype (male): white printed label "CHINA, Yunnan, / Haba Shan, N27°22'05'' / E100°06'25''. / 29.vi.2012, 3272m / sift37 V. Grebennikov" (MNHW).



4. Distribution of *Stenichnus* in the People's Republic of China: a) *Stenichnus grebennikovi* n. sp.; b) *Stenichnus montanus* Jałoszyński; c) *Stenichnus dabanus* Jałoszyński

DISTRIBUTION

China, Yunnan Prov. (Fig. 4a).

REMARKS

To date, only two species of *Stenichnus* were known to occur in China, and both were collected at altitudes exceeding 1500 m. *Stenichnus montanus* JAŁOSZYŃSKI, 2009 occurs in Dali Bai, Yunnan, close to the type locality of *S. grebennikovi* (Fig. 4b) and was found at 2650-2750 m, while *S. dabanus* JAŁOSZYŃSKI, 2009 is known from Daba Shan, a mountainous border region between Shaanxi and Sichuan (Fig. 4c) at altitude 1700-1800 m. Both these species are uniformly brown and clearly differ from *S. grebennikovi* in the body shape, proportions of body parts, and genital structures (see JAŁOSZYŃSKI 2009). In order to distinguish *S. grebennikovi* from all other species of *Stenichnus*, examination of the aedeagus is necessary. The unique shape of the broadly and regularly oval median lobe not constricted laterally and with a very short apical region is sufficient to distinguish *S. grebennikovi* from all congeners.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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