

## A revision of Nearctic species of the genus *Tropimenelytron* Pace, 1983 (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae: Aleocharinae), a new genus for North America

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### Abstract

Nearctic species of the genus *Tropimenelytron* Pace, 1983, a new genus for North America, are revised. Redescription and illustrations are provided for distinguishing the genus *Tropimenelytron* from other related aleocharine genera. Three new species are described: *T. americanum* Gusarov, **sp. n.**, from Indiana, Wisconsin, Iowa, Missouri, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, Connecticut and Quebec; *T. robustum* Gusarov, **sp. n.**, from Oregon and British Columbia and *T. californicum* Gusarov, **sp. n.** from California. A key for identification of Nearctic species of *Tropimenelytron* is provided. The status of the genus *Pelioptera* Kraatz, 1957 is discussed. *Pelioptera unica* (Bernhauer, 1907) from Japan and *P. peguana* (Bernhauer, 1915) from Burma are transferred to *Tropimenelytron*.

**Key words:** Coleoptera, Staphylinidae, Aleocharinae, Athetini, *Tropimenelytron*, *Pelioptera*, *Geostibida*, taxonomy, new species, Nearctic, identification

### Introduction

The genus *Tropimenelytron* Pace, 1983, until this contribution was published, included 17 species from Palaearctic and Oriental regions.

The name *Tropimenelytron* first appeared in a paper by Scheerpeltz (1955) who removed *Sipalia tuberiventris* (Eppelsheim, 1879) from the genus *Sipalia* Mulsant & Rey, 1853 (now known as *Geostiba* Thomson, 1858) and placed this species in the new genus *Tropimenelytron*, which he planned to describe later in a different work but never did. Although Scheerpeltz pointed out that the only species he included in *Tropimenelytron*