The Pselaphinae (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae) of New Caledonia and Loyalty Islands. II. Revision of the tribe Tyrini Reitter, 1882

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Abstract

The tribe Tyrini of New Caledonia is revised. The genus Anagonus Fauvel is redescribed based on the study of the type species, A. fracticornis Fauvel. Two new species of Anagonus are also described, A. spinipalpis sp. nov. and A. breviscapus sp. nov. Two new genera: Caledonogonus gen. nov., with two new species, C. loebli sp. nov. and C. pilosus sp. nov., and Paranagonus gen. nov. with one new species, P. excavatus sp. nov., are described. Keys to genera and species are provided.

Key words: Staphylinidae, Pselaphinae, Tyrini, revision, New Caledonia

Introduction

The tribe Tyrini belongs to the supertribe Pselaphitae and currently includes 556 extant species placed in 82 valid genera (Hlaváč & Chandler 2005, Hlaváč 2006, Newton & Chandler 2007). Although the tribe is well represented in Australia, New Guinea and New Zealand, only one monospecific genus, Anagonus Fauvel, 1903, has been known from New Caledonia and none from Oceania. This genus with one species, based upon a single male specimen, was described 104 years ago. The revision of Pselaphinae of Oceania, with a special focus on the Fiji Islands (Park 1952), also included New Caledonia, but did not recognize any members of Pselaphitae.

Although Pselaphini, a subject of the next study, are very well represented in New Caledonia by many undescribed genera and species (Hlaváč, unpublished), members of Tyrini seem to be very rare. Thanks to collecting efforts of Stewart Peck, Marek Wanat, Rich Leschen, Geoff Monteith and Ivan Löbl, I was able to examine almost 5000 specimens of Pselaphinae from this region. Of these only 53 specimens belong to the tribe Tyrini, subtribe Tyrina. All other subtribes of Tyrini remain unknown for New Caledonia.

Material and methods

Specimens were examined with a Leica S8APO stereo-microscope with diffuse lighting at magnifications up to 128X. Male genitalia and other dissected parts were studied using a Zeiss transmitted-light microscope at magnifications up to 500X. Genital segments were dissected and treated with KOH when necessary. All drawings were made using a drawing tube. The dissected parts have been mounted in Euparal and pinned with the specimen.

The following acronyms are used in the text:

MHNG Muséum d’Histoire Naturelle, Genève, Switzerland (G. Cuccodoro)
MNHN Muséum National d’Histoire Naturelle, Paris, France (A. Taghavian)