



Taxonomy of *Promethis* Pascoe (Coleoptera, Tenebrionidae) on Hainan Island, China

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Abstract

The genus *Promethis* Pascoe on Hainan Island, China is reviewed. One new species is described under the name *P. crassihornis* sp. nov., and one species newly recorded in China, *P. oshimana* (Miwa), is reported. A key to the species of the genus *Promethis* on Hainan Island is included.

Key words: Tenebrionidae, *Promethis*, new species, new record, Hainan Island

Introduction

The genus *Promethis* was erected in 1869 by Pascoe, and *Upis angulata* Erichson was designated as type species and is distributed in Australia. Kaszab (1988b) revised the genus *Promethis* and synonymized the following genera: *Mederis* Motschulsky, *Pedibris* Motschulsky, *Pseudobates* Fairmaire and *Setenis* Motschulsky as *Promethis*. The genus was originally placed in Tenebrionini (Pascoe 1869), then it was transferred to Coelometopini by Doyen & Tschinkel (1982), and recently was assigned to Cnodalonini by Bouchard *et al.* (2005). The genus includes 141 species and subspecies, mostly distributed in the Oriental and Australian Region. Based on published research in this genus, a total of 44 species have been recorded from China (Motschulsky 1872; Fairmaire 1886, 1888, 1897, 1899; Gebien 1918; Kaszab 1980, 1988; Masumoto 1981, 1982, 2005; Ren *et al.* 2004, 2005), among which 9 species are reported from Hainan Island (Ren *et al.* 2002, 2005).

While examining tenebrionid specimens collected from Hainan Island, we found a species of *Promethis* new to science, and also a species newly recorded in China. The type materials are deposited in the Museum of Hebei University (MHBU), Baoding, China.

Key to species of *Promethis* in Hainan Island, China

- 1 Anal segment without deep groove apically 2
- Anal segment with deep groove apically; frontoclypeal suture shallowly concave; protibiae incurved, inner margin with one obvious tooth centrally; head densely punctate; pronotum similarly densely punctate; elytral intervals convex; length 18.0–28.0 mm *P. rectangula*
- 2 Anterior margin of profemora with dense hairs in male 3
- Anterior margin of profemora without dense hairs in male 4
- 3 Elytral rows of punctures feeble, intervals with fine and sparse granules; protibiae strongly incurved, inner margin with one obvious tooth at basal 1/3 in male; length 28.0–36.0 mm *P. vietnamica*
- Elytral rows of punctures strong; protibiae weakly incurved, inner margin obtusely extruded at basal 1/3, but with-