



## Two new species of soft-winged flower beetles of the genus *Kuatunia* Evers, 1945–48 (Coleoptera, Malachiidae) from China and northeastern Russia

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### Abstract

Two new malachiid beetle species of the genus *Kuatunia* Evers are described: *K. nordica* **sp. n.**, from Taimyr peninsula, northeastern Russia, and *K. wolongensis* **sp. n.**, from China, Wolong Nature Reserve. Figures of male habitus, elytral appendices, genitalia, and a distribution map for newly recorded species are given, and a determination key to all species of the genus is provided.

**Key words:** Coleoptera, Malachiidae, *Kuatunia*, new species, new locality, China, Yakutia, Taimyr, Russia

### Introduction

The genus *Kuatunia* Evers, 1945–48 includes small malachiid beetles (3 mm in length) belonging to the tribe Ebaeini (subfamily Malachiinae) characterized by a comb on the anterior tarsi, by the elytral apices fitted with species-specific structures such as an impression and a small lamellar appendix, and by an undivided tergite in males. The presence of a comb on the second segment of the anterior tarsi differentiates *Kuatunia* from the closely related genus *Hypebaeina* Wittmer, 1996.

Thirteen representatives of this genus are known, mainly distributed in East Asia. Five species were previously known from China, and individually from Japan, Thailand, Nepal, Russia and Madagascar. The new species, *K. wolongensis* **sp. n.** has been found in Panda Park of China, Wolong Natural Reserve. Characteristics and description are given below.

*Kuatunia australis* Wittmer, 1991 from Madagascar differs from its congeners for a peculiar apical tergite fitted with a medial dental process. Nothing was said in the original description about the tarsal comb in the male. Possibly this species might belong to a different genus or a separate subgenus.

Two subspecies from Japan, *K. oblongula oblongula* (Kiesenwetter, 1874) and *K. oblongula chujoi* Wittmer, 1954 differ in coloration of antennae, legs and elytra, and might end up as two separate species after revision of types and analysis of larger series of specimens.

In genus *Kuatunia* the most northward distribution previously recorded was that of *K. oloyensis* Wittmer, described from the bank of Omolon river, a right tributary of Kolyma river in Magadanskaya Oblast, northeastern Russia (Wittmer, 1999). In the same paper, Walter Wittmer firstly recorded the genus *Kuatunia* for the fauna of Russia. Actually, we know that *K. oloyensis* is widely distributed in mountains and zonal tundra-steppe of East Siberia, in Transbaikalia, Irkutsk, Chita Oblast and further north in Yakutia and Magadan Oblast. Recently, two *Kuatunia* specimens were found in two Russian northern regions, Yakutia and Taimyr peninsula. One female, from Yakutia, differs from *K. oloyensis* for the completely black pronotum. Collected later in Taimyr, a male with black pronotum deemed to belong to the same species, shows good distinctive characters which are considered of specific value. Because of its Polar range this species is named *K. nordica* **sp. n.** Thus, two *Kuatunia* species, *K. oloyensis* Wittmer, and *K. nordica* **sp. n.** are now known for the Russian fauna.

The present paper continues the work of previous authors who have investigated the fauna of Russia and adjacent countries, including the following genera: *Anthomalachius* Tshernyshev, 2009 (Tshernyshev, 2009b), *Cepha-*