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***Smetanabatrus kinabalu* (Staphylinidae: Pselaphinae: Batrisitae), a new genus and new species from Sabah, Borneo**

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Abstract

A new genus and new species of the pselaphine tribe Batrisini, *Smetanabatrus kinabalu* **gen. et sp. n.**, is described from Sabah, East Malaysia. Both sexes of the new species have securiform maxillary palpi, with the male exhibiting extreme abdominal modification. Illustrations of the habitus and major diagnostic features, as well as a discussion on the taxonomic placement of the new taxon is provided. A key to genera of the Batrisini from Borneo is provided.

Key words: taxonomy, *Smetanabatrus*, new genus, new species, Borneo

Introduction

When it comes to the knowledge of the diversity of pselaphine fauna, the Oriental part of Asia is amongst one of the least known areas in the world, both at the specific and generic levels. In comparison, the Palaearctic, Nearctic, African and Madagascan faunas can be considered fairly well studied at the generic level, due to several enthusiastic and productive workers in the past century (Chandler, 2001).

From the island of Borneo, 45 species placed in 10 genera of the diverse supertribe Batrisitae have been described since Westwood (1870) reported the first species, *Sathytes punctiger* Westwood, from Sarawak (Newton & Chandler 1989, Nomura 2008). Since we are aware that numerous specimens representing a large number of new species of the Batrisitae (other pselaphine supertribes as well), collected from Borneo and housed in several museum collections, still await formal descriptions, the above number will no doubt become tremendously larger in the future.

The purpose of this paper is to describe a new genus and new species of Batrisitae collected during a field trip to the Kinabalu National Park of Borneo by Aleš Smetana in 1987. The description is based on three specimens deposited in the Muséum d'histoire naturelle de la Ville de Genève, Switzerland. It is hoped that the description of this species will create further interest in Pselaphinae leading to a better understanding of the pselaphine diversity of the tropical Asia.

Material and methods

The type series is deposited in the Muséum d'histoire naturelle de la Ville de Genève, Switzerland (MHNG, Giulio Cuccodoro).

The collection data of the material are quoted verbatim. A slash (/) is used to separate different labels. The terminology follows Chandler (2001), except for using 'ventrite' instead of 'sternite' when describing meso- and metathoracic structures.