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***Zopherobatrus* gen. n. (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae: Pselaphinae), a new troglobitic batrisine from southwestern China**

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Abstract

A new genus and new species of the pselaphine tribe Batrisini, *Zopherobatrus tianmingyii* Yin & Li **gen. et sp. n.**, is described based on material collected from a cave in Guizhou, southwestern China. The new taxon exhibits a typical suite of morphological adaptations to life in caves, and represents a third genus of the cave-inhabiting Pselaphinae in China.

Key words: taxonomy, Pselaphinae, Batrisitae, new genus, new species, China

Introduction

The cavernicolous fauna of the staphylinid subfamily Pselaphinae in China is relatively insufficiently studied. In comparison to the Europe and Japan, attentions to the Chinese fauna are received only in recent years. At present, thirteen species placed in two batrisine genera, *viz.*, *Tribasodites* Jeannel (12 spp.), and *Tribasodellus* Nomura & Yin (1 sp.), have been described based on specimens collected in cave environments (Nomura & Wang 1991, Yin et al. 2011a, 2011b, 2015). The history of the study on eastern Asian cavernicolous and troglobitic Pselaphinae was summarized in Yin et al. 2015.

In May, 2015, we received a small series of the Pselaphinae collected in caves from Guizhou, Hunan, and Guangdong provinces, kindly sent to us by the collector Prof. Dr. Ming-Yi Tian (South China Agricultural University, a specialist of Carabidae) as a gift. The Guizhou material includes a single male collected from the zone of complete darkness deep within a three-floor cave. Based on this specimen, a new genus and new species, *Zopherobatrus tianmingyii* **gen. et sp. n.**, is formally described herein. Other than the elongated body segments and appendages, the new species has the eyes traceable only by the slightly raised cuticle, a strongly constricted elytral base, and complete loss of functional metathoracic wings, indicating an obligate troglobitic way of life.

Material and methods

Material treated in the present paper is housed in the Insect Collection of Shanghai Normal University, Shanghai, China (SNUC).

The collecting data of the material are quoted verbatim. A slash is used to separate different labels. Authors' supplementary notes are included in square brackets.

The following abbreviations are applied: AL—length of the abdomen along the midline; AnL—length of antenna; AW—maximum width of the abdomen; EL—length of the elytra along the sutural line; EW—maximum width of the elytra; HL—length of the head from the anterior clypeal margin to the occipital constriction; HW—width of the head across eyes; PL—length of the pronotum along the midline; PW—maximum width of the pronotum. Length of the body is a combination of HL + PL + EL + AL.