

Contributions to the knowledge of the “Staphylinus-complex” (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae: Staphylinini) of China. Part 7. The genus *Sphaerobulbus* Smetana 2003. Section 2

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Abstract

This is the second paper dealing with the Chinese species of the genus *Sphaerobulbus* Smetana, 2003. Four species are described as new: *S. rex* (Shaanxi), *S. pusio* (Sichuan), *S. businskorum* (Sichuan) and *S. bicolor* (Sichuan). Notes concerning the taxonomy of *S. bisinuatus* Smetana, 2003 and *S. abdominalis* Smetana, 2003 are presented. New distributional records for *S. bisinuatus*, *S. brezinai* Smetana, 2003, *S. yulongmontis* and *S. murzini* Smetana, 2003 are given.

Key words: Coleoptera, Staphylinidae, Staphylininae, *Sphaerobulbus*, Palearctic, taxonomy, new species, distribution

Introduction

The genus *Sphaerobulbus* was erected by Smetana (2003), with six originally included species from mainland China, all described as new. Additional material of the genus was recently received for study, most of it from Michael Schülke, Berlin, Germany, and from Yasutoshi Shibata, Tokyo, Japan. The material contained not only additional specimens of some of the recently described species (Smetana 2003, 2005), but also specimens of additional, undescribed species. This paper presents the results of the study of this material.

Depositories

ASC — Collection of Aleš Smetana, Ottawa, Canada (The collection to be eventually deposited in the Muséum d’Histoire Naturelle, Genève, Switzerland)