

New species of *Clavicornaltica* Scherer (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae) from continental Asia

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Abstract

Four new species of *Clavicornaltica* Scherer are described and illustrated, of which two are from China (*C. dali* **new species** and *C. longsheng* **new species**) and two are from Vietnam (*C. tamdao* **new species** and *C. vietnamensis* **new species**). The wing and metathorax are described and illustrated for the genus for the first time. A key to the newly described species is presented. Male genitalia of *Clavicornaltica australis* Konstantinov are illustrated for the first time.

Key words: Chrysomelidae, *Clavicornaltica*, new species, female genitalia, China, Vietnam

Introduction

The genus *Clavicornaltica* Scherer was originally proposed to describe tiny humicole flea beetles with clavate antennae from Sri Lanka (Scherer 1974). Since then additional species have been described from the Philippines (Scherer 1979, Medvedev 1993, 1996), India and Nepal (Basu & Sen Gupta 1981, Medvedev 1984, Döberl 2002), Australia (Konstantinov 1995), Malaysia and Indonesia (Medvedev 1996), and Taiwan (LeSage 1997). Recent collecting activity in China and Vietnam provided four previously unknown *Clavicornaltica* species, which are described below.

Clavicornaltica is among the smallest flea beetles (0.8–2.2 mm) with poorly sclerotized, fragile bodies that are easily broken. This fragility prevented Scherer from dissecting any of his type specimens (Scherer 1974), so that the female and male genitalia, remained unknown until recently. Medvedev was the first to illustrate the median lobe apices for two of his species (Medvedev 1984, 1996), but the bases of the median lobe