

## Description of the two new *Microserica* species from Laos and Thailand (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae: Melolonthinae: Sericini)

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### Abstract

Two new species of *Microserica* Brenske are described from the Indochinese region, *Microserica panzona* (Laos) and *M. soppingensis* (Thailand). The male genitalia are illustrated and diagnostic characters from related taxa are discussed.

**Key words:** Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae: Sericini, *Microserica*, Laos, Thailand, new species.

### Introduction

The Oriental genus *Microserica* Brenske, 1894 is one of the largest genera in the Sericini with over 160 species described to date. The species of *Microserica* from the Asiatic mainland and Sumatra have recently been the subject of a series of revisional studies (Ahrens 1995, 1998, 1999, 2001a, 2001b, 2002, 2004a, 2004b). Since these contributions, additional material has been examined resulting in the discovery of the two new species here described. These species were studied during the course of a taxonomic and systematic revision of the genus *Anomalophylla* Reitter, 1887, because they are similar in external morphology to some species of *Anomalophylla*. However, a cladistic analysis (Ahrens accepted) revealed that these two species are not closely related to *Anomalophylla* but rather fall within the genus *Microserica*. These two new species from Laos and northern Thailand are described here.

The material studied for this paper originated from the following collections:

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|------|--|
| CA   | D. Ahrens collection, Eberswalde;                            |
| MMBC | Moravské Muzeum, Brno;                                       |
| TICB | TAMMIN Corporation, Insecta collection, The Committee of the |