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**Revision of the subgenus *Metaeuops* Legalov of *Euops* Schoenherr  
(Coleoptera, Curculionoidea, Attelabidae) from the Papuan region**

ALEXANDER RIEDEL



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## Abstract

The subgenus *Metaeuops* Legalov (stat.n.) of *Euops* Schoenherr is revised. The group is restricted to New Guinea and some small neighboring islands. It contains four previously described species: *E. coelestinus* Pascoe, *E. ruficornis* Voss, *E. tibialis* Voss, and *E. violaceus* Pascoe, and 14 new species: *Euops arfakensis* sp. n., *E. biru* sp. n., *E. coeruleus* sp. n., *E. curvipes* sp. n., *E. illegalovi* sp. n., *E. judithae* sp. n., *E. oops* sp. n., *E. paratibialis* sp. n., *E. piceus* sp. n., *E. dintelmanni* sp. n., *E. ratcliffei* sp. n., *E. swartensis* sp. n., *E. tenuiflagellaris* sp. n. and *Euops torricelliensis* sp. n. *Euops ruficornis* Voss, formerly a subspecies of *E. femoralis* Voss, is recognized as a distinct species without any close relationship to *E. femoralis* Voss. Lectotypes are designated for *E. coelestinus* Pascoe, *E. ruficornis* Voss, *E. tibialis* Voss, and *E. violaceus* Pascoe. All species are described, and the characters relevant for their identification, especially the male genitalia, are illustrated. A key to the species is provided. A cladistic analysis is performed that confirms the monophyly of *Metaeuops*. The most important apomorphy of the group is a pair of sclerites in the mid portion of the male endophallus. Two additional characters imply secondary reduction in a few species: the subtriangular mesotibia of the males and a siphon-like extension of the female spermatheca. The original description of *Metaeuops* by Legalov contained contradictions between the diagnostic characters proposed and the characters present in the type species. Therefore, the concept of the genus is here modified.

**Key words:** Coleoptera, Curculionoidea, Attelabidae, *Euops*, *Metaeuops*, Papuan region

## Introduction

*Euops* Schoenherr is an Old World monophyletic genus of leaf-rolling weevils (Attelabidae). Its distribution extends from South Australia through Asia to Africa and Madagascar, with the majority of the species confined to wet tropical regions. At present, 213 described species are recognized worldwide (Riedel, 1998, 2002; Liang & Li, 2005; Legalov, 2003). As pointed out by Riedel (2002), *Euops* is extremely diverse in New Guinea and surrounding islands. Many of the species and species groups endemic to this area remain to be described. During the author's dissertation research, large volumes of material were collected, sorted to morphospecies, and groups of related species were identified. At that time, only a few selected species groups could be revised in detail. Herein, one of the remaining species groups is treated. With the present revision, another step is made to reach a more comprehensive understanding of the Papuan *Euops* fauna.

The first two species of the subgenus *Metaeuops*, *E. coelestinus* and *E. violaceus*, were described as early as 1874 by Pascoe, presumably based on material collected by Alfred Russel Wallace. Pascoe did not assign them to a particular subgenus. In the first major revision of *Euops*, Voss (1924, 1925) could only list them among the species unknown to him. In 1929 he redescribed *E. violaceus* within the subgenus *Suniops* Voss. He did not further substantiate this placement although it is hard to justify. In the same publication he also described *E. tibialis* but failed to notice the close relationship between