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**A revision of the click beetle genus *Ctenoplus* Candèze, 1863  
(Coleoptera: Elateridae, Synaptina)**

E. FULLER & G. PLATIA



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## A revision of the click beetle genus *Ctenoplus* Candèze, 1863 (Coleoptera: Elateridae, Synaptina)

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## Abstract

The Oriental Region click beetle genus *Ctenoplus* Candèze is redefined based on the structure of the head capsule and female genitalia. Of the 23 species recognized, 16 are described as new: *C. sumatrensis* n. sp., *C. sanguinolentoides* n. sp., *C. indicus* n. sp., *C. pseudocollaris* n. sp., *C. neosiamensis* n. sp., *C. siamensis* n. sp., *C. rufoantennatus* n. sp., *C. divergens* n. sp., *C. gigas* n. sp., *C. balli* n. sp., *C. girardianus* n. sp., *C. cateianus* n. sp., *C. deceptus* n. sp., *C. dorsalis* n. sp., *C. alutaceus* n. sp. and *C. semialutaceus* n. sp.. *Silesis castaneus* Fleutiaux, *S. tonkinensis* Fleutiaux and *S. coomani* Fleutiaux are transferred to *Ctenoplus*. The following synonymies are proposed: *C. nigripennis* Schwarz = *C. nitidipennis* Schwarz; *S. tonkinensis*, *S. coomani* and *C. topali* Ohira = *C. coomani* Fleutiaux. Lectotypes are designated for *C. sanguinolentus* (Candèze), *C. nitidipennis*, *C. nigripennis*, *C. collaris* Candèze, *C. coomani*, *S. coomani*, *C. brunneus* Fleutiaux and *S. fulvus* Fleutiaux. *Silesis coomani* is renamed *C. confusus* Platia to remove a subsequent homonymy. *Silesis fulvus*, which had been included in *Ctenoplus* is returned to *Silesis*. Difficulties with the diagnosis of *Silesis* (*s.l.*) are discussed.

**Key words:** *Ctenoplus*, *Silesis*, Pomachiliini, Synaptina, Oriental region, taxonomy

## Introduction

Working with the classification of the Elateridae may be an exercise in frustration for almost everyone whom has studied the family (Becker 1979). As discussed by Hayek (1990), most species are inadequately described, and cannot be identified using the published description, especially outside relatively well-studied parts of the temperate northern hemisphere. Problems at the species level extend into higher taxonomic ranks, with many genera, tribes and subfamilies being poorly defined. Arnett (1968) and Hayek (1973, 1990) attribute these problems to workers treating regional faunas as if they were unrelated to elaterids outside of that region, as well as an undue reliance on characters traditionally used to define taxa and inadequate study of new diagnostic characters.

Within the subfamily Elaterinae, a group of genera, which includes the type genera of the traditional tribes Elaterini, Pomachiliini, Agriotini and Synaptini, has been identified that share a unique configuration of the gena (Fuller 1994). While these tribes have been given various family group ranks, Gurjeva (1979) recognized the Elaterini and Pomachiliini, with the Agriotina and Synaptina as subtribes of the Pomachiliini. This arrangement is followed here. In this work, the Synaptina are defined as having a combination of: anteroventral angle of gena produced anterad mandibular condyles (Fig.