



A new species of *Platambus* from China (Coleoptera: Dytiscidae)

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Abstract

A new species of *Platambus* Thomson (Coleoptera: Dytiscidae) is described from China: *Platambus elongatus* **sp. nov.** *Platambus elongatus* **sp. nov.** has to be included within *sawadai*-group, characterized by its broadly oval shape, indistinct pronoto-elytral angle, and the strong puncturation on the upper surface. *Platambus wulingshanensis* Brancucci, 2005 is recorded from Hubei (China) for the first time and the widely distributed species *Platambus excoffieri* Régimbart, 1899 is recorded from Hainan and Shaanxi Chinese Provinces for the first time.

Key words: Taxonomy, Coleoptera, Dytiscidae, *Platambus*, new species, China

Introduction

The genus *Platambus* was established by Thomson in 1859, with *Dytiscus maculatus* Linnaeus, 1758 as type species. Sharp (1884) reported one new species from Japan. Gschwendtner (1935) and Vazirani (1965) established one new species each. Brancucci (1982, 1984, 1988, 1990) described about 5 new species from Palearctic region. In Brancucci (1988) the genus is revised, and a total of three subgenera and 23 species were recognized. The genus *Stictogabus* was considered to be a junior synonym of *Platambus*. Nilsson (2001) listed 55 valid species in the book 'World Catalogue of Insect (Vol. 3)'. To date, 62 species of this genus are recorded from the Nearctic, Neotropical, Oriental and Palearctic regions.

As for China, the taxonomy of the genus *Platambus* was poorly known for a long time. Feng (1933) just recorded only one species (*Platambus excoffieri* Régimbart, 1899) occurring in China. Zeng (1989) examined the specimens deposited in Chinese museums, and recognized two species of this genus. Since the China Water Beetle Survey (CWBS) started in 1992 (Jäch & Ji, 1995), the situation had greatly changed. Wewalka & Brancucci (1995) recognized 11 species occurring in China. Nilsson (2000, 2001) reviewed the *Agabus*-group genera of the Agabini known from China, and transferred five species to *Platambus* from *Agabus*. Nilsson (2003) reported another 5 new species of this genus from China and considered that *Platambus jilanzhui* Wewalka & Brancucci, 1995 was a new synonymy of *Platambus stygius* (Régimbart, 1899). Brancucci (2005, 2006) added two new species occurring in China. Presently, a total of 22 species of the genus *Platambus* are known to be distributed in China.

The current paper describes one new species of *Platambus* from China, which was collected by L. Ji & M. Wang from Hainan Province.