



A review of the genus *Scaphidium* Oliver (Coleoptera, Staphylinidae, Scaphidiinae) from Tianmushan, East China

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Abstract

Five species of the genus *Scaphidium* are recorded from the Tianmushan mountain chain, including *Scaphidium wuyongxiangi* He, Tang & Li, **sp. nov.** The male of *S. stigmatinotum* Löbl is discovered and described for the first time. The variability of *S. sinense* Pic is discussed. A key to *Scaphidium* species of this area is provided.

Key words: Coleoptera, Staphylinidae, *Scaphidium*, new species, new records, Tianmushan, identification key, China

Introduction

Tianmushan is a famous mountain chain located in the north-west of Zhejiang Province, East China. It is an extension of the Huangshan mountain chain (Anhui Province). Tianmushan includes four nature reserves (listed here from west to east): Qingliangfeng Nature Reserve, West Tianmushan Nature Reserve, Longwangshan Nature Reserve and East Tianmushan Nature Reserve.

In the history of staphylinid research, many taxonomists published papers about insects from a locality listed as “Tienmuschan”. In at least four papers (Bernhauer 1939, Koch 1939, L. Benick 1940, Bernhauer 1940) this locality was listed as “N. W. China, Tienmuschan”, which confused and puzzled entomologists for a long time. In fact, this locality should be listed as “East China, Zhejiang Province, Tianmushan”, as there is no such thing as “Tienmuschan” in northwest China. Based on our own study of the Tianmushan fauna, we are convinced that “Tienmuschan” and Tianmushan represent the same locality. Indeed, most species described in the papers mentioned above, have been found by us in Tianmushan, including some brachypterous and apterous species which usually are rather local endemic species with low dispersal ability.

The genus *Scaphidium* Olivier (1790) is a species rich group of subfamily Scaphidiinae. Up to the present, at least 325 species of the genus have been known from the world and 35 species from China. However, only two species (*S. comes* Löbl, 1968 and *S. bewenxuani* He, Tang & Li, 2008) have been recorded from Zhejiang Province previously, by He *et al.* (2008).

Recently we examined some *Scaphidium* specimens from Tianmushan, and recognized five species, including one new species (*S. wuyongxiangi* **sp. nov.**) described below. In this paper we also describe the previously unknown male of *S. stigmatinotum* Löbl, 1999, and discuss the variability of *S. sinense* Pic, 1954. In addition to *S. wuyongxiangi* **sp. nov.**, two more species, *S. stigmatinotum* and *S. sinense* are recorded from Tianmushan for the first time. A key to *Scaphidium* species of Tianmushan is provided. Two species (*S. grande* Gestro, 1879 and *S. klapperichi* Pic, 1954) known from adjacent provinces (Anhui and Fujian) but not recorded from Tianmushan are also included in the key.