



Three new species of *Itagonia* Reitter, 1887 (Coleoptera, Tenebrionidae: Blaptini) from Sichuan, China

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Abstract

Three new species of *Itagonia* Reitter, 1887, *I. tuberculata*, **sp. nov.**, *I. xinlongensis*, **sp. nov.** and *I. medvedevi*, **sp. nov.** are described from Sichuan, China. The formerly unknown female of *I. elegans* Medvedev, 1998 is described for the first time. A key to the known species of *Itagonia* from China is given.

Key words: Coleoptera, Tenebrionidae, *Itagonia*, new species, identification key, Sichuan, China

Introduction

The genus *Itagonia* was established by Reitter (1887) for *I. gnaptorinoides* from the Hissaro-Darvaz mountains. Only 5 species had been described until the end of 20th century when Medvedev initiated the study of this genus. So far, 16 species and 1 subspecies have been reported (Reitter 1887, 1889; Fairmaire 1888; Schuster, 1914, 1923; Reinig 1931; Medvedev 1998, 2004; Shi & Ren, 2007a, 2007b; Egorov, 2007; Liu & Ren, 2009). Among these, four species and one subspecies are known from the Hissaro-Darvaz mountains, and twelve species from China (ten from the eastern part of the Tibetan Plateau, one from Gansu and the last one from Beijing, Hebei, Neimenggu and Ningxia). The distributions of the species allows considering the Hissaro-Darvaz mountains and the eastern part of the Tibetan Plateau as the two most important centers of *Itagonia* evolution.

During the identification of tenebrionid specimens collected from Sichuan in 2009, three new species of the genus *Itagonia*, *I. tuberculata*, **sp. nov.** from Xiangcheng and Litang, *I. xinlongensis*, **sp. nov.** from Xinlong and *I. medvedevi*, **sp. nov.** from Marerkang were found, which are described below. A few specimens of *I. elegans* Medvedev, 1998 were collected by the authors from the type locality and the formerly unknown female is described for the first time. Type specimens are deposited in the Museum of China West Normal University (MCWNU).

Key to the species of the genus *Itagonia* from China

1. Upper edge of inner surface of profemur (Figs 1–5) with tooth near apex 2
- Upper edge of inner surface of profemur with arcuate prominence or obtuse-angled prominence (Figs 6–10, 14, 27, 40) near apex 7
2. Upper edge of inner surface of profemur with sharp acute-angled tooth (Figs 1–2) near apex 3
- Upper edge of inner surface of profemur with obtuse or rectangular tooth (Figs 3–5) near apex 4
3. Pronotum widest behind the middle. Anterior 1/2 and apical part of outer margin of epipleura visible from above. Ventral surface of protarsomere 1 with hair brush..... *I. provostii* (Fairmaire, 1888)
- Pronotum widest in the middle. Outer margin of epipleura visible from above nearly along entire length. Ventral surface of protarsomeres 1 and 2 with hair brushes..... *I. semenowi* Reitter, 1889
4. Less than anterior 1/2 and apical part of outer margin of epipleura visible from above 5