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A review of *Tychobythinus theryi* species group with description of a new species from Algeria (Coleoptera, Staphylinidae, Pselaphinae)

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Abstract

The seven species belonging to *Tychobythinus theryi* group are revised. *Tychobythinus theryi* (Guillebeau, 1894), *Tychobythinus bordei* (Peyerimhoff, 1919), *Tychobythinus longipalpis* (Normand, 1930), *Tychobythinus normandi* (Jeannel, 1956) and *Tychobythinus peyerimhoffi* (Jeannel, 1956) are redescribed and illustrated, and *Tychobythinus besucheti* Sabella sp. n. from north-eastern Algeria is described and illustrated. The lectotypes are designated for *Tychobythinus theryi*, *Tychobythinus bordei* and *Tychobythinus peyerimhoffi*. A key for species identification is provided.

Key words: Pselaphinae, *Tychobythinus theryi* species group, taxonomy, new species, North Africa

Introduction

Seven species of *Tychobythinus* Ganglbauer, 1896 from north-eastern Algeria are very similar in external morphology and shape of aedeagus. *Tychobythinus theryi* (Guillebeau, 1894) *Tychobythinus bordei* (Peyerimhoff, 1919), *Tychobythinus longipalpis* (Normand, 1930), *Tychobythinus normandi* (Jeannel, 1956) and *Tychobythinus peyerimhoffi* (Jeannel, 1956), grouped by Jeannel (1956: 60) in the genus *Anopsibythus* (type species: *Machaerites theryi* Guillebeau, 1894), now are transferred to *Tychobythinus* (Besuchet 1962: 349; Besuchet 1974: 333; Newton & Chandler 1989: 48; Löbl & Besuchet 2004: 314). *Tychobythinus araneipes* (Normand, 1930) and *Tychobythinus monoceros* (Normand, 1932) have recently been redescribed, illustrated and attributed to the genus *Tychobythinus* (Besuchet et al. 2013). For all these species we propose and define a new species group, *Tychobythinus theryi* group, to include species formerly in the genus *Anopsibythus*, and *Tychobythinus besucheti* sp. n. New details concerning the morphology of these species and an identification key are also provided.

Materials and methods

The study is based on material from museums and private collections. The depositories of the material, their acronyms used in text, and the colleagues who kindly provided the loans, are as follows:

MHNG Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle, Genève, Switzerland (G. Cuccodoro)

MNHN Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris, France (A. Taghavian)

INAT Institut National Agronomique, Tunis, collection Normand, Tunisia (S. Boulahia Kheder, J. Fraj)

The body length measurements exclude the antennae and are measured from the anterior clypeal margin to the posterior margin of the last abdominal tergite. The length and width of body parts were measured between points of