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Description of a new species of *Anomala* Samouelle (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae: Rutelinae) from Northern Territory, Australia

MENGJIE JIN[1, 2], TOM WEIR[2], ADAM ŚLIPIŃSKI[2] & HONG PANG[1,3]

[1]*State Key Laboratory of Biocontrol, Key Laboratory of Biodiversity Dynamics and Conservation of Guangdong Higher Education Institute, College of Ecology and Evolution, Sun Yat-Sen University, Guangzhou 510275, China.*
E-mail: jinmengj@mail2.sysu.edu.cn; Lsshpang@mail.sysu.edu.cn

[2]*Australian National Insect Collection, CSIRO National Research Collections Australia, GPO Box 1700, Canberra, ACT 2601, Australia. E-mail: Tom.Weir@csiro.au; Adam.Slipinski@csiro.au*

[3] *Corresponding author. Email: Lsshpang@mail.sysu.edu.cn*

Abstract

A new species of *Anomala* Samouelle (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae: Rutelinae) is described from the Northern Territory of Australia. The new species is diagnosed by the single tooth along the external margin of protibia, medially interrupted marginal bead on pronotal base and the clypeus weakly reflexed anteriorly. The illustrated diagnoses of the remaining Australian species and the key to their identification is also provided.

Key words: Coleoptera, Scarabaeidae, Rutelinae, Anomala, Australia, taxonomy, new species

Introduction

Anomala Samouelle (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae: Rutelinae) is the only Australian genus belonging to a large and diverse scarab tribe Anomalini (Jameson *et al.* 2003) that includes about 53 genera and 2000 species worldwide (Ramírez-Ponce & Morón 2009) with more than half of the species classified in *Anomala* alone. Numerous species of that genus have been described from the Papuan Region (Machatschke 1972, Zorn 2006b) but only two species have been recorded from Australia, namely an introduced Oriental species *A. antiqua* Gyllenhal and a widely distributed Papuan species *A. aeneotincta* Fairmaire originally described from New Britain but also recorded from New Guinea (Carne 1958, Ohaus 1935, Cassis & Weir 1992, Zorn 2006b). Recent studies (Ramírez-Ponce & Morón 2009, Morón & Ramírez-Ponce 2012) have shown *Anomala* to be a heterogeneous mixture of species. They concluded that *Anomala* should be restricted to Old World species, while those from the New World be placed in *Paranomala* Casey and other genera.

While sorting out the Australian National Insect Collection (ANIC) material of Rutelinae we have discovered a third, apparently endemic, species of *Anomala* from the Northern Territory that prompted us to re-examine Australian material of this genus and lead to this paper.

Material and methods

The terms used in morphological descriptions follow Lawrence *at al.* (2011) and Lawrence & Ślipiński (2013). Measurements were made as follows: body length—apical edge of clypeus to apex of elytra; body width (also as elytral width)—elytra at widest point; pronotal length—median line from anterior margin to posterior margin; pronotal width—across widest point; elytral length—base of scutellum to elytral apex along suture; ratio interocular width/head width: measured in dorsal view at greatest width of head and nearest interocular distance (usually on anterior frons).

The habitus photographs and of their parts of entire beetles were made using Visionary Digital BK–Plus Lab

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