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A New Genus of Prioninae (Coleoptera, Cerambycidae) from China[1]

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Abstract—*Parapsilotarsus* **gen. n.** with type species *Prionus potaninei* Lameere, 1912 is described. The new genus is intermediate between *Mesoprionus* Jakovlev, 1887 and *Psilotarsus* Motschulsky, 1860. A new combination *Parapsilotarsus potaninei* (Lameere, 1912), **comb. n.** is made.

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The problem with Chinese species traditionally classified inside *Prionus* Geoffroy, 1762 is still in need of further investigation. Recently two new genera were established for three species: *Unilaprionus* Lin et Danilevsky, 2017 for *Prionus unilamellatus* Pu, 1987 and *Plumiprionus* Lin et Danilevsky, 2017 for *Prionus boppei* Lameere, 1912 (type species) and *P. plumicornis* Pu, 1987.

Recently, A.M. Shapovalov (Zoological Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences, St. Petersburg) received several specimens of *Prionus potaninei* Lameere, 1912, sent me a series (3 males: "China, N Sichuan, Venchuan env., 1400 m, 30.6.2007, A. Gorodinsky leg.") for examination and drew my attention to the peculiar morphology of the taxon.

The species, described as *Prionus potaninei* Lameere, 1912, has been up to now placed in the genus *Prionus* (Semenov Tian-Shanskij, 1927 [as *P. potanini*]; Gressitt, 1951; Hua, 2002 [as *P. potanini*]; Drumont and Komiya, 2006 [with a description of females], 2010); Hua et al., 2009; Li et al., 2014). One of the most important characters of *Prionus* species are the widely rounded lobes of 3rd tarsal joints, while in *P. potaninei* lobes of the 3rd tarsal joint are sharpened or spiniform attenuated. Therefore, the traditional generic placement of this species is wrong. Two Prioninae genera with 11- or 12-jointed antennae, short antennal processes and sharpened lobes of the 3rd tarsal joint are close to *Prionus*: *Mesoprionus* Jakovlev, 1887 and *Psilotarsus* Motschulsky, 1860.

The lobes of the 3rd joint of the fore tarsus in most of *Mesoprionus* species are angulate, but not spiniform sharpened; if they are sharpened (in males of *M. angustatus* (Jakovlev, 1887)), then antennae are 11-jointed, but such antennae never occur in *Psilotarsus*; in addition, the elytra in the females of *Psilotarsus* are more or less shortened and never totally cover the abdomen, and the females are flightless. The elytra in *Mesoprionus* females are not reduced, completely concealing the abdomen, and females of many species were observed flying.

Thus, morphologically *Prionus potaninei* is intermediate between *Mesoprionus* and *Psilotarsus*, and this species deserves separation as a new genus, which is described below.

Genus ***PARAPSILOTARSUS*** Danilevsky, gen. n.

Figs. 1–3

Type species: *Prionus potaninei* Lameere, 1912.

Description. Head and prothorax relatively large, though mandibles short, not curved ventrally; male antennae 12-jointed, slightly longer than body, with strongly serrate 4–11th joints; female antennae 11-jointed, nearly filiform, surpassing elytral middle; middle antennal joints with relatively long appendages; prothorax with 3 lateral spines; pronotum coarsely rugose; female elytra long and wide, almost completely concealing abdomen; wings also well developed, but not enough for performing flight—females not able to fly (Drumont and Komiya, 2006); lobes of 3rd joint of fore tarsus angularly sharpened or with very short spines; other tarsi with lobes of 3rd joint spiniform attenuated apically.

[1] This article was originally submitted by the author in English and is first published here.

Figs. 1–3. *Parapsilotarsus potaninei* (Lameere, 1912), **comb. n.,** male right fore (1), middle (2), and hind (3) tarsus.

Comparative notes. The new genus is rather close to *Mesoprionus*, but the head and prothorax are rather large; the antennae are comparatively longer; the male antennae are 12-jointed, while the female antennae are 11-jointed; the pronotal sculpture is extremely rough, coarsely rugose.

According to Drumont and Komiya (2006), *Parapsilotarsus potaninei* (Lameere, 1912), **comb. n.** is close to *Prionus kucerai* Drumont et Komiya, 2006 and *P. murzini* Drumont et Komiya, 2006, but the lobes of the 3rd tarsal joint in both species are evenly rounded like in normal *Prionus*, and the head and prothorax are not enlarged.

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