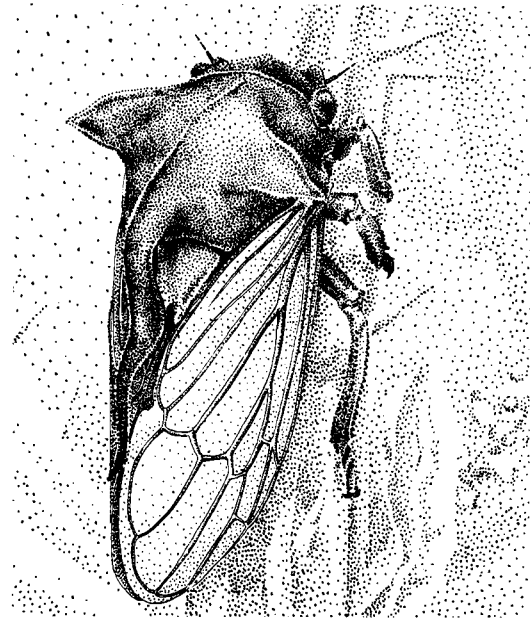


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## The taxonomic position of two Prioninae (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae) from Central Asia

### Таксономический статус двух усачей (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae) подсемейства Prioninae из Центральной Азии

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KEY WORDS: Cerambycidae, Prioninae, taxonomy, new combination, new synonyms, China, Tibet, Afghanistan.

КЛЮЧЕВЫЕ СЛОВА: Cerambycidae, Prioninae, таксономия, новая комбинация, новые синонимы, Китай, Тибет, Афганистан.

ABSTRACT. New combination is proposed: *Pseudoprionus altimontanus* (Kabakow et Dolin, 1996) **comb. nov.** was originally described as *Prionus* Geoffroy, 1762. New synonyms are established: *Prionoblemma* Jakovlev, 1887 = *Usprion* Plavilstshikov, 1915, **syn. nov.** and *Prionoblemma przewalskyi* Jakovlev, 1887 = *Usprion semenovianum* Plavilstshikov, 1915, **syn. nov.**

РЕЗЮМЕ. Предложено новое сочетание: *Pseudoprionus altimontanus* (Kabakow et Dolin, 1996) **comb. nov.**; вид был первоначально описан в роде *Prionus* Geoffroy, 1762. Установлена новая синонимия: *Prionoblemma* Jakovlev, 1887 = *Usprion* Plavilstshikov, 1915, **syn. nov.** и *Prionoblemma przewalskyi* Jakovlev, 1887 = *Usprion semenovianum* Plavilstshikov, 1915, **syn. nov.**

*Prionus altimontanus* was described by Kabakow and Dolin in 1996 from three localities in Central Afghanistan. According to the original description type materials was equipped with three different labels: “Afghanistan, Prov. Uruzdan, N von Schachrestan, 2500 m, 20–25.07.1970, O.N. Kabakow” — type locality, “Afghan., SW Panjav / Qonay Pass, 3300 m, 26.7.1970, Kabakow and “Zabolj Prov., W von Argandab, 2400 m, 17.07.1973, O.N. Kabakow”. One of paratypes — male [see “Gallery” in www.cerambycidae.net] is preserved in the collection of Zoological Institute (Sankt-Petersburg) with the label: “Centr. Afghanistan, Oruzgan, Schachrestan, 2000 m”, 22.7.1970, O. Kabakow leg.”

The species looks to be intermediate between two genera *Pogonarthron* Semenov, 1900 and *Pseudoprionus* Pic, 1898. Its antennae are very similar to bilamellate antennae of *Pogonarthron semenovianum* (Plavilstshikov, 1936), while in *Pseudoprionus* antennal joints have very wide round lamellae; but general appearance is rather similar to *Pseudoprionus bienerti* (Heyden,

1885), as well as very dark body colour; besides typical big triangular apical palpal joints show real connections of the species, though palps are not so long as in *Pseudoprionus*. So, *Pseudoprionus altimontanus* (Kabakow et Dolin, 1996) **comb. nov.** must be accepted.

*Usprion semenovianum* Plavilstshikov, 1915 was described on the base of a single male collected in China Turkestan: “Karakash river, Tibet border, 10–12,000 f. above the level of the see (G.I. Sobolevsky) IX.1913”. The type was absent in Plavilstshikov’s collection (Zoological Museum of Moscow University) and no specimens were known up to now. In fact the holotype [see “Gallery” in www.cerambycidae.net] was constantly preserved here, but with handwritten label “*Prionus przewalskyi* B.Jak., N.Plavilstshikov det.” (Plavilstshikov’s hand). This male of *Prionoblemma przewalskyi* Jakovlev, 1887 (the taxon was described from north Tibet border: “pied des monts Bourkhane — Boudda” — East Tzaidam) is totally fitting to the original description of *Usprion semenovianum* Plavilstshikov, 1915, including color, size, all morphological characters and handwritten original label: “Китайск. Туркест., р. Каракашъ, на гран. Тибета, 10–12.000', IX.1913, Г. И. Соболевский” [“China Turkest., Karakash r., Tibet border, 10–12,000', IX.1913, G.I. Sobolevsky”]. A pair of *Prionoblemma przewalskyi* Jakovlev, 1887 (see “Gallery” in www.cerambycidae.net) is preserved in Zoological Institute (Sankt-Petersburg) in very good condition with the label: “China, Zaba-Kurgan, 26.6.1890, Grombzhovsky leg.” The holotype of *Usprion semenovianum* Plavilstshikov, 1915 differs from the male mentioned above only by black “T”-like pronotal spot, which was specially mentioned in the original description. So, *Prionoblemma* Jakovlev, 1887 = *Usprion* Plavilstshikov, 1915, **syn. nov.** and *Prionoblemma przewalskyi* Jakovlev, 1887 = *Usprion semenovianum* Plavilstshikov, 1915, **syn. nov.** The combination “*Prionus* (*Prionob-*

*lemma) przewalskii* B.Jak." was published by N.N. Plavilstshikov [1933].

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