

A new species of *Chinotaphes* from Laos and a new replacement name for *Proteros* Kazantsev (Coleoptera: Lycidae: Erotinae)

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Chinotaphes hmong sp. n. is described from Laos. The previously monotypic erotine genus *Chinotaphes* is redescribed. *Proterotaphes* nom. n. is proposed for another erotine genus, *Proteros* Kazantsev, 2004, preoccupied by *Proteros* Holmberg, 1917 (Hymenoptera).

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The genus *Chinotaphes* Bocák & Bocáková was erected for one species, *Ch. weibaoshanensis* Bocák & Bocáková, 1999, known from a single specimen from Yunnan (South China) (Bocák & Bocáková, 1999). After the phylogenetic analysis of Erotini and Dictyopterini, this poorly known genus was tentatively placed in the subtribe Dictyopterina (Dictyopterini) of the subfamily Erotinae (Kazantsev, 2004). The discovery of another species of this genus from Laos expands its distribution range and allows complementing its description.

A new replacement name is proposed for the generic name *Proteros* Kazantsev, 2004 (Erotinae: Taphini).

Chinotaphes Bocák & Bocáková, 1999

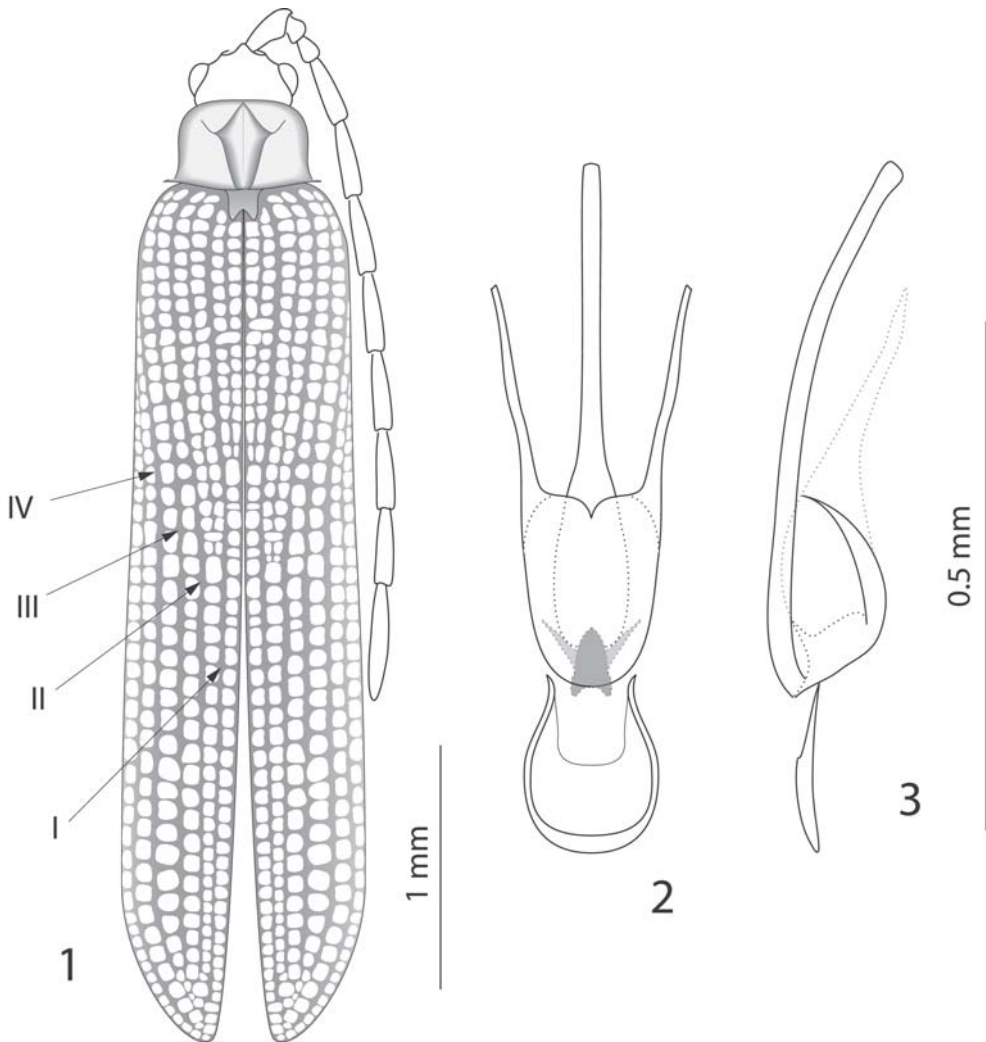
Chinotaphes Bocák & Bocáková, 1999: 48.

Type species: *Chinotaphes weibaoshanensis* Bocák & Bocáková, 1999.

Redescription. Head transverse, slightly narrowed behind eyes (Fig. 1). Fastigium right-angled. Labrum small, transverse. Eyes relatively small, spherical. Mandibles strongly curved. Maxillary palps 4-segmented, with ultimate segment pointed distally. Prementum divided; labial palps 1-segmented, slender; ultimate segment pointed distally. Gula absent; genal sclerites connected by moderately broad process. Antennal prominence relatively inconspicuous; antennal sockets separated by thin lamina. Antennae 11-segmented, filiform; antennal segment 3 about as long and wide as segment 2, segments 2 and 3 combined shorter than segment 4; segments 4-11 tuberculate, subequal in length (Fig. 1).

Pronotum transverse, with prominent median cell and short indistinct transverse carinae; posterior angles produced laterally. Prosternum short, Y-shaped. Thoracic spiracles moderately sclerotized and not protruding laterally beyond coxal limits. Mesonotum with scutellum not reaching scutal anterior margin; postnotal plate of scutellum broadly emarginate distally (Fig. 1). Mesoventrite short; mesepimeron conspicuously shorter than mesepisternum. Elytra long, narrow, parallel-sided, with four primary costae; interstices 1 and 2 with two rows of cells in proximal half and one row in distal half, interstices 3 and 4 with one row of cells, only last interstice with two complete rows of cells; reticulation weak, cells small and roundish; sparse elytral pubescence distributed along longitudinal costae. Metanotum elongate, with straight, short scuto-scutellar ridge; allocristae inconspicuous, starting slightly beyond of the middle of scutum; scutellum without median suture. Metaventrite laterally compressed; discrimen (metasternal suture) complete, reaching mesoventrite. Metathoracic wing with wedge cell absent; *cu-a* brace above *Cu* veins branching point; posterior and anterior edges with fringes of hairs.

Mesocoxae elongate, almost approximate distally; metacoxae oblique, located at ca. 45° to median body line, with inconspicuous longitudinal impression to accept femora. Mesotrochantins subequal to protrochantins. Trochanters elongate, connected to femora distally, metatrochanters less than one third of length of pertinent femur; tibiae proximally slightly curved, with minute spurs; tarsi narrow, segments 1-3 without plantar pads, segment 4 with apical plantar pad; all claws simple. Paraproct without distinct me-



Figs 1-3. *Chinotaphes hmong* sp. n., holotype; 1, body outline, 2, aedeagus ventrally, 3, aedeagus laterally.

dial suture; spiculum gastrale moderately long. Aedeagus symmetrical, with elongate straight median lobe and short parameres equipped with membranous distal projections; phallobase without median suture (Figs 2-3).

Diagnosis and comments. *Chinotaphes* appearing somewhat related to *Helcophorus* Fairmaire, one species of which, *H. tricolor* Kazantsev, also has parameres with non-sclerotized distal projections (Kazantsev, 2000), is readily distinguished by the labial structure, pointed ultimate palpomere of maxillary and labial palps, different arrangement of pronotal and elytral costae, absent wedge cell, absent plantar pads on tarsal

segments 1-3, etc. Bocák & Bocáková's (1999) assumption that each elytron in *Chinotaphes* distally has two primary and three secondary costae is arguable, since it is definitely the secondary costae that are prone to disappear in the first place; besides, such assumption implies that, proximally, there are double rows of cells between the secondary costae, which is unlikely.

Distribution. *Chinotaphes* is known from two localities in Eastern Asia, at the border of Palaearctic and Oriental regions, one in Yunnan, the other in Laos (Fig. 4).

Mode of life. Preimaginal forms have not been observed or collected. Imagines are known from

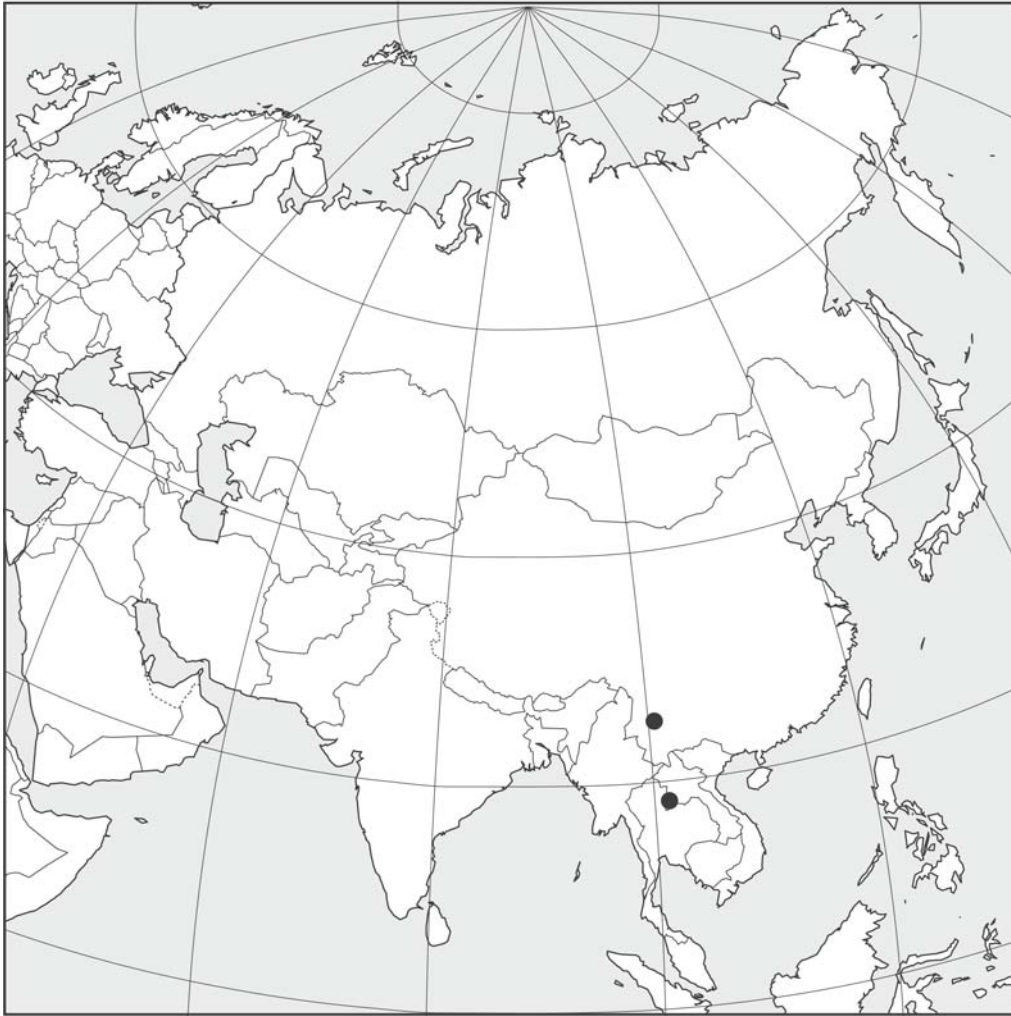


Fig. 4. Distribution of *Chinotaphes* Bocák & Bocáková.

two male specimens, one of which was collected at 2800-3000 m above sea level. The second specimen was taken in a flight intercept trap. The biotope data are not available.

***Chinotaphes hmong* sp. n.**
(Figs 1-3)

Holotype. ♂, Laos, Kamneua, Seleui vill., Phu Pan, FIT, 16-24.V.2004, T. Tsuru et al. leg. (author's collection).

Description. *Male*. Uniformly black. Head dorsally with conspicuous roundish emargination behind antennal prominence. Eyes relatively small (separated medially above by about 4 times their radius). Ultimate maxillary palpal segment elongate, longer than segments 2 and 3 combined.

Antennae reaching to two thirds of elytra; antennal segment 4 about 1.2 times as long as segments 2 and 3 combined (Fig. 1); segments 4-11 with relatively long erect pubescence. Pronotum transverse, rectangular, 1.7 times as wide as long, with straight sides, rounded anterior angles and small acute posterior angles (Fig. 1). Scutellum square, conspicuously emarginate at apex. Elytra long, 5.5 times as long as wide humerally and ca. 8 times as long as pronotum; interstices with double or single rows of roundish cells (Fig. 1). Pubescence decumbent. Aedeagus with straight, widened proximally median lobe and relatively short proximal part of parameres (Figs 2-3).

Length: 4.3 mm. Width (humerally): 0.95 mm.
Female. Unknown.

Diagnosis. *Chinotaphes hmong* sp. n. is distinguishable from *C. weibaoshanensis* by the coloration, straight lateral pronotal margins (Fig. 1) and the relatively shorter proximal part of the parameres of the aedeagus (Figs 2-3).

Etymology. The species is named after an indigenous people inhabiting mountains of southern Yunnan, Thailand and Laos.

Proterotaphes nom. n.

Proteros Kazantsev, 2004: 19, junior homonym of *Proteros* Holmberg, 1917 (Hymenoptera).

Type species: *Proteros sempiternus* Kazantsev, 2004: 19.

Etymology. The name is derived from “proteros” for “early” and the genus name *Taphes* alluding to the probability that the new genus has

features characteristic of the ancestors of the contemporary taphines.

Acknowledgements

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