

A new species of *Therates* LATREILLE, 1817 from Southern Vietnam (Coleoptera: Cicindelidae)

● ANDREY V. MATALIN, JÜRGEN WIESNER* & PAVEL A. UDOVICHENKO

Abstract. A new tiger beetle species, *Therates dalatensis* sp. nov. is described from Southern Vietnam. This new species is distinguished from the related *Therates kaliakini* MATALIN & WIESNER, 2006 by size, colour and sculpturing of elytra, and shape of the labrum and aedeagus.

Key words. Coleoptera, Cicindelidae, *Therates*, Southern Vietnam, Oriental Region, taxonomy, new species.

Zusammenfassung. *Therates dalatensis* sp. nov. aus dem Süden Vietnams wird beschrieben. Die neue Art unterscheidet sich von der verwandten *Therates kaliakini* MATALIN & WIESNER, 2006 durch die geringere Größe, die Färbung und Skulptur der Flügeldecken und die Form des Labrums und des Aedeagus.

Introduction

Currently the list of species of tiger beetles of Vietnam includes 142 species (CASSOLA 2004, FEDORENKO & MATALIN 2011). The genus *Therates* LATREILLE, 1817 is represented by 12 species (ca 8.5% of all tiger beetle species known from the country), and until this time, *Therates kaliakini* MATALIN & WIESNER, 2006 was the sole representative of the 'obliquus' species-group (WIESNER, 1988; CASSOLA, 2004; MATALIN & WIESNER, 2006). Here we describe a new species that also belongs to this species-group.

Therates dalatensis sp. nov.

Holotype. ♂, Southern Vietnam, Da Lat plateau, 40 km SW from Da Lat, h ~975 m, 23.–29.IV.2007, leg. P. UDOVICHENKO; in coll. Zoological Institute of Russian Academy of Science (St. Petersburg).

Paratypes. 2♂, 1♀, same labeled as holotype (1♂, 1♀ in coll. Moscow State Pedagogical University; 1♂ in coll. J. WIESNER).

Derivato nominis. The new species is named after its type locality, the Da Lat Plateau.

Description. Total length (without labrum): 6.6–6.8 mm (mean 6.7 mm; n = 3) in males and 7.8 mm in female.

Head black with light greenish-blue luster, lateral edges of clypeus and anterior margin of genae near mandibular base dark rufescent; clypeus glabrous, supra-orbital area finely and shallowly wrinkled basally with a single seta in anterior part; frons shallowly and softly transverse wrinkled; anterior portion of suborbital grooves deep, vertex U-shaped and raised; posterior portion of suborbital grooves represented by three-four wide and shallow furrows, occiput arrow-like and distinctly elevated. Mandibles light yellow, with brown tooth apices. Labial and maxillary palpi pale, with slightly dark tinted apical joints. Labrum wider than long, 1.10–1.25 (mean 1.15; n = 3) times as wide as long in males and 1.2 in female; entirely rufescent, with six apical teeth and one lateral tooth on each side (Figs 5, 6). Antennae in males long, extending to base of medial fascia of elytral marking, in female relatively short, not extending to base of humeral lunula of elytral marking; sixth to eleventh antennomeres 1.8–1.2 times shorter than in males; scapus pale except black inner side with single long apical seta, second to fifth antennomeres brown, glabrous except very short thin apical setae on third to fifth antennomeres, antennomeres six to eleven dark brown, finely pubescent with short yellowish hairs, antennomeres ten and eleven slightly flattened and dilated in both sexes.

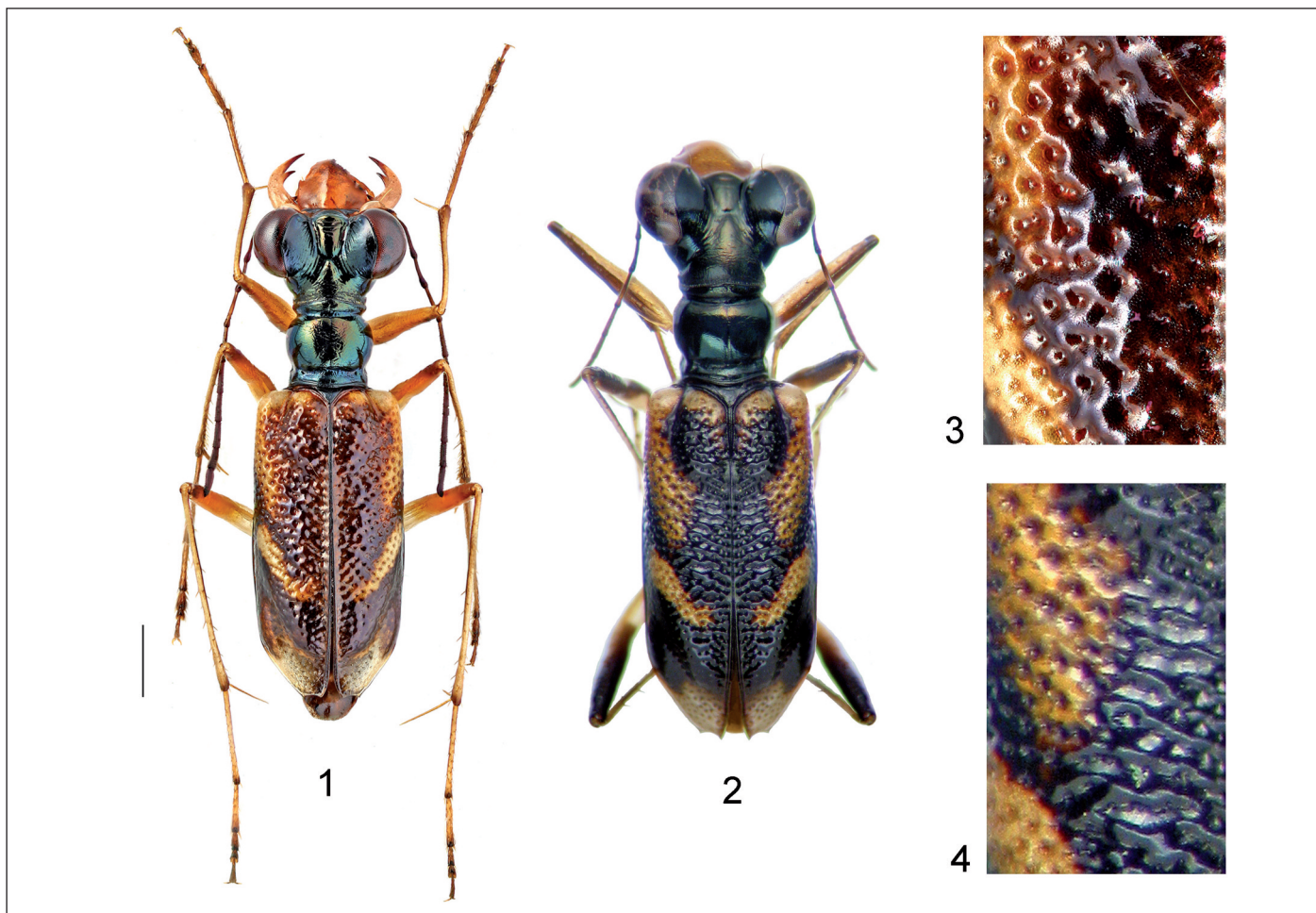
Pronotum as long as wide, black with distinct greenish-blue luster, finely but clearly wrinkled on disk around distinct midline, anterior groove glabrous, posterior one wrinkled. Thorax black with bluish reflection except pale coxal area; mesepisternum in males with shallow impression in anterior apical third, in female with small deep pit in centre.

Elytra in males 2.00–2.10 (mean 2.14; n = 3), and in female 2.17 times as long as wide, with distinct apical and basal rises; apical margin notched, with small but distinct tooth; chocolate-brown, in female with deep brown to blackish lateral margin; elytral disc with coarse sculpturing in middle part consisting of numerous deep punctures joint in short irregular transverse wrinkles in sutural area (Fig. 3), humeral area with numerous rounded dense deep pits and apical area with diffused shallow pits and lateral margin glabrous; scutellum black with greenish-blue reflection; disc of elytra with large pale apical spot and a long yellow humeral lunule associated with sub-humeral stria and narrowly (in one male paratype) or relatively broad (in holotype) jointed with long oblique yellow medial fascia (Figs 1, 8–10).

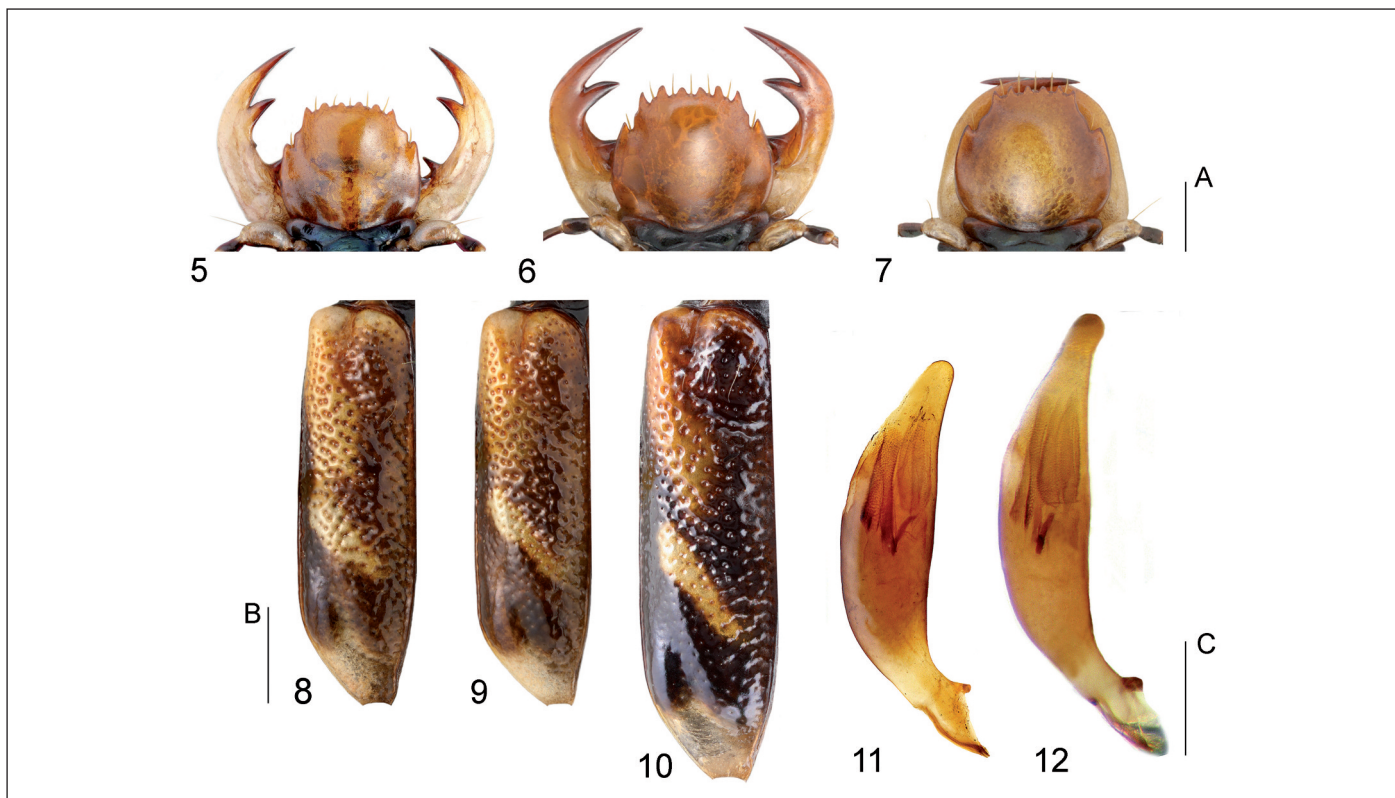
Abdominal sternites black; coxae, trochanters, base of hind, outer side of fore and middle femora, basal half of all fore and middle tibia as well as first to third basal hind tarsomeres pale, other parts of legs brown. Aedeagus 0.40–0.43 (mean 0.41; n = 3) times as long as elytra, relatively broad with short apical lobe blunt rounded and not bulbous apically; internal sac with small thin tooth and two longitudinal spinulate fields (Fig. 11).

Diagnosis. A new species belongs to 'obliquus' species-group (WIESNER, 1988) and related to *T. kaliakini* MATALIN & WIESNER, 2006. However, *T. dalatensis* sp. nov. can be easily recognized by its smaller size (total length of male *T. kaliakini* = 7.3 mm, male *T. dalatensis* = 6.6–

* 112th contribution towards the knowledge of the Cicindelidae



Figs 1–4. *Therates* species. 1. *Therates dalatensis* sp. nov., paratype ♂. 2. *Therates kalaikini* MATALIN & WIESNER, paratype ♀. 3-4. sculpture of the central part of left elytra. 3. *Therates dalatensis* sp. nov., paratype ♂. 4. *Therates kalaikini* MATALIN & WIESNER, paratype ♀. Scale bar for Figs 1, 2: 1 mm.



Figs 5–12. *Therates* species. 5–7. Labrum. 8–10. Left elytra. 11, 12. Aedeagus (left lateral view). 5–6, 8–11. *Therates dalatensis* sp. nov. (5, 8, 11. Holotype; 6, 10. Paratype ♀; 9. Paratype ♂). 7, 12. *Therates kalaikini* MATALIN & WIESNER (7. Paratype ♀; 12. Holotype ♂). Scale bars: A for 5–7; B for 8–10; C for 11, 12; A, C – 0.5 mm; B – 1 mm.

6.8 mm; female *T. kaliakini* total length = 7.5–8.2 mm, female *T. dalatensis* = 7.8 mm) and more delicate elytral sculpturing (Figs 3, 4). In addition *T. dalatensis* can be distinguished by slightly wider labrum (1.09 to 1.10 times as wide as long in *T. kaliakini*, but 1.10–1.25 in *T. dalatensis*) (Figs 5–7) and non transversal pronotum (in *T. kaliakini* 1.04–1.11 times as wide as long, and in *T. dalatensis* as long as wide). Finally, these species differ in the shape of the aedeagus: *T. kaliakini* has an apical lobe longer and distinctly bulbous apically, and *T. dalatensis* has a distinctly shorter aedeagus with no bulbous apex (Figs 11–12).

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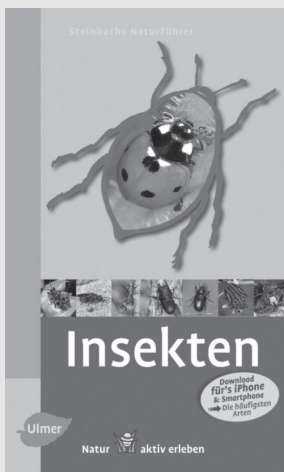
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