

SCIENTIFIC NOTE

Removal of *Hannaphota distincta* Landin (Coleoptera: Carabidae) from Pterostichini to Platynini

In 1947 H. E. Andrewes reviewed the Carabidae collected by Dr. René Malaise during a 1934 expedition to Burma (Myanmar) and India. Landin (1955) subsequently studied Malaise's material and described many new species from the uniques that Andrewes had not formally named. One unique specimen labeled by Andrewes as "Pterostichini genus et sp. nov." was collected in Kambaiti, Burma. Landin (1955:419) followed Andrewes' initial assessment of the species, describing it as a new genus and species in Pterostichini. Landin remarked that the species "seems to hold an isolated taxonomic position, although it is related to genus *Caelostomus* (subtrib. *Drimostomati*)." He did not offer any specific character that would place these taxa together, but only provided differential characters for identification of the new genus *Hannaphota* Landin.

Most taxa classified by Straneo (1938, 1942) in Caelostomini (=Drimostomides Chaudoir), including *Caelostomus* MacLeay, have a combination of recognizable characteristics including: 1, an externally visible plica at the apices of the elytra; 2, parascutellar stria present and joined to stria 1; 3, angular base of stria 1 absent; 4, single puncture, when present, at the base of stria 3, and one puncture on the elytral disc in stria 3. Most significantly, caelostomines have the aedeagus reversed in orientation when in repose, from the common state of most carabids, left side up, to a right side up position.

Examination of the type specimen of *H. distincta* Landin confirms that it lacks nearly all of these caelostomine characteristics. This species: 1, does not have a plica anterad the subapical situation of the elytron; 2, the parascutellar stria is absent and stria 1 is complete with an angular basal section; 3, a single puncture is present at the base of stria 2, and two punctures are present on the elytral disc in stria 3. The unique specimen is female so aedeagal orientation is not known. At best the general habitus of *H. distincta* (Fig. 1) might be considered similar to some species of the African genera *Trichillinus* Straneo or *Strigomerus* Chaudoir, but these taxa have all or most of the typical caelostomine characteristics. Any similarity to Oriental *Caelostomus* is superficial due to the compact, convex and robust form of *Hannaphota*.

Conversely, *Hannaphota* can be placed as a member of Platynini and excluded from any pterostichine group based on the following combination of characteristics: 1, antennae filiform and antennomeres symmetrically joined; 2, elytra without plica; 3, elytral disc with 2 punctures in third interval; 4, maxillary palpifer with single seta near base; 5, forth tarsomere notably bilobed. The presence of the lateral pronotal seta coupled with absence of the basolateral seta is also occasionally observed in Oriental platynines, including *Colpodes levator* Andrewes (1947), *Colpodes planops* Louwerens and *C. emdeni* Louwerens (1953), and species of



Fig. 1. Dorsal Habitus of holotype of *Hannaphota distincta* Landin.

Lithagonum Darlington (1950). This condition is common in species of *Blackburnia* Sharp—a Hawaiian clade with roots in the southwest Pacific (Liebherr and Zimmerman 2000). Absence of the basolateral seta is an exceedingly rare condition in any pterostichine group. The unique holotype specimen is glued to a card and partially disarticulated. It is clearly too fragile to subject to dissection and so other important character systems, e.g., female tract and pygidial glands were not studied.

The platynine fauna of the Oriental region is largely unstudied and the relationships among the various genera remain untested. However, overall similarity makes it likely that *Hannaphota* is related to a complex of Asian genera including *Lepcha* Andrewes (1930).

In conclusion *Hannaphota distincta* lacks pterostichine Caelostomini characters but does share significant similarities with other Platynini. It is therefore removed to a new tribal placement *incertae sedis* within Platynini.

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SCIENTIFIC NOTE

New Records and Interesting Observations of California Scarabaeoid Beetles (Coleoptera: Ochodaeidae, Geotrupidae, Scarabaeidae)

Evans (2004) listed 62 genera and 357 species of scarabaeoid beetles from California. Three species of scarabaeoid beetles, new to the California beetle fauna, were collected or discovered while conducting a survey in San Diego County that began in 1991. Data recorded here are based on collections by the author or examination of museum specimens. Voucher specimens of beetles new to California are deposited in the San Diego Natural History Museum.

The author collected a single specimen of the ochodaed beetle, *Parochodaeus peninsularis* (Horn), at Tamarisk Grove Campground (33°08.10'N, 116°22.367'W), Anza-Borrego Desert State Park, 1-IX-1993, at blacklight. This collection represents a new state record for the genus and a new country and state record for the species. *Parochodaeus peninsularis* has been collected in Baja California Norte (Morón 2003) and Sierra La Laguna, Baja California Sur (McPeak, unpubl. data).

The geotrupid beetle, *Bolborhombus parvulus* Cartwright has been collected in Baja California Sur, Mexico (Howden 1964; Morón 2003). Scott Haskins collected a male *B. parvulus* in San

Diego County at Scissors Crossing (33°05.850'N, 116°28.520'W), 25-VIII-1984, at blacklight. This is a new state record for the genus and a new country and state record for the species.

A series of 72 specimens of *Ataenius stephani* Cartwright was taken by the author at blacklight in San Diego County at Borrego Springs Resort Golf Club (33°14.099'N, 116°21.036'W), Borrego Springs, 26-31-VIII-2001. This species is commonly collected at light and blacklight in Arizona (Cartwright 1974). This is the first record of the species in California. This record extends the known range of *A. stephani* 310 miles westward, from Tucson, AZ, across the width of most of Arizona and California, including what are likely very hostile habitats; the possibility exists that the species is adventitious at this locality, perhaps in association with the golf course.

Diplotaxis dahli Cazier was described from three specimens taken on California juniper, *Juniperus californica* Carrière, 7 miles west of Coalinga, Fresno County, California, March 1940 (Vaurie 1960). This species closely resembles *D. sierrae* Fall and *D. insignis* LeConte, but is easily distinguished by the setae on the elytra. Many researchers and collectors have since sampled the site west of Coalinga, apparently without capturing *D. dahli* (Alan Hardy and Scott McCleve, pers. comm.). The author sampled the Coalinga site in 2002 and 2003. I ran two blacklights on 28-VI-2002, 6.8 miles west of Coalinga on Hwy 198, at the Curry Mountain Access parking area. This site is believed to be very near the type locality. Two specimens each of *D. insignis* LeConte and *D. subangulata* LeConte were taken at blacklight. In addition, *Juniperus* was beaten during the day and searched at night. No *D. dahli* were collected. The Curry Mountain Access site was sampled again 21-V-2003. *Juniperus* was beaten and searched day and night and two blacklights were run. No *Diplotaxis* were taken on the juniper. However, two male *D. dahli* and 14 *D. insignis* were collected at blacklight. This is the first record of *D. dahli* since it was originally collected in 1940. One specimen is in the Scott McCleve collection and the other is retained by the author.

I wish to thank Scott McCleve for reviewing the paper and identifying *D. dahli*, Dave Carlson for identifying *Parochodaeus peninsularis*, and Robert Gordon for identifying *Ataenius stephani*. I also wish to thank Art Evans for reviewing this paper and the California State Parks for providing a permit to work in Anza-Borrego Desert State Park.

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