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Glischrochilus (*Librodor*) *forcipatus* (Fairmaire, 1889) rediscovered (Coleoptera: Nitidulidae)

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Abstract

Glischrochilus (*Librodor*) *forcipatus* (Fairmaire, 1889) has been known from the single holotype which could not be dissected, so that the status of the species remained doubtful. New specimens of *G. forcipatus*, recently collected after ca. 120 years, are redescribed and compared with related species *G.* (*L.*) *japonius* (Motschulsky, 1857), *G.* (*L.*) *jelineki* Lasoń, 2009 and *G.* (*L.*) *parvipustulatus* (Kolbe, 1886). Validity of *G. forcipatus* is confirmed and key for identification of the similar species is given.

Key words: Coleoptera, Nitidulidae, *Glischrochilus*, taxonomy, redescription, China, Palaearctic region

Introduction

Librodor forcipatus Fairmaire, 1889 was described from the Sichuan province of China. The number of type specimens was not indicated by Fairmaire (1889), but the original description suggests that it was based on the single specimen, deposited in the Muséum national d´histoire naturelle, Paris. The species was transferred to genus *Glischrochilus* Reitter, 1873 by Grouvelle (1913) and later examined and redescribed by Jelínek (1975). As stated already in the original description, *Glischrochilus forcipatus* is similar to the common and widely distributed *G. japonius* (Motschulsky, 1857) and it was considered as a possible synonym of the latter by Kirejtshuk (1992). Recently one of us (AL) received four specimens of *Glischrochilus* from the Sichuan province, which appeared to be conspecific with the holotype of *G. forcipatus* and which enabled us to examine the male genitalia and other details for the first time.

Glischrochilus forcipatus belongs to the informal *G. japonius*-complex of the subgenus *Librodor* Reitter, 1884, tentatively proposed for the purpose of this paper and including the Far Eastern species *G. japonius*, *G. jelineki* Lasoń, 2009 and *G. parvipustulatus* (Kolbe, 1886). Species of this complex are characterized by a large body size, dorsum with more or less developed pubescence, temples behind eyes more or less obtusely angulate and prominent (dorsal view), with oval concavity opposing anterior pronotal corners (posterolateral view), labrum heavily sclerotized, subtruncate or with 1–3 more or less developed small protuberances, base of pronotum completely bordered, shallowly concave besides posterior angles, which are not projecting posteriorly. Pubescence of dorsum is well developed in *G. parvipustulatus*, but only rudimentary and indistinct in other species, sometimes apparently more or less sore. It is possible that some of these characters are rather correlated with the large body size and may not indicate the relationship between the examined species.

Characteristic feature of *G. japonius* complex is further sexual dimorphism in the size/shape of mandibles. Male mandibles are subject of allometric variation and with their size is correlated the width of head capsule as well as the distance between anterior pronotal angles and hence the ratio distance between posterior pronotal angles: distance between anterior pronotal angles (PWP/PWA index). Perhaps also the shape of labrum and relative length of scapus are subjects of allometric variation. These characters are therefore of a low diagnostic value. The allometric variation is known in males of *G. japonius* and *G. parvipustulatus*; it may occur also in *G. jelineki* and *G. forcipatus*, which are, however, currently known only in three or five specimens respectively.

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