Zootaxa 624: 1–10 (2004)
www.mapress.com/zootaxa/

ISSN 1175-5326 (print edition)
ZOOTAXA
ISSN 1175-5334 (online edition)

624

A new *Bursaphelenchus* species (Nematoda: Parasitaphelenchidae) sharing characters with Ektaphelenchidae from the People's Republic of China

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Abstract

Several pine wood and bark samples from the suburban forest of Nanjing, China were investigated for the occurrence of *Bursaphelenchus* species. Both samples collected from damaged or dead *Pinus thunbergii* and *Pinus massoniana*, which were also attacked by *B. xylophilus*, revealed the presence of *Bursaphelenchus lini* sp. n. The new species is 673 (450–800)/ 898 (696–1100) µm long for males and females, resp., has a 19 (17–21)/ 20 (18–23) µm long stylet lacking basal knobs or swellings**,** three lateral lines, 16–21 µm long spicules with a high condylus and a finely rounded rostrum almost in the middle of the spicules**,** a distinct bursa at the male tail terminus, and a tapering female tail with a curved, slightly ventrally bent terminus and finely rounded end. The vagina is wide with strong half ring-like sclerotization in its anterior part. The relatively short postuterine branch is about 1.5 body diam. long. *Bursaphelenchus lini* sp. n. is similar to *B. teratospicularis*, *B. hylobianum*, *B. abietinus*, *B. hellenicus* and *B. rainulfi* in the shape of spicules and female tail. It differs from the last four species by the longer stylet and spicules as well as by vulval shape and from *B. teratospicularis* by the somewhat different shape of the female tail (terminus thinner and more ventrally bent in *B. lini* sp. n.), the lack of basal thickenings of the stylet, the greater body length (673/ 898 µm *vs* 606/673 µm), and the different shape of the distal end of spicules. *Bursaphelenchus lini* sp. n. shares characters of Bursaphelenchinae (Parasitaphelenchidae), i. e. vulva position at 76%, strongly recurved male tail and distinct terminal bursa, and some characters of Ektaphelenchidae, i. e. inconspicuous rectum and anus, intestine ending in a blind sac, posterior position of the valve plates in the median bulb, strongly sclerotized vagina and relatively broad lumened stylet.

Key words: Nematoda, Parasitaphelenchidae, Ektaphelenchidae, *Bursaphelenchus spp.*, *B. lini*, morphology, morphometrics, distribution, taxonomy, new species, China

Accepted by B.J. Adams: 19 Aug. 2004; published: 1 Sept. 2004