

A new genus *Microphylacinus* and revision of the closely related *Phylacinus* Fairmaire, 1896 (Coleoptera: Tenebrionidae: Pedinini) from Madagascar

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Abstract

Two new species from the genus *Phylacinus* Fairmaire, 1896 (*Phylacinus fisheri* sp. nov., *P. kavanaughi* sp. nov.) and a new genus *Microphylacinus* gen. nov. with a single species *Microphylacinus verendus* sp. nov. are described. These genera are distributed mainly along the coast of Madagascar. The material studied was acquired from California Academy of Sciences expeditions conducted between 2000 and 2002. Examined specimens allowed us to revise the genus *Phylacinus* and confirm previously described species. New localities were recorded for *Phylacinus peyrierasi* Ardoin, 1967 and *Phylacinus ferreri* Iwan, 2004. A key is proposed to the species of *Phylacinus*. *Microphylacinus* differs from *Phylacinus* by its small size, sulcate fronto-clypeal suture and fully divided aedeagal tegmen.

Key words: Melambiina, aedeagal tegmen, *Phylacinus fisheri* sp. nov., *Phylacinus kavanaughi* sp. nov., *Microphylacinus verendus* sp. nov.

Introduction

The presence of a unipatriate aedeagal tegmen place *Phylacinus* Fairmaire, 1896 in the subtribe Melambiina Mulsant & Rey, 1854. However, *Phylacinus* differs from other Melambiina by the presence of lateral gaps in anterior aspect of the tegmen. *Phylacinus* is also the only representative of this subtribe on Madagascar.

Up to now, three species of *Phylacinus* were known: *asperipennis* Fairmaire, 1896, *ferreri* Iwan, 2004 and *peyrierasi* Ardoin, 1967. These taxa were represented only by few individuals which made the systematic analysis of this group difficult. New specimens of this group were collected during expeditions organized by the California Academy of Sciences. This material allowed us to review the genus *Phylacinus* and describe two new species, *Phylacinus fisheri* sp. nov. and *Phylacinus kavanaughi* sp. nov. During our analysis, we also found several specimens with the aedeagal tegmen entirely divided by the lateral gap in to two parts, we describe these as *Microphylacinus* gen. nov. *verendus* sp. nov.

Material and methods

Our study was based on the material from the following collections:

BMNH	The Natural History Museum, London, United Kingdom (M. V. L. Barclay),
JFCS	Julio Ferrer Collection, Haninge, Sweden (J. Ferrer),
MNHN	Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle, Paris, France (Cl. Girard),
MZUF	Museo Zoologico dell'Università di Firenze, Florence, Italy (L. Bartolozzi),
CASC	California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, USA (D. Kavanaugh).
MIIZ	Museum and Institute of Zoology, Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw, Poland (D. Iwan)