



## Article

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### ***Onerunka longi*, a new genus and species of Thanerocleridae (Coleoptera) from Papua New Guinea, with systematic notes on the tribe Thaneroclerini**

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#### **Abstract**

*Onerunka longi* n. gen., n. sp., a new member of Thanerocleridae (Thaneroclerinae: Thaneroclerini) is described from Papua New Guinea. The new genus is geographically isolated and morphologically distinct. It is probably related to *Viticlerus* Miyatake, 1977 from Fiji and *Neoclerus* Lewis, 1892 from south-eastern Asia. The tribe Viticlerini Winkler, 1982 is synonymized with Thaneroclerini Chapin, 1924.

**Key words:** Papua New Guinea, Coleoptera, Thanerocleridae

#### **Introduction**

With about 30 described species, Thanerocleridae Chapin, 1924 is one of the least species-rich families of Cleroidea (Kolibáč & Leschen 2010). It is likely that all thaneroclerid species are predatory though, due to their relative scarcity, their biology is poorly known. The larvae and adults of the cosmopolitan species *Thaneroclerus buquet* (Say, 1835) are commonly found in storage facilities for tobacco products, coffee, rice, tea, etc., where they prey on various insect pests. Other thaneroclerids occur under tree bark, in fungi and even in termite mounds where they prey on anobiid beetles (Corporaal 1939; L. Bocák, M. Geiser: unpublished observations). Thanerocleridae are distributed worldwide (Kolibáč 1992, 1998, 1999; Kolibáč & Leschen 2010), although they lack known autochthonous species in the temperate zone of South America and all of Europe.

Apart from the sources mentioned herein, the adult morphology has been addressed by, for example, Crowson (1964), Kolibáč (1987, 1989a,b) and Lawrence *et al.* (1999a), while Böving & Champlain (1920, 1922), Foster (1976) and Lawrence *et al.* (1999b) have described larval morphology.

The group was established by Chapin (1924) as a subfamily of Cleridae then thoroughly revised by Corporaal (1939). More recently, Kolibáč (1992) assigned family rank to Thaneroclerinae and, in a phylogenetic study (Kolibáč 2004), recognised Thanerocleridae as the most advanced family within the thaneroclerid branch of Cleroidea, which also contains Chaetosomatidae and Metaxinidae (see also Bouchard *et al.* 2011, Kolibáč & Leschen 2010). Various authors sometimes classify Thanerocleridae in the traditional manner, as a subfamily of Cleridae. Opitz (2010) recognized two subfamilies, Isoclerinae and Thaneroclerinae, both classified within the family Cleridae.

According to my above-mentioned revision (Kolibáč 1992), two tribes, Zenodosini (*Zenodosus* Wolcott, 1910) and Thaneroclerini, were classified within Thanerocleridae. Thaneroclerini was divided into two subtribes: Thaneroclerina (*Thaneroclerus* Lefebvre, 1838; *Meprinogenus* Kolibáč, 1992; *Viticlerus* Miyatake, 1977; *Neoclerus* Lewis, 1892) and Isoclerina (*Isoclerus* Lewis, 1892; *Compactoclerus* Pic, 1939). The monotypic genera *Cyrtinoclerus* Chapin, 1924 (*C. cyrtinoides* Chapin, 1924: Philippines) and *Cleridopsis* Champion, 1913 (*C. latimanus* Champion, 1913: Guatemala, Panama), omitted or wrongly classified in my revision (see also Corporaal 1939, Crowson 1964), are in need of further study so should be treated as Thanerocleridae *incertae sedis*. Most recently, Bouchard *et al.* (2011) raised the ranking of all tribes to that of subfamily (Zenodosini = Zenodosinae, Thaneroclerini = Thaneroclerinae) and subtribes to that of tribe (Thaneroclerina = Thaneroclerini, Isoclerina = Isoclerini). In reassigning the rank of these taxa, the system better reflects a modern view on taxonomic categories.