



Revision of the Chinese *Geotragus* Schoenherr with description of three new species (Coleoptera: Curculionidae: Entiminae)

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Abstract

The Chinese representatives of the entimine weevil genus *Geotragus* are here revised, including redescriptions of the two previously known species, *G. himalayanus* Boheman, 1845 and *G. tuberculatus* Chen, 1990, and descriptions of three new species from the Hengduan Mountains, Yunnan province, China: *G. brevidens* **sp. nov.**, *G. declivis* **sp. nov.** and *G. rugosus* **sp. nov.**. Diagnostic characters of the genus, a key to Chinese species of *Geotragus* and a checklist of the now 11 known world species are also provided.

Key words: taxonomy, flightless weevils, Hengduan Mountains, Yunnan, southwestern China

Introduction

The broad-nosed weevil genus *Geotragus*, belonging to the speciose subfamily Entiminae (Coleoptera, Curculionidae), is mainly distributed in the Oriental Region including the southwestern parts of China. It is usually placed in the tribe Tanymericini Lacordaire, 1863, having lateral scrobes and postocular vibrissae on the lateral margin of the prothorax, and in the subtribe Piazomiina Reitter, 1913, because of the tarsal claws fused or reduced to one (Emden, 1944a).

In 1845, Schoenherr established *Geotragus* based on a single species *G. himalayanus* Boheman, 1845. Schoenherr (1847) established another genus *Taphrorhynchus* with the type species *T. assamensis* Schoenherr, 1847 based on specimens collected from Assam (north India), with a combined description for the genus and the species. Jekel (1849) listed *Geotragus* and *Taphrorhynchus* as two valid genera in his catalogue. In 1863, Lacordaire synonymized *Geotragus*, *Pachynotus* Redtenbacher, 1844 and *Taphrorhynchus* with *Piazomias* Schoenherr, 1840, without providing any particular explanation. Faust (1891) did not agree with Lacordaire's opinion and considered that each of these three genera were valid and could be distinguished from *Piazomias* by the metatibial apex with outer bevel and the metepisternal suture almost complete, only absent just before the metacoxae. In this paper, he provided a key to these genera and described *Taphrorhynchus assamensis* as a new species since he considered *Taphrorhynchus assamensis* Schoenherr to be an unavailable species because there was no separate description for it. Later, Faust (1893) synonymized *Taphrorhynchus assamensis* Faust, 1891 with *Brachyaspistes subfasciatus* Desbrochers des Loges, 1890 and *B. bituberosus* Desbrochers des Loges, 1891 with *Geotragus himalayanus*, not mentioning any reasons on which these taxonomic decisions were based.

Marshall (1916) synonymized *Taphrorhynchus* with *Geotragus*, described a new species *Geotragus fissicollis* from Burma, and provided diagnostic characters of the genus and descriptions of the then four known species. Marshall did not accept all changes made by Faust. He transferred *Sympiezomias ellipticus* Faust, 1895, *Brachyaspistes bituberosus* and *B. subfasciatus* to *Geotragus* as three valid species, *G. ellipticus*, *G. bituberosus* and *G. subfasciatus*, the latter having as a synonym *Taphrorhynchus assamensis* Faust. Most subsequent