

DESCRIPTIONS OF NEW SPECIES OF MELANOTINI FROM THE ORIENTAL REGION WITH NEW DISTRIBUTIONAL RECORDS AND SYNONYMICAL NOTES (COLEOPTERA, ELATERIDAE, MELANOTINAE)

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Abstract: Thirteen new species of Melanotini from the Oriental region, belonging to the genera *Melanotus* Eschscholtz (8), *Priopus* Castelnau (4) and *Neofleutiauxia* Platia (1), are described. New records, descriptions of one of the sexes and photographs of genitalia, not available at the time of the original descriptions, are provided for 14 species of the genera *Melanotus* Eschscholtz, *Priopus* Castelnau and *Neofleutiauxia* Platia. Synonymical notes on three species of *Melanotus* from West Bengal are given.

Key words: Coleoptera, Elateridae, Melanotini, *Melanotus*, *Priopus*, *Neofleutiauxia*, new species, synonyms, distribution, Oriental Region.

Descripción de nuevas especies de Melanotini de la región Oriental, con nuevos datos de distribución y notas de sinonimia (Coleoptera, Elateridae, Melanotinae)

Resumen: Se describen trece especies nuevas de Melanotini de la región Oriental, pertenecientes a los géneros *Melanotus* Eschscholtz (8), *Priopus* Castelnau (4) y *Neofleutiauxia* Platia (1). Se aportan nuevas citas, descripciones de uno de los sexos y fotografías de genitales, no disponibles en las descripciones originales, para 14 especies de los géneros *Melanotus* Eschscholtz, *Priopus* Castelnau y *Neofleutiauxia* Platia. Se dan notas sinónimicas de tres especies de *Melanotus* de Bengala Occidental [West Bengal].

Palabras clave: Coleoptera, Elateridae, Melanotini, *Melanotus*, *Priopus*, *Neofleutiauxia*, especies nuevas, sinonimia, distribución, Región Oriental.

Taxonomy/Taxonomía:

Melanotus gorkhalinus n. sp.

Melanotus lazikouensis n. sp.

Melanotus puchneri n. sp.

Priopus safranekei n. sp.

Neofleutiauxia hamanni n. sp.

Melanotus fujianensis n. sp.

Melanotus majori n. sp.

Melanotus phongsalyensis n. sp.

Priopus kerincianus n. sp.

Melanotus henanensis n. sp.

Melanotus micangensis n. sp.

Priopus bezdeki n. sp.

Priopus colonnellii n. sp.

Introduction

The examination of new material collected in recent years by private entomologists and museums gives us the opportunity to describe further 13 species of Melanotini, 8 in the genus *Melanotus*, 4 in *Priopus* and 1 in *Neofleutiauxia* and to update the distribution of other species in the same genera. In the Oriental region, except for Japan and Taiwan, we now know a total of 529 species of *Melanotus* and 176 species of *Priopus*, while *Neofleutiauxia*, which seems to be almost completely endemic of Sulawesi (one species was collected also from Java), contains 7 species.

Material and methods

Body measurements. Body length is measured along the midline from the anterior margin of the frons to the apex of the elytra; the width is measured across the broadest part of the entire beetle.

Pronotal measurements. The pronotal length is measured along the midline, the width at the broadest part, which is usually at the hind angles.

Abbreviations. The names of museums and private collections containing material studied are abbreviated as follows: **CCW:** Wien, Cate coll. **CDZ:** Zabreh na Morave, Kralove, Dusanek coll. **CMHK:** Hradec Kralove, Mertlik coll. **CPG:** Gatteo, Platia coll. **CRG:** Genova, Riese coll.

CSV: Vinningen, Schimmel coll. **MCSN:** Genova, Museo Civico di Storia Naturale: Dr. R. Poggi.

India, Nepal

Melanotus gorkhalinus n. sp.

Fig. 1, 22, 34

MATERIAL EXAMINED. Holotype ♂ - **Nepal:** without exact locality (CCW); 2 Paratypes ♂: same data as Ht (CCW; CPG).

DIAGNOSIS. The species resembles *M. zethneri* Platia & Schimmel, 2001, in its general shape and the globous second and third articles of antennae, but can be separated by the piceous colour, coarser puncturation of pronotum and aedeagus.

DESCRIPTION. Male. Moderately shiny; entirely black with antennae and legs reddish (the scutellum can also be partially reddish); covered with yellowish, dense, recumbent vestiture.

Frons flat, anterior margin nearly straight, very feeble thickened, directed downwards, not or just protruding above clypeus; punctures coarse, superficial, strongly umbilicate, contiguous.

Antennae (fig. 22) surpassing apicis of posterior angles of pronotum by just 0,5 articles; second and third articles small, globous; third a little longer than second; second and third, taken together, just shorter than fourth; fourth-tenth triangular, less than twice as long as wide; last longer than penultimate, subellipsoidal, constricted asymmetrically before the apex.

Pronotum 1x wider than long, widest at posterior angles, convex, with a very narrow mid-longitudinal smooth line (or simulating a feeble carina) from basal slope to the middle or further; sides narrowing from middle to apex, subsinuate posteriorly, posterior angles truncate, not divergent, with a short carina directed inward; lateral margins complete; puncturation rather uniformly distributed; punctures of central disc deep, umbilicate, with very short intervals, nearly contiguous; gradually denser and strongly umbilicate at sides, contiguous at lateral extremities.

Scutellum quadrangular, flat to feebly depressed, moderately punctured. Elytra as wide as base of pronotum, 2,8x longer than it, sides subparallel for about two-thirds of its length, then gradually tapering to apex; striae regularly marked and punctured; interstriae flat, with rough and densely punctured surface.

Prosternal process weakly bent inwards immediately behind the procoxal cavities.

Aedeagus as in fig. 1 (length 1,68 mm).

Female unknown.

Size. Length 11-11,5 mm; width 3,3-3,4 mm.

ETYMOLOGY. The name is derived from Gorkhali, the language of Nepal.

SYNONYMICAL NOTES

A book on the fauna of West Bengal was published recently by P. Chakraborty & S. Chakrabarti (2006). After an analysis of the descriptions, the following synonyms are proposed:

Melanotus bengalicus Chakraborty & Chakrabarti, 2006
syn. n. = *M. holzschuhi* Platia & Schimmel, 2001

Melanotus himalayanus Chakraborty & Chakrabarti, 2006
syn. n. = *M. hirticornis* (Herbst, 1806)

Melanotus kolkatai Chakraborty & Chakrabarti, 2006 **syn. n.** = *M. bengalensis* Platia & Schimmel, 2001

China

Melanotus fujianensis n. sp.

Fig. 2, 21, 35

MATERIAL EXAMINED. Holotype ♂ - **China:** C Fujian, Zlyungdongshan NW slope (25°46'N, 117°20'E), 13-14.VII.2007, J. Turna (CSV).

DIAGNOSIS. A species resembling *M. bocaki* Platia & Schimmel, 2001, from which it can be separated by the body less slender, the pronotum convexer with lighter puncturation and particularly by the very different shape of the male genitalia.

DESCRIPTION. Male. Moderately shiny; entirely ferruginous with indistinct blackish shadings on pronotum, around scutellum and base of elytra; covered with dense, partially semierect yellow-fulvous vestiture.

Frons flat, anterior margin simple, regularly arcuate, protruding above clypeus; punctures coarse, strongly umbilicate, contiguous.

Antennae (fig. 21) reaching the apicis of posterior angles of pronotum; second article subcylindrical, as long as wide; third subconical, just longer than second; second and third, taken together, notably shorter than fourth; fourth-tenth triangular, twice as long as wide or longer; last longer than penultimate, with subparallel sides, symmetrically constricted before the apex.

Pronotum 1,2x wider than long, widest at posterior angles, convex; sides arcuate, strongly narrowing from behind the middle to apex, sinuate before the posterior angles, the latter truncate, not diverging, with a robust carina prolonged to the basal third and subparallel to lateral margins; puncturation coarse, on disc deep, moderately umbilicate with very short intervals, gradually denser towards the sides, becoming strongly umbilicate, subovate, contiguous and giving the surface a substriate appearance.

Scutellum shield-shaped, flat, punctured. Elytra as wide as base of pronotum, 2,8x longer than it; sides narrowing gradually and regularly from base to apex; striae deeply impressed at base, more superficially punctured toward apex; interstriae subconvex at base, toward apex flat and densely punctured.

Prosternal process incurved immediately behind the procoxal cavities, not emarginate at apex.

Aedeagus as in fig. 2 (length 1,81 mm).

Female unknown.

Size. Length 16 mm; width 4,68 mm.

ETYMOLOGY. The species is named after the Chinese province of Fujian, where it was discovered.

Melanotus henanensis n. sp.

Fig. 3, 23, 36.

MATERIAL EXAMINED. Holotype ♂ - **China:** N Henan, Jiuligou (35°12'N, 112°26'E), 550 m, 11-12.VI.2007, J. Turna (CSV). 1 Paratype ♂ - same data as Ht (CPG).

DIAGNOSIS. A species related to *M. variabilis* Platia & Schimmel, 2001, from which it can be separated essentially by the shorter antennae, which nearly reach the apicis of posterior angles of pronotum.

DESCRIPTION. Male. Moderately shiny; entirely dark-brown, with antennae and legs ferruginous; covered with dense, recumbent, yellow-fulvous vestiture.

Frons flat, anterior margin simple, regularly and moderately arcuate, directed downwards and just protruding above clypeus; punctures coarse, superficial, strongly umbilicate with very short, shagreen intervals.

Antennae (fig. 23) not reaching apicis of posterior angles of pronotum by about 0,5 articles; second article as long as wide, third subconical, a little longer than wide and longer than second; second and third, taken together, as long as fourth; fourth-tenth triangular, less than twice as long as wide; last a little longer than penultimate, subellipsoidal.

Pronotum 1,25x wider than long, widest at posterior angles; regularly convex, with a shallow depression only at basal slope; sides arcuate, strongly narrowing from behind the middle to apex, sinuate before the posterior angles, the

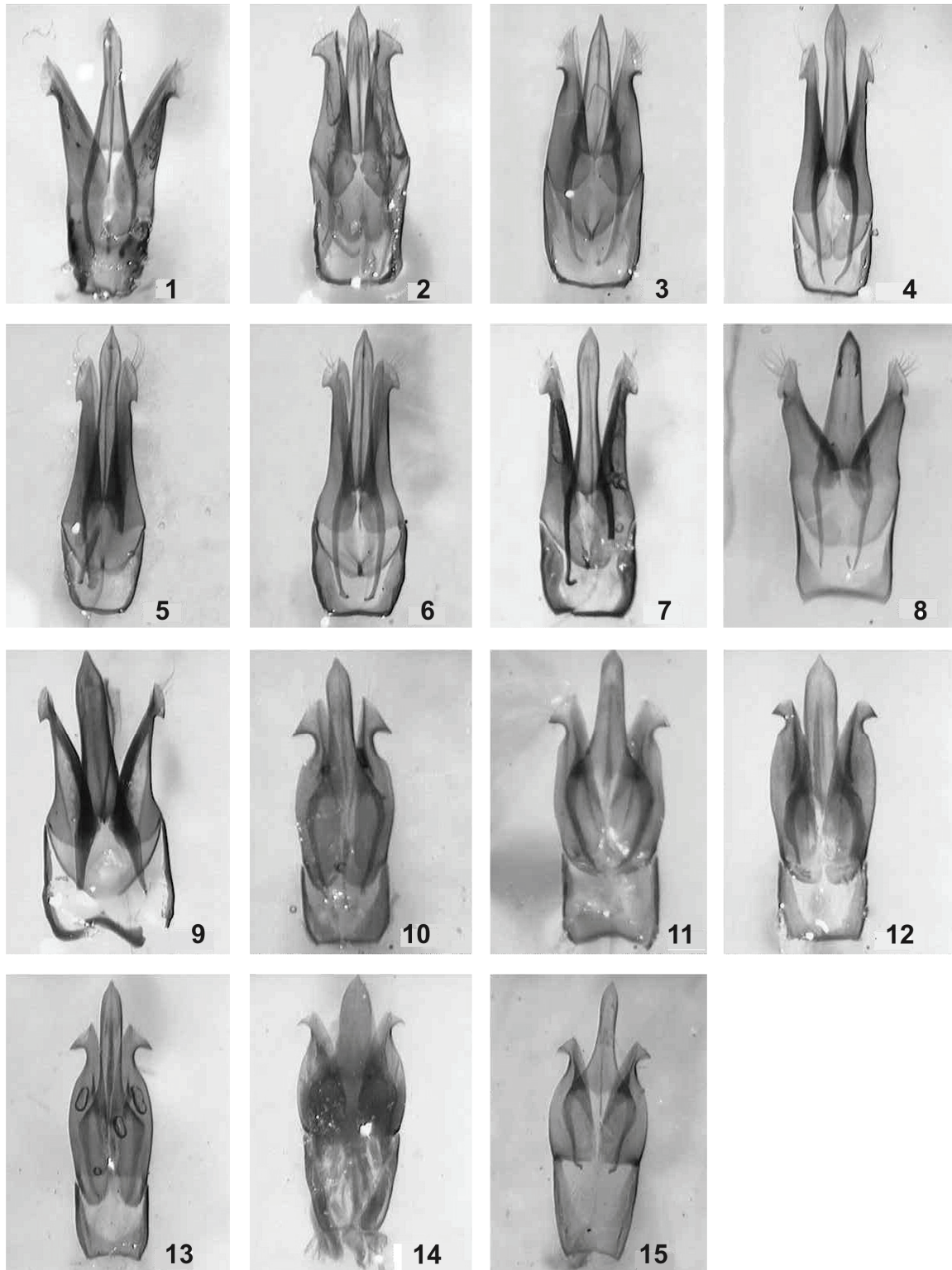


Fig. 1-15. Male genitalia in dorsal view. **1.** *Melanotus gorkhalinus* n. sp.; **2.** *M. fujianensis* n. sp.; **3.** *M. henanensis* n. sp.; **4.** *M. lazikouensis* n. sp.; **5.** *M. majori* n. sp.; **6.** *M. micangensis* n. sp.; **7.** *M. puchneri* n. sp.; **8.** *M. phongsalyensis* n. sp.; **9.** *M. taiwanus* Kishii; **10.** *Priopus bezdeki* n. sp.; **11.** *P. safraneki* n. sp.; **12.** *P. kerincianus* n. sp.; **13.** *P. colonnellii* n. sp.; **14.** *Neofleutiauxia hamanni* n. sp.; **15.** *N. valentinae* (Platia).

latter truncate, not diverging, with a robust carina prolonged to the basal third and subparallel to lateral margins; puncturation coarse, punctures on disc deep, moderately umbilicate with very short, moderately shagreen intervals, gradually denser towards the sides and becoming strongly umbilicate, subovate, contiguous and giving the surface a substriate appearance.

Scutellum shield-shaped, flat, punctured, with shagreen surface. Elytra as wide as base of pronotum, 3x longer than it; sides from base to apex gradually and regularly narrowing; striae deeply impressed at base, more superficially punctured towards apex; interstriae subconvex at base, towards apex flat, densely punctured.

Prosternal process incurved immediately behind the procoxal cavities, not emarginate at apex.

Aedeagus as in fig. 3 (length 1,75 mm).

Female unknown.

Size. Length 15, 8-16,3 mm; width 4,50-4,65 mm.

ETYMOLOGY. The species is named after the Chinese province of Henan, where it was discovered.

***Melanotus lazikouensis* n. sp.**

Fig. 4, 24, 30, 37.

MATERIAL EXAMINED. Holotype ♂ - **China:** Gansu, Lazikou Valley (34°08'N, 103°54'E), 2150 m, Haiek, Kral & Ruzicka (CPG).

DIAGNOSIS. A species related to *M. knizeki* Platia, 2005, from which it can be separated by the third article of antennae a little longer than second, a coarser, umbilicate puncturation of pronotum, the spiniform elytral apex and a different aedeagus.

DESCRIPTION. Male. Moderately shiny; entirely dark brown with indistinct ferruginous shadings; antennae and legs ferruginous; covered with moderate, semierect, yellow-fulvous vestiture.

Frons flat, anterior margin moderately thickened, regularly arcuate, just protruding above the clypeus; punctures of variable diameters, coarse, strongly umbilicate, with very short intervals or contiguous.

Antennae (fig. 24) exceeding apicis of posterior angles of pronotum by 2,5 articles; second article subcylindrical, as long as wide; third subconical, a little longer than second; second and third, taken together, notably shorter than fourth; fourth-tenth triangular, slender, more than twice as long as wide; last as long as penultimate, regularly ellipsoidal.

Pronotum 1,08x wider than long, widest at posterior angles; moderately convex, with a vestige of a mid-longitudinal depression at basal slope; sides narrowing from middle towards apex, subparallel at posterior angles, the latter truncate, not diverging, with a sharp carina prolonged to the basal third and subparallel to lateral margins; punctures coarse, on the disc deep, moderately umbilicate, with variable intervals on average smaller than their own diameters, gradually denser to sides, more superficial, strongly umbilicate and contiguous at lateral extremities.

Scutellum shield-shaped, flat, punctured. Elytra as wide as base of pronotum, 3,5x longer than it; sides from base to apex very gradually and regularly narrowing; apicis (fig. 30) clearly spiniform; striae very shallowly impressed at base, towards apex more impressed and punctured; interstriae flat, very finely punctured.

Prosternal process incurved immediately behind the procoxal cavities, not emarginate at apex.

Aedeagus as in fig. 4 (length 2,06 mm).

Female unknown.

Size. Length 15 mm; width 3,6 mm.

ETYMOLOGY. The species is named after Lazikou valley, where it was discovered.

***Melanotus majori* n. sp.**

Fig. 5, 25, 38.

MATERIAL EXAMINED. Holotype ♂ - **China:** Sichuan, Dianyan-Cheng (Sangpi 30 km NW), 4300 m, 16.VI.2006, Major (CCW).

DIAGNOSIS. A species closely related to *M. businskyi* Platia & Schimmel, 2001, for general shape and anterior margin of frons directed downwards, it can be separated by darker colour, longer antennae, trapezoidal pronotum and longer vestiture.

DESCRIPTION. Male. Moderately shiny; entirely dark brown with indistinct ferruginous shadings; antennae and legs ferruginous; covered with moderate, long, semierect, yellow-fulvous vestiture.

Frons flat, anterior margin moderately thickened, regularly arcuate, directed downwards, just protruding above the clypeus; punctures of variable diameters, coarse, deep, simple or vaguely umbilicate with very short shining, variable intervals on average smaller than their own diameters.

Antennae (fig. 25) surpassing apicis of posterior angles of pronotum by 3,5 articles; second article as long as wide, third subconical, a little longer than second; second and third, taken together, clearly shorter than fourth; fourth-tenth triangular, slender, more than twice as long as wide; last as long as penultimate, regularly ellipsoidal.

Pronotum 1,4x wider than long, widest at posterior angles, convex, trapezoidal; sides tapering nearly regularly from base to apex; posterior angles short, truncate, at apex converging; carina moderate, subparallel and very near to lateral margins; puncturation moderate; punctures on disc deep, simple or vaguely umbilicate, with intervals on average equal or larger than their own diameters, gradually denser and clearly umbilicate to sides, only at lateral extremities with very short intervals or contiguous, somewhat confluent.

Scutellum shield-shaped, weakly concave at middle, finely punctured. Elytra as wide as base of pronotum, 4,4x longer than it; sides nearly parallel for about two-thirds of its length, then gradually tapering to apex; striae very shallowly impressed at base, more impressed and punctured toward apex; interstriae flat, very finely punctured.

Prosternal process incurved immediately behind the procoxal cavities, not emarginate at apex.

Aedeagus as in fig. 5 (length 2,06 mm).

Female unknown.

Size. Length 15,8 mm; width 4,1 mm.

ETYMOLOGY. The species is dedicated to its collector, Mr. Major.

***Melanotus micangensis* n. sp.**

Fig. 6, 16, 26, 39.

MATERIAL EXAMINED. Holotype ♂ - **China:** N Sichuan, Micang Shan, Daba (32°40'N, 106°55'E), 1300-1400 m, 5-6.VI.2007, J. Turna (CSV). 3 Paratypes (2 ♂, 1 ♀) - same data as Ht; W Fujian, Emei Feng (27°01'N, 117°04'E), 1200-1500 m, 1-2.VII.2007, J. Turna (CPG; CSV).

DIAGNOSIS. A species closely allied to *M. dundai* Platia & Schimmel, 2001, for the similar aedeagus, it can be separated by the shape of pronotum with arcuate sides, coarser puncturation sometimes by a slight mid-longitudinal carina.

DESCRIPTION. Male. Moderately shiny; entirely brown with indistinct ferruginous shadings; antennae and legs ferruginous; covered with semierect, dense, yellowish vestiture.

Frons flat or gently impressed before the anterior margin, the latter moderately thickened, more or less arcuate, just

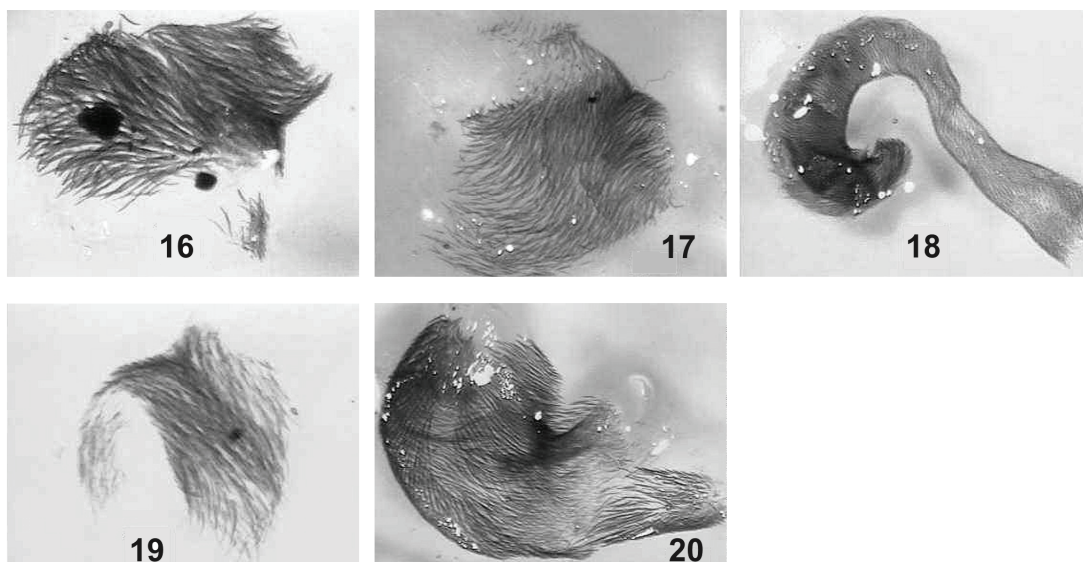


Fig. 16-20. Sclerifications of bursa copulatrix. **16.** *M. micangensis* n. sp.; **17.** *M. siskai* Platia & Schimmel; **18.** *M. safraneki* Platia & Schimmel; **19.** *M. tryznai* Platia & Schimmel; **20.** *M. taiwanus* Kishii.

protruding above the clypeus; punctures coarse, strongly umbilicate and with very short intervals.

Antennae (fig. 26) exceeding apicis of posterior angles of pronotum by nearly two segments; second article as long as wide, third subconical, about twice as long as second; second and third, taken together, just shorter than fourth; fourth-tenth triangular, slender, more than twice as long as wide; last a little longer than penultimate, subellipsoidal.

Pronotum 1,27-1,28x wider than long, widest at posterior angles, rather depressed on disc, gradually sloping at sides and base, in two specimens with a vestige of a short mid-longitudinal carina; sides tapering from behind the middle to anterior margin, subparallel or slightly sinuate to posterior angles, the latter short, truncate, converging, with carina prolonged nearly to middle, very near and subparallel to lateral margins; puncturation rather variable, on the disc with punctures from simple with very short intervals to larger, contiguous or confluent, with shagreen, ver short intervals, at sides generally denser, umbilicate, contiguous, subovate to giving to the surface a striate appearance.

Scutellum shield-shaped, flat, punctured. Elytra as wide as base of pronotum, 3,7-3,8x longer than it; sides from base to apex narrowing very gradually and regularly; striae very shallowly impressed at base, more impressed and punctured toward apex; interstriae flat, very finely punctured.

Prosternal process incurved immediately and strongly behind the procoxal cavities, just emarginate at apex.

Aedeagus as in fig. 6 (length 1,68 mm).

Female. Similar to male but with shorter antennae just reaching the apicis of posterior angles of pronotum. Copulatrix bursa sclerified as in fig. 16.

Size. Length 14-16 mm; width 3,85-4 mm.

ETYMOLOGY. The species is named after the place of origin of the holotype: Micang Shan Mts.

Melanotus puchneri n. sp.

Fig. 7, 28, 41.

MATERIAL EXAMINED. Holotype ♂ - **China:** Sichuan, str. von Zhongrang Kou nach Heishui, Mt Ahaha, east slope,

2200-2850 m, 31.V.-3.VI.2005, L. Puchner (CCW).

DIAGNOSIS. A species resembling *M. pendulus* Platia & Schimmel, 2001, for general shape, it can be distinguished by the darker colour, third antennal article a little longer than second, disc of pronotum less convex, with coarser puncturation and aedeagus.

DESCRIPTION. Male. Moderately shiny; dark-brown with indistinct ferruginous shadings on pronotum and base of elytra; antennae and legs ferruginous; covered with dense, recumbent, yellow-fulvous vestiture.

Frons flat, moderately impressed at anterior margin, the latter feeblely thickened, regularly arcuate, just protruding above the clypeus; punctures strongly umbilicate and contiguous.

Antennae (fig. 28) surpassing apicis of posterior angles of pronotum by three articles; second subcylindrical, a little longer than wide, third subconical, less than twice as long as second; second and third, taken together, just shorter than fourth; fourth-tenth triangular, slender, more than twice as long as wide; last a little longer than penultimate, subellipsoidal.

Pronotum 1,39x wider than long, widest at posterior angles, moderately convex, with a trace of a mid-longitudinal depression at basal slope; sides strongly arcuate, tapering from middle to apex, clearly sinuate before the posterior angles, the latter rather acuminate, converging, with a short and sharp carina parallel to the lateral margins; punctures on disc deep and simple, with very short intervals, gradually denser and larger toward sides, strongly umbilicate, contiguous or confluent at lateral extremities.

Scutellum shield-shaped, depressed in the middle, punctured. Elytra as wide as base of pronotum, 3,9x longer than it; sides nearly parallel for about two-thirds of their length, then gradually tapering to apex; striae very shallowly impressed, nearly indistinct at base, more impressed and punctured toward apex; interstriae flat, very finely punctured.

Prosternal process incurved immediately behind the procoxal cavities, not emarginate at apex.

Aedeagus as in fig. 7 (length 1,5 mm).

Female unknown.

Size. Length 12,3 mm; width 3,25 mm.

ETYMOLOGY. The species is dedicated to its collector, Mr. Alfred Puchner.

Melanotus alburnus Candèze, 1888

MATERIAL EXAMINED. 2 ♂♀ - **China:** Yunnan, Jinghong env., 600m, 12.VI.2006, R. Novak (CPG; CRG).

Known from NE India, Myanmar, Laos, Thailand, Vietnam. New to China.

Melanotus girardi Platia & Schimmel, 2001

MATERIAL EXAMINED. 1 ♂ - **China:** Hainan Isl., Mt Wu Zhishan, Wu Zhishan City, 1-8.VI.2006, Li Jingke (CRG).

Described from Yunnan and Tibet. New to Hainan.

Melanotus savioi Platia & Schimmel, 2001

MATERIAL EXAMINED. 4 ♂ - **China:** Hainan Isl., Mt Wu Zhishan, Wu Zhishan City, 1-8.VI.2006, Li Jingke (CPG; CRG).

Described from Central and Oriental China. New to Hainan.

Melanotus siskai Platia & Schimmel, 2002

Fig. 17.

MATERIAL EXAMINED. 1 ♂, 5 ♀ - **China:** Sichuan, Jiuzhaigou, 10-12.VI.2007, E. Kucera (CPG; CSV).

Described from S Gansu.

Female. Known from a single specimen at the time of description of the species, but not described. Bicoloured body as in the male; body more convex; antennae shorter, nearly attaining apicis of posterior angles of pronotum; second and third articles, taken together, just longer than fourth.

Bursa copulatrix sclerified as in fig. 17.

Size. Length 12,5-13,5 mm; width 3,7-4 mm.

Melanotus taiwanus Kishii, 1989

Fig. 9, 20, 29, 42.

MATERIAL EXAMINED. 1 ♂, 1 ♀ - **China:** W Guanxi, Jin Zhong Shan, Xiling County, 1800 m, 1-20.V.2007, Li Jingke (CRG).

Aedeagus as in fig. 9 (length 1,67 mm). Bursa copulatrix sclerified as in fig. 20.

Described from Taiwan. New to Continental China.

Melanotus tryznai Platia & Schimmel, 2002

Fig. 19.

MATERIAL EXAMINED. 5 ♂, 2 ♀ - **China:** Sichuan, Jiuzhaigou, 10-12.VI.2007, E. Kucera (CPG; CSV).

Described on male specimens from Sichuan, Kangding env.

Female. Same colour as male; body more convex; antennae shorter, nearly attaining apicis of posterior angles of pronotum; second and third articles, taken together, as long as fourth.

Bursa copulatrix sclerified as in fig. 19.

Size. Length 12,3-12,8 mm; width 3,7-3,8 mm.

Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, Myanmar, Thailand

Melanotus phongsalyensis n. sp.

Fig. 8, 27, 40.

MATERIAL EXAMINED. Holotype ♂ - **Laos:** Phongsaly Prov., Phongsaly env. (21°41'N, 102°6'E), 1500 m, 6-17.V.2004, P. Pacholatko (CSV); 1 Paratype ♂ - same data as Ht (CPG).

DIAGNOSIS. Small species of the *fairmairei* Fleutiaux group, it resembles *M. vittatus* Fleutiaux, but can be distinguished by elytra with a more extended yellow colour, longer antennae and aedeagus.

DESCRIPTION. Male. Bicoloured; head, pronotum, scutellum, first two intervals and lateral extremity of elytra black; remaining part of elytra yellow; antennae ferruginous to blackish; legs ferruginous; covered with long, semierect, yellow-fulvous, vestiture.

Frons flat, anterior margin moderately thickened, feebly sinuate at middle, briefly protruding above clypeus; punctures coarse, umbilicate, contiguous.

Antennae (fig. 27) exceeding apicis of posterior angles of pronotum by about 2,5-3 articles; second and third articles globular, as long as wide; taken together clearly shorter than fourth; fourth-tenth triangular, slender, twice as long as wide or longer; last a little longer than penultimate, ellipsoidal.

Pronotum as long as wide, widest at posterior angles, regularly convex, with a slight mid-longitudinal depression at basal slope; sides tapering nearly regularly and gradually from base to apex; posterior angles acute, diverging, with a very short carina subparallel to lateral margins; puncturation uniformly distributed on entire surface; punctures coarse, umbilicate, contiguous and often confluent to give to the surface a substriate appearance.

Scutellum shield-shaped, flat, punctured. Elytra as wide as base of pronotum, 2,8x longer than it; sides subparallel for about two-thirds of its length, then gradually narrowing to apex; striae well marked and deeply punctured; interstriae moderately convex, finely punctured.

Prosternal process incurved immediately behind the procoxal cavities, weakly emarginate at apex.

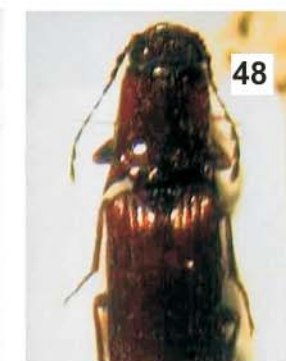
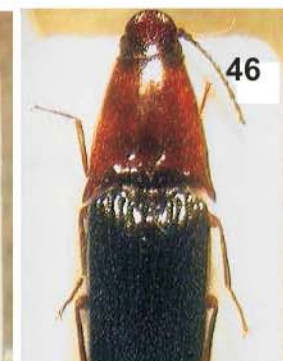
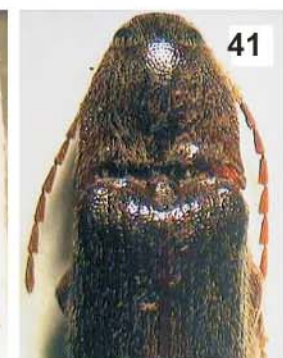
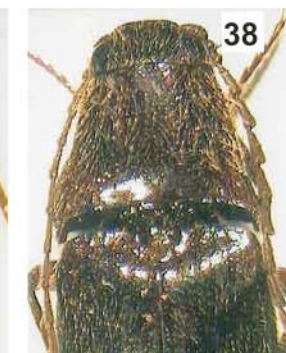
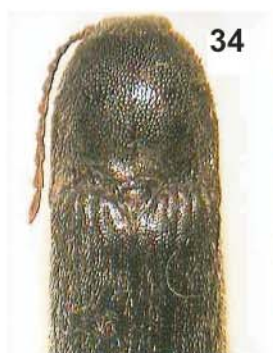
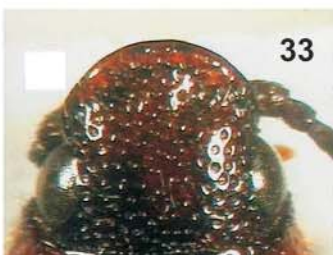
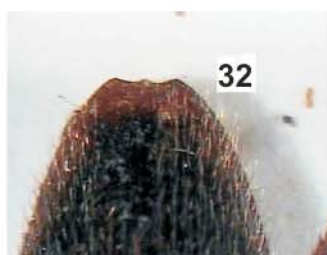
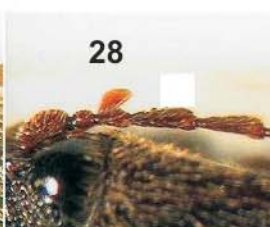
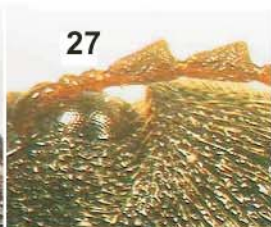
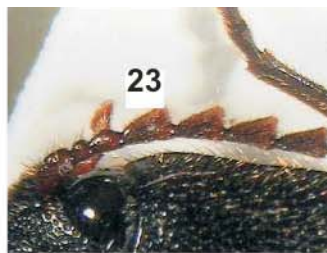
Aedeagus as in fig. 8 (length 0,87 mm).

Female unknown.

Size. Length 7,5-8 mm; width 1,87-2,12 mm

ETYMOLOGY. The species is named after Phongsaly Province, where it was discovered.

► **Fig. 21-29.** Antennae, first articles. **21.** *M. fujianensis* n. sp.; **22.** *Melanotus gorkhalinus* n. sp.; **23.** *M. henanensis* n. sp.; **24.** *M. lazikouensis* n. sp.; **25.** *M. majori* n. sp.; **26.** *M. micangensis* n. sp.; **27.** *M. phongsalyensis* n. sp.; **28.** *M. puchneri* n. sp.; **29.** *M. taiwanus* Kishii. **Fig. 30-33.** Apicis of elytra. **30.** *M. lazikouensis* n. sp.; **31.** *Priopus kerincianus* n. sp.; **32.** *Neofleutiauxia hamanni* n. sp. **33.** Frons. *Priopus kerincianus* n. sp. **Fig. 34-48.** Habitus of adults, partial view. **34.** *Melanotus gorkhalinus* n. sp.; **35.** *M. fujianensis* n. sp.; **36.** *M. henanensis* n. sp.; **37.** *M. lazikouensis* n. sp.; **38.** *M. majori* n. sp.; **39.** *M. micangensis* n. sp.; **40.** *M. phongsalyensis* n. sp.; **41.** *M. puchneri* n. sp.; **42.** *M. taiwanus* Kishii; **43.** *Neofleutiauxia hamanni* n. sp.; **44.** *N. valentinae* (Platia); **45.** *Priopus bezdeki* n. sp.; **46.** *P. kerincianus* n. sp.; **47.** *P. colonnellii* n. sp.; **48.** *P. safraneki* n. sp.



Melanotus ferreroi Platia & Schimmel, 2001

MATERIAL EXAMINED. 2 ♂♀ - **Cambodia:** Phumi Kalai Thum Rattanakiri, 18.VII.2007, Li Jingke (CRG).

Known from Thailand, Laos, Myanmar, China. New to Cambodia.

Melanotus haucki Platia, 2007

MATERIAL EXAMINED. Several specimens. **Myanmar:** SW Shan State, Taunggyi, 1.18.VI.1997, J. Kalab (CCW; CPG).

Described from Laos. New to Myanmar.

Melanotus lehmanni Platia & Schimmel, 2001

MATERIAL EXAMINED. 2 ♂♀ - **Laos:** Hua Phan prov., 25 km SE Vieng Xai, Ban Kang Pabong env., 14-18.V.2001, D. Hauck. **Cambodia:** Phumi Kalai Thum Rattanakiri, 18.VII.2007, Li Jingke (CRG).

Known from China and Vietnam. New to Laos and Cambodia.

Melanotus planus Platia & Schimmel, 2001

MATERIAL EXAMINED. 1 ♂ - **Vietnam:** Tam Dao, m 1100, summer 1996, local collectors (CRG).

Known from China. New to Vietnam.

Melanotus pseudogigas Platia & Schimmel, 2002

MATERIAL EXAMINED. 5 ♂♀ - **Laos:** Dakchung distr., Mt Phu Phien Kha Seng, 1-8.V.2007, Li Jingke (CPG; CRG).

Known from Vietnam, China, Myanmar. New to Laos.

Melanotus safraneki Platia & Schimmel, 2002

Fig. 18.

MATERIAL EXAMINED. 2 ♀ - **Laos:** 55 km N of Vientiane, Ban Vangheura, Phou Khao Khouay NP (18°27'N 102°49'E), m 1000, 4-18.V.2005, P. Kresl (CMHK; CPG).

Described on two male specimens.

Female. Very similar to male, distinguished by the larger body; shorter antennae not reaching the apices of posterior angles of pronotum; second and third articles, taken together, longer than fourth.

Bursa copulatrix sclerified as in fig. 18.

Size. Length 17,5 mm; width 4,68 mm.

Melanotus siamensis Platia & Schimmel, 2001

MATERIAL EXAMINED. 1 ♂ - **Laos:** Hua Phan Prov., Ban Saluei, Phu Phan Mt, 1500-2000 m, 26.IV-11.V.2001, J. Bezdek (CCW).

Described from Thailand. New to Laos.

Priopus bezdeki n. sp.

Fig. 10, 45.

MATERIAL EXAMINED. Holotype ♂ - **NE Laos:** Hua Phan prov., Ban Saluei, Phu Phan Mt (20°15'N, 104°02'E), 1500-2000 m, 26.IV-11.V.2001, J. Bezdek (CCW).

DIAGNOSIS. A species resembling *P. nutritus* (Candèze, 1891), from which it can be separated by smaller size, shorter antennae, lighter and sparser puncturation of pronotum and aedeagus.

DESCRIPTION. Male. Moderately shiny; entirely blackish with indistinct ferruginous shadings; edge of anterior margin of frons, antennae and legs ferruginous; covered with moderate, semi-erect, blackish, vestiture.

Frons flat, anterior margin moderately thickened and feebly arcuate, briefly protruding above the clypeus; punctures coarse, of variable diameters, superficial, strongly umbilicate, with very short and variable intervals.

Antennae nearly reaching apices of posterior angles of pronotum; second and third articles subequal in length, taken together as long as fourth; fourth-eighth triangular, about twice as long as wide (ninth-eleventh mutilated).

Pronotum 1,07x wider than long, widest at posterior angles; convex, with short and narrow mid-longitudinal depression at basal slope; sides tapering nearly regularly from base to apex; posterior angles long, acute, not diverging, bicarinate; carinae subparallel, directed inward, nearly at the same level, the outer more robust than the very fine inner; puncturation moderate, punctures on disc slightly umbilicate, with intervals on average equal to or larger than their own diameters, at sides becoming gradually only a little denser but clearly umbilicate.

Scutellum shield-like, moderately convex, punctured. Elytra just narrower than base of pronotum, 2,5x longer than it; sides subparallel from base to middle, then gradually tapering to apex, the latter entire; striae well marked and regularly punctured; interstriae flat, finely punctured.

Prosternal process incurved behind the procoxal cavities, not emarginate at apex.

Aedeagus as in fig. 10 (length 0,94 mm).

Female unknown.

Size. Length 6,8 mm; width 1,87 mm.

ETYMOLOGY. The species is dedicated to its collector, J. Bezdek.

Priopus safraneki n. sp.

Fig. 11, 48.

MATERIAL EXAMINED. Holotype ♂ - **Laos:** Borikhan prov., Borikhan env., 20 km N of Muang Pakxan, 16-20.V.2003, O. Safranek (CCW). 1 Paratype ♂ - same data as Ht (CPG).

DIAGNOSIS. The species remembers *P. quatei* Platia & Schimmel, 1995, for the general shape and anterior thickened margin of frons; it can be separated by smaller size, black antennae, blackish and shorter vestiture.

DESCRIPTION. Male. Moderately shiny; entirely ferruginous including underbody, with blackish shadings at margins of head, pronotum, scutellum and elytra; antennae blackish; legs dark ferruginous; covered with moderate, semierect, blackish vestiture.

Frons moderately impressed at middle, anterior margin strongly thickened, moderately arcuate, projecting subhorizontally above the clypeus; punctures coarse, umbilicate to contiguous, their diameters variable, intervals on average smaller than puncture diameters.

Antennae reaching apices of posterior angles of pronotum; second and third articles subequal in length, taken together as long as fourth; fourth-tenth triangular, just as long as wide to slenderer; last a little longer than penultimate, ellipsoidal.

Pronotum 1,05-1,16x wider than long, widest at posterior angles; convex with a shallow and narrow mid-longitudinal depression at basal slope; sides more or less moderately arcuate, posterior angles long, acuminate, diverging, bicarinate; the carinae directed inward, subparallel, both

at the same level, the outer more apparent than the inner. Puncturation moderate, punctures on the disc deep, simple, with intervals on average larger than their own diameters, gradually denser to the sides but always with intervals.

Scutellum shield-like, moderately convex, finely punctured. Elytra just narrower than base of pronotum, 2,65-2,8x longer than it; sides subparallel from base to middle, then gradually tapering to apex, the latter entire; striae well-marked and regularly punctured; interstriae flat, finely punctured.

Prosternal process incurved behind the procoxal cavities, not emarginate at apex.

Aedeagus as in fig. 11 (length 1,31 mm).

Female unknown.

Size. Length 9-10 mm; width 2,31-2,56.

ETYMOLOGY. The species is dedicated to its collector, O. Safranek.

Priopus communis Platia & Schimmel, 1996

MATERIAL EXAMINED. 1 ♂ - **W Malaysia:** Kelantan, 60 km NE Tanah Rata, Tanak Kerajaan, 1000 m, 12-20.IV.2004, P. Cechovsky (CRG).

Distribution. Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, Thailand, Myanmar.

New to W Malaysia.

Malaysia, Indonesia, Philippines

Priopus kerincianus n. sp.

Fig. 12, 31, 33, 46.

MATERIAL EXAMINED. Holotype ♂ - **Indonesia:** W Sumatra, Kerinci prov., Seblat N.P., 24 km NE Tapan Muara Sako (2°05'S, 101°15'E), 400-550 m, 4-18.III.2005, L. Dembicky (CCW).

DIAGNOSIS. The species resembles *P. poggii* Platia & Schimmel, 1995, for general shape, colour, emarginate apicis of elytra, but can be separated by the smaller size, shorter antennae not attaining the apicis of posterior angles of pronotum by about one articles and male genitalia.

DESCRIPTION. Male. Shiny, bicoloured; head, pronotum, propleura, prosternum and thorax yellow-orange with indistinct blackish shadings; scutellum, elytra and abdomen black; antennae blackish, legs ferruginous; covered with moderate, blackish vestiture.

Frons convex on vertex, flat forwards, anterior margin strongly thickened and arcuate, protruding subhorizontally above the clypeus, latter longitudinally feebly bicarinate; punctures coarse, umbilicate, with variable diameters and intervals, intervals on average smaller than diameters of the punctures.

Antennae not reaching apicis of posterior angles of pronotum by about one article; second article subcylindrical, a little longer than wide, third subconical, just longer than second; second and third, taken together, a little longer than fourth; fourth-ninth triangular, just longer than wide (tenth-eleventh mutilated).

Pronotum 1,16x wider than long, widest at posterior angles, moderately convex with narrow, linear mid-longitudinal depression from basal slope to anterior margin (deeper in the basal slope); sides tapering nearly regularly and notably from base to apex; posterior angles elongate, acuminate, diverging,

bicarinate; both carinae equally developed, parallel, directed inward; puncturation very feeble and sparse; punctures on the disc deep, simple, with intervals on average two or more times their diameters; basal slope and lateral extremities nearly impunctate.

Scutellum shield-like, gently convex, punctured. Elytra just narrower than base of pronotum, 2,8x longer than it; sides tapering regularly from base to apex; apicis (fig. 31) clearly emarginate; striae normally marked and punctured; interstriae flat with fine punctures.

Prosternal process incurved behind the procoxal cavities, emarginate at apex.

Aedeagus as in fig. 12 (length 1,12 mm).

Female unknown.

Size. Length 9,7 mm; width 2,62 mm.

ETYMOLOGY. The species is named after its place of origin: Kerinci Province, Sumatra.

Priopus colonnelli n. sp.

Fig. 13, 47.

MATERIAL EXAMINED. Holotype ♂ - **Philippines:** Catanduanes Island, Gigmoto-San Pedro (13°43'16"N, 124° 22' 41"E), 7.III.2007, E. Colonnelli (CPG).

DIAGNOSIS. A species resembling *P. zwaluwenburgi* Platia & Schimmel, 1996, for general shape and colour, it can be separated by the inner carina of posterior angles of pronotum more apparent than outer and the shape of male genitalia.

DESCRIPTION. Male. Moderately shiny; entirely dark ferruginous with black shadings particularly on vertex of frons, posterior sides of pronotum, scutellum and lateral extremities of elytra; antennae and legs ferruginous; covered with dense, yellow-fulvous vestiture.

Frons flat, anterior margin regularly arcuate, directed downwards, moderately protruding above clypeus; punctures coarse, umbilicate, with very short intervals.

Antennae reaching the posterior angles of pronotum; second article subcylindrical, third subconical a little longer than second; second and third, taken together, as long as fourth; fourth-tenth triangular with mid-longitudinal carina, twice as long as wide; last a little longer than penultimate, ellipsoidal.

Pronotum as long as wide, widest at posterior angles; regularly convex; sides moderately arcuate, posterior angles acuminate, divergent, bicarinate; carinae directed inward, the inner more prominent than the outer, which is very fine and at a lower level; punctures on the disc deep, simple or slightly umbilicate with very short intervals, becoming gradually denser and clearly umbilicate at lateral extremities.

Scutellum shield-like, gently convex, punctured. Elytra as wide as base of pronotum, 2,5x longer than it; sides subparallel from base to middle, then gradually tapering to apicis, the latter crenulate, just emarginate.

Last visible sternite regularly rounded at apex.

Prosternal process incurved behind the procoxal cavities, not emarginate at apex.

Aedeagus as in fig. 13 (length 1,31 mm).

Female unknown.

Size. Length 9,2 mm; width 2,25 mm.

ETYMOLOGY. The species is dedicated to its collector, E. Colonnelli, renowned specialist of Curculionidae (Coleoptera).

***Neofleutiauxia hamanni* n. sp.**

Fig. 14, 32, 43.

MATERIAL EXAMINED. Holotype ♂ - **Indonesia:** Sulawesi, Palu Valley, 9.V.1955, HHF. Hamann (CCW).

DIAGNOSIS. A species that can be separated from the known species of the genus particularly by the elytral apicis moderately but clearly emarginate.

DESCRIPTION. Male. Moderately shiny; entirely ferruginous with indistinct blackish shadings on pronotum and elytra; antennae and legs ferruginous; covered with dense, recumbent, yellow-fulvous vestiture.

Frons flat on vertex, gently impressed at anterior margin, the latter moderately thickened, arcuate, protruding above the clypeus; punctures umbilicate, with very short intervals.

Antennae attaining apicis of posterior angles of pronotum; second article cylindrical, third subconical, longer than second; second and third, taken together, just longer than fourth; fourth-tenth triangular, less than twice as long as wide, with mid-longitudinal carina; latter longer than penultimate, ellipsoidal.

Pronotum as long as wide, widest at posterior angles, moderately convex, gradually sloping to sides and base with a short mid-longitudinal depression at basal slope; sides tapering gently from behind the middle forwards, feebly sinuate before the posterior angles, the latter acute, just diverging, bicarinate; carinae subparallel, directed inside, the outer more robust and at a lower level than the inner; punctures on the

disc deep, simple, with intervals on average equal to their own diameters, gradually denser and umbilicate at sides, but always with very short intervals.

Scutellum shield-like, gently convex, with rough surface. Elytra as wide as base of pronotum, 2,6x longer than it; sides tapering gradually and regularly from base to apicis, apicis (fig. 32) weakly emarginate.

Aedeagus as in fig. 14 (length 1,18 mm).

Female unknown.

Size. Length 8,7 mm; width 2,3 mm.

ETYMOLOGY. The species is dedicated to its collector, H.HF. Hamann.

***Neofleutiauxia valentinae* (Platia, 1986)**

Fleutiauxia valentinae Platia, 1986: 5.

Fig. 15, 44.

MATERIAL EXAMINED. 18 ♂♀ - **Indonesia:** Sulawesi, Palolo Palu, II.1996 (CCW; CPG).

Described on the base of female specimens.

DESCRIPTION. Male. Very similar to female; body generally smaller; antennae longer, exceeding apicis of posterior angles of pronotum by about one article.

Aedeagus as in fig. 15 (length 1,31 mm).

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