
Report

Records of the histerid beetles (Coleoptera: Histeridae) at the Crocker Range Parks, Sabah, East Malaysia

– A report of the Scientific Expedition to the Crocker Range, Sabah, Malaysia (Crocker XPDC '99) –

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Abstract

Seventeen species of histerid beetles were collected from the Crocker Range Parks, in Sabah, East Malaysia, and are listed here, along with figures for most of the species. Six species are reported as new records from Borneo, *Holelepta nepalensis*, *Platysoma (Platylister) birmanus*, *P. (Pl.) abruptus*, *P. (Pl.) humilis*, *Bacanius (Mullerister) lotus*, and *Eulomalus vermicipygus*.

Key words: Coleoptera, Histeridae, Sabah, Borneo, new records

Introduction

The Scientific Expedition to the Crocker Range, in Sabah, Malaysia (Crocker XPDC '99), jointly organized by the Sabah Parks (SP), Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS), and Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS), was held from October 14 to 23 with the aim of inventorying the biodiverse components and their ecological relationships found within the park area. The third author (K. Mizota) mainly surveyed the beetle fauna of Crocker Range Parks (CRP) during the expedition.

This report provides the results of the survey concerning histerid beetles (Coleoptera: Histeridae). The vast majority of the beetles are predators and found in most kinds of decaying organic matter, such as droppings, decomposing bodies of animals, compost piles, and other decaying plant materials (Ôhara, 1994). A total of 83 species of the family Histeridae has been previously recorded for the island of Borneo (Mazur, 1997). Seventeen species of histerid beetles belonging to 4 subfamilies, 5 tribes, and 11 genera (including 2

subgenera) were collected at this time, of which 11 species are referable to ones already described, with the rest remaining undetermined due to a scarcity of materials and/or knowledge. Six of the collected species were newly recorded for Borneo. These are mentioned in the following list, in which collecting sites are abbreviated as follows: MBC = Mahua base camp, PHQ = Park Headquarters, USG = Ulu Senagang. All of the specimens were collected by the third author and will be retained by SP.

Enumeration

Family Histeridae

Subfamily Tribalinae

1. *Parepierus* sp. (Fig. 2A)

Specimen examined: 1 ex., USG, 18.X.1999

Notes: This species is similar to *P. monticola*, from which can, however, be distinguished by having the 5th dorsal and sutural striae of the elytra. This species might be allied with *P. amandus* (Schmidt, 1892) from Java,

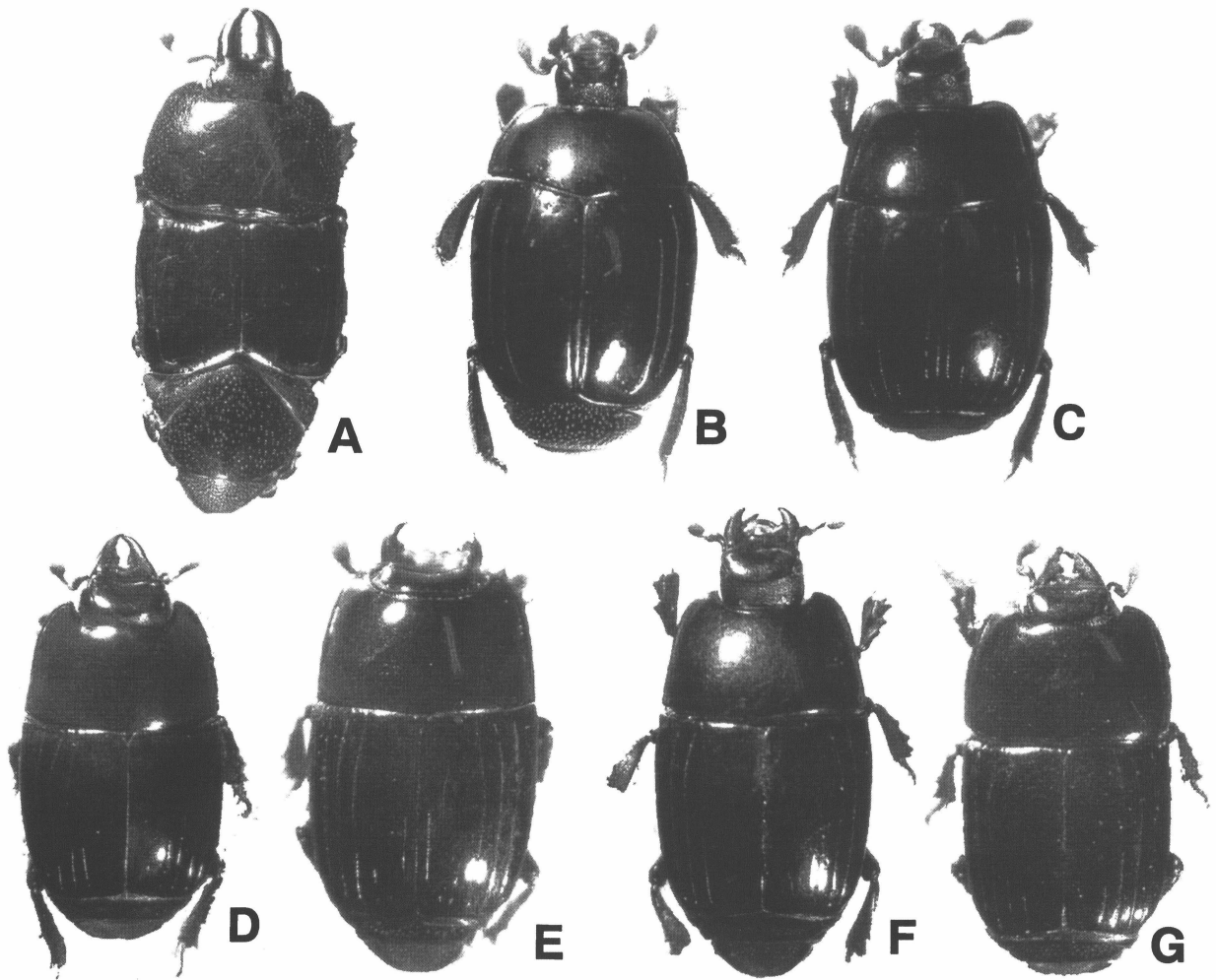


Fig. 1. Habitus, dorsal views. **A:** *Hololepta nepalensis*. **B:** *Lewisister excellens*. **C:** *Eblisia lunatica*. **D:** *Platysoma (Platylistera) charrali*. **E:** *P. (Pl.) birmanus*. **F:** *P. (Pl.) abruptus*. **G:** *P. (Pl.) humilis*.

P. opacipennis Bickhardt, 1918 from the Philippines and Java, and *P. ovatulus* Bickhardt, 1918 from Sumatra. At present, however, it is uncertain to us whether this species should be identified with any of them.

2. *Parepierrez monticola* (Schmidt, 1892) (Fig. 2B)

Epieirus monticola Schmidt, 1892: 26 [Java]

Parepierrez monticola Bickhardt, 1913: 124

Specimen examined: 1 ex., MBC, 16.X.1999

Distribution: Borneo, Java

3. *Tribalus* sp. (Fig. 2C)

Specimen examined: 1 ex., USG, 18.X.1999

Notes: In having a short longitudinal carina on the antescutellar area of the pronotum, the present specimen matches the original description of *T. pumilio* Schmidt, 1895 from Sarawak, although this specimen is slightly larger in body size (2.2 mm). The material at hand,

however, is too meager to determine anything more than this.

Subfamily Histerinae

Tribe Hololeptini

4. *Hololepta nepalensis* Lewis, 1910 (Fig. 1A)

Hololepta nepalensis Lewis, 1910: 43

Specimen examined: 1 ex., PHQ, 20.X.1999

Distribution: Nepal, Vietnam, Borneo. New to Borneo.

Tribe Omalodini

5. *Lewisister excellens* Bickhardt, 1912 (Fig. 1B)

Lewisister excellens Bickhardt, 1912: 223 [Java]

Specimen examined: 1 ex., USG, 18.X.1999

Distribution: Nepal, Thailand, Sumatra, Borneo, Java

Tribe Platysomatini

6. *Eblisia lunatica* (Marseul, 1864) (Fig. 1C)

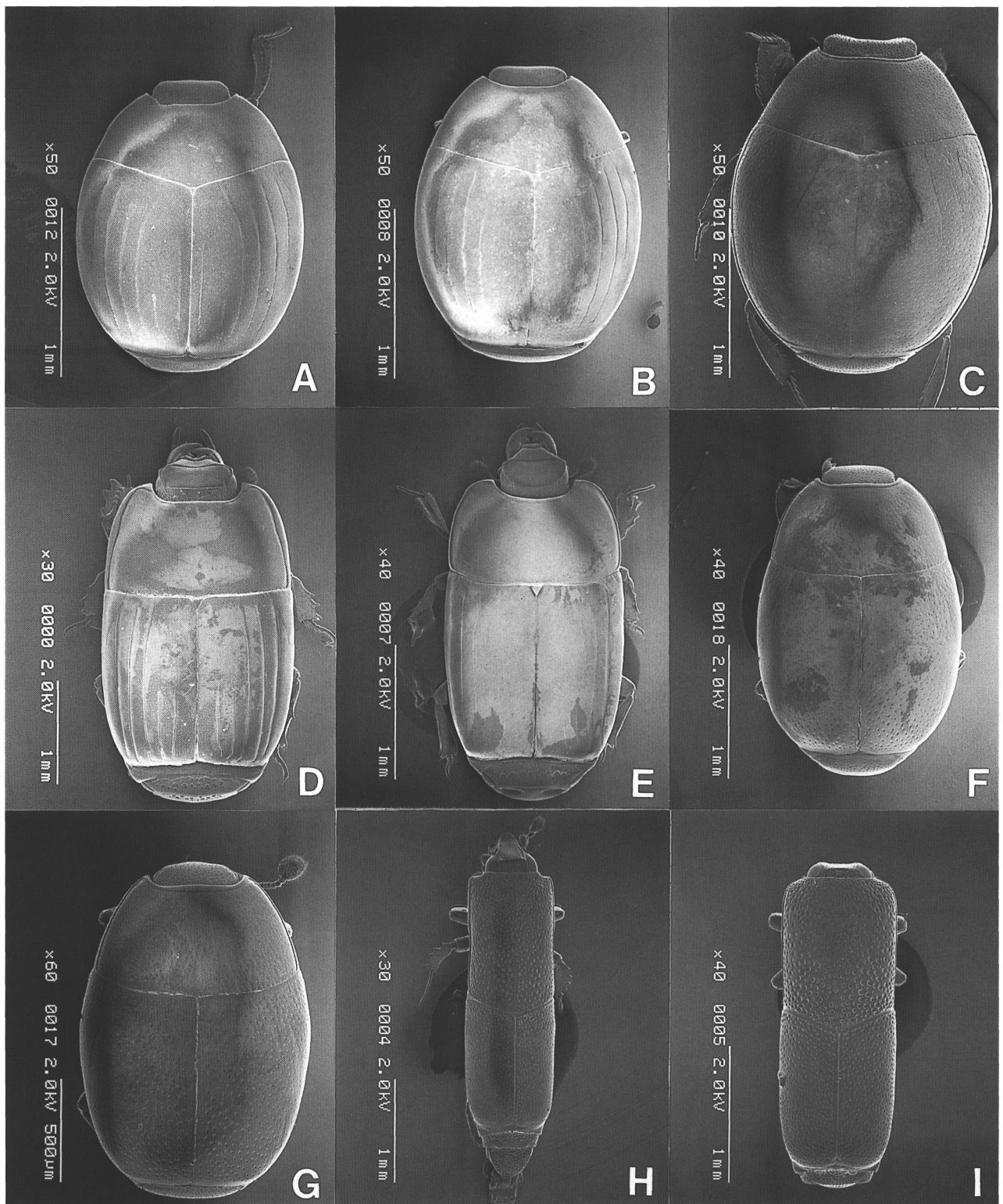


Fig. 2. Habitus, dorsal views. **A:** *Parepieerus* sp. **B:** *P. monticola*. **C:** *Tribalus* sp. **D:** *Platysoma (Platylister) confucii*. **E:** *Liopygus* sp. **F:** *Eulomalus vermicipygus*. **G:** *Eulomalus* sp. **H:** *Trypeticus* sp. 1. **I:** *T.* sp. 2.

Platysoma lunaticus Marseul, 1864: 316 [Malacca]

Eblisia lunatica Lewis, 1889: 280

Specimens examined: 1 ex., MBC, Carrion trap, 16-19.X.1999; 1 male, same locality, Carrion trap, 23.X.1999

Distribution: Malaysia, Sumatra, Borneo, Java

7. *Platysoma (Platylister) charrali* (Marseul, 1861)
(Fig. 1D)

Platysoma charrali Marseul, 1861: 146 [Borneo]

Platylister charrali Lewis, 1905: 13

Platysoma (Platylister) charrali Mazur, 1997: 64

Specimen examined: 1 ex., USG, 18.X.1999

Distribution: Malaysia, Borneo, Sumbawa, Philippines

8. *Platysoma (Platylister) birmanus* (Marseul, 1861)

(Fig. 1E)

Platysoma birmanum Marseul, 1861: 151 [Burma]

Platysoma (Platylister) birmanui Mazur, 1999: 12 [Sumbawa]

Specimen examined: 1 ex., USG, 19.X.1999

Distribution: China: Hainan, Sri Lanka, Burma, Indochina, Sumatra, Borneo, Sumbawa. New to Borneo.

9. *Platysoma (Platylister) abruptus* (Erichson, 1834)

(Fig. 1F)

Platysoma abruptum Erichson, 1834: 109

Platylister abruptus Lewis, 1905: 13

Platysoma (Platylister) abruptus Mazur, 1999: 12 [Java, Sumatra, Bali, Mindanao]

Specimen examined: 1 ex., MBC, 14.X.1999

Distribution: Burma, Sumatra, Borneo, Java, Bali, New Guinea, Mindanao. New to Borneo.

10. *Platysoma (Platylister) humilis* (Erichson, 1834)

(Fig. 1G)

Platysoma humile Erichson, 1834: 109

Platylister humilis Lewis, 1905: 14

Platysoma (Platylister) humilis Mazur, 1999: 13 [Java, Sumatra, Bali]

Specimens examined: 6 exs., USG, 18.X.1999

Distribution: Burma, Malay Peninsula, Sumatra, Borneo, Java, Bali. New to Borneo.

11. *Platysoma (Platysoma) confucii* Marseul, 1857

(Fig. 2D)

Platysoma confucii Marseul, 1857: 404 [China]

Platysoma (Platysoma) confucii Mazur, 1997: 70

Specimens examined: 3 exs., MBC, 16.X.1999

Distribution: Asian region

12. *Liopygus* sp. (Fig. 2E)

Specimen examined: 1 ex., USG, 18.X.1999

Notes: In a key to the Asian species of the genus *Liopygus* given by Desbordes (1919), the specimen seems to be quite near *L. andrewesi* Lewis, 1906 from India and *Z. indosinensis* Desbordes, 1919 from Vietnam. Because the specimen is lacking the fifth dorsal elytral stria, however, it may be an undescribed

species.

Subfamily Dendrophilinae

Tribe Bacaniini

13. *Bacanius (Mullerister) lotus* Marseul, 1880

Bacanius lotus Marseul, 1880: 154 [Java]

Specimen examined: 1 ex., MBC, 15.X.1999

Distribution: Nepal, Vietnam, Java, Borneo. New to Borneo.

Tribe Paromalini

14. *Eulomalus vermicipygus* Cooman, 1937 (Fig. 2F)

Eulomalus vermicipygus Cooman, 1937: 98 [Vietnam]

Specimen examined: 1 ex., MBC, 15.X.1999

Distribution: Vietnam, Borneo. New to Borneo.

15. *Eulomalus* sp. (Fig. 2G)

Specimen examined: 1 male, USG, 18.X.1999

Notes: The present male specimen closely resembles *E. acistrigus* (Marseul, 1879) from Java and Sumatra by having a long transverse mesosternal stria, but disagrees because of the shorter metasternal lateral.

Subfamily Trypeticinae

16. *Trypeticus* sp. 1 (Fig. 2H)

Specimen examined: 1 ex., MBC, 23.X.1999

Notes: This species seems to resemble *T. obeliscus* Lewis, 1891 and *T. minutulus* Lewis, 1891 because of the transverse stria between the eyes. However, this species can be easily distinguished from the other two in having prominent yellow hairs on the pygidium.

17. *Trypeticus* sp. 2 (Fig. 2I)

Specimen examined: 1 ex., USG, 19.X.1999

Notes: The genus *Trypeticus* is represented by 34 Asian species, yet this species neither agrees with any known species nor is it certain as to its allied species.

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