

Shuocyropsis, a New Subgenus of the Genus *Cychropsis* (Coleoptera, Carabidae) from Southwest China

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In their recent study on the molecular phylogeny of the carabid beetles, OSAWA and others showed the molecular genealogical tree of the tribe Cychrini constructed by thirty-two species collected from various localities of the Holarctic Region (OSAWA, SU & IMURA, 2002, p. 57, fig. 5–8). One of the remarkable findings on the tree is that “*Cychrus*” *brezinai* DEUVE does not belong to the clade of the genus *Cychrus* but is clustered with *Cychropsis* (*Sinocyropsis*) *draconis* DEUVE supported by rather high bootstrap confidence level (71%). Although never indicated by previous authors, the metatrochanter of *brezinai* is setiferous, which reveals that this species should be classified into the *Cychropsis* lineage rather than to the genus *Cychrus* (see IMURA, 2001, pp. 3, 13). DEUVE’s species also bears a series of peculiar features in both the external and the male genitalic structures. I therefore propose a new higher category for this unique species and regard it as a subgenus of the genus *Cychropsis*.

Shuocyropsis IMURA, subgen. nov.

Type species: *Cychrus brezinai* DEUVE, 1993, *Revue fr. Ent.*, (N. S.), **15**, p. 118, fig. 1 (type locality: Chine, Sichuan, Luding Xian, environ 25 km N. N. O. de Moxi, env. 2,900 mètres).

Description. Small-sized cychrine beetle belonging to the genus *Cychropsis*, with the general appearance similar to certain species of the genus *Cychrus*. Head not hypertrophic; terminal segments of male palpi variable in width according to species; penultimate segments of labial palpi bisetose; pronotum cordiform, with the sides strongly narrowed both towards apex and towards base; lateral margin of pronotum unisetose, only a single seta inserted on either side near the middle; elytral disc nearly flat or weakly convex above inside the third primary intervals, but abruptly angulate ventrally at that level to form nearly vertical wall which is smoothly connected with epipleuron; metatrochanter setiferous; basal three segments of male foretarsi weakly dilated with hairpads on the ventral surfaces; basal part of aedeagus robust, hardly arcuate inwards and abruptly emarginate dorsad in lateral view to form a large basal orifice; endophallic apex not turning towards the aedeagal base but extending to the opposite side to form an obtuse angle between the main axis of endophallus and that of aedeagus; basal portion of endophallus simple, tube-like and sinuate in lateral view, apical portion strongly inflated dorsad, with a long Y-shaped pigmentation developed on the ventral wall near apex (cf. IMURA, 1998, p. 47, fig. 21).

Differential diagnosis. Discriminated from both the nominotypical subgenus and the subgenus *Sinocyropsis* IMURA by the number of setae on the penultimate segment of the labial palpus and characteristically shaped elytra and endophallus.

Components. So far as I have examined, all the diagnostic features of the new subgenus as mentioned above are also shared by the following three species (setiferous metatrochanter, characteristically shaped elytra and male genitalia, etc.) and they seem to be the components of *Shuocyropsis*, though the DNAs have not yet been analyzed.

Cychropsis (Shuocyropsis) casalei (CAVAZZUTI, 1996)

Cychrus casalei CAVAZZUTI, 1996, *Lambillionea*, (96), p. 546, fig. 3; (type locality: Passo fra Yanyuan e Muli, 3,300 m, Sichuan meridionale, China).

C. (Sh.) coronatus (CAVAZZUTI, 1996)

Cychrus coronatus CAVAZZUTI, 1996, *Lambillionea*, (96), p. 548, fig. 4; (type locality: Lago Lugu, 3,300 m, versante Sud, Yunnan settentrionale, China meridionale).

C. (Sh.) meihuanae (IMURA, 1998)

Cychrus meihuanae IMURA, 1998, *Jpn. J. syst. Ent.*, **4**, p. 45, figs. 10, 21; (type locality: Wahou, 2,600–2,700 m, near the peak Dafengding on the Daliang Shan Mts., in Meigu Xian, S Sichuan, China).

Distribution. Known so far only from Southwest China (southwestern Sichuan partly penetrating into northwestern Yunnan).

Derivatio nominis. The new subgeneric name *Shuocyropsis* means a *Cychropsis* of Shu [蜀], which is an ancient dynasty governing Sichuan.

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