A Coexistence of *Necrophila brunnicollis* and *Necrophila cyaniventris* (Coleoptera, Silphidae) Confirmed in Central Laos

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To date, four species of the silphid subgenus *Calosilpha* PORTEVIN, 1920 have been known to occur in eastern Asia. Of these, *Necrophila* (*Calosilpha*) brunnicollis (KRAATZ, 1877) is widely distributed in the middle part of eastern Asia from Bhutan and China to the Russian Far East and Japan while *N.* (*C.*) cyaniventris (MOTSCHULSKY, 1870) is from northern India to southern China and Vietnam (Růžička et al., 2015). Actually, *N.* (*C.*) brunnicollis and *N.* (*C.*) cyaniventris have sporadically been recorded to be intermingled from Yunnan, southern China, but it is still unknown whether or not they occur allopatrically or sympatrically in this area. This article provides additional data about distribution patterns of the two species.

In my field works performed in the Annamite Range, central Laos, the two species were obtained simultaneously in the same trap. Baited hanging traps were set from 7th to 15th May, 2019, in the deciduous broad-leaved forest at around the elevation of 700 m and located near the Kaew Neua Pass (ca. 18°22'N 105°09'E), Khamkeut District, Bolikhamsai Province. As a result of the trapping, two males and four females of *N.* (*C.*) brunnicollis, and two males and five females of *N.* (*C.*) cyaniventris were obtained in that period.

This suggests that these two species coexist depending on the topography and elevation in their contact zones. Incidentally, the collection of *N.* (*C.*) brunnicollis represents a first record of the species from Laos, extending its distributional range from southern China to the Annamite Range running from north to south on the eastern side of the Indochinese Peninsula. I expect this species may be more extensively distributed along the range than at the above single site.

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Reference

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