

Two new cases of synonymy in Indomalayan Platypodidae and Scolytidae

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Platypus vetbi Strohmeyer 1919 = *P. suffodiens* Samps. var. *malayensis* Schedl 1936, n. syn.

The Leiden Museum has two male specimens and one female of *P. vetbi* Strohm., bearing the author's label, and collected in Preanger — the well-wooded, mountainous Priangan District of W. Java — by P. P. SIJTHOFF. They proved to be identical with specimens of the samples "Pl. 18" and "Pl. 18a" in my collection which had been named "*P. suffodiens* var. *major*" by SAMPSON in 1924, no description having followed, and *P. spretus* by SCHEDL (1941, p. 354). Originally SCHEDL (1936, p. 34) had described the species as *P. suffodiens* var. *malayensis* var. n., using specimens collected in Malaya, but he changed the name into *P. spretus* afterwards (1939, p. 360).

I have seen specimens of both sexes kept in the Zoological Museum at Bogor, which were collected on Mount Patuha, 1500 m, IX.1926 and Mount Tangkuban Prahū, 1400—1500 m, X.1929, by F. C. DRESCHER, both mountains again being situated in the Priangan District.

Some notes on the host trees of *P. vetbi* will be published in a forthcoming paper on the biology of Indonesian Platypodid species.

Xyleborus mutilatus Blandford 1894 = *X. banjoewangi* Schedl 1939, n. syn.

A peculiar thick-set specimen of *Xyleborus* from Malaya, labelled *X. mutilatus* and presented for my collection by my colleague F. G. BROWNE, appeared to me to be identical with *X. ater* Eggers 1923, from Batoe Island (off the West Coast of Central Sumatra), the type of which is kept in the Leiden Museum. It also looked rather similar to my specimens of *X. banjoewangi* Schedl from East Java, though some differences were found. As EGGERS in his description did not point out the characters by which to separate his *ater* n. sp. from *mutilatus*, and SCHEDL in describing *banjoewangi* did not refer to both these species, I submitted the Malayan and an East Java specimen to the British Museum (Natural History) with the request to have them compared with BLANDFORD's type. The examination was done most conscientiously by Mr. R. T. THOMPSON who came to the interesting result that *X. ater* and *X. mutilatus* had been mixed in the London collection and that *X. banjoewangi* is identical with *X. mutilatus*.

X. mutilatus Bldf. is originally described from Japan. In the British Museum the species is also present, Mr. THOMPSON informs me, from Njau-Limon, S. of Mount Bougainville, 300 ft., leg. L. E. CHEESMAN (mentioned by SCHEDL 1940 under *X. banjoewangi*), the locality being situated near the North Coast of Central

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New Guinea, and from the Nilgiri Hills, India, leg. H. L. ANDREWES. The male was described from my material by SCHEDL (1951) as *X. banjoewangi*, masc. nov. The names of the locality and the host-plants are misspelled in his paper and should be read: Besoeki (the eastern district of Java), Tjoeralele blok Gn. Bajoer (a forest compartment), in the stalks of rattan palms of the kinds pendjalin glatik and p. woeloch (which may be species of *Calamus*). In the literature *X. mutilatus* is reported from all over Japan (Honshu, Kiushu, Hokkaido) as well as from Korea and Formosa by MURAYAMA (1934), and from Fiji by LEVER (1940), who states that his specimen had been identified in London.

X. ater Egg., according to Mr. THOMPSON's information, is represented in the London collection from Sarawak, W. Borneo, leg. G. E. BRYANT, Martapura, S.E. Borneo, leg. DOHERTY, and Selangor Kepong, Malaya, leg. F. G. BROWNE, 1948. BROWNE's description (1955) of the male of *mutilatus* apparently must be referred to *X. ater*, and the record of *X. mutilatus* from Malaya by BEESON (1941) most probably also refers to this species.

The differences between *X. ater* and *X. mutilatus*, as explained in Mr. THOMPSON's letter are cited here with his kind consent, as they form a welcome completion to the descriptions of BLANDFORD, EGGERS and SCHEDL.

"The striae on the declivity on the elytra are marked by rows of shallow, ovate punctures in both species. The difference in appearance is due to the size of the tubercles on the interstriae, from which arise the setae of the pubescence. In *X. ater*, they are very small (only visible under high magnification) so that there is no clear demarcation of the striae. In *X. mutilatus*, however, they are larger and there is a distinct smooth line marking the course of the striae and making the rows of punctures more evident. A further character by which these species differ is afforded by the surface of the disc and base of the pronotum, which is finely microreticulate in *X. mutilatus* but quite smooth in *X. ater*. The bi-coloured thorax is present in the specimen from New Guinea, but not in the type."

The latter feature can also be seen in the East Java specimens.

References

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Papilio machaon L. In verband met het ongekende weer van de zomer van 1959 heb ik in mijn omgeving extra goed naar *machaon* uitgekeken. Vele wortelbedden in volkstuinen werden op rupsen geïnspecteerd. Ook heb ik vele kinderen opgewekt om „wortelrupsen” te gaan zoeken. Het resultaat was nihil. Sedert 1955, dus reeds voor het 4e jaar, ontbreekt in deze omgeving de vlinder.

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