

***Leiodes simillima* sp. nov. (Coleoptera: Leiodidae: Leiodinae) from China**

Zdeněk ŠVEC

Kamenická 4, 170 00 Praha 7, Czech Republic
e-mail: zd.svec@volny.cz**Taxonomy, description, Leiodidae, Leiodinae, *Leiodes*, China****Abstract.** *Leiodes simillima* sp. nov. from China (Yunnan) is described and compared with a similar species.

INTRODUCTION

The species of the genus *Leiodes* are widely distributed being known from Nearctic, northern part of Neotropic, southern part of Afrotropic and Palaearctic ecozones (Baranowski 1993, Švec 2008). Currently 51 species are known to occur in China (Cooter & Švec, 2015). One species new to science is added in the present paper.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Abbreviations:

MSBC private collection of Michael Schülke, Berlin, Germany;

ZSPC private collection of Zdeněk Švec, Praha, Czech Republic.

The material studied was compared with types deposited in the author's collection. The material mentioned in this paper is preserved in the collections of MSBC and in ZSPC.

Unless otherwise stated, the description of the new species is based on the holotype only. The measurements of total body length were taken from both specimens examined. Specific measurements of the individual body parts were taken from the holotype only; measurements are rounded off to the first decimal place. The variation shown in the paratype specimen is mentioned.

The dissected male genitalia were mounted in polyvinylpyrrolidone (Lompe 1986) on a piece of transparent material pinned together with the relevant specimen.

Each type specimen has a red paper label added to the same pin bearing the status of the specimen (holotypus or paratypus, respectively), its name, name of the author and year of the designation.

Data quoted from the labels accompanying the specimens are reproduced verbatim; the slash (/) indicates the line break on the label.

The terminology follows that in Cooter & Švec (2015).

DESCRIPTION

***Leiodes simillima* sp. nov.**

(Figs. 1-2)

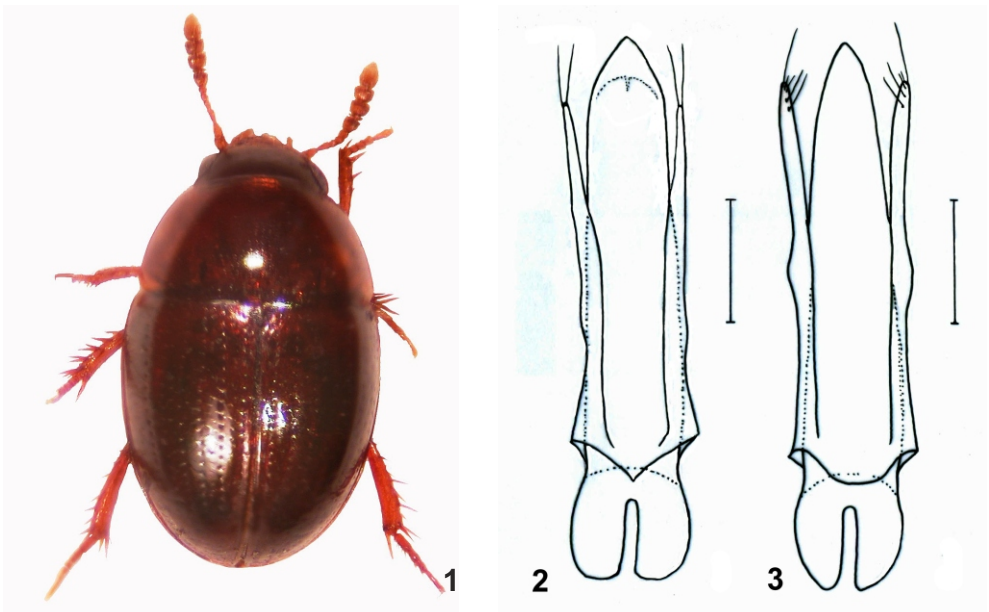
Type material. Holotype (♂): "China: Yunnan, mountains S / Jianshui, 1890 m, 23°25'20"N/ 102°51'05"E, subtropical broad- / leaved forest, litter sifted, 22.viii. / 2014, leg. M. Schülke [CH14-18]", (MSBC). Paratype (1 ♂): same data as holotype, (ZSPC).

Description. Length 2.5 mm. Length of body parts in holotype: head 0.3 mm, pronotum 0.8 mm, elytra 1.4 mm, antenna 0.8 mm. Maximum width of body parts in holotype: head 0.8 mm, pronotum 1.3 mm, elytra 1.5 mm.

Oblong oval (Fig. 1), dorsum reddish-brown with a little lighter pronotum. Venter yellowish-brown, coxae, metavenrite and longitudinal mesoventral carina darker. Antennae reddish-yellow, unicolorous, legs reddish. Dorsum without microreticulation; punctured, elytra, predominantly laterally, also with transverse scratches.

Head. Dorsal surface with irregularly distributed punctures separated by 1-2 times their own diameter on vertex, 5-8 or more times on rest of head. Last antennomere a little narrower than previous. Ratio of width of antennomeres X:XI = 1.2.

Pronotum. Widest at base. Sides almost straight, tapered anteriorly in dorsal view, slightly rounded in lateral view, posterior angles acute, broadly rounded in dorsal view and obtuse, broadly rounded with unobtrusive corner indicated in lateral view. Punctuation irregular, sparse and fine, punctures similar to those of head. Punctures separated by about 6-8 times their diameter or more. A small number of sparsely scattered large punctures distributed irregularly on surface; with distinct seriate large punctures just before base and also behind anterior margin.



Figs. 1-2. *Leiodes simillima* sp. nov., Fig. 3. *Leiodes gracilitarsis* Švec & Cooter, 2012: 1- dorsal aspect of the holotype; 2, 3- aedeagus dorsally. Scale= 0.1 mm.

Scutellum. Smooth with several punctures larger than those on pronotum.

Elytra. Broadest at basal fifth. With nine punctured striae. Stria 9 parallel to lateral channel, well distant from lateral margin, evanescent before basal third of elytra. Punctures of striae distinctly developed, separated predominantly by their diameter on disc, sparser laterally and distally. Some of punctures placed in medial 1st and 2nd striae and punctures starting with 6th elytral stria toward lateral margin with fine short transverse scratches. Some lateral scratches connecting

neighbouring lateral punctures. Punctures of intervals small, fine, separated by about 8-10 or more their diameter. Large punctures, similar to those in striae, scattered in odd numbered intervals. Sutural stria punctured, long, confined approximately to two thirds of elytral length. Lateral channel without larger punctures or foveae.

Legs. Tarsi not expanded, without specific characters. Hind margin of metafemur with lobe apically.

Mesoventrite. Longitudinal carina of type B.

Genitalia. Aedeagus as in Fig. 2.

Variability. The strength and intensity of the dorsal sculpture is slightly variable. The medial scratches also occur in some punctures up to the 3rd row in the paratype.

Differential diagnosis. Morphological characters and the general appearance of *Leiodes simillima* sp. n. agree very well with those in *Leiodes gracilitarsis* Švec & Cooter, 2012. The new species differs by the aedeagus having shorter parameres equipped with two terminal setae (Fig. 2) while parameres in *L. gracilitarsis* are multisetose and longer in comparison to the tegmen (Fig. 3).

Etymology. The name of the new species refers to the great similarity (Latin *simillima* = very similar) to *L. gracilitarsis*.

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