

**Lectotype designation and synonymy  
of *Odontolytes andamanensis* W. KOSHANTSCHIKOV, 1916  
(Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae: Aphodiinae: Eupariini)**

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**Abstract.** Lectotype is designated and re-description is provided for *Odontolytes andamanensis* W. KOSHANTSCHIKOV (1916) from SE Asia. The species is conspecific with Neotropical *Auperia amazonica* (PETROVITZ, 1961).

**Key words:** Eupariini, *Odontolytes andamanensis*, lectotype, SE Asia.

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INTRODUCTION

The status and/or placement of Asian *Odontolytes andamanensis* described by W. KOSHANTSCHIKOV (1916) from Andaman Islands (SE Asia) have been questions waiting to be answered. Until now, the name-bearing type of the genus *Odontolytes* W. KOSHANTSCHIKOV, preserved in the Zoological Institute of the Russian Academy of Science, St Petersburg, was never studied by taxonomists.

In his original description, W. KOSHANTSCHIKOV (1916) compared the genus *Odontolytes* with *Odontoderus* CLOUËT (now *Odontolochus* SCHMIDT, 1916, the type genus of Odontolochini STEBNICKA & HOWDEN 1996), (STEBNICKA 2009a). In 1964, BALTHASAR placed *Odontolytes* as a subgenus of *Odontolochus* with remark “als selbständig genus!” and redescribed *Odontolochus andamanensis* on the basis of KOSHANTSCHIKOV’s description. Hereafter, *Odontolochus andamanensis* was considered a member of the tribe Odontolochini (STEBNICKA & GALANTE 2007; SKELLEY 2007). In 2009b, STEBNICKA synonymized the Neotropical, euparine species *Auperia amazonica* (PETROVITZ, 1961) with *Odontolochus andamanensis*, automatically placing this species in the tribe Eupariini, however, its lectotype was not formally designated.

The type series of *O. andamanensis* consists of two specimens (one specimen damaged, head and pronotum missing) with locality label “Andamanen”. Most likely, these specimens were accidentally introduced to Andaman Isl. from South America, or the labels under specimens bear false locality data.

Tribe **Eupariini*****Auperia andamanensis*** (W. KOSHANTSCHIKOV)

Fig. 1

*Odontolytes andamanensis* W. KOSHANTSCHIKOV, 1916: 206-207. – DELLACASA 1988: 271.

*Odontolochus (Odontolytes) andamanensis*: BALTHASAR 1964: 523.

*Phalangochaeta amazonica* PETROVITZ, 1961: 148-149.

*Auperia amazonica*: STEBNICKA 2002: 771, figs 36, 42; STEBNICKA 2009b: 29-30, figs V/32, 2/32a, as synonym of *O. andamanensis*.

**Material.** *Odontolytes andamanensis*: lectotype female here designated, with red clean label/ white label “Andamanen”/white label “*Odontolytes andamanensis* type det. W. KOSHANTSCHIKOV”/white label “Zoological Institute RAS, St Petersburg”/ and with lectotype label “*Odontolytes andamanensis* = *Auperia andamanensis* (W. KOSH.), Dt. Z. STEBNICKA”.

*Auperia amazonica*: holotype male, labeled /Braz. Amazonia, Manaus, II.1955, leg. CAPPELLETTO”/ *Phalangochaeta amazonica* PETROVITZ/ *Auperia amazonica* (PETROVITZ), Dt. Z. STEBNICKA/ in Museum d’histoire Naturelle, Geneva, Switzerland.

**D i a g n o s i s.** Length 3.0-3.2 mm. Body microreticulate, piceous black. Head moderately gibbose, clypeal margin truncate anteriorly, side widely rounded toward genae. Pronotum weakly convex, strongly transverse, sides narrowly explanate, edge minutely crenate; base without marginal line, excised laterally, posterior angles acutely prominent. Meso-metasternal carina fine, suture distinct, with two diagonal fossulae just below suture. Species is most close and similar externally to *A. huebneri* (PETROVITZ) from Brazil; it differs from that species by having the body significantly smaller, the anterior angle of pronotum rounded and the mesosternum with oblique fossulae, without callosity.



Fig. 1. Habitus of *Auperia andamanensis* (W. KOSH.).

**Description.** Clypeal surface in front of gibbosity microreticulate and minutely granulate, median area with fine, very close punctures tending laterally to coalesce; frontal suture slightly elevated near eyes. Pronotal sides narrowly explanate, edge minutely crenate and fringed with minute setae; sides arcuate toward acutely prominent posterior angles; disc weakly convex, with one or two shallow depressions laterally, punctures fine, evenly distributed, on sides twice larger, almost contiguous and strongly rugose along lateral margin. Scutellum opaque with longitudinal carina medially. Elytra with indicated preapical umbone, edge minutely crenate and setigerous; humeral denticle conical acute; striae deep, strial punctures close, slightly crenating margins of intervals; intervals 1-4 convex, intervals 5-9 carinate, interval 10 flat opaque, all intervals with fine scattered punctures minutely setigerous on apical declivity. Meso-metasternal carina fine, suture distinct, two diagonal fossulae just below suture; metasternal midline deep, broken at middle, surface punctures coarse, lateral metasternal triangle narrow; abdominal sternites opaque, fluting of sternites 3-5 fine; surface with moderate, shallow punctures; disc of pygidium deeply eroded, transverse carina elevated, longitudinal carina weak or invisible. Profemora shining with coarse, confluent punctures; mesofemur closely setigerously punctate; metafemur with incomplete posterior line; metatibia with longitudinal, setigerous lines and small accessory spine apically; metatarsus relatively short, basal tarsomere longer than upper tibial spur, setaceous.

**Collection data.** Specimens were collected in Brazil to black light trap in summer.

**Distribution.** Brazil, Peru (Amazonas); Andaman Islands (uncertain locality data).

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