Three new species of *Lathrobium* Gravenhorst (Coleoptera, Staphylinidae, Paederinae) from Sichuan, Southwest China

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Abstract

Three new species of the genus *Lathrobium* Gravenhorst, 1802 from Sichuan Province, Southwest China are described and illustrated: *L. acutissimum* sp. n., *L. hailuogouense* sp. n. and *L. labahense* sp. n. A check-list of Chinese *Lathrobium* is provided.

Keywords

Coleoptera, Staphylinidae, taxonomy, *Lathrobium*, new species, key to species, checklist, Sichuan, China

Introduction

Up to today, 57 species of the genus *Lathrobium* Gravenhorst, 1802 have been reported from China. The records of four species are doubtful and the presence of the remaining 53 species has been confirmed in the past (Assing 2009, 2010a, b; Chen et al. 2005a, b; Hua 2002; Li 1992; Li and Chen 1990, 1993; Peng and Zhao 2012a, b;
Only one species, *Lathrobium watanabei* Schülke, 2002, had been known from the vast Sichuan Province, China. In the neighbouring provinces, seventeen species have been recorded from Yunnan Province (Bernhauer, 1938; Hua, 2002; Watanabe & Xiao, 1994, 1996, 1997, 2000), one from Guizhou Province (Chen et al. 2005a) and two from Shaanxi Province (Chen et al. 2005b).

In 2006, Hu and Tang made a collecting trip to the Hailuogou and the Labahe natural reserves and collected a number of *Lathrobium* specimens. Among them, three new species are recognized and reported herein and a checklist of Chinese *Lathrobium* is provided.

**Material and methods**

All specimens were collected from the leaf litter of in broad-leaved forests by sifting. The following abbreviations are used in the text, with all measurements in millimeters:

- body length (BL): length of body from the labral anterior margin to the anal apex;
- forebody length (FL): length of the clypeal anterior margin to the elytral apex;
- head length (HL): length of head from the clypeal anterior margin to the posterior margin of the head;
- head width (HW): maximum width of head;
- pronotum length (PL): length of pronotum along midline;
- pronotum width (PW): maximum width of pronotum;
- elytra length (EL): length of elytra from the apex of the scutellum to the elytral posterior margin.

The type material is deposited in the Insect Collection of Shanghai Normal University, Shanghai, China. (SNUC).

**Descriptions**

*Lathrobium (Lathrobium) acutissimum* Peng, Li & Zhao, sp. n.
urn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:F4955AB5-B251-496B-9802-D3D26E6D39AE
http://species-id.net/wiki/Lathrobium_acutissimum
Figs 1A, 2

**Type locality.** Labahe Natural Reserve, Sichuan Province, Southwest China

**Type material** (5 ♂♂, 4 ♀♀). Holotype: ♂, labeled ‘CHINA: Sichuan Prov. / Tianquan County / Labahe N. R. / 30°09’N, 102°26’E / 30.vii.2006, alt. 2,000 m /
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Hu & Tang leg.’. Paratypes: 4 ♂♂, 2 ♀♀, same label data as holotype; 2 ♀♀, same label data, except ‘29.v.2006’.

**Description.** Measurements and ratios: BL 8.12–10.00, FL 3.78–4.11, HL 1.18–1.26, HW 1.26–1.31, PL 1.52–1.63, PW 1.30–1.41, EL 0.98–1.05, HL/HW 0.93–0.96, HW/PW 0.94–0.97, HL/PL 0.76–0.79, PL/PW 1.16–1.17, EL/PL 0.64–0.67.

Habitus as in Fig. 1A. Body brown with paler apex, legs brown to light brown, antennae brown to reddish brown.

Head subquadrate (HL/HW 0.93–0.96); punctation coarse and dense; interstices with shallow and netlike microsculpture; eyes small, approximately 1/5–1/4 of length of postocular region in dorsal view.

Pronotum nearly parallel-sided; punctation sparser than that of head; impunctate midline narrow; interstices shining without microsculpture.

Elytra with punctation denser than that of pronotum and well defined; hind wings reduced.

Abdomen with dense punctuation; interstices with very shallow, transversely striate microsculpture.

Male. Sternite VII (Fig. 2A) with short, darkish setae in U-shaped posterio-median impression; sternite VIII (Fig. 2B) with triangular, symmetrical emargination and short, darkish setae in shallow impression; sternite IX (Fig. 2C) long and nearly symmetrical; aedeagus (Fig. 2D, 2E) with very slender, ventral process.

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**Figure 1.** Male habitus of *Lathrobium* spp., A *L. acutissimum* B *L. hailuogouense* C *L. labahense*. Scales: 1.0 mm.
Female. Posterior margin of tergite VIII (Fig. 2F) somewhat convex; sternite VIII (Fig. 2G) slightly longer than that of male, posterior margin broadly convex; tergite X (Fig. 2H) not acute basally and not reaching anterior margin of tergite IX (Fig. 2H).

**Distribution.** Southwest China: Sichuan.

**Etymology.** The specific epithet (Latin, adjective: sharp) alludes to the apical margin of the male sternite IX.

**Remarks.** It resembles *Lathrobium lijiangense* Watanabe & Xiao, 1997 from Yunnan in having a similar shape of the male sternite VII. The new species can be readily distinguished from these species by the male sternite VIII with a triangular emargination at the apical margin and by the aedeagus with a much longer ventral process. In *L. lijiangense*, the male sternite VIII has a semi-elliptical emargination at the apical margin and the ventral process of the aedeagus is short.

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**Figure 2.** *Lathrobium acutissimum*. A male sternite VII B male sternite VIII C male sternite IX D aedeagus in lateral view E aedeagus in ventral view F female tergite VIII G female sternite VIII H female tergites IX–X. Scales: 0.5 mm.
Lathrobium (Lathrobium) hailuogouense Peng, Li & Zhao, sp. n.
urn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:9D0986A3-9EFF-43D6-9414-3CD35F1F17FC
http://species-id.net/wiki/Lathrobium_hailuogouense
Figs 1B, 3

Type locality. Hailuogou, Sichuan Province, Southwest China

Type material (10 ♂, 13 ♀♀). Holotype: ♂, labeled ‘CHINA: Sichuan Prov. / Luding County / Hailuogou / 29°41’N, 102°06’E / 23.vii.2006, alt. 2,200–2,300 m / Hu & Tang leg.’. Paratypes: 4 ♂, 4 ♀♀, same label data as holotype; 3 ♂, 4 ♀♀, same data, except ‘29°41’N, 102°07’E / 24.vii.2006, alt. 2,800–3,000 m’; 2 ♂, 4 ♀♀, same data, except ‘27.vii.2006’; 1 ♀, same data, except ‘28.vii.2006’.

Description. Measurements and ratios: BL 7.23–8.34, FL 3.34–3.72, HL 1.04–1.11, HW 1.05–1.15, PL 1.39–1.48, PW 1.07–1.20, EL 0.93–1.02, HL/HW 0.94–0.99, HW/PW 0.96–0.99, HL/PL 0.75–0.79, PL/PL 1.23–1.30, EL/PL 0.67–0.69.

Habitus as in Fig. 1B. General appearance similar to L. acutissimum, except for somewhat smaller body size and sparser punctuation on head and pronotum.

Male. Posterior margin of sternite VII (Fig. 3A) weakly concave; sternite VIII (Fig. 3B) with symmetrical, subtriangular emargination and darkish setae in large, shallow impression; sternite IX (Fig. 3C) asymmetrical; aedeagus (Fig. 3D, 3E) with slender, ventral process and short, dorsal sclerites.

Female. Posterior margin of tergite VIII (Fig. 3F) nearly truncate; sternite VIII (Fig. 3G) much longer than that of male, posterior margin strongly convex; tergite X (Fig. 3H) slender and not reaching anterior margin of tergite IX (Fig. 3H).

Distribution. Southwest China: Sichuan.

Etymology. The specific epithet of this new species is derived from the type locality “Hailuogou”.

Remarks. The new species resembles Lathrobium zhangi Watanabe & Xiao, 1997 from Yunnan in having the posterior margin of the male sternite VII weakly concave and a similar shape of the male sternite VIII. The new species can be readily distinguished from these species by the broad ventral process of the aedeagus in lateral view. In L. zhangi, the ventral process of the aedeagus is much narrower in lateral view.

Lathrobium (Lathrobium) labahense Peng, Li & Zhao, sp. n.
urn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:06462E31-EB5D-4F33-849E-E224427D4CC6
http://species-id.net/wiki/Lathrobium_labahense
Figs 1C, 4

Type locality. Labahe Natural Reserve, Sichuan Province, Southwest China

Type material (1 ♂, 1 ♀). Holotype: ♂, labeled ‘CHINA: Sichuan Prov. / Tianquan County / Labahe N. R. / 30°09’N, 102°28’E / 31.vii.2006, alt. 2,400–2,600 m / Hu & Tang leg.’. Paratypes: 1 ♀, same label data as holotype.
Description. Measurements and ratios: BL 7.02–7.54, FL 2.95–3.06, HL 0.85–0.94, HW 0.88–0.92, PL 1.22–1.25, PW 0.91–0.93, EL 0.78–0.81, HL/HW 0.97–1.02, HW/PW 0.97–0.99, HL/PL 0.70–0.75, PL/PW 1.34, EL/PL 0.64–0.65.

Habitus as in Fig. 1C. Generally similar to L. acutissimum except for lighter coloration of legs, smaller body size, and somewhat sparser punctation on head and pronotum.

Male. Posterior margin of sternite VII (Fig. 4A) concave and with short, darkish setae; sternite VIII (Fig. 4B) with semicircular, symmetrical emargination and dense, long setae in shallow impression; sternite IX (Fig. 4C) nearly symmetrical; aedeagus (Fig. 4D, 4E) with long, ventral process and thin, dorsal sclerite.

Female. Posterior margin of tergite VIII (Fig. 4F) weakly convex; sternite VIII (Fig. 4G) much longer than that of male, posterior margin strongly convex; tergite IX (Fig. 4H) not separated from tergite X (Fig. 4H).

Figure 3. Lathrobium hailuogouense. A male sternite VII B male sternite VIII C male sternite IX D aedeagus in lateral view E aedeagus in ventral view F female tergite VIII G female sternite VIII H female tergites IX–X. Scales: 0.5 mm.
Three new species of Lathrobium Gravenhorst (Coleoptera, Staphylinidae, Paederinae)...

**Distribution.** Southwest China: Sichuan.

**Etymology.** The specific epithet of this new species is derived from the type locality “Labaha”.

**Remarks.** *Lathrobium labahense* resembles *L. watanabei* Schülke, 2002 in having a similar shape of the male sternite VIII, but can be readily separated by the aedeagus with a much longer ventral process.

### A checklist of Chinese Lathrobium

The checklist is presented in Table 1. The species are arranged alphabetically, and all of them belong to the nominate subgenus. For synonymies see Smetana (2004).

*Figure 4. Lathrobium labahense.* A male sternite VII B male sternite VIII C male sternite IX D aedeagus in lateral view E aedeagus in ventral view F female tergite VIII G female sternite VIII H female tergites IX–X. Scales: 0.5 mm.
Lathrobium nomurai Nakane, 1955 was listed for the China in Smetana (2004). However, this species is apterous and was originally described from Tsuruoka-Do Cave, Kyushu, Japan. Since it is most unlikely that it could be also found in China, we exclude *L. nomurai* from the list.

The literature references are abbreviated as follows:

- A09 Assing (2009)
- A10a Assing (2010a)
- A10b Assing (2010b)
- Aip Assing (in press)
- B38 Bernhauer (1938)
- C05a Chen et al. (2005a)
- C05b Chen et al. (2005b)
- HE03 Herman (2003)
- HU02 Hua (2002)
- K46 Kolenati (1846)
- L92 Li (1992)
- LC90 Li and Chen (1990)
- LC93 Li and Chen (1993)
- P12a Peng et al. (2012a)
- P12b Peng et al. (2012b)
- Ppp Peng et al. (present paper)
- R11 Ryvkin (2011)
- S62 Scheerpeltz (1962)
- SCH02 Schülke (2002)
- SCR59 Scriba (1859)
- SH74 Sharp (1874)
- SH89 Sharp (1889)
- SM04 Smetana (2004)
- W97 Watanabe (1997)
- W98 Watanabe (1998)
- W99a Watanabe (1999a)
- W99b Watanabe (1999b)
- W05 Watanabe (2005)
- W11 Watanabe (2011)
- WL92 Watanabe and Luo (1992)
- WX94 Watanabe and Xiao (1994)
- WX96 Watanabe and Xiao (1996)
- WX97 Watanabe and Xiao (1997)
- WX00 Watanabe and Xiao (2000)
Table 1. Checklist of Chinese Lathrobium. Footnotes: 1: doubtful record (likely misidentification); 2: communicated by Assing (personal communication).

| Species | Distribution in China | References |
|---------|------------------------|------------|
| acutissimum sp. n. | Sichuan: Jiajin Shan | Ppp |
| altaosbanense Watanabe & Xiao, 1997 | Yunnan: Aifao Shan | SM04, WX97 |
| alesi Assing, 2010 | Taiwan: Hsuehshan | A10b |
| alishanum Assing, 2010 | Taiwan: Alishan | A10b |
| anmaicicum Assing, 2010 | Taiwan: Anmashan | A10b |
| aokii Watanabe & Xiao, 2000 | Yunnan: Diancang Shan | SM04, WX00 |
| baihualingense Watanabe & Xiao, 2000 | Yunnan: Gaoligong Shan | SM04, WX00 |
| baizhuorum Watanabe & Xiao, 2000 | Yunnan: Diancang Shan | SM04, WX00 |
| cooteri Watanabe, 1999 | Zhejiang: Linglong Shan | SM04, W99b |
| cylindricum Bernhauer, 1938 | Jiangsu: Chinkiang | HU02, B38, SM04 |
| dabeiense Watanabe & Xiao, 1997 | Yunnan: Gaoligong Shan | SM04, WX97 |
| daliense Watanabe & Xiao, 1994 | Yunnan: Diancang Shan | SM04, WX94 |
| dignum Sharp, 1874 | Hubei, Jiangsu², Liaoning | HU02, L92, LC93, R11, SH74, SM04 |
| extraculum Assing, 2010 | Taiwan: Peitawushan | A10b |
| follicum Assing, 2010 | Taiwan: Peitawushan | A10b |
| fulvipenne Gravenhorst, 1806 | Heilongjiang | SM04 |
| guizhouensis Chen, Li & Zhao, 2005 | Guizhou: Fanjing Shan | C05a |
| hallologuense sp. n. | Sichuan: Gongga Shan | Ppp |
| heteromorphum Chen, Li & Zhao, 2005 | Shaanxi: Taibai Shan | C05b |
| houhuanicum Assing, 2010 | Taiwan: Houhuanshan | A10b |
| hunanense Watanabe, 2011 | Hunan: Zhangjiacao | W11 |
| imadatei Watanabe, 1992 | Zhejiang: Wuyanling | SM04, W92 |
| involutum Assing, 2010 | Taiwan: Hseuhshan | A10b |
| ishiianum Watanabe & Xiao, 2000 | Yunnan: Gaoligong Shan | SM04, WX00 |
| itohi Watanabe & Xiao, 2000 | Yunnan: Gaoligong Shan | SM04, WX00 |
| jingyuetanicum Li & Chen, 1990 | Jilin: Jingyuetan | L92, LC90, LC93 |
| jiulongshanense Peng & Li, 2012 | Zhejiang: Jiulongshan | P12b |
| jizushanense Watanabe & Xiao, 1997 | Yunnan: Jizu Shan | SM04, WX97 |
| kishimotoi Watanabe, 2011 | Hunan: Zhangjiacao | W11 |
| kobense, 1874¹ | Jilin?, Hubei? | HU02, LC93, SM04 |
| labahense sp. n. | Sichuan: Labahe | Ppp |
| lilijangense Watanabe & Xiao, 1997 | Yunnan: Yulongxue Shan | SM04, WX97 |
| lingae Peng, Li & Zhao, 2012 | Zhejiang: Longwangshan | P12a |
| lineatocolle Scriba, 1859¹ | Jilin? | A09, A10a, K46, LC93, SCR59, SM04 |
| lobrathiforme Assing, in press | Yunnan: Gaoligong Shan | Aip |
| lobrathioides Assing, in press | Sichuan: Jinfo Shan | Aip |
| longwangshanense Peng, Li & Zhao, 2012 | Zhejiang: Longwangshan | P12a |
| miaoershanum Watanabe, 2011 | Guangxi: Maoershan | W11 |
| monilicorne Sharp, 1889¹ | Jilin? | L92, LC93, SH89, SM04 |
| naxii Watanabe & Xiao, 1996 | Yunnan: Yulongxue Shan | SM04, WX96 |
| Species          | Distribution in China          | References    |
|------------------|--------------------------------|---------------|
| nenkaoicum Assing, 2010 | Taiwan: Nenkaoshan            | A10b          |
| pollens Sharp, 1889¹ | Jilin?                         | L92, LC93, SM04|
| rougemonti Watanabe, 1999 | Zhejiang: West Tianmu Shan     | SM04, W99     |
| semistriatum Scheerpelz, 1962 | Shandong: Taishan              | HU02, S62, SM04|
| shaanxiensis Chen, Li & Zhao, 2005 | Shaanxi: Taibai Shan             | C05b          |
| shoolaiense Watanabe, 1998 | Taiwan: Ta-hsüeh Shan           | SM04, W98     |
| sheni Peng & Li, 2012 | Zhejiang: Jiulongshan            | P12b          |
| shubeii Watanabe & Xiao, 2000 | Yunnan: Gaoligong Shan          | SM04, WX00    |
| sinense Herman, 2003 | Jiangsu: Chinkiang, Yunnan?     | B38, HE03, HU02, SM04, |
| tamurai Watanabe, 1992 | Zhejiang: Wuyanling              | SM04, W92     |
| tarokoense Assing, 2010 | Taiwan: Taroko N. R.             | A10b          |
| tianmushanense Watanabe, 1999 | Zhejiang: West Tianmu Shan     | SM04, W99     |
| tsuifengense Watanabe, 2005 | Taiwan: Tsuifeng                | W05           |
| uncum Peng, Li & Zhao, 2012 | Zhejiang: Longwangshan           | P12a          |
| urticulatum Assing, 2010 | Taiwan: Peinantashan             | A10b          |
| watanae Schülke, 2002 | Sichuan: Daxue Shan              | SCH02         |
| xier Watanabe & Xiao, 2000 | Yunnan: Gaoligong Shan          | SM04, WX00    |
| yasutoshii Watanabe, 2005 | Taiwan: Lishan                  | W05           |
| yiniae Watanabe & Xiao, 1997 | Yunnan: Yulongxue Shan          | SM04, WX97    |
| yunnanum Watanabe & Xiao, 1994 | Yunnan: Laohu Shan              | SM04, WX94    |
| zhangi Watanabe & Xiao, 1997 | Yunnan: Jizu Shan               | SM04, WX97    |
| zhaoxiexiong Peng, Li & Zhao, 2012 | Zhejiang: Jiulongshan, Majian | P12b          |

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