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Taxonomical notes on the genus *Cerosterna* Dejean, 1835 with the description of a new species from the Australian realm (Coleoptera, Cerambycidae)

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Abstract. – *Cerosterna* (s. str.) *mirabilis* n. sp. is described from Sulawesi (Indonesia), extending the distributional area of the genus *Cerosterna* Dejean, 1835 to the Australian realm. *Loxotropoides* Fisher, 1935 (type species: *Loxotropoides brunnea* Fisher, 1935) is removed from the synonymy with *Cerosterna* and considered as a subgenus. *Trichocelosterna* Breuning, 1965 (type species: *Coelosterna rouyeri* Ritsema, 1906) is considered a junior synonym of *Loxotropoides* since both taxa are characterised by erect elytral pubescence. Consequently, *Cerosterna* (*Loxotropoides*) *rouyeri* (Ritsema, 1906) n. comb. and *Cerosterna* (*Loxotropoides*) *stolzi* (Ritsema, 1911) n. comb. are proposed. An annotated updated catalogue of the *Cerosterna* species, including synonyms and distribution, is added.

Vitali F., 2023. – Taxonomical notes on the genus *Cerosterna* Dejean, 1835 with the description of a new species from the Australian realm (Coleoptera, Cerambycidae). *Faunitaxys*, 11(80): 1 – 4.

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Introduction

Cerosterna Dejean, 1835 contains twelve species widespread in the Indomalayan realm from Pakistan to Indonesia and the Philippines (Breuning, 1943, 1976). The most western species, *Cerosterna scabrator* (Fabricius, 1781), a pest well-known in India as Babul-root Boring Longicorn (Stebbing, 1914), it is the only species present in the Afrotropical realm, since it has been introduced in the Mascarene (Gomy, 2000; Kariyanna et al., 2017) and the Reunion Islands (Lesne, 1919; Breuning, 1943, 1957, 1961).

A new species, the first one for the Australian realm, is described. Moreover, the taxonomy of this genus, which Alonso-Zarazaga (2009) definitively clarified, still contains a taxonomic error, which is corrected in this paper.

Examined collections

CFV: Collection Francesco Vitali, Luxembourg (Luxembourg).

Results

Cerosterna (s. str.) *mirabilis* n. sp.

(Fig. 1)

ZooBank: <https://zoobank.org/E43C3F3C-D622-43CE-A0C7-F86FFB57997C>

Holotype, ♀, Indonesia, Sulawesi Tengah, Palu, Palolo, VI.2022 (author's collection).

Description of the holotype

Body size: 37 mm.



Fig. 1. *Cerosterna* (s. str.) *mirabilis* n. sp., holotype.

Reviewers:

Larry G. Bezark (Sacramento, USA) - ZooBank: <http://zoobank.org/25C35904-2035-4416-9534-8641C1551196> - <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-0165-552X>

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Coloration. – Body dull black, covered with fulvous pubescence and dark brown pubescence forming:

- 1) Two small transverse spots behind the eyes;
- 2) Six spots on the pronotum: two large on the disc and two small transverse along the apical and the basal margin;
- 3) Several longitudinal stripes on the elytra, which do not reach the apex.

Moreover, elytra marked with a cretaceous white pattern forming:

- 1) A gradually oblique post-basal band, apically produced along the marginal side to reach the elytral half;
- 2) A post-median band, transverse at the suture and obliquely directed backwards at the marginal side;
- 3) Two spots located along the suture. Tarsi, apex of the scape and following antennomeres covered with blackish pubescence.

Head. – Finely and sparsely punctate, dull; labrum as long as wide, slightly concave at the distal margin and densely covered with long golden and brown pubescence at sides; clypeus smooth, ochreous; eyes finely faceted, lower lobes at least twice longer than genae; antennal supports strongly elevated, forming an obtuse angle between them; frons and occiput finely furrowed along the middle; some coarse points on the occiput and along the posterior margin of the eyes. Antennae robust, slightly longer than body, surpassing the elytral apex with one article, covered with black setae along the inferior side, extremely dense under antennomeres III-VI, then decreasing in intensity; scape robust, conical, apically transversally truncated, with complete cicatrix; pedicel transverse; antennomere III scarcely but evidently longer than scape and? antennomere IV; following antennomeres decreasing in length.

Pronotum. – Transverse, weakly convex at apex, bisinuate at base, with a strong V-shaped furrow at apex and two transverse furrows at base; each side armed with a long conical spine feebly recurved posteriorly and bearing some long erect setae on both sides; disc uneven, finely furrowed along the middle, with some black granules at both sides of the disc.

Scutellum. – Semi-ellipsoidal, feebly elongate, uniformly covered with recumbent fulvous pubescence, except for a short longitudinal line at the posterior margin.

Elytra. – Elongated (each one less than 4 times as long as wide); feebly tapered posteriorly, truncate at apex and armed with a short conical spine at both apices, dorsally flat; base feebly concave, humeri prominent, both covered with dense, strong, irregular, black granules.

Legs. – Relatively short; femora fusiform; protibiae slightly bisinuate; mesotibiae obliquely furrowed, without median tooth; metatibiae with two short black spurs at apex; claws opposite.

Prosternum. – Arcuate, with an obtuse ridge along the middle; procoxal cavities posteriorly closed; mesosternum armed with a strong obtuse tooth between the mesocoxal cavities; visible urosternite I as long as II and III together; urosternites II-IV progressively shortened; urosternite V twice as long as previous, apically concave; pygidium truncate.

Differential diagnosis. – The body without erect pubescence classifies *Cerosterna mirabilis* n. sp. in the nominotypical subgenus. In particular, the cretaceous white pubescence is similar to *Cerosterna pulchellator* (Westwood, 1837) from the Philippines; actually, the most closely related species from a biogeographical point of view. Differences are obvious is in the pattern of elytra (forming white spots in *C. pulchellator*), antennae (ringed with black in *C. pulchellator*) and tarsi (brown in *C. pulchellator*).

Taxonomical notes on the genus *Cerosterna*

The taxonomy of this genus was confused in the past due to different interpretations of availability and validity of Dejean's name and of a known misspelling (*Celosterna* for *Cerosterna*). Sama & Sudre (2009) summarised this puzzled history introducing, however, further errors, which Alonso-Zarazaga (2009) definitively corrected. Briefly, *Cerosterna* has to be attributed to Dejean (1835) and *Celosterna* to Thomson (1860). More recently, Breuning (1965) introduced the subgenus *Trichocelosterna* (type species: *Coelosterna rouyeri* Ritsema, 1906), splitting *de facto* the genus in two sections. As the epithet indicates, *Trichocelosterna* differs from the nominotypical subgenus on

the dorsal side of the elytra covered with erect pubescence. Breuning did not publish further worldwide catalogues and *C. rouyeri* remained the only species of this subgenus in most on-line catalogues. Nonetheless, *Cerosterna stolzi* (Ritsema, 1911) shares this peculiar character. This species is the older valid synonym of *Loxotropoides brunnea* Fisher, 1935, in turn the type species of *Loxotropoides* Fisher, 1935.

Consequently, *Loxotropoides* is not a synonym of *Cerosterna* (Breuning, 1943 and subsequent authors) but the valid name for those species characterised by erect pubescence. The following synonymy is proposed: *Loxotropoides* Fisher, 1935 = *Trichocelosterna* Breuning, 1965 n. syn.

Updated catalogue of the genus *Cerosterna*

Cerosterna Dejean, 1835

Cerosterna Dejean, 1835: 341. Type species: *Lamia gladiator* Fabricius, 1801 (designated by J. Thomson, 1864).

Celosterna Dejean (Blanchard, 1845: 158), misspelling (teste J. Thomson, 1860: 85)

= *Celosterna* J. Thomson, 1860: 85. Type species: *Lamia gladiator* Fabricius, 1801 (designated by J. Thomson, 1864).

Celosterna J. Thomson (J. Thomson, 1864: 75).

= *Toxosterna* J. Thomson, 1868: 178. Type species: *Lamia spinator* Fabricius, 1798, unjustified replacement name.

= *Coelosterna* Gemminger & Harold, 1873: 3022, unjustified emendation.

= *Falsopriona* Pic, 1925: 3. Type species: *Falsopriona luteopubens* Pic, 1925 (monotypy).

= *Psaromaia* Pascoe, 1866: 289, pl. XIII, Fig. 3. Type species: *Psaromaia tigrina* Pascoe, 1866 (monotypy).

Celosterna Blanchard (Aurivillius, 1921: 110; Breuning, 1943: 196), wrong authority attribution.

Celosterna Dejean (Sama & Sudre, 2009: 386), unjustified authority attribution.

Cerosterna fabricii (J. Thomson, 1865)

Celosterna fabricii J. Thomson, 1865: 552. Typical locality: Madras (India).

Distribution: India? Laos?

Thomson described this species from India, but Breuning (1943) considered this locality as false, quoting a Laotian specimen of the collection Iztinger. Afterwards, Rondon & Breuning (1970) did not publish further specimens. Kariyanna et al. (2017) did not mention Laos in the distribution of this species.

Cerosterna fasciculata (Aurivillius, 1924)

Celosterna fasciculata Aurivillius, 1924: 28. Typical locality: Aur Kumanis (Sumatra).

Distribution: Indonesia (Sumatra).

Cerosterna javana White, 1858

Cerosterna javana White, 1858: 403. Typical locality: Java.

= *Celosterna combusta* J. Thomson, 1865: 552. Typical locality: Java.

= *Psaromaia tigrina* Pascoe, 1866: 289. Typical locality: Java.

Distribution: Indonesia (Sumatra, Java).

Cerosterna luteopubens (Pic, 1925)

Falsopriona luteopubens Pic, 1925: 3. Typical locality: Saigon (Vietnam).

Distribution: India (Assam), Myanmar, Thailand, Laos, Vietnam.

Rondon & Breuning (1970) recorded Laotian specimens as "*Celosterna pollinosa sulphurea*", originating several misidentifications in subsequent publications (Choldumrongkul, 2006; Hoang et al., 2011; Welch et al., 2012; Van Hooijdonk et al., 2013; Thongphak & Khongthawie, 2014; Mara et al., 2022) and even on the international market of insects for sale.

Cerosterna mirabilis* n. sp.*Distribution:** Indonesia (Sulawesi).***Cerosterna perakensis* (Breuning, 1976)***Cerosterna perakensis* Breuning, 1976: 739. Typical locality: Taiping (Malaysia).**Distribution:** Malaysia, Borneo.***Cerosterna pollinosa* Buquet, 1859***Cerosterna pollinosa* Buquet, 1859: 634. Typical locality: Java.
= *Coelosterna sulphurea* Heller, 1907: 54. Typical locality: Tandjong Poera (Sumatra).**Distribution:** Borneo, Indonesia (Sumatra, Java).Records of specimens from continental Asia (Rondon & Breuning, 1970; Choldumrongkul, 2006; Hoang et al., 2011; Thongphak & Khongthawie, 2014) have to be referred to *Cerosterna luteopubens*.***Cerosterna pulchellator* (Westwood, 1837)***Lamia pulchellator* Westwood 1837: 128. Typical locality: Manila (Philippines).= *Euoplia argenteo-maculata* Aurivillius, 1887: 196. Typical locality: Manila (Philippines).**Distribution:** Philippines.

Hua (2002) recorded this species from Taiwan. The locality is however erroneous since it was excluded in subsequent catalogues (Hua et al., 2009).

Cerosterna ritsemai* (Heller, 1907)Coelosterna ritsemai* Heller 1907: 55. Typical locality: Deli (Sumatra).**Distribution:** Malaysia, Indonesia (Sumatra).***Cerosterna scabrator* (Fabricius, 1781)***Lamia scabrator* Fabricius, 1781: 224. Typical locality: Oriental India.
= *Lamia spinator* Fabricius, 1798: 145. Typical locality: Oriental Indies.
= *Lamia gladiator* Fabricius, 1801: 284. Typical locality: Oriental India.
= *Psaromaia renei* Aurivillius, 1922: 112. Typical locality: Kodaikanal Mts. (India)= *Aristobia murina* Nonfried 1894: 82. Typical locality: East Asia**Distribution:** Pakistan, India, Sri Lanka, Nepal; introduced in the Mascarene and Reunion Islands.***Cerosterna variegata* (Aurivillius, 1911)***Coelosterna variegata* Aurivillius, 1911: 197. Typical locality: Kuching (Sarawak).**Distribution:** Borneo.Subgenus ***Loxotropoides* Fisher, 1935***Loxotropoides* Fisher, 1935: 600. Type species: *Loxotropoides brunnea* Fisher, 1935 (monotypy).*Trichocelosterna* Breuning, 1965: 45. Type species: *Coelosterna rouyeri* Ritsema, 1906 (monotypy) **n. syn.*****Cerosterna (Loxotropoides) rouyeri* (Ritsema, 1906) n. comb.***Coelosterna rouyeri* Ritsema, 1906: 137. Typical locality: Pajakombo (Sumatra).**Distribution:** Indonesia (Sumatra, Java).

Rondon & Breuning (1970) recorded this species from Laos too. With respect to the known distribution of this species, this locality seems to be erroneous.

Cerosterna (Loxotropoides) stolzi* (Ritsema, 1911) n. comb.Cerosterna stolzi* Ritsema, 1911: 4. Typical locality: Soerian (Sumatra).
= *Loxotropoides brunnea* Fisher, 1935: 601. Typical locality: Klau (Sabah).**Distribution:** Borneo, Indonesia (Sumatra, Java).**References**

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Résumé

Vitali F., 2023. – Note taxonomique sur le genre *Cerosterna* Dejean, 1835 avec la description d'une espèce nouvelle de l'écozone australasienne (Coleoptera, Cerambycidae). *Faunitaxys*, 11(80): 1-4.

Cerosterna (s. str.) *mirabilis* n. sp. est décrit de Célèbes (Indonésie), étendant l'aire de répartition du genre *Cerosterna* Dejean, 1835 jusqu'à l'écozone australasienne. *Loxotropoides* Fisher, 1935 (espèce-type : *Loxotropoides brunnea* Fisher, 1935) est retiré de la synonymie avec *Cerosterna* et considéré comme un sous-genre. *Trichocelosterna* Breuning, 1965 (espèce-type : *Coelosterna rouyeri* Ritsema, 1906) est considérée comme un synonyme plus récent de *Loxotropoides* puisque les deux taxons sont caractérisés par une pubescence élytrale dressée. Par conséquent, *Cerosterna* (*Loxotropoides*) *rouyeri* (Ritsema, 1906) n. comb. et *Cerosterna* (*Loxotropoides*) *stolzi* (Ritsema, 1911) n. comb. sont proposées. Un catalogue commenté et mis à jour des espèces de *Cerosterna*, comprenant les synonymes et leur répartition, est proposé.

Mots-clés. – Coleoptera, Cerambycidae, Lamiinae, Lamiini, *Cerosterna*, taxonomie, espèce nouvelle, description, Célèbes, Indonésie, catalogue.

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Illustration de la couverture :

The Mother Temple of Besakih, or Pura Besakih, in the village of Besakih on the slopes of Mount Agung in eastern Bali, Indonesia, is the most important, the largest and holiest temple of Hindu religion in Bali.

Crédits :

Francesco Vitali : Fig. 1.

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