

TAXONOMY OF THE GENUS *BLINDUS* MULSANT ET REY  
FROM CHINA, WITH DESCRIPTION OF TWO NEW SPECIES  
(COLEOPTERA, TENEBRIONIDAE, PEDININI)

LIU, S.-S. and REN, G.-D.

College of Life Sciences, Hebei University, Baoding, 071002, P. R. China  
E-mail: shanllshan@126.com, gdren@hbu.edu.cn

The Chinese species of the genus *Blindus* Mulsant et Rey are reviewed in this paper. Two new species, *Blindus contractus* sp. n. and *B. discolor* sp. n. are described from Sichuan Province, China. Additional material on other species of Chinese *Blindus* is given. A key to Chinese species of *Blindus* is provided.

Key words: Tenebrionidae, Tenebrioninae, Pedinini, *Blindus*, new species, China.

## INTRODUCTION

The genus *Blindus* belonging to the tribe Pedinini of Tenebrionidae was established by MULSANT and REY (1853), and *B. strigosus* (Faldermann, 1835) as the type species from China. They inhabit loose soil with moderate rainfall and rich vegetation. They are active at night.

At present eight valid species of the genus *Blindus* are recognized, they were described by REITTER (1889), SEIDLITZ (1893), FAIRMAIRE (1897), FALDERMANN (1935), MEDVEDEV (1968) and REN and ZHANG (2010), respectively. The species of the genus are distributed only in East Asia (IWAN & LÖBL 2008), in which seven species are found from China with the exception of *B. japonicus* (SEIDLITZ, 1893) found only from Japan.

While examining the *Blindus* specimens in the Museum of Hebei University (MHBU), Baoding, we found two new species, *B. contractus* sp. n. and *B. discolor* sp. n., from Sichuan Province, China. They are described and photographed herein. In addition, the species *B. fulvicornis* (Reitter, 1889) is also recorded from Shaanxi Province which extends its geographic distribution (originally it is distributed in Gansu, Inner Mongolia and Sichuan); and *B. strigosus* (Faldermann, 1835) is widely distributed in China, we append Anhui, Guizhou, Jiangsu and Jiangxi to the provincial distribution.

## MATERIAL AND METHODS

The current terminology of morphological structures for the *Blindus* follows MEDVEDEV (1968). The photos were taken with a Leica M205A stereomicroscope equipped with a DFC450 CCD. All measurements are in millimeter. All specimens examined are deposited in the Museum of Hebei University (MHBU), Baoding, China.

*Blindus* Mulsant et Rey, 1853

*Blindus* Mulsant et Rey, 1853: 206 (Type species: *Pedinus strigosus* Faldermann, 1835); SEIDLITZ, 1893: 364, 374 (*Pedinus*, subgenus); REITTER, 1904: 52 (*Pedinus*, subgenus); REIKHARDT, 1936: 675 (*Pedinus*, subgenus); REIKHARDT, 1937: 746 (*Pedinus*, subgenus); MEDVEDEV, 1968: 154.

Diagnosis – Body medium size (7.0–10.5 mm); elliptical, smooth. Head hexagonal. Clypeus deeply emarginate at front border. Eyes divided into two parts by genae completely. Mentum longitudinally convex in middle. Maxillary palpus with securiform terminal palpomere. Antennae slightly widening to apex. Pronotum transverse; anterior margin deeply emarginate with narrow bead; basal margin slightly emarginate or nearly straight, without bead or with narrow intact or partial bead; pronotum with coarse punctures or thin longitudinal wrinkles. Elytra punctato-striate distinctly or not; intervals with large punctures. Pseudo epipleuron intact, reaching apices. Hind wings less developed. Prosternum with two long hairs in middle; prosternal process vertically descending, prominent at the apex. Mesosternum with deep groove in middle. Metasternum with faint longitudinal groove. Femora simple, those in male with dense or sparse hairs near the apex in ventral surface. Protibia gradually widening from base to apex, inner edge nearly straight or slightly curved; ventral surface with a distinct depression in several species. Mesotibia simple in both sexes, gradually widening to apex, slightly curved or straight. Metatibia slender, straight or curved. Protarsomeres I to III in male extremely dilated, with dense fuzz in ventral surface; protarsomeres I to IV in female narrow, with sparse fuzz in ventral surface. Mesotarsomeres narrow in both sexes, I to IV without fuzz in ventral surface (MEDVEDEV 1968).

Distribution – China, Japan, Mongolia, North Korea, South Korea and Russia.

Composition – Until now ten species of the genus *Blindus* are valid (including the two new ones described below), they are *B. contractus* sp. n., *B. discolor* sp. n., *B. curvotibius* Ren et Zhang, 2010, *B. fulvicornis* (Reitter, 1889), *B. japonicus* (Seidlitz, 1893), *B. potanini nudiventris* Medvedev, 1968, *B. potanini potanini* Medvedev, 1968, *B. reichardti* Medvedev, 1968, *B. strigosus* (Faldermann, 1835) and *B. thibetanus* (Fairmaire, 1897).

KEY TO THE SPECIES OF *BLINDUS* IN CHINA (MALES ONLY)

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| 1 | Protibia without depression on ventral surface         | 2 |
| – | Protibia with a distinct depression on ventral surface | 6 |

- 2 Basal margin of pronotum without bead *B. strigosus* (Faldermann, 1835)
- Basal margin of pronotum with narrow bead 3
- 3 Basal margin of pronotum with intact bead 4
- Basal margin of pronotum with narrow bead only in lateral 5
- 4 Ventral surface of body and abdominal sternites with dense short hairs  
*B. potanini potanini* Medvedev, 1968
- Ventral surface of body with sparse short hairs, abdominal sternites hardly with hairs *B. potanini nudiventris* Medvedev, 1968
- 5 Anterior angles of pronotum obtuse *B. fulvicornis* (Reitter, 1889)
- Anterior angles of pronotum sharp *B. curvotibius* Ren et Zhang, 2010
- 6 Metatibia particularly angulately curved *B. thibetanus* (Fairmaire, 1897)
- Metatibia moderately curved or straight 7
- 7 Basal margin of pronotum with intact bead 8
- Basal margin of pronotum with narrow bead only in lateral 1/4  
***B. contractus* sp. n.**
- 8 Inner edge of protibia straight, ventral surface of protibia with a narrow depression *B. reichardti* Medvedev, 1968
- Inner edge of protibia suddenly dilated at basal 2/3, ventral surface of protibia with a distinct large fusiform depression ***B. discolor* sp. n.**

***Blindus contractus* sp. n.**  
(Figs 1–11 A)

Type material – Holotype, male, Gongbuka Village, Kangding County, Sichuan, China, 8. viii. 2009, Zhen-Hua Gao leg. (MHBU). Paratypes. 1 male, 1 female, labelled as the holotype (MHBU).

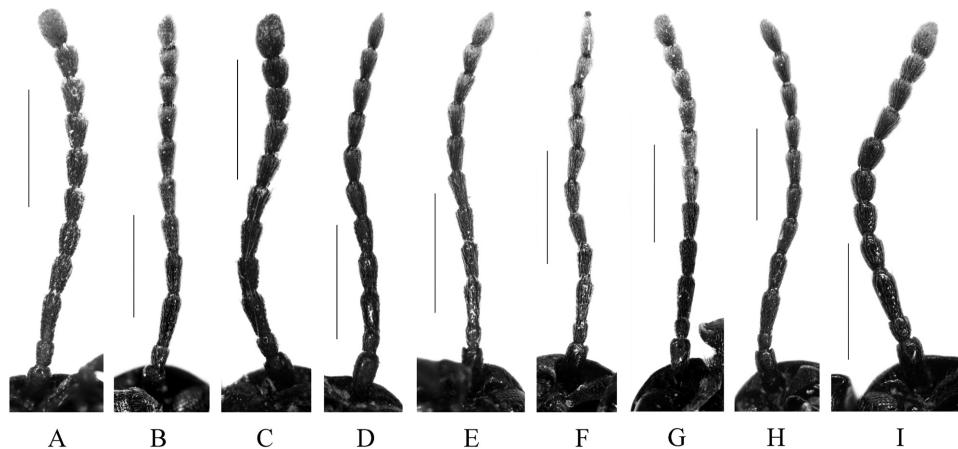
Etymology – The specific name is a Latin adjective and refers to the slender body.

Diagnosis – The new species is similar to *B. reichardti* Medvedev, 1968, but can be distinguished from the latter by the following characteristics: (1) body rather slender; (2) antennomere III about 2 times as long as II; (3) basal margin of pronotum with narrow bead only in lateral 1/4; (4) pronotum different in shape, widest at basal 1/2; (5) prosternal process different in shape, longitudinally slightly convex in middle; (6) metatibia distinctly curved; (7) metafemora ventrally slender, with one sharp process near the apex; (8) aedeagus different in shape.

Description – Male. Body slenderly elliptical, arched; black, antennomere I-II, VIII-XI, mouthparts and tarsi reddish brown. Head hexagonal, with distinct and large punctures in middle and small punctures at sides; labrum transversely ovoid, emarginate at front border, scattered with yellow hairs on both sides; clypeus deeply emarginate at front border, slightly convex; frontoclypeal suture extremely obscure; genae feebly convex and slightly extended, temples reduced; frons convex between eyes, interocular space about 5.08 times as an eye diameter; mentum hexagonal, widely longitudinally convex in middle, longitudinally depressed in both sides, with sparse yellow pubescence; maxillary palpus with securiform terminal palpomere. Antennae long, reaching base of pronotum, with short hairs; antennomere I thick and strong, II very short, III about 2 times as long as II, VII to XI each gradually widening, XI elongate ovoid, ratio of the length (the width) of antennomeres I-XI from basal to apical as follows: 25.0(17.0): 18.0(14.0): 36.0(14.0): 29.0(16.0): 27.0(16.0): 25.0(16.0): 29.0(18.0): 26.0(19.0): 25.0(19.0): 30.0(20.0).

Pronotum slightly transverse, about 1.34 times as wide as long, widest at middle, with small punctures in middle but the punctures become elongate and confluent at sides; anterior margin emarginate with narrow bead only in lateral 1/3; sides arcuate, strongly narrowing forward and feebly so backward from the widest point, with narrow bead; basal margin nearly straight, with narrow bead only in lateral 1/4; anterior angles sharp, posterior angles nearly rectangular. Scutellum widely triangular, with obscure punctures. Elytra punctato-striate, striate obscure at base, becoming distinct to apices, with large punctures, intervals flat, irregularly punctate with several transverse wrinkles; lateral margin visible only at humeri in dorsal view. Pseudo-epipleuron intact, gradually narrowed to apices. Prohypomera with long wrinkles. Prosternum with irregular wrinkles and sparse short hairs in middle, prosternal process longitudinally slightly convex in middle, vertically descending at round apex in lateral view.

Protibia gradually widening from base to apex, inner edge smooth, nearly straight, with dense short spines near apex, with two equilength apical spurs; outer edge straight,



**Fig. 1.** Antennae of *Blindus*, dorsal view: A = *Blindus contractus* sp. n., B = *B. discolor* sp. n., C = *B. curvotibius* Ren et Zhang, 2010, D = *B. fulvicornis* (Reitter, 1889), E = *B. potanini nudiventris* Medvedev, 1968, F = *B. potanini potanini* Medvedev, 1968, G = *B. reichardti* Medvedev, 1968, H = *B. strigosus* (Faldermann, 1835), I = *B. thibetanus* (Fairmaire, 1897). Scale bars = 1 mm.

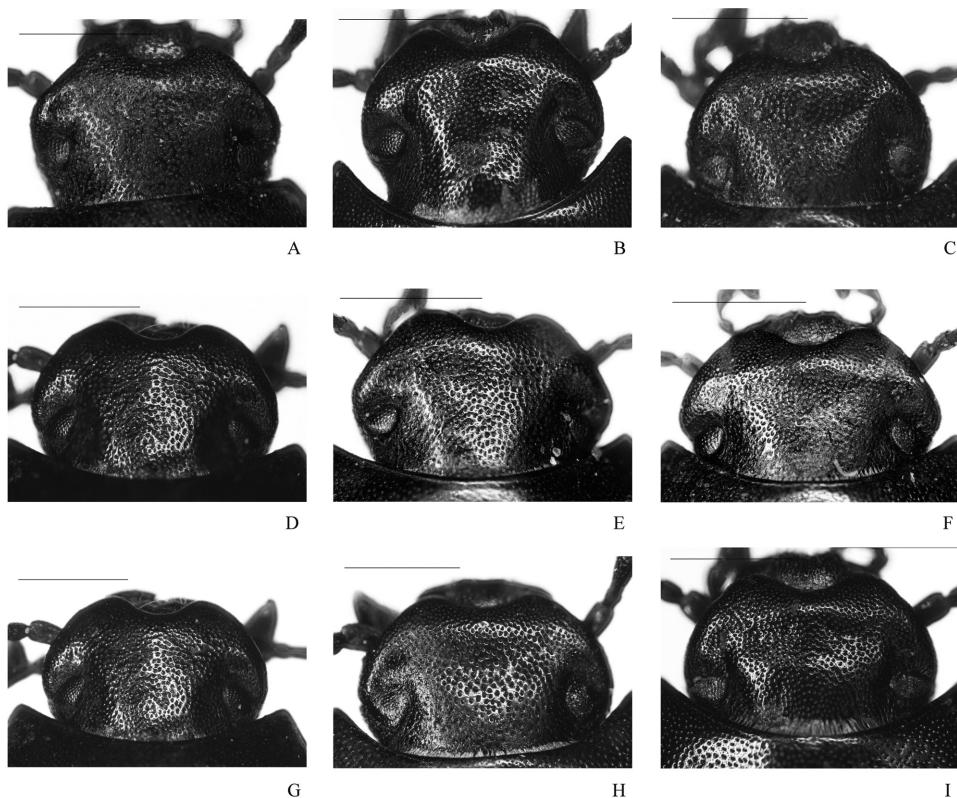
with dense short spines near apex; dorsal surface scattered with fine punctures and short hairs; ventral surface with a distinct elliptical large depression, smooth in depression and with sparse short spines and hairs on outside of the depression. Protarsomeres I to III extremely dilated, with dense fuzz in ventral surface. Mesotibia slightly curved, with short spines and hairs. Metatibia distinctly curved, with sparse hairs and short spines. Metafemora curved, with sparse hairs and one sharp process near the apex in ventral surface. Ratio of the length of metatarsomeres I to IV as follows: 60.0: 30.0: 25.0: 41.0.

Aedeagus short, length 1.44 mm, width 0.44 mm.

Female. Body wider than that of male. Protibia without depression. Protarsomeres I to III not dilated. Metatibia straight. Metafemora straight, without process near the apex of ventral surface.

Measurements. Body length 9.5 mm; width 4.0–4.5 mm.

Distribution – China: Sichuan.



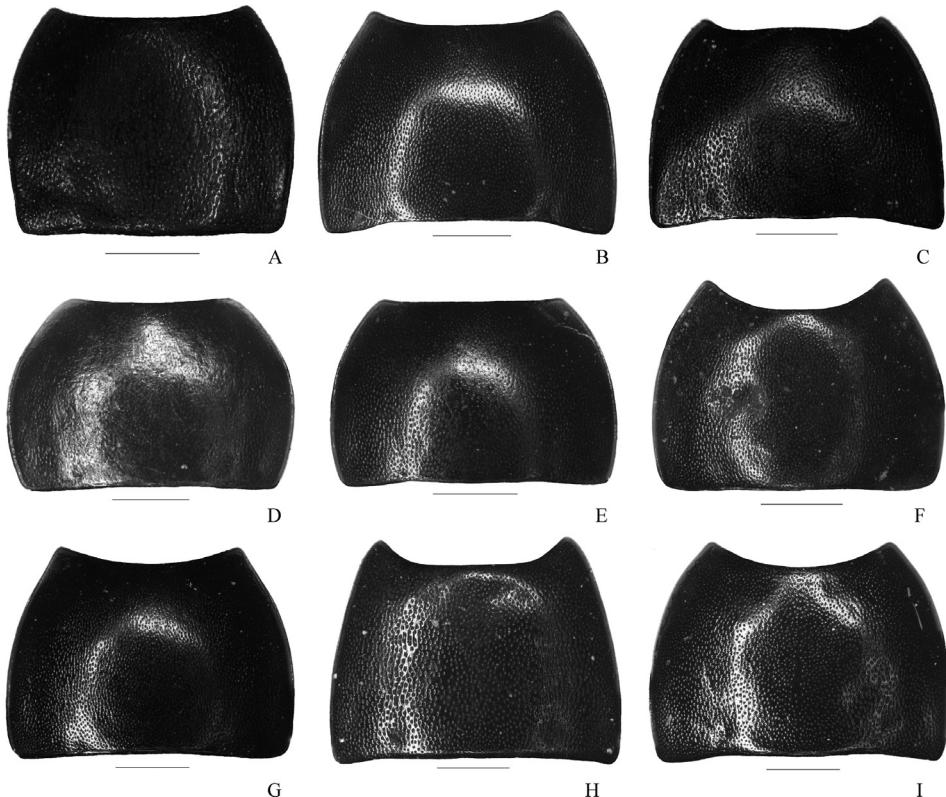
**Fig. 2.** Head of *Blindus*, dorsal view: A = *Blindus contractus* sp. n., B = *B. discolor* sp. n., C = *B. curvotibius* Ren et Zhang, 2010, D = *B. fulvicornis* (Reitter, 1889), E = *B. potanini nudiventris* Medvedev, 1968, F = *B. potanini potanini* Medvedev, 1968, G = *B. reichardti* Medvedev, 1968, H = *B. strigosus* (Faldermann, 1835), I = *B. thibetanus* (Fairmaire, 1897). Scale bars = 1 mm.

**Blindus discolor sp. n.**  
(Figs 1–11B)

Type material – Holotype, male, Beijia Mountain, Danba County, Sichuan, China, 29. vii. 1999, Guo-Dong Ren leg. (MHBU). Paratypes: 2 males, labelled as the holotype (MHBU).

Etymology – The specific name is a Latin noun and refers to the infraspecific different body colour.

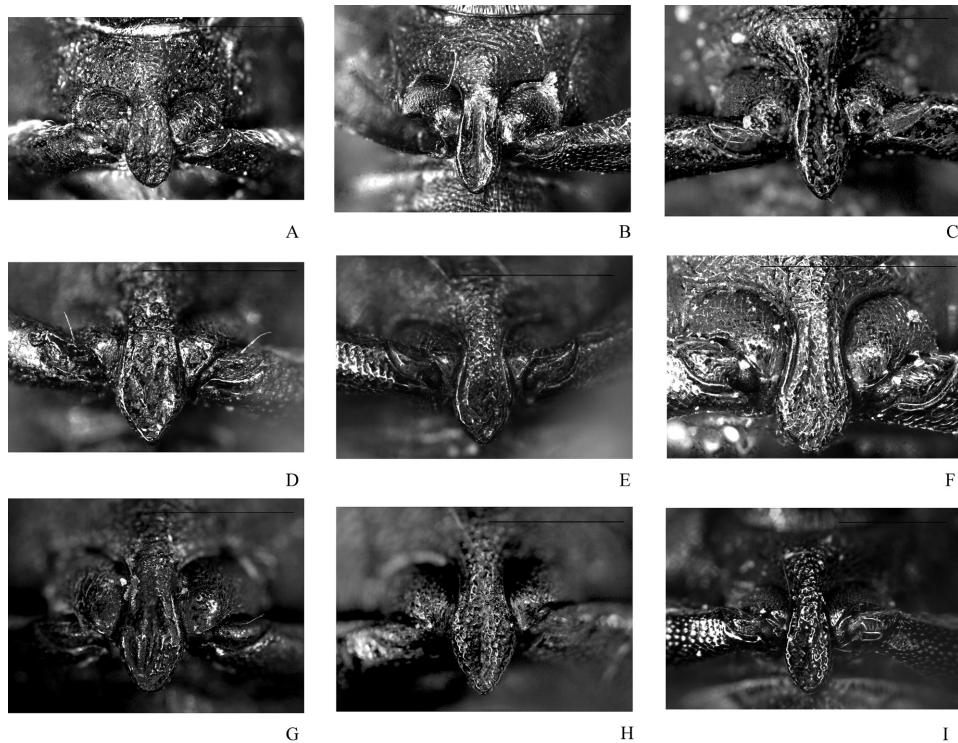
Diagnosis – The new species is similar to *Blindus reichardti* Medvedev, 1968, but can be distinguished from the latter by the following characteristics: (1) head smooth, with small and partly confluent punctures; (2) frons nearly flat between eyes, interocular space about 4.78 times as an eye diameter; (3) antennomere III about 2.12 times as long as II; (4) prosternal process different



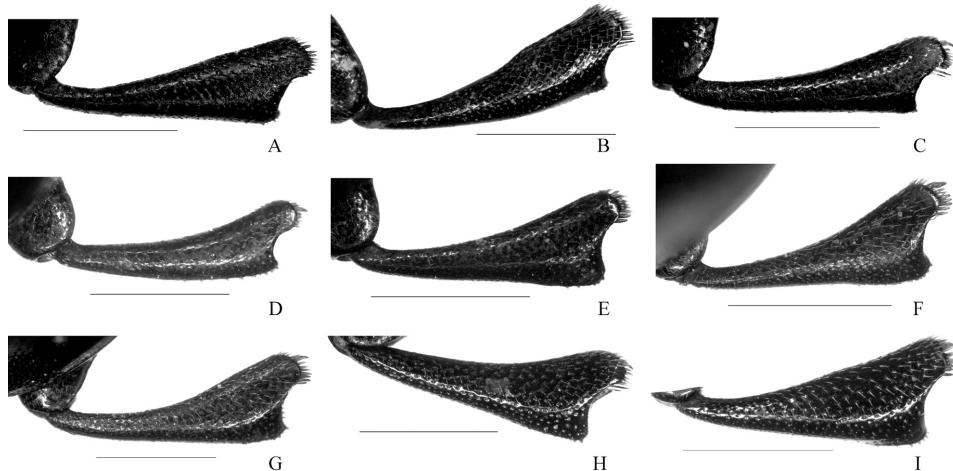
**Fig. 3.** Pronotum of *Blindus*, dorsal view: A = *Blindus contractus* sp. n., B = *B. discolor* sp. n., C = *B. curvotibius* Ren et Zhang, 2010, D = *B. fulvicornis* (Reitter, 1889), E = *B. potanini nudiventris* Medvedev, 1968, F = *B. potanini potanini* Medvedev, 1968, G = *B. reichardti* Medvedev, 1968, H = *B. strigosus* (Faldermann, 1835), I = *B. thibetanus* (Fairmaire, 1897). Scale bars = 1 mm.

in shape, longitudinally deeply depressed in middle; (5) protibia different in shape, inner edge distinctly curved, suddenly dilated at basal 2/3; (6) ventral surface of protibia with a large fusiform depression; (7) metatibia distinctly curved; (8) aedeagus different in shape.

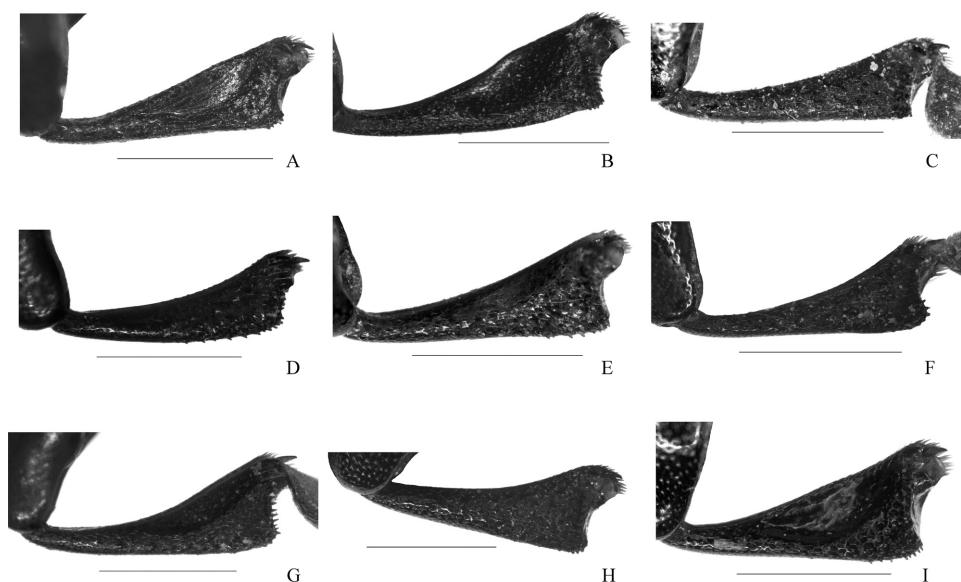
Description – Male. Body elongate elliptical, strongly arched; coloration from reddish brown to black, antennomere I-II, VIII-XI, mouthparts and legs slightly paler. Head hexagonal, smooth, with small and partly confluent punctures; labrum transversely ovoid, slightly emarginate at front border, scattered with yellow hairs; clypeus deeply emarginate at front border, slightly convex; frontoclypeal suture obscure; genae feebly convex and slightly extended, temples distinctly reduced; frons nearly flat between eyes, interocular space about 4.78 times as an eye diameter; mentum nearly hexagonal, narrowly longitudinally convex in middle, longitudinally depressed at both sides, with sparse yellow pubescence; maxillary palpus with securiform terminal palpomere. Antennae long, reaching base of pronotum, with short hairs; antennomere I thick and strong, II very short, III about



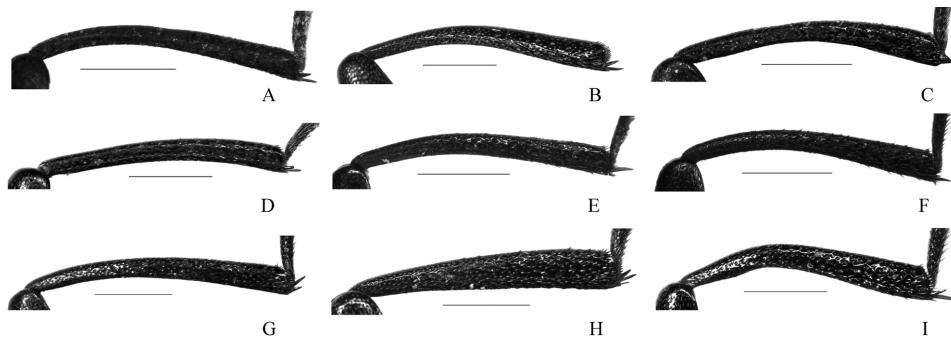
**Fig. 4.** Prosternal process of *Blindus*, ventral view: A = *Blindus contractus* sp. n., B = *B. discolor* sp. n., C = *B. curvotibius* Ren et Zhang, 2010, D = *B. fulvicornis* (Reitter, 1889), E = *B. potanini nudiventris* Medvedev, 1968, F = *B. potanini potanini* Medvedev, 1968, G = *B. reichardti* Medvedev, 1968, H = *B. strigosus* (Faldermann, 1835), I = *B. thibetanus* (Fairmaire, 1897). Scale bars = 1 mm.



**Fig. 5.** Protibiae of *Blindus*, dorsal view: A = *Blindus contractus* sp. n., B = *B. discolor* sp. n., C = *B. curvotibius* Ren et Zhang, 2010, D = *B. fulvicornis* (Reitter, 1889), E = *B. potanini nudiventris* Medvedev, 1968, F = *B. potanini potanini* Medvedev, 1968, G = *B. reichardti* Medvedev, 1968, H = *B. strigosus* (Faldermann, 1835), I = *B. thibetanus* (Fairmaire, 1897). Scale bars = 1 mm.



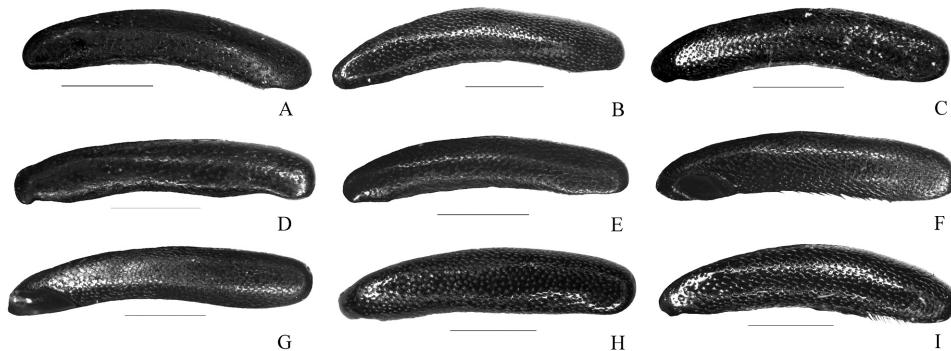
**Fig. 6.** Protibiae of *Blindus*, ventral view: A = *Blindus contractus* sp. n., B = *B. discolor* sp. n., C = *B. curvotibius* Ren et Zhang, 2010, D = *B. fulvicornis* (Reitter, 1889), E = *B. potanini nudiventris* Medvedev, 1968, F = *B. potanini potanini* Medvedev, 1968, G = *B. reichardti* Medvedev, 1968, H = *B. strigosus* (Faldermann, 1835), I = *B. thibetanus* (Fairmaire, 1897). Scale bars = 1 mm.



**Fig. 7.** Metatibiae of *Blindus*, dorsal view: A = *Blindus contractus* sp. n., B = *B. discolor* sp. n., C = *B. curvotibius* Ren et Zhang, 2010, D = *B. fulvicornis* (Reitter, 1889), E = *B. potanini nudiventris* Medvedev, 1968, F = *B. potanini potanini* Medvedev, 1968, G = *B. reichardti* Medvedev, 1968, H = *B. strigosus* (Faldermann, 1835), I = *B. thibetanus* (Fairmaire, 1897). Scale bars = 1 mm.

2.12 times as long as II, VII to XI gradually widening individually, XI elongate ovoid, ratio of the length (the width) of antennomeres I–XI from basal to apical as follows: 26.0(16.0): 17.0(15.0): 36.0(15.0): 26.0(15.0): 25.0(16.0): 26.0(16.0): 27.0(17.0): 25.0(17.0): 26.0(19.0): 23.0(19.0): 29.0(21.0).

Pronotum transverse, about 1.53 times as wide as long, widest at base, with small punctures in middle but the punctures become elongate and confluent at sides; anterior margin emarginate with narrow bead only in lateral 2/5; sides arcuate, narrowly beaded, feebly narrowing forward from widest point, then strongly narrowing after middle; basal margin slightly emarginate, with narrow intact bead; anterior angles sharp, posterior angles roundly rectangular. Scutellum widely triangular, with small punctures. Elytra distinctly punctato-striate, with large punctures, intervals flat with small punctures; lateral margins visible only at humeri in dorsal view. Pseudo-epipleuron intact, gradually narrowed to apices. Prohypomera with long wrinkles. Prosternum with irregular wrinkles



**Fig. 8.** Metafemora of *Blindus*, ventral view: A = *Blindus contractus* sp. n., B = *B. discolor* sp. n., C = *B. curvotibius* Ren et Zhang, 2010, D = *B. fulvicornis* (Reitter, 1889), E = *B. potanini nudiventris* Medvedev, 1968, F = *B. potanini potanini* Medvedev, 1968, G = *B. reichardti* Medvedev, 1968, H = *B. strigosus* (Faldermann, 1835), I = *B. thibetanus* (Fairmaire, 1897). Scale bars = 1 mm.

and sparse short hairs in middle, prosternal process longitudinally deeply depressed in middle, vertically descending at pointed apex in lateral view.

Protibia distinctly widening from base to apex, with two equilength apical spurs, inner edge distinctly curved, suddenly dilated at apical 1/3, with dense short spines near apex; outer edge slightly arched, with dense short spines near apex; dorsal surface slightly convex, scattered with short hairs; ventral surface with a distinct large fusiform depression, smooth within depression and with sparse short spines and hairs on outside of the depression. Protarsomeres I to III extremely dilated, with dense fuzz in ventral surface. Mesotibia nearly straight, with dense short spines and hairs. Metatibia distinctly curved, smooth, with sparse hairs. Metafemora curved, with sparse hairs. Ratio of the length of metatarsomeres I to IV as follows: 68.0: 38.0: 24.0: 50.0.

Aedeagus short, length 1.61 mm, width 0.57 mm.

Female. Unknown.

Measurements. Body length 10.5 mm; width 4.5 mm.

Distribution – China: Sichuan.

*Blindus curvotibius* Ren et Zhang, 2010  
(Figs 1–11C)

*Blindus curvotibius* REN & ZHANG, 2010: 64.

Material – 1 male, 1 female, Jigong Mountain, Henan Province, China, 5. viii. 2004, Feng-Yan Wang leg. (MHBU); 1 female, Baotianman, Neixiang County, Henan Province, China, 22. viii. 2008, Guo-Dong Ren leg. (MHBU).

Distribution – China: Henan.

*Blindus fulvicornis* (Reitter, 1889)  
(Figs 1–11 D)

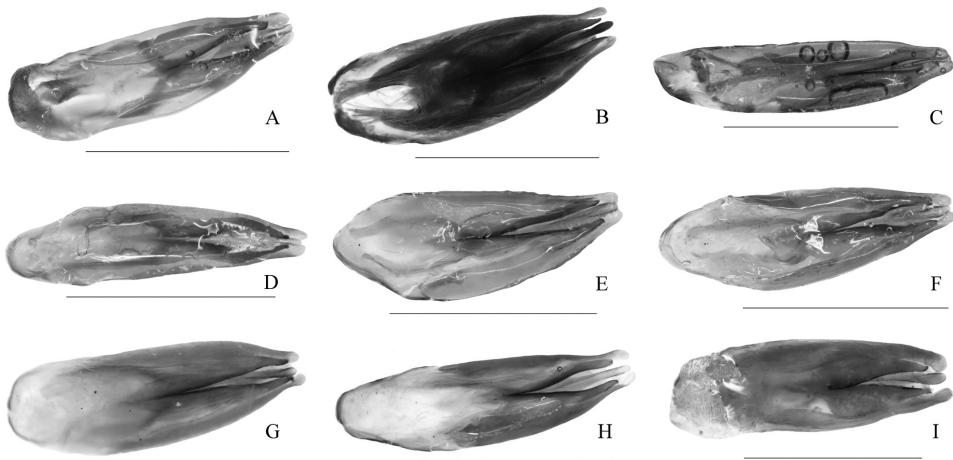
*Pedinus fulvicornis* REITTER, 1889: 700.

*Pedinus* (*Blindus*) *fulvicornis*: SEIDLITZ, 1893: 375; REITTER, 1904: 61; REIKHARDT, 1936: 676, 691; REIKHARDT, 1937: 747.

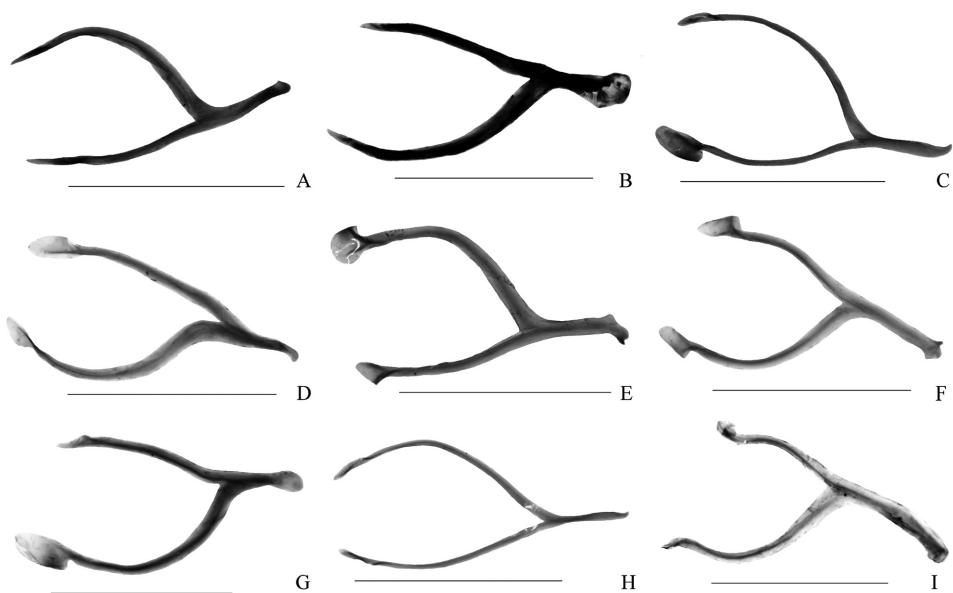
*Blindus fulvicornis*: MEDVEDEV, 1968: 159.

Material – 22 males, 20 females, Wen County, Gansu Province, China, 6. vii. 2003, Yi-Bin Ba & Yang Yu leg. (MHBU); 1 female, Fenghuang Mountain, Lueyang County, Shaanxi Province, China, 2. vii. 2003, Yi-Bin Ba leg. (MHBU).

Distribution – China: Gansu, Inner Mongolia, Shaanxi and Sichuan. This is the first species of *Blindus* from Shaanxi Province of China.



**Fig. 9.** Aedeagus of *Blindus*, dorsal view: A = *B. contractus* sp. n., B = *B. discolor* sp. n., C = *B. curvotibius* Ren et Zhang, 2010, D = *B. fulvicornis* (Reitter, 1889), E = *B. potanini nudiventris* Medvedev, 1968, F = *B. potanini potanini* Medvedev, 1968, G = *B. reichardti* Medvedev, 1968, H = *B. strigosus* (Faldermann, 1835), I = *B. thibetanus* (Fairmaire, 1897). Scale bars = 1 mm.



**Fig. 10.** Spiculum gastrale of *Blindus*, dorsal view: A = *B. contractus* sp. n., B = *B. discolor* sp. n., C = *B. curvotibius* Ren et Zhang, 2010, D = *B. fulvicornis* (Reitter, 1889), E = *B. potanini nudiventris* Medvedev, 1968, F = *B. potanini potanini* Medvedev, 1968, G = *B. reichardti* Medvedev, 1968, H = *B. strigosus* (Faldermann, 1835), I = *B. thibetanus* (Fairmaire, 1897). Scale bars = 1 mm.

*Blindus potanini nudiventris* Medvedev, 1968  
(Figs 1–11E)

*Blindus potanini nudiventris* MEDVEDEV, 1968: 162.

Material – 21 males, 13 females, Guzan Town, Kangding County, Sichuan Province, China, 7. viii. 2009, Zhen-Hua Gao & Yi-Ping Niu leg. (MHBU).

Distribution – China: Sichuan.

*Blindus potanini potanini* Medvedev, 1968  
(Figs 1–11F)

*Blindus potanini potanini* MEDVEDEV, 1968: 161.

Material – 56 males, 40 females, Guzan Town, Kangding County, Sichuan Province, China, 7. viii. 2009, Zhen-Hua Gao & Yi-Ping Niu leg. (MHBU); 36 males, 41 females, Beijia Mountain, Danba County, Sichuan Province, China, 29. vii. 1999, Guo-Dong Ren leg. (MHBU); 11 males, 5 females, Badi Village, Danba County, Sichuan Province, China, 18. vii. 2008, Guo-Dong Ren leg. (MHBU); 6 males, 4 females, Batang County, Sichuan Province, China, 16. vii. 2008, Guo-Dong Ren leg. (MHBU).

Distribution – China: Sichuan.

*Blindus reichardti* Medvedev, 1968  
(Figs 1–11G)

*Blindus reichardti* MEDVEDEV, 1968: 163.

Material – 15 males, 10 females, Beijia Mountain, Danba County, Sichuan Province, China, 29. vii. 1999, Guo-Dong Ren leg. (MHBU).

Distribution – China: Sichuan.

*Blindus strigosus* (Faldermann, 1835)  
(Figs 1–11 H)

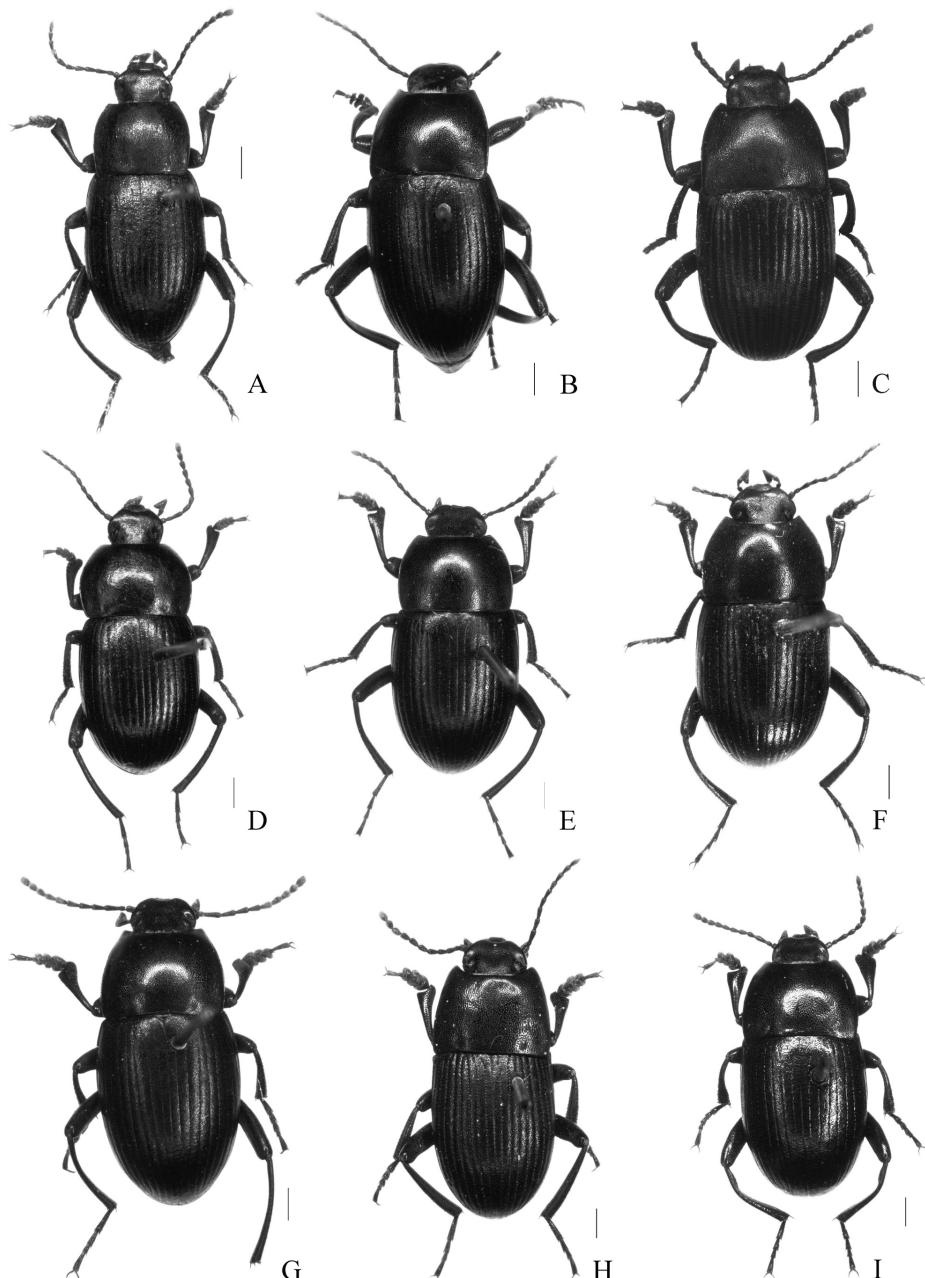
*Pedinus strigosus* FALDERMANN, 1835: 410.

*Pedinus (Blindus) strigosus*: SEIDLITZ, 1893: 374; REITTER, 1904: 61; REIKHARDT, 1936: 675, 690; REIKHARDT, 1937: 744.

*Blindus strigosus*: MULSANT et REY, 1853: 206; MEDVEDEV, 1968: 157.

*Colpotus faldermanni* BAUDÍ di SELVE, 1876: 46. Synonymised by MEDVEDEV (1968).

Material – 10 males, 11 females, Xiaowutai Mountain, Yu County, Hebei Province, China, 6. vii. 2001, Guo-Dong Ren leg. (MHBU); 4 females, Jinhekou, Yu County, Hebei Province, China, 14. vii. 2005, Jing Li & Feng-Yan Wang leg. (MHBU); 1 male, 1 female,



**Fig. 11.** Habitus of *Blindus*, male, dorsal view: A = *Blindus contractus* sp. n., B = *B. discolor* sp. n., C = *B. curvotibius* Ren et Zhang, 2010, D = *B. fulvicornis* (Reitter, 1889), E = *B. potanini nudiventris* Medvedev, 1968, F = *B. potanini potanini* Medvedev, 1968, G = *B. reichardti* Medvedev, 1968, H = *B. strigosus* (Faldermann, 1835), I = *B. thibetanus* (Fairmaire, 1897). Scale bars = 1 mm.

Yangjiaping, Zhuolu County, Hebei Province, China, 11. vii. 2002, Ai-Min Shi leg. (MHBG); 5 males, 8 females, Jianping County, Liaoning Province, China, 3. v. 2008, Guo-Dong Ren & Ben-Yong Mao leg. (MHBG); 1 male, 2 females, Dongzhai, Henan Province, China, 15. vii. 2005, Ji-Liang Wang & Chao Gao leg. (MHBG); 1 male, Huaguo Mountain, Yiyang County, Henan Province, China, 3. viii. 2006, Feng-Yan Wang leg. (MHBG); 1 male, 1 female, Kunyu Mountain, Mouping County, Shandong Province, China, 11. v. 2007, Ji-Liang Wang & Feng-Yan Wang leg. (MHBG); 4 females, Daze Mountain, Pingdu County, Shandong Province, China, 26. v. 2007, Ji-Liang Wang & Feng-Yan Wang leg. (MHBG); 1 male, Ningcheng County, Chifeng City, Inner Mongolia, China, 24. vi. 1990, Qiang Liu leg. (MHBG); 2 males, 1 female, Heluoping Village, Yuexi County, Anhui Province, China, 30. vii. 2007, Yi-Bin Ba & Feng-Yan Wang leg. (MHBG); 1 male, Lu Mountain, Jiangxi Province, China, 7. viii. 1988, no collector (MHBG); 1 male, Lu Mountain, Jiangxi Province, China, 9. vii. 1988, no collector (MHBG); 1 female, Nanjing City, Jiangsu Province, China, 15. v. 1984, You-Ming Xu leg. (MHBG); 1 male, Huguosi, Yinjiang County, Guizhou Province, China, 29. vii. 2001, Guo-Dong Ren leg. (MHBG).

Distribution – China: Anhui, Beijing, Guizhou, Henan, Hebei, Hubei, Inner Mongolia, Jiangsu, Jiangxi, Liaoning, Shandong, Sichuan, Taiwan, Tianjin; Mongolia; North Korea; South Korea; Japan and Russia (Far East). This is the first species of *Blindus* from Anhui, Guizhou, Jiangsu and Jiangxi provinces of China.

*Blindus thibetanus* (Fairmaire, 1897)  
(Figs 1–11I)

*Pedinus* FAIRMAIRE, 1897: 217.

*Pedinus (Blindus) thibetanus*: REIKHARDT, 1936: 676, 691; REIKHARDT, 1937: 747.

*Blindus thibetanus*: MEDVEDEV, 1968: 165.

Material – 2 males, Bianer Village, Danba County, Sichuan Province, China, 3. viii. 2009, Zhen-Hua Gao & Yi-Ping Niu leg. (MHBG); 2 males, Kangding County, Sichuan Province, China, 16–18. ix. 1973, Ji-Jun Li leg. (MHBG).

Distribution – China: Sichuan, Xizang.

Remarks – The species is easily separated from other *Blindus* by the obviously angulately curved metatibiae.

\*

Acknowledgements – We are thankful to Mr. Zhen-Hua Gao and Yi-Ping Niu for collecting the valuable specimens of Sichuan Province. We express our cordial thanks to Dr. Kiyoshi Ando and an anonymous referee for their valuable comments. We are grateful to Dr. Jomo MacDermott for correcting the English of our manuscript. This paper was supported by the Ministry of Science and Technology of the People's Republic of China (No. 2012FY111100).

## REFERENCES

- BAUDI DI SELVE, F. (1876) Europaeae et circummediterraneae faunae Tenebrionidum specierum, quae Comes Dejean in suo Catalogo, editio 3<sup>e</sup> consignavit, ex ejusdem collectione in R. Taurinensi Musaeo asservat, cum auctorum hodiernae denominatione collatio. Pars altera. *Deutsche Entomologische Zeitschrift* **20**: 1–74.
- FAIRMAIRE, L. (1897) Description de coléoptères nouveaux de la Malaisie, de l'Inde et de la Chine. *Notes from the Leyden Museum* **19**: 209–223.
- FALDERMANN, F. (1835) Coleopterorum ab illustrissimo Bungio in China boreali, Mongolia, et Montibus Altaicis collectorum, nec non ab ill. Turczaninoffio et Stchukino e provincia Irkutsk missorum illustrationes. *Mémoires de l'Académie Impériale des Sciences de St. Pétersbourg. Sixième Série. Sciences Mathématiques, Physiques et Naturelles* **3** (1): 337–464, pls I–V.
- IWAN, D. & LÖBL, I. (2008) Pedinini. Pp. 277–291. In: LÖBL, I. & SMETANA, A. (eds): *Catalogue of Palaearctic Coleoptera*, Vol. 5. Apollo Books, Stenstrup.
- MEDVEDEV, G. S. (1968) *Zhuki-chernotelki (Tenebrionidae) podsemeystvo Opatriinae Triby Platynotini, Dendarini, Pedinini, Dissonomini, Pachypterinmi, Opatriini (chast) i Heterotarsini*. Fauna SSSR Zhestkokrylye Tom XIX, vypusk 2. Nauka, Leningrad, 285 pp.
- MULSANT, E. & REY, C. (1853) Essai d'une division des derniers mélasomes. *Opuscules Entomologiques* **4**: 1–235 + [4] pp., pls I–IV.
- REIKHARDT, A. N. (1936) Obzor vidov roda Pedinus Latr. SSSR i Dalnego Vostoka (Coleoptera, Tenebrionidae). *Trudy Zoologicheskogo Instituta AN SSSR* **3**: 669–692.
- REIKHARDT, A. N. (1937) Opredelitel' naya tablitsa vidov roda Pedinus Latr. SSSR i Dalnegro Vostoka (Coleoptera, Tenebrionidae). *Trudy Zoologicheskogo Instituta AN SSSR* **4**: 743–747.
- REITTER, E. (1889) Insecta, a cl. G. N. Potanin in China et in Mongolia novissime lecta. XIII. Tenebrionidae. *Horae Societatis Entomologicae Rossicae* **23**: 678–710.
- REITTER, E. (1904) Bestimmungs-Tabelle der Tenebrioniden-Unterfamilien: Lachnogyini, Akidini, Pedinini, Opatriini und Trachyscelini aus Europa und den angrenzenden Ländern. *Verhandlungen des Naturforschenden Vereines in Brünn* **42** [1903]: 25–189.
- REN, G. D. & ZHANG, C. L. (2010) The Chinese Blindus Mulsant et Rey (Coleoptera, Tenebrionidae), with description of a new species. *Acta Zootaxonomica Sinica* **35** (1): 63–70.
- SEIDLITZ, G. C. M. von (1893) Tenebrionidae. Pp. 201–400. In: KIESENWETTER, H. von & SEIDLITZ G. C. M. von (eds): *Naturgeschichte der Insekten Deutschlands. Begonnen von Dr. W. F. Erichson, fortgesetzt von Prof Dr. H. Schaum, Dr. G. Kraatz, H. v. Kiesenwetter, Julius Weise, Edm. Reitter und Dr. G. Seidlitz. Erste Abteilung Coleoptera. Fünfter Band. Erste Hälfte*. Berlin, Nicolaische Verlags-Buchhandlung, xxviii + 877 + [1] pp.

Revised version received May 7, 2013, accepted July 11, 2013, published September 30, 2013