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***Pterostichus* (*Anomostichus*) *anomostriatus*,
new subgenus and new species from China
(Coleoptera, Carabidae)**

by **R. Sciaky**

Abstract: *Pterostichus* (*Anomostichus*) *anomostriatus* new subgenus and new species from Sichuan (China) is described and figured.

Key words: Coleoptera Carabidae – China – *Pterostichus* – new subgenus – new species.

The study of interesting material from China preserved in the entomological collections of the Naturhistorisches Museum of Basel has allowed me to discover a new species of *Pterostichus*. This is so different from the other known that I believe it must represent a new subgenus as well. Bellow is given the description of the subgenus and of the species.

***Anomostichus* n.subgen.**

type species: *Pterostichus* (*Anomostichus*) *anomostriatus* n.sp.

Diagnosis. A subgenus of *Pterostichus* mainly characterized by two unique features: different width of odd and even intervals of elytra and dark reddish-brown “ring” all around the elytra.

Derivatio nominis. Ανομοιοσ in Greek means “not of the same genus”, the suffix *-stichus* alludes to the name of the genus.

Description. Head smooth, with frontal sulci diverging behind. Mandibles long, gently curved at apex.

Pronotum with two distinct basal impressions, of which the external one shorter than the internal one. Median sulcus well defined.

Elytra. Third interval with only one point in the apical half. Odd intervals distinctly wider than even ones. A dark reddish-brown “ring” runs all around the elytra, which are black in color.

Aedeagus with apex rounded; ostium twisted to the left as in the “normal” *Pterostichini*.

Systematic position. It is not easy to place this subgenus within the enormous genus *Pterostichus*. The peculiar elytral striation seems to resemble that of the genus *Aristochroa*, but this genus belongs to the Molopini and is very far from a systematic point of view. Apart the two unique features, which, at my knowledge, have no other instances within the genus *Pterostichus*, all the other characters seem quite

“normal” for the genus. Also the aedeagical structure is of no help in trying to understand the relationships of this subgenus, as it shows no particular features.

The nearest affinities are probably to be found in the group of subgenera related to *Haptoderus* (whose oriental representatives are *Morphohaptoderus* Tschitscherine, 1898, *Neohaptoderus* Tschitscherine, 1898, *Phaenoraphis* Tschitscherine, 1901, etc.). The general structure of aedeagus, in fact, is similar to that of these subgenera.

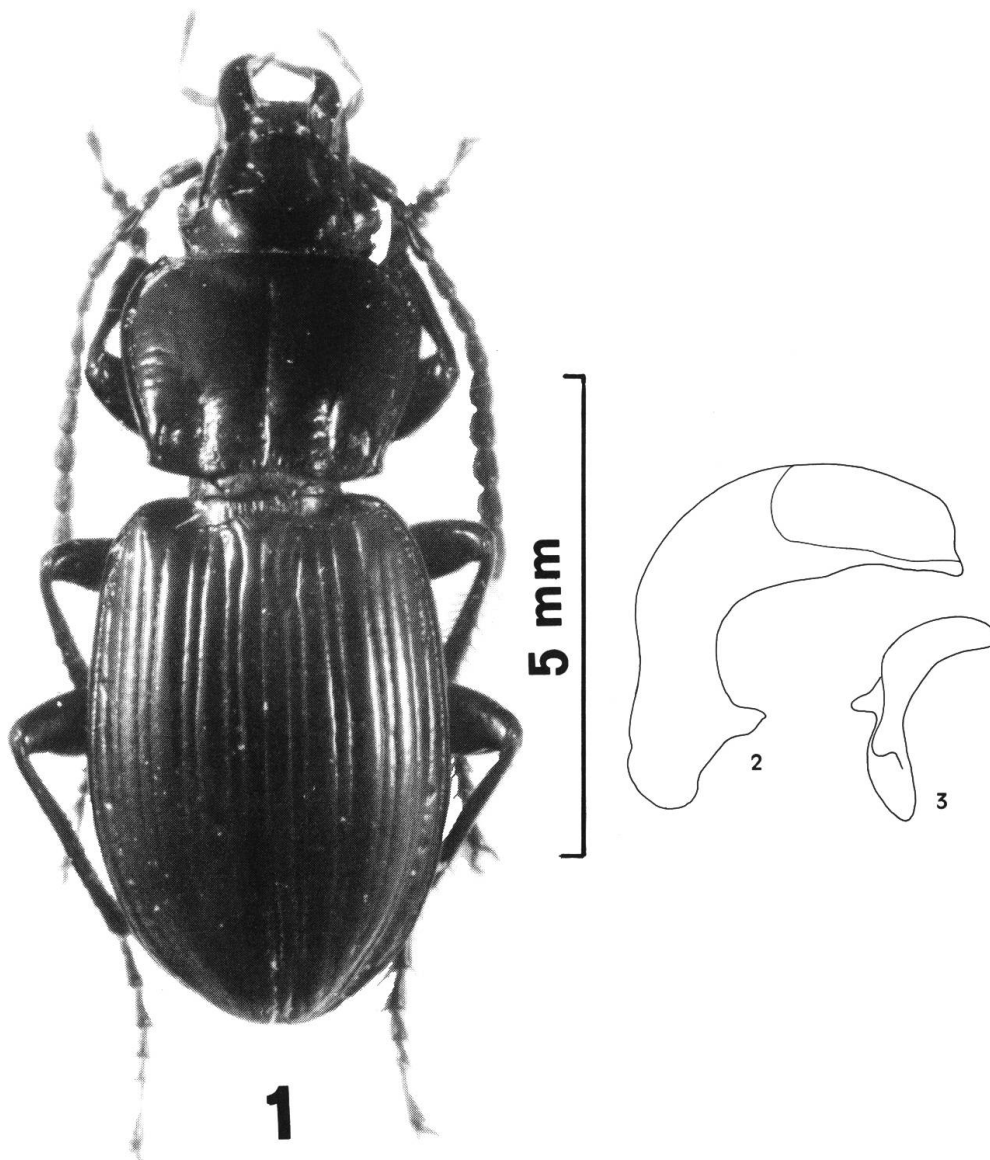


Fig. 1: Habitus of *Pterostichus* (*Anomostichus*) *anomostriatus* n.sp.

Figs 2-3: Aedeagus of *Pterostichus* (*Anomostichus*) *anomostriatus* n.sp.: 2, lateral view. 3, right paramere.

Pterostichus (Anomostichus) anomostriatus n.sp.

Figs 1–3.

Diagnosis. A *Pterostichus* of 9.7–10.3 mm with the characters of the subgenus. Pronotum transversely wrinkled, almost impunctate; elytra largest behind middle, with only one discal puncture on interval three; aedeagus with apex short and blunt, right paramere long, bent at obtuse angle near the middle.

Colour black with a wide dark reddish-brown “ring” running all around the elytra. Antennae, buccal parts, tarsi and knees dark reddish-brown.

Head smooth, with frontal sulci moderately deep, ending at the level of the middle of the eyes.

Pronotum transverse; sides regularly rounded in the anterior portion, constricted and slightly sinuate towards the base before the right basal angles; anterior angles not projecting. All the surface covered with superficial transversal wrinkles. Anterior margin almost straight, base bisinuate. Basal impressions distinct and with some small punctures; the external one smaller and deeper; lateral gutter narrow and well-defined until the hing angles, that are slightly obtuse or right. Basal and lateral setae present.

Elytra elongate, widest at two-thirds, with well-marked shoulders. The basal margin meets the lateral margin with a right or obtuse angle. Five internal intervals black, the following dark reddish-brown. Striae deep but impunctate, intervals convex; scutellar stria absent, sometimes distinguishable but rudimental; scutellar pore absent. Only one pore behind the middle of interval three. Series umbilicata of 13–15 pores largely interrupted in the middle.

Legs moderately long and slender; fore tarsi of male weakly dilated.

Aedeagus (fig. 2) rather thick, apex short and blunt. Right paramere (fig. 3) quite long, bent at obtuse angle almost in the middle.

Holotype ♂, 13 paratypes (NHMB), 5 paratypes (coll. Sciaky): China, Sichuan: Emei Shan, 2500 m, 4.–20.V.1989; idem 25.–31.VI.1992, 3 paratypes (coll. Pavesi & Sciaky).

Length: 9.7–10.3 mm, habitus fig. 1.

Derivatio nominis. The name of this species alludes to one of its peculiarities, that is the unequal development of the elytral intervals.

Affinities. I do not know any species, neither from China nor from any other country, with which *P. anomostriatus* can be compared. Among the many species from China reviewed by Jedlicka (1962)

there is none that seems to approach it. The peculiar elytral striation with intervals alternately wider and thinner is similar to that of the genus *Aristochroa* Tschitscherine (Molopini) or that of *Poecilus polychromus* (Tschitscherine, 1888) (Poecilini), but no other affinities can be found.

This species looks quite isolated among the many taxa of Pterostichini from Asia; maybe future discoveries will allow to find some other species that can provide information on the relationships between this and other known *Pterostichus*.

Acknowledgements

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