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A new species of *Therates* Latreille, 1816  
(Coleoptera: Cicindelidae) from China

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## A new species of *Therates* Latreille, 1816 (Coleoptera: Cicindelidae) from China

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**Abstract.** *Therates yunnanensis* Wiesner and Xiong, **new species** (Coleoptera: Cicindelidae), is described from Yunnan, China. It is distinguished from its allies by the shape of the aedeagus, labrum and elytral maculation.

**Key words.** chennelli species group, tiger beetle.

**ZooBank registration.** urn:lsid:zoobank.org:pub:EF7BC9F6-F411-4BC4-B597-7DDFC12003D7

### Introduction

As indicated previously by Wiesner (2015), the Chinese tiger beetles of the chennelli group of the genus *Therates* Latreille (Wiesner 2013) are poorly known, and several undescribed species are likely to be found there. Recently, the second author collected a specimen of another of these unknown species from Dehong Dai and Jingpo Autonomous Prefecture, Yunnan Province, China, raising the number of Chinese members of the chennelli group to eight.

### Materials and Methods

The photographs of habitus and anatomical details were taken using a Canon EOS 700D in conjunction with a DIY 40 mm macro lens. Pixel X650c was used as the light source. Helicon Focus7 was used for image stacking. Aedeagus photographs were taken using a microscope Leica S6E with a Xiaomi camera. All photographs were processed using Adobe Photoshop CS6. The specimen is deposited in the Center of Arboretum Management & Specimen Museum of Southwest Forestry University, Kunming, Yunnan, China (SWFU).

### Results

#### ***Therates yunnanensis* Wiesner and Xiong, new species**

(Fig. 1–7)

**Type status.** Holotype male, type labels: “Yingjiang County, Dehong Dai and Jingpo Autonomous Prefecture, Yunnan Province, China / Altitude: 800m / Leg. Shaoxing Chen, 2024-IV-5 // HOLOTYPE/ *Therates* / *yunnanensis* / Det. J. Wiesner & X. Xiong (printed, red)”, as long term loan of SWFU in coll. Xiong

**Distribution.** China, Yunnan: Yingjiang County.

**Etymology.** The new species is named for the Chinese province from which it was collected.

**Diagnosis.** *Therates yunnanensis* new species is similar to *T. montaneus* Werner, 1992, from which it is distinguished by the pale dot on the labrum, the shape of the humeral lunule, and the shape of the aedeagus.

**Description.** Total length (without labrum) 7.2 mm. *Head:* Shining greenish black. Mandibles yellowish, teeth brownish marginally. Labrum (Fig. 4) as wide as long, brown to black-brown with large whitish area in the marginal half, with six small apical teeth and one lateral tooth. Maxillary palpi brownish, labial palpi yellowish with darker color at distal end. Antennae lanceolate, extending posteriorly behind elytral shoulders, scape with a single apical bristle, yellowish above, black on underside, antennomeres two to basal half of five glabrous and blackish, apical half of five to eleven finely and evenly pubescent, black-brown, distal antennomeres slightly broader. Clypeus glabrous. Frons smooth with some wrinkles in the front part of the orbital plates. *Thorax:* Pronotum shining greenish black, barely longer than wide, constricted in front and at back, transverse furrows strong, middle line and lateral lines nearly obsolete. *Elytra:* shining brownish black, transparent brownish at apex, with basal and apical humps, with several setae around the basal hump, distinctly punctate in front, punctuation shallower in apical third, nearly absent near the apical humps. Some of the punctures are connected in short rows, especially behind the basal humps and near the middle suture (Fig. 6). Apex with sutural corner, rounded laterally or with tiny lateral edge, recurved in between. Maculation brownish yellow, humeral lunule and basal dot merged and connected throughout, central dot subsquare and acutely angled inwards towards the front (Fig. 7). *Ventral aspect:* Venter black, abdominal segment six somewhat translucent. Femora ochre-yellow; pro- and mesotibiae yellow and darkened; pro- and mesotarsomeres yellow and apically darkened; basal half of metatibiae black, apical half light yellow; metatarsi light yellow, apical two tarsomeres dark.

*Aedeagus:* total length 1.7 mm, curved, with pin shaped and produced tip (Fig. 5). Female unknown.

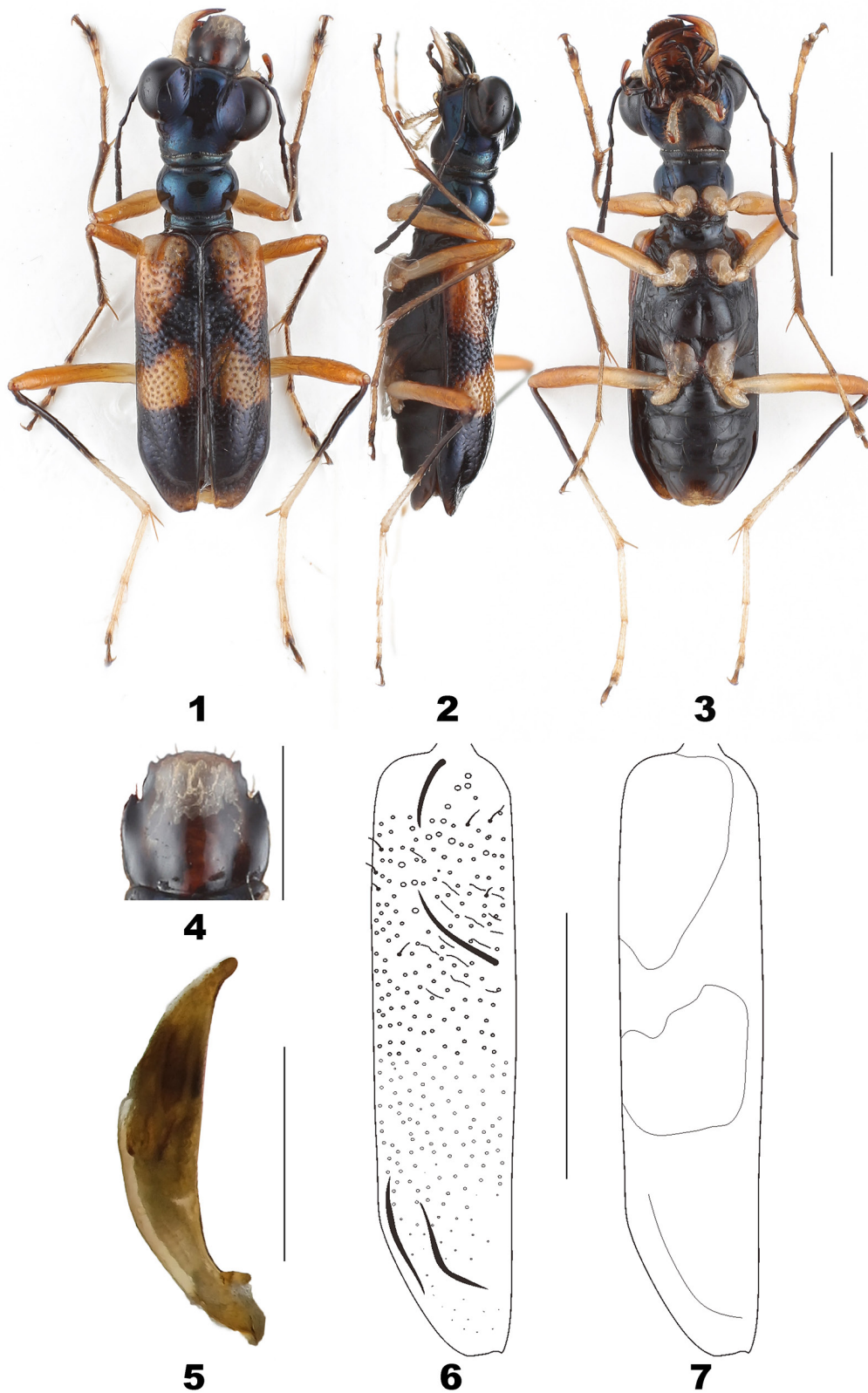
### Key to the Chinese members of the chennelli group

The key of Wiesner (2016) is revised to include all the presently known species.

1. Elytral maculation lacking humeral lunule ..... *T. tanjuanjieae* Wiesner and Bi
- Humeral lunule present ..... 2
- 2(1). Elytral maculae variably connected throughout ..... *T. pseudoconfluens* Sawada and Wiesner
- Elytral maculae isolated, or at most humeral lunule and basal dot or humeral lunule connected with central dot ..... 3
- 3(2). Humeral lunule short, not extended onto disk ..... *T. pseudorugifer pentalabiodentatus* Matalin
- Humeral lunule long, extended onto disk ..... 4
- 4(3). Central dot subsquare or a trapezoidal band ..... 5
- Central dot roundish, not forming a band ..... 6
- 5(4). Humeral lunule small, basal dot lacking ..... *T. montaneus* Werner
- Humeral lunule broad, completely connected with the basal dot .....  
..... *T. yunnanensis* Wiesner and Xiong, new species
- 6(4). Elytral apex with a yellow dot ..... 7
- Elytral apex transparent brownish ..... *T. guangdongensis* Wiesner
- 7(6). Humeral lunule short ..... *T. probsti* Wiesner
- Humeral lunule long, nearly reaching the central dot ..... *T. turnai* Wiesner

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**Figures 1–7.** *Therates yunnanensis* new species, holotype male. 1–3) Habitus. 1) Dorsal view. 2) Lateral view. 3) Ventral view. 4) Labrum. 5) Left lateral view of aedeagus. 6) Punctures of elytra. 7) Maculae of elytra. Scales: Fig. 4, 5 = 1 mm, others = 2 mm.

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