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## A new species of the genus *Tasactes* Faust, 1894 (Coleoptera, Curculionidae) from Nepal

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### Abstract

A new species, *Tasactes dudkoi* Legalov, sp. nov. from Eastern Nepal is described and illustrated. This new species is similar to *Th. interruptus* Faust, 1894 from Myanmar but differs from it in the more strongly curved rostrum, punctate pronotum, with rounded sides narrowed more sharply towards base. A key to species of the genus *Tasactes* is given.

**Key words:** Biodiversity, Curculionoidea, Dryophthorinae, Strombocerini, Asia.

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### Introduction

The tribe Strombocerini is the small group of the subfamily Dryophthorinae, which presented by 14 described species from ten genera from the Palaearctic (Alonso-Zarazaga et al. 2017; Grebennikov 2018a, 2018c). The genus *Tasactes* Faust, 1894 differs from other genera in the antennal club with subconical tomentose apex, 6-segmented funicle and the eyes distinctly separated ventrally (Morimoto 1978). This genus includes two described species, *T. interruptus* Faust, 1894 and *T. carinulatus* Faust, 1894 (both from Myanmar), and undescribed species from China and Nepal (Grebennikov 2018b).

In this paper, the new species of the genus *Tasactes* from Nepal is described.

### Material and methods

Type specimens are kept in the ISEA = Institute of Systematics and Ecology of Animals (Russia: Novosibirsk).

Descriptions, body measurements, and photographs, were prepared using the Zeiss Stemi 2000-C dissecting stereomicroscope.

The photo (Fig. 3) was taken by Dr. R.Yu. Dudko (Novosibirsk). The terminology of the weevil body is according to Lawrence et al. (2010). The systematics of studied taxa are based on the works of Grebennikov (2018a) and Legalov (2020).

### Systematics

Insecta: Coleoptera: Curculionidae: Dryophthorinae: Strombocerini

Genus: *Tasactes* Faust, 1894

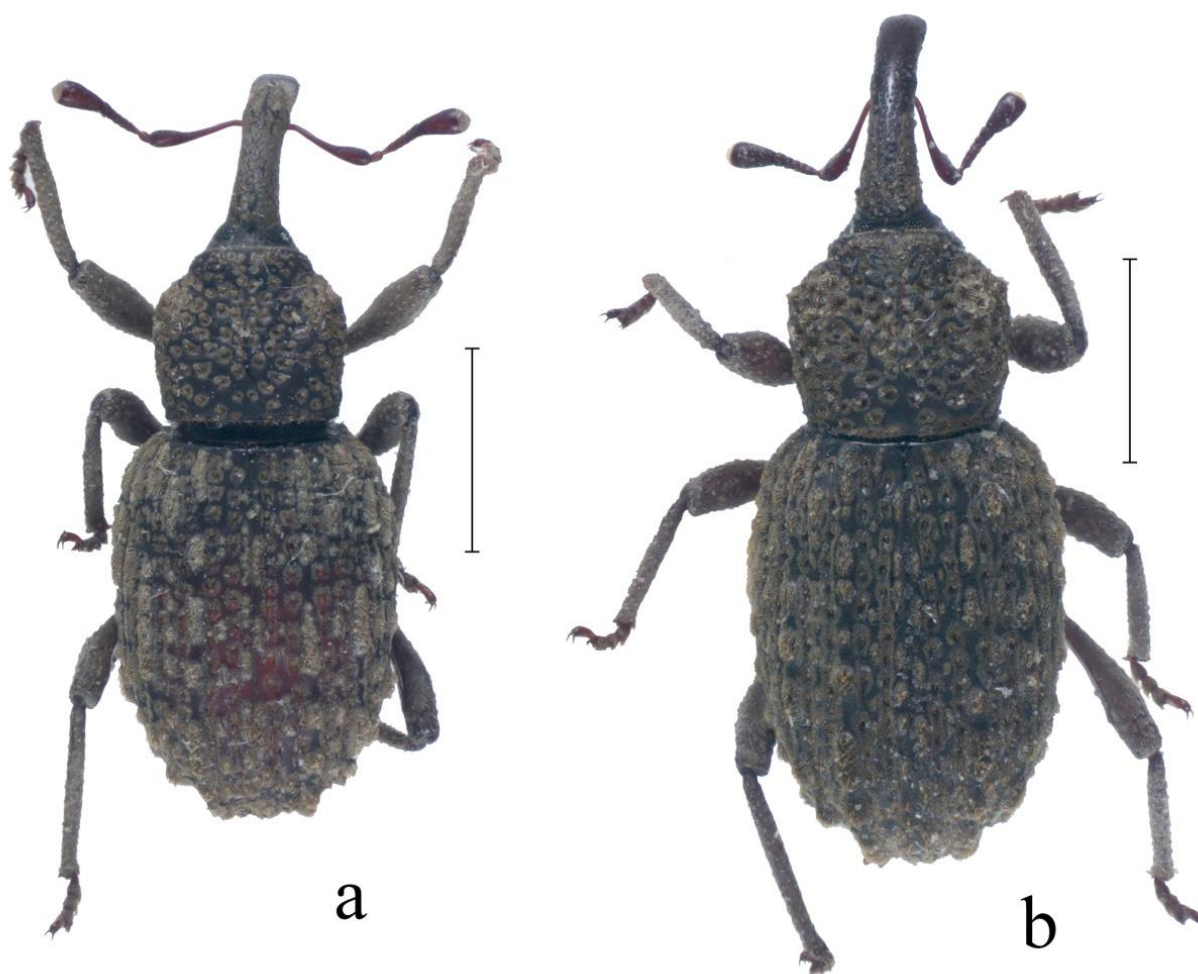
Type species: *Tasactes interruptus* Faust, 1894

#### *Tasactes dudkoi* Legalov, sp. nov.

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(Figs. 1–2)

**Type material:** Holotype, male (ISEA), Nepal, Solukhumbu Distr., Inkhu Khola River near Sibuje, 2000–2500 m, 27°34.7' N, 86°46.7' E, 27–28.05.2018, R.Yu. Dudko; Paratypes: 1 male (ISEA), 1 female (ISEA), idem; 1 male (ISEA), 1 female (ISEA), Nepal, Solukhumbu Distr., near Narkung Pass, 2700–3150 m, 27°35' N, 86°45' E, 28.05.2018, R.Yu. Dudko; 1 female (ISEA), E Nepal, Bhojpur Distr., 1.5 km NE of Salpa Pass, 3350 m, 27°26.7' N, 86°56.1' E, 21.05.2018, R.Yu. Dudko.



**Figure 1.** *Tasactes dudkoi* sp. nov., body, dorsally: a - male, holotype, b - female, paratype. Scale bar = 1.0 mm.



**Figure 2.** *Tasactes dudkoi* sp. nov., holotype, aedeagus: a – dorsally, b – laterally, c – apex of aedeagus, dorsally. Scale bar = 1.0 mm.

### Description

**Male.** Body black, with matted pubescence. Antennae, apex of tibiae and tarsi red-brown. Head subconical. Mandibles small. Rostrum long, 1.1 times as long as pronotum, 3.7-4.0 times as long as wide at apex, 4.4 times as long as wide at midlength, 3.3-3.4 times as long as wide at base, evenly curved, sparsely punctate. Apex of rostrum smooth. Eyes large, not protruding from contour of head, linear, widely separated beneath. Forehead flat, 2.0 times as long as rostrum base width. Antennal scrobes directed ventrally to base of rostrum. Antennae inserted in apical third of rostrum. Scape long, 6.7 times as long as wide in apex, not reaching eye. Funicle 6-segmented. Antennomeres 2-7 subconical. Antennomere 2 1.8 times as long as wide in apex, 0.2 times as long as and 0.6 times as narrow as scape. Antennomere 3 2.0 times as long as wide in apex, equal in length and 0.9 times as narrow as antennomere 2. Antennomeres 4 and 5 subequal. Antennomere 4 0.8 times as long as wide in apex, 0.4 times as long as and 1.1 times as wide as antennomere 3. Antennomere 6 0.6 times as long as wide, equal in length and 1.3 times as wide as antennomere 5. Antennomere 7 0.8 times as long as wide, 1.5 times as long as and 1.2 times as wide as antennomere 6. Antennal club compact, 3.3 times as long as wide, 0.8 times as long as antennomeres 2-7 combined, with subconical tomentose apex. Pronotum campanulate, 1.4 times as long as wide at apex, 0.9 times as long as



wide at midlength, 1.0-1.1 times as long at pronotal base. Pronotal disk weakly convex dorsally, densely punctate, with weak carina in middle. Intervals between points smaller than their diameter. Sides rounded, narrowed quite sharp towards base. Maximum width before middle. Base of pronotum 0.8-0.9 times as narrow as base of elytra. Scutellum small, triangular. Elytra suboval, at base 1.6 times as long as wide, at midlength 1.2 times as long as wide, at apical fourth 1.6-1.7 times as long as wide, 1.9-2.0 times as long as pronotum. Humeri weakly convex. Elytral striae distinct. Stria 9 short, fused with stria 10 at level of metacoxae. Interstriae convex, wide, wider than striae, pilose pustules. Prosternum punctate, with weak postocular lobes. Precoxal portion of prosternum distinctly longer than procoxal cavity. Postcoxal portion of prosternum short. Procoxal cavities contiguous. Mesocoxal cavities narrowly separated. Metanepisternum absent. Metaventricle quite long, longer than length of metacoxa, weakly convex, punctate. Abdomen weakly convex ventrally, punctate. Ventricle 2 1.1 times as long as ventricle 1. Ventricle 3 0.7 times as long as ventricle 2. Ventricle 4 0.6 times as long as ventricle 3. Ventricle 5 1.6 times as long as ventricle 4, coarsely punctate. Pygidium almost vertical, impressed in middle. Procoxae subconical. Mesocoxae spherical, narrowly separated. Metacoxae transverse. Femora slightly thickened, without tooth. Metafemora 5.2 times as long as wide in middle, not extending beyond apex of abdomen. Tibiae weakly curved, with large uncus. Tarsi long. Tarsomeres 1-3 conical, with erect setae ventrally. Tarsomere 5 elongate. Tarsal claws free, divergent. Total body length (without rostrum) 5.5-5.8 mm. Length of rostrum 1.6-1.9 mm.



**Figure 3.** Habitat of *Tasactes dudkoi* sp. nov.

**Female.** Rostrum subequal in length to pronotum, 3.8 times as long as wide at apex, 4.2 times as long as wide at midlength, 3.5 times as long as wide at base. Pronotum at apex 1.6 times as long as wide, subequal to wide in middle, at base 1.1 times as long as wide. Elytra at base 1.6 times as long as wide, at midlength 1.3 times as long as wide, at apical one fourth 1.7 times as long as wide, 1.9 times as long as pronotum. Total body length (without rostrum) 5.4–6.2 mm. Length of rostrum 1.8–1.9 mm.

**Differential diagnosis.** The new species is similar to *Th. interruptus* Faust, 1894 from Myanmar but differs from it in the more strongly curved rostrum, punctate pronotum, with rounded sides narrowed more sharply towards base.

**Etymology.** The species is named in honor of Dr. Roman Yu. Dudko (Novosibirsk, Russia).

**Localisation.** Eastern Nepal (Solukhumbu and Bhojpur Distr.).

**Remarks.** This species is leaf-litter-dwelling weevil in the mountain forests of Nepal (Fig. 3).

Key to species of the genus <i>Tasactes</i>		
1.	Elytral interstriae regular convex. Pronotal sides subparallel	<i>Th. carinulatus</i>
-	Elytral interstriae with pustules. Pronotal sides narrow towards base	2
2.	Rostrum more strongly curved. Pronotum punctate, with rounded sides narrowed more sharply towards base	<i>Th. dudkoi</i>
-	Rostrum weaker curved. Pronotum rugose-punctate, with nearly straight sides, weakly narrowed towards base	<i>Th. interruptus</i>

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