

***Nicobium cretaceum* sp. nov. (Coleoptera: Bostrichoidea: Ptinidae),
a new species from mid-Cretaceous Burmese amber**

Jiří HÁVA¹ & Petr ZAHRADNÍK²

¹Private Entomological Laboratory & Collection,
Rýznerova 37/37, CZ-252 62 Únětice u Prahy, Prague-west, Czech Republic
e-mail: jh.dermestidae@volny.cz

²Forestry and Game Management Research Institute,
Strnady 136, CZ-252 02 Jiloviště, Czech Republic
e-mail: zahradnik@vulhm.cz

Taxonomy, new species, Coleoptera, Ptinidae, *Nicobium*, mid-Cretaceous Burmese amber, Myanmar

Abstract. The species *Nicobium cretaceum* sp. nov. from mid-Cretaceous Burmese amber is described, illustrated and compared with similar species.

INTRODUCTION

The species belongs to the family Ptinidae from mid-Cretaceous Kachin amber (Myanmar) recently studied by Engel (2010), Molino-Olmedo (2017) and Peris et al. (2019). Two species are transferred from the family Ptinidae to the family Scirtidae and only one species is known from the mid-Cretaceous Kachin amber (Peris et al. 2020). A further old species *Stegobium raritanensis* Peris, Philips & Delclòs, 2015 was described based on five specimens in Raritan amber (Turonian in age) from Sayreville (New Jersey, USA), whereas *Actenobius magneoculus* Peris, Philips & Delclòs, 2015 was described based on one specimen from the San Just amber (early Albian age) of Utrillas (Teruel Province, Spain).

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The size of the beetles or of their body parts can be useful in species recognition and thus, the following measurements were made:

total length (TL) - linear distance from anterior margin of pronotum to apex of elytra.

Elytral width (EW) - maximum linear transverse distance.

The material mentioned is deposited in (JHAC) - Jiří Háva, Private Entomological Laboratory & Collection, Únětice u Prahy, Prague-West, Czech Republic.

Specimen of the species described here are provided with red, printed label with text as follows: „HOLOTYPE *Nicobium cretaceum* sp. nov. J. Háva & P. Zahradník det. 2023”.

RESULTS

Nicobium cretaceum sp. nov.

(Figs. 1-5)

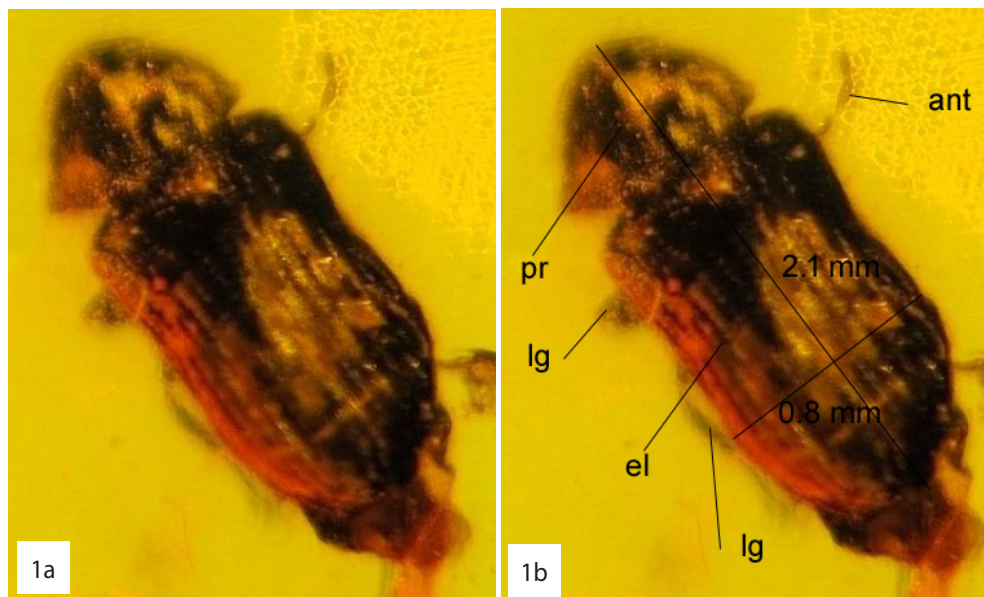
Type material. Holotype (♀): No.BU/PTIN/1, Myanmar, Hukawng Valley, lowermost Cenomanian, (JHAC). Complete beetle is included in transparent amber piece. Syninclusions consist of numerous small to minute organic particles.

Description of holotype. Female. Body shortly elongate, transversally and longitudinally convex, body length 2.1 mm, the greatest width 0.8 mm. Body matt, black, antennae and legs slightly lighter (Fig. 1).

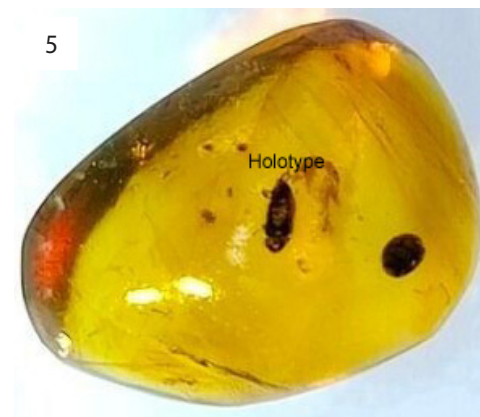
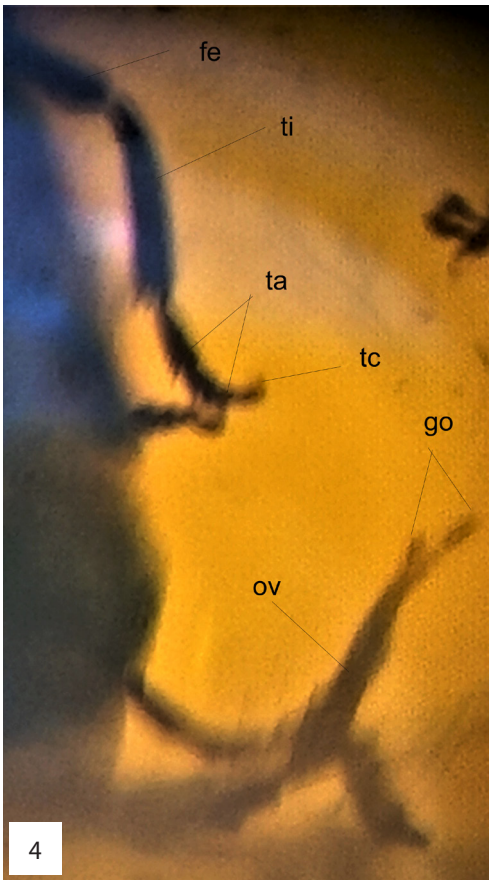
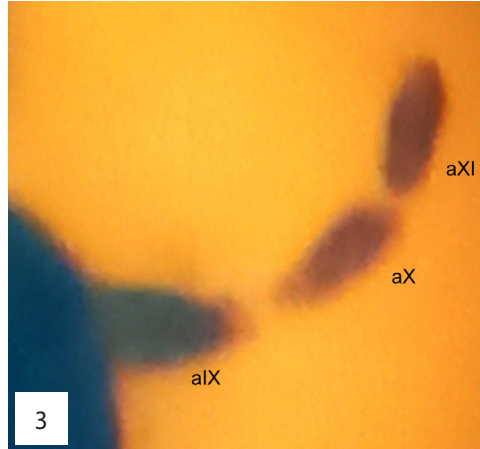
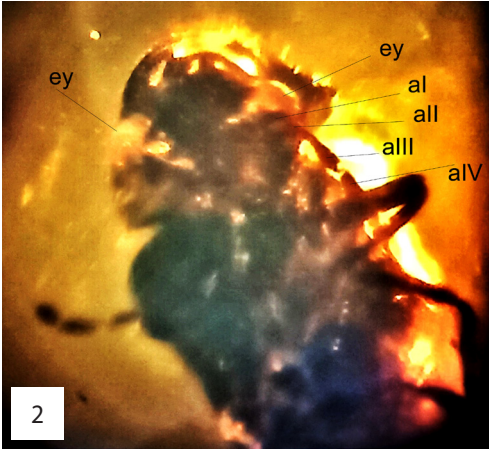
Head hypognathous, almost flattened, finely punctuated, punctures almost touched. Frons twice as wide as their diameter. Eyes large, rounded, slightly convex, glabrous with microsetae. Antennae with 11 antennomeres, last three antennomeres as in Fig. 2.

Pronotum transverse, with small median distinct bump, divided in the center by fine longitudinal furrow not reaching edges of pronotum, covered by erect, short setation. The greatest width very shortly before base. Lateral margin finely serrated. Posterior angles obtusely rounded (in dorsal view). Surface of pronotum coarsely and densely punctuated, diameter of punctures the same as distance between them.

Elytra shortly oval, with distinct shoulders. Each elytron with 12 striae covered by short setation. Striae consist of large punctures, their diameter is twice as large as distance between



Figs. 1-5. *Nicobium cretaceum* sp. nov.: 1- habitus, dorsal aspect (pr- pronotum, el- elytra, ant- antenna; lg- leg); 2- head and antennomeres (ey- eye; al-aIV- antennomeres); 3- antennomeres aIX-aXI; 4- legs and female genitalia (fe- femur; ti- tibia; ta- tarsomeres; tc- tarsal claws; ov- ovipositor; go- gonocoxa); 5- holotype in amber inclusion.



them. Interstriae slightly wider than striae. The first stria, beside suture, long.

Scutellum triangular, without setation and punctures.

Legs robust and short.

Prosternum and metasternum finely punctured.

All ventrites of the same length, with large punctures, diameter of puncture diameter as large as distance between them. Female genitalia visible (Fig. 4).

Male. Unknown.

Differential diagnosis. The new species differs from the species *Cretasernus spinosus* Peris & Philips, 2019 by the structure of antennae, structure of pronotum, body form and short tibiae and tarsomeres on legs; from recent species, it differs by the structure of antennae.

Etymology. Named according to the Cretaceous Age.

EXCLUDED BURMESE AMBER SPECIES FROM PTINIDAE - RECTE SCIRTIDAE

Mesernobiinae

Mesernobius anawrahtai Engel, 2010

Ernobiinae

Molinerobius Molino-Olmedo, 2017

Molinerobius fuentesi Molino-Olmedo, 2017

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS. I would like to thank Miloslav Rakovič (Czech Republic) for a revision of the English manuscript. This work was supported by the project of Ministry of Agriculture of the Czech Republic - Resolution RO0118.

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Received: 12.2.2023

Accepted: 10.4.2023

Printed: 5.10.2023