

***Ernobius myanmaricus* sp. nov. (Coleoptera: Ptinidae: Ernobiinae), the first *Ernobius* from mid-Cretaceous Burmese amber**

Jiří HÁVA¹ & Petr ZAHRADNÍK²

¹Private Entomological Laboratory & Collection,
Rýznerova 37/37, CZ-252 62 Únětice u Prahy, Czech Republic
e-mail: jh.dermestidae@volny.cz; ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-8076-9538>

²Forestry and Game Management Research Institute,
Strnady 136, CZ-156 00 Praha 5-Zbraslav, Czech Republic
e-mail: zahradnik@vulhm.cz; ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-4508-8179>

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Abstract. The species *Ernobius myanmaricus* sp. nov. from mid-Cretaceous Burmese amber is described, illustrated and compared with similar genera and species. It is the ninth fossil species of this genus and the first to be assigned using the current species-group system, to the *E. abietinus* species group.

INTRODUCTION

The new species belongs to the family Ptinidae from mid-Cretaceous Burmese amber (Myanmar) recently studied by Engel (2010), Molino-Olmedo (2017, 2024), Peris et al. (2020), Li et al. (2023, 2025), Háva & Zahradník (2023, 2025) and Legalov A. A. & Legalov V. A. 2025. Three species were transferred from family Ptinidae to families Scirtidae: *Mesernobius anawrahtai* Engel, 2010, *Molinernobius fuentesi* Molino-Olmedo, 2017 and Cerophytidae: *Benemerita burmitica* Molino-Olmedo, 2024 (Háva & Zahradník 2023, Legalov A. A. & Legalov V. A. 2025). Only six species are known from mid-Cretaceous Burmese amber: *Granulobium whitei* Li, Philips & Cai, 2023, *G. perkovskyi* Legalov, 2025, *Nicobium cretaceum* Háva & Zahradník, 2023, *Cretasernus spinosus* Peris & Philips, 2020, *Toxesbium kundratai* Li, Philips & Cai, 2025, *Costatomorphus cretaceus* Háva & Zahradník, 2025 (Peris et al. 2020, Háva & Zahradník 2023, 2025, Legalov A. A. & Legalov V. A. 2025, Li et al. 2025).

The amber piece with the described specimen was obtained from mines in Hukawng Valley in the state of Kachin (Myanmar). This site was dated to the earliest Cenomanian (the late Cretaceous), and was mined from sedimentary beds, indicating that it had been redeposited, thus placing age at 98.79 Ma (Shi et al. 2012). A species of *Araucaria*, possibly *Agathis* Salisbury, was the source of the amber.

The new species presented here belongs to the *Ernobius abietinus*-group, which was established by Johnson (1975). He included three species from the Palaearctic Region in this group and subsequently another Palaearctic species was added to this group (Macháček 2007). Three other species from the Nearctic Region were included in this group on basis of

a study (Zahradník - not yet published). This species is therefore also the first find outside the Holarctic Region.

It is the ninth fossil species of this genus and the first to be assigned to the current species-group system in the *E. abietinus* species group.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The amber piece was mined in the Hukawng Valley site, a deposit dated as Cenomanian, approximately 99 Ma (Shi et al., 2012).

Photographs were made using a Canon EOS 550 D camera and a Canon Macro Photo Lens MP-E, images were modified with Helicon Focus 7.7.5. software.

The size of the beetles or of their body parts can be useful in species recognition and thus, the following measurement were made: total length (TL) - linear distance from the anterior margin of the pronotum to the apex of the elytra.

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

The specimen of the species described here is provided with a red, printed label with text as follows: „HOLOTYPE *Ernobius myanmaricus* sp. nov. J. Háva & P. Zahradník det. 2025”.

RESULTS

Subfamily Ernobiinae Pic, 1912

Tribe Ernobiini Pic, 1912

Genus *Ernobius* C. G. Thomson, 1859

Ernobius myanmaricus sp. nov.

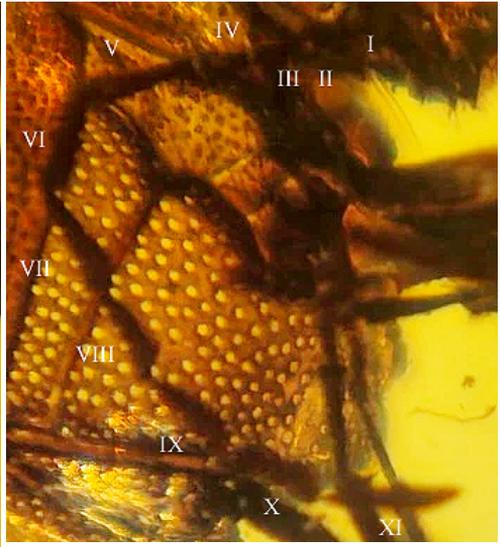
(Figs. 1-3)

Type material. Holotype (unsexed): No.BU/PTIN/3, Myanmar, Hukawng Valley, lowermost Cenomanian, (JHAC). Complete beetle is included in a transparent amber piece with dimensions 10x8x3 mm.

Description. Body [left part of body missing - from dorsal view] elongate-elliptical, transversally and longitudinally convex, body length TL 3.4 mm, width not measured due to the missing parts of the body. Body matte, brown, antennae and legs brown (Figs. 1, 3).

Head hypognathous, almost flattened, finely punctuated, punctures almost touching. Frons twice as wide as eye from lateral view. Eyes large, rounded, slightly convex, almost glabrous with sparse microsetae. Antennae with 11 antennomeres (Fig. 2). Palpomeres brown, mandibles black.

Pronotum finely and densely punctuated, diameter of punctures the same as distance between them, covered by short brown setation. Scutellum triangular, without setation and punctures.



Figs. 1-4. *Ernobius myanmaricus* sp. nov.: 1- habitus, right laterally-ventral aspect; 2- antenna; 3- habitus, left laterally-ventral aspect; 4- holotype specimen in inclusion.



Elytra shortly oval, with distinct humeral small bumps (Fig. 1), covered with dense brown setae, curved backwards.

Legs brown, robust and relatively long. Claws short, without teeth.

Prosternum, metasternum and metepisternum with large punctures.

Abdomen with five visible ventrites, with small punctures and short setation.

Differential diagnosis. The new species belongs to the “*E. abietinus* species-group“ defined by Johnson (1975), from all recent species differs by the structure of the antennae and punctuation on the ventral parts of the body. The last 7 antennomeres are enlarged (only three antennomeres are enlarged in other species-groups).

Etymology. Named according to country of Myanmar where the amber in which this fossil species was found.

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