A REVISION OF THE GENERA OF THE TRIBE PLATYSOMATINI
(COLEOPTERA, HISTERIDAE, HISTERINAE)
PART 4: REDESCRIPTONS OF THE TYPE SPECIES OF HEUDISTER,
PLATYSOMA, CYLISTER, CYLISTUS, NICOTIKIS, MESOSTRIX AND
DESBORDESIA

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Abstract


Five genera and three subgenera of the tribe Platysomatini, Heudister, Platysoma, Cylister, Cylistus, Nicotikis, Mesostrix and Desbordesia are noted. All type species of the genera are redescribed.

Key words: Coleoptera, Histeridae, Platysomatini, taxonomy, redescriptions.

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INTRODUCTION

In our recent papers (Mazur and Ohara, 2000a and b, and Ohara and Mazur, 2000) we have revised the genera belonging to the tribe Platysomatini (sensu Mazur, 1997). In these papers, we have redescribed the type species of some genera, and revised all the genera of the tribe and also a few genera of the Histerinae selected for out-group comparisons. We have examined morphological characteristics for their reliability in finding monophyly. At end of this series we will be proposing a new classification the tribes and genera of Histerinae.

The present paper is a fourth part of the series. In this part we describe five genera and three subgenera, *Heudister*, *Platysoma*, *Cylister*, *Cylistus*, *Nicotikis*, *Mesostrix* and *Desbordesia*, on the basis of the type species. The specimens examined are deposited in the collections of Systematic Entomology, Hokkaido University, Sapporo, Japan (SEHU), the Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris, France (MNHN), Institute of Zoology, Academia Sinica, Beijing, China (IZAS) and Muzeum i Instytut Zoolgii, PAN, Warsaw, Poland (MIZPAN).

This paper constitutes a part of research program supported financially by the JSPS-PAN bilateral program 1999 provided by Japan Society for the Promotion Science and Polish Academy of Science, and also supported by Visiting Professorship, 2002 in The Hokkaido University Mueum.

We would like to express our cordial thanks to Dr. M. Caterino (Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, USA), Dr. A. Slipinski, Mr. P. Wegrzynowicz and Director, Dr. W. Bogdanowicz (MIZPAN), Prof. M. Suwa, and Dr. K. Yoshizawa (SEHU), for their support and critically reading the manuscript. We also thanks the curators of the collections from which we had the privilege of borrowing specimens: Dr. N. Berti (MNHU), Dr. H.-Z. Zhou (IZAS), and Mr. T. Lackner (Zoologisch Museum Amsterdam, Netherlands).

REDESCRIPTIONS AND NOTES

Genus *Heudister* Cooman, 1940

Heudister Cooman, 1940: 41 [type species: *Heudister mieni* Cooman, 1940: 43].

Notes. This monotypic genus was originally included into the tribe Althanini owing to its specific antennal insertion resembling that of Teretriinae, the main reason for classifying the tribe Althanini among the subfamily Teretriinae (sense Cooman, 1940). In his original description Cooman, pointing out the differences between *Heudister* and *Althanus*, keyed the emargination of mesosternum, leg structure and body shape as the characters differentiating them. But, as we have stated earlier (Ohara and Mazur, 2000: 3), the tribe Althanini with *Althanus* as the type genus, is not a part of Teretriinae, and *Althanus* shows a close relationship to *Platysoma* or *Cylister*. On the other hand, *Heudister* is not related to *Althanus*, having all the principal characters of Exosternini: presence of median mesosternal projection as well as sutures of antennal club not divided and tibiae multidenticulate. By upper body punctuation and by elytral striation *Heudister* rather resembles a generic group including *Pachycraerus*.

Distribution. Southeast Asia (Vietnam: Tonkin).
*Heudister mieni* Cooman, 1940

*Heudister mieni* Cooman, 1940: 43, figs. 1-3 [Vietnam].

Redescription. Body (Fig. 1 and 2C) oval, convex, black with aeneous tinge, shiny; antennae rusty-red, legs brownish-red. Body length * (in mm), PPL 2.20; PEL 1.83; HW 0.77; APW 0.92; PPW 1.45; PL 0.73; EL 1.10.

Antennal club (Fig. 2B) oval, covered with short setae and rarely with relatively long hairs. Two distinct sutures present, more incised laterally. Scapus a little longer than funiculus, with a sharp spine at outer margin. Front of head flat, coarsely and thickly punctured (Fig. 2A). Frontal and supraorbital stria absent. Labrum transverse, rounded at anterior margin, coarsely punctate; each point with a short yellow seta. Antennal insertions deep and wholly opened from above. Mandibulae convex, covered with slightly elongate punctures.

Pronotum narrowed anterad, covered with coarse punctures, separated by more than their diameters, the punctures becoming larger basally. Pronotal base bisinuous. Marginal stria thin, marked at anterior angles only.

Epipleura convex, with two striae. External subhumeral stria present, thin, reaching nearly to apex. Sutural stria hooked basally, shortened at apex, reaching to two-thirds of elytral length. Dorsal 2nd to 4th striae curved inwardly at base, the 4th one very short, marked basally only, the 2nd a little longer, reaching the middle, the 3rd more longer, the 1st straight, reaching to two-thirds of elytral length. All the striae with some punctures at bottom. Humeral stria fine, oblique. Surface of elytra wholly punctate, more coarsely and densely in apical part.

Propygidium convex, long and hexagonal (Fig. 2E), regularly covered with...
not too dense punctation (similarly to that of elytra). Pygidium a little paler, reddish, as punctured as on the pygidium.

Prosternal lobe (Fig. 2D) rather short, widely rounded, its marginal stria complete but indistinct, distant from margin at ends; surface distinctly but sparsely punctulate. Prosternum narrow. Carinal striae distinct, divergent in apical part then gradually divergent basally. One lateral prosternal stria also marked, strongly curved outwardly at apex, nearly parallel to suture dividing the lobe from the rest of prosternum. Prosternal process incised at base.
Mesosternum densely and coarsely punctured, especially in basal part, the punctures separated by their own diameter. Anterior margin with distinct but not too sharp median projection; marginal stria distinct, punctured at bottom. Meso-metasternal suture as well as the metasternal median line very thin, indistinct. Metasternum covered with as coarse punctuation as on the mesosternum, but more sparsely, especially at middle. Lateral metasternal stria very distinct and deep, crenulate, not reaching to anterior margin.

Intercoxal disc of 1st abdominal sternum finely punctulate; one lateral stria present on each side.

Protibia (Fig. 2F) darker, pitch-brown, a little dilated, with one oblique apical spine; outer margin with 6 (+1) weakly marked denticles, each with short spine. Tarsal groove nearly straight, shallow, only inwardly limited. The 5th tarsal segment as long as three next segments together; with two claws. Mesotibia with four indistinct spines at outer margin, the apical one bifid. Metatibia not armed, only with apical spine.


Genus Platysoma Leach, 1817

Platysoma Leach, 1817: 77 [type species: Hister compressum Herbst, 1783: 20].
Abbota Leach, 1830: 155 [without type species], synonymized by Waterhouse, 1868: 168.

Notes. The systematic concept of this genus has changed several times since it was originally described. Recently Mazur (1999) proposed a new definition, which is adopted here. According to this definition, the genus Platysoma is characterized by several features: more or less visible punctuation of pronotal sides, presence of apical pronotal stria, presence and position of post-mesocoxal stria laying almost parallel to lateral metasternal stria and relatively wide head (ratio in width of pronotum to head about 2 or less). The shape of body is variable, from oval and convex to elongate and depressed or nearly cylindrical forms. This range of forms reflects various degrees of adaptation to the niche in which they live. Body shape may not be useful for characterizing genera or subgenera, but it has some value for recognizing groups of species within genera. This character corresponds strictly with the width and length of mesosternum which is wide and short in flat and oval species or narrow and long in cylindrical ones. Thus, the subgeneric rank based on this character is artificial and has only formal meaning useful for determination.

Subgenus Platysoma Leach, 1817

Platysoma Leach, 1817: 77 [Platysoma (Platysoma) compressum (Herbst, 1783: 20)].

Notes. Body elongate oval, more or less depressed. Mesosternum wide and short, its width as long as double length.

Distribution: Nearctic (only 1 or 2 species), Palearctic and Oriental Region, Australia.
**Platysoma (Platysoma) compressum** (Herbst, 1783)

*Hister depressus* Fabricius, 1787: 32 (emend.)
*Hololepta depressa*: Paykull, 1811: 103.
*Platysoma depressum*: Leach, 1817: 79.
*Abbotia paykulliana* Leach, 1830: 156, synonymized by Waterhouse, 1868: 168.
*Platysoma compressum* var. *agnusi* Auzat, 1926: 73.
*Platysoma compressum* var. *longestriatum* Roubal, 1933: 139.
*Platysoma* (Platysoma) *compressum*: Reitter in Heyden et al., 1883: 93.

Redescription. Body oblong (Fig. 3C), depressed medially, black; mouth parts, antennae and legs reddish brown. Body length (male, in mm), PPL, 3.40; PEL, 2.97; APW, 0.99; PPW, 1.91; PL, 1.02; EL, 1.78; EW, 1.98; ProL, 0.33; ProW, 1.12; PyL, 0.46; PTL, 0.69; MSTL, 0.63; MTTL, 0.73.

Antennal club with V-shaped sutures (Fig. 3B), the sutures interrupted medially. Ratio of width of pronotum to head 2.15. Frons slightly excavate; surface densely covered with fine punctures that are separated by about twice their diameter and become coarser and sparser medio-basally. Frontal stria of head (Fig. 3A) completely impressed. Orbital stria complete. Labrum transverse and short, the anterior margin emarginate. One denticle present on inner margin of mandible.

Pronotum (Fig. 3C) feebly depressed medially; marginal stria complete laterally and absent anteriorly; outer lateral pronotal stria well impressed, the stria behind head replaced by an apical stria (in Wenzel, 1976), and the outer edge of the stria carinate laterally and anteriorly. Surface of pronotum sparsely covered with longitudinal and coarse punctures on lateral third, the punctures separated by their own diameter to twice the diameter; interspace among the coarse punctures finely punctate, the punctures separated by about four times their diameter. Antescutellar area with a slight longitudinal impression.

Epipleura with a complete epipleural marginal stria, its ventral edge carinate. Elytral marginal stria complete and strongly sinuate medially, the ventral edge of the stria carinate. Subhumeral stria absent. Oblique humeral stria slightly impressed on basal fourth. First to 3rd dorsal striae complete and the basal portion feebly bent inwardly; 4th dorsal stria present on apical third; 5th dorsal stria absent or represented by few punctures apically; sutural striae absent. Surface of elytra covered with fine punctures which are separated by about three times their diameter; apical band along the posterior margin covered with microscopic rugae and several coarse punctures.

Propygidium irregularly covered with large, round and ocelloid punctures latero-medially; interspace among the large punctures intermingled with fine punctures. Pygidium covered with large, round and ocelloid punctures on basal half; interspace among the large punctures and on apical half sparsely and finely punctate.

Prosternal lobe (Fig. 3D) broad and flat, its anterior margin round but almost straight medially; marginal stria complete anteriorly and shortened on basal half; lateral secondary stria present on two-thirds; surface covered with coarse punctures that are separated by their own diameter. Prosternal process flat, without carinal striae; surface densely and finely punctate; posterior margin round outwardly. Two lateral prosternal striae present and their outer edges strongly carinate.
Mesosternum transverse and flat; surface sparsely covered with fine punctures that are separated by two to five times their diameter; anterior margin feebly emarginate; marginal stria of mesosternum impressed laterally and antero-medially; another stria present behind antero-lateral angle, its outer edge carinate. Meso-metasternal suture finely impressed and arcuate anteriorly. Intercoxal disk of metasternum sparsely covered with fine punctures that are separated by three to seven times their diameter. Lateral

metasternal stria extending posteriorly, the apical end attaining near in front of metacoxa and curved inwardly and the outer edge of the stria cariniform. Post-mesocoxal stria almost paralleled lateral metasternal stria and its outer edge carinate. Lateral metasternal disk densely covered with large, round and shallow punctures that are separated by half the diameter; interspace among coarse punctures sparsely and coarsely punctate.

Intercoxal disk of 1st abdominal sternum with similar punctation of that of metasternum; two striae present on each side, the inner complete and the outer present on posterior two-thirds; their outer edges cariniform. Lateral disk densely covered with
large punctures and longitudinal rugae. Second to fourth abdominal sterna coarsely and densely punctate laterally.

Protibia (Fig. 3E, F) with 3 spiny denticles on outer margin (not including spine on the apical corner), and a pair of spines at inner angle and 2 spines on apical margin. Mesocoxa covered with a distinct carina. Mesotibia (Fig. 3G) with 2 dental spines on outer margin, and 6 spines present on apical margin; ventral surface without spiny row. Metatibia (Fig. 3H) with a spine on outer margin, and 6 spines present on apical margin; ventral surface without spiny row. Ventral surface of profemur with transverse and large punctures on posterior half.

Male genitalia (Fig. 4A-H). Eighth sternite divided into two lobe. Ninth tergite with postero-lateral projections stick-like in shape. Spicule simple stick-shaped. Tenth tergite triangle shaped. Ratio in length of parameres to basal piece about 0.74; basal piece long. Lateral sides of parameres paralleled, at basal eighth strongly emargination, thence convergent apically at apical fourth; parameres fused on dorsal surface. Median lobe simple with setose membrane.


Distribution. Europe, Caucasus, Syria, Iran.

Subgenus *Cylister* Cooman, 1941

*Cylister* Cooman, 1941: 307 [type species: *Hister elongatus* Olivier, 1789: 16, nec Thunberg, 1787: 33].


*Cylistix*: Mazur, 1997: 74 [part].

Notes. Body elongate. Prosternal process narrow, depressed between coxae, without carinal striae. Mesosternum narrow, at most 1.5 times as wide as long, almost the whole anterior margin deeply emarginated.

Distribution: Nearctic, Palearctic and Oriental Region.

*Platysoma (Cylister) filiforme* Erichson, 1834

*Hister elongatus* Olivier, 1789: 16, nec Thunberg, 1787: 33, homonymized by Gozis, 1886: 159.

*Platysoma filiforme* Erichson, 1834: 114.

*Platysoma dalmatinum* Küster, 1850: 5, synonymized by Marseul, 1853: 278.

*Platysoma elongatum* Gozis, 1886: 159.


*Cylistix filiforme*: Mazur, 1997: 75.

Redescription. Body oblong (Fig. 5C), black and shiny; tibiae, tarsi and antennae...
rufopiceous. Body length, 3 males and 4 females (in mm; M: male; F: female), PPL, M 2.52-2.59, F 2.64-2.76; PEL, M 2.18-2.35, F 2.18-2.35; APW, M 0.67-0.72, F 0.69-0.72; PPW, M 1.01-1.20, F 1.03-1.22; PL, M 0.77-0.88, F 0.82-0.91; EL, M 1.24-1.37, F 1.29-1.39; EW, M 1.01-1.20, F 1.03-1.22; ProL, M 0.22-0.31, F 0.26-0.33; ProW, M 0.70-0.82, F 0.69-0.79; PyL, M 0.36-0.41, F 0.31-0.41; PTL, M 0.43-0.52, F 0.43-0.52; MSTL, M 0.43-0.48, F 0.41-0.53; MTTL, M 0.48-0.55, F 0.46-0.53.

Antennal club with V-shaped sutures (Fig. 5B), the sutures interrupted medially. Ratio of width of pronotum to head about 1.15. Frontal stria of head impressed and complete, its outer edge carinate. Disc of head depressed on apical third and moderately densely covered with small punctures, separated by two to four times their diameter. There also a group of coarse punctures intermingled medially on basal part. Epistoma


and labrum as punctured as that of frons. Labrum transverse, emarginated apically. Mandibulae convex, very minutely and sparsely punctulate, their inner edge with one dent (Fig. 5A).

Pronotal sides (Fig. 5C) straight on basal nine-tenths, thence strongly and acutely convergent forward. Apical angles acute. Marginal pronotal stria complete laterally. Outer pronotal stria impressed, widely interrupted anteriorly and replaced here by an apical crenate stria. Disc sparsely covered with small punctures, separated by four to five
times their diameter, the punctures becoming coarser and more elongate laterally and separated here by 0.5 - 1.5 times their diameter, and finer narrowly along outer lateral stria. Interspaces between coarse punctures also with fine ground punctuation. Pronotal base with irregular one to two rows of coarse punctures. There is also an incised and longitudinal stria in front of scutellum, reaching to fifth of pronotal length.

Epipleura even, not concave, sparsely covered with fine punctures. Epipleural marginal stria (Fig. 5E) complete and lightly impressed. Elytral marginal stria complete and sinuate medially, its ventral edge cariniform. Oblique humeral stria present on basal fourth. Subhumeral striae absent. First to fourth dorsal stria deeply impressed and complete. Fifth dorsal stria present apically, its length variable: from two-thirds to three-fourths of elytral length, sometimes this stria with several elongate punctures at base. Sutural stria present on apical third only, its apical end usually shortened, reaching not so far as the remaining ones. All the dorsal striae with some punctures at bottom. Surface of elytra evenly covered with very fine ground punctuation, the punctures separated by four to six times their diameter; apical transverse band coarsely punctate.

Propygidium long, pentagonal; densely covered with coarse, round and ocellloid punctures, separated by 0.2-0.8 times their diameter, the punctures becoming finer basally. Interspace among the coarse punctures intermingled with small, densely distributed punctures. Pygidium as densely and coarsely punctured as the propygidium.

Prosternal lobe (Fig. 5D) broad and even, its apical margin round. Marginal stria impressed, its posterior ends inwardly bent and convergent medially, also a short, carinate secondary stria is marked basally. Disc densely covered with round punctures, separated by 1.0 - 1.5 times their diameter, the punctures becoming finer apically. Prosternal process narrow and elevated, very finely punctulate between coxae, more coarsely at apex; its posterior margin rounded. Carinal striae wanting. Two lateral prosternal striae present, their outer edges carinate.

Anterior margin of mesosternum broadly and deeply emarginated; mesosternal disc sparsely and finely punctulate. Marginal stria present at sides only, widely interrupted at anterior margin. Meso-metasternal suture distinctly incised. Punctation of intercoxal disc of metasternum similar to that of the mesosternum. Lateral metasternal striae deeply impressed, extending posteriorly and obliquely, its apical end attaining near the metacoxal cavity. Postmesocoxal stria present outside the lateral stria and paralleled it, the outer edge carinate. Lateral metasternal disc densely covered with large and round punctures, separated by their own diameter. Median line of metasternum slightly incised. Punctuation of intercoxal disc of first abdominal sternum similar to that of the intercoxal disc of the metasternum but more coarsely at sides. Two lateral striae present, the outer one abbreviated on basal half, their outer edge cariniform.

Protibia (Fig. 5F, G) with 3 spiny denticles at outer margin (not including spine on the apical corner) and a pair of spines at inner angle as well as 2 spines on apical margin. Tarsal groove deep, S-shaped. Mesocoxa with a distinct cariniform stria. Mesotibia (Fig. 5H) with 3 (+1) spiny denticles and with 6 spines on apical margin. Metatibia (Fig. 5I) with 2 spiny denticles and with 5 spinules on apical margin.

Male genitalia (Fig. 6A-F). Eighth sternite divided into two lobe. Ninth tergite with postero-lateral projections stick-like in shape. Spicule simple stick-shaped, the basal third becoming broader. Tenth tergite triangle shaped. Ratio in length of parameres to basal piece about 0.78; basal piece long. Lateral sides of parameres paralleled, at basal ninth strongly emargination, thence convergent apically at apical fourth; parameres fused
on dorsal surface. Median lobe simple.


Distribution. Mediterranean Subregion.

Subgenus Cylistus Dejean, 1833

Cylistus Dejean, 1833: 129 [type species: Hister cylindricus Paykull, 1811: 91].

Notes: When adopting Dejean’s conception, Marseul cited the prosternal lobe covering the antennal cavities as the primary character discriminating Cylistus from cylindrical Platysoma species. However, such a structure of prosternal lobe also occurs (though to a lesser degree) in some species of Platysoma. Also in the subgenus Cylister there is a full transition from this shape of prosternal lobe to the typical ones. Presence of the metasternal fovea is also variable, even within certain species, so it can not be treated as a distinguishing character for the subgenus Cylistus. Summarizing all these doubts, Bousquet and Laplante (1999) followed an earlier conception of Mazur (1997) joining both of these subgenera and recognizing the resulting Cylistus at the generic level. Although this problem remains to be fully resolved, the subgenus Cylistus can be characterized as follows:

Prosternal process very narrow, with distinct carinal striae at base. Mesosternum nearly as wide as long, its anterior margin deeply emarginated. Sometimes a fovea present at middle or just behind middle of meso-metasternal suture.

Distribution: Nearctic (5 species) and Oriental Region (3 species).

Platysoma (Cylistus) cylindricum (Paykull, 1811)

Hister cylindricus Paykull, 1811: 91. [USA: South Carolina]
Cylistus cylindricus: Dejean, 1833: 129.

Redescription. Body elongate (Fig. 7C), almost cylindrical, black and shiny, legs and antennae rufopiceous; basal part of mandibles, epipleura and apex of elytra with rufous tinge. Body length, 3 males and 1 female (in mm; M: male; F: female), PPL, M 5.05-5.34, F 5.39; PEL, M 3.82-4.46, F 4.31; APW, M 1.08-1.23, F 1.18; PPW, M 1.57-1.76, F 1.72; PL, M 1.66-1.81, F 1.76; EL, M 2.06-2.40, F 2.40; EW, M 1.62-1.75, F 1.67; ProL, M 0.49-0.64, F 0.54; ProW, M 0.98-1.23, F 1.13; PyL, M 0.59-0.69, F 0.69; PTL, M 0.74-0.88, F 0.83; MSTL, M 0.54-0.64, F 0.59; MTTL, M 0.64-0.78, F 0.83.

Antennal club (Fig. 7B) with V-shaped sutures, the sutures interrupted medially.

Ratio of width of pronotum to head about 1.10. Frontal stria of head (Fig. 7A) fine and thin, angulate outwardly on middle and narrowly interrupted here, united laterally with very strong and carinate supraorbital stria, laying along the eyes only. Disc of head strongly depressed on apical half, with a pair of small, elongate and oblique protuberances medially. Depressed portion moderately densely covered with small round punctures, separated by two to four times their diameter. Frons more densely and coarsely punctured (0.5 -1.5), the interspaces between coarse punctures intermingled.
with fine ground punctulation. Labrum transverse, slightly emarginated apically. Mandibles very minutely punctulate, their inner edge with one small but acute dent.

Pronotal sides (Fig. 7C), viewed from above, straight and nearly parallel on basal nine tenth, thence strongly and acutely convergent forward. Viewed laterally (Fig. 7E), their fourth of apical portion angulate. Pronotal anterior margin a little rounded outwardly. Marginal pronotal stria thin, present along angulated part then shortly interrupted and again continuing to pronotal base; basal portion of this stria a little
crenate. Outer pronotal stria impressed and crenate, reaching posteriorly to pronotal base and sometimes prolonged along the base as a short, crenate stria; anteriorly replaced by an apical crenate stria. Disc sparsely covered with small punctures, separated by four to five times their diameter, the punctures becoming coarser and more elongate laterally and separated here by one to three times their diameter. Surface outside of outer pronotal stria more finely punctured. Apical third of pronotum covered with coarse and round punctures, separated by one to three times their diameter. Pronotal base with two to three irregular rows of round, coarse and densely distributed punctures which are separated by fifth to their own diameter. There is also an incised, longitudinal point in front of scutellum. Interspaces between coarse punctures also with fine ground punctulation and with alutaceous microsculpture, especially on sides.

Epipleura even, sparsely covered with fine punctures and with alutaceous microreticulation giving it an opaque appearance. Epipleural marginal stria thin and weakly incised, sometimes interrupted medially, reaching the elytral apex. Elytral marginal stria complete, strongly incised at basal half, its ventral edge cariniform. Oblique humeral stria present on basal fourth. Subhumeral striae wanting. First to 4th striae complete and impressed, more deeply at basal half, the 4th one a little abbreviated basally, reaching from three-fourths to four-fifths of elytral length, sometimes prolonged as a row of irregular points. Sutural stria complete and a little hamate at base. All the striae with some punctures at bottom. Surface of elytra evenly covered with fine ground punctulation, only apical transverse band with some coarse punctures, separated by two to three times their diameter.

Propygidium convex and long, covered coarsely with round, ocellloid punctures, separated by their own diameter to twice the diameter, more densely at base. Interspaces with fine ground punctulation. Pygidium less coarsely but more densely punctured (0.2-1.5), the punctures becoming finer apically.

Prosternal lobe (Fig. 7D) rounded medially, broadly prolonged at sides, covering antennal cavities. Marginal stria impressed, present along rounded part only. Disc with fine and sparse punctuation, covered laterally with coarse and round punctures, separated by their own diameter to twice the diameter; sometimes the punctures confluent with irregular rugae. Interspaces with alutaceous microsculpture and fine ground punctulation. Prosternal process very narrow, compressed and elevated, very finely punctured between coxae, more coarsely at apex, its posterior margin acute. Impressed carinal striae present on basal fourth, united basally. Two lateral prosternal striae present, their outer edges carinate.

Anterior margin of mesosternum deeply triangularly emarginated; mesosternal disc sparsely and finely punctulate, with alutaceous microreticulation. Marginal stria complete, impressed and joined with lateral metasternal stria. Mesometasternal suture unclear, metasternal disc mostly with elongate and deep fovea just behind it. Punctuation of intercoxal disc of metasternum distinct and rather coarse, the punctures separated by one to four times their diameter. Interspaces with alutaceous microsculpture. Median line thin, a little impressed apically and basally, sometimes interrupted at middle. Lateral metasternal stria deeply impressed, extending posteriorly and obliquely, its apical end hamate, attaining near the metacoxal cavity. Postmesocoxal stria deeply impressed, present outside of the lateral stria and paralleled it. Lateral metasternal disc alutaceous, covered with round punctures, separated by their own diameter to twice their diameter. Interspaces intermingled with small punctures.
First abdominal sternum long and narrow, its disc as densely punctured as that of metasternum but more finely. Two lateral striae present, depressed, the outer one abbreviated on basal half.

Protibia (Fig. 7F-G) with 4 spiny denticles at outer margin and one spine at inner angle; tarsal groove deep, S-shaped; inner base strongly angulate. Mesocoxa with distinct, cariniform stria. Mesotibia (Fig. 7H) with 3 spiny denticles and with 6 spines on apical margin. Metatibia (Fig. 7I) with 1 spiny denticle and with 6 spinules on apical margin.

Male genitalia (Fig. 8A-F). Eighth sternite divided into two lobe. Ninth tergite with postero-lateral projections stick-like in shape. Spicule simple stick-shaped, the basal half becoming broader. Tenth tergite divided into two oblong plates. Ratio in length of parameres to basal piece about 1.36; basal piece rather short. Lateral sides of parameres paralleled, without emargination, thence convergent apically at apical seventh; parameres fused on dorsal surface. Median lobe simple.


Distribution. North America, from Ontario to Texas.

**Genus Nicotikis** Marseul, 1883


Mendelius Lewis, 1908: 141 [type species: Eblisia tenuipes Lewis, 1905: 345, synonymized by Cooman, 1941: 314].

Notes. This genus nicely illustrates the difficulties with classification of the subfamily Histerinae as a whole. Describing Platysoma incisipyge (type species by monotypy) Marseul pointed out its relations to both Platysoma, and "Hister propers". Lewis (1908: 141), establishing the genus Mendelius (a taxon synonymous with Nicotikis) also showed its similarity to Niposoma (Platysomatini) and, on the other hand, to Phelister (Exosternini) owing to its straight tarsal grooves. Bickhardt (1917), in his fundamental work, recognized the S-shaped tarsal groove of protibia as a principal character of the tribe Platysomini, classifying Mendelius (= Nicotikis) within the tribe Histerini. The S-shaped or straight tarsal groove of the protibia varies, however, even within some genera (Mazar, 1990) and cannot be treated as the character differentiating the tribes. All the remaining principal characters of Nicotikis (antennal structure, double margining of prosternum) are shared with Platysomatini and we believe this placement is correct. This genus may be easily recognized by the combination of the following characters: presence of prosternal carinal and postmesocoxal striae, the last one laying parallel to lateral metasternal stria, doubly margined mesosternum at sides and a foveated pygidium.

The genus Nicotikis is represented by 4 species (Mazar, 1997). The distribution is limited to the tropical Oriental region.

Nicotikis incisipyge (Marseul, 1883)

Playsoma incisipyge Marseul, 1883: lxviii.
Nicotikis incisipyge: Lewis, 1889: 280; Mazur, 1997: 82.
Eblisia incisipyge: Lewis, 1903: 423.

Redescription. Body oblong (Fig. 9C), slightly convex medially, black brown; maxilar palpi, and club of antennae light brown. Body length (female, in mm), PPL, 3.23; PEL, 3.07; APW, 0.89; PPW, 1.82; PL, 1.29; EL, 1.62; EW, 1.88; ProL, 0.36; ProW, 1.16; PyL, 0.52; PTL, 0.83; MSTL, 0.76; MTTL, 0.86.

Antennal club with clear V-shaped sutures (Fig. 9B), the sutures interrupted medially. Ratio of width of pronotum to head 2.29. Front of head feebly excavate; surface finely and sparsely punctate. Frontal stria of head (Fig. 9A) completely impressed and its outer edge carinate. Orbital stria absent. Labrum feebly flat, the anterior margin emarginate medially. One large denticle present on inner margin of mandible. Surface of mandible flat, densely and coarsely punctate.

Pronotum (Fig. 9C) feebly convex medially; marginal stria complete laterally and posteriorly, and broadly interrupted behind head on anterior portion, the stria a little distant from the posterior margin at lateral half; outer lateral pronotal stria well impressed laterally, strongly sinuate, the stria crenate and present medially behind head on anterior portion (the stria is called “apical stria” by Wenzel, 1976) and the outer edge of the stria cariniform. Surface of pronotum evenly covered with fine punctures, the punctures separated by about four times their diameter. Antescutellar area without a impression.

Epipleura with a complete epipleural marginal stria. Elytral marginal stria complete, feebly sinuate at basal third, its outer edge subcariniform. Subhumeral stria absent. Oblique humeral stria slightly impressed on basal fourth. First to 3rd dorsal striae complete and densely crenate; 4th and 5th striae present on apical third and fourth, respectively; sutural stria presented on apical two-fifths, the apical end curved and extended to until apical end of 2nd dorsal stria. Surface of elytra densely covered with fine punctures which are separated by four times their diameter.

Propygidium irregularly covered with large, round and deep punctures, the punctures separated by one to four times their diameter. Pygidium with very deep and T-shaped fovea on each lateral area (Fig. 9D).

Prosternal lobe (Fig. 9E) broad and convex medially, its anterior margin round but straight medially; marginal stria complete; secondary stria absent; surface with several deep and round punctures and sparsely and finely punctate. Prosternal process narrow, with carinal striae, the striae impressed on basal half and complete along posterior margin; surface sparsely and finely punctate; posterior margin round. Two lateral prosternal striae present and their outer edges strongly carinate.

Mesosternum transverse and flat; surface sparsely covered with fine punctures that are separated by about three times their diameter; anterior margin emarginate medially; marginal stria of mesosternum complete laterally and indistinct medially, the lateral portion distant from lateral margin; another stria distinctly impressed laterally along the lateral margin. Meso-metasternal suture finely impressed and angulate at middle. Intercoxal disk of metasternum with similar punctuation of intercoxal disk of mesosternum. Lateral metasternal stria extending obliquely and posteriorly, the apical
end attaining near in front of metacoxa. Post-mesocoxal stria impressed along the lateral metasternal stria. Lateral metasternal disk densely covered with transverse, large, deep and semicircular punctures.

Intercoxal disk of 1st abdominal sternum with similar punctuation of intercoxal disk of metasternum; two striae present on each side, the inner complete and the outer present on posterior half. Lateral disk densely covered with longitudinal deep rugae.

Protibia (Fig. 9F, G) with 4 denticles on outer margin, and a pair of spines on inner
angle and one spine present on apical margin (but it seems that the state of the only type specimen available is incomplete, with dermal structure and spines defaced to some extent). Mesocoxa covered with several transverse rugae, without distinct carina. Mesotibia (Fig. 9H) with 4 dental spines on outer margin, and 6 spines present on apical margin; ventral surface with a spiny row represented by 3 spines. Metatibia (Fig. 9I) with 3 spines on outer margin, and 6 spines present on apical margin; ventral surface with a spine represented by 3 spines. Ventral surface of profemur densely covered with transverse rugae on posterior half.

Specimens examined. Type, female, "Nicotikis incisipyge (yellow, round label)", "Museum Paris, coll de Marseul, 2842-90", "female", "Type (red inked)", "Nicotikis incisipyge" (MNHN).

Distribution. Sumatra, Borneo.

Genus Mesostrix Mazur, 1994


Notes: This genus Mesostrix was erected by Mazur in 1994 for a single species, M. pentatoma and placed within tribe Platysomatini. The genus is easily distinguished from the other members of the tribe by the combination of following characteristics: 1) mesosternum with arcuate mesosternal stria, 2) mesocoxa with distinct longitudinal carina, 3) metasternal intercoxal disc doubly margined ventrally.

Distribution: Southeast Asia (Indonesia: Sulawesi).

Mesostrix pentatoma Mazur, 1994

Mesostrix pentatoma, Mazur, 1994: 46 [Indonesia: Sulawesi]

Redescription. Body oval (Fig. 10C), moderately convex, black with aeneous tinge, shiny. Legs, antennae, mouthparts, abdominal segments and elytral apex dark rufopiceous. Body length (in mm), males, PPL, 2.86-3.12; PEL, 2.28-2.81; APW, 0.77-0.91; PPW, 1.54-1.87; PL, 0.79-0.89; EL, 1.37-1.63; EW, 1.66-2.02; ProL, 0.24-0.31; ProW, 0.86-1.06; PyL, 0.26-0.36; PTL, 0.20; MSTL, 0.20-0.23; MTTL, 0.23-.028.

Antennal club (Fig. 10B) with clear V-shaped sutures, the sutures interrupted medially. Frontal stria of head (Fig. 10A) complete, a little carinate anteriorly, strongly incised along eyes. Supraorbital stria absent. Disc of head depressed on apical fourth, sparsely covered with fine punctures medially, the punctuation becoming progressively coarser towards base where the punctures are separated by one to three times their diameter. Labrum transverse, moderately densely covered with coarse punctures separated by half to twice their diameter, anterior margin weakly emarginated. Mandibles convex, finely punctulate, with one dent at inner margin.

Pronotal sides (Fig. 10C) evenly rounded and convergent forward on basal seven-eights, thence strongly convergent apically. Anterior angles sharp and jutting. Marginal pronotal stria present on lateral sides only. Lateral pronotal stria incised laterally, replaced behind the head by a crenulate apical stria. Disc nearly smooth, very
finely punctulate, the pronotal sides covered with elongate, deep punctures moderately densely distributed, separated by half to four times their diameter. Narrow area outside of the lateral pronotal stria with one to two rows of fine, elongate punctures. Anterior pronotal margin emarginated, the median portion of emargination feebly arcuate outwardly. Pronotal base with one to two irregular rows of round punctures, densely distributed by 0.5-1.5 times their diameter and interrupted in front of scutellum.

Epipleura of elytra even, not concave. Epipleural marginal stria complete, carinate basally and broadly distant from outer margin. Elytral marginal stria complete and deeply impressed. Subhumeral striae absent. Oblique humeral stria present on basal two-fifths.
First to 3rd dorsal striae complete, sinuous, deeply impressed and crenate. Fourth dorsal stria abbreviated basally, present on apical half. Fifth dorsal stria almost complete and strongly curved outwardly on basal half. Sutural stria absent. Surface of elytra evenly covered with fine and sparsely distributed punctures.

Propygidium transverse, irregularly covered with coarse, round and deep punctures, separated by 0.2-1.5 times their diameter, and with some small punctures at base. Interspace between punctures with some fine, microscopic punctures, rarely distributed. Pygidium more finely punctured on basal half, the punctures separated by their own diameter to five times the diameter and becoming finer apically, the pygidial apex very finely and rarely punctulate.

Pronotal lobe (Fig. 10D) broad and even, its apical margin round. Marginal stria crenate and incised, present on median part only; disc rather sparsely covered with
moderate punctures, separated by three to four times their diameter, more coarsely at apical part behind the marginal stria. Prosternal keel wide, triangularly slightly concave between coxae. Carinal stria wanting. Double lateral striae present and divergent anteriorly, each outer side well carinate.

Anterior margin of mesosternum broadly and shallowly emarginated. Secondary marginal stria present in lateral angles only. Marginal mesosternal stria well carinate, semicircular, very distant from meso-metasternal suture. Disc of mesosternum nearly smooth, very minutely punctulate. Meso-metasternal suture lightly impressed. Punctuation of intercoxal disc of metasternum similar to that of mesosternum. Lateral metasternal stria deeply impressed, extending posteriorly and obliquely, its apical end attaining the metacoxae. Post mesocoxal stria present, deeply carinate, laying almost parallel to the lateral metasternal stria and attaining the metacoxae. Metasternal disc with two shallow depressions at apex in front of hind coxae. Lateral disc densely covered with elongate punctures, separated by their own diameter to half the diameter.

Punctuation of intercoxal disc of 1st abdominal sternum as punctured as the metasternum; two lateral striae present, both ones united basally behind the metacoxae.

Protibia (Fig. 10E, F) with 3 denticles at outer margin (not including spine on the apical corner) and with 3 spinules on apical margin. Tarsal groove deep, S-shaped. Mesotibia (Fig. 10G) with 3 spinules on outer margin and 7 spinules on apical margin. Mesocoxa with a longitudinal carina. Metatibia (Fig. 10H) with small one spine on outer margin and 6 spinules on apical margin.

Male genitalia (Fig. 11A-F). Eighth sternite divided into two lobe. Ninth tergite with postero-lateral projections stick-like in shape. Spicule simple stick-shaped. Tenth tergite not sclerotized. Ratio in length of parameres to basal piece about 1.55; basal piece rather short. Lateral sides of parameres paralleled, at basal half slightly sinuate, thence convergent apically at apical fourth; parameres fused on dorsal surface. Median lobe simple.


Distribution. Indonesia (Sulawesi).

Genus Desbordesia Mazur, 1999


Notes. Desbordesia was created to include a single species which had been originally placed, but with hesitation (see Desbordes, 1929: 296-297), into the genus Apobletes because of its sternal structure. The strong reduction of the pronotal (lateral) and sternal (marginal mesosternal) striae are, however, rarely encountered in the tribe. Desbordesia may be characterized as follows:

Body elongate, strongly depressed; lateral pronotal stria abbreviated basally; subhumeral, post mesocoxal as well as carinal striae wanting; prosternal lobe not margined; mesosternum bisinuous anteriorly.

Distribution: Southeast Asia (Indonesia: Moluccas, New Guinea).

*Desbordesia maindroni* (Desbordes, 1929)

*Apobletes maindroni* Desbordes, 1929: 296 [New Guinea].

Redescription. Body elongate (Fig. 12C), nearly parallel at sides, strongly depressed, rufopiceous; the elytra, round mediolateral pronotal spot and propygidium medially darker, pitch-brown. Body length (in mm, M: male, F: female), PPL, M 3.45, F 2.68; PEL, M 2.81, F 2.68; APW, M 0.87, F 0.83; PPW, M 1.71, F 1.58; PL, M 1.00, F 0.93; EL, M 1.48, F 1.42; EW, M 1.67, F 1.64; ProL, M 0.48, F 0.54; ProW, M 1.13, F 1.09; PyL, M 0.32, F 0.35; PTL, M 0.55, F 0.51; MSTL, M 0.45, F 0.41; MTTL, M 0.61, F 0.58.
Antennal club (Fig. 12B) with V-shaped sutures, which are interrupted medially. Ratio of width of pronotum to head 1.96-2.03. Frons almost flat; surface moderately densely covered with very fine ground punctulation, intermingled with some coarser punctures, sparsely distributed. Frontal stria (Fig. 12A) fine, present on medial part. Supraorbital stria of head marked along the eyes only. Labrum transverse and short, the anterior margin deeply emarginate. Mandibles convex, very minutely but densely punctulate, each one with one denticle at apical part.

Pronotal sides almost parallel and then convergent on apical third. Anterior pronotal margin deeply emarginated, apical angles acute. Marginal stria complete laterally and absent anteriorly. Outer lateral pronotal stria broadly interrupted anteriorly and strongly abbreviated basally, reaching to mid length of the pronotum. Disc of pronotum with very fine and moderately dense ground punctuation, especially in anterior angles, all the
surface covered with very small punctures separated by six to ten times their diameter. Pronotal base with round point in front of scutellum.

Epipleura of elytra even, very finely covered with microscopic punctures. Both, marginal epipleural and elytral marginal striae complete, their outer sides strongly carinate. External subhumeral stria strongly reduced, present as an irregular incised and oblique fragment on medial sixth, sometimes wanting. Inner subhumeral stria absent. Oblique humeral stria very thin, slightly impressed on basal fourth. Outer side of all dorsal striae carinate. First and 2nd dorsal striae complete. Third dorsal stria broadly interrupted, marked on basal third and apical fourth. The remaining ones, including sutural stria, absent. Surface of elytra covered with very fine, microscopic ground punctuation, intermingled with small punctures separated by six to eight times their diameter.

Propygidium long, pentagonal, regularly covered with round punctures on disc, separated by their own diameter to twice the diameter, more coarsely laterally (0.5-1.0). Interspace between punctures with fine, transverse and alutaceous microreticulation in basal part. Pygidium incised laterally, densely covered with moderate, round and ocelloid punctures, separated by their own diameter to half the diameter, the punctures becoming finer apically; the interspace intermingled with small punctures.

Prosternal lobe (Fig. 10D) long, flattened medially and rounded anteriorly and rarely, microscopically punctulate. Marginal stria absent, secondary stria crenate, present on basal third. Prosternal process wide and flat, narrowest between coxae and divergent anteriorly, without carinal striae; its posterior margin triangularly emarginated. Two lateral prosternal striae present, their outer edges carinate. Suture dividing the prosternal lobe and prosternal process a little incised.

Mesosternum short, transverse and flat; surface sparsely covered with fine punctures. Marginal mesosternal stria absent anteriorly, the anterior margin of mesosternum deeply bisinuate. Meso-metasternal suture straight and impressed. Intercocoxal disc of metasternum flat and wide, as punctured as on mesosternum. Lateral metasternal stria extending posteriorly, its outer side cariniform, the apical end attaining nearly the metepimeron outside of metacoxa and shortly bent here inwardly. Postmesocoxal striae absent. Lateral metasternal disc coarsely covered with deep punctures, being sometimes confluent as short rugae, the punctures becoming finer apically, so the apical area very finely punctulate. Median line of metasternum distinctly incised.

Intercoxi al disc of 1st abdominal sternum long, with similar punctuation of that of metasternum, distinctly margined by single and complete stria; outer side of the stria carinate. Lateral disc sparsely covered with elongate and small punctures, separated by one to four times their diameter; the interspace with alutaceous microsculpture.

Protibia (Fig. 12E, F) with 3 spiny denticles at outer margin (not including spine at apical corner) and a pair of spines at inner angle as well as 2 spines on apical margin; two spines near apical corner more closely placed to each other than the rest ones. Mesotibia (Fig. 12G) with 3 dental spines on outer margin and 7 spinules on apical margin; ventral surface without spiny row. Mesocoxa with a longitudinal carina. Metatibia (Fig. 12H) without spin on outer margin and 7 spines on apical margin; ventral surface only with strong carina.

Male genitalia (Fig. 13A, F). Eighth sternite divided into two longitudinal oblong plates. Ninth tergite with postero-lateral projections. Spicule simple Y-shaped, the basal
fourth becoming broader. Tenth tergite longitudinal oblong. Ratio in length of parameres
to basal piece about 1.65. Lateral sides of parameres paralleled, thence convergent
apically at apical fifth; parameres fused on dorsal surface. Median lobe simple.

Specimens examined. Type, 1 female, Nouv. Guinée, Baïé de Geelwink, Raffray and
Maindron, 1878 (MNHN). Indonesia: 1 male, 1 female, Malaccas, Bacan, Wayaua, alt. M ca 50,


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