

***Akarbatrus* gen. nov., an unusual Batrisitae
(Coleoptera: Staphylinidae: Pselaphinae)
from Sumatra**

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Abstract. *Akarbatrus* gen. nov., and *Akarbatrus jelineki* sp. nov. and *A. diversicornis* sp. nov. from Sumatra are described and illustrated.

Key words. Coleoptera, Staphylinidae, Pselaphinae, Batrisitae, taxonomy, new taxa, Indonesia

Introduction

Batrisitae Reitter, 1882, is one of the more diverse supertribes of Pselaphinae, in particular in the tropics and subtropics. The group is likely monophyletic (CHANDLER 2001, KURBATOV 2007) and includes some 230 genera recognized as valid (NEWTON & CHANDLER 1989, and subsequent papers). While the Batrisitae may be readily distinguished from other pselaphines, the relationships of its members are poorly understood and the previously recognized tribes and subtribes appear ill-based (LÖBL & KURBATOV 2001).

Males of the Batrisitae often exhibit conspicuous male secondary sexual characters that may affect any part of the body and the appendages. Such characters provide reliable means for species definitions but may obscure relationships because of homoplasy. Complex structures consisting of excavations, carinae and setal patches are usually situated on the head and abdominal tergites. They are rarely situated on the elytra, as in the Afrotropical *Bothriotelus* Jeannel, 1951 (see LELEUP 1976a), or on the pronotum, as in the Australian *Tinaroo* Chandler, 2001. Among large collections of the Pselaphinae made during an expedition to Sumatra, two additional species were found that possess a sexually modified pronotum. Both species lack elytral foveae, another character uncommon in humicolous Batrisitae. Hence, in spite of inadequate knowledge of the tropical Batrisitae, both species may be readily recognized as new, representing a group for which a new genus is here established. The new genus is formally placed in Batrisini Reitter, 1882.