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Fossil carabids from Baltic amber—III—*Tarsitachys bilobus* Erwin, 1971 an interesting fossil ground beetle from Baltic amber (Coleoptera: Carabidae: Trechinae): Redescription and comments on its taxonomic placement

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Abstract

Tarsitachys bilobus (Coleoptera, Carabidae) is a fossil species described by Erwin from Baltic amber. Its description was based on only one known specimen, and thus, part of its anatomical structures were unknown as they were poorly preserved in the Holotype. In this paper we complete the description with a second specimen. A new placement among Tachyina and a new status for the genus are proposed.

Key words: Coleoptera; Carabidae; Trechinae; *Tarsitachys*, Baltic amber

Introduction

The family Carabidae (ground beetles) is a very diversified group with around 30,000–40,000 described living species (Erwin 1991; Niemelä 1996; Lorenz 1998; Bouchard *et al.* 2009). However their fossil record is scarce; although some hundreds of fossil specimen have been recorded, most of them are poorly preserved or their taxonomic assignment is very doubtful (Kirejtshuk & Ponomarenko 2014).

The first Baltic amber fossil ground beetle specimen was found in 1810 (Giebel 1856), and although several genera have been recorded since then, only 32 species have been described along 150 years (Larsson 1978; Spahr 1981; Alekseev 2013). Four of these species belong to the subfamily Trechinae: one Trechina, *Trechoblemus fasciatus* Motschulsky 1856; two Bembidiina, *Bembidion succini* Giebel 1856 and *Bembidion (Archaeophilochthus) christelae* Ortuño & Arillo 2010; and one Tachyina, *Tarsitachys bilobus* Erwin 1971.

This last species description was based on the only known specimen (Erwin 1971), thus, parts of its anatomical structures were poorly preserved and its exact taxonomic placement was inconclusive. Thanks to the discovery of a second specimen (together with the re-study of the holotype) it was possible to complete the description of the species and a more accurately placement among Tachyina is proposed, more precisely inside those with “not foveate labium” in the genus *Elaphropus*.

This paper is our third contribution to the study of Baltic amber Carabidae (Ortuño & Arillo 2009, 2010).