

## RESEARCH PAPER

# New and little-known species of the genus *Cyclotoma* from China (Coleoptera: Endomychidae)

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**Abstract.** Three new species of *Cyclotoma* Mulsant, 1851 from China, *C. nigrithorax* sp. nov., *C. simianshanensis* sp. nov. and *C. yingjiangensis* sp. nov., are described. These new species are compared with and separated from similar congeners and supported by illustrations of diagnostic characters. An updated key to the species of *Cyclotoma* from China is given.

**Key words.** Coleoptera, Endomychidae, Cyclotominae, new species, biodiversity, taxonomy, China, Oriental Region

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## Introduction

The genus *Cyclotoma* was established by MULSANT (1851) with *C. testudinaria* from Java as the type species. Due to the body shape and colouration of species in the genus, very similar to coccinellids, it is a very distinctive group within Endomychidae. In the past, *Cyclotoma* was a member of the endomychid subfamily Endomychinae. The monophyly of this subfamily was supported by the phylogenetic analysis of the family Endomychidae (TOMASZEWSKA 2000a, 2005).

TOMASZEWSKA (2000b) provided a first review of the world species of *Cyclotoma*, including eleven described species, and added three new species: *C. conica* Tomaszewska, 2000 from Taiwan (China), *C. nicoleae* Tomaszewska, 2000 from Vietnam, and *C. merkli* Tomaszewska, 2000 from Laos. Subsequently four additional species were described: *C. nigra* Tomaszewska, 2002, and *C. alleni* Tomaszewska, 2003, from India, *C. octomaculata* Tomaszewska, 2002, from Myanmar, and *C. kerintji* Tomaszewska, 2009, from Sumatra (TOMASZEWSKA 2002, 2003, 2009). Finally, CHANG & REN (2014) described one new species, *C. parvimaculata* Chang & Ren, 2014, from China.

ROBERTSON et al. (2015) presented a large-scale phylogenetic study for the Cucujoidea, using molecular evidence to rebuild the relationship tree of this superfamily, and established a new superfamily Coccinelloidea. Endomychidae was placed within this superfamily.

Furthermore, this study indicated that the subfamily Endomychinae was not monophyletic. Based on the strong support for the polyphyly of Endomychinae, the new subfamily Cyclotominae Robertson et al., 2015 was established; *Cyclotoma* with *Meilichius* Gerstaecker, 1857, *Bolbomorphus* Gorham, 1887 and *Eucteanus* Gerstaecker, 1857 were classified in this subfamily. This is supported by morphological features of members of Cyclotominae. For example, all Endomychinae except for the nominotypical genus *Endomychus* Panzer, 1795, have the labial prementum in the adult form entirely sclerotized without a distinct ligula (the ligula is distinct and partially membranous in all other Endomychidae including *Endomychus*) and the penis in the adult male is curled along the proximal 1/3 of its length (smooth in remaining Endomychidae including *Endomychus*) (TOMASZEWSKA 2005).

## Material and methods

Type specimens of the new species described here are deposited in the following institutions:

NNHMC National Natural History Museum of China, Beijing, China;  
MYNU Invertebrate Collection of Mianyang Normal University, Sichuan, China.

The specimens were examined, dissected, and measured using an Olympus SZX10 dissecting microscope. The measurements are standardised as follows: body length from the apical margin of the clypeus to the apex of the elytra;



body width across both elytra at the widest part; pronotal length from the anterior angle to the posterior margin; elytral length along the suture, including the scutellum. After observation, the dissected parts were mounted on the same card with the specimen. The abdomen was boiled in 10% NaOH solution, cleaned, and the aedeagus was dissected in distilled water. Photographs of the habitus, male genitalia and aedeagi were taken using a Canon EOS 5D III SLR camera and a Canon MP-E 65 mm macro lens. All photographs were refined in Adobe Photoshop 2023.

### Taxonomy

#### *Cyclotoma nigrithorax* sp. nov.

(Figs 1A–C, 2A, 3A, 4A, 5)

**Type material.** HOLOTYPE: ♂, CHINA: SICHUAN: ‘China. Sichuan, Mianyang, Yangmaxia, N32°5′48″, E104°56′32″, 810 m, 2021.X.1, leg. Ling-Xiao Chang’ (NNHMC). PARATYPES: CHINA: SICHUAN: 9 ♂♂ 5 ♀♀, same collecting data as holotype (NNHMC); 23 ♂♂, ‘China. Sichuan, Pingwuxian, Doukouzhen, Jinbao, 980 m, leg. Hao Xu & Xin-Yuan Zhang’ (MYNU).

**Diagnosis.** *Cyclotoma nigrithorax* sp. nov. resembles *C. formosana*, *C. indiana*, *C. parvimaclulata*, *C. simianshanensis* sp. nov., and *C. yingjiangensis* sp. nov. in appearance. However, the black pronotum and ventral surfaces except for elytral epipleura can separate it from all these similar species. In addition, *C. nigrithorax* sp. nov. differs from *C. formosana* in the femora uniformly black (vs. femora near apical 1/2 black); from *C. indiana* in antennomere 4 distinctly shorter than antennomere 3 (vs. antennomere 4 elongate, hardly shorter than antennomere 3); from *C. parvimaclulata* in three lateral elytral spots visible dorsally (vs. barely visible dorsally); antennomere 4 distinctly longer than antennomere 5 (vs. antennomere 4 nearly as long as antennomere 5); from *C. simianshanensis* sp. nov. in antennomere 4 distinctly longer than antennomere 5 (vs. antennomere 4 slightly longer than antennomere 5); from *C. yingjiangensis* sp. nov. by the antenna uniformly brownish-black (vs. antennomeres 1–9 yellowish-brown, club brownish-black); antennomere 4 distinctly shorter than antennomere 3 (vs. antennomere 4 elongate, hardly shorter than antennomere 3).

**Description.** **Male** (Figs 1A–B, 2A). Length 4.6–6.6 mm; body 1.1–1.2 times longer than wide; height 2.4–3.4 mm, about 0.5 times as high as long, smooth, strongly shiny. Dorsal surfaces yellowish-brown with head, pronotum, scutellum, suture, leg, spots on pronotum and on elytra black; ventral surfaces black with elytral epipleura yellowish-brown.

Antenna 11-segmented with scape long and stout, 4.0 times longer than pedicel; antennomere 2 distinctly longer than wide, antennomere 3 about as long as antennomere 4 and 5 combined; antennomere 4 longer than wide, and distinctly longer than antennomere 5; antennomeres 6–8 quadrate; club almost as long as remaining antennomeres combined; terminal antennomeres twice as long as wide. Maxilla with terminal palpomere elongate, weakly tapering towards apex, truncate apically.

Pronotum 1.0–1.4 mm long, 2.0–3.2 mm wide; about 0.4–0.5 times as long as wide; anterior and lateral edges

very narrowly bordered; disc weakly convex. Pronotal surface polished between punctures, punctation rather dense and moderately coarse. Prosternal process widely separates front coxae, about 1.2 times as wide as longest coxal diameter and narrower than intercoxal process of mesoventrite, widening behind front coxae; sides weakly curved outwardly, rounded at apex. Elytra 4.4–6.0 mm long, 4.1–5.6 mm wide; 1.1 times as long as wide; 4.3–4.4 times longer than pronotum, 1.8–2.1 times wider than pronotum; sides abruptly converging from about half-length towards apex; each elytron with seven black spots of different size and shape (one humeral, three near lateral margin, three sutural); sutural spots with inner margin sometimes touching elytral suture; three lateral spots with outer margin distant from lateral margin of elytra; the first lateral spots smallest and from dorsal view barely visible. Humeri moderately prominent; elytral surface polished between punctures, punctation as large as pronotal ones, rather dense and moderately coarse.

Ventrite 1 with lines bordering edge of coxal cavity extending posteriorly (Fig. 3A); ventrite 5 weakly curved at apex. Aedeagus (Fig. 4A) long, thin, curved, curled at its base; tegmen located in apical 1/4 with large, submembranous, tegminal plate with length reaching nearly basal 1/6 of aedeagus.

**Female.** Habitus (Fig. 1C) similar to males. Elytra with sides gently and widely converging posteriad in apical 1/3; ventrite 5 truncate at apex.

**Etymology.** The name refers to the black thorax; noun in nominative case standing in apposition.

**Distribution.** China: Sichuan.

**Biology and ecology.** The adults were collected by simple searching from a large pile of dead wood in the day (Fig. 5). The adults have the habit of feigning death.

**Remarks.** Live or fresh specimens were observed with milky white elytra which gradually turned yellowish brown after drying. This species was also recognized as undescribed by Mr. Yu-Tang Wang (Mianyang Normal University).

#### *Cyclotoma simianshanensis* sp. nov.

(Figs 1D–F, 2B, 3B, 4B, 6)

**Type material.** HOLOTYPE: ♂, CHINA: CHONGQING: ‘China. Chongqing, Jiangjin, Simianshan, 1100 m, 2011.VII.27, leg. Hao Xu & Jian-Yue Qiu’ (MYNU). PARATYPES: CHINA: CHONGQING: 3 ♂♂ 2 ♀♀, same collecting data as holotype (NNHMC); 4 ♂♂, ditto except ‘Simianshan, Dawopu’ (NNHMC).

**Diagnosis.** *Cyclotoma simianshanensis* sp. nov. resembles *C. formosana*, *C. indiana*, *C. parvimaclulata*, and *C. yingjiangensis* sp. nov. in the four spots on pronotum, seven spots on each elytron. But it can be differentiated from *C. formosana* in the femora uniformly black (vs. femora near apical 1/2 black); from *C. indiana* in antennomere 4 distinctly shorter than antennomere 3 and slightly longer than 5 (vs. antennomere 4 elongate, hardly shorter than antennomere 3 and distinctly longer than 5); from *C. parvimaclulata* in the three lateral elytral spots visible dorsally (vs. barely visible dorsally); abdominal ventrite 1 with lines bordering edge of coxal cavity simple (vs. lines bordering edge extending posteriorly); from *C. yingjiangensis* sp. nov. in the



Fig. 1. Habitus of *Cyclotoma* spp. nov. A–B – *C. nigrithorax* sp. nov., male (A – dorsal view; B – lateral view). C – *C. nigrithorax* sp. nov., female, dorsal view. D–E – *C. simianshanensis* sp. nov., male (D – dorsal view; E – lateral view). F – *C. simianshanensis* sp. nov., female (F – dorsal view). G–H – *C. yingjiangensis* sp. nov., male (G – dorsal view; H – lateral view). I – *C. yingjiangensis* sp. nov., female (I – dorsal view). Scale bars: 1.0 mm.



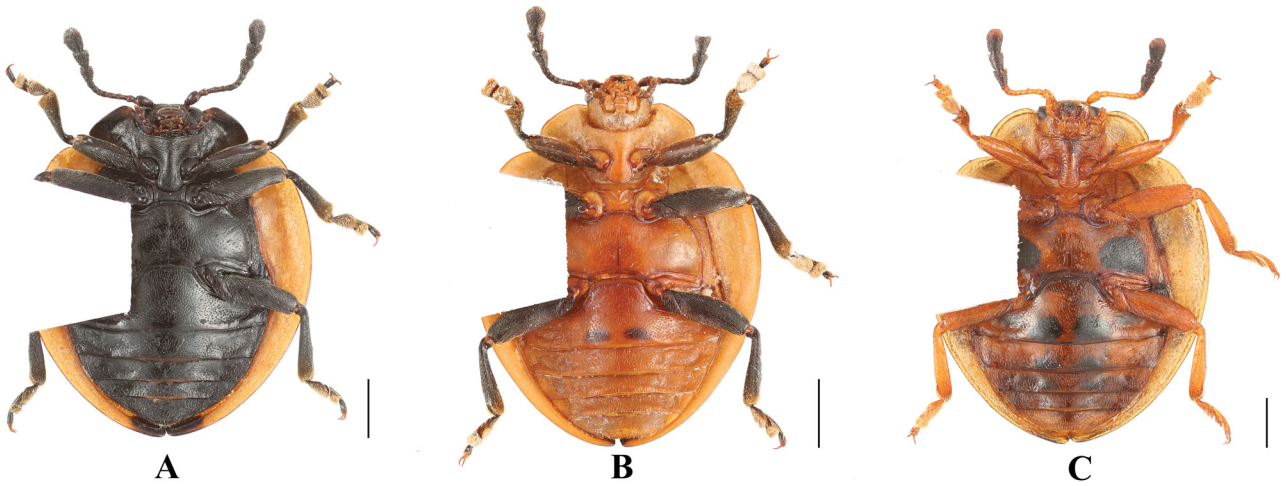


Fig. 2. Ventral view of males of *Cyclotoma* spp. nov. A – *C. nigrithorax* sp. nov., B – *C. simianshanensis* sp. nov., C – *C. yingjiangensis* sp. nov. Scale bars: 1.0 mm.

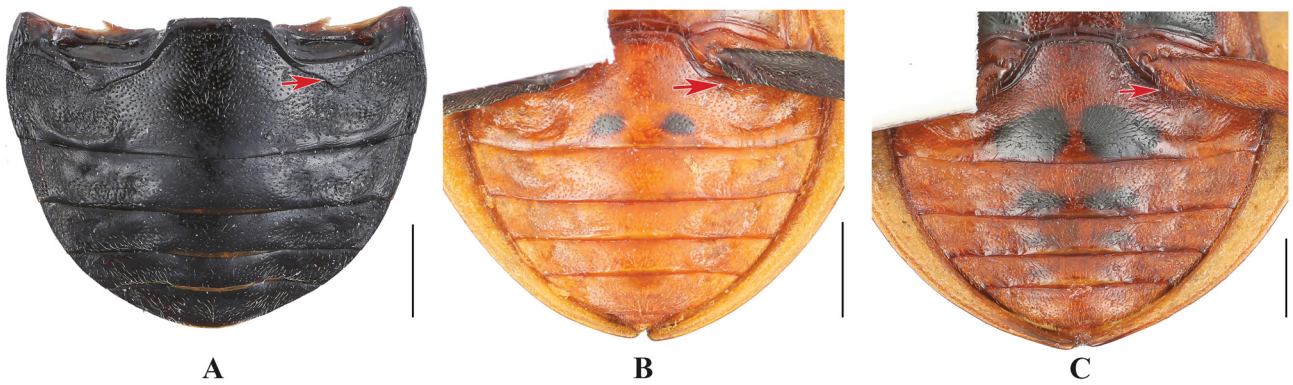


Fig. 3. Abdomen of *Cyclotoma* spp. nov. (ventral view). A – *C. nigrithorax* sp. nov., B – *C. simianshanensis* sp. nov., C – *C. yingjiangensis* sp. nov. Scale bars: 1.0 mm.

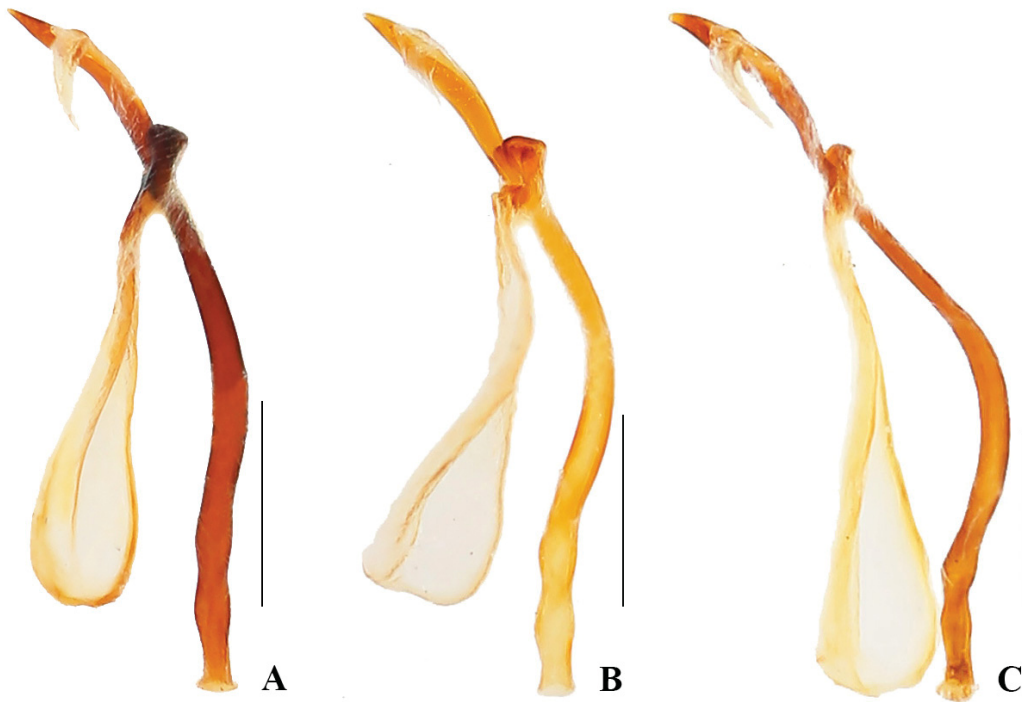


Fig. 4. Aedeagus of *Cyclotoma* spp. nov. (lateral view). A – *C. nigrithorax* sp. nov., B – *C. simianshanensis* sp. nov., C – *C. yingjiangensis* sp. nov. Scale bars: 0.5 mm.





Fig. 5. Habitats and habitus of *C. nigrithorax* sp. nov. A – habitats of collecting site in Sichuan, China. B – adults of *C. nigrithorax* sp. nov. feeding on the fungus growing on dead wood. C – female of *C. nigrithorax* sp. nov. (arranged).

antenna uniformly brownish-black (vs. antennomeres 1–9 yellowish-brown, club brownish-black); ventrite 1 with black spots (vs. ventrites 1–3 with black spots).

**Description. Male** (Figs 1D–E, 2B). Length 5.9–6.8 mm; body 1.2–1.3 times longer than wide; height 3.1–3.7 mm, about 0.5 times as high as long, smooth, strongly shiny. Dorsal surfaces yellowish-brown with scutellum, suture, spots on pronotum and on elytra black; leg and antenna dark brown; ventral surfaces yellowish-brown.

Antenna 11-segmented with scape long and stout, 3.0 times longer than pedicel; antennomere 2 near quadrate, antennomere 3 longer than antennomere 4; antennomere 4 longer than antennomere 5; antennomere 5 longer than wide; antennomeres 6–8 transverse and subequal in length;

club almost as long as remaining antennomeres combined. Maxilla with terminal palpomere longer than wide, tapering apically.

Pronotum 1.1–1.4 mm long, 2.7–3.3 mm wide; about 0.4–0.6 times as long as wide; with four similar, circular black spots; two smaller lateral spots and two larger spots in middle; anterior and lateral edges very narrowly bordered; disc weakly convex. Pronotal surface polished between punctures, punctuation rather dense and moderately coarse. Prosternal process widely separates front coxae, about 1.2 times as wide as longest coxal diameter and narrower than intercoxal process of mesoventrite, widening behind front coxae; sides weakly curved, rounded at apex. Elytra 5.2–6.0 mm long, 4.8–5.7 mm wide; 1.1 times as long as





Fig. 6. Habitats and habitus of *C. simianshanensis* sp. nov. A – habitats of collecting site in Chongqing, China. B–C – adults of *C. simianshanensis* sp. nov. gather on the fungus and lichen growing on rock. D – adults of *C. simianshanensis* sp. nov. are feigning death. (Photos by Hao Xu).





A



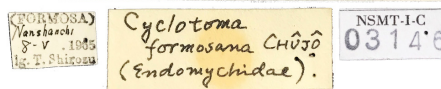
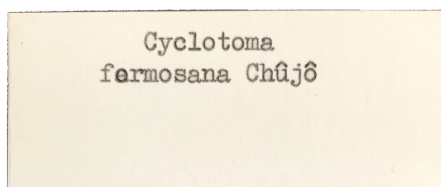
B



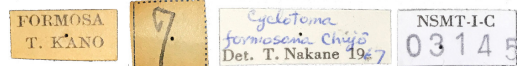
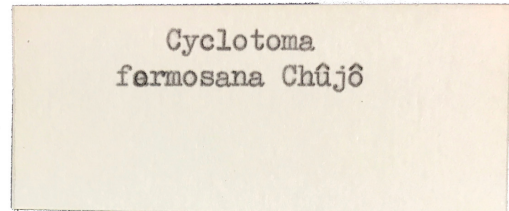
C



D



E



F

Fig. 7. Specimens identified as *C. formosana* Chûjô, 1938. A–B – male (A – dorsal view; B – ventral view). C–D – female (C – dorsal view; D – ventral view). E–F – specimen labels (E – male; F – female). Scale bars: 1.0 mm.

wide; 4.0–4.7 times longer than pronotum, 1.7–1.8 times wider than pronotum; sides abruptly converging from about half-length towards apex; each elytron with seven black spots of different size and shape (one humeral, three near lateral margin, three sutural); sutural spots with inner margin not touching elytral suture; three lateral spots with outer margin distant from lateral margin of elytra. Humeri moderately prominent; elytral surface polished between punctures, punctation as large as pronotal ones, rather dense and moderately coarse.

Ventrite 1 with lines bordering edge of coxal cavity simple (Fig. 3B); two transverse black spots in middle; ventrite 5 nearly truncate at apex. Aedeagus (Fig. 4B) long, thin, strongly curved, curled at its base; tegmen located in apical 1/3 with large, submembranous, tegminal plate with length reaching nearly basal 1/6 of aedeagus.

**Female.** Habitus (Fig. 1F) similar to males. Elytra with sides gently and widely converging posteriad in apical 1/3. **Etymology.** The name refers to the type locality, Simianshan Mt., Chongqing, China; adjective.

**Biology and ecology.** The adults were found during the day gathered on fungi and lichens growing on the surface of a rock (Figs 6B, C). The adults have the habit of feigning death or thanatosis (Fig. 6D). As many other genera of handsome fungus beetles, they display reflex bleeding from the tibiofemoral joints when a small amount of milky white liquid can be seen overflowing (Fig. 6D).

**Distribution.** China: Chongqing.

*Cyclotoma yingjiangensis* sp. nov.

(Figs 1G–I, 2C, 3C, 4C)

**Type material.** HOLOTYPE: ♂, CHINA: YUNNAN: 'China, Yunnan, Dehong, Yingjiang, Mangyunxiang, 2021.VII–VIII, leg. Shao-Xing Chen' (NNHMC). PARATYPES: CHINA: YUNNAN: 1 ♂ 2 ♀♀, same collecting data as holotype (NNHMC).

**Diagnosis.** *Cyclotoma yingjiangensis* sp. nov. resembles *C. formosana*, *C. indiana*, *C. parvimaculata* and *C. simianshanensis* sp. nov. in the four spots on pronotum and seven spots on each elytron. However, the ventrite 1–3 with black spots can separate it from all these similar species. In addition, *C. yingjiangensis* sp. nov. differs from *C. formosana* in antennomeres 1–9 yellowish-brown, club brownish-black (vs. antenna uniformly brownish-black); femora uniformly yellowish brown (vs. femora near apical 1/2 black); from *C. indiana* in antennomere 5 longer than wide (vs. antennomere 5 subquadrate); from *C. simianshanensis* sp. nov. in antennomeres 1–9 yellowish-brown, club brownish-black (vs. antenna uniformly brownish-black); antennomere 4 elongate, hardly shorter than antennomere 3 (vs. antennomere 4 distinctly shorter than antennomere 3).

**Description. Male** (Figs 1G–H, 2C). Length 6.3–7.5 mm; body 1.2–1.3 times longer than wide; height 3.5–3.8 mm, about 0.5 times as high as long, smooth, strongly shiny. Dorsal surfaces yellowish brown with club of antenna, eyes, scutellum, spots on pronotum and on elytra black; ventral surfaces brown with elytral epipleura yellowish brown.

Antenna 11-segmented with scape long and stout, 4.0 times longer than pedicel; antennomere 2 distinctly longer than wide, antennomere 3 hardly longer than antennome-

re 4; antennomere 4 distinctly longer than antennomere 5; antennomere 5 longer than wide; antennomeres 6–8 quadrate; club distinctly shorter than remaining antennomeres combined; terminal antennomere twice as long as wide. Maxilla with terminal palpomere elongate, weakly tapering towards apex, truncate apically. Pronotum 1.2–1.4 mm long, 3.1–3.6 mm wide; about 0.4 times as long as wide; anterior and lateral edges very narrowly bordered; disc weakly convex. Pronotal surface polished between punctures, punctation dense and fine. Prosternal process widely separates front coxae, about 0.8 times as wide as longest coxal diameter and narrower than intercoxal process of mesoventrite, widening behind front coxae; sides curved outwardly, rounded at apex. Elytra 5.4–6.5 mm long, 4.9–6.3 mm wide; 1.1 times as long as wide; 4.5–4.6 times longer than pronotum, 1.6–1.8 times wider than pronotum; sides abruptly converging from about half-length towards apex; each elytron with seven black spots of different size and shape (one humeral, three near lateral margin, three sutural); sutural spots with inner margin not touching elytral suture; three lateral spots with outer margin not touching lateral margin of elytra, from dorsal view visible. Humeri moderately prominent; elytral surface polished between punctures, punctation as large as pronotal ones, rather dense and fine. Metasternum with two large transverse black spots and distant from each other.

Ventrite 1 with lines bordering edge of coxal cavity simple (Fig. 3C); ventrites 1–3 with two transverse black spots in middle; spots on ventrite 1 largest and gradually smaller on ventrites 2–3; spots with inner margin sometimes touching each other; ventrite 5 weakly concave at apex. Aedeagus (Fig. 4C) long, thin, strongly curved, curled at its base; tegmen located at apical 1/3 with large, submembranous, tegminal plate with length reaching base of aedeagus.

**Female.** Habitus (Fig. 1I) similar to males. Elytra with sides gently and widely converging posteriad in apical 1/3. **Etymology.** The name refers to the type locality, Yingjiang County, Yunnan Province, China; adjective.

**Distribution.** China: Yunnan.

**Key to the species of *Cyclotoma* from China**

(modified and updated from TOMASZEWSKA 2009)

A key to the known species of *Cyclotoma* was provided by TOMASZEWSKA (2009), including 17 species, except for *C. formosana* Chûjô, 1938. Since the type specimens of this species were unavailable for examination and the description of the habitus by CHÛJÔ (1938) is very similar to *C. indiana* (Chûjô, 1897), the distinction between these two species was insufficient at that point; therefore, TOMASZEWSKA (2000b, 2009) regarded *C. formosana* as species *incertae sedis*.

The first author examined two specimens identified as *C. formosana* (Fig. 7) in the National Science Museum of Tokyo (NSMT) in 2017. Based on the comparison with the original description and the specimens of *C. indiana*, Chang considered that there are obvious distinctions between these two species. Therefore, *C. formosana* is still regarded as a separate species in this study.



- 1 Elytral markings of irregular shapes; epipleura very wide; body weakly conical. ....  
..... *C. conica* Tomaszewska, 2000
- Elytral markings more or less regular (round, oval or transverse); epipleura moderately wide; body almost hemispherical in shape. ....2
- 2 Each elytron with eight spots. ....3
- Each elytron with seven spots. ....4
- 3 Spots on elytra of different size and shape (second sutural largest, somewhat triangular); antennomere 3 almost 2 times as long as antennomere 4; abdominal ventrite 1 with lines bordering edge of coxal cavity simple. .... *C. nicoleae* Tomaszewska, 2000
- Spots on elytra more regular in size and shape (large and very large, rounded or oval); antennomere 3 slightly longer than 4; abdominal ventrite 1 with lines bordering edge of coxal cavity extending posteriorly. ....  
..... *C. octomaculata* Tomaszewska, 2002
- 4 Background of pronotum and elytra of the same colour, four spots on pronotum. .... 5
- Background of pronotum and elytra of different colour, pronotum without spots. .... *C. nigrithorax* sp. nov.
- 5 Antennomere 11 nearly as long as antennomeres 9–10 combined; femora variably coloured. ....  
..... *C. formosana* Chûjô, 1938
- Antennomere 11 shorter than antennomeres 9–10 combined; femora uniformly coloured. ....6
- 6 Antennomere 4 elongate, hardly shorter than antennomere 3. .... 7
- Antennomere 4 distinctly shorter than antennomere 3. .... 8
- 7 Antennomere 5 longer than wide; ventrites 1–3 with black spots. .... *C. yingjiangensis* sp. nov.
- Antennomere 5 subquadrate; ventrite 1 with black spots. .... *C. indiana* (Chûjô, 1897)
- 8 Three lateral elytral spots visible dorsally; abdominal ventrite 1 with lines bordering edge of coxal cavity extending posteriorly. ....  
..... *C. parvimaculata* Chang & Ren, 2014
- Three lateral elytral spots barely visible dorsally; ventrite 1 with lines bordering edge of coxal cavity simple. .... *C. simianshanensis* sp. nov.

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this manuscript, Mr. Hao-Wen Liu (Lund University, Sweden) for taking the picture of *C. nigrithorax* sp. nov. for the first time and giving us information about the locality, Dr. Hao Xu & Jian-Yun Qiu (Mianyang Normal University, China) for collecting specimens and providing them for this study, Mrs. Yue Zhang (The China National Children's Center, China) for accompanying the first author of this paper to Sichuan to collect specimens of *C. nigrithorax* sp. nov. This research was supported by Beijing Natural Science Foundation (Grant No. 5194025).

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