



<https://doi.org/10.70590/ice.2025.01.27>

<http://zoobank.org/urn:lsid:zoobank.org:pub:1C5FA1CC-E9A9-41C3-90B4-406CBDC35A70>

● **A species name which should not “survive” one more day: *Neolucanus horizontalis* Xin, Zhong & Qi, 2025, a junior synonym of *N. yemaoi* Wang & He, 2024 (Coleoptera: Lucanidae)**

Cheng-Bin WANG¹ & Tian-Long HE^{2*}

¹Engineering Research Center for Forest and Grassland Disaster Prevention and Reduction, Mianyang Normal University, Mianyang 621000, Sichuan Province, China; <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-7913-8779>; entomologist@qq.com

²Donghuaxincheng, Wangfenggang, Xiejiaji District, Huainan 232046, Anhui Province, China; <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-7301-5105>; htl1988@qq.com

*Corresponding author

Abstract: *Neolucanus horizontalis* Xin, Zhong & Qi, 2025, which was published today with detailed description and clear illustrations, is sufficient to be confirm as one recently described as *N. yemaoi* Wang & He, 2024, making *N. horizontalis* a junior synonym of *N. yemaoi*.

Keywords: China, Odontolabini, synonymy, taxonomy

● **一个不该多“存活”一天的物种名：平颞圆翅锹为叶茂圆翅锹之次异名（鞘翅目：锹甲科）**

王成斌¹ & 贺天龙^{2*}

¹森林与草原防灾减灾工程研究中心，绵阳师范学院，绵阳 621000，四川省，中国

²东华鑫城，望峰岗，谢家集区，淮南 232046，安徽省，中国

*通讯作者

摘要：今日发表的平颞圆翅锹 *Neolucanus horizontalis* Xin, Zhong & Qi, 2025，附有详细的描述与清晰的图版，足以证实其即最近描述的叶茂圆翅锹 *N. yemaoi* Wang & He, 2024，这也使得前者成为叶茂圆翅锹之次异名。

关键词：中国，奥锹族，同义，分类

Citation: Wang C-B & He T-L 2025: A species name which should not “survive” one more day: *Neolucanus horizontalis* Xin, Zhong & Qi, 2025, a junior synonym of *N. yemaoi* Wang & He, 2024 (Coleoptera: Lucanidae). *The Indochina Entomologist*, 1 (27): 261–263. [王成斌 & 贺天龙 2025: 一个不该多“存活”一天的物种名：平颞圆翅锹为叶茂圆翅锹之次异名（鞘翅目：锹甲科）。中南半岛昆虫学家, 1 (27): 261–263.]
<https://doi.org/10.70590/ice.2025.01.27>

Accepted by Yan ZHANG: 17.I.2025; published online: 17.I.2025

Copyright Cheng-Bin WANG & Tian-Long HE. This is an open access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License (CCBY 4.0), which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited.

● Introduction

On January 17th, 2025, just today, Xin *et al.* (2025) published their stag beetle species, namely *Neolucanus horizontalis* Xin, Zhong & Qi, 2025, from Yunnan Province of China, based on only 2 males. However, the identical species has already been described by Wang & He (2024) under the name of *Neolucanus yemaoi* Wang & He, 2024 on December 4th, 2024, based on 6 males and 6 females. Very soon after, on December 30th, 2024, Huang & Chen (2024) proposed the diagnosis of this species based on a large series of specimens. In this paper, we synonymise *N. horizontalis* with *N. yemaoi*.

From the textual information of Xin *et al.* (2025), we can know that the acceptance date for their manuscript is December 3rd, 2024, and through Chinese social media, the authors were well aware that this species had already been published, despite being able to replace the species name after accepting, they knowingly published the same species as a new again. As a taxonomical veteran, we will all encounter situations in our lifetimes where a new species we are describing is published by someone else first. Do we all have to go and publish this kind of newly published species under another name again?

● Taxonomy

Neolucanus yemaoi Wang & He, 2024 叶茂圆翅锹

Fig. 1

Wang & He 2024: 155, Figs 1, 2A–F, 3A–C, 4A–H, 5A–D, 6A–C, 7C (description; illustrations; **type locality**: “CHINA, Yunnan: Honghe Prefecture, Pingbian County, Daweishan National Nature Reserve [大围山国家级自然保护区], 2090 m”); Huang & Chen 2024: 11, figs. 7–9, 11–13, 17 (characters; illustrations; remarks).

Synonymy. *Neolucanus horizontalis* Xin, Zhong & Qi in Xin, Zhong, Guo, Zhang, Qi & Wu, 2025: 346, Figs 1A, B, 2A, B, 3E–H, 4A–D, 5A–H, 6A, B, E, F, I, J, 7A, B (description; illustrations; **type locality**: “China, Yunnan Province, Honghe Prefecture, Lvchun County, Pinghe Town, 22°49′10″N, 102°31′26″E, 8.VI.2024, 1316m”). **syn. nov.**

Distribution. China (Yunnan).



FIGURE 1. Dorsal habitus of the largest male paratype (A) and the holotype (C) of *Neolucanus yemaoi* Wang & He, 2024, and the holotype (B) of *Neolucanus horizontalis* Xin, Zhong & Qi, 2025 **syn. nov.**

● Acknowledgements

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to Chang-Chin Chen [陈常卿] (Tianjin, China), Georgi A. Geshev and Ye-Jie Lin [林业杰] (both Imperial College London, United Kingdom), Li He [何力] and Chao Zhou [周超] (both Chengdu, China), Hao Huang [黄灏] (Qingdao, China), and Hao Xu [许浩] (Mianyang Normal University, China) for their considerable help in this study. We thank two anonymous reviewers for their constructive comments on earlier versions of the manuscript.

● References

- Huang H & Chen C-C 2024: Revisional notes and new descriptions of stag beetles from China 2 (Coleoptera: Lucanidae). *Beetles World*, 26: 8–42.
- Xin F-Y, Zhong X-T, Guo W-C, Zhang Y-F, Qi Z-H & Wu S-Q 2025: A taxonomic note on Chinese species of the *Neolucanus fuscus* group with the description of a new species (Coleoptera: Lucanidae: Lucaninae). *Zootaxa*, 5570 (2): 344–360.
<https://doi.org/10.11646/zootaxa.5570.2.6>
- Wang C-B & He T-L 2024: *Neolucanus yemaoi* sp. nov., a new stag beetle from Daweishan National Nature Reserve of Yunnan, China (Coleoptera: Lucanidae). *The Indochina Entomologist*, 1 (19): 153–164. [王成斌 & 贺天龙 2024: 中国云南大围山国家级自然保护区一锹甲新种——叶茂圆翅锹 (鞘翅目: 锹甲科). *中南半岛昆虫学家*, 1 (19): 153–164.]
<https://doi.org/10.70590/ice.2024.01.19>

● Additional information

Author contributions: Conceptualization: C-B Wang. Project administration: C-B Wang. Resources: T-L He. Supervision: T-L He. Visualization: C-B Wang. Writing—original draft: C-B Wang. Writing—review and editing: C-B Wang & T-L He.

Conflict of interest: The authors have declared that no competing interests exist.

Data availability: All of the data that support the findings of this study are available in the main text.

Ethical statement: No ethical statement was reported.

Funding: This study was self-funded by the authors.

Disclaimer/Publisher's Note: The statements, opinions and data contained in all publications are solely those of the individual author(s) and contributor(s) and not of *ICE* and/or the editor(s). *ICE* and/or the editor(s) disclaim responsibility for any injury to people or property resulting from any ideas, methods, instructions or products referred to in the content.

