

A New Parmenine Cerambycid Beetle from Luzon, the Philippines¹⁾

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(Communicated by Tadashige HABE)

During his trip to the Philippines made in the summer of 1977, one of the authors, M. SATÔ, obtained a remarkable cerambycid beetle on Mt. Polis of the northern mountains in the Island of Luzon. After a careful study of the specimen, we came to the conclusion that the beetle belongs to a new genus of the tribe Parmenini of the subfamily Lamiinae. This discovery is very interesting from the zoogeographic viewpoint, since no parmenines have been recorded from Southeast Asia including the Philippine Islands, though cerambycid beetles belonging to this tribe have been known from various parts of the world and especially flourish in the Australian Region.

Before going into further details, we wish to express our heartfelt thanks to the members of the Philippine expedition 1977, above all to Dr. Tadashige HABE, Dr. Yoshihiko KUROSAWA and Dr. Shun-Ichi UÉNO, for their kind aid extended to SATÔ in the field and also in completing the manuscript of this paper.

Genus *Luzonoparmena* M. SATÔ et N. OHBAYASHI, nov.

Body small in size, elongate, stout, convex and subopaque excepting the elytra which are slightly shining. Eyes divided into two lobes. Antennae comparatively short, attaining the middle of elytra; scape stout, smooth at the apex, 2nd segment oval and the shortest, 3rd the longest and curved, 4th to 10th each having a longitudinal groove, 11th with an oval concavity. Pronotum broader than long, deeply punctate. Scutellum small. Elytra oblong-oval, with reduced humeri, being provided with some irregular rows of deep punctures which extend from bases to apices. Hind wings absent. Mid coxal cavity closed. Mid tibia distinctly concave on the external side near apex. Claws simple.

Type-species: *Luzonoparmena habei* M. SATÔ et N. OHBAYASHI, sp. nov.

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Distributional range. Known only from northern Luzon, the Philippines.

Notes. The present genus clearly belongs to the tribe Parmenini BREUNING, since its antennal scape is smooth at the apex and its mid coxal cavity is closed behind. It can be easily distinguished from all the known genera of the tribe by the combination of characters mentioned above, though it shows some resemblance to the genera *Stenauxa* AURIVILLIUS from South Africa and *Tricondyloides* MONTROUZIER from New Caledonia.

Luzonoparmena habei M. SATÔ et N. OHBAYASHI, sp. nov.

(Fig. 1)

F e m a l e . Body chestnut brown. Head closely covered with fine grayish pubescence; antennae dark brown except for the basal portions of 4th to 10th and whole of 11th segments, which are yellowish brown, and covered with grayish pubescence intermixed with sparse yellowish white hairs. Pronotum dark brown and

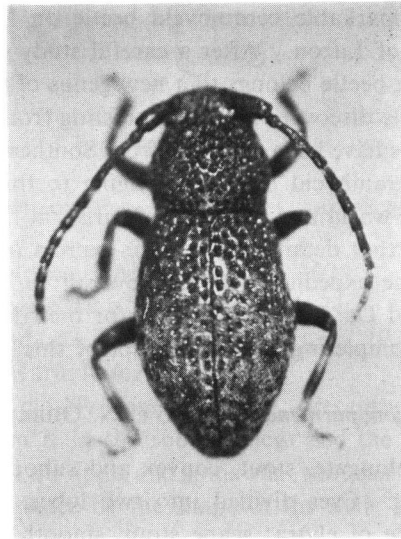


Fig. 1. *Luzonoparmena habei* M. SATÔ et N. OHBAYASHI, gen. et sp. nov., ♀, from Mt. Polis in Luzon.

closely covered with grayish pubescence. Elytra testaceous, closely covered with yellowish pubescence which forms some vague mottles. Legs dark brown, closely covered with grayish pubescence; each femur provided at apical third with an indistinct white band consisting of pubescence; each tibia also with a white band at basal third and with yellowish hairs on apical portions. Ventral surface covered with grayish pubescence.

Head coarsely and deeply punctate, the punctures being separated from one another

by nearly half their diameter; frons slightly convex, broader than long; vertex shallowly hollowed, having an indistinct median groove; gena 1.2 times as long as the lower eye lobe; eyes coarsely faceted, divided into two lobes, the lower lobe being wider than deep; antennae short and stout, without fringe of hairs on the ventral surface, approximate ratio of segmental lengths as follows: 9: 3: 12: 5: 5: 4: 4: 3.5: 3: 3: 4. Pronotum distinctly convex, broadest at the middle, posterior breadth about 1.3 times as broad as anterior breadth; sides gently rounded and lacking in any tubercle; surface moderately and deeply punctate, the punctures being a little larger than those on the head and separated from one another by nearly half their diameter; a vague longitudinal furrow present in apical half. Elytra distinctly convex, broadest at the middle, thence abruptly and obliquely narrowed posteriad; surface deeply and more or less irregularly punctate, the punctures being variable in size, becoming smaller towards apices, arranged into irregularly longitudinal rows, and longitudinally separated by a half to one-third their own diameter.

Mesosternal process truncate at the apex and bearing two deep punctures. Metasternum very short. Each sternite bearing a transverse series of distinct punctures along the basal margin. Legs moderate in length; femora clavate; tibiae dilated terminally.

Length: 4.4 mm; breadth: 2.0 mm.

Holotype: ♀, Mt. Polis, 1,850–1,900 m alt., Ifugao Prov., N. Luzon, Philippines, June 2, 1977, M. SATÔ leg. The type-specimen is deposited in the collection of the National Science Museum (Nat. Hist.), Tokyo.

Notes. The occurrence of this new species in the Island of Luzon is very interesting both taxonomically and zoogeographically. Its close relatives have not been known in the adjacent areas of the Philippine Islands, and the species showing at least a superficial resemblance to *L. habei* have been known in such remote places as New Caledonia and South Africa. As the Philippine species is flightless, its movement must have been slow and much limited. We know nothing about its biology, with the exception of that the type-specimen was obtained on Mt. Polis, where the vegetation was rather poor, consisting of pines, ferns and so on. All we can safely say at the present moment is that *L. habei* must be a relict long isolated on the high mountains of Luzon, which has not been connected with the Asian Continent for a very long time.

This species is named in honour of Dr. Tadashige HABE, under whose leadership the Philippine expedition 1977 was carried out.

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