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A New Species of the Genus *Lathrimaeum* (Coleoptera, Staphylinidae) from Japan

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Abstract A new species of the genus *Lathrimaeum* is described under the name of *L. hammondi*, on the basis of the specimen previously reported by SHARP (1874) as *Lathrimaeum atrocephalum*.

Through the courtesy of Dr. P. M. HAMMOND and Dr. R. ALDRIDGE, the author had an opportunity to examine an interesting specimen, which was recorded by SHARP (1874) under the name of *Lathrimaeum atrocephalum* GYLLENHAL. As the result of a comparative study between this specimen and true *atrocephalum*, it became apparent that the former should be distinguished from the latter as a new species. It will be described in the present paper.

Before going further, the author wishes to express his hearty thanks to Dr. P. M. HAMMOND and Dr. R. ALDRIDGE of the British Museum (Natural History) for their kindness in giving him the opportunity to study the interesting specimen. Deep gratitude is also due to Dr. Shun-Ichi UÉNO of the National Science Museum (Nat. Hist.), Tokyo, for his advice on the present study, and to Dr. W. SUZUKI, who kindly took photographs inserted in this paper.

Lathrimaeum hammondi Y. WATANABE, sp. nov.

(Fig. 1)

Lathrimaeum atrocephalum: SHARP, 1874, Trans. ent. Soc. London, **1874**: 98. —— ZANETTI, 1987, Fn. Ital., **25**: 296. [Nec GYLLENHAL, 1827.]

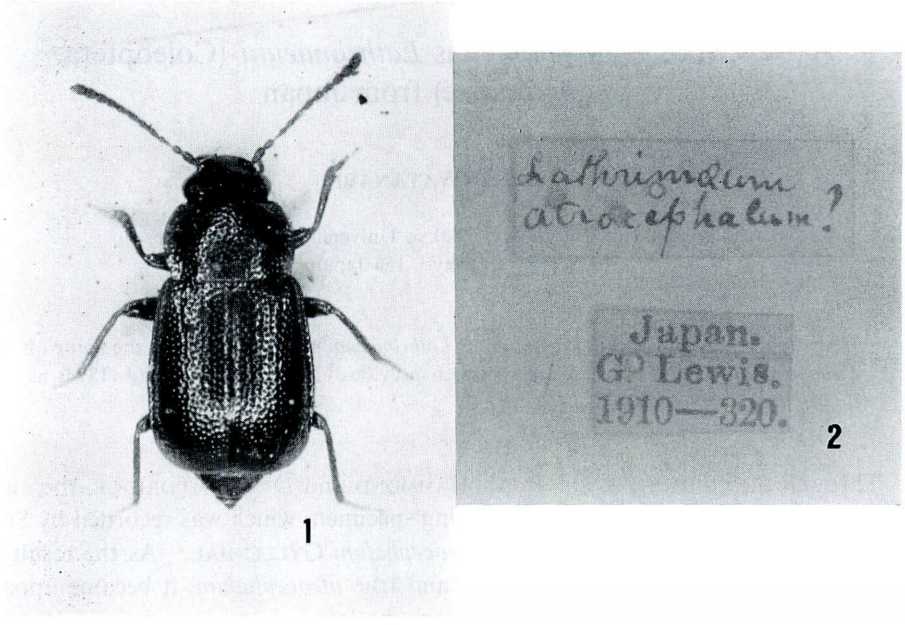
Anthobium atrocephalum: ADACHI, 1957, J. Toyo Univ., (11): 197. —— SHIBATA, 1976, Annual Bull. Nichidai Sanko, (19): 113. [Nec GYLLENHAL, 1827.]

Body length: 2.8 mm (from front margin of head to anal end).

Somewhat similar to *L. atrocephalum* in general appearance, but can be distinguished by the following points: pronotum less transverse (width/length=1.52), elytra not so long (length/width=1.15), less than 2.5 times as long as pronotum.

Body somewhat spindle-shaped and convex. Colour yellowish brown and shining, with antennae darkened towards the extremities and head reddish brown.

Head subdepressed above, though gently elevated at the median part, evidently broader across compound eyes than long (width/length=1.40); postocular



Figs. 1–2. *Lathrimaeum hammondi* Y. WATANABE, sp. nov., holotype (1) and the labels attached to the specimen (2).

area arcuate and very short, about one-fourth as long as the longitudinal diameter of each eye, which is prominent and provided below with a distinct orbital ridge; surface moderately densely, coarsely punctured, except for impunctate frontal area, provided with a depression inside each antennal tubercle and also with a narrow oblique depression on each side of the middle in posterior half; ocelli convex and distinct, the distance between them being evidently larger than that from the outside of ocellus to the inner margin of each eye. Antennae slightly thickened towards the extremities and moderately elongate, hardly extending to the posterior margin of pronotum, with proximal three segments polished and the remainings opaque, 1st segment robust and nearly twice as long as broad, 2nd about 1.4 times as long as broad, though much shorter (2nd/1st=0.58) and somewhat narrower (2nd/1st=0.81) than 1st, 3rd elongate and dilated apicad, more than twice as long as broad and clearly longer (3rd/2nd=1.43) but a little narrower (3rd/2nd=0.86) than 2nd, 4th to 6th gradually increasing in length, each distinctly longer than broad, 7th to 9th gradually decreasing in length, 7th and 8th each longer than broad, 9th as long as broad, 10th as long as broad, somewhat longer (10th/9th=1.17) and broader (10th/9th=1.17) than 9th, apicalmost semioval, a little longer than broad (length/width=1.35) and more than 1.5 times as long as 10th, bluntly pointed at the apex.

Pronotum convex and distinctly transverse (width/length=1.52), evidently broader than head (pronotum/head=1.46), widest near the middle and more strongly narrowed posteriad than anteriad; lateral margins finely bordered and very obsoletely crenulate,

each arcuate in anterior two-thirds and almost straight in posterior third, anterior margin gently emarginate at the middle, posterior margin slightly arcuate; posterior angles more distinct than anterior ones, which are narrowly rounded; surface densely covered with strong and coarse punctures, provided with a narrow longitudinal depression on posterior two-thirds of inner side of each lateral margin. Scutellum small and subtriangular, bearing a few coarse punctures on the surface. Elytra convex and somewhat dilated posteriad, a little longer than broad (length/width=1.15), more than twice as long as and a little broader (elytra/pronotum=1.27) than pronotum, widest at posterior three-fifths and more strongly convergent anteriad than posteriad; lateral margins feebly arcuate in posterior two-thirds and nearly straight in anterior third, posterior margin slightly emarginate at the middle; surface densely and coarsely punctured, the punctures irregularly arranged in longitudinal rows.

Abdomen concealed by elytra, except for four visible segments which are strongly narrowed towards apical end; surface of each tergite practically impunctate, though covered with extremely fine ground sculpture. Legs relatively slender, each tibia provided with a number of short spines; four proximal segments of each protarsus somewhat widened.

Holotype: ♂, Japan, G. LEWIS leg. 1910–320 (in British Museum).

Distribution. Japan.

The specific name is dedicated to Dr. P. M. HAMMOND, who gave the author the opportunity to examine the unique specimen preserved in the British Museum.

要　　約

渡辺泰明：日本産 *Lathrimaeum* 属の 1 新種. ―― SHARP が 1874 年に *Lathrimaeum atrocephalum* GYLLENHAL として日本から記録した個体を検した結果，前胸背板および上翅の形によって *atrocephalum* から容易に区別することができ，新種と判明したので，*L. hammondi* と命名記載した.

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