

Redescription of *Aceraius perakensis* KUWERT, 1898  
(Coleoptera, Passalidae), with Re-evaluation  
of the Status of *A. laevimargo* ZANG, 1905<sup>1)</sup>

Masahiro KON

Department of Zoology, Kyoto University, Sakyo, Kyoto, 606-01 Japan

and

Yutaka JOHKI

Showa Women's Junior College, Setagaya, Tokyo, 154 Japan

**Abstract** *Aceraius perakensis* KUWERT, 1898 is redescribed on the basis of the lectotype specimen. In addition, *A. laevimargo* ZANG, 1905, previously synonymized with *A. perakensis*, is regarded as a valid species.

*Aceraius perakensis* was described by KUWERT (1898) from the Malay Peninsula and later, briefly redescribed by GRAVELY (1914). On the other hand, *A. laevimargo* was described by ZANG (1905) from Mt. Kinabalu, Borneo. Later, GRAVELY (1918) synonymized *A. laevimargo* with *A. perakensis*, but he showed no sufficient evidence for this account.

Recently, we had an opportunity to re-examine the lectotype of *A. perakensis* by courtesy of the Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris, and found that it had a conspicuously diagnostic character, distinct anterior lower tooth of right mandible. This species can easily be distinguished from any other congeneric members by this diagnostic character. However, according to ZANG's (1905) original description, *A. laevimargo* lacks the anterior lower tooth of the right mandible. In this and several other external characters, *A. laevimargo* is distinctly different from the lectotype of *A. perakensis*. Thus, in the present paper, we redescribe *A. perakensis* and regard *A. laevimargo* as a valid species.

In the following redescription, we adopt the terminology of GRAVELY (1914). The abbreviations of morphometric characters are: length of left outer tubercle, from the apex of the left inner tubercle to the outer apex of the left outer tubercle (LOTL); length of the right outer tubercle (ROTL); width of the left outer tubercle at the narrowest place (LOTW); distance between the apices of inner tubercles (DIT); distance between the apical angles of supraorbital ridges (DAS); body thickness at the center of metathorax (BT); width of elytra at the shoulder (EW).

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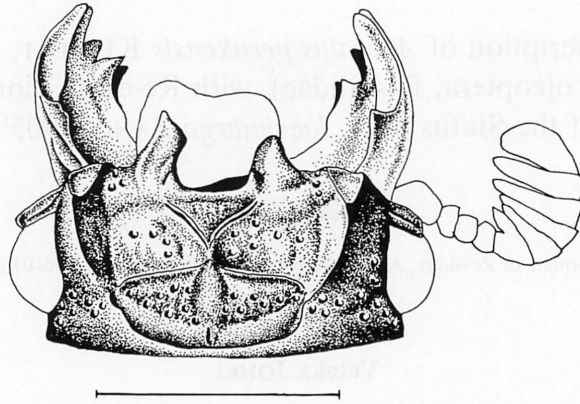


Fig. 1. *Aceraius perakensis* KUWERT (lectotype); head (scale: 5 mm), setae are omitted from this figure.

Before going further, we express our hearty thanks to S. BOUCHER and J. J. MENIER, Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris, for giving us the opportunity to examine the lectotype of *A. perakensis*, P. REYES-CASTILLO, Instituto de Ecología, Mexico, for useful information and T. HIKIDA, Kyoto University, for critically reading an early version of the manuscript.

#### *Aceraius perakensis* KUWERT, 1898

(Fig. 1)

*Aceraius perakensis* KUWERT, 1898, Novit. zool., 5, p. 348; type locality: Perak, Malay Peninsula.  
 — GRAVELY, 1914, Mem. Ind. Mus., 3, p. 229; 1918, Mem. Ind. Mus., 7, p. 91. — HINCKS & DIBB, 1935, Coleopterorum Catalogus, pars 142, p. 84.

Length from apical margin of head to apices of elytra 34.9 mm ( $n=1$ , lectotype; male). Body black, polished, flat; BT/EW 0.60 ( $n=1$ ).

Antenna with 6 long lamellae. Labrum with setiferous hair-bearing punctures, angles rounded, anterior margin concave, left angle slightly more prominent than right one. Dentition of both mandibles complete; both upper teeth distinct, pointed forward and slightly upward, left one with truncated apex in profile, right one with acute apex in profile; right lowest terminal and anterior lower teeth distinct though smaller than left ones; anterior lower tooth distinctly divided into upper and lower portions in both mandibles. Anterior angles of head not prominent forward. Left outer tubercle narrow, larger than right one; both outer tubercles broader at base, obliquely truncated at distal end, outer angle more prominent than inner one; LOTW/LOTL 0.54 ( $n=1$ ); ROTL/LOTL 0.71 ( $n=1$ ). Inner tubercle distinct, pointed forward and slightly upward; DIS/DAS 0.27 ( $n=1$ ). Anterior marginal wall of head between outer tubercles almost vertical. Ridge between inner tubercles distinct, slight-

ly convex in middle; frontal ridge with a distinct groove anteriorly; supraorbital ridge with distinct apical angle pointed forward, connected with supraoccipital ridge; parietal ridge curved backward at distal portion, reaching the connecting point between supraorbital and supraoccipital ridges. Areas between frontal and parietal ridges, behind parietal ridge and behind eye with setiferous punctures; frontal area impunctate, hairless, rugose. Anterior margin of mentum slightly convex at central portion, anterior part of central portion depressed and impunctate.

Pronotum polished, impunctate except in the neighbourhood of lateral scar. Mesosternum polished with distinct scar; mesothoracic episternum polished and impunctate except at anterior portion. Ridge separating intermediate and lateral areas of metasternum distinct, impunctate, hairless; lateral area and anterior portion of intermediate area densely punctured and hairy; posterior portion of intermediate area hairless, with irregular dents, posterior margin punctured and hairy; central area impunctate and hairless.

Tenth rib of elytra densely punctured and hairy at anterior portion close to shoulder; seventh and ninth ribs very sparsely punctured along whole length.

*Specimen examined.* 1 ♂ (lectotype; MNHN, Paris), Perak, Malay Peninsula.

*Notes.* This species is easily distinguished from any other species of *Aceraius* by having the distinct anterior lower tooth of the right mandible. On the contrary, in this and several other external characters, this species seems similar to *Ophrygonius wallacei* (KUWERT, 1898) rather than to any *Aceraius* species. However, we defer the re-evaluation of the status of *A. perakensis* in relation to the genus *Ophrygonius*, until we have an opportunity to re-examine the type specimen of *O. wallacei*.

GRAVELY (1914) redescribed *A. perakensis* based on the specimens (not the type) in the collection of the Berlin Museum. However, according to GRAVELY's (1914) redescription, GRAVELY's *perakensis* is apparently distinct from the lectotype of *A. perakensis* in having the following characters: mentum without anterior depression; anterior lower tooth of the left mandible not so strongly divided; ridge between inner tubercles concave. This suggests that his redescription was based on misidentified specimens.

#### *Aceraius laevimargo* ZANG, 1905

*Aceraius laevimargo* ZANG, 1905, Dt. ent. Z., **1905**, p. 244; type locality: Mt. Kinabalu, Borneo. — GRAVELY, 1914, Mem. Ind. Mus., **3**, p. 235.

*Aceraius perakensis*: GRAVELY, 1918, Mem. Ind. Mus., **7**, p. 91. — HINCKS & DIBB, 1935, Coleopterorum Catalogus, pars 142, p. 84 [part].

*Notes.* According to ZANG's (1905) original description of *A. laevimargo*, this species is distinct from the lectotype of *A. perakensis* by the following characters: anterior lower tooth of the right mandible absent; frontal ridge curved outward or slightly backward in distal portion; mentum with punctures at anterior part of central portion; left outer tubercle almost parallel-sided, weakly bifid at the distal end; tenth

rib of elytra impunctate along the whole length. Thus, *A. laevimargo* should be regarded as a valid species.

### 要 約

近 雅博・常喜 豊: クロツヤムシの一種 *Aceraius perakensis* の再記載と *A. laevimargo* の再評価. — *Aceraius perakensis* を選定基準 (後模式) 標本にもとづき再記載した. 本種は, はっきりした右の大顎の anterior lower tooth をもつことによって, *Aceraius* 属の他のすべての種から容易に区別される. また, 本種の下位同物異名とされていた *A. laevimargo* は, ZANG の原記載によるといくつかの形態の特徴において *A. perakensis* の選定基準標本と明白に異なっているので, 有効な種であるとみなした.

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