

A New Species of *Aceraius* (Coleoptera, Passalidae) from the Malay Peninsula

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Abstract *Aceraius ashidai* sp. nov. is described from the Malay Peninsula. This species can be distinguished from the other congeneric members by having parietal ridges swelling upward in the distal portion.

The genus *Aceraius* consists of 17 known species from the Oriental Region (HINCKS & DIBB, 1935, 1958; KON & JOHKI, 1989 a, b, 1992). Of these, 11 species are known to occur in the Malay Peninsula (HINCKS & DIBB, 1935, 1958).

We had an opportunity to examine some passalid beetles from the Cameron Highlands, Malay Peninsula, by courtesy of Mr. H. ASHIDA and, among them, found an *Aceraius* species differing from any other congeneric members in several external characters. Later, we found two additional specimens of this species from Taiping, Malay Peninsula, among the specimens labelled "*Aceraius perakensis* KUWERT" in the collection of the Museum für Naturkunde der Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin (these specimens are distinct from the lectotype of *A. perakensis*; see *Notes* for comparison). In this paper, we are going to describe a new species on the basis of these specimens.

In the following description, we adopt the terminology of GRAVELY (1914) and describe both sexes together because no sexual dimorphism is evident. The abbreviations used herein are the same as those explained in our previous paper (KON & JOHKI, 1992).

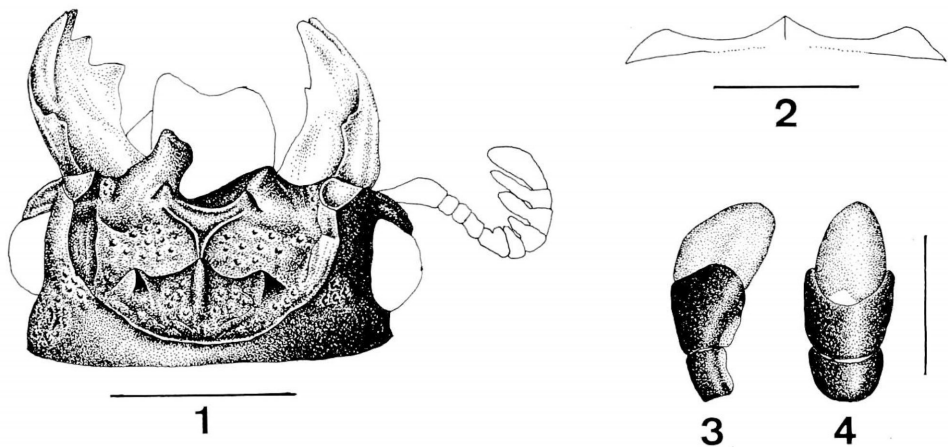
Before going further, we express our hearty thanks to H. ASHIDA for making the materials available, H. J. HANNEMANN, M. UHLIG and J. SCHULZE, the Museum für Naturkunde der Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, for giving us the opportunity to examine the specimens, S. BOUCHER and J. J. MENIER, the Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle, Paris, for loaning the lectotype of *A. perakensis*, and T. HIKIDA, Kyoto University, for critically reading an early version of the manuscript.

Aceraius ashidai sp. nov.

(Figs. 1-4)

Length from anterior margin of head to apices of elytra 38.0–42.5 mm (n=7). Body black, polished; BT/EW 0.75–0.77 (n=7).

Antenna with 6 short and stout lamellae. Labrum with setiferous hair-bearing punctures, angles rounded, anterior margin concave, left angle much more prominent than the right one, left lateral margin almost straight, right one slightly convex. Upper tooth of left mandible much higher than the right one, either with or without small denticle on anterior margin; lowest terminal tooth of right mandible obsolete, represented by a very small denticle; upper and lower portions of anterior lower tooth of right mandible represented by small denticles; anterior lower tooth of left mandible much broader than left lowest terminal tooth, bifid dorso-ventrally at apex. Anterior angles of head not prominent forward. Left outer tubercle larger than the right one, obliquely truncated at distal end, outer angle pointed forward and slightly upward, outer margin slightly convex at base; right outer tubercle triangular, outer angle pointed, inner angle either obtuse or absent; LOTW/LOTL 0.53–0.70 (n=7); ROTL/LOTL 0.67–0.79 (n=7). Inner tubercle distinct, pointed forward and slightly upward; DIT/DAS 0.28–0.34 (n=7). Anterior margin of head between outer tubercles connected with inner margin of right outer tubercle almost in straight line. Ridge between inner tubercles distinct, concave, accompanying a shallow groove posteriorly; frontal ridge with a distinct groove anteriorly, not curved outward in distal portion; supra-orbital ridge connected with supraoccipital ridge; parietal ridge swelling upward in distal portion. Areas between frontal and parietal ridges, behind parietal ridge and behind eye with setiferous hair-bearing punctures; frontal area impunctate, hairless.



Figs. 1-4. *Aceraius ashidai* sp. nov.; 1, head (scale: 5 mm), setae are omitted from this figure; 2, parietal ridge, frontal view (scale: 2 mm); 3-4, male genitalia (scale: 2 mm), lateral view (3), ventral view (4).

Mentum without anterior depression, slightly convex at central portion in anterior margin.

Pronotum polished, impunctate except in lateral scar and near anterior and lateral margin. Mesosternum polished with scar having indistinct margin; mesothoracic episternum polished and impunctate in posterior portion, with large punctures in anterior and dorsal portions. Ridge separating intermediate and lateral areas of metasternum distinct, impunctate and hairless in posterior portion, punctured and hairy in anterior portion; lateral area and anterior portion of intermediate area densely punctured and hairy; posterior portion of intermediate area hairless, either with or without irregular dents, posterior margin punctured and hairy; central area impunctate and hairless.

Tenth rib of elytra densely punctured and hairy in anterior half, impunctate and hairless in posterior half; ninth rib densely punctured and hairy in anterior half, more sparsely in posterior half; eighth rib impunctate and hairless; seventh rib very sparsely punctured along whole length.

Second abdominal sternum with a few punctures; third to sixth abdominal sternum impunctate.

Upper and lateral margin of distal end of fifth tarsus rounded in all legs.

Type series. Holotype: 1 ♂, Tanah Rata, 1,300 m in altitude, Cameron Highlands, Malay Peninsula, 16-III-1992, H. ASHIDA leg. Paratypes: 1 ♂, 1 ♀, same data as for the holotype; 1 ♂, 1 ♀, Brinchang, 1,500 m in altitude, Cameron Highlands, Malay Peninsula, 17-III-1992, H. ASHIDA leg.; 2 exs., “Malacca, Taiping 1300–1500 m, Baranin V., Maltsabu Y. G.”’*Aceraius perakensis* KUWERT”/“Zool. Mus. Berlin”. The holotype and 2 paratypes (1 ♂ and 1 ♀ from Tanah Rata) are deposited in the collection of the Department of Zoology, National Science Museum (Nat. Hist.), Tokyo, one paratype (1 ♂ from Brinchang) in the collection of the Muséum national d’Histoire naturelle, Paris, one paratype (1 ♀ from Brinchang) in the collection of the Instituto de Ecología, México, and 2 paratypes (2 exs. from Taiping) in the collection of the Museum für Naturkunde der Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin.

Notes. This species is distinct from *Aceraius perakensis* KUWERT in the following characters (see also KON & JOHKI, 1992): body larger (38.0–42.7 mm), thicker (BT/EW 0.75–0.77); antennal lamellae short and stout; lowest terminal and anterior lower teeth of right mandible represented by small denticles; ridge between inner tubercles concave; parietal ridge swelling upward in distal portion; mentum without anterior depression; ninth rib of elytra densely punctured and hairy in anterior half, more sparsely in posterior half.

A bisexual pair founds a colony digging a gallery into tough logs (ASHIDA, personal communication).

要 約

近 雅博・荒谷邦雄・常喜 豊: マレー半島から得られたオオクロツヤムシ属の 1 新種。—— マレ

一半島からオオクロツヤムシ属の1新種を記載し, *Aceraius ashidai* sp. nov. と命名した. この新種は, 終端部の隆起する parietal ridge をもつことによって, 同属の他種から容易に識別できる.

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A New Record of *Aesalus timidus* (Coleoptera, Lucanidae) from the Malay Peninsula

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Seven species of the genus *Aesalus* have been known from the Old World (KUROSAWA, 1985). Of these seven, *A. timidus* was described by KRIKKEN (1975) from Sumatra Island. We collected and identified one specimen of *A. timidus* from the Malay Peninsula. Its collecting data are as follows: 1 ex., Maxwell's Hill, Malay Peninsula, 1–IV–1979, T. OCHI leg. *Distribution.* Sumatra, Malay Peninsula (new record).

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