

A New Micropeplid Species (Coleoptera) from Yunnan Province, Southwest China

Yasuaki WATANABE

Laboratory of Entomology, Tokyo University of Agriculture,
Setagaya, Tokyo, 156 Japan

Abstract A new Yunnanese species of the genus *Micropeplus* is described and illustrated under the name of *M. rougemonti*, from Ruili (Juili) in Yunnan Province, Southwest China.

Only two species belonging to the genus *Micropeplus* have hitherto been reported from China by WATANABE and LUO (1991, pp. 93, 94) based on the specimens obtained on the Tian-mu Mountains in Zhejiang Province, East China.

Through the courtesy of Mr. G. DE ROUGEMONT, London, I have recently had an opportunity to examine an interesting species of the genus *Micropeplus* obtained by himself at Ruili (Juili) in Yunnan Province, Southwest China. It seems to belong to the group of *M. porcatus* for the reason of having five keels on each elytron and very coarse punctures on the interspaces of keels. After a careful examination, however, it has become clear that the species is new to science because of disagreement with the known congeners in the surface sculpture of head and configuration of the male genital organ. It will be described and illustrated in the present paper. The holotype and four paratypes of the new species to be described are deposited in G. DE ROUGEMONT's private collection, the allotype and four paratypes in the collection of the Laboratory of Entomology, Tokyo University of Agriculture, and the remaining one paratype in the collection of the Academia Sinica, Beijing, China.

Before going further, I wish to express my hearty thanks to Mr. Guillaume DE ROUGEMONT, London, for his kindness in giving me the opportunity of studying on the interesting species. Deep gratitude is also due to Visiting Professor Shun-Ichi UÉNO, Tokyo University of Agriculture, and Mr. Yasutoshi SHIBATA, Machida, for their kind advice on the present study.

Micropeplus rougemonti Y. WATANABE, sp. nov.

(Figs. 1–6)

Body length: 1.8–1.9 mm (from front margin of head to anal end); 1.1–1.2 mm (from front margin of head to elytral apices).

Body broad oval and convex. Colour reddish brown to blackish brown, shining,

except for head and pronotum subopaque, with mouth parts, antennae and legs yellowish, both sides of pronotum and apical parts of elytra yellowish brown.

Male. Head subtriangular and considerably broader across compound eyes than long (width/length = 1.73); clypeo-frontal part produced forwards, rounded and distinctly reflexed in anterior margin, surface depressed above and impunctate, though covered all over with coriaceous ground sculpture; lateral sides feebly arcuate though slightly emarginate behind the middle and distinctly bordered, anterior margin semicircularly emarginate and finely bordered; surface uneven, impunctate, though covered with similar ground sculpture to that on clypeo-frontal part, somewhat depressed in frontal area and deeply foveolate on each side of middle just before the base, provided with a pair of distinct carinae, each of which is two-forked in posterior half; compound eyes somewhat prominent and coarsely faceted. Antennae short, usually receding onto the underside of pronotum for their reception, all the segments polished except for setose apical part of apicalmost segment; 1st enlarged and dilated apicad, a little longer than broad (length/width = 1.25), 2nd abruptly narrowed apicad, somewhat longer than broad (length/width = 1.33), though a little shorter (2nd/1st = 0.80) and narrower (2nd/1st = 0.75) than 1st, 3rd and 4th equal in both length and width to each other, each elongate, more than 2.5 times as long as broad, 5th oblong and twice as long as broad, as broad as but somewhat shorter (5th/4th = 0.75) than 4th, 6th about 1.5 times as long as broad, as broad as but apparently shorter (6th/5th = 0.77) than 5th, 7th as long as broad, a little shorter (7th/6th = 0.87) but somewhat broader (7th/6th = 1.33) than 6th, 8th distinctly transverse (width/length = 1.67), a little shorter (8th/7th = 0.75) but somewhat broader (8th/9th = 1.25) than 7th, apicalmost globular and largest, slightly longer than broad (length/width = 1.17), much longer (apicalmost/8th = 4.67) than and nearly 2.5 times as broad as 8th, narrowly rounded at the apex, which is setigerous.

Pronotum convex medially and subtrapezoidal, strongly transverse (width/length = 2.34) and considerably broader than head (pronotum/head = 1.79), widest at base, abruptly narrowed anteriorly in anterior half though slightly or hardly narrowed posteriorly in posterior half, lateral margin almost straight in anterior half though slightly arcuate or nearly straight in posterior half, anterior margin broadly and shallowly emarginate, posterior margin bisinuate, somewhat produced backwards and broadly rounded at middle; anterior angles bluntly rounded and somewhat produced forwards, posterior ones nearly rectangular; lateral parts each distinctly and somewhat broadly explanate, provided with a shallow depression before and behind the middle, respectively, surface of this part impunctate, though uniformly coriaceous as on head; median part provided with six cells enclosed by costae, three in anterior half and the remaining three in posterior half, surface of each cell distinctly depressed and covered with coriaceous ground sculpture as on lateral parts. Scutellum relatively large and subtriangular, covered with fine coriaceous ground sculpture on the surface. Elytra subquadrate and elevated medially, apparently transverse (width/length = 1.38) and distinctly longer (elytra/pronotum = 1.72) than but almost as broad as pronotum,

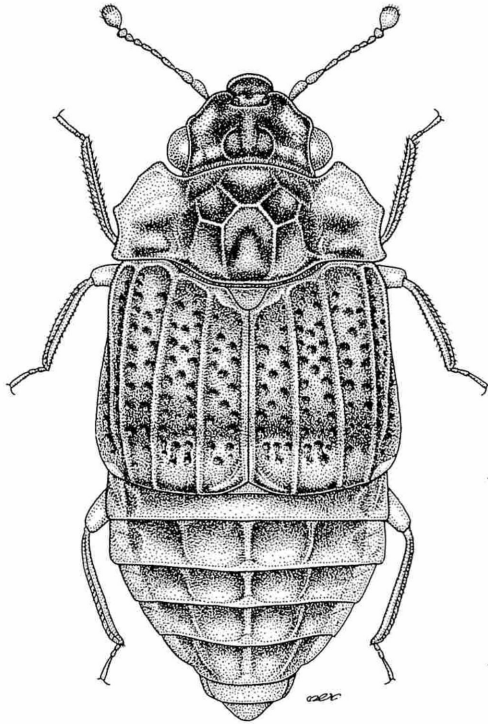
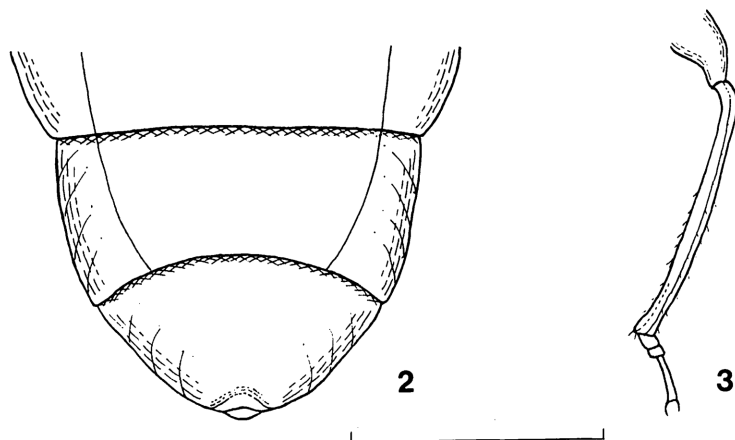


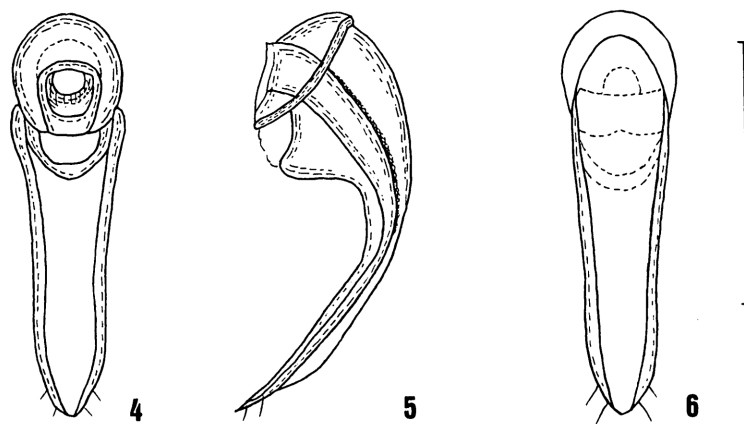
Fig. 1. *Micropeplus rougemonti* Y. WATANABE, sp. nov., ♂, from Ruili (Juili) in Yunnan Prov., Southwest China. Scale: 0.5 mm.

slightly dilated apicad, abruptly and transversely depressed in apical fourth along posterior margin; each elytron provided with five longitudinal keels, one sutural, three discal and one humeral, inner three keels each extending through the whole length, fourth keel abbreviated at posterior fourth; interspace of the keels with irregular longitudinal rows of large and somewhat contiguous punctures, 1st and 2nd interspaces each with two or three rows, 3rd with three rows in basal half but two rows in apical half; 4th with one row; epipleural keel strongly and arcuately raised, pseudepipleural keel present between epipleural and humeral keels, nearly straight and abbreviated in front, interspace between epipleural and pseudepipleural keels with two rows of punctures, which are irregularly arranged; interspace between humeral and pseudepipleural keels with a row of coarse punctures.

Abdomen relatively short, gradually narrowed apicad; surface of each tergite impunctate, though covered with coriaceous ground sculpture, basal four visible tergites each transversely depressed in basal half and provided with three strong longitudinal keels which are nearly parallel and equidistant; 1st visible sternite provided with a pair of longitudinal keels at the middle and evidently transversely depressed between these keels, visible 2nd to 4th sternites each with four longitudinal keels on each lateral



Figs. 2-3. Male secondary sexual characters of *Micropeplus rougemonti* Y. WATANABE, sp. nov.; last three abdominal sternites (2), metatibia (3). Scale: 0.2 mm.



Figs. 4-6. Male genitalia of *Micropeplus rougemonti* Y. WATANABE, sp. nov.; ventral view (4), lateral view (5); and dorsal view (6). Scale: 0.2 mm.

side, the outermost keel extending throughout and much longer than the inner three ones, which are abbreviated in posterior half; preapical sternite shallowly emarginate at the middle of posterior margin, provided with a vague arcuate carina in front of the emargination and somewhat depressed on the space between semicircular carina and emargination; preceding sternite broadly semicircularly emarginate at the middle of posterior margin. Legs relatively short, metatibia slightly emarginate in posterior third of inner side.

Genital organ elongate and symmetrical. Median lobe elongate, gradually tapered towards the apex which is narrowly rounded, strongly curved ventrad in posterior

half as seen from lateral side; parameres slender and fused with median lobe, slightly shorter than median lobe, each provided with two very fine setae at the apical part.

Female. Similar in general appearance to the male, though differing from the latter in lacking the emargination of abdominal preapical sternite and simple metatibia.

Type series. Holotype: ♂, allotype: ♀, Ruili (Juili), Yunnan Prov., Southwest China, 4-II-1993, G. DE ROUGEMONT leg. Paratypes: 8♂♂, 2♀♀, same data as for the holotype.

Distribution. Southwest China (Yunnan Prov.).

Notes. The present new species belongs to the group of *M. porcatus* in having five keels on each elytron and very coarse punctures on the interspaces between the keels, but it differs from the congeners in the ground sculpture on the upper surface of head and configuration of male genitalia.

The specific name of this new species is given after Mr. Guillaume DE ROUGEMONT, London, who offered his interesting specimens to me for study.

要 約

渡辺泰明：中国雲南省から採集されたチビハネカクシ属の1新種。——チビハネカクシ属に含まれる種として、これまでに中国から報告されているのは、WATANABE & LUO (1991)による浙江省からの2種に過ぎない。最近、筆者は、ロンドン在住のGuillaume DE ROUGEMONT氏のご好意によって、同氏が中国雲南省西部の瑞麗で採集された本属の1種を検討する機会に恵まれた。そこで、この種を詳細に検討した結果、新種と判定されたので下記のとおり命名・記載した。

Micropeplus rougemonti Y. WATANABE, sp. nov.

この種は、上翅のそれぞれに5本の顕著な縦隆条が存在すること、そしてそれらの隆条間の点刻がきわめて粗造であることなどから、*M. porcatus*種群に含まれることが一見して明らかである。しかしながら、頭部表面の構造、雄の後脛節に表われる第二性徴と雄交尾器の形状などによって、このグループの他種からは容易に区別することができる。

なお、種名は本種の採集者であり、かつ筆者に研究の機会を與えられたG. DE ROUGEMONT氏に献名したものである。

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