

The Larva of *Drypta fulveola* BATES
(Coleoptera, Carabidae)¹⁾

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Abstract The larva of a truncatipennes carabid beetle, *Drypta fulveola* BATES, is described on the basis of the third instar larva collected at the estuary of the Riv. Obitsu-gawa in Chiba Prefecture, Central Japan. It is very similar to that of *D. japonica* BATES.

The halophilous carabid beetle *Drypta fulveola* was originally described by BATES (1883, p. 279) from “Honjo, in Tokio” (Sumidaku, Tokyo), Central Japan. It was rediscovered about seventy years later at the estuary of the drain of the Riv. Edo-gawa in Chiba Prefecture. However, this second habitat was destroyed because of the development of the city area, and the beetle was considered to have become extinct. Fortunately in 1984, it was found out again at the estuary of the Riv. Obitsu-gawa in Kisarazu City of Chiba Prefecture. The reedy area at the right side of the estuary is the only extant habitat of this “very local” species known at the present. In 1992, *Drypta fulveola* was designated as an endangered species by the Environment Agency of the Japanese Government and was recorded on the official Red Data Book. MIYANO and YAMAGUCHI (1994, pp. 105–108) studied its ecology and life circle, but have not described its larva in detail. In this paper, we are going to describe and illustrate the larva of this interesting species.

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Drypta fulveola BATES — Larva

(Fig. 1)

Description. Length (three specimens of the third instar larva were measured) 9.5–10.5 mm; width 1.8–2.3 mm; cerci 7.8–8.5 mm. Body yellowish white; head brown, though the posterior part of ocelli and neck are brownish yellow; mandible reddish brown; antennae yellowish white, though the terminal segments are fuscous; thoracic nota brown, with the exception of brownish yellow apical fifth of pronotum; abdominal terga and pleura brown, becoming darker towards apical ones; spiracle and cerci black; legs light yellowish white.

Head ovate, gently convex, shiny, ca. 1.3 times as long as wide; nasal arcuately produced, and with three to four setae on each side; lateral margins gently divergent from ocelli, then roundly and strongly convergent posteriad, and with numerous setae; neck narrow, ca. 0.5–0.6 times as wide as head; frontal suture long, reaching a little behind the middle; frontal piece with two pair of primary setae at middle; mandibles slender and arcuate in apical halves, tapering towards apices, which are sharply pointed; antennae consisting of four segments, each segment plurisetose, terminal segment with two long setae at apex.

Pronotum prolonged, convex, shiny, gently narrowed towards apex, almost as wide as head, ca. 1.45 times as long as wide; lateral margins almost straight, and with numerous setae; median line distinct; surface with shallow foveae at basal part on each side. Mesonotum transverse, trapezoidal, convex, shiny, ca. 1.2 times as wide as pronotum, ca. 1.6 times as wide as long; lateral margins gently arcuate and widely rounded at basal corners; median line distinct; apical and basal parts transversely with a row of fine setae; surface with a shallow round fovea at middle on each side. Metanotum transverse, convex, shiny, a little wider than mesonotum, about twice as wide as long; lateral margins arcuate and widely rounded near base; median line distinct; apical and basal parts transversely with a row of fine setae, respectively; surface with a shallow round fovea on each side.

Abdominal terga 1–8 transverse, convex, shiny; median line distinct; apical margin rather widely bordered; a transverse row of three to four setae present behind the border and at the basal part, respectively. Pleura with four setae. Cerci very long, flagelliform, consisting of eleven segments, lengths of respective segments rather variable with individuals and also right and left, the basal segment often seemingly divided into two segments, each with a seta at the apex, though the terminal segment bears two setae at the apex. Legs slender, wholly setose, tibiae densely with long setae on the ventral side. Claw with a small tooth ventrally at the base.

Notes. The larva of *Drypta fulveola* is very similar to that of *D. japonica* BATES (cf. HABU & SADANAGA, 1965, pp. 166–169) in general appearance, colour and chaetotoxy, and cannot be easily distinguished from the latter, but the body is somewhat larger in *D. fulveola* than in *D. japonica*, and their habitats are evidently different, the former halophilous and the latter hygrophilous near freshwater bodies.

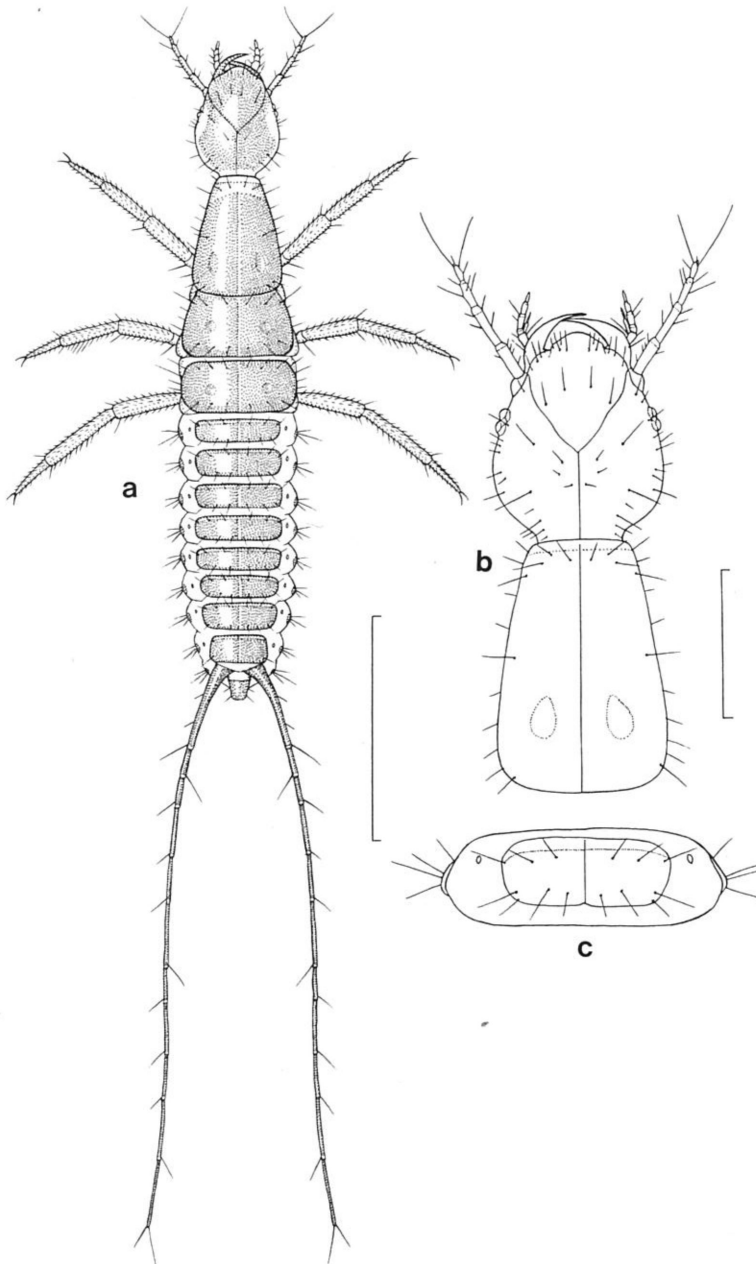


Fig. 1. Third instar larva of *Drypta fulveola* BATES, from the estuary of the Riv. Obitsu-gawa in Chiba Pref.; a, habitus (scale 3 mm); b, head with pronotum; c, third abdominal segment (scale 1 mm).

要 約

笠原須磨生・宮野伸也：キイロホソゴミムシの幼虫。——キイロホソゴミムシ *Drypta fulveola* BATES は、現在、千葉県木更津市小櫃川河口のヨシ原にのみ生息が確認されている希少種で、1992年に環境庁によって絶滅危惧種に指定された。その生態と生活史については、宮野・山口(1994)が報告しているが、幼虫は未記載のままになっているので、終齢(3齢)幼虫を図示記載した。

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