

A New Genus and Species of Platynine Carabid Beetle from Southwest Japan

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Abstract A peculiar new platynine carabid beetle is described from the Island of Amami-Oshima, Southwest Japan. It is characterized by the loss of anterior supraorbital seta, and of the lateral and hind angular setae on the pronotum. A new genus is erected for this new species. The new name given is *Nipponosynuchus abnormalis*.

In spite of the late season, my wife and I made a collecting trip to the Island of Amami-Oshima, Southwest Japan, in 1982, and found a single female of a peculiar platynine species, which was apparently new on the spot. I was, however, unable to go further to introduce it into science, since there still remained possibility of aberrancy because of its unusual chaetotaxy on the fore body: loss of a pair of anterior supraorbital setae and both pairs of lateral and hind angular setae on pronotum.

In order to verify the stability of these peculiarities, additional specimens of the same species were needed. After that, none of my friends were able to come across this interesting species in spite of repeated collecting trips.

Finally, in the autumn of 1996, Mr. KIMURA collected a second female of the same species from the island and submitted it to me for study. After a careful examination, it became evident that I had to alter my first impression to some extent. Though only two females are available, these characteristics seem sufficient for recognizing a new genus for this species, which will be named *Nipponosynuchus abnormalis* in this paper.

The abbreviations used herein are as follows: L—body length, measured from apical margin of clypeus to apices of elytra; HW—greatest width of head; PW—greatest width of pronotum; PL—length of pronotum, measured along the mid-line; PA—width of pronotal apex; PB—width of pronotal base; EB—width of elytral base, measured between lateral ends of basal border; EW—greatest width of elytra; EL—greatest length of elytra; FL—length of metafemur; ML—length of metatrochanter; TL—length of hind tarsus; M—arithmetic mean; H—holotype of *Nipponosynuchus abnormalis*; NSMT—National Science Museum (Nat. Hist.), Tokyo.

Before going further, I wish to express my deep gratitude to Dr. Shun-Ichi UENO of the National Science Museum (Nat. Hist.), Tokyo, for critically reading the original manuscript of this paper. My thanks are also due to Mr. Masaaki KIMURA for supplying me with important material.

Nipponosynuchus gen. nov.

Type species: *Nipponosynuchus abnormalis* MORITA, sp. nov.

Description. Body rather large (L: 14.3–14.4 mm) and smooth. Colour black and not metallic.

Head moderately convex; frontal furrows shallow, short and parallel; genae oblique in dorsal view and shorter than eyes; anterior supraorbital seta(e) absent; posterior supraorbital one(s) situated at a little behind the post-eye level; antennae long and slender, reaching middle of elytra, pubescent from apical half of segment IV; apical segment of labial palpi subcylindrical.

Pronotum narrow, moderately convex and smooth; lateral and hind angular setae absent; basal border vague; prosternal process without border.

Apterous. Elytra elongate with narrow basal parts; basal border strongly arcuate and joining scutellar striole which is long and lies on interval 1; shoulders indistinct; basal pore situated at the base of stria 1; two dorsal pores weak; anterior dorsal pore situated on interval 3, and variable in position, adjoining stria 2, close to stria 2, or on

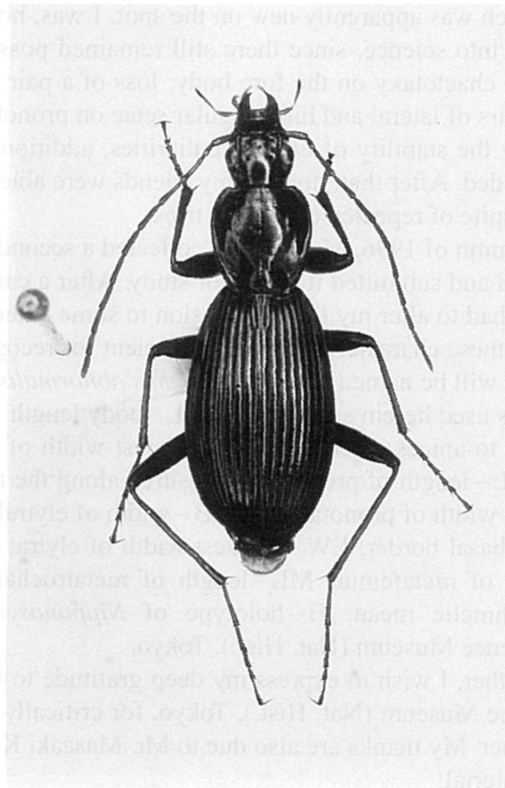


Fig. 1. *Nipponosynuchus abnormalis* MORITA, gen. et sp. nov., ♀, from Mt. Yuwan-dake.

interval 3, and in the paratype the left pore is absent; posterior dorsal pore on interval 3 and adjoining stria 2 or close to stria 2.

Ventral side smooth; in ♀, apical margin of anal sternite arcuate and slightly produced at the middle, and with a pair of setae. Legs very slender; metatrochanter short and rounded at apex; claws denticulate. Apical styli in female with two long spines.

Notes. In view of the loss of the anterior supraorbital seta and lateral and hind angular setae on the pronotum, and of the presence of a pair of setae on the anal sternite in female, this new genus is isolated among several genera belonging to the subtribe Dolichina (cf. LINDROTH, 1956, pp. 490, 552; HABU, 1978, p. 302; NEMOTO, 1990, p.101) known from Japan and its adjacent territories.

Nipponosynuchus abnormalis MORITA, sp. nov.

[Japanese name : Kenashi-tsuya-hirata-gomimushi]

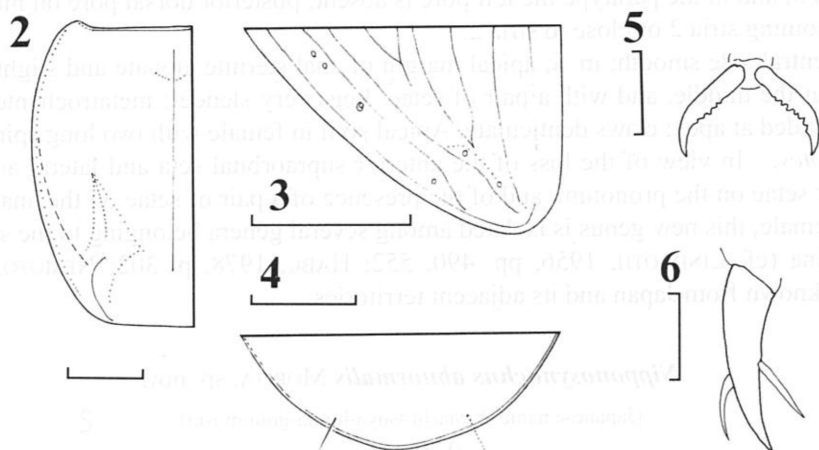
(Figs. 1-6)

Description. L: 14.3 mm. Body black and shiny; clypeus and borders of pronotum blackish brown; ventral side blackish brown to brown; mouth parts and appendages brown.

Head moderately convex; apex of labrum very slightly emarginate; a small rounded fovea present at the mid-eye level on each side in H; posterior supraorbital pore(s) situated at a little behind the post-eye level; lateral grooves deep, straight, becoming shallower posteriad and extending to the level of posterior supraorbital pores; mentum tooth porrect, bifid at the tips; microsculpture composed of polygonal meshes; antennal segment II with a long seta; relative lengths of antennal segments as follows:— I : II : III : IV : V : VI : XI = 1 : 0.57 : 1.57 : 1.36 : 1.37 : 1.28 : 1.09.

Pronotum narrow, moderately convex and smooth; PW/HW 1.43, PW/PL 0.95; apex almost straight and bordered throughout; sides moderately arcuate and slightly convergent posteriad; hind angles rounded; base almost straight and obliquely arcuate inside each hind angle; apical angle produced and narrowed at the tips; anterior transverse impression obsolete; median line fine, reaching neither apex nor base; basal foveae rather deep, linear at the bottom, and in H, the bottom is arcuate inwards; reflexed lateral borders becoming wider towards hind angles; microsculpture composed of fine transverse lines; PW/PA 1.52, PW/PB 1.58, PA/PB 1.04, EW/PW 1.48.

Elytra elongate; sides weakly arcuate from bases to the middle which is the widest, and ample in apical halves; apex of each elytron rounded; EL/EW 1.66, EB/EW 0.53; intervals moderately convex; striae not punctate; anterior and posterior dorsal pores situated on interval 3 and adjoining stria 2 on the right elytron, anterior dorsal pore on interval 3 and posterior one on interval 3 and close to stria 2 on the left elytron in H; anterior pores situated at about 2/5, posterior ones at 13/20 from base in H, respectively; apical pore weak and situated at the apical part of interval 3 and close to the apical end of stria 7; subapical pore weak and situated a little before and outside the apical pore; microsculpture composed of wide or transverse meshes; marginal se-



Figs. 2-6. Body parts of *Nipponosynuchus abnormalis* MORITA, gen. et sp. nov., ♀, from Mt. Yuwan-dake. — 2, Outline of the left side of pronotum; 3, apical part of the left elytron, showing apical and subapical pores; 4, anal sternite; 5, claw of the left metatarsus; 6, left stylus. Scale: 1 mm for 2-4; 0.4 mm for 5; 0.2 mm for 6.

ries composed of 19 pores. Anal sternite bordered throughout and almost flat at apex.

Legs very slender; MTL/FL 0.31; protibiae straight; meso- and metatibiae longitudinally grooved on inner sides but the groove disappears at apex; tarsi very long and smooth on dorsal side; TL/HW 1.76; segment 1 of meso- and metatarsi with sulcus on outer side; segment 4 evenly bilobed in meso- and metatarsi; claw segment of metatarsus with several long setae on ventro-lateral sides, a pair of long setae on apical part of dorsal side, and a pair of short setae on apico-lateral sides.

Apical styli in female narrow, and with pointed apex.

Male unknown.

Type series. Holotype: ♀, Mt. Yuwan-dake, 28-XII-1982, S. & E. MORITA leg. (NSMT). Paratype: 1 ♀, Mt. Yui-dake, 30-X-1996, M. KIMURA leg.

Localities. Mt. Yuwan-dake, 420 m alt., in Uken-son; Mt. Yui-dake, in Setouchi-chô, the Island of Amami-Oshima, Kagoshima Prefecture, Southwest Japan.

Notes. This is a remarkable new species doubtless endemic to the Island of Amami-Oshima. The first specimen was found in a gutter at the side of the road, into which it had probably fallen at night.

The paratype specimen from Mt. Yui-dake is distinguished from the holotype by the following points: 1) shallower frontal furrows; 2) small rounded foveae absent at the mid-eye level; 3) pronotum wider; 4) pronotum with deeper basal foveae; 5) anterior dorsal pore absent on the left elytron; and 6) metatibiae shallowly grooved. The standard ratios of its body parts are as follows: PW/HW 1.47, PW/PL 1.01, PW/PA 1.53, PW/PB 1.62, PA/PB 1.06, EW/PW 1.46, EL/EW 1.71, EB/EW 0.49, TL/HW 1.85, MTL/FL 0.31.

要 約

森田誠司：奄美大島産，新属新種のヒラタゴミムシ。——奄美大島で採集されたヒラタゴミムシに対して，おもに，頭部，前胸背板および腹部末端節の剛毛様式が特異であるために新属を創設し，*Nipponosynuchus abnormalis* と命名した。

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Occurrence of *Chaetotrechiana procerus* (Coleoptera, Trechinae) in the Upper Hypogean Zone

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Chaetotrechiana is a remarkable monotypical genus belonging to the *Rakantrechus* lineage of the *Trechiana* group in the Trechinae. Its type species, *Chaetotrechiana procerus* S. UÉNO (1982 a, p. 55, figs. 1-4; 1985, p. 76, pl. 14, fig. 25), was collected only once in an abandoned mine adit in the southwestern part of the Island of Shikoku, south of Nakasuji Depression, where no other anophthalmic trechines had been known (cf. fig. 55 in UÉNO, 1982 b, p. 63). Later visits to the adit did not yield any additional specimens, and since the small hill into which the adit was excavated was levelled from the other side due to the development of an industrial area, this trechine beetle was recognized as an endangered species and was officially