

New or Little-known Elateridae (Coleoptera) from Japan, XXXIX

Hitoo ÔHIRA

Kitsuneyama 6–4, Maigi-cho, Okazaki, 444–3511 Japan

Abstract Two new species of elaterid beetles are described and illustrated from Okinawa-hontô Is. of the Ryukyu Islands. They are named *Quasimus hiroyoshii* and *Quasimus okinawensis*, both belonging to the subfamily Negastrinae.

In the present study, I am going to describe two new species of the elaterid genus *Quasimus* GOZIS, 1886 from Okinawa-hontô Is. of the Ryukyu Islands. The holotype of each species to be described in this paper are preserved in the collection of the National Science Museum (Nat. Hist.), Tokyo.

Before going further, I wish to express my sincere gratitude to Dr. Shun-Ichi UÉNO of the National Science Museum (Nat. Hist.), Tokyo, for his reading the manuscript and giving me useful suggestions, and to Mr. Hiroyoshi HIRAMATSU of Wakayama for his kindness in offering the specimens used in this study.

Quasimus hiroyoshii sp. nov.

(Fig. 1 A–K)

Male. Length 1.8–2.0 mm, width about 0.8–0.9 mm. Body broad and subovate, moderately convex above; black and shining except for 2nd and 3rd segments of antennae (remaining segments blackish brown) and tarsi of legs (femora and tibiae dusky brown) which are more or less orange yellow. Vestiture cinereous, short and semidecumbent on elytra, longer and decumbent on pronotum.

Head gently convex between eyes, weakly depressed at subvertical portion between antennae; surface rather minutely and evenly punctate (Fig. 1 E); clypeal margin well ridged and rounded at middle (Fig. 1 E↑). Antenna rather short, with the tip a little shorter than posterior angle of pronotum; basal segment robust and subovate, 2nd subcylindrical, 3rd subtriangular and clearly shorter than 2nd (Fig. 1 F), 4th to 10th imperfectly serrate.

Pronotum subtrapezoidal, clearly wider than its length, with sides weakly sinuate just before posterior angles, thence weakly rounded and gradually convergent towards anterior angles (Fig. 1 G); disc rather gently convex, evenly and moderately densely punctate, but the punctures become sparser on summit (Fig. 1 H); posterior angles, short, pointed posteriorly (Fig. 1 K). Prosternal process rather short and clearly sinuate

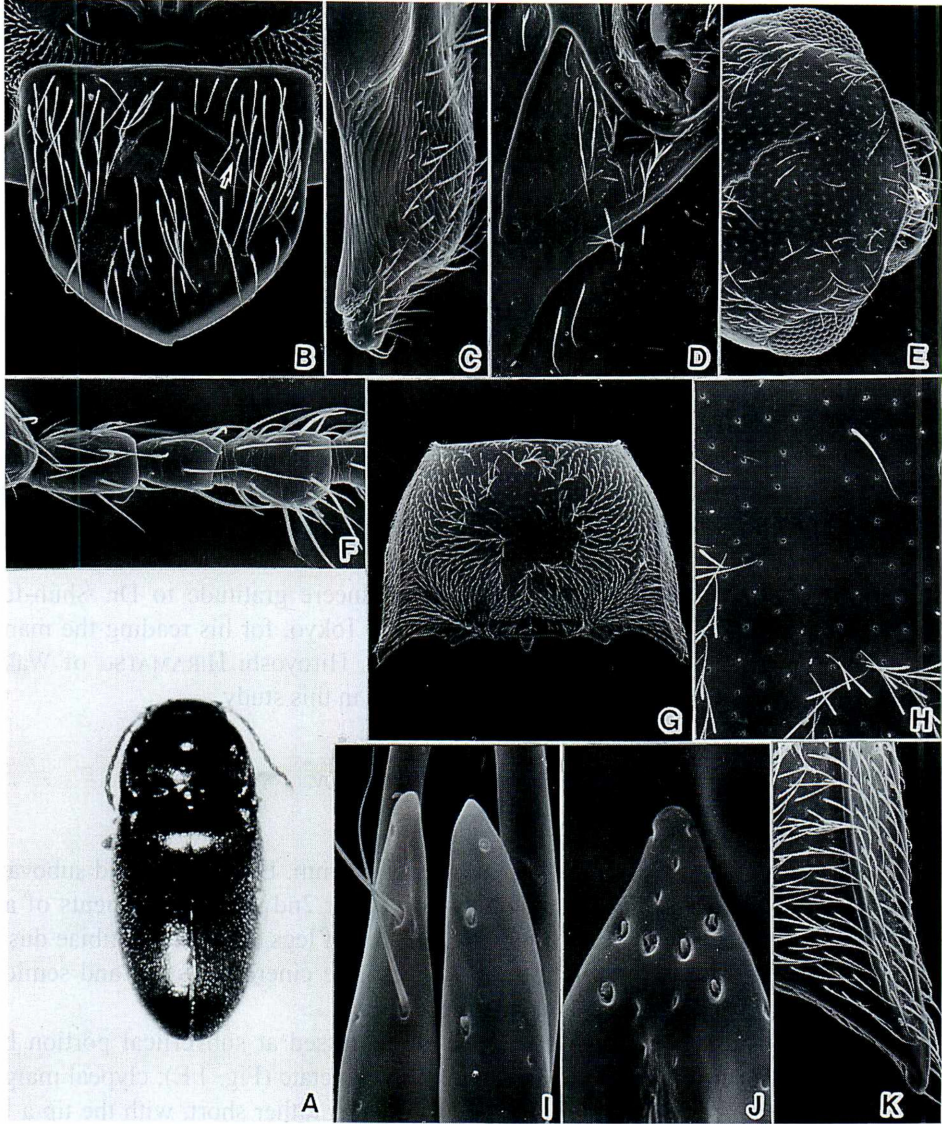


Fig. 1. *Quasimus hiroyoshii* sp. nov., male (Okinawa-hontô Is.). — A, Holotype; B, scutellum; C, prosternal process, lateral aspect; D, right metasternal carinae; E, head and clypeal margin, dorsal aspect; F, 2nd to 4th segments of left antenna; G, pronotum, dorsal aspect; H, some punctures on the disc of pronotum; I, apical portion of lateral lobes of aedeagus, ventral aspect; J, same, median lobe; K, right posterior angle of pronotum.

near the tip when viewed from lateral side (Fig. 1 C). Scutellum broad and flattened, with ring-like carination subtriangular and obtusely pointed at apex (Fig. 1 B↑).

Elytra about 1.7 times as long as their basal width, with sides almost parallel in

basal halves, thence rounded and gradually convergent towards apices which are normally rounded; striae indistinct; right metasternal carinae of metasternum as illustrated (Fig. 1 D).

Aedeagus (ventral aspect) as illustrated; median lobe elongate and constricted near apex which is obtusely pointed apically (Fig. 1 J); each lateral lobe narrow, gradually narrowing towards minutely pointed apex (Fig. 1 I).

Female. Very similar to male and difficult to distinguish from the latter without examination of genital apparatus.

Holotype: ♂, Mt. Yonaha-dake in Okinawa-hontô Is., 2-V-1978, H. HIRAMATSU leg. Paratypes: 4 exs., same locality as for the holotype, 2~3-V-1978, H. HIRAMATSU leg.; 2 exs., Mt. Ara-dake on Kume-jima Is., 8-V-1978, H. HIRAMATSU leg.

Distribution. Okinawa-hontô Is. and Kume-jima Is. of the Ryukyu Islands, Japan.

This new species is somewhat allied to *Q. ovalis* (CANDÈZE, 1873) from Japan (Honshu, Shikoku and Kyushu), but can be distinguished from the latter by the smaller body, yellowish 2nd and 3rd segments of antennae and tarsi of legs, clearly different shape of ring-like carination of scutellum, and elongate median lobe of aedeagus.

Quasimus okinawensis sp. nov.

(Fig. 2 A-I)

Male. Length 1.8 mm, width about 0.5 mm. Body moderately elongate, almost parallel-sided and gently convex above; black and shining except for 2nd and 3rd segments of antennae and tibiae and tarsi of legs more or less yellow to orange yellow; vestiture cinereous and semidecumbent.

Head gently convex between eyes, weakly depressed at subvertical portion between antennae; surface moderately densely and evenly punctate (Fig. 2 D); clypeal margin well ridged and weakly prolonged downwards at middle (Fig. 2 D↑). Antenna rather short, with the tip hardly reaching posterior angle of pronotum; basal segment robust and subovate, 2nd subcylindrical, 3rd subtriangular and a little shorter than 2nd, 4th almost as long as 2nd (Fig. 2 E), 4th to 10th imperfectly serrate.

Pronotum subtrapezoidal, clearly wider than its length including posterior angles, with sides weakly sinuate just before posterior angles, thence slightly rounded and gradually convergent towards anterior angles (Fig. 2 F); disc dome-like, moderately densely and evenly punctate, but the punctures become sparser in median longitudinal area (Fig. 2 G); posterior angles short, pointed posteriorly. Scutellum longer than width across base, with ring-like carination trapezoidal (Fig. 2 B↑).

Elytra about 1.8 times as long as their basal width, with sides almost parallel in basal halves, thence rounded and gradually convergent towards apices which are normally rounded; striae indistinct; left metasternal carinae of metasternum as illustrated (Fig. 1 C).

Aedeagus (ventral aspect) as illustrated; median lobe rather short, gradually con-

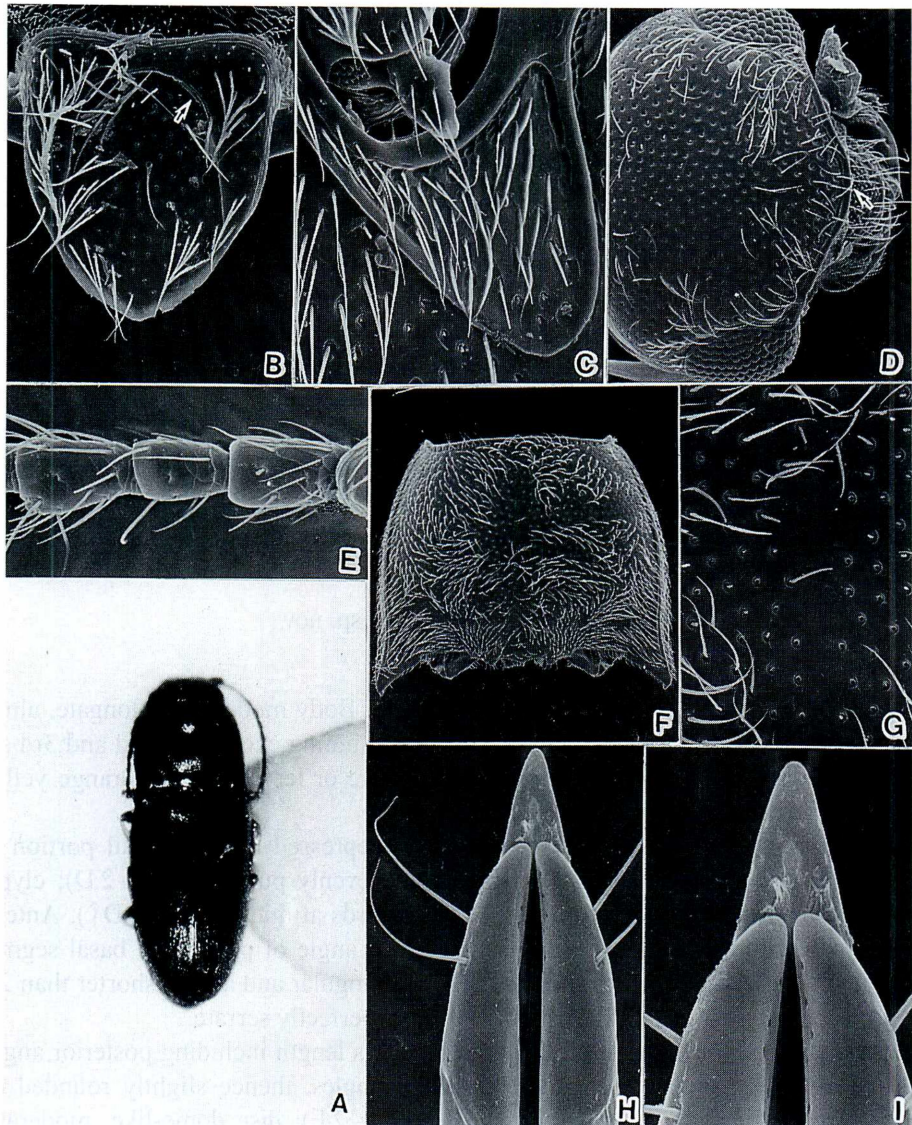


Fig. 2. *Quasimus okinawensis* sp. nov., male (Okinawa-hontô Is.). — A, Holotype; B, scutellum; C, left metasternal carinae; D, head and clypeal margin, dorsal aspect; E, 2nd to 4th segments of right antenna; F, pronotum, dorsal aspect; G, some punctures on the disc of pronotum; H, apical portion of aedeagus, ventral aspect; I, same (enlarged).

verging towards obtusely rounded apex (Fig. 2 H); each lateral lobe narrow and sub-cylindrical (Fig. 2 I).

Female. Very similar to male and difficult to distinguish from the latter without

examination of genital apparatus.

Holotype: ♂, Nakaza in Okinawa-hontô Is., 12-V-1978, H. HIRAMATSU leg.
Paratypes: 7 exs., same locality and date as for the holotype.

Distribution. Okinawa-hontô Is. of the Ryukyu Islands, Japan.

This new species is very similar to *Q. takahashii* MIWA, 1934 from the Yaeyama Islands (Ishigaki-jima, Iriomote-jima and Yonaguni-jima) of the Ryukyu Islands, but can be distinguished from the latter by the shorter antennae and clearly different shape of the aedeagus.

要 約

大平仁夫：日本産コメツキムシ科の新種，XXXIX。——本報告ではミズギワコメツキ亜科に属する *Quasimus* 属の種で，沖縄本島と久米島において平松広吉氏が得た2新種を記載した。

Quasimus hiroyoshii ÔHIRA (ヒロヨシチビマメコメツキ)。体長2mmに満たないやや幅広い楕円形の種で，触角の第2, 3節と肢の付節が黄色をしている。また，一般外形は本州や四国，九州から知られている *Q. ovalis* マルマメコメツキに類似しているが，より小型である。

Quasimus okinawensis ÔHIRA (オキナワチビマメコメツキ)。体長1.8mm内外の小型種で，触角の第2, 3節と肢の脛節と付節が黄色である。一般外形は，八重山諸島から知られている *Q. takahashii* タカハシチビマメコメツキに類似している。古い記録で，沖縄本島からこの名称で報告された個体は，おそらく本種を指しているものと思われる。

References

- CANDÈZE, E., 1873. Insectes recueillis au Japon par M. G. LEWIS. Élatérides. *Mém. Soc. r. Sci. Liège*, (2), 5: 1-32.
- KISHII, T., 1976. New Negastrinae with some notes. Some new forms of Elateridae in Japan (X). *Bull. Heian High School, Kyoto*, (20): 17-45, 6 pls.
- MIWA, Y., 1934. The fauna of Elateridae in the Japanese Empire. Dept. Agric. Gov. Res. Inst. Formosa, (65): 1-289, 9 pls.
- ÔHIRA, H., & T. ÔZAKI, 1998. Notes on *Quasimus ovalis* from Japan (Coleoptera, Elateridae). *Celastrina*, (33): 29-32. (In Japanese.)