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A New Species of the Group of *Lathrobium* (s. str.) *pollens* (Coleoptera, Staphylinidae) from Japan

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Abstract A new species of the group of *Lathrobium* (s. str.) *pollens* is described and illustrated under the name of *Lathrobium* (s. str.) *kusamai*. It was obtained from under dead leaves on Mt. Sobatsubu-yama at the northern part of Shizuoka Prefecture in central Honshu, Japan.

Examining apterous *Lathrobium* from Japan, I have found an interesting species obtained from under dead leaves on Mt. Sobatsubu-yama at the northern part of Shizuoka Prefecture in central Honshu, Japan. This species seems to be placed in the group of *Lathrobium* (s. str.) *pollens* because of having similarly remarkable second sexual characters of the abdominal sternites in the male.

After a careful examination, it has become clear that the species is new to science on account of disagreement in configuration of secondary sexual characters of the abdominal sternites and of the genital organ in the male. It will be described in the present paper to the memory of Keiichi KUSAMA, the first president of the Japanese Society of Coleopterology and a specialist of cerambycid beetles. The type series of the new species to be described is deposited in the collection of the Laboratory of Entomology, Tokyo University of Agriculture.

Before going further, I wish to express my sincere thanks to Dr. Shun-Ichi UÉNO, Visiting Professor at Tokyo University of Agriculture, for his kind advice on the present study. Deep gratitude is also due to Mr. Hitoshi ISHIKAWA, Shizuoka, for his kindness in giving me the materials used in this study and information on the collecting data.

Lathrobium (s. str.) ***kusamai*** Y. WATANABE, sp. nov.

(Figs. 1–5)

Body length: 6.8–7.2 mm (from front margin of head to anal end); 2.9–3.0 mm (from front margin of head to elytral apices).

Body parallel-sided and somewhat depressed above; apterous. Colour dark reddish brown and moderately shining, with mandibles and antennae somewhat paler, palpi, legs and apical two abdominal segments yellowish brown.

Male. Head subtrapezoidal and gently elevated medially, as long as broad or very slightly transverse (width/length=1.09), widest at posterior fourth and more strongly narrowed anteriad than posteriad; lateral sides gently arcuate; frontal area transversely flattened and glabrous between antennal tubercles, provided with a conspicuous setiferous puncture inside each antennal tubercle; surface sparingly, distinctly and setiferously punctured, the punctures becoming closer on latero-posterior parts and covered with extremely fine coriaceous ground sculpture only visible under high magnification; eyes minute and almost flat, the longitudinal diameter about one-fourth as long as postocular part. Antennae elongate, extending a little beyond the middle of

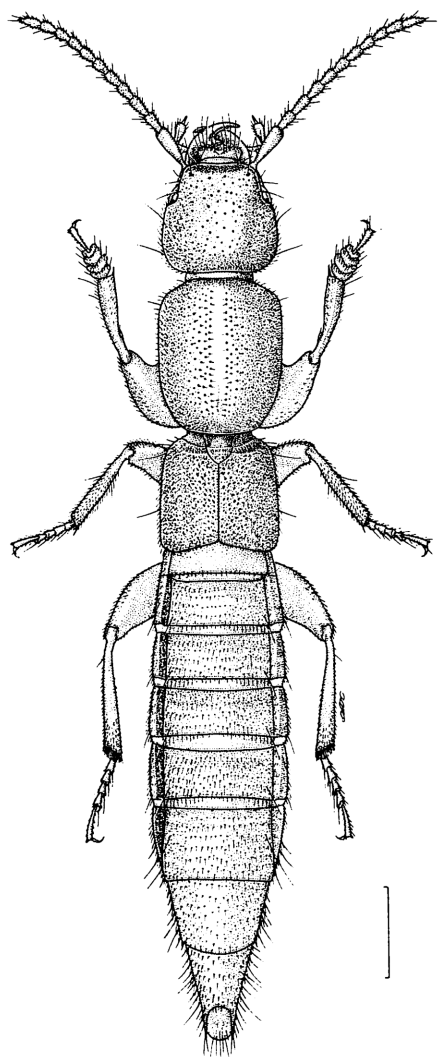


Fig. 1. *Lathrobium* (s. str.) *kusamai* Y. WATANABE, sp. nov., ♂, from Mt. Sobatsubu-yama, Shizuoka Pref. Scale: 1.0 mm.

pronotum and not thickened towards apical segment, two proximal segments polished, 3rd and 4th subopaque, the remainings opaque, 1st segment robust and strongly dilated apicad, more than 2.5 times as long as broad, 2nd well constricted at the base, about 1.5 times as long as broad, nearly a half as long as and distinctly narrower (2nd/1st=0.63) than 1st, 3rd gently dilated apicad, remarkably longer than broad (length/width=1.60), a little longer (3rd/2nd=1.14) and broader (3rd/2nd=1.14) than 2nd, 4th to the apicalmost equal in width to one another, 4th nearly 1.5 times as long as broad but slightly shorter than 3rd (4th/3rd=0.95), 5th less than 1.5 times as long as broad and subequal in length to 4th, 6th somewhat longer than broad (length/width=1.36) but slightly shorter than 5th (6th/5th=0.94), 7th a little longer than broad (length/width=1.28) but slightly shorter than 6th (7th/6th=0.94), 8th to 10th equal in length to one another, each a little longer than broad (length/width=1.20), 11th fusiform, twice as long as broad and more than 1.5 times as long as 10th, subacuminate at the apex.

Pronotum oblong though somewhat narrowed posteriad and moderately convex medially, distinctly longer than broad (length/width=1.20) and apparently longer (pronotum/head=1.25) and slightly broader (pronotum/head=1.04) than head, lateral sides nearly straight in anterior two-thirds and gently arcuate in posterior third, anterior margin broadly rounded, posterior margin nearly truncated, anterior angles obtuse and not visible from above, posterior ones narrowly rounded; surface much more closely covered with coarser setiferous punctures than on head except for a narrow median smooth line through the length of pronotum. Scutellum subtriangular, provided with a few minute setiferous punctures on the surface. Elytra subtrapezoidal, somewhat dilated posteriad, a little transverse (width/length=1.18), distinctly shorter (elytra/pronotum=0.73) and slightly broader (elytra/pronotum=1.04) than pronotum; lateral sides feebly arcuate, posterior margin somewhat emarginate at the middle; posterior angles broadly rounded; surface closely and roughly punctured, bearing a vague depression behind scutellum. Legs relatively short; profemur markedly thickened, though abruptly constricted near the apex and excavated on the inner face in apical half, so that the api-

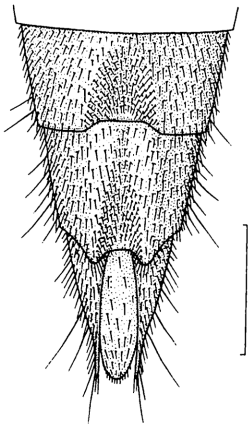
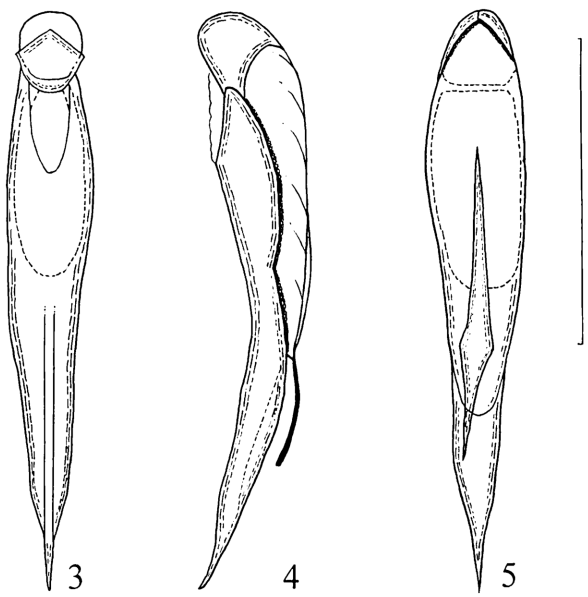


Fig. 2. Last three abdominal sternites of *Lathrobium* (s. str.) *kusamai* Y. WATANABE, sp. nov. Scale: 1.0 mm.



Figs. 3–5. Male genital organ of *Lathrobium* (s. str.) *kusamai* Y. WATANABE, sp. nov.; dorsal view (3), lateral view (4), and ventral view (5). Scale: 1.0 mm.

cal part of the excavation forms a blunt subtriangular tooth; protibia dilated apicad, hollowed in basal half on the inner face and provided with five comb-like transverse rows of fine yellowish setae within the hollow; meso- and metatibiae normal; 1st to 4th protarsal segments strongly widened; last metatarsal segment shorter than the four preceding segments together.

Abdomen elongate, slightly dilated to the 7th segment, and then abruptly narrowed towards the anal end, 3rd to 7th tergites each transversely depressed along the base, moderately closely, finely and superficially punctured and covered with fine brownish pubescence, 8th tergite much more sparingly and more finely punctured than on the preceding tergites; 8th sternite semicircularly excised at the middle of posterior margin and shallowly, longitudinally depressed in front of the excision, surface of the depression more closely provided with fine blackish setae than in other parts; 7th sternite more shallowly and more broadly emarginate at the middle of posterior margin than in 8th sternite and depressed before the emargination in the form of a horseshoe, the surface of the depression more closely setose than in other parts except for a small glabrous part at the middle just before posterior margin.

Genital organ elongate, basal piece relatively small and globular; median lobe remarkably shorter than fused paramere, provided with a well sclerotized plate on the ventral side, the plate being long rhomboidal in form, widest behind the middle and strongly narrowed both basad and apicad. Fused paramere more or less asymmetrical in basal half, gradually narrowed toward an abrupt constriction near the apex, which is

prolonged like a spearhead as seen from dorsal side and curved dorsad in apical half in profile; surface provided with a fine longitudinal carina on each side of the median line, though the carinae become obsolete near the middle.

Female. Similar in facies and body size to male, but the apical two abdominal sternites are simple.

Type series. Holotype: ♂, allotype: ♀, Mt. Sobatsubu-yama, Haibara, Shizuoka Pref., Honshu, Japan, 25–VII–1991, H. ISHIKAWA leg.

Distribution. Japan (central Honshu).

Remarks. In the build, the present new species resembles *L.* (s. str.) *pollens* SHARP (1889, p. 254), but differs from it in the following points: body somewhat smaller, head almost as long as broad, surface more sparingly punctured and covered with more distinct coriaceous ground sculpture; pronotum less narrowed posteriad; fused paramere of male genital organ more elongate and provided with a fine longitudinal carina on each side of median line.

Bionomics. According to Mr. H. ISHIKAWA, the type series was obtained by sifting dead leaves in a broadleaved forest, consisting of *Fagus crenata*, *Stewartia monadelpha* and *Rhododendron quinquefolium*, on Mt. Sobatsubu-yama at an altitude of about 1,620 m.

Etymology. This new species is dedicated to the memory of the late Dr. Keiichi KUSAMA, who was the first president of our society.

要　約

渡辺泰明：日本から採集されたコバネナガハネカクシ種群の1新種．—— 静岡市在住の石川均氏から，氏自身によって静岡県内から採集されたコバネナガハネカクシ種群に含まれる数種をご恵与いただいた．これを検討した結果，その中から1新種を見いだしたので，*Lathrobium* (s. str.) *kusamai* と命名・記載した．本種は蕎麦粒山の標高1,620 m付近の広葉樹林帯に堆積した落葉下から採集されたもので，雄の第7および第8腹板に表われる第二次性徴がコバネナガハネカクシに類似している．しかし，より小型で，頭がより強く前方に狭まり，頭盾から頭頂にかけての部分の点刻がより疎で，また雄の交尾器の形状が異なっていることによって容易に区別される．

なお，種小名の *kusamai* は，日本鞘翅目学会初代会長の故草間慶一博士に献名したものである．

Reference

SHARP, D., 1889. The Staphylinidae of Japan. *Ann. Mag. nat. Hist.*, (6), **3**: 249–267 [part 6].