

Three New *Merionoeda* (Coleoptera, Cerambycidae) from Northern Indochina

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Abstract Three new species of the genus *Merionoeda* from Laos, Thailand and Yunnan are described. *Merionoeda argentata* sp. nov. and *M. kinoshitai* sp. nov. are rather peculiar in appearance, while *M. neglecta* sp. nov. is probably related to *M. scutulata* HOLZSCHUH or *M. melanocephala* GRESSITT et RONDON.

Introduction

The geographical region of northern Indochina together with the bordering Yunnan Province of China is rather rich in the *Merionoeda* fauna with about 35 recorded species of this genus. Even though it is comparatively well explored and studied, new species of this genus with an appearance quite different from the hitherto known species are still recorded. *Merionoeda argentata* sp. nov. and *M. kinoshitai* sp. nov., as described in the following lines, are two of the recent examples. *Merionoeda argentata* sp. nov. is interesting in the fact that it has so far only a distant resemblance to *M. fusca* GRESSITT et RONDON (1970, p. 121, fig. 22c) and is otherwise singular in appearance. *Merionoeda kinoshitai* sp. nov. is also peculiar. Its body and legs resemble those of *M. uraiensis* KANO (1930, p. 43, fig. 1), *M. rusticula* HOLZSCHUH (2003, p. 182, fig. 28) or *M. jeanvoinei* PIC (1933, p. 9) and thus it may be distantly related to these three species. The coloration pattern, however, differs fundamentally from this group of three. Again it is rather isolated in the genus. The third new species, *M. neglecta* sp. nov., on the other hand, resembles and is apparently related to *M. scutulata* HOLZSCHUH (1989, p. 163, fig. 20) and *M. melanocephala* GRESSITT et RONDON (1970, p. 125, fig. 22f), forming a group of three related species. Regarding the evolution of the *Merionoeda* fauna in this region, it is observed here again that the genus itself is well diversified with a manifold of highly different types of species, as indicated in the case of *M. argentata*

sp. nov. and *M. kinoshitai* sp. nov. At the same time, the splitting and multiplication at the level of subgroups in the genus is also well advanced, as in the case of *M. neglecta* sp. nov. and related species.

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Merionoeda argentata sp. nov.

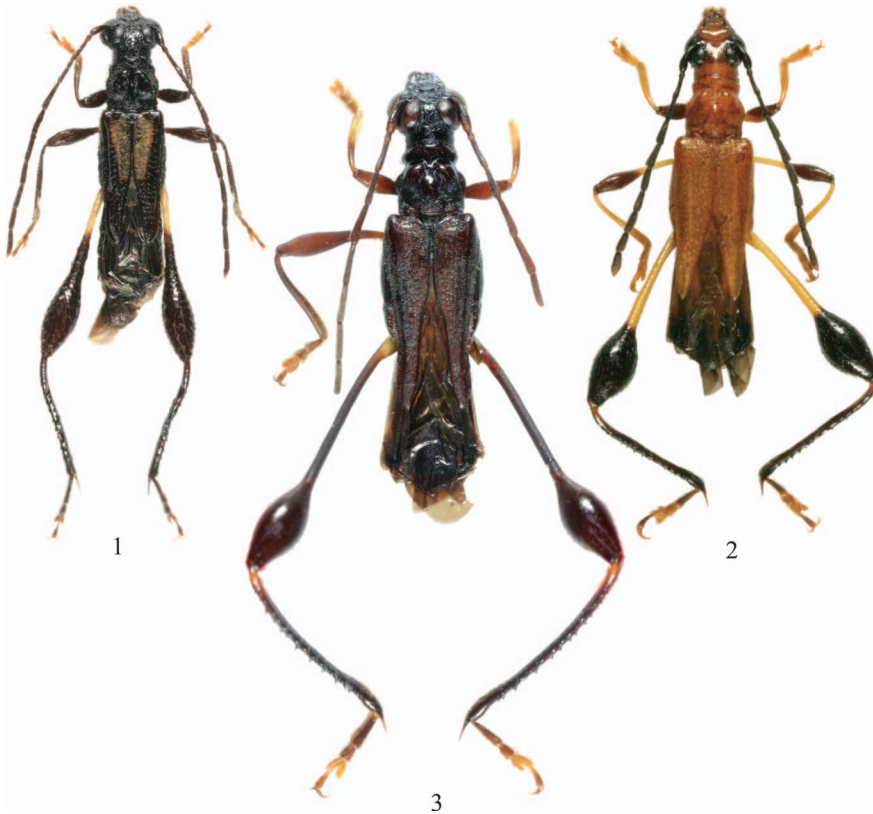
(Figs. 1, 4–9)

Body length (from apical margin of clypeus to abdominal apex) 4.5–6.0 mm.

Male. Colour pitchy black, shiny though matted on antennae except for scape; each elytron with an elongated drop-shaped, rather clearly bordered, pale yellow to yellowish brown maculation in basal half, which is about half the width of elytron, narrowed to middle; base of fore, basal third of mid and 2/5 of hind femur pale yellow though gradually darkened apicad; tarsus and fore tibia more or less brown to yellowish brown.

Head moderately projected forwards, with rather elongate neck, weakly convex, wider than the maximum width of pronotum, HW/PW 1.15, provided with dense medium-sized punctures near upper eye-lobes, more or less furnished with long lying silvery hairs throughout except near vertex; occiput provided with dense coarse punctures and fairly long erect silvery hairs behind upper eye-lobes, with sides rugose or coarsely punctured; frons 1/3 the length of basal width, moderately declivous towards a deep median groove, scattered with medium-sized coarse punctures, FA/FB 0.80–0.88 (M 0.84); clypeus about 3/5 the length of basal width, distinctly narrowed towards apex, impressed near middle, provided with medium-sized irregular punctures, often furnished with dense long silvery hairs, with fronto-clypeal suture very deep; eyes large and prominent, very deeply and narrowly emarginate under antennal scapes, separated from one another by 2/5 the width of occiput. Antennae fairly long, surpassing elytral apex at base of segment 10 though not quite attaining to abdominal apex, clothed with minute silvery pubescence on segments 3–11 and additionally with sparse pale yellow hairs on undersides of segments 2–6; scape weakly clavate and arcuate, furnished with a few silvery hairs, segments 3 and 4 nearly equal in length to scape, segments 5–11 obtusely or weakly flattened and serrate, terminal segment bluntly toothed at apex.

Pronotum slightly longer than wide, moderately convergent to apex, PL/PW 1.00–1.05 (M 1.03), PA/PW 0.73–0.87 (M 0.79), PB/PW 0.83–0.95 (M 0.89); sides with moderate lateral swellings near middle, weakly constricted before and behind the swellings; apex and base thickly bordered; disc with three distinct callosities, of which the median longest one is elongate club-shaped, stretching from apical middle almost to basal middle, a pair of large, oblique kidney-shaped ones of 3/5 the length of pronotum



Figs. 1–3. *Merionoeda* spp. from northern Indochina. — 1, *M. argentata* sp. nov., holotype ♂, from C. Laos; 2, *M. neglecta* sp. nov., holotype ♀, from C. Laos; 3, *M. kinoshitai* sp. nov., holotype ♂, from NW. Thailand.

at a level between basal fifth and apical fourth, scattered with large coarse punctures on interspaces of the callosities, densely clothed with long lying silvery hairs throughout except on the callosities and their interspaces. Scutellum trapezoidal, densely clothed with lying silvery hairs.

Elytra moderate in length, reaching apical margin of basal ventrite, EL/EW 2.1–2.16 (M 2.14); sides moderately projected forwards at humeri, slightly emarginate between basal fourth and apical eighth, strongly dehiscent in apical 2/3, with apical part pronounced broadly knife-shaped; each elytron provided with an obtuse costa from humerus to apical third as well as with irregular rows of medium-sized puncture which decrease in number from 9 to 2 apicad, sparsely furnished with short erect silvery hairs, impressed near apical third.

Venter of thoraces moderately shiny, clothed with long, lying silvery hairs except

for apical margin of prosternum; prosternum moderately produced behind apical margin, with intercoxal process strongly compressed between coxae; mesosternum with intercoxal process very broad and subparallel; metasternum well convex with apex deeply and sharply emarginate. Abdomen subparallel at sides, shiny though clothed with fairly long lying silvery hairs on basal half of ventrite 1, near bases of ventrites 2–3 and at sides of ventrites 2–5; ventrite 1 $\frac{9}{20}$ the length of abdomen, ventrite 2 $\frac{1}{6}$ likewise; anal tergite bluntly angulate at middle of apex.

Legs fairly long and slender; hind femur surpassing abdominal apex by about half its length, weakly arcuate, gradually clavate in apical half, the club 3 times as thick as peduncle with rather sparse short erect pale yellow hairs; hind tibia $\frac{4}{5}$ the length of femur, moderately arcuate, with small dents in two rows along external sides, terminal spur fairly short, $\frac{3}{4}$ the length of 1st tarsal segment.

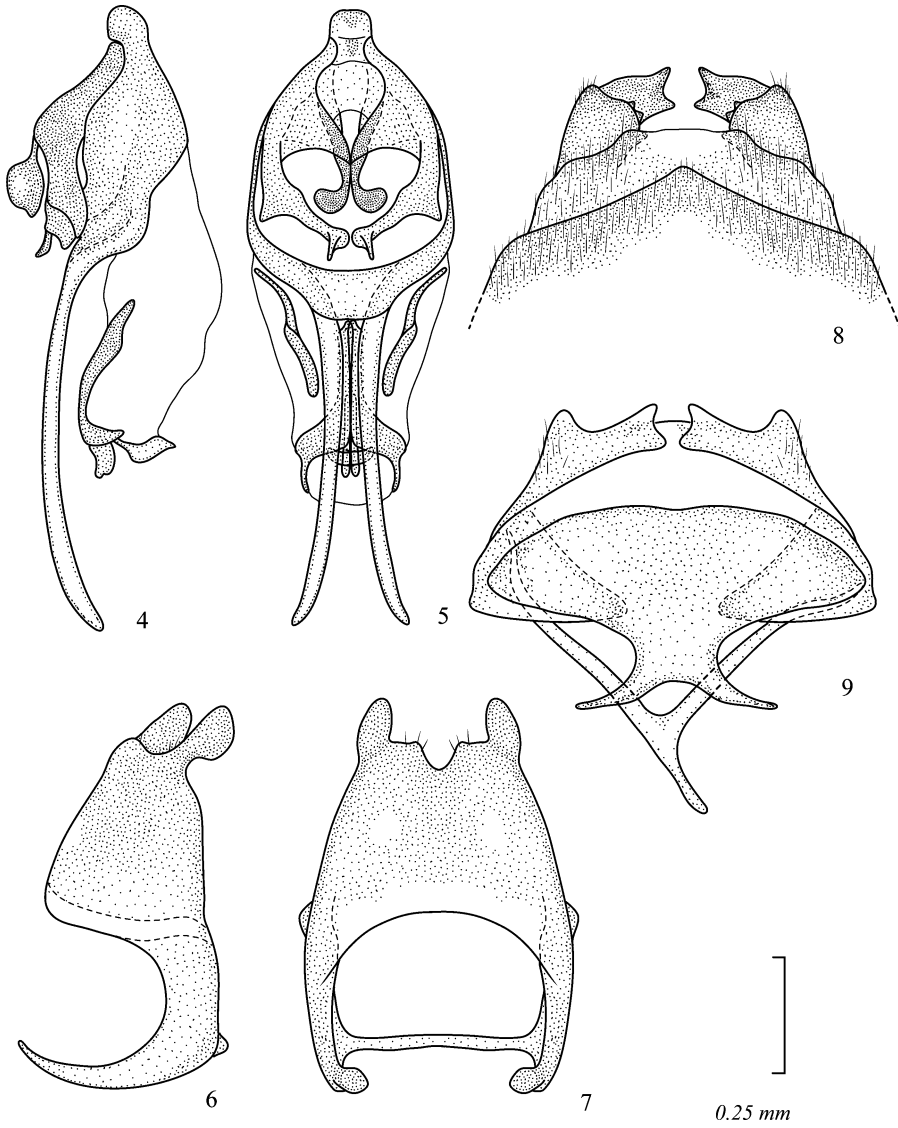
Median lobe broad spindle-shaped with thick appendicle at the extremity, markedly convex, $\frac{3}{5}$ the length of abdomen; dorsal plate widely divided in arcuate line in apical $\frac{2}{3}$ which is highest in profile, slightly approximate at basal third then slightly divided posteriad, each lateral wall in base triangularly produced at external angle, provided with a blunt hook-shaped tubercle at inner angle; apical part of ventral plate with a rather large rounded tubercle; copulatory piece as shown in Figs. 4–5. Tegmen moderately wide, sub-trapezoidal with arcuate sides in parameres, transverse quadrate in ring part, about $\frac{3}{5}$ the length of median lobe; parameres arcuately emarginate at apical margin with a large triangular concavity at middle, provided with rather long spatulate lobes at each side, without any setae. Eighth abdominal segment transverse; tergite provided with a pair of thick lateral projections, bifurcate at apex; sternite ordinary fan-shaped, weakly arcuate at apical margin.

Type series. Holotype ♂, 8–12 km W. of Nhahin, alt. 500–700 m, Borikhamxaxai Prov., C. Laos, 6–IV–2004, T. NIISATO leg. Paratypes: 4 ♂♂, same data as the holotype. The holotype is preserved in the National Museum of Nature and Science, Tokyo, and the paratypes are in the private collection of the authors.

Distribution. Central Laos.

Notes. Dark in colour, with clavate part of hind femur gradually swollen and with silvery hairs covering a good portion of pronotum as well as head, so that *M. argentata* sp. nov. is rather conspicuous. It can be compared only to *M. fusca* GRESSITT et RONDON, sharing the same structure of hind femur as well as basic colour pattern. It differs from the latter, however, in having the clearly longer elytra, with acute apex in contrast to the rounded elytral apex of the latter. Further, the antennae of the new species are much less flattened, the body lacks the long standing hair of the latter, while its pronotum is mostly covered with silvery hairs. It is also smaller.

All the specimens of the type series of this new species were found on a white tree blossom in the late morning near Nhahin in Central Laos.



Figs. 4-9. Male genital organs of *Merionoeda argentata* sp. nov., from C. Laos. — 4, Median lobe, lateral view; 5, ditto, dorsal view; 6, tegmen, lateral view; 7, ditto, dorsal view; 8, anal tergite and 8th abdominal segment, dorsal view; 9, 8th abdominal segment in ventral view.

Merionoeda neglecta sp. nov.

(Fig. 2)

Body length (from apical margin of clypeus to abdominal apex) 6.4–6.7 mm.

F e m a l e. Similar in many respects to *M. scutulata* from NE. Laos but easily distinguished from the latter by wholly reddish meso- and metathoraces including scutellum (a little infuscate in metasternum in paratype), almost wholly black antenna except for reddish tips of terminal segment, and straight sutural margins of elytra instead of emarginate ones. Colour reddish yellow, partly black to dark brown, weakly shiny in general; head dark reddish yellow except for reddish occiput, black in eyes, antenna and mandibular apex; legs reddish yellow, dark brown in swollen parts of fore and mid femora, and basal segment of hind tarsus, black in swollen part of hind femur and hind tibia except for brownish base; hind wings brownish black.

Head almost as in *M. scutulata* though not so large, coarsely punctured on occiput except for smooth median area, with eyes more weakly prominent, and more widely separated from one another, its interval $2/5$ the width of occiput, HW/PW 1.03–1.06, FA/FB 1.00. Antennae almost as in *M. scutulata* though a little stouter and shorter, almost reaching elytral apices. Pronotum similar to that of *M. scutulata* though rather slender, not so strongly uneven at sides and on disc, PL/PW 0.98–1.00 (M 0.99), PA/PW 0.75–0.78 (M 0.77), PB/PW 0.85–0.93 (M 0.89); sides almost as in *M. scutulata*, with lateral prominent swellings near middle, markedly constricted before or hardly so behind the swellings, gently arcuate in basal $3/7$; disc with three distinct callosities corresponding to those of *M. scutulata*, of which the median oblong one on basal third, a pair of large, oblique kidney-shaped ones of $3/5$ the length of pronotum at a level between apical and basal third, scattered with large coarse punctures in interspaces of the callosities, densely clothed with long lying silvery hairs on basal third. Scutellum triangular, with rounded apex, densely clothed with minute silvery hairs. Elytra similar to those of *M. scutulata*, reaching the base of ventrite 2, EL/EW 1.85–1.95 (M 1.90); sides moderately narrowed in almost straight lines to apical third, then gently arcuate to apices, strongly dehiscent in apical $2/3$ in almost straight lines, not emarginate as in *M. scutulata*. Ventral surface almost as in *M. scutulata*, though generally matted and sparsely punctured, with anal ventrite widely deeply emarginate. Legs almost as in *M. scutulata* though not so long.

Type series. Holotype ♀, Phonsavan, 1,150 m in alt., Xiengkhouang Prov., C. Laos, 16–III–2008, H. WAKAHARA leg. Paratype: 1 ♀, near Dadygang, 1,500 m in alt., Xishungbanna, Yunnan Prov., SW. China, 7–V–1982. The holotype is preserved in the National Museum of Nature and Science, Tokyo, and the paratype is in the Kanagawa Prefectural Museum of Natural History, Odawara.

Distribution. Laos and Yunnan (SW. China).

Notes. *Merionoeda neglecta* sp. nov. is apparently most closely related to *M. scutulata* HOLZSCHUH. However, it can be distinguished from the latter by the following differences. First, the meso- and metathoraces are reddish yellow or light brown in

colour, and the scutellum is without exception reddish yellow, whereas these parts are black in colour in *M. scutulata*. Secondly, the antennae are black in general except the apices of the last segments, whereas the scape and the last 2 segments of the latter are more or less reddish. Thirdly, the pronotum is rather narrow with its length nearly equal to the width, while the swellings on the disc and on the sides are weaker. Finally, the elytra are broader, with a straight inner edge in contrast to the emarginate inner one of *M. scutulata*.

The new species resembles also *M. melanocephala* GRESSITT et RONDON, which seem to resembles *M. scutulata* according to the description. It differs, however, in the coloration of metathorax, scutellum and the apical third of elytra and thus can be distinguished. Nevertheless, *M. scutulata*, *M. melanocephala* and *M. neglecta* sp. nov. are probably closely related with each other and may form a group within the genus. The resemblance to *M. spadixelytra* GRESSITT et RONDON (1970, p. 126, fig. 22 g) regarding the coloration pattern seems to be of a more incidental nature, as they obviously differ in comparative length and structure of the elytra.

Merionoeda kinoshitai sp. nov.

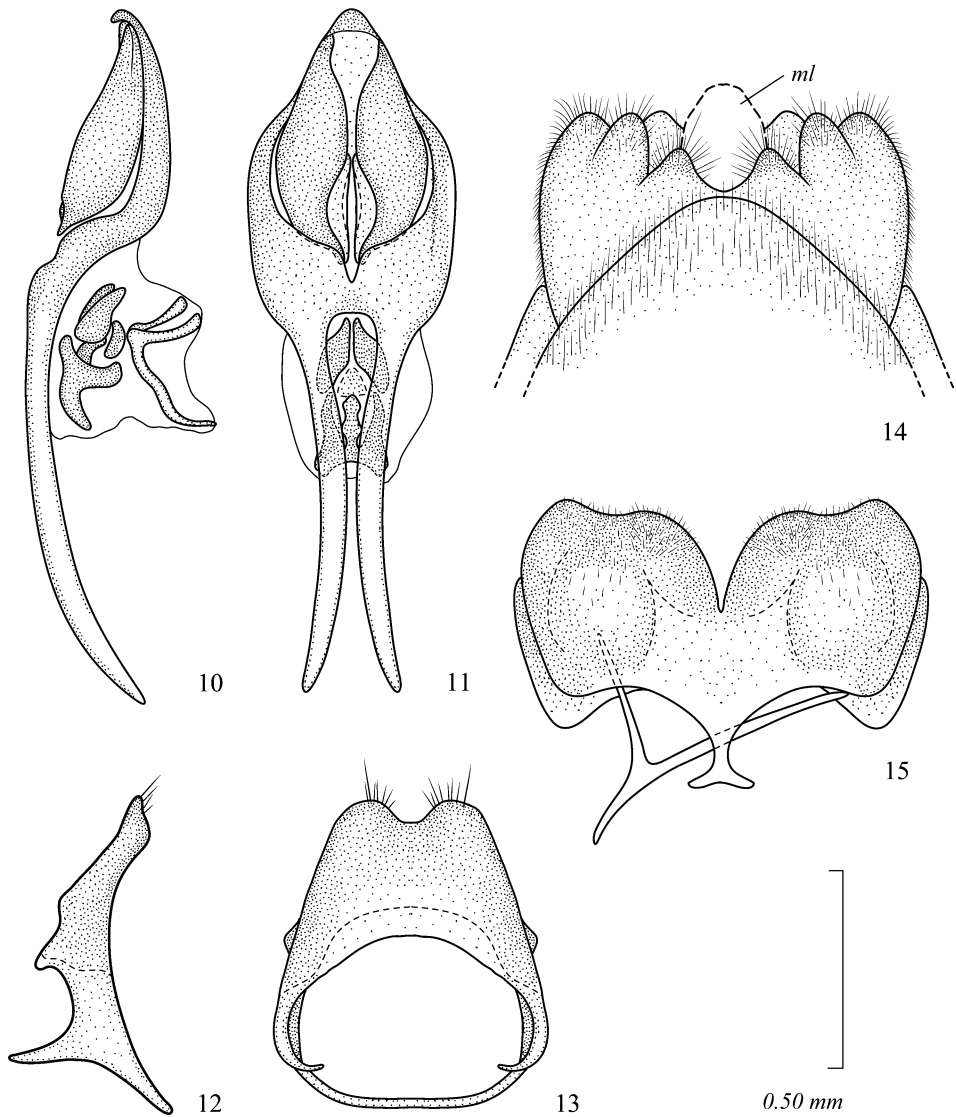
(Figs. 3, 10–15)

Body length (from apical margin of clypeus to abdominal apex) 8.1 mm.

M a l e. Colour black, though elytra and antennae dark brown; legs mostly reddish dark brown, bases of hind femur and tibia, and apical half of fore tibia yellowish brown; tarsus more or less yellowish brown; shiny though matted on elytra except at humeri and on legs except on clavate part of hind femur.

Head moderately projected forwards, with rather elongate neck, weakly convex, wider than the maximum width of pronotum, HW/PW 1.15, provided with dense medium-sized punctures and a few short silvery hairs near upper eye-lobes; occiput furnished with dense large punctures behind upper eye-lobes, with sides rugose or coarsely punctured; frons half the length of basal width, moderately declivous towards a deep median groove, scattered with large coarse punctures, FA/FB 0.9; clypeus about half the length of basal width, distinctly narrowed towards apex, flattened in apical 2/3, with large, coarse irregular punctures, fronto-clypeal suture very deep; eyes large and prominent, very deeply and narrowly emarginate under antennal scapes, separated from one another by 1/3 the width of occiput. Antennae fairly long, attaining abdominal apex, clothed with minute silvery pubescence on segments 5–11 and a few short silvery hairs on basal four segments, additionally with sparse pale yellow hairs on undersides of segments 2–6; scape weakly clavate, arcuate, furnished with a few silvery hairs, segments 3 and 4 nearly equal in length and 3/4 the length of scape, segment 5 obtusely and segments 6–11 weakly flattened, segments 6–10 hardly serrate, terminal segment bluntly toothed at apex.

Pronotum slightly longer than wide, moderately convergent to apex, PL/PW 1.05, PA/PW 0.72, PB/PW 0.91; sides with large lateral swellings near middle, moderately



Figs. 10–15. Male genital organs of *Merionoeda kinoshitai* sp. nov., from NW. Thailand. — 10, Median lobe, lateral view; 11, ditto, dorsal view; 12, tegmen, lateral view; 13, ditto, dorsal view; 14, anal tergite and 8th abdominal segment, dorsal view; 15, 8th abdominal segment in ventral view; *ml*, outline of median lobe in apical part.

constricted before and hardly so behind the swellings; apex and base thickly bordered; disc with three distinct callosities, of which the median smallest one is drop-shaped, raised at a level between basal sixth and apical $2/5$, a pair of large, oblique kidney-shaped ones of half the length of pronotum at a level between basal sixth and apical third, hardly punctured and almost glabrous, though furnished with a few silvery hairs in interspaces of callosities and densely clothed with short silvery hairs on basal margin and on basal half of oblique callosities, shagreened on basal third to sixth. Scutellum trapezoidal with emarginate apex, clothed with silvery pubescence.

Elytra moderate in length, surpassing apex of basal ventrite, EL/EW 2.18; sides moderately projected forwards at humeri, weakly emarginate between basal and apical sixth, strongly dehiscent in apical $2/3$, with apical part pronounced broadly knife-shaped; disc furnished with fairly dense minute silvery hairs, each elytron provided with an obtuse to moderate costa from humerus to apical sixth, as well as with irregular rows of medium-sized punctures which are decreasing in number from 9 to 3 apicad, weakly impressed near apical third.

Venter of thoraces weakly shiny, clothed with silvery pubescence except for apical third of prosternum, middle of mesosternum and metasternum; prosternum moderately prominent behind apical margin, with intercoxal process strongly compressed between coxae; mesosternum with intercoxal process broad, widely and deeply emarginate at apex; metasternum well convex, with median suture deeply grooved and with a distinct transversal groove. Abdomen moderately arcuate at sides, clothed with silvery pubescence on ventrites 1–2 and at sides of ventrites 3–5; ventrite 1 $4/9$ the length of abdomen, ventrite 2 $1/5$ likewise; anal tergite narrowly rounded at apex.

Legs long and fairly slender; hind femur surpassing abdominal apex by about apical half, weakly arcuate, rather suddenly clavate in apical third, with short lying hairs; hind tibia $4/5$ the length of femur, slightly arcuate, with small dents in two rows along external side, terminal spur short, reaching only the middle of 1st tarsal segment.

Median lobe broad and subparallel though strongly narrowed apicad from apical $2/5$, weakly convex in profile, almost half the length of abdomen; dorsal plate rather narrowly divided in arcuate line in apical $2/5$, almost approximate at $3/5$ then arcuately divided again, completely conjoined at base, lateral walls entirely arcuate at sides; apical part of ventral plate hardly produced, gently bent upwards in profile; copulatory pieces as shown in Figs. 10–11. Tegmen wide, trapezoidal as a whole, distinctly dilated basad, about $2/5$ the length of median lobe; parameres gently arcuate at apical margin, with a weak rounded triangular concavity at middle, provided with about 10 rather long setae near inner sides. Eighth abdominal segment strongly transverse though slightly dilated apicad, with developed sternite which is almost produced to dorsal side; tergite provided with a pair of large arcuate lobes at sides, and a pair of approximate triangular small projections near middle; sternite almost truncate at apical margin with a deep narrow triangular concavity at middle.

Type specimen. Holotype ♂, Chiang Mai District, IV–1988, no further data. The holotype is preserved in the National Museum of Nature and Science, Tokyo.

Distribution. NW. Thailand (Chiang Mai District.).

Etymology. The name of this new species is dedicated to the memory of the late Mr. Tomio KINOSHITA, who was an excellent observer of the cerambycid fauna of Japan. He passed away unexpectedly on 30 August 2009, when this paper was in preparation.

Notes. Dark in coloration and with long slender femur, *M. kinoshitai* sp. nov. is almost unique in appearance and can therefore be easily distinguished. It shares the long, slender, rather suddenly thickened hind femora with *M. uraiensis* KANO, *M. rusticula* HOLZSCHUH or *M. jeanvoinei* PIC. It is probably related to the group of these three species. The overall black to dark coloration of the new species is, however, fundamentally different from the basically yellowish to reddish coloration of the latter three species. The resemblance with *M. indica* (HOPE) (1831, p. 28) or *M. nigrella* GRESSITT (1942, p. 79, pl. 1, fig. 1) regarding coloration is more superficial, as the form of the legs is fundamentally different.

Only one male holotype with scarce collecting data is known.

要 約

横井彌平太・新里達也：北部インドシナから発見されたモモトコバネカミキリ属の3新種。——インドシナ北部および雲南南部を合わせた一帯からは、モモトコバネカミキリ属既知種の3分の一に近い約35種がこれまでに記録されており、同属のカミキリムシの種多様性とその解明度が高い地域として知られている。しかし近年でもなお、既知種と直接の類縁関係をもたない顕著な新種が少なからず発見されており、本論文で記載した *Merionoeda argentata* sp. nov. と *M. kinoshitai* sp. nov. もそのよい例である。

1) *Merionoeda argentata* sp. nov.: 体全体の色調と後腿節肥大部の形状が *M. fusca* GRESSITT et RONDON に似ているが、触角や前胸背面、上翅の特徴が大きく異なり、ほかに近縁の種は見出されない。ラオス中部の比較的低い標高の原生林で採集された。

2) *Merionoeda neglecta* sp. nov.: *Merionoeda scutulata* HOLZSCHUH および *M. melanocephala* GRESSITT et RONDON に類縁が近く、これら3種は属内で1群を形成するものと考えられる。ラオス中部と雲南から採集された各1雌個体をもとに記載した。雄は未知。

3) *Merionoeda kinoshitai* sp. nov.: 体と肢の構造は、*M. uraiensis* KANO, *M. rusticula* HOLZSCHUH および *M. jeanvoinei* PIC に似ているが、色彩は全体が暗褐色でまったく異なっている。少なくとも現在までの知見では属内で孤立した存在である。タイ北西部で採集された1雄をもとに記載した。新名称は、本年8月30日に急逝した著名なカミキリムシ採集家である木下富夫氏に捧げた。

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Elytra, Tokyo, **37**(2): 353, November 14, 2009

Occurrence of *Cephalochetus rufus* (CAMERON) (Coleoptera,
Staphylinidae) on the Island of Ishigaki-jima of
the Ryukyu Archipelago, Japan

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Cephalochetus rufus (CAMERON) is widely distributed throughout the Oriental Region. However, this species has hitherto been known in Japan only from the Island of Nakanoshima of the Tokara Islands off southern Kyushu (SAWADA, 1961, p. 62). Recently, I had an opportunity to examine one specimen of this species obtained on the Island of Ishigaki-jima of the Ryukyu Archipelago. It is recorded below with the collecting data.

1 ♀, Takeda, Ishigaki-jima Is., Ryukyus, Japan, 30–III–1990, T. NONAKA leg.

I thank Dr. Yoshifumi NONAKA for his kindness in giving me the specimen and Mr. Yasutoshi SHIBATA, Machida-shi, for his kind help in consulting with literature.

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