

**Description of a New Species of Genus  
*Aphodius* (*Agrilinus*) ILLIGER from Japan**

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日本産 *Aphodius* 属 1 新種

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***Aphodius* (*Agrilinus*) *tanakai* sp. nov.**

Blackish brown; outer margin of head, front angles and narrow side margins of pronotum, underside of fore body, legs, etc., reddish brown, elytra dark reddish brown (humeral portions, sutural portion and apical portion often more reddish), mouth organs and funicles of antennae yellowish brown; upper surface strongly shining. Oblong ovoid and robust; strongly convex above.

Head moderately convex, rather closely and finely punctate, rugose in anterior portion, sparsely and finely punctate and microscopically shagreened in area between frontal suture and transverse carina in center front; front margin weakly emarginate in middle, moderately rounded and feebly reflexed on both sides; lateral margins oblique and also reflexed; anterior carina low, slightly arched forward and wrinkled, rather steeply sloping in front to front margin; frontal suture fine with 3 tubercles, middle one of these most remarkable and subconical, other lateral ones transverse; genae moderately roundly produced laterally.



*Aphodius* (*Agrilinus*) *tanakai* sp.  
nov. (holotype)

Pronotum about 1.3 times as broad as long, broadest at base, straightly feebly narrowed in basal 3/5, then roundly narrowed to front; front border feebly arched forward; basal border weakly bisinuate on both sides, finely margined; lateral margins finely margined; front angles narrowly rounded; hind angles obtusely rounded; disc strongly convex, moderately closely and rather finely punctate, punctures subequal in size to each other and also to those on head and distance between them about 1-2 times their diameter, those in lateral portions closer and a little coarser, with narrow median impunctate area

posteriorly. Scutellum triangular, closely and finely punctate in basal half, smooth in apical.

Elytra a little less than 1.4 times as long as broad, a little narrower than pronotum at base, gradually widened from base to middle, broadest at basal 4/7, then roundly narrowed to apex; dorsum strongly convex; disc finely striate, strial punctures small but clearly notching intervals; intervals nearly flat, with 2-3 rows of very fine punctures, sutural intervals feebly raised; humeral teeth very small but pointed.

Metasternum broadly flattened with median groove, smooth, sparsely and finely punctate in middle, more sparsely so on both sides, coriaceous in lateral portions. Abdomen shagreened, sparsely haired in lateral and apical portions, sparsely and obsolete punctate on anal sternite.

Tibiae of fore legs bearing 3 distinct, sharp and subequidistant outer teeth, terminal spur moderately bent down- and outward and acutely pointed. First joint of hind tarsi slightly longer than 3 following joints combined and a little longer than upper terminal spur.

Aedeagus short but bold, feebly bent at apex.

Female: Head fairly evenly finely punctate, front margin a little angulate on both sides; tubercles on frontal suture less developed, with middle one growing forward. Pronotum comparatively narrow, a little more closely and irregularly punctate. Protibial spur longer but less strongly bent.

Body length: 4.0-4.8mm.

Holotype: ♂ Nikko, Tochigi Pref., Japan, 24 V 1981, K. MASUMOTO leg., paratypes: 15 exs., ditto, 18 V 1981, H. TANAKA leg.; 7 exs., ditto, 23 V 1981, 3 exs., ditto, 24 V 1981, K. MASUMOTO leg.

This new species is allied to *Aphodius (Agrilinus) ursinus* MOTSCHULSKY, but it is differentiated from the latter in having a smaller, more strongly shining body, a head with front margin more rounded on both sides, pronotal punctures subequal in size to each other in male, humeral teeth small but constantly armed in each individual, and an aedeagus smaller and less largely and strongly bent at apex.

The new species is named after Mr. Hitoshi TANAKA who is the first collector of this new species.

After kindly examining one of the paratypes, Dr. T. NAKANE informed me that he is in agreement that this species is new to science.