

A New Species of the *Lathrobium pollens* Group (Coleoptera,
Staphylinidae) from the Island of Shimokoshiki-jima
off Southwestern Kyushu, Japan

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Abstract A new staphylinid species belonging to the *Lathrobium* (s. str.) *pollens* group is described and illustrated under the name of *L.* (s. str.) *onodai*. It was found in the litter zone of a broadleaved forest on the Island of Shimokoshiki-jima off southwestern Kyushu, Japan.

Through the courtesy of Mr. Shigeru ONODA, Kagoshima, I have had an opportunity to examine an interesting species of the *Lathrobium* (s. str.) *pollens* group found by himself in the litter zone on the Island of Shimokoshiki-jima off southwestern Kyushu, Japan. A careful examination has revealed that this species is a member of the *L. pollens* group, because of vestigial eyes, transverse elytra and degenerated hind wings, and is new to science. It will be described and illustrated in the present paper.

I wish to express my hearty thanks to Professor Shun-Ichi UENO of Tokyo University of Agriculture for his kind advice on the present study. Deep gratitude is also due to Mr. S. ONODA for his kindness in providing me with specimens used in this study.

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

[Japanese name: Koshiki-kobane-nagahanekakushi]

(Figs. 1–7)

Body length: 8.0–9.5 mm (from front margin of head to anal end); 3.8–4.7 mm (from front margin of head to elytral apices).

Body elongate, parallel-sided and somewhat depressed above. Colour reddish black and moderately shining, with mandibles antennae, sutural and apical marginal areas brownish red, palpi, legs and apical two abdominal segments brownish yellow.

Male. Head subtrapezoidal, slightly narrowed anteriorly and feebly elevated, a little transverse (width/length=1.08); lateral sides weakly arcuate; frontal region between antennal tubercles transversely flattened and smooth, provided with a conspicuous setiferous puncture inside each antennal tubercle; surface sparingly and setiferously punctate, the punctures in the vertexal area much sparser than those in other areas; eyes

very small and flat, the longitudinal diameter less than one-fourth as long as the post-ocular region. Antennae extending to the middle of pronotum and not thickened apicad, two proximal segments polished, the remainings opaque, 1st robust and strongly dilated apicad, more than 2.5 times as long as broad, 2nd remarkably longer than broad (length/width=1.80) but a half as long as and evidently narrower than 1st (2nd/1st=0.71), 3rd more than twice as long as broad and distinctly longer than 2nd (3rd/2nd=1.22), 4th to 10th more or less moniliform, 4th apparently longer than broad (length/width=1.80) but evidently shorter than 3rd (4th/3rd=0.82), 5th 1.5 times as long as broad though a little shorter than 4th (5th/4th=0.83), 6th and 7th equal in both

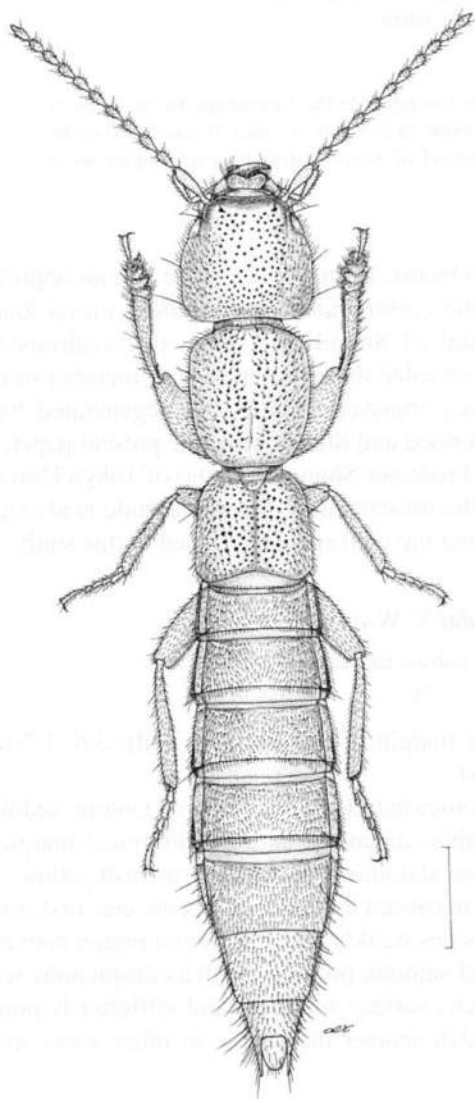


Fig. 1. *Lathrobium* (s. str.) *onodai* Y. WATANABE, sp. nov., holotype, from Sesenoura on the Island of Shimokoshiki-jima in Kagoshima Prefecture. Scale: 1.0 mm.

length and width to each other, each somewhat longer than broad (length/width=1.40) but slightly shorter than 5th (6th or 7th/5th=0.93), 8th to 10th equal in both length and width to one another, each a little longer than broad (length/width=1.30) but slightly shorter than 7th (each of 8th to 10th/7th=0.93), apicalmost fusiform, twice as long as broad and evidently longer than broad (length/width=1.38), subacuminate at the terminal portion.

Pronotum apparently longer than broad (length/width=1.16) and much longer (pronotum/head=1.16) but somewhat narrower (pronotum/head=0.93) than head, widest just behind anterior angles and clearly narrowed posteriad; lateral sides straight at about middle though gently arcuate near both anterior and posterior angles as seen from above, anterior margin gently arcuate, posterior margin nearly truncate, anterior angles rounded but invisible from dorsal side, posterior ones narrowly rounded; surface more closely and more coarsely punctate than on head, bearing a narrow longitudinal smooth space at the middle through the whole length of pronotum. Scutellum subtriangular, sparsely scattered with obscure setiferous punctures on the surface. Elytra oblong, slightly dilated posteriad and a little transverse (width/length=1.11), conspicuously shorter (elytra/pronotum=0.79) and slightly broader (elytra/pronotum=1.02) than pronotum; lateral sides feebly arcuate, posterior margin emarginate at the middle and forming a re-entrant angle, posterior angles obliquely truncate; surface densely covered with much coarser setiferous punctures than those on pronotum. Legs relatively short; profemur markedly thickened, though abruptly constricted near the apex and excavated in apical half on the inner face, so that the anterior part of the excavation forms a subtriangular blunt tooth; protibia dilated apicad, hollowed in basal half on the inner margin and provided with five or so transverse rows of comb-like fine reddish setae in basal half within the hollow; meso- and metatibiae normal; 1st to 4th protarsal segments strongly widened, meso- and metatarsal segments thin.

Abdomen elongate, widest at 5th segment, and then more strongly narrowed posteriad than anterior, 3rd to 6th tergites each provided with a shallow transverse depression along the base; surface of each tergite rather densely covered with fine aciculate punctures and fine brownish pubescence; 8th tergite more sparsely and more minutely

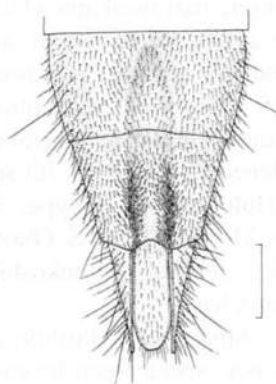
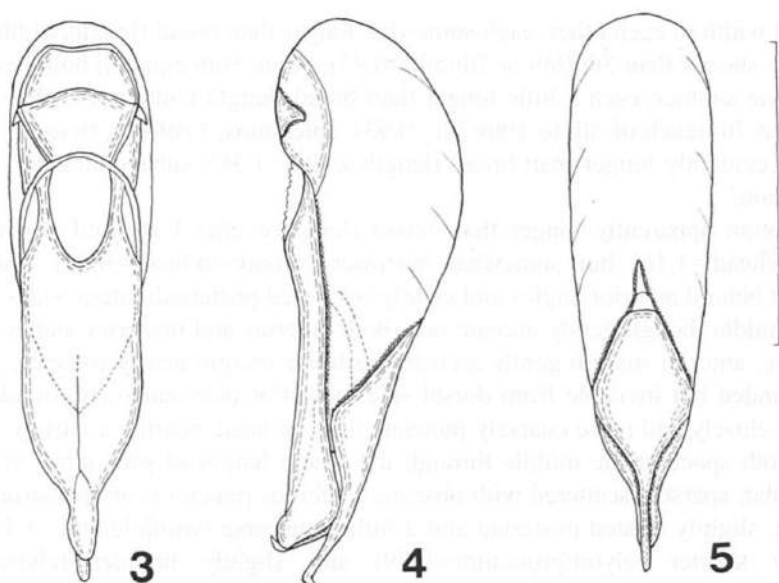


Fig. 2. Last three abdominal sternites in male of *Lathrobium* (s. str.) *onodai* Y. WATANABE, sp. nov. Scale: 0.5 mm.



Figs. 3-5. Male genital organ of *Lathrobium* (s. str.) *onodai* Y. WATANABE, sp. nov., from Sesenoura (type locality) on the Island of Shimokoshiki-jima in Kagoshima Prefecture.

punctate than in the preceding tergites; 8th sternite provided with a shallow and triangular excision at the middle of posterior margin and longitudinally depressed at the middle in front of the excision, the surface of the depression provided with a short smooth area at the middle, each side of the smooth area being covered with blackish setae somewhat denser than those in the other areas; 7th sternite also shallowly emarginate at the middle of posterior margin and with a horseshoe-like depression at the middle before the emargination.

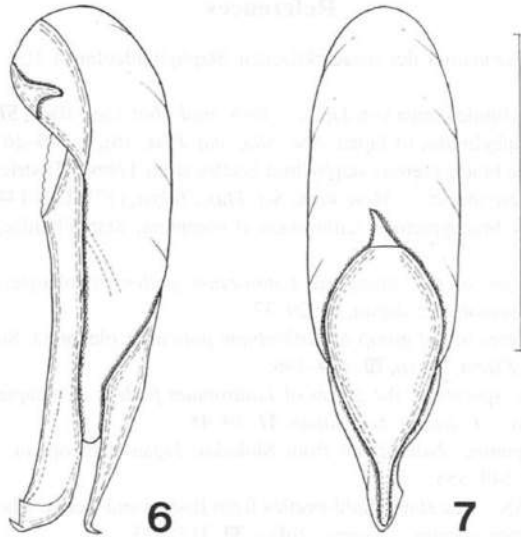
Genital organ elliptical and nearly symmetrical, moderately sclerotized except for membranous dorsal side of median lobe; median lobe gradually narrowed apicad, provided with a well sclerotized plate on the dorsal side, the plate being widest before the middle and much more narrowed apicad than basad, and forming a minute dorsal hook at the extreme tip as seen from lateral side. Fused paramere nearly parallel-sided in basal four-fifths and then abruptly narrowed apicad as seen from ventral side, narrowly rounded at the apex which is curved ventrad with its tip acutely pointed in profile.

Female. Though similar in general appearance to male, 1st to 4th protarsal segments are less widened, and both the 7th and 8th abdominal sternites are simple.

Type series. Holotype: ♂, allotype: ♀, Sesenoura, Shimokoshiki-jima Is., Kagoshima Pref., Japan, 31-VIII-1994, S. ONODA leg. Paratypes: 2 ♂♂, 1 ♀, same data as for the holotype; 2 ♂♂, Teuchi, Shimokoshiki-jima Is., Kagoshima Pref., Japan, 31-VIII-1994, S. ONODA leg.

Distribution. Japan (Shimokoshiki-jima Is.).

Notes. This new species can be easily distinguished from the other species of



Figs. 6-7. Male genital organ of *Lathrobium* (s. str.) *onodai* Y. WATANABE, sp. nov., from Teuchi on the Island of Shimokoshi-jima in Kagoshima Prefecture. Scale: 0.5 mm.

the species-group by the following combination of characters: head subtrapezoidal and broader than pronotum, and different configuration of the secondary sexual character of abdominal sternites and genital organ in male.

Remarks. One paratype obtained at Teuchi slightly differs from the holotype in the length and configuration of the dorsal plate of median lobe, but the difference can be regarded as infraspecific variation.

Etymology. The specific name is given after Mr. S. ONODA, who kindly supplied me with the type series.

要 約

渡辺泰明：鹿児島県下甌島から採集されたコバネナガハネカクシ種群に含まれる1新種（甲虫目，ハネカクシ科）。——コバネナガハネカクシ種群は，アリガタハネカクシ亜科のナガハネカクシ属に含まれる1種群で，顕著に縮小した複眼，長さより幅広い翅鞘，そして後翅が退化しているなどの点で容易に同属の他の種から区別することができる。わたしは，鹿児島県在住の小野田繁氏から，同氏が下甌島で採集されたこの種群に含まれる1種の寄贈を受けた。分類学的検討を行った結果，新種と判明したので下記のとおり命名・記載した。

Lathrobium (s. str.) *onodai* Y. WATANABE コシキコバネナガハネカクシ

本種は，下甌島の瀬々野浦および手打の広葉樹林帯の腐植層から得られたもので，体長および頭部が前胸背板より幅が広い点で，*L.* (s. str.) *densum* に似ているが，雄の腹部腹板に表われる第二次性徴や雄交尾器の形状が明らかに異なる点で区別できる。

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