

## A New Genus and Species of the Subfamily Prioninae (Coleoptera, Cerambycidae) from Vietnam

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**Abstract** A new prionid genus *Vietetropis* is proposed for the reception of a unique species, *V. viridis* sp. nov. from northern Vietnam. It resembles *Megopis*, but readily distinguished by the dorso-ventrally divided eyes.

In 1992, a beautifully coloured prionid specimen was brought about from the mountainous area of northern Vietnam. Only a glance was enough for recognizing that it belonged to a new species, which, I thought, was a member of the genus *Megopis*. After a close examination, however, I have come to the conclusion that it is not only a new species but represents a new genus. Besides, it may not be included in the tribe Megopini GILMOUR, in spite of its superficial resemblance to the genus *Megopis* SERVILLE. I am going to describe this remarkable species under the name of *Vietetropis viridis* gen. et sp. nov., and to make a comment on the relationship between this genus and the genus *Megopis*.

Before proceeding further, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Dr. Shun-Ichi UENO of the National Science Museum (Nat. Hist.), Tokyo, for kindly revising the original manuscript. I am grateful to Mr. Masashi KIMURA for drawing the illustration accompanying this paper.

### *Vietetropis* gen. nov.

**Male.** Body metallic green, partly black, elongated cylindrical. Head robust; frons vertical with a pair of strong carinae, each of which is connected with each antennal tubercle. Mandibles short and thick. Upper eye lobes completely separated from lower eye lobes, so as to form four eyes. Antennae 1.1 times as long as body, of 12 segments; scape robust, arcuate and denticulate internally; 3rd segment arcuate, more than twice as long as scape, with a strong vertical apical spine. Metasternal episternum broad, parallel-sided and rectangularly truncated posteriad.

**Female.** Generally similar to, but obviously broader than male. Body metallic indigo, partly metallic green, darker than in male. Antennae 0.5–0.6 times as long as body; 3rd segment strongly broadened dorso-ventrally, without apical spine; 12th segment narrower and shorter than any of the others.

Type species: *Vietetropis viridis* sp. nov.

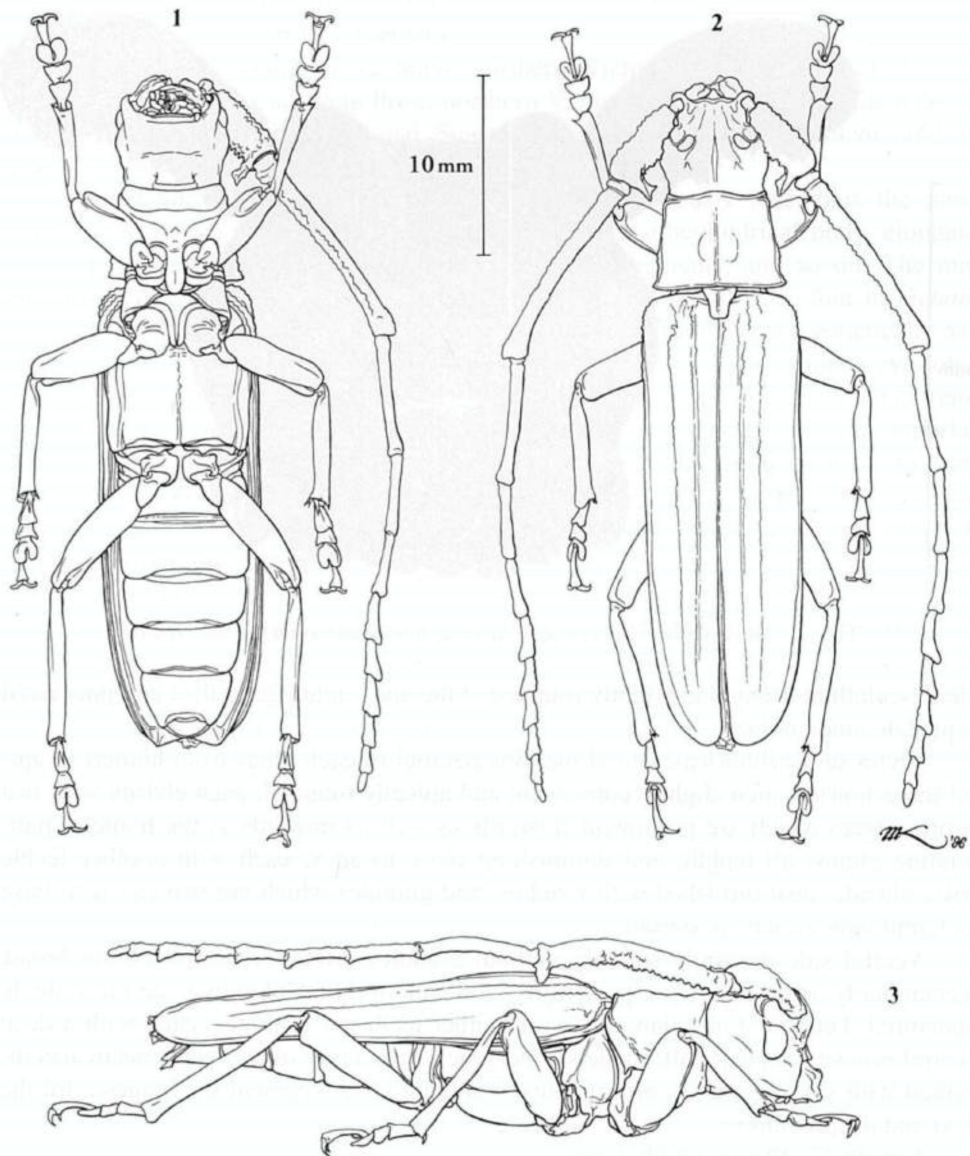
*Vietetropis viridis* sp. nov.

(Figs. 1-4, pl. 1)

Male. Body generally green, partly black, blue or brown; elytra green on costae, suture and near ante-basal part with a strong golden lustre, intervals mat green; frons, vertex, gena, gula and scutellum metallic green partly accompanied with a blue lustre, pronotum deep green, moderately mat and with lustrous basal line; head, pronotum and scutellum with shiny median line; eyes black; outside of mandibles and scapes black with a green tint; femora, tibiae, and 2nd to 6th antennal segments glossy black with faint blue tint; apical halves of 5th and 6th antennal segments as well as 7th and more apical ones mat black, thorax except for pro- and mesocoxae metallic green; coxae and abdominal sternites glossy black with faint blue tint. Dorsal side almost glabrous. Ventral side generally covered with thin but distinct white pubescence. Frons, pronotal disc and legs feebly and sparsely furnished with minute grey pubescence.

Head cylindrical, almost of the same size as pronotum, about 0.8 times as long as wide, widest near apical one-fifth, and then conically narrowed posteriad, finely punctured and partly granulated; frons vertical, convex at middle with a pair of ridges at the sides coming down from antennal tubercles, with a tubercle at middle just above clypeus; vertex level, with strong antennal tubercles and two small tubercles on occiput on each side of median line slightly posterior to eyes; each gula with a short conical, obtusely pointed protuberance anterior to eye. Mandibles short, almost as long as 7th antennal segment, about as long as thick, irregularly more thickened towards base, finely punctured outside, each with two small dents inside, which are roundly arcuate and obtusely bifid at the apices. Palpi minute, about as long as 12th antennal segment; labial palpus with flattened apical segment; eyes faceted; upper eye lobes completely separated from lower eye lobes, the interval of the two lobes being marked by shiny patches; the lower lobe about 5 times as large as the upper one. Antennae about 1.1 times as long as body; relative length of each segment as follows:— 5.0: 1.0: 10.1: 6.0: 3.6: 3.1: 2.4: 2.2: 2.2: 2.0: 1.9: 1.2; scape robust, slightly arcuate, ruggedly granulate and punctured outside, denticulate inside; 2nd short, narrower than scape and wider than 3rd; 3rd long, arcuate dorso-ventrally, strongly asperate with irregular granules and punctures and more distinctly so on the underside, with a conspicuous vertical spine on the underside near the apex, 4th to 6th slightly arcuate, widened, and angulate at each apex, 7th to 11th serrate and shagreened, 12th oval and slender.

Pronotum subcylindrical, finely punctured, about 0.8 times as long as wide, narrowest at the apex, slightly widened towards the middle then parallel-sided to base; a pair of projections at the lateral end of basal margin; each lateral margin of thorax complete, starting from the basal projection, straightly running downwards to coxal cavity, then directed upwards, and ending in the middle of apical margin in lateral



Figs. 1-3. *Vietetropis viridis* gen. et sp. nov., from northern Vietnam, drawn from the holotype ♂; 1, ventral view; 2, dorsal view; 3, lateral view.



Fig. 4. Head of *Vietetropis viridis* gen. et sp. nov., drawn from the holotype ♂.

view; scutellum triangular, slightly rounded at the apex, finely granulate and punctured except on median line.

Elytra semicylindrical; lateral margins parallel to each other from humeri to apical three-fourths, then slightly convergent and apically rounded; each elytron with two strong costae which are prominent forwards as well as upwards at the humeral part, running almost all length, and diminishing close to apex, each with another feeble costa outside; disc furnished with wrinkles and granules which are stronger near base and gradually weaken posteriad.

Ventral side generally smooth, without granules. Metasternal episternum broad, rectangularly truncated both posteriorly and anteriorly. Abdominal sternites finely punctured. Femora stout, glabrous, with neither teeth nor granules, each with a deep ventral groove in apical half, tibiae slender, each with a pair of carinae beneath accompanied with small granules; apical spurs small; 1st tarsal segment the longest, 3rd the next and deeply bilobed.

Length 37–40 mm; width 9 mm.

Female. Similar to male. Body colour more bluish, with abdominal sternites orange yellow. Antennae shorter, about 0.6 times as long as body, with 3rd segment much broadened dorso-ventrally, 6th to 11th dilated, 12th very small. Pronotum about 0.6 times as long as wide. Elytra broader, gradually widened posteriad from humeri to the middle, then almost parallel-sided, widest at apical two-fifths and rounded at anal ends; costae less prominent than in male.

Length 26–39 mm; width 6–9 mm.

*Distribution.* Northern Vietnam.

*Type series.* Holotype ♂, Sapa, northern Vietnam, 25-V-1992, M. ITO leg. Paratypes: 1 ♂, 4 ♀, Cao Bang Prov., northern Vietnam, 1~18-V-1996. The holotype will be deposited in the National Science Museum (Nat. Hist.), Tokyo, and the paratypes in KOMIYA's collection.

*Discussion.* The genus *Vietetropis* gen. nov. obviously resembles the genus *Megopis* SERVILLE in general appearance. They share subcylindrical body, elongated 3rd antennal segment, deeply bilobed apical tarsal segments, and so on. The most prominent difference between the two is in the conformation of eyes, four in *Vietetropis* and two in *Megopis*. However, this may not be so important phylogenetically as it appears, since some species of the genus *Megopis* have fairly emarginate eye lobes, and since each eye lobe can be divided when this tendency is developed to an extreme. *Vietetropis* has posteriorly truncated metasternal episterna; this can be more important because it has been regarded as one of the important non-megopine (non-aegosomine) tribal characteristics. *Vietetropis* has complete 12th antennal segments; 12-segmented antennae are often found in some tribes of the subfamily Prioninae, for example, the tribes Prionini, Acanathophorini, Anacolini, etc., but not in the tribe Megopini. The male genital organ of *Vietetropis* consists of depressed and elongated median lobe and robust lateral lobes. Most prionine genera with the 12th antennal segments have short thick median lobe and robust lateral lobes, with the exception of some genera of the tribe Anacolini. On the other hand, the genus *Megopis* has depressed and elongated median lobe and slender or small lateral lobes. In my present opinion, this new genus had better be included in the tribe Anacolini LAMEERE for the peculiarities of its metasternal episterna, 12-segmented antennae and male genitalia, notwithstanding its superficial resemblance to the genus *Megopis*. However, such arrangement raises further problem in including genera with extremely elongated 3rd antennal segment, which has been regarded as a non-anacoline tribal feature, in the tribe Anacolini. Further investigations are needed for drawing a final conclusion.

## 要 約

小宮次郎：ベトナム産ノコギリカミキリ亜科の新属新種。——ベトナム北部山岳地帯から、美しい金属光沢をもつウスバカミキリに似た種が新たに発見された。検討の結果、多くの特徴がウスバカミキリ属 *Megopis* に似ているが、後胸前側板が後方に狭まらないことなどの重要な特徴が異なり、新属に所属すると考えられる。さらに、この特徴を重視すれば、ウスバカミキリ族 Megopini にも所属しないことになる。この種を新属新種 *Vietetropis viridis* として記載するとともに、この新属を暫定的にコバネカミキリ族 Anacolini に含めておくことを提案する。この新属は、複眼が上下に完全に分かれた四ツ目であることや、12節の触角と細長い円筒形の体などの特徴を合わせてもつことにより、ノコギリカミキリ亜科の他のいかなる属からも容易に区別できる。

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## Explanation of Plate I

- Figs. 1-4. *Vietetropis viridis* gen. et sp. nov., from northern Vietnam; 1, ♂ (paratype) in dorsal view; 2,  
♀ (paratype) in dorsal view; 3, ♀ (paratype) in ventral view; 4, ♂ (paratype) in lateral view.



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