

A New Species of the Group of *Lathrobium monticola*
(Coleoptera, Staphylinidae) from South Korea

Yasuaki WATANABE

Laboratory of Insect Resources, Tokyo University of Agriculture,
Atsugi, Kanagawa, 243–0034 Japan

Abstract A new species of the group of *Lathrobium monticola* is described under the name of *L.* (s. str.) *coreanum*. It is found by using Berlese's apparatus from dead leaves or the litter accumulated in a deciduous broadleaved forest on Mt. Najangsan of Jeonlabuk-do Province in South Korea.

As regards apterous *Lathrobium*, only one species, *Lathrobium pollens*, has hitherto been reported from Korea by PAIK (1985, p. 11, fig. 9). Through the courtesy of Dr. Hideto HOSHINA, I have recently had an opportunity to examine an apterous *Lathrobium* obtained on Mt. Najangsan in Jeonlabuk-do Province, Korea. It seems to belong to the group of *L.* (s. str.) *monticola* SHARP (1889, p. 255), which can be distinguished from that of *L.* (s. str.) *pollens* by small body and inconspicuous secondary sexual character of the abdomen in the male. After a careful examination, it has become clear that this species is new to science for reason of disagreement with *L. monticola* in configuration of the male genital organ. It will be described in the present paper.

Before going further, I wish to express my hearty 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 Dr. H. HOSHINA, Institute of Environmental Science and Technology, Yokohama National University, for his kindness in submitting invaluable specimens to me for taxonomic study.

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

(Figs. 1–4)

Body length: 6.9–7.2 mm (from front margin of head to anal end); 3.0–3.1 mm (from front margin of head to elytral apices).

Body elongate, parallel-sided and somewhat depressed above. Colour brownish black and moderately shining, with suture and apical margin reddish brown, mandibles and antennae yellowish red, legs brownish yellow.

Male. Head subquadrate and weakly convex medially, almost as long as broad,

widest before posterior angles and distinctly narrowed anteriorly; lateral sides gently arcuate, frontal part between antennal tubercles transversely flattened and glabrous, provided with a large setiferous puncture inside each antennal tubercle; surface sparingly, coarsely and setiferously punctured, the punctures becoming closer and smaller on the latero-basal parts; eyes small and flat, their longitudinal diameter apparently shorter than postocular part (longitudinal diameter of eye/postocular part=0.42). Antennae elongate, extending to the middle of pronotum and not thickened towards apical segment, two proximal segments polished, the remainings opaque, 1st segment robust and strongly widened apically, more than twice as long as broad, 2nd to 11th equal in width to one another, 2nd constricted at the base, 1.5 times as long as broad though a half as long as and distinctly narrower than 1st (2nd/1st=0.73), 3rd elongate though somewhat dilated apically, 1.5 times as long as broad and almost as long as 2nd, 4th and 5th equal in length to each other, each a little longer than broad (length/width=1.25) but somewhat shorter than 3rd (4th or 5th/3rd=0.83), 6th to 10th more or less moniliform, equal in length to one another, each slightly longer than broad (length/width=1.13) but somewhat shorter (each of 6th to 10th/5th=0.90) than 5th, 11th fusiform, apparently longer than broad (length/width=1.75) and about 1.5 times as long as 10th, subacuminate at the tip.

Pronotum oblong though somewhat narrowed posteriorly, a little longer than broad (length/width=1.24), distinctly longer (pronotum/head=1.35) and somewhat broader (pronotum/head=1.09) than head; lateral sides slightly arcuate in dorsal view, anterior margin gently rounded, posterior margin subtruncate but feebly emarginate at the middle, anterior angles obtuse and not visible from dorsal side, posterior ones narrowly rounded; surface more closely and more coarsely punctured than on head, except for a narrow smooth median space through the length of pronotum. Scutellum subtriangular and small, provided with several minute setiferous punctures on the surface. Elytra subtrapezoidal, somewhat dilated posteriorly, transverse (width/length=1.11), distinctly shorter (elytra/pronotum=0.78) but slightly broader (elytra/pronotum=1.08) than pronotum; lateral sides nearly straight, posterior margin emarginate at the middle, posterior angles broadly rounded; surface rather densely covered with superficial setiferous

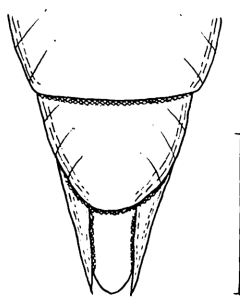
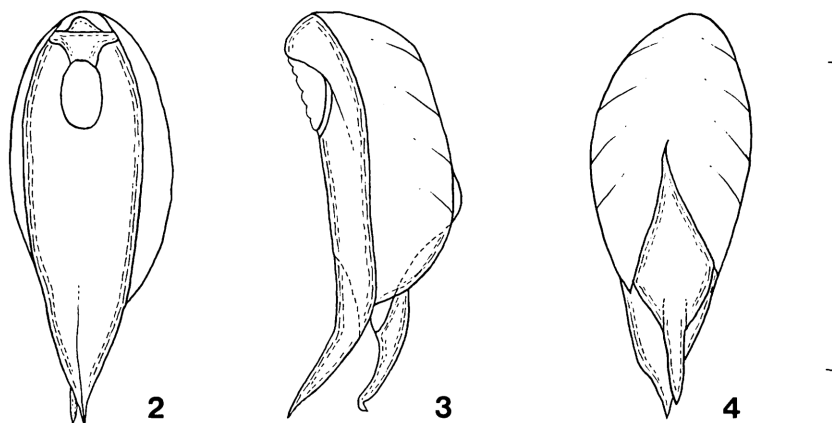


Fig. 1. *Lathrobium* (s. str.) *coreanum* Y. WATANABE, sp. nov.; last three abdominal sternites in the male. Scale: 1.0 mm.



Figs. 2–4. Male genital organ of *Lathrobium* (s. str.) *coreanum* Y. WATANABE, sp. nov.; dorsal view (2), lateral view (3), and ventral view (4). Scale: 1.0 mm.

ous punctures. Legs relatively short; profemur and protibiae similar in structure to that of *L. monticola*; 1st to 4th protarsal segments strongly widened, last segment slightly shorter than all the precedings together.

Abdomen elongate, parallel-sided, though abruptly narrowed from 8th segment to apical end; 3rd to 7th tergites each shallowly and transversely depressed along the base and somewhat sparingly, finely and acutely punctured, 7th and 8th tergites each more sparingly and more finely punctured than in the preceding tergites; all the tergites covered with fine brownish pubescence; 8th sternite with posterior margin only gently rounded.

Genital organ long elliptical, well sclerotized except for membranous ventral side of median lobe. Median lobe slightly shorter than fused paramere, widest at the middle and more strongly narrowed apicad than basad; ventral sclerotized piece sub-rhomboidal, widest near the middle and remarkably narrowed both basad and apicad though nearly parallel-sided in posterior third, apex obtusely pointed in ventral view though briefly curved ventrad and forming a small hook as seen from lateral side. Fused paramere relatively broad and slightly asymmetrical; viewed dorsally, widest at basal fourth and then gradually narrowed both basad and apicad though strongly so in apical part which is slightly inclined to the left side and acutely pointed at the tip, surface finely and longitudinally carinate along the median line, the carina abbreviated near apical third.

Female. Similar to male in general appearance as well as in configuration of 8th abdominal sternite, but the 1st to 4th protarsal segments are not so strongly widened.

Type series. Holotype: ♂, allotype: ♀, Korea, Jeonlabuk-do Prov., Jeongeb City, Mt. Naejangsan, Naejangsa Temple, Geumseon Valley, 24~25-VI-2000, H. HOSHINA & M. MARUYAMA leg. Paratypes: 3 ♂♂, 2 ♀♀, same data as for the holotype. The type

specimens are deposited in the Department of Biology, Natural Science College, Chungnam National University, Taejon, Korea, except for three paratypes (2♂♂, 1♀) which are preserved in the collection of the Laboratory of Insect Resources, Tokyo University of Agriculture.

Remarks. The present new species is similar in body size and facies to *L.* (s. str.) *monticola* from Japan, but is different from it in the following points: head as long as broad and more distinctly narrowed anteriorly, elytra less transverse, surface more densely and more coarsely punctured; 8th abdominal sternite in male more distinctly rounded in the apical margin; median lobe of male genital organ slightly shorter than fused paramere, sclerotized ventral piece nearly parallel-sided in posterior third, fused paramere relatively broad and abruptly curved dorsad in apical fourth as seen from lateral side.

Bionomics. The type specimens were found in dead leaves in a deciduous broadleaved forest in the Geumseon Valley on Mt. Naejangsan.

Etymology. The specific epithet of the present new species is derived from Korea in which lies the type locality "Mt. Naejangsan".

要 約

渡辺泰明：韓国全羅北道から採集されたチビコバネナガハネカクシに近縁の1新種。—— 韓国からはこれまでに、ナガハネカクシ属に含まれる後翅の退化した種として、コバネナガハネカクシただ1種が記録されているに過ぎなかった。本年6月下旬、保科英人博士および丸山宗利氏によって、この種群に含まれる1種が全羅北道井邑市の内粧山で採集された。保科博士のご厚意でこの種を検討した結果、体長および雄の腹部の第二次性徴が不明瞭な点で、チビコバネナガハネカクシに近縁の種と判断された。しかしながら、頭部は長さと同幅が等しく、前方により明瞭に狭まること、翅鞘はより密に、より粗く点刻されること、さらに雄交尾器の形状にも差異が認められたので新種と判定し、*L.* (s. str.) *coreanum* と命名・記載した。

References

- PAIK, W., 1985. Study on Staphylinidae (Coleoptera) of Korea. *Sanhak Hyoupdong, Seoul*, **1985** (9): 1-37. Rural Development Administration. (In Korean, with English summary.)
- SHARP, D., 1889. The Staphylinidae of Japan. *Ann. Mag. nat. Hist.*, (6), **3**: 249-267 [part 6].