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Cassida piperata (Coleoptera, Chrysomelidae): a New Host of *Brachymeria inermis* (Hymenoptera, Chalcididae)

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Brachymeria inermis (FONSCOLOMBE) has a unique host among the members of the Chalcididae (Hymenoptera); it attacks the larvae of the tortoise leaf beetles, while many chalcid species use lepidopteran pupae as hosts (HABU, 1962). Four chrysomelid species, *Cassida nebulosa* LINNÉ, *C. rubiginosa* MOTSCHULSKY, *C. lineola* CREUTZER and *Metriona thais* BOHEMAN, have hitherto been recorded as hosts of *B. inermis* in Japan (HABU, 1962; IWATA & TACHIKAWA, 1966).

I reared six last (fifth) instar larvae of *C. piperata* HOPE, which were collected on the leaves of *Achyranthes japonica* (Amaranthaceae) at the foot of Otokoyama Hill, Yawata City, Kyoto on 22 June 2000. Then, a female of *B. inermis* emerged from one of the beetle pupae in early July under laboratory conditions. *Cassida piperata* is a new host of *B. inermis*. This chalcid seems to attack broadly the tortoise beetle larvae on herbaceous plants.

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