

Description of a New *Notosacantha*-Species
(Coleoptera, Chrysomelidae, Cassidinae)
from Okinawa-Hontô Is., Southwest Japan

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Abstract A new cassidine chrysomelid, *Notosacantha nishiyamai* Y. KOMIYA, sp. nov. is described from Okinawa-Hontô Is., Southwest Japan. It is a close relative of *N. loochoana* (CHÛJÔ, 1961) and a third species of the genus from Okinawa.

Two species of the members of the cassidine genus *Notosacantha* CHEVROLAT, 1837, have hitherto been recorded from the Ryukyu Archipelago, Southwest Japan. One is *N. loochoana* (CHÛJÔ, 1961) from Amami-Ohshima Is., Kagoshima Pref., and the other is *N. ihai* (CHÛJÔ, 1958) from Akusekijima and Amami-Ohshima Isls., Kagoshima Pref., and Okinawa-Hontô and Ishigakijima Isls., Okinawa Pref. The former was first described as a subspecies of *N. castanea* (SPAETH, 1913), and the latter of *N. sauteri* (SPAETH, 1914). In this report I am going to describe a third species of the genus from Okinawa-Hontô Is., Okinawa Prefecture.

Notosacantha nishiyamai Y. KOMIYA, sp. nov.

(Fig. 1 a & b)

Description. Body subquadrate. Color yellowish brown, with mouth-parts, eyes, elytral costae and tubercles and claws dark brown. Pronotal and elytral expansion more or less transparent without any dark pigmentation.

Head with exposed dorsal surface depressed; prolongation cleft deeply in the middle at apex, interocular space with a shallow median sulcus, which at the level of posterior margin of each eye continues to a transverse ridge dividing frons and vertex; inner margin of eye slightly elevated, forming a broad triangular elevation posteriorly, which joins a transverse ridge. Antenna short, not reaching the lateral margin of pronotal expansion; first segment large, second thick and round, from third to sixth elongate and slender, from seventh to eleventh widened and forming a thick club, thickly covered with short hairs.

Pronotal disc with a transverse series of punctures along basal line, two more oblique ones before the middle and another one along frontal margin, interstices of which are very weakly reticulate; front and lateral margins of expansion serrate, and

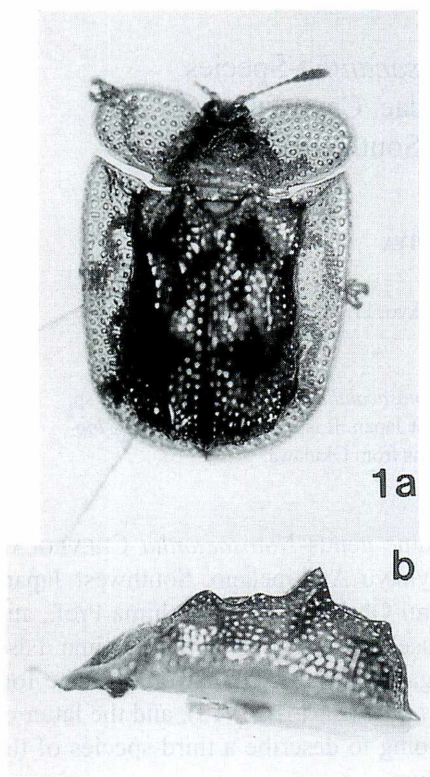


Fig. 1. *Notosacantha nishiyamai* Y. KOMIYA, sp. nov., holotype.

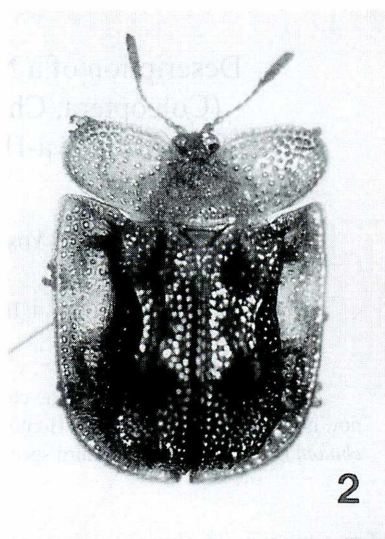


Fig. 2. *Notosacantha lochooana* (CHŪJŌ, 1961), a specimen from Amami-Oshima Is., Kagoshima Pref., Japan.

evenly rounded, a line of hyaline spots along anterior and lateral margins somewhat oblong, and those in the middle portion larger and rounded. Scutellum transversely triangular, with its apex rounded; surface finely reticulate.

Elytron as broad at base as pronotum, punctato-striate; punctures large and rounded; suture with a shallow depression between basal tubercles, where the scutellar row of punctures ends, and thence slightly raised; dorsum with three prominent tubercles together with several minor ones lining in roughly two rows; in the medial line from anterior to posterior, basal tubercle second highest and longitudinally raised, main tubercle at post-median portion highest and sharply pointed, posterior one third highest and bluntly pointed, post-apical one almost indistinct, all of these tubercles are connected with a longitudinal costa; in the lateral line from the anterior to posterior, humeral tubercle relatively prominent, post-humeral one small, marginal one small and transversely raised, again these are connected with a lateral line of costa; in addition to two longitudinal ridges, there are three transverse ridges on dorsum, connecting basal with humeral and apical with marginal tubercles, and running from main to both directions; lateral expansion of elytron with a row of small hyaline spots along external margin and many larger ones of irregular shape in the medial portion.

Length: 5.4–5.6 mm. Breadth: 4.1–4.3 mm.

Holotype: Afuso, Onna-son, Kunigami-gun, Okinawa-Hontô Island, Okinawa Pref., Japan, 17~18-V-1987, A. NISHIYAMA lgt. Paratype: 1 ex., Yona, Kunigami-son, Kunigami-gun, Okinawa-Hontô Island, Okinawa Pref., Japan. 1~3-V-1976, H. TAKIZAWA lgt. The holotype is preserved in the collection of the Department of Zoology, National Science Museum (Nat. Hist.), Tokyo, and the paratype is in the author's collection.

The naming of the discal tubercles of the elytron follows SPEATH (1931).

The present new species is closely allied to *Notosacantha loochooana* (CHÛJÔ, 1961) from Amami-Oshima Island, Japan (Fig. 2), which was first described as a subspecies of the following species, then raised to a distinct one by KIMOTO (1983), and to *N. castanea* (SPAETH, 1913) from Vietnam, Thailand, China, Hainan Island and Taiwan, but it is easily distinguished from them by having more evenly rounded external margin of the pronotal expansion and in lacking darkly pigmented portion in the elytral expansion.

Acknowledgment

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要 約

小宮義璋：沖縄本島産ヒラタカメノコハムシの1新種。—— 沖縄本島北部に生息するヒラタカメノコハムシの1新種, *Notosacantha nishiyamai* Y. KOMIYA, sp. nov. キイロヒラタカメノコハムシ (新称) を記載した。本種は奄美大島に分布する *Notosacantha loochooana* (CHÛJÔ, 1961) チヤイロヒラタカメノコハムシおよびヴェトナム, タイ, 中国, 海南島および台湾から知られている *N. castanea* (SPAETH, 1913) ヒラタカメノコハムシによく似ているが, 前胸外縁がより一様な円弧を描くこと, および翅鞘辺縁部に暗色斑をまったく欠くことなどにより容易に区別が可能である。

References

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