Merionoeda formosana okinawana (Coleoptera, Cerambycidae) from the Kerama Islands, the Mid-Ryukyus

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Merionoeda formosana Heller is classified into five geographical races occurring in rather a wide range between Taiwan, the Ryukyus and western Honshu. Of these, M. f. okinawana K. et N. Ohbayashi is known from Okinawa Island and Tokashiki Island of the Okinawa group of the Mid-Ryukyus. Recently, I was able to examine a Merionoeda species collected from Aka Island of the Kerama group of the Okinawa Islands. As was already suggested by Ogura (1983), the Kerama specimen almost perfectly agrees with M. f. okinawana from Okinawa Island, in the coloration, weak discal callosities on the pronotum, and relatively short legs and antennae. I will record it from Aka Island of the Kerama group as a new locality of the subspecies with details of collecting data as below.

Specimen examined. 1 ♂, Aka Is., Kerama group, Okinagawa Isls., Mid-Ryukyus, Okinawa Pref., SW. Japan, 4-V-1986, S. Ito leg.

Individual variation in the Kerama population is not known since I examined only a single male specimen. The coloration in male is very similar to that from Okinawa Island, though the pronotum is wholly reddish yellow without infuscate apical part, and the elytra are faintly reddish near the scutellum.

This interesting specimen was taken by Mr. Satoshi ITO about twenty years ago, when we were students of Tokyo University of Agriculture. I left it in my cabinet box and did not aware of the fact that it represents a new record from Aka Island of the Keramas. Though much belated, I wish to thank Mr. ITO for his kind offer of the invaluable specimen.

References

OGURA, N., 1983. Longicorn beetles from the Islands of Kerama, Okinawa Prefecture. *Gekkan-Mushi, Tokyo*, (154): 39. (In Japanese.)

Ohbayashi, K., & N. Ohbayashi, 1965. New forms of Cerambycidae from the Ryukyus (Coleoptera). Bull. Japan ent. Acad., 2: 1-5.