

A New Species of the Genus *Ascetoderes* (Coleoptera, Bothriideridae)
from Mt. Kôya-san, Central Japan

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Abstract A third Japanese species of the genus *Ascetoderes*, *A. koyasanus* sp. nov., is described from Mt. Kôya-san in Wakayama Prefecture of Central Japan. It is very similar to *A. popei* (NAKANE, 1967) known from the Bonin Islands, but is distinguishable from the latter by glossy body surface, shorter antennae with wider terminal antennomere, indistinct elytral sculpture and smoothly rounded posterior margin of ventrites. A key to the three Japanese *Ascetoderes* species is given.

In 1990, Mr. Isamu TANAKA (Nishinomiya City) collected a handsome bothriiderid beetle of the genus *Ascetoderes* on Mt. Kôya-san of Central Japan. The author considered at first that it must be *A. takeii* NAKANE, 1968, which is known from the mainland of Japan. Contrary to his expectation, however, it is not identified with *A. takeii*, but is rather similar to *A. popei* NAKANE, 1978 from the Bonin Islands far distant from the mainland. It was doubtful if the two forms belonged to the same species, because their localities are far distant from each other and they are located in different climatic zones. Detailed comparison revealed that they were not identical at the species level. Thus, a new species is described below on the specimen from Mt. Kôya-san.

Ascetoderes koyasanus sp. nov.

(Figs. 1 & 2)

Body length: 4.2 mm.

Color:— Dark reddish brown, shining (Fig. 2A).

Head with anterior clypeal border truncated, beset with a row of short yellowish setae; clypeus finely punctate; interspace of eyes $2.5\times$ as long as eye. Antennae (Figs. 1B & 2C) 11-segmented; antennomere III a little longer than wide; exposed parts of antennomeres IV–IX a little wider than long; exposed part of X $1.6\times$ and XI $1.4\times$ as wide as long; penultimate antennomere (X) $1.32\times$ as wide as terminal one (XI).

Pronotum a little longer than wide, $1.1\times$ as long as wide, widest near anterior border and narrowest at posterior border (the ratio 1.5 : 1.0); lateral margin nearly straight and emarginate; anterolateral corners each with projection rounded at tip; median part of pronotum showing an elongate linguiform depression constricted at middle; pronotal surface with elongate oval punctures.

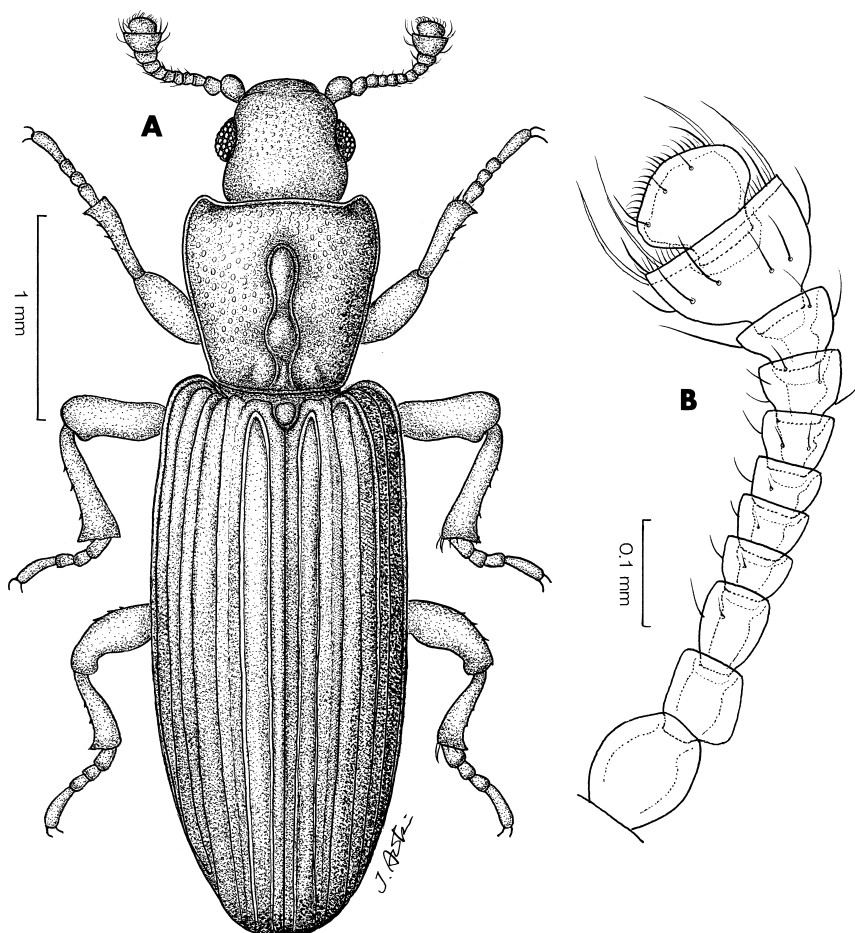


Fig. 1. *Ascetoderes koyasanus* sp. nov., holotype. — A, Dorsal view; B, antenna (right side).

Elytra $2.3\times$ as long as wide; each elytron provided with five strong longitudinal carinae; carinae III and IV fused together apically before connecting to carina V (Fig. 2E); round or polygonal sculptures on interspaces of carinae weakly developed (Figs. 2D & E), their number between carinae III and IV 71–73; elytral setae very minute and hardly visible.

Ventrites with oval or circular punctures, each accompanied by a fine seta inserted just on anterior margin of puncture; posterior margin of ventrite V smoothly rounded (Fig. 2F).

Holotype (NSMT-I-C-200138): ♀ Mt. Kôya-san, Wakayama Prefecture, Central Japan, 23–VII–1990, Isamu TANAKA leg. Deposited in the collection of the National Museum of Nature and Science, Tokyo (NSMT).

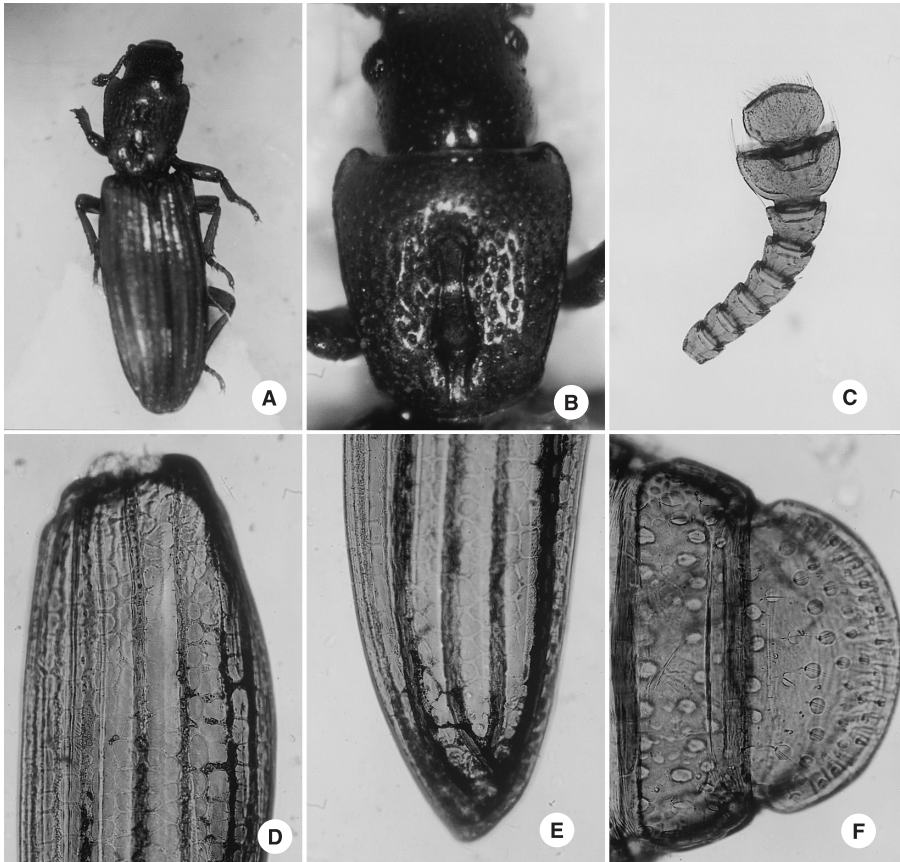


Fig. 2. *Ascetoderes koyasanus* sp. nov., holotype. — A, Dorsal view; B, head and pronotum; C, antenna (right side, antennomeres I-III omitted); D, basal half of elytron (right side); E, apical half of elytron (right side); F, ventrites IV and V.

Ascetoderes popei NAKANE, 1978

(Fig. 3)

Ascetoderes popei NAKANE, 1978, p. 157, fig. 4A.

Ascetoderes sp.: NAKANE, 1977, p. 152.

Bothrideres sp.: NAKANE, 1970, p. 25.

A number of specimens were collected on the Bonin Islands (Chichijima and Hahajima Islands). Distinguishing characters between *A. popei* NAKANE and *A. koyasanus* sp. nov. are shown in Table 1 and the key.

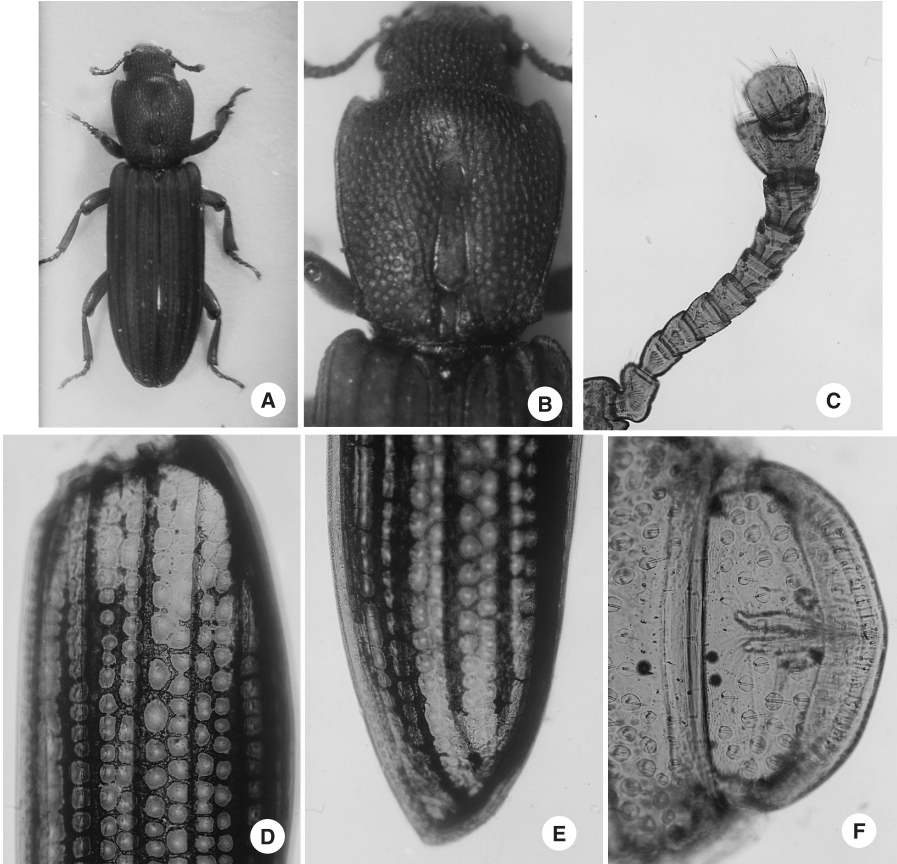


Fig. 3. *Ascetoderes popei* NAKANE. — A, Dorsal view; B, head and pronotum; C, antenna (right side); D, basal half of elytron (right side); E, apical half of elytron (right side); F, ventrites IV and V. A and B, Fukurozawa, Chichijima Is., 11-VI-1976, T. NAKANE leg.; C-F, Mt Funaki, Hahajima Is., 25-X-2008, J. AOKI leg.

Key to the Three Japanese Species of *Ascetoderes*

1. Pronotum as long as wide; median depression on pronotum broad and nearly rectangular. *A. tekeii* (NAKANE, 1967)
- Pronotum longer than wide; median depression on pronotum narrow and constricted at middle. 2
2. Body surface not shining; terminal antennomere (XI) distinctly narrower than penultimate one (X); posterolateral corners of pronotum angular.
..... *A. popei* NAKANE, 1978
- Body surface shining; terminal antennomere (XI) a little narrower than penulti-

Table 1. Distinguishing characters between *A. popei* NAKANE and *A. koyasanus* sp. nov.

	<i>A. popei</i> NAKANE	<i>A. koyasanus</i> sp. nov.
Body length	3.0–6.5 mm	4.2 mm
Body surface	lusterless	lustrous (glossy)
Punctures on head	large and fused together longitudinally	small and clearly separated from one another
Antennomere XI	distinctly narrower than X	a little narrower than X
Antennomeres IV–IX	as long as wide	wider than long
Anterolateral projection of pronotum	angular	rounded at tip
Posterolateral corners of pronotum	angular	not angular
Number of polygonal sculptures on elytral carinae III and IV	56–58	71–73
Distribution (climatic zone)	the Bonin Islands (subtropical)	Honshu, C. Japan (cool-temperate)

mate one (X); posterolateral corners of pronotum not angular.
*A. koyasanus* sp. nov.

要 約

青木淳一：高野山から得られたスジホソカタムシ属の1新種（コウチュウ目ムキヒゲホソカタムシ科）。——日本産スジホソカタムシ属にはムネクボスジホソカタムシ *Ascetoderes takeii* (NAKANE) およびオガサワラスジホソカタムシ *A. popei* NAKANE の2種が知られているが、今回、和歌山県高野山から第3の種が発見され、新種とみなされたので、コウヤスジホソカタムシ *Ascetoderes koyasanus* sp. nov. として命名記載した。採集地の位置を考慮すると本州産のムネクボスジホソカタムシに近いと思われたが、意外なことに遠く離れた小笠原諸島のオガサワラスジホソカタムシによく似ている。しかし、体表につやがあり、前胸背板の凹孔がたがいに離れ、触角末端の2節が幅広く、上翅の点刻の数が多いことなどによって小笠原産の種と区別される。

Literature

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