Elytra, *Tokyo*, New Series, **7** (1): 135–137
June 25, 2017

Occurrence of *Epuraea nikitskyi* Kirejtshuk in Japan (Coleoptera, Nitidulidae)

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Epuraea nikitskyi Kirejtshuk, 1992 is distributed in Palearctic Far East (Kirejtshuk, 1992: south of Primorsky Kray, Khasan and Ussuriysk Districts), however, there has been no record from Japan. The second author has been studying on the nitidulid fauna of Hokkaido, and found this species through field researches. Here we report it from Japan for the first time.

Systematics

Family **Nitidulidae** Latreille, 1802
Subfamily **Epuraeinae** Kirejtshuk, 1986
Tribe **Epuraeini** Kirejtshuk, 1986
Genus ***Epuraea*** Erichson, 1843
Subgenus ***Epuraeanella*** Crotch, 1874

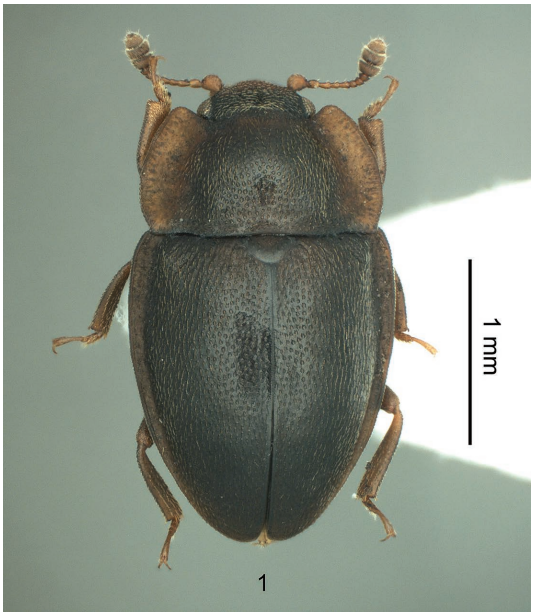
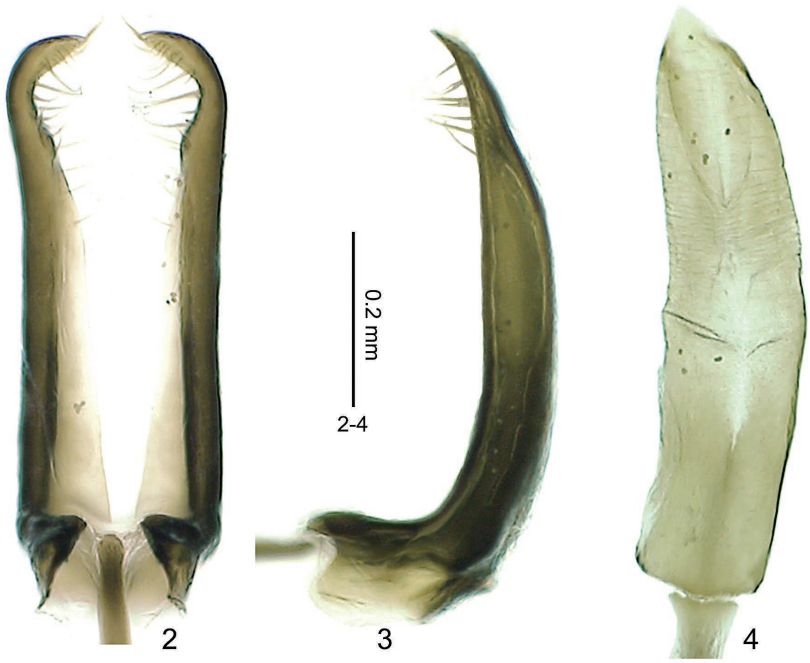


Fig. 1. *Epuraea* (*Epuraeanella*) *nikitskyi*. —— 1, Dorsal habitus. (♀, Tomuraushi, Hokkaido, Japan.)



Figs. 2–4. *Epuraea* (*Epuraeanella*) *nikitskyi*. —— 2, Tegmen, ventral view; 3, ditto, lateral view; 4, median lobe, ventral view. (Tomuraushi, Hokkaido, Japan.)

Epuraea* (*Epuraeanella*) *nikitskyi KIREJTSHUK, 1992

[Japanese name: Tsumuguri-hirata-keshikisui]

Epuraea (*Epuraeanella*) *nikitskyi* KIREJTSHUK, 1992: 129, pl. 58, figs. 1–8 [in key, figure]. Type locality. Khasansky District, Primorsky Kray, Russia.

Material examined. [Hokkaido] 1 ♂, 4 ♀♀, Tomuraushi, Shintoku-chô, Kamikawa-gun, 18.VI.2016, A. KASHIZAKI leg.

Diagnosis. Length 2.3–2.8 mm; body dark brown to blackish; mouthparts, antennae, pronotal and elytral explanate sides and legs paler; antennal grooves converging posteriorly, widely separated at posterior end; pronotal disc with a pair of shallow paramedian foveae near base; sides of pronotum widely explanate, with width distinctly wider than the greatest width of protibia at mid-length; punctures on pronotal disc larger than eye-facet at middle; elytra with explanate sides slightly narrower than the greatest width of protibia at mid-length, widest at basal 1/4, then strongly converging posteriorly; punctures on elytral disc about as large as those on pronotal disc; mesotibiae simple in both sexes. M a l e: apices of lateral lobes of tegmen (Fig. 2) strongly curved inwardly in ventral view; median lobe (penis trunk) (Fig. 4) long and slender, with apex membranous and angularly prominent.

Notes on variability. The specimens from the Russian Far East are more shining because of smoother microreticulation on interspaces between punctures, though punctures are somewhat coarser, separated by nearly twice their diameter.

Bionomics. This species was found from decayed fungi, *Coprinellus disseminatus* (Agaricales, Psathyrellaceae), in Tomuraushi.

Distribution. Russian Far East (KIREJTSHUK, 1992) and Japan, new record.

Comparison. *Epuraea nikitskyi* is a second representatives of the subgenus *Epuraeanella* from Japan.

This species is closely allied with *Epuraea* (*Epuraeanella*) *limbata* (FABRICIUS, 1787) wide- spreaded over the Palearctic Region, *E*. (*E*.) *amurensis* KIREJTSHUK, 1992, known from the Russian Far East and Mongolia, and *E*. (*E*.) *martenesi* KIREJTSHUK, 1999, known from Nepal and India (Dar- jeeling), but can be distinguished from them by the following characteristics: body coloration markedly darker, peculiar shape of mentum, structure of depressions on the lower surface of head (antennal grooves and postocular depressions), and shape of male genitalia (long and strongly curved apices of the lateral lobes of tegmen and sharply acute apex of median lobe). Besides, *Epuraea* (*Epuraeanella*) *nikitskyi* differs from *E*. (*E*.) *limbata* in the usually well outlined paramedian depressions at the pronotal base, clear postocular depressions on the lower surface of head; from *E*. (*E*.) *amurensis* in the usually well outlined paramedian depressions at the pronotal base and elytral apices gently narrowing to apex; from *E*. (*E*.) *martenesi* in the lack of elongate depressions on pronotal disc, and elytral apices completely covering the abdominal apex.

Acknowledgements

We wish to express our sincere gratitude to Dr. Masahiro SAKAI for his important advice and critical reading of the manuscript.

Reference

KIREJTSHUK, A. G., 1992. Family Nitidulidae. Pp. 114–209. *In* LER, P. A. (ed.), *Key to Identification of Insect of the Far East of Russia,* **3**, Coleoptera, Pt. 2. 704 pp. Nauka, St. Petersburg.

Manuscript received 24 December 2016;
revised and accepted 2 March 2017.