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Discovery of *Colon tametomoi* Species Group (Coleoptera, Leiodidae, Coloninae) from Mainland China, with Description of a New Species

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Abstract A new species, *Colon* (*Myloechus*) *yuefeii* Hoshina, sp. nov., is described from Zhejiang, China. This species is a first member of *Colon tametomoi* species group in Mainland China.

The subfamily Coloninae of the family Leiodidae consists of two genera, *Colon* Herbst, 1797 and *Colonellus* Szymczakowski, 1964 (Newton, 1998). About 150 species of Coloninae have been known to occur worldwide (Newton, 1998).

In Mainland China and Mongolia, the knowledge of the fauna of Coloninae is a little, and only seven species of *Colon* have been recorded until now (Schweiger, 1960; Szymczakowski, 1964, 1971, 1981). In addition, one unidentified species of *Colonellus* has been collected in Hong Kong (de Rougemont, 2000).

Recently, I had an opportunity to examine Mainland Chinese beetles specimens collected by Dr. Yasuaki Watanabe and found a species of the genus *Colon* there. My careful examination showed that the species is a new member of the *Colon tametomoi* species group in the subgenus *Myloechus*. This species group was established by Hoshina (2009) and consists of two Japanese species and one Taiwanese species (Nakane, 1982; Hoshina, 2003, 2009). In this paper, I will record the *Colon tametomoi* species group for the first time from Mainland China and herein describe that new species under the name, *Colon* (*Myloechus*) *yuefeii* sp. nov.

The holotype designated in this study is deposited in the collections of the National Museum of Nature and Science, Tsukuba (NMNS).

Before going further, I wish to express my sincere thanks to Dr. Yasuaki Watanabe (Tokyo University of Agriculture) for his giving opportunity of an examination of one valuable specimen.

Colon tametomoi species group

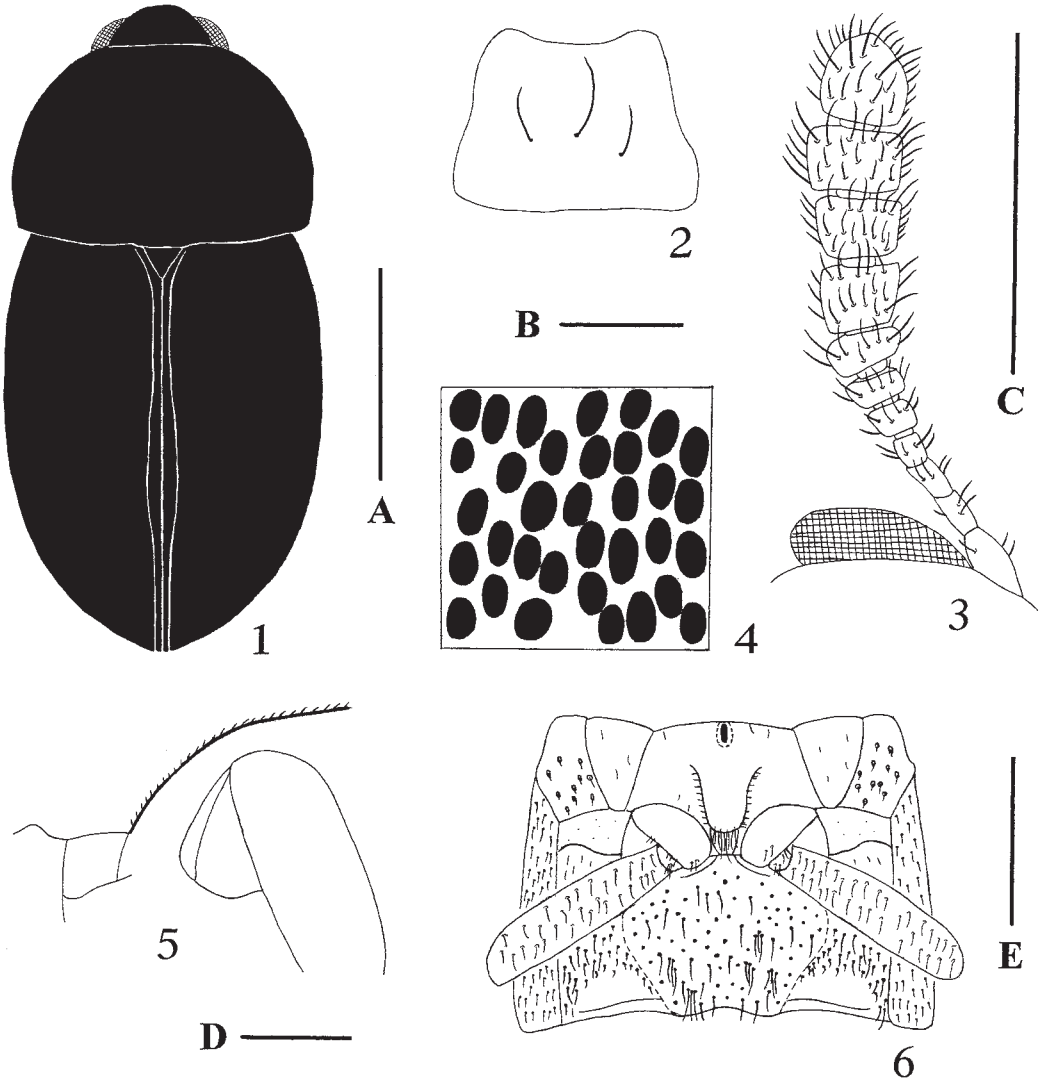
Colon (*Myloechus*) *yuefeii* Hoshina, sp. nov.

(Figs. 1–11)

Diagnosis. Body length ca. 3 mm. Dorsum concolorous, dark brown. Pronotum smooth, nearly rectangular at hind corners, and bearing dense and large setal socket punctures and discal punctures. Male protibiae distinctly curved inwardly at ca. basal half of inner margins and bearing minute and very dense spines along external margins. Male metatibiae almost straight. Parameres of aedeagus with internal blades, and sparsely and moderately pubescent on ventral and dorsal sides, respectively.

Description. Measurement of holotype. Body length 3.1 mm; head 0.45 mm in length and 0.63 mm in width; pronotum 0.98 mm in length and 1.40 mm in width; elytra 1.95 mm in length and 1.42 mm in width.

M a l e. Coloration. Dorsum concolorous, dark brown; antennae brownish; antennomeres 8 and 9 a little darker than others; apical half of antennomere 11 lighter than others; legs dark reddish brown

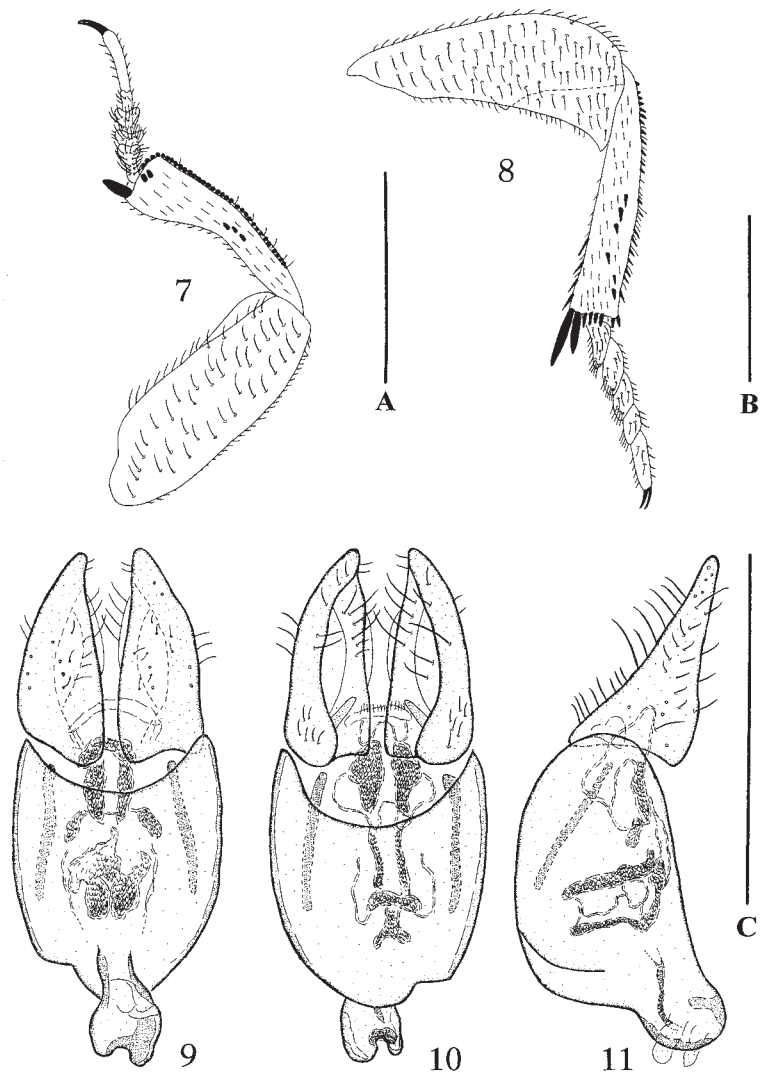


Figs. 1–6. *Colon* (*Myloechus*) *yuefeii* HOSHINA, sp. nov. —— 1, Body; 2, mentum; 3, left antenna, dorsal view; 4, punctures of pronotum; 5, mesoventrite, lateral view; 6, meso- and metaventrites, ventral view. Scale A, 1 mm for Fig. 1; B, 0.1 mm for Fig. 2; C, 0.5 mm for Fig. 3; D, 0.2 mm for Fig. 5; E, 0.5 mm for Fig. 6.

with brown protarsi; mesoventrite and metaventrite dark reddish brown; abdominal ventrites brown.

Body ca. 2.2× as long as wide (Fig. 1), and pubescent on dorsum as other species of the genus *Colon*.

Head smooth; setal socket punctures dense and distinct, but smaller than those of pronotum; mentum smooth, sparsely pubescent, with anterior margin feebly curved inwardly (Fig. 2); antennomeres 1–4 longer than wide; antennomeres 8 and 11 almost as long as wide; remaining antennomeres each wider than long (Fig. 3); relative lengths from antennomeres 2–11 as follows: 1.2 : 1.3 : 1.2 : 1.1 : 1.0 : 1.4 : 2.4 : 2.1 : 2.4 : 3.2 (Fig. 3); neck microreticulate and shallowly punctate.



Figs. 7–11. *Colon* (*Myloechus*) *yuefeii* HOSHINA, sp. nov. —— 7, Left fore leg, ventral view; 8, left hind leg, ventral view; 9, male genitalia, ventral view; 10, ditto, dorsal view; 11, ditto, lateral view. Scale A, 0.5 mm for Fig. 7; B, 0.5 mm for Fig. 8; C, 0.5 mm for Figs. 9–11.

Pronotum widest at basal 1/4, smooth, nearly rectangular at hind corners (Fig. 1), and very feebly expanded posteriorly near scutellum; setal socket punctures and discal punctures large, dense, and close to each other but not connecting (Fig. 4).

Elytra widest at ca. basal 1/4 (Fig. 1) and smooth; setal socket punctures dense and distinct.

Hind wings fully developed.

Mesoventrite microreticulate and very sparsely pubescent; median carinae of mesoventrite bearing fine pubescence, moderately elevated in lateral view (Fig. 5), and gradually divergent from base towards apex in ventral view (Fig. 6); mesepisternum weakly microreticulate and very sparsely pubes-

cent; mesepimeron finely pubescent, and with setal socket punctures shallow but large; metaventrite almost smooth, and moderately pubescent; setal socket punctures of metaventrite distinct (Fig. 6); middle portion of metaventrite wider than long, smooth, moderately pubescent, and with distinct setal socket punctures and discal punctures (Fig. 6); metepisternum smooth, moderately pubescent, and bearing minute setal socket punctures (Fig. 6).

Profemora ca. 2.7× as long as wide (Fig. 7); protibiae distinctly curved inwardly at ca. basal half of inner margins and bearing minute and very dense spines along external margins (Fig. 7); tarsomeres 1–3 of protarsi expanded (Fig. 7); metafemora relatively slender, ca. 2.0× as long as wide, bearing a tiny projection at ca. apical half of posterior margins and a large triangular projection at posteroapical corners (Fig. 8); metatibiae almost straight (Fig. 8).

Aedeagus relatively robust, about 0.74 mm in length and 0.31 mm in width in ventral and dorsal views (Figs. 9 & 10); median lobe ca. 1.5× as long as wide in ventral and dorsal views, and possessing lateral stick-like sclerites less than half length of median lobe (Figs. 9–11); each paramere ca. 0.66× as long as median lobe in ventral and dorsal views (Figs. 9 and 10), slender triangular in general appearance in lateral view (Fig. 11), rounded apically (Figs. 9–11), bearing an internal blade and a small and straight process at dorsal side (Fig. 10), and sparsely and moderately pubescent on ventral and dorsal sides, respectively (Fig. 11).

F e m a l e. Unknown.

Distribution. China: Zhejiang.

Type specimen. Holotype, ♂, Wu-yan-lin (alt. 700 m), Zhejiang, China, 12.IX.1990, Y. WATANABE leg. (NMNS).

Note. The present new species has mesepimeron with large setal socket punctures (Fig. 6) and protibiae bearing minute and very dense spines along external margins (Fig. 7). Thus, this species belongs to *Colon tametomoi* species group according to those morphological features (HOSHINA, 2009) and is a first member of *C. tametomoi* species group in Mainland China.

Colon (*Myloechus*) *yuefeii* HOSHINA, sp. nov. is similar to *C.* (*M.*) *chenggongi* HOSHINA, 2009, in appearance, but can be separated from the latter by having male protarsi expanded on tarsomeres 1–3 (Fig. 7), male metafemora with a tiny and large projection at posterior margins (Fig. 8), and relatively robust parameres of aedeagus in ventral and dorsal views (Figs. 9 & 10). In contrast, *C.* (*M.*) *chenggongi* has slender male protarsi, male metafemora with an only large projection, and relatively slender parameres. Moreover, the present new species also resembles *C.* (*M.*) *tametomoi* HOSHINA, 2003 in shape, but can be distinguished from the latter by having pronotum very feebly expanded posteriorly near scutellum (Fig. 1) and male protibiae distinctly curved inwardly at ca. basal half of inner margins (Fig. 7). In contrast, *C.* (*M.*) *tametomoi* has pronotum relatively strongly expanded posteriorly and male protibiae a little triangularly projected at ca. basal 1/5 and curved inwardly at ca. basal 2/5 of inner margins.

Etymology. The specific name is dedicated to a hero Yuè FĒI (1103–1142) who was a great commander of the Nan-sung Empire located in the type locality, Zhejiang.

要　　約

保科英人：タマキノコムシ科ヒゲブトチビシデムシ亜科 *Colon tametomoi* 種群（鞘翅目）の中国大陸からの初記録と1新種の記載．———— ヒゲブトチビシデムシ亜科 *Colon tametomoi* 種群はこれまで日本産2種と台湾産1種の計3種が知られていた．今回，中国浙江省から同種群の1未記載種が新たに発見された．本稿にて同種群を中国大陸から初記録すると共に，その種を *Colon* (*Myloechus*) *yuefeii* HOSHINA, sp. nov. として命名記載した．

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