

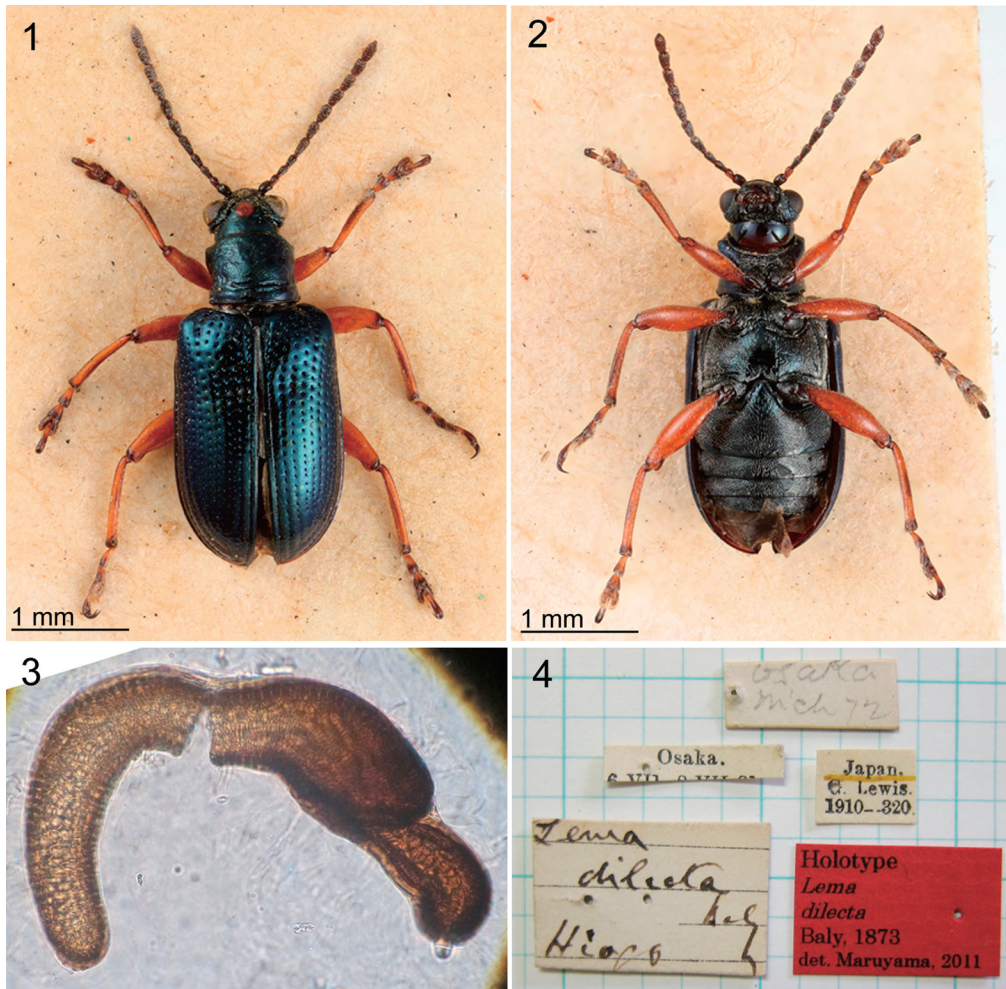
## A New Synonym of *Lema (Lema) dilecta* BALY, 1873 (Coleoptera, Chrysomelidae)

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*Lema (Lema) dilecta* BALY, 1873 is one of the endemic chrysomelid species in Japan, and they are known to feed on a plant *Murdannia keisak* (Japanese name: Ibo-kusa) (KIMOTO & TAKIZAWA, 1994). SUZUKI (2005) described *Lema (Lema) michioi* as a morphologically and ecologically similar species of “*L. dilecta*” (sensu



Figs. 1–4. 1–2, Holotype (1, dorsal view; 2, ventral view); 3, spermathecal capsule; 4, labels.

SUZUKI, 2005) from Japan. As one of major diagnoses, the pronotum of the “*L. dilecta*” was drawn to compare with *L. michioi*. However the pronotum of the “*L. dilecta*” is apparently those of the genus *Oulema*, a probably allied genus of *Lema*, i.e. contraction near the base of the pronotum and rounded shape of the anterior region, and these characters are used for distinguishing *Oulema* from *Lema* (MONRÓS, 1959). This incurred us to investigate the original description and the type specimen of *L. dilecta* to validate the identity of this species.

Although the original description was too simple to delimitate the identity of *L. dilecta*, we had a chance to investigate the type specimen (Figs. 1–4) deposited in the Natural History Museum in London (BMNH). As a result *L. dilecta* has the normally accepted *Lema*-like pronotum in shape (Fig. 1) and without incongruities between the type and the description of *L. michioi*, especially to the forma *hiranoi*. Therefore we judged that *L. michioi* is a junior synonym of *L. dilecta*.

### *Lema (Lema) dilecta* BALY, 1873

*Lema dilecta* BALY, 1873: 74 [Hiogo, Japan] (BMNH).

*Lema (Lema) dilecta*: MONRÓS, 1959: 182; KIMOTO & TAKIZAWA, 1994: 273; SCHMITT, 2010: 362; WARCHAŁOWSKI, 2011: 66.

*Lema (Lema) michioi* SUZUKI, 2005: 88 [Toyama, Japan] (National Science Museum, Natural History, Tokyo); MATSUMURA & SUZUKI, 2008: 3; SCHMITT, 2010: 363; WARCHAŁOWSKI, 2011: 71. **New synonymy**

Holotype: 1 ♀: “Osaka / March 72 // Osaka // Japan. / G. Lewis. / 1910–320. // Lema / dilecta / Baly / Hiogo // Holotype / Lema / dilecta / Baly, 1873 / det. Maruyama, 2011 (red label).

*Remarks.* The type specimen was collected by George LEWIS, and its locality is labelled “Osaka [Ôsaka]”. However, BALY (1873) noted and labelled “Hiogo [Hyôgo]” as the type locality. Ôsaka and Hyôgo are located closely, and LEWIS might confuse or equate these cities during his visit. We guess LEWIS informed BALY that the true locality is Hyôgo afterward.

*Distribution.* Hokkaido, Honshu, Shikoku, Kyushu.

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