

A New Subgenus of the Genus *Eccoptolonthus* BERNHAUER, with Descriptions of a New Species and a New Subspecies (Coleoptera, Staphylinidae, Philonthina)

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Abstract A new subgenus *Eumorimotous* of the genus *Eccoptolonthus* is established for *Ec. laevigatus* (FAUVEL) as the type species. *Eccoptolonthus* (*Eumorimotous*) *laevigatus tiomanensis* ssp. nov. and *Ec. (Eu.) morimotoi* sp. nov. are described from West Malaysia and Laos, respectively. *Eccoptolonthus* (*Eumorimotous*) *wasmanni* (CAMERON), comb. nov. is newly recorded from Laos.

The genus *Eccoptolonthus* BERNHAUER, 1912 was firstly proposed as a subgenus of the genus *Philonthus* STEPHENS, 1829 in the description of an African species, *Philonthus conradti* BERNHAUER, 1912. Later on, *Pseudohesperus* was established for *Philonthus rutiliventris* SHARP, 1874 by HAYASHI (2008), and his new taxon had been followed by several authors (HROMADKA, 2010; SCHILLHAMMER, 2011; Li & ZHOU, 2011). NEWTON (2015) however treated *Eccoptolonthus* as an independent genus with *Pseudohesperus* HAYASHI, 2008 as its junior synonym. The genus *Eccoptolonthus* now comprises 22 species (NEWTON, 2019), of which nine are distributed in Africa and 13 in Asia.

Recently I found several species corresponded with the genus *Eccoptolonthus* in my cabinet. After close examination, these species were identified as *Ec. laevigatus* (FAUVEL, 1895) and two unknown species. Although these three species have common generic characteristics with *Eccoptolonthus*, I recognized that they have also some particular common characteristics, which are different from the nominotypical subgenus. Therefore, I propose *Eumorimotous* subgen. nov. for them herein-after, with a redescription of *Ec. (Eu.) laevigatus laevigatus* (FAUVEL) as for the type of new subgenus. Furthermore, I describe a new species and subspecies under this subgenus, and deal with a new combination, *Hesperus wasmanni* FAUVEL, 1895 should be included in this new subgenus.

I dedicate this paper to express my condolences on the late Dr. Katsura MORIMOTO. He was one of the most excellent coleopterologist in Japan, especially on the phylogeny and taxonomy of Curculionoidea, and had cultivated and produced many excellent researchers. While serving as a professor at the Faculty of Agriculture, Kyushu University, he edited ‘*The Entomological Review of Japan*’ as an editor-in chief of the former Japan Coleopterological Society, and contributed greatly to the development of the academic society.

Before going into further detail, I wish to express my cordial thanks to Mr. Takashi WATANABE (Kanagawa Pref.) for his kindly offering interesting material, and to Dr. Kiyoshi ANDO (Faculty of Agriculture of Ehime University) for his critically reading the manuscript of this paper.

The holotypes and some paratypes described in this paper are deposited in the collection of the Osaka Museum of Natural History.

Main terminology and abbreviations used herein are as same as HAYASHI, 1994. Other abbreviations used herein are as follows: BL — body length; HW — head width; HL — head length; PW — pronotal width; PL — pronotal length; EW — elytral width; EL — elytral length.

***Eccoptolonthus* BERNHAUER, 1912**

Philonthus (*Eccoptolonthus*) BERNHAUER, 1912: 206; BLACKWELDER, 1943: 399; BLACKWELDER, 1952: 138; HERMAN, 2001: 2773.

Eccoptolonthus: NEWTON, 2015: 13 (as a valid genus, not a subgenus or synonym of *Philonthus* STEPHENS).

Pseudohesperus HAYASHI, 2008: 146 (type species: *Philonthus rutiliventris* SHARP, 1874); LI & ZHOU, 2011: 697; HROMADKA, 2010: 497. [Synonymized by NEWTON, 2015: 13.]

***Eumorimotous* subgen. nov.**

Type species: *Eccoptolonthus laevigatus* (FAUVEL, 1895).

Description. General appearance is very similar to some Oriental species of the genus *Hesperus* FAUVEL.

Body rather thick, strongly shiny, with attractive numerous black setae on lateral margins. Head widely impunctate in median area. Pronotum narrowed posteriad in male but parallel-sided in female, sparsely punctate laterally, almost impunctate in median area except distinct dorsal rows of coarse punctures. Prosternum weakly and evenly convex in middle; mesoventrite flat, with intercoxal process broad, shallowly depressed on dorsum and weakly rounded at apex, therefore mesocoxae widely separated each other; 9th tergite thick, subclavate and rounded at apex. Other characteristics are well agreeable with the nominotypical subgenus.

Etymology. The subgeneric epithet is named in honor of the late Dr. Katsura MORIMOTO, and composed of compound name, “eu (eu)” is derived from Greek and “morimotous” from his family name. Gender is masculine, according to the gender of the generic epithet.

Notes. The new subgenus is differentiable from the nominotypical subgenus in the following key. The genus *Hesperus* is different from the genus *Eccoptolonthus* by the dilated protarsi with modified setae on the ventral surface, instead of the slender protarsi without the modified setae in the latter.

Key to the Subgenera of the Genus *Eccoptolonthus*

1. Faces well similar to some *Philonthus* species; body not remarkably setose on sides; pronotum densely punctate in general except median impunctate area; prosternum strongly convex medially; mesoventrite convex medially, with intercoxal process slender, carinate in middle and acute at apex, and mesocoxae approximate each other; 9th tergite slender. *Eccoptolonthus*
- Faces well similar to some *Hesperus* species; body remarkably setose on sides; pronotum almost impunctate in median area except dorsal rows of coarse punctures; prosternum weakly evenly convex; mesoventrite flat, with intercoxal process broad, not carinate in middle, slightly depressed on dorsum and rounded at apex, and mesocoxae widely separated each other; 9th tergite thick *Eumorimotous* subgen. nov.

***Eccoptolonthus* (*Eumorimotous*) *laevigatus laevigatus* (FAUVEL, 1895)**

(Figs. 1 & 5–7)

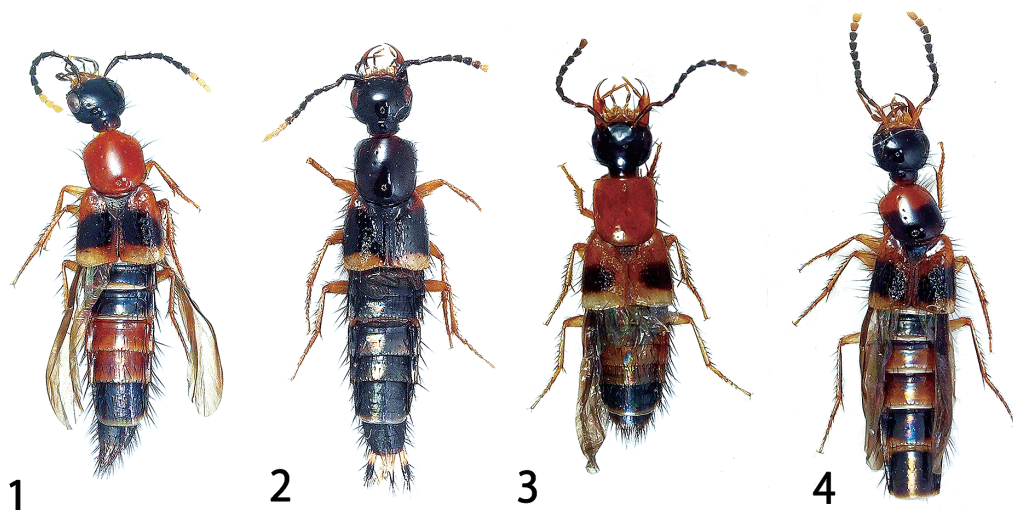
Hesperus laevigatus FAUVEL, 1895: 259; CAMERON, 1921: 378 & 405 (characters); CAMERON, 1932: 157 (characters); GRIDELLI, 1924: 183 (characters); SCHEERPELTZ, 1971: 159 (characters); NEWTON, 2019: 20 (catalogued).

Eccoptolonthus laevigatus: CHANI-POSSE *et al.*, 2017: 34 (new generic placement).

Hesperus laevigatus var. *sarawakensis* GRIDELLI, 1924: 185; HERMAN, 2001: 2684 (synonymized).

See HERMAN (2001) for other references.

Redescription. BL: 8.00–9.50 mm. HW: 1.38–1.44 mm; HL: 1.00–1.10 mm; PW: 1.36–1.40



Figs. 1–4. Habitus of *Eccoptonthus* (*Eumorimotous*) spp. — 1, *Eccoptonthus* (*Eumorimotous*) *laevigatus laevigatus* (FAUVEL); 2, *Ec. (Eu.) laevigatus tiomanensis* sp. nov.; 3, *Ec. (Eu.) wasmanni* (FAUVEL), comb. nov.; 4, *Ec. (Eu.) morimotoi* sp. nov.

mm; PL: 1.50–1.60 mm; EW: 2.16–2.20 mm; EL: 1.88–1.98 mm ($n = 3$).

Body thick, strongly shiny, without metallic luster on fore body, and strongly iridescent on abdominal tergites; head blackish brown to black, pale brown in mouth parts; antennae black, with apical three or four antennomeres yellowish white; pronotum light brownish red; scutellum dark brown; elytra light brownish red in basal third, blackish brown in middle half and pale yellow in apical area. Abdomen black with reddish yellow posterior margins in 3rd, 4th, 7th and 8th ventrites; 5th and 6th brownish red, and basal half of 8th yellow; 9th tergite yellow in basal half and black in the rest; 10th pale yellow; legs pale yellow except brown to dark brown coxae.

Head transversely subquadrate, slightly narrowed posteriad, widely rounded at posterior angles; HW/HL 1.30–1.36; dorsal surface gently and evenly convex, and almost impunctate except marginal areas, without microsculpture. Eyes large, 1.20–1.48 times ($n = 4$) as long as temples. Antennae moderately long, reaching near base of pronotum; basal six and 11th antennomeres longer than wide, individually; 7th nearly as long as wide; 8th to 10th slightly longer than wide, individually; each antennomere with the following relative length from base to apex ($n = 1$): 100 : 50 : 63 : 37 : 43 : 43 : 40 : 40 : 37 : 37 : 51.

Pronotum widely rounded at posterior corners, straight at lateral margins, slightly longer than wide, nearly as wide as and considerably longer than head; PL/PW 1.06–1.13, PL/HL 1.40–1.55; disc strongly convex, sparsely coarsely punctate on lateral area, without microsculpture; dorsal rows each consisting of four coarse punctures. Scutellum weakly depressed, and sparsely punctured.

Elytra quadrate, slightly wider than long, nearly straight at sides, widely rounded at posterior corners, weakly emarginate at apices which are sparsely fringed with short black pubescence; EW/EL 1.08–1.12; surface flattened, not microsculptured; punctures very sparse and rather small, composed of two kinds of punctures, one of them ambiguously arranged by three or four irregular rows of five to seven punctures, and the other scanty.

Abdomen gradually tapering posteriad; 3rd to 6th tergites each with a transverse row of seven to ten punctures at middle, and fringed with about twenty setae at posterior margin; 7th tergite with same

row at about posterior fifth, and very sparsely and irregularly punctate before and not so behind the row, with apical seam; 8th tergite with three transverse rows of about ten punctures; each sternite with a bulk of about thirty punctures in middle.

Legs moderately slender and long.

M a l e. Head rather rounded quadrangular; pronotum slightly narrowed posteriad. Eighth sternite deeply and widely notched at middle of apical margin; 10th tergite elongate triangle, truncate at apex, with a pair of long and robust apical setae at each corner; male genitalia (Figs. 5–7) symmetrical, moderately elongate; penis subparallel-sided in mid-third, then convergent to rounded apex; parameres unilobed, reaching apex of penis, in ventral view, feebly elliptically dilated in apical third, weakly emarginate in lateral margins, in lateral view, slightly expanded at apical portion dorsally, and inner face sparingly scattered with about 16 peg-setae along margins in apical third.

F e m a l e. Head less rounded, somewhat quadrangular; pronotum nearly parallel-sided; apical setae of 10th tergite slightly finer and shorter than in male; 8th sternite rounded at apex, and claw slightly smaller than male; 2nd gonocoxite elongate, with several long setae at apex, with imperceptible ministylus.

Specimens examined. 1 ♂, 1 ♀, 13 km NW of Kak Sao (500±100 m: 18°18'N, 105°11'E), Bolikhamsai Prov., Laos, 14.VII.2004, native collector; 1 ♂, ditto except collecting date of 16.V.2004; 1 ♂, Sang At, Louang Namtha Prov., Laos, 10.V.2004, T. WATANABE leg.

Distribution. Myanmar, Malaysia (Penang, Sarawak); Singapore; Indonesia (Sumatra, Java); Laos — new record.

Notes. This species is very similar in general appearance to a *Hesperus* species, and closely allied to *Eccoptolonthus* (*Eumorimotous*) *morimotoi* sp. nov. in general appearance and male genital structure, but it is easily distinguishable from the latter by the not maculate pronotum and entirely different coloration of the abdomen.

***Eccoptolonthus* (*Eumorimotous*) *laevigatus tiomanensis* subsp. nov.**

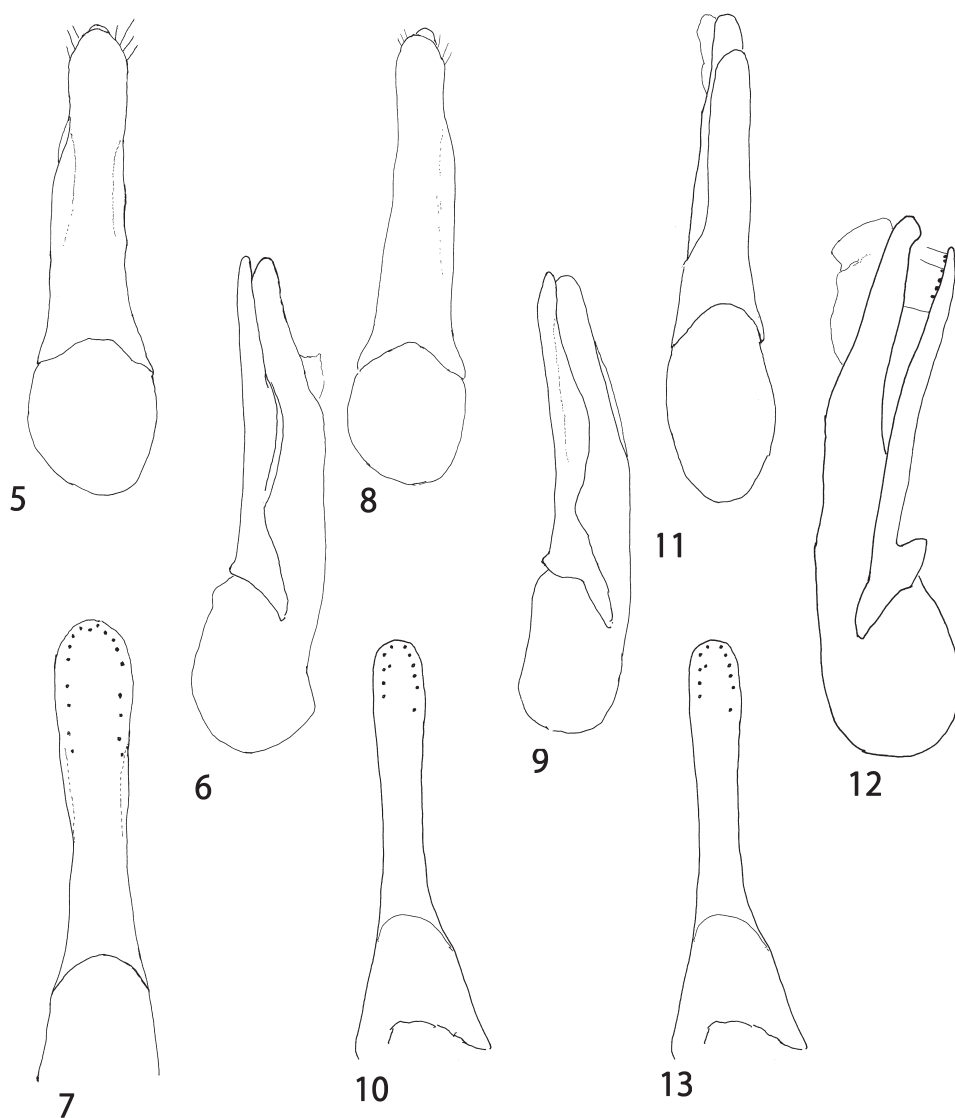
(Figs. 2 & 8–10)

Description. BL: 7.00–7.60 mm; HW: 1.20–1.32 mm; HL: 0.94–1.02 mm; PW: 1.22–1.42 mm; PL: 1.40–1.44 mm; EW: 1.80–2.18 mm; EL: 1.58–2.02 mm ($n = 5$ for all measurements).

Body a little smaller than the nominotypical subspecies, thick, strongly shiny; pronotum dark brown to blackish brown, with anterior portion and sides obscurely dark reddish brown; scutellum black; elytra blackish brown, brownish red on bases, yellow on lateral sides and apical areas, sutural area somewhat paler. Abdomen black except brownish red 5th ventrite; 7th tergite narrowly yellow at apical margin; 8th ventrite and 9th tergite yellow in basal half and black in apical half; 10th pale yellow.

Head distinctly wider than long, as wide as and very shorter than pronotum; HW/HL 1.30–1.54, HL/PL 0.54–0.68; eyes 1.30 times as long as temples ($n = 5$). Antennae long, reaching base of pronotum, with basal six and 11th antennomeres longer than wide, individually; 7th antennomere as long as wide; 8th to 10th slightly transverse; each antennomere with the following relative length ($n = 1$): 100 : 50 : 63 : 42 : 41 : 41 : 40 : 38 : 35 : 36 : 56. Pronotum considerably strongly narrowed posteriad in male, a little shorter than wide or slightly longer than wide; PL/PW 0.95–1.26. Elytra weakly convex, as long as wide, distinctly wider and longer than pronotum, very sparsely and irregularly punctate; EW/PW 1.15–1.38, EL/PL 1.07–1.43. Male genitalia (Figs. 8–10) almost same as those of the nominotypical subspecies.

Type series. Holotype: ♂, Tioman Is., Kampung Tekek, W. Malaysia, 4–26.XI.2000, R. HERGOVITS leg. Paratypes: 36 ♂♂, 41 ♀♀, same data as the holotype.



Figs. 5–13. Male genitalia of *Eccoptolonthus* (*Eumorimotous*) spp. — 5–7, *Eccoptolonthus* (*Eumorimotous*) *laevigatus laevigatus* (FAUVEL); 8–10, *Ec. (Eu.) laevigatus tiomanensis* ssp. nov.; 11–13, *Ec. (Eu.) morimotoi* sp. nov. — 5, 8 & 11, Ventral view; 6, 9 & 12, lateral view; 7, 10 & 13, inner face of paramere.

Distribution. West Malaysia: Tioman Is.

Etymology. The subspecific name is derived from the type locality “Timoan Island” in West Malaysia.

Notes. The new subspecies is easily distinguishable from the nominotypical subspecies: in the former the pronotum is dark brown to blackish brown, abdomen is brownish red on 5th ventrite, and 8th to 10th antennomeres are slightly wider than long, individually, while in the latter the pronotum is light brownish red, both of 5th and 6th abdominal ventrites are reddish, and 8th to 10th antennomeres are slightly longer than wide, respectively.

***Eccoptolonthus (Eumorimotous) wasmanni* (FAUVEL, 1895), comb. nov.**

(Fig. 3)

Hesperus wasmanni FAUVEL, 1895: 260. Type locality: Birmanie, Cari Cheba; Sikkim, Darjeeling; BERNHAUER & SCHUBERT, 1914: 364 (catalogued); GRIDELLI, 1924: 187 (characters); CAMERON, 1932: 158 (characters); SCHEERPELTZ, 1971: 155 (characters).

See HERMAN (2001) for other references.

Specimen examined. 1 ♀, Sang At, Louang Namtha Prov., Laos, 10.V.2004, T. WATANABE leg.

Notes. The present species is very similar in general appearance to *Eccoptolonthus (Eumorimotous) laevigatus laevigatus* (FAUVEL), but is easily distinguishable from the latter by the punctuation on pronotum and reddish 4th to 6th abdominal ventrites. In *Ec. (Eu.) wasmanni*, the pronotum is provided with a pair of dorsal rows of sculpture, each consisting about eight coarse punctures and sparse punctuation on sides.

Distribution. Myanmar; India; Laos — new record.

***Eccoptolonthus (Eumorimotous) morimotoi* sp. nov.**

(Figs. 4 & 11–13)

Description. BL: 7.10–7.60 mm; HW: 1.26–1.40 mm; HL: 0.86–1.00 mm; PW: 1.22–1.32 mm; PL: 1.40–1.50 mm; EW: 1.88–2.08 mm; EL: 1.66–1.80 mm ($n = 3$ for all measurements).

Body thick, strongly shiny, without metallic luster on fore body, strongly iridescent on abdominal tergites; head blackish brown to black, mouth parts pale brown, with darkened 2nd and 3rd maxillary palpomeres; antennae black, with 1st and basal half of 2nd antennomeres dark brown and apical two yellowish white; pronotum brownish yellow, with black macula in basal half, the macula often occupied whole basal half or sometimes becoming slightly small; scutellum dark brown; elytra yellowish brown, widely pale yellow on apical margin, each elytron with a square black fascia on posterior half, the fascia oblique, free from apical margin and suture. Abdomen black on 3rd and 6th to 8th ventrites; 4th and 5th ventrites reddish brown; 3rd, 6th and 7th ventrites narrowly yellow at each apical margin; 8th yellow in basal fourth; 9th tergite yellow in basal half and black in the rest; 10th tergite pale yellow. Legs pale yellow except brown to dark brown coxae.

Head transversely subquadrate, feebly narrowed posteriad, widely rounded at posterior angles; HW/HL 1.34–1.39; dorsal surface gently and evenly convex, very sparsely punctate in marginal areas and almost impunctate in major middle area though bearing very sparse and microscopic punctures, with faint microsculpture. Eyes large, about 1.60–1.80 times ($n = 3$) as long as temples. Antennae moderately long, reaching near base of pronotum; each antennomere longer than wide though as long as wide in 9th and 10th, with the following relative length from base to apex ($n = 1$): 100 : 49 : 58 : 44 : 38 : 33 : 33 : 31 : 31 : 31 : 47.

Pronotum subquadrate, slightly longer than wide, slightly narrowed posteriad, widest at anterior fourth, widely rounded off posteriorly, straight at lateral margins, nearly as wide as and considerably longer than head; PL/PW 1.11–1.18, PW/HW 0.96–0.98, PL/HL 1.44–1.56; disc strongly convex, without microsculpture, widely impunctate in middle, sparsely and coarsely punctate in lateral areas, with a pair of dorsal rows of punctures, each of which bears four coarse punctures. Scutellum nearly flat, sparsely and coarsely punctured.

Elytra subquadrate, as long as wide, distinctly longer and wider than pronotum, nearly straight at sides, widely rounded at posterior corners, weakly emarginate at apices which are sparsely fringed with short black pubescence; EW/PW 1.39–1.65, EL/PL 1.18–1.32; dorsal surface flattened, not microsculptured, scattered with sparse, rather small and irregular punctures.

Abdomen gradually tapering posteriad; 3rd to 7th tergites each with a transverse row of five to eight punctures near base, and fringed with about 16 setae at posterior margin; 7th tergite bearing apical seam of whitish palisade setae at posterior margin, and bearing two transverse rows of punctures at middle and posterior portion, the anterior row situated at about the middle, irregularly scattered with about 16 punctures, and posterior one at about apical fifth and composed of six to ten punctures, impunctate behind the row; 8th tergite with three transverse rows of about ten punctures; each sternite with a transverse row of irregularly scattered about 20 punctures in middle.

Legs moderately slender and long.

M a l e. Eighth sternite deeply and widely notched at middle of apical margin; 10th tergite elongate triangle, truncate at apex, with a pair of long setae at each corner; male genitalia (Figs. 11–13) symmetrical, moderately elongate; penis subparallel-sided in mid-third, then convergent to rounded apex, weakly bent ventrad in apical portion; parameres unilobed, slender, nearly parallel-sided in ventral view, never reaching apex of penis, with inner face sparingly bearing about twelve peg-setae in apical fourth along margins.

F e m a l e. Head less rounded, angularly rounded at posterior corners; pronotum subparallel-sided; 8th sternite gently arcuate at apex; 2nd gonocoxite elongate, with several long setae at apex and imperceptible ministylus.

Type series. Holotype: ♂, Nakai Nam Theun Nat. Park (500±100 m; 18°18'N, 105°11'E), Bolikhamsai Prov., Laos, 7–14.V.2004, native collector leg. Paratypes: 1 ♂, 2 ♀♀, same data as the holotype; 1 ♂, 1 ♀, ditto except for the date, 5–16.V.2004.

Distribution. Laos.

Etymology. The specific epithet is dedicated to the late Dr. K. MORIMOTO.

Notes. The present new species is very similar to *Eccoptolonthus* (*Eumorimotous*) *laevigatus* (FAUVEL), but easily distinguishable from the latter in having the different color pattern of antennae, pronotum, elytra, and abdomen. The parameres are slender, not dilated in apical portion and never reaching the apex of penis in the present new species, while in those of *Ec. (Eu.) laevigatus laevigatus* are dilated in apical third and reaching the apex of penis.

Key to the Species of the Subgenus *Eumorimotous*

1. Pronotum with a pair of dorsal rows of sculpture, each consisting of four punctures. 2
- Pronotum with a pair of dorsal rows of sculpture, each consisting of six to eight punctures in irregular arrangement. *Ec. (Eu.) wasmanni* (FAUVEL), comb. nov.
2. Abdomen with 4th and 5th ventrites reddish brown; pronotum light reddish with black macula posteriorly. *Ec. (Eu.) morimotoi* sp. nov.
- Abdomen with 5th or 5th and 6th ventrites brownish red; pronotum without maculae. 3
3. Abdomen brownish red only on 5th ventrite; pronotum dark brown to blackish brown.
- Abdomen brownish red on 5th and 6th ventrites; pronotum light brownish red.
- *Ec. (Eu.) laevigatus tiomanensis* subsp. nov.
- *Ec. (Eu.) laevigatus laevigatus* (FAUVEL)

要 約

林 靖彦：ムネスジコガシラハネカクシ属（鞘翅目ハネカクシ科）の新亜属と1新種および1新亜種。
 —— ムネスジハネカクシ属 *Hesperus* の種に極めてよく似た東南アジア産の若干の種を精査した結果、

いずれもムネスジコガシラハネカクシ属 *Eccoptolonthus* に所属することが判明した。さらに、これらの種はタイプ亜属と異なる固有の形質を共有することが判明したので、*Eccoptolonthus laevigatus* (FAUVEL) をタイプ種として新亜属 *Eumorimotous* subgen. nov. を立て、あわせて本新亜属のタイプ種を再記載し、1新種1新亜種を記載して、全種・亜種の検索表を作成した。

新亜属はゾウムシ類研究の大家、故森本 桂九州大学名誉教授に献名して生前の業績を顕彰し、ご逝去を悼んでこの論文を捧げるものである。

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