

A Brief Note on the Immature Stage of *Epania iriei* (Coleoptera, Cerambycidae)

Koji HOSOKAWA¹⁾, Tatsuya NISATO²⁾ and Masashi TAKEDA²⁾

¹⁾ Aibarago 2–912–2, Midori-ku, Nagoya City, Aichi, 458–0033 Japan

²⁾ Bioindicator Co., Ltd., Rars Building, Hara-machi 3–19, Shinjuku, Tokyo, 162–0053 Japan

Epania iriei TAKAKUWA was rediscovered in spring of 2011 from Iriomote Is. of southern Ryukyus after an interval of 38 years (TSUCHIDA *et al.*, 2011; NISHIMOTO *et al.*, 2011). This species had been known as the rarest one among the Japanese fauna of longhorn beetles until this rediscovery, with only the male holotype collected from Kampira Fall in Iriomote Is. (TAKAKUWA, 1981).

At the end of 2011, we had a chance to visit Iriomote Is. for searching the immature stage of *E. iriei*. However, we could not find any evidence such as the larva and the host plant of it in spite of our careful field research around Komi Forest Road, which is the first rediscovery site. Then, HOSOKAWA challenged again at the beginning of 2013 and achieved the purpose we have eagerly awaited. The larvae of *E. iriei* were dug out from the fallen tree of *Symplocos cochinchinensis*.

In this short report, we are going to introduce the ecological information of *E. iriei* with the detailed collected data.

Epania iriei TAKAKUWA, 1981

TAKAKUWA, 1981: 6, figs. 4a–4d; type-locality: near Kampira Fall, Iriomote Is.; TSUCHIDA *et al.*, 2011: 33, figs. 1–18 (redescription).

Collecting and rearing data. The host plant associated with *E. iriei* was collected on 5th of January, 2013 at Komi Forest Road of Taketomi-chô, Yaeyama County, Okinawa Pref. (Iriomote Is., S. Ryukyus) by K. HOSOKAWA; 26 male and 18 female adults were emerged out from the host plant at a period between 17th January to 25th June, 2013 at an indoor place in Nagoya City. The period of emergence lasted for five months from January to June, but its peak was February.

Host plant. *Symplocos cochinchinensis* MOORE (Symplocaceae).

Ecological notes. The fallen tree of *Symplocos cochinchinensis* as the host of *E. iriei* was 25 cm in chest-height diameter, and the trunk and twigs were partly damaged by termites. It was broken off near the root probably by strong wind after blighted (Fig. 1).

The traces of feeding were very sparse and never found on the trunk and twigs over 2 m above the ground. The trace were mostly recognized on the trunk or twigs between 2 cm and 20 cm in diameter.

The galleries of mature larvae are about 4 mm in width, 140–200 mm in whole length, somewhat meanderingly run and usually turn back (Fig. 2). Most of these galleries were found in 2–5 mm in depth from the surface of sapwoods, and never found on the surfaces of sapwood and under bark as in those of the other Japanese members of the genus *Epania* (Fig. 3). Being guessed as the reason, the bark of *S. cochinchinensis* is easily peeled after death, and may be impossible to use for foods of the larvae. The ends of galleries were dug at a slant toward the center of woods 2–3 mm in addition, then about 20 mm pupa cells in length were made at its end (Fig. 4). The galleries were always filled with white or gray fine feces of larvae except in pupa cells.

The host plant was determined in the field by HOSOKAWA in comparison with the living tree of *S. cochinchinensis*. Though the host plant was rather common in Iriomote Is., any additional trees damaged by *E. iriei* could not be found during the research of 2013.

In closing this short report, we would like to express our hearty thanks to the following persons who kindly offered us useful information of the habitat of *E. iriei* at Komi Forest Road of Iriomote Is.: Tetsuji KAMAKARI, Yoshiyasu KUSAKABE, Junya NAITO, Hiroshi OHKI and Takashi TSUCHIDA.



Figs. 1–4. *Epania iriei* TAKAKUWA and its host plant at Komi Forest Road of Iriomote Is., southern Ryukyus. — 1, Fallen tree of *Symlocos cochinchinensis* from which found the larvae; 2, larval galleries in sapwoods of the host plant; 3, a larva; 4, larval gallery and entrance of pupa cell.

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