

Occurrence of *Metapocyrtus (Trachycyrtus) adpersus* (WATERHOUSE) (Coleoptera, Curculionidae, Entiminae) in Peninsular Malaysia

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The subgenus *Trachycyrtus* HELLER, 1912 of the genus *Metapocyrtus* HELLER, 1912 (Entiminae: Pachyrhynchini) is composed of 51 species, the vast majority of which are known from the Philippine Islands (KÔNO, 1942 a, b; JANCZYK, 1957; CHÛJÔ, 1971; YAP, 2008; YOSHITAKE *et al.*, 2012). On the contrary, outside of the Philippines, only three species, *Metapocyrtus (Trachycyrtus) immeritus subtangensis* (SCHULTZE, 1925), *M. (T.) kashotonus* KÔNO 1942, and *M. (T.) yonagunianus* CHÛJÔ, 1971, have hitherto been recorded from Lanyu Is., Taiwan (SCHULTZE, 1937; KÔNO, 1942a), Ludao Is., Taiwan (KÔNO, 1942 b), and Yonaguni-jima Is., the Ryukyus, Japan (CHÛJÔ, 1971), respectively.

Generally, *Trachycyrtus* weevils are found on the understorey of secondary forests, especially in and around clearings and margins, as well as in more artificial locations such as parks, gardens, and farmlands. Some of them are often intercepted in plant quarantine, an important measure against alien species (GENKA & YOSHITAKE, 2014; YOSHITAKE & GENKA, unpubl.). *Metapocyrtus (Trachycyrtus) hederaeophilus* YOSHITAKE, 2012 occurred in 2010 in a farm of ornamental plants in Mie Prefecture, Honshu, Japan, and caused serious damages to the English ivy, *Hedera helix* (Araliaceae) (YOSHITAKE *et al.*, 2012). This species, probably an invader from the Philippines, was rediscovered in 2016 on *H. helix* planted as a potted plant in Fukuoka Prefecture, Kyushu, Japan (YOSHITAKE, 2016). In addition, *M. (T.) yonagunianus* is known as a domestic alien species in Japan, introduced from Yonaguni-jima Is. to Okinawajima Is., the Ryukyus (AOYAGI, 2009).

In recent years, *Metapocyrtus (Trachycyrtus) adpersus* (WATERHOUSE, 1843), which is known to occur in Central and Eastern Visayas, the Philippines, was suddenly found in some artificial habitats in the Malay Peninsula. Here we record it as an additional example of the artificial introduction of *Trachycyrtus* species.

Before going further, we thank Dr. H. TAKIZAWA (Nodai Institute of Research, Tokyo University of Agriculture) for his kind offer of specimens, and Dr. N. TAKAHASHI (Kyushu University Museum, Fukuoka) for his kind help giving the second author an opportunity of the odd discovery of this weevil.

Metapocyrtus (Trachycyrtus) adpersus (WATERHOUSE, 1843)

(Figs. 1, 2)

Apocyrtus adpersus WATERHOUSE, 1843, 254 (type locality: “Philippine Islands”).

Metapocyrtus (Trachycyrtus) adpersus: HELLER, 1912, 375 (in key; from *Apocyrtus* as “? *adpersus* WATERH.”). — SCHULTZE, 1925, 278 (redescription; Bohol, Leyte, Samar, Biliran), pl.10, fig. 35 & 36 (lateral habitus, male & female). — YAP, 2008, 257 (in checklist of Philippine *Metapocyrtus*).

Specimens examined. Malaysia: Kedah. 17 males & 10 females, G. Jerai Resort, 992 m, 25.I.2006, H. KOJIMA leg. Pahang. 1 female, Genting Highlands, 24.X.2012, H. TAKIZAWA leg. Cameron Highlands: 2 males, Tanah Rata, 8.XII.2013, H. TAKIZAWA leg; 4 males & 2 females, Robinson Waterfall, 13–14.XII.2013, H. TAKIZAWA leg.

Distribution. Philippines (Visayas: Bohol, Biliran, Leyte, Samar); introduced to Malaysia (Kedah, Pahang)



Figs. 1–2. Dorsal habitus of *Metapocyrtus (Trachycyrtus) adpersus* (WATERHOUSE) from Malaysia. — 1, Male; 2, female.

— new record.

Remarks. This is the first species of *Metapocyrtus* reported from Malaysia, where no Pachyrhynchini weevils have been represented, except *Apocyrtidius chlorophanus* HELLER, 1908 endemic to Borneo. The second author found *M. (T.) adpersus* on a hedge in a resort area in Kedah, Malaysia (Fig. 3), but he could not find it at all in natural habitats around the locality. Cameron Highlands and Genting Highlands, the localities of the specimens collected by H. TAKIZAWA, are very famous resort areas in Peninsular Malaysia. As far as we know, weevil collections of many entomologists, who visited both localities for field survey from 1970s to 1990s, have never contained a specimen of this species. This time, *M. (T.) adpersus* was found in artificial habitats far apart from the known range of the species, strongly suggesting that this is not native to Malaysia but an invasive species from the Philippines, though the invasion route and time of this species to Malaysia is unclear.

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Fig. 3. A habitat of *Metapocyrtus (Trachycyrtus) adpersus* (WATERHOUSE) in Kedah, Malaysia.

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