

A Strange New Genus and Species of Mesosini from North Thailand
(Coleoptera, Cerambycidae, Lamiinae)
[Studies on Asian Mesosini, VII]

Junsuke YAMASAKO¹⁾ and Nobuo OHBAYASHI²⁾

¹⁾ Entomological Laboratory, Faculty of Agriculture, Ehime University,
Tarumi, Matsuyama, 790–8566 Japan

²⁾ Kamimiyada 1334–444, Minamishitaura-machi, Miura City, 238–0101 Japan

Abstract *Mesoplanodes babyrussus* gen. et sp. nov. is described based on a single male specimen from North Thailand.

Introduction

The tribe Mesosini MULSANT, 1839 (Coleoptera, Cerambycidae, Lamiinae) now comprises about 60 genera including more than 500 species and flourishes mainly in the Oriental Region, though some of them are found in the Palearctic Region. Also a few species are recorded from the Australian and the Ethiopian Regions, but no species have been recorded from the Nearctic and the Neotropical Regions except for each one species. It has been mainly categorized by the following characters: antennal scape with cicatrix at the apex; pronotum without lateral spines; mesotibiae without distinct distal notches; tarsal claws divergent (*e.g.*, BREUNING, 1939).

Recently, we had an opportunity to examine a strange mesosine species preserved in the Osaka Museum of Natural History (OMNH) through the courtesy of Mr. Shigehiko SHIYAKE. The species has curious mandibles each of which is provided with a long horn like appendix on each upper surface near base. No species of the tribe Mesosini has ever been known to bear such kind of mandibles in any group. After its close examination, we came to a conclusion that the mesosine in question is an undescribed species which has no place in any of the known genera of the Mesosini. As the result, we herein describe it as a new genus and species in spite of a single male specimen was available.

Before going into details, we would like to express our hearty thanks to Messrs. Shigehiko SHIYAKE and Kozo MIZUNO who gave us an opportunity to examine this interesting species. Also the first author is obliged to Prof. Masahiro SAKAI and Assoc. Prof. Hiroyuki YOSHITOMI of the Entomological Laboratory, Faculty of Agriculture, Ehime University for their kind advice and guidance.

Mesoplanodes gen. nov.

Type species: *Mesoplanodes babyrussus* sp. nov.

Description. Male: Body oblong boxy in shape. Eye substantially divided into two lobes though connected by a narrow sulcus; lower lobe well prominent, wider than long, distinctly shorter than gena below it. Mandibles provided with a long-horn like appendix on each upper surface near base.

Antennal tubercles distinctly elevated, moderately separated from each other. Antennae

long and slender, more than twice the length of body, without any spine at each apex of segments; scape strongly thickened apicad with a developed cicatrix on the apex; third segment the longest, more than twice as long as the scape.

Pronotum distinctly wider than long, without distinct tubercles at sides.

Prosternal process not projected below, almost roundly sloped in lateral view. Mesosternal process with a tubercle on the center near apex, nearly truncated in lateral view.

Elytra nearly rectangular in shape, with gently rounded apical angles; disc without basal bosses nor long suberect setae.

Legs relatively long; mesotibiae with rudimentary distal notch covered with bristles at outer margin.

Etymology. The generic name is referred to its similarity in general appearances of the genera *Planodes* NEWMAN, 1842 and *Mesocacia* HELLER, 1926.

Remarks. The present new genus shares some superficial similarities with the genus *Planodes*, but distinctly differs from the latter by the short pronotum, rectangular elytral shape, and very long antennae with long third segment which is more than twice the length of scape and without apical spine. It is also similar in general appearances to the genera *Ereis* PASCOE, 1865 or *Mesocacia*, but distinguishable from them by the following points: eyes strongly subdivided, with well prominent lower lobes, and antennal tubercles distinctly elevated. This new genus is also characterized by its peculiar appendages of the mandibles. However, it has a possibility that the feature may be a sexual dimorphism in male.

Mesoplanodes babyrussus sp. nov.

(Figs. 1–2)

Description. Male (Fig. 1). Length 16.0 mm, width 5.8 mm (n=1). Body black, evenly clothed with light blurred yellowish pubescence. Head with tempora having a wide longitudinal black band extending from posterior margin of each lower eye lobe. Pronotum with two longitudinal black bands on disc. Elytra with black maculae on humeral angles; disc with distinct black spots before and behind the middle, and with whitish maculae on basal fifth, near middle and near apical fifth, of which the middle ones are transversely arranged like a band; each lateral side with several black small maculations on basal and apical third. Antennae with third to last segments in each basal part narrowly annulated by white pubescence; the remainders evenly covered with black pubescence. Legs with each femur with a small black patch near apex on dorsum; each tibia annulated with black pubescence near base and apex.

Head slightly narrower than pronotum. Mandibles provided with an interiorly curved horn like appendix perpendicularly arising from each upper surface near base. Eyes almost divided, only connected by an indistinct narrow sulcus; lower lobes well prominent, 0.6 times as long as wide, 0.7 times as long as gena below it.

Antennae very long and slender, surpassing elytral apices at the middle of fourth segments; scape to fourth segments sparsely fringed beneath by suberect rather long setae on inner side; the remainders lacking such setae; relative length of segments from scape to ninth segment as follows: 8.3 : 1.0 : 17.0 : 12.5 : 10.3 : 9.8 : 9.3 : 8.8 : 8.3 (10th is broken and 11th is missing); third segment 2.3 times as long as scape, 1.4 times as long as fourth, bulged at apex; fourth segment arcuately outcurved.

Pronotum wider than long, 0.7 times as long as wide, widest at basal third; apical margin

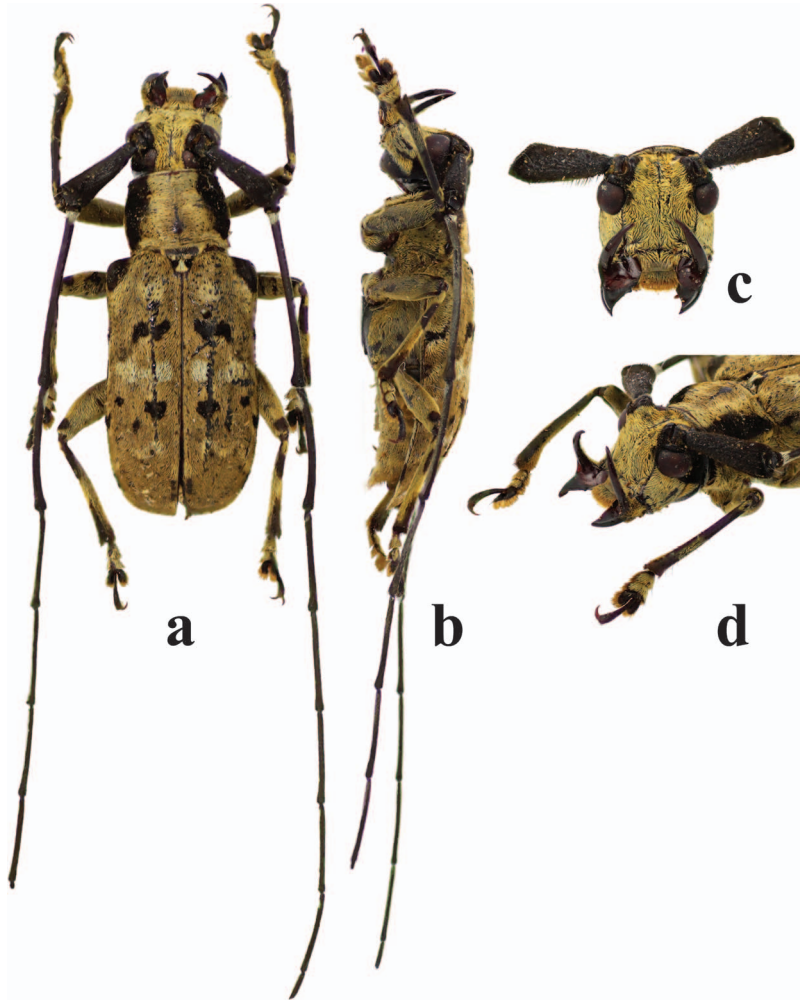


Fig. 1. *Mesoplanodes babyrussus* gen. et sp. nov., holotype. — a, Dorsal view; b, lateral view; c, frontal view; d, latero-frontal view.

distinctly marginated, 0.9 times as wide as base; disc with irregular transverse rugae, slightly convex above though more or less depressed behind anterior margin.

Elytra rather wide, 0.6 times as wide as long, about 1.4 times as wide as pronotal width, 3.4 times as long as pronotal length, nearly parallel-sided with slight constriction near basal third, and roundly truncated with sub-quadrate inner angles at apices, sparsely punctured throughout, with some granules near base and a longitudinal narrow ridge on the center of each disc; humeri subquadrate and slightly expanded laterad.

Male genitalia (Fig. 2). Tegmen weakly curved in lateral view, oblong rhombic-shaped and widest just before the middle in ventral view; ringed part slightly expanded before the middle, thence arcuately narrowed basad. Lateral lobe about 1/5 of the total length of tegmen, thin and flattened, dehiscent from near middle to the apex, provided with two kinds of setae, of which one

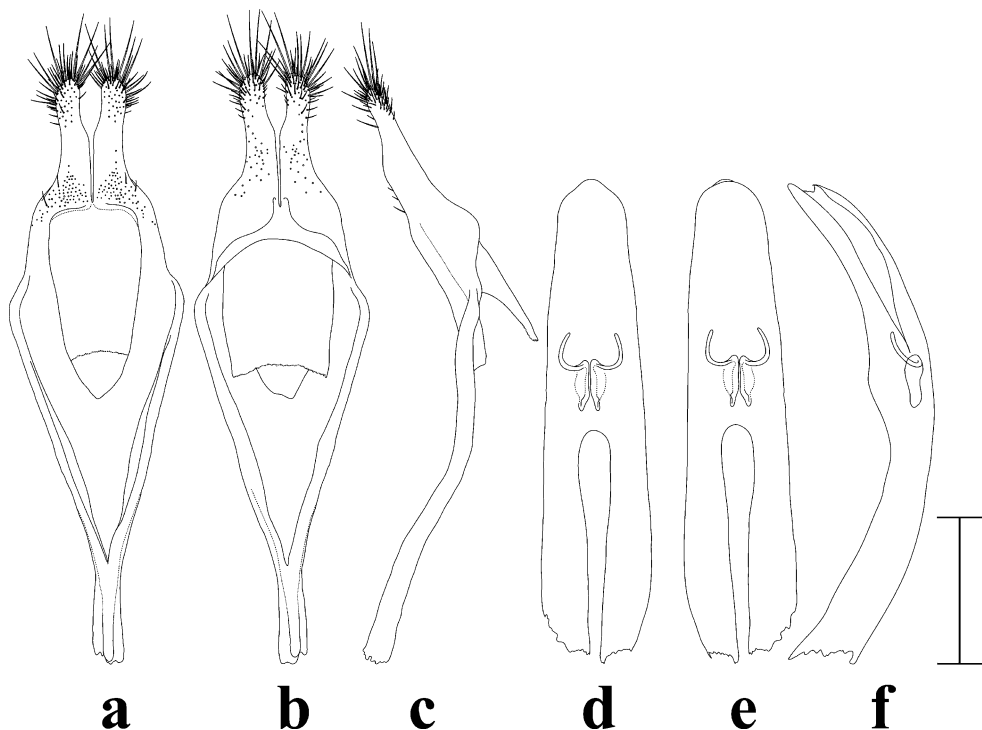


Fig. 2. Male genitalia of *Mesoplanodes babyrussus* gen. et sp. nov., holotype. — a-c, Tegmen; d-f, median lobe; a, d, ventral view; b, e, dorsal view; c, f, lateral view. Scale 1 mm.

is long and thick, sparsely concentrated near apex, and the other is rather short and thin, mainly arising from middle of latero-dorsal sides, thence concentrated near apex, and a few on latero-ventral sides near base. Median lobe weakly curved in lateral view; apex roundly projected in ventral view; median struts started from near middle.

Type material. Holotype (OMNH), ♂, “Chiengmai/Thailand?/ 4.IV.1982” [printed on white label]; “Masamichi YAGI/collection/[OMNH 07-14]” [printed on white label]; “35-10” [printed on yellow label]. (Left third antennal segment and left hind leg are broken and repaired. Basal part of median lobe and most part of endophallus are missing.)

Distribution. North Thailand. (Known only from the type locality.)

Etymology. The species epithet is reflected a curious similarity in the peculiar form of mandibles with the quite famous Sulawesi pig, *Babyroussa babyrussa* LINNAEUS, 1758.

Remarks. The peculiar appendages of the mandibles of this species are considered to be a significant distinguishable structure at least in male.

要 約

山迫淳介・大林延夫：タイ北部から発見されたゴマフカミキリ族（コウチュウ目カミキリムシ科）の新属新種。——大阪自然史博物館所蔵標本の中に見いだされたゴマフカミキリ族の唯一の雄個体は、大顎の上面に長い角状の突起物を有する点において特異であり、本族のいずれの既知属、既知種にも該当しないこ

とが明らかとなった。そこで、本論文中で *Mesoplanodes babyrussus* gen. et sp. nov. として記載した。本属は、その複眼や触角基節などの形状の類似から、インドネシアやフィリピンに分布する *Planodes* 属と類縁関係を持つと考えられる。

References

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