Collecting Records of *Reesa vespulae* (Coleoptera, Dermestidae) in Japan

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*Reesa vespulae* (Milliron)

(Fig. 1)

*Perimegatoma vespulae* Milliron, 1939, 570 (type locality: St. Paul, Minnesota).

Fig. 1. Habitus of *Reesa vespulae* (Milliron).
Reesa vespulae (Milliron, 1939) is known as a parthenogenetic dermestid and distributed nearly worldwide. It usually feeds on dried insects or herbarium specimens. According to Bouquet (1990) this species has minor economic importance in North America, whereas it is a significant pest of museum specimens in Europe.

Although Hava (2003, 2007) recorded it from Japan in two catalogues, there is no concrete collecting data in Japan. Recently the senior author was able to examine many specimens collected from dust indoors at Sapporo, Hokkaido, Japan. Two specimens were found out in an insect cabinet carried from Obihiro to Sapporo. Furthermore two specimens were extracted from soil by Tullgren apparatus at Yokohama, Kanagawa Prefecture.

This species has a unique cylindrical habitus and distinguished from other cylindrical dermestids, Megatoma species by the loosely articulated and weakly developed antennal club and brilliant elytron which has an oblique translucent reddish band behind shoulder. The length of specimens examined ranges from 2.5 mm to 3.7 mm.


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References


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