

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

Takanobu KITANO¹⁾, Yukihiro HIRANO²⁾ and Takashi KANBE³⁾

¹⁾ Entomological Laboratory, Faculty of Agriculture, Ehime University, 3–5–7 Tarumi, Matsuyama, 790–8566 Japan

²⁾ 585–29 Renshouji, Odawara, Kanagawa, 250–0865 Japan

³⁾ Systematic Entomology, Department of Ecology and Systematics, Graduate School of Agriculture, Hokkaido University, Kita 9 Nishi 9, Kita-ku, Sapporo, 060–8589 Japan

Reesa vespulae (MILLIRON)

(Fig. 1)

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

Reesa vespulae: BEAL, 1967, 310.



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 BOUSQUET (1990) this species has minor economic importance in North America, whereas it is a significant pest of museum specimens in Europe.

Although HÁVA (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.

Specimens examined. 5 exs., Sapporo, Hokkaido, Japan, 28-IV-2011, M. SUWA leg.; 19 exs., Sapporo, Hokkaido, Japan, 21-VII-2011, M. SUWA leg.; 2 exs., Sapporo, Hokkaido, Japan, 3-XI-2011, T. KANBE leg.; 2 exs., Tomioka, Yokohama, Japan, 6-VI-1987, M. HARADA leg.

We are grateful to Drs. Masahiro ÔHARA and Mitsuhiro IWASA for their kind help in many ways, to Dr. Masayoshi SUWA for sending us the specimens, to Dr. Nobuo OHBAYASHI for the loan of his collection, to Dr. Andreas HERRMANN for the available advice on determination, and to Prof. Masahiro SAKAI for reading the manuscript.

References

- BEAL, R. S., 1967. A revisionary study of the North American dermestid beetles formerly included in the genus *Perimegatoma* (Coleoptera). *Misc. publ. ent. Soc. Am.*, **5**: 281–312.
- BOUSQUET, Y., 1990. Beetles associated with stored products in Canada: An identification guide. 214 pp. Canadian Government Publishing Centre Supply and Services Canada, Ottawa.
- HÁVA, J., 2003. World Catalogue of the Dermestidae (Coleoptera). 196 pp. Oblastní muzeum, Praha.
- 2007. Dermestidae. In LÖBL, I., & A. SMETANA (eds.), *Catalogue of Palaearctic Coleoptera*, **4**: 299–320.
- MILLIRON, H. E., 1939. A parthenogenetic new species of the genus *Perimegatoma* HORN (Coleoptera: Dermestidae). *Ann. ent. Soc. Am.*, **32**: 570–574.

Manuscript received 22 November 2011;
revised and accepted 25 November 2011.