

## A New Species of the Genus *Microsicus* from Ishigaki Island, South Japan (Coleoptera, Zopheridae, Colydiinae)

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**Abstract** A new colydiine species, *Microsicus constrictus*, is described as the eighth representative of *Microsicus* from Japan. The new species is distinguishable from the other congeners by having the pronotum constricted at the posterior marginal parts and a pair of distinct concavities in the middle of pronotum.

In the genus *Microsicus*, a group of small and flat colydiine beetles, seven Japanese species have hitherto been known from Japan (AOKI, 2012). In 1975, an unknown species of the genus had been collected by Mr. Y. NOTSU (Hiratsuka City, Kanagawa Pref.) from Ishigaki Island, the Ryukyu Islands, South Japan and the specimens were offered to me recently through Mr. K. OKADA (Bioindicator Co., Ltd., Tokyo) for taxonomical study. In the meantime, I collected the same species from the same island in April, 2012. After the detailed study of these specimens, I concluded them as a new species as below. Before going further, I express my heartfelt thanks to Mr. Y. NOTSU and Mr. K. OKADA for furnishing me with the invaluable specimens.

### *Microsicus constrictus* sp. nov.

(Figs. 1 & 2)

Body length 1.90–2.03 mm. Head, eyes, most part of pronotum, posterior part of elytra and femora blackish brown. Antennae, lateral marginal parts of pronotum, anterior part of elytra and tibiae and tarsi of legs reddish brown. Head covered with irregular network of sculpture and broad leaf-like setae and slender pointed setae. Eyes with broad facetal setae. Antennae 10-segmented, terminal club oval, slightly angulate, divided by transverse line into two parts, distal part densely pubescent and proximal part with sparse setae; only basal segment provided with two thick setae, while other segments with fine setae.

Pronotum wider than long (1.23–1.37 times as wide as long), with anterior corners weakly projecting and serrate lateral margins constricted at posterior part; posteromedian part provided with a pair of distinct elongate oval concavities, and lateral parts with another pair of weak depressions; most of dorsal setae and those of serrate lateral margins broad and leaf-like, but a part of setae on ante-dorsum slender and sharply pointed at tip.

Elytra 1.55–1.60 times as long as wide, slightly swollen posteriorly; lighter in color anteriorly than posteriorly; dorsal setae dual, viz. broad leaf-like setae and slender sword-shaped setae; interspaces with rounded quadrate punctures.

Prosternal process nearly quadrate, weakly swollen apically at sides, with a small median tooth on anterior margin. Mesonotal process rectangular, with straight anterior margin. All five segments of abdomen distinctly sculptured with irregular network.

Femora of legs blackish brown, but tibiae and tarsi light brown. Tibiae with a row of thick setae on outer side and fine setae on lateral and inner sides.

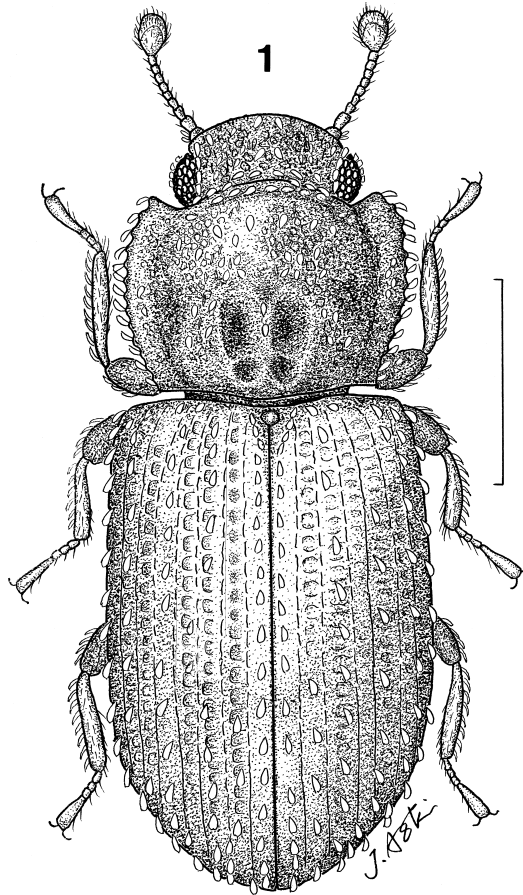


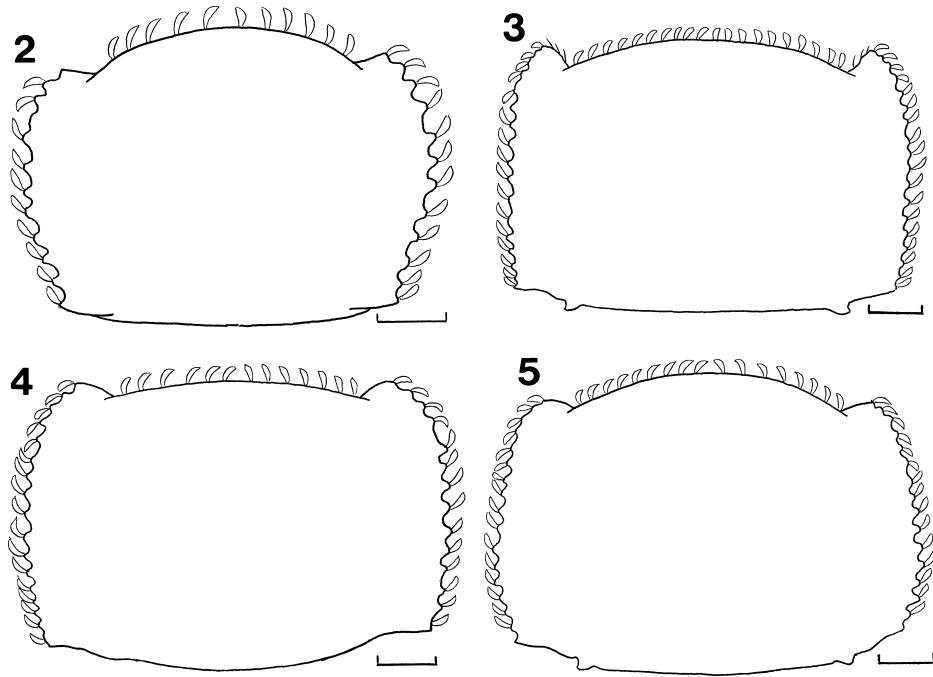
Fig. 1. *Microsicus constrictus* sp. nov. Habitus of holotype. (Scale bar=0.5 mm.)

*Holotype.* Nosoko-Rindo, northern part of Ishigaki Island, South Japan, 23-IV-2012, J. AOKI leg. Three paratypes. Mt. Banna-dake, southern part of Ishigaki Island, South Japan, 11~12-V-1975, Y. NOTSU leg. Holotype and two paratypes are deposited in the collection of the National Museum of Nature and Science, Tsukuba (NSMT).

*Remarks.* The new species is readily distinguishable from the congeners by the shape of pronotum. The lateral sides of pronotum of the new species are constricted posteriorly (Fig. 2), while those of *M. bitomoides* (SHARP, 1885) (Fig. 3) and *M. hirsutus* (AOKI, 2008) are straight and parallel to each other and those of all other species are weakly and smoothly arched (AOKI, 2011) (Figs. 4 & 5). Distinct depressions on the medioposterior part of pronotum and femora darker in color than tibiae and tarsi are also peculiar features of the new species.

## 要 約

青木淳一：モンヒメヒラタホソカタムシ属の1新種（コブゴミムシダマシ科ホソカタムシ亜科）。——日本産モンヒメヒラタホソカタムシ属 *Microsicus* には従来7種が知られていたが、琉球列島の石垣島から未知の



Figs. 2–5. Comparison of pronota of four related species of *Microsicus*. — 2, *M. constrictus*; 3, *M. bitomoides*; 4, *M. niveus*; 5, *M. rufosignatus*. (Scale bars=0.1 mm.)

種が発見され、クビレヒメヒラタホソカタムシ *Microsicus constrictus* sp. nov. として記載した。本種は前胸背の基部がくびれていること、前胸背中央の窪みが顕著であること、体毛が幅広く目立つこと、脚の腿節が他の節よりも明らかに黒っぽいことなどにより、既知の種から区別される。

## References

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