

A New Species of the Genus *Phloeostiba* (Coleoptera, Staphylinidae) from Hokkaido, Japan

Yasuaki WATANABE

Narusedai 2–26–33, Machida-shi, Tokyo, 194–0043 Japan

Abstract A new staphylinid species of the genus *Phloeostiba* is described under the name of *P. kamijoi*, and a key is given to the Japanese species. It is found in the cones of *Pinus koraiensis* growing at Urakawa-chô in southeastern Hokkaido, Japan.

Many years ago, I have received a short series of specimens of a staphylinid beetle found in the cones of *Pinus koraiensis* growing at Urakawa-chô in southeastern Hokkaido, Japan, through the courtesy of Dr. K. KAMIJO. They contained an interesting species belonging to the genus *Phloeostiba*, one of the relatively small genera in the subfamily Omaliinae. Four species have so far been known in the Northern Hemisphere (SMETANA, 2004). One of them has been reported by WATANABE (1964, 1990) from Japan. As the result of the latest examination, it has become clear that this species seems to be new to science though closely related to *P. lapponica* ZETTERSTEDT. It will be described in the present paper with a key to the Japanese species of *Phloeostiba*.

Before going further, I wish to express my hearty thanks to Dr. Shun-Ichi UÉNO, Visiting Professor at Tokyo University of Agriculture, for his kind advice on the present study. Deep gratitude is also due to Dr. Kazuaki KAMIJO, Bibai-shi, for his kindness in giving me the opportunity of studying the interesting specimens, and Mr. Itsuro KAWASHIMA, Yokosuka-shi, for his assistance in drawing the habitus sketch inserted in this paper.

Phloeostiba kamijoi Y. WATANABE sp. nov.

[Japanese name: Kamijo-hirata-yotsume-hanekakushi]

(Figs. 1–4)

Body length: 1.9–2.3 mm (from front margin of head to anal end); 1.2–1.3 mm (from front margin of head to elytral apices).

Body parallel-sided and somewhat depressed above. Colour brownish red and moderately shining, with mouth parts, five proximal segments of antennae and legs brownish yellow, elytra dark brownish yellow though sometimes infuscated in marginal and scutellar parts.

M a l e. Head subtrapezoidal, narrowed anteriorly and depressed above, distinctly

wider across compound eyes than long (width/length = 1.50); postocular part somewhat arcuate and short, about one-sixth as long as the longitudinal diameter of each eye which is somewhat prominent; surface shallowly depressed inside each antennal tubercle and provided with a short longitudinal furrow in front of each ocellus, sparingly, finely punctured and covered with distinct alutaceous ground sculpture all over; ocelli distinct, being situated on each side of the middle before posterior margin, the distance between them almost equal to that from the outside of each ocellus to the inner margin of each eye. Antennae somewhat stout and relatively short, not reaching posterior margin of pronotum, with five proximal segments polished and the remainings opaque, 1st segment somewhat robust and dilated apicad, 1.5 times as long as wide, 2nd constricted at the base, almost as long as wide and distinctly shorter ($2\text{nd}/1\text{st} = 0.67$) than though as wide as 1st, 3rd gently dilated apicad, a little longer ($3\text{rd}/2\text{nd} = 1.33$) but somewhat narrower ($3\text{rd}/2\text{nd} = 0.75$) than 2nd, 4th semioval and as long as wide, apparently shorter ($4\text{th}/3\text{rd} = 0.60$) and somewhat narrower ($4\text{th}/3\text{rd} = 0.80$) than 3rd, 5th a little transverse (width/length = 1.33), slightly longer ($5\text{th}/4\text{th} = 1.25$) and distinctly wider ($5\text{th}/4\text{th} = 1.67$) than 4th, 6th to 10th gradually increasing in width, each apparently

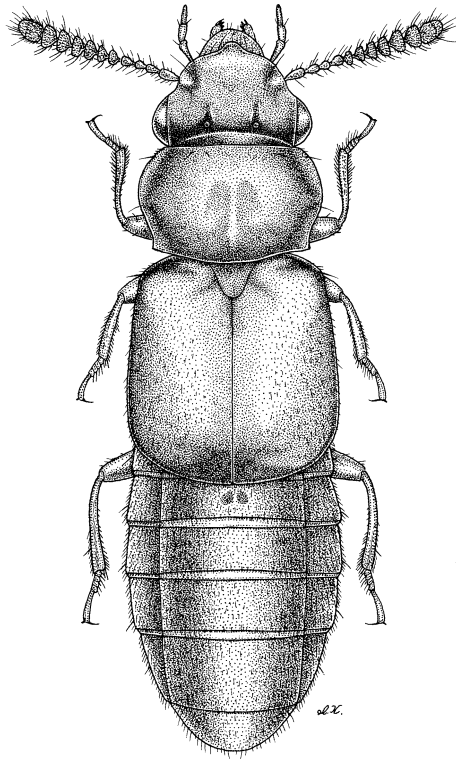
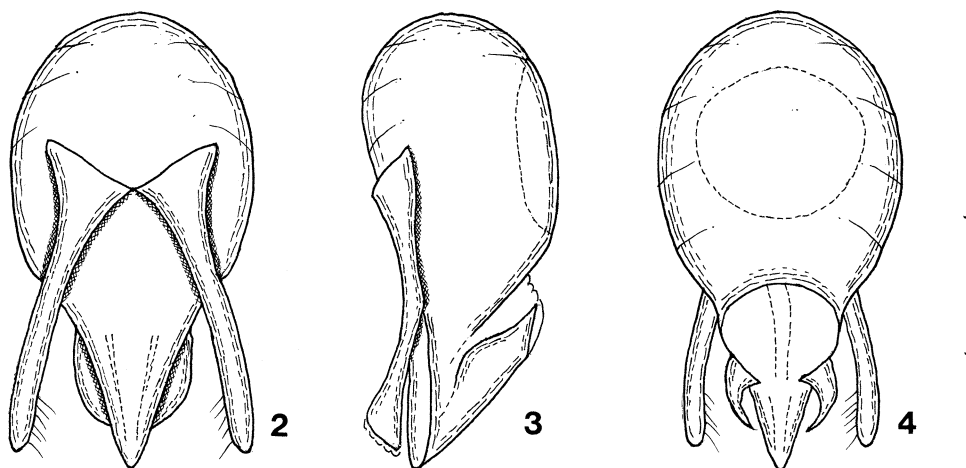


Fig. 1. *Phloeostiba kamijoi* sp. nov., ♂, from Urakawa, Hokkaido, Japan. Scale: 0.5 mm.

transverse, 11th semioval, almost as long as wide, narrowly rounded at the apex.

Pronotum subtrapezoidal and somewhat depressed above, clearly transverse (width/length=1.43), somewhat longer (pronotum/head=1.25) and distinctly wider (pronotum/head=1.19) than head, widest at anterior third and more strongly narrowed posteriad than anterior; each lateral side bordered, slightly arcuate in anterior half and more or less emarginate in posterior half, anterior angles rounded, posterior ones rectangular and acutely pointed at the corner; surface somewhat more numerous punctured than on head and covered with similar ground sculpture to that of head, provided with an indistinct depression on each side of the middle in posterior two-thirds, a shallow depression in posterior half just inside each lateral margin and an obscure trace of median longitudinal one which disappears before and behind. Scutellum subtriangular, surface impunctate though covered with extremely fine ground sculpture. Elytra subquadrate and slightly dilated posteriad, almost as long as wide, considerably longer (elytra/pronotum=1.87) and distinctly wider (elytra/pronotum=1.30) than pronotum; lateral sides straight, posterior margin truncate, posterior angles broadly rounded; surface covered with similar punctures and ground sculpture to those on pronotum. Legs relatively short, protibiae somewhat dilated apicad and gently curved internally, protarsus thin, last segment of metatarsus longer than the four preceding segments together.

Abdomen parallel-sided to 6th segment, and then abruptly narrowed towards the anal end; surface of each tergite impunctate though covered with microscopic ground sculpture, 4th tergite provided with a pair of small pruinose spots at the middle; 7th sternite shallowly and broadly emarginate at the middle of posterior margin; 8th sternite deeply and semicircularly emarginate at the middle of posterior margin; 9th sternite linguiform, broadly rounded at the apex.



Figs. 2-4. Male genital organ of *Phloeostiba kamijoi* sp. nov.; dorsal view (2), lateral view (3), and ventral view (4). Scale: 0.1 mm.

Genital organ trilobed and symmetrical, basal piece remarkably large and globular. Median lobe large, abruptly narrowed in posterior half towards nearly pointed apex, provided with a horn-like projection on each side at posterior half as seen from ventral side. Parameres elongate, though not extending to the apex of median lobe, dilated in apical part in profile; each paramere fringed with several fine setae in apical part.

Female. Similar in facies and colour to male, but different from it in the 8th abdominal sternite gradually narrowed towards the subtruncate apex, and the 7th sternite simple.

Type series. Holotype: ♂, allotype: ♀, Urakawa, Hokkaido, Japan, 20-X-1989, K. KAMIJO leg. Paratypes: 5♂♂, 2♀♀, same data as for the holotype.

Type depository. All the type specimens are deposited in the collection of the Laboratory of Entomology, Tokyo University of Agriculture.

Distribution. Japan (southeastern Hokkaido).

Remarks. The present new species is similar in general appearance to *P. lapponica* (ZETTERSTEDT), but differs from it in the following points: body somewhat smaller; pronotum more sparingly, more finely punctured and covered with finer ground sculpture on the surface; elytra square, as long as wide, surface covered with finer punctures and finer ground sculpture; male genital organ with median lobe abruptly narrowed towards the bluntly pointed apex in apical half. Also resembles *P. plana* in facies and colour, but distinguished from it by the key below.

Bionomics. According to Dr. KAMIJO, all the specimens of the type series were found in the cones of *Pinus koraiensis* growing at Urakawa in southeastern Hokkaido.

Etymology. The specific epithet of this new species is given after Dr. Kazuaki KAMIJO, who collected all the specimens of the type series.

Key to the Japanese Species of *Phloeostiba*

1. Body relatively large (2.5–3.0 mm); pronotum with lateral sides seemingly double-margined as seen from lateral side; elytra covered with relatively coarse punctures and ground sculpture; median lobe of male genital organ as long as parameres and almost parallel-sided before the subtriangular apical part
.....*P. plana* (PAYKULL)
- Body relatively small (1.9–2.3 mm); pronotum with lateral sides simple; elytra covered with finer punctures and ground sculpture; median lobe of male genital organ somewhat shorter than parameres, and abruptly narrowed in apical fourth towards the bluntly pointed apex*P. kamijoi* sp. nov.

要 約

渡辺泰明：北海道から採集されたヒラタヨツメハネカクシ属（コウチュウ目）の1新種。——ヒラタヨツメハネカクシ属は、ヨツメハネカクシ亜科に含まれる比較的小さい属で、日本にはヒラタヨツメハネカクシただ1種が分布している。1992年に私は松かさから採集されたハネカクシ

の同定依頼を上条一昭博士から受けた。最近このハネカクシを詳細に再検討した結果、北半球に広く分布している *P. lapponica* に近縁の未記載種と判定したので *P. kamijoi* と命名・記載した。

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A Second Specimen of *Merohister uenoi* (Coleoptera, Histeridae)

Masahiro ÔHARA¹⁾ and Takuya FUKUZAWA²⁾

¹⁾ The Hokkaido University Museum, Hokkaido University,
N10 W8, Sapporo, 060-0810 Japan

²⁾ Tokyo University of Agriculture, Funako, Atsugi-shi,
243-0034 Japan

Merohister uenoi M. ÔHARA has been described from Amami-Ôshima Island, the Ryukyus, Japan, based on a single male specimen (ÔHARA, 1992). Recently we have had the opportunity to examine a second specimen collected by a bait trap using rotten fish. We thank Mr. Akeo INOUE for providing us with the valuable specimen.

Specimen examined. 1 female, Kôchi-yama, Setouchi-chô, Amami-Ôshima, the Ryukyus, Japan, 11-VIII-2004, A. INOUE leg.

Reference

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