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Dasytes (Mesodasytes) of Taiwan (Coleoptera, Dasytidae) (Part 2) *

by **G. Liberti**

Abstract: A new species of *Dasytes* (*Metadasytes*) of Taiwan is here described: *D. gemmatus* n. sp., together with the females of *D. taiwanensis* Lib. and *D. macrophtalmus* Lib.

The subject of this paper is a series of more than 100 *Mesodasytes* specimens, collected in Taiwan for the Basel Museum by Mr. Toru Shimomura of Tokio, in 1982. I gratefully acknowledge the collector and Dr. W. Wittmer and Dr. M. Brancucci, of the Basel Museum, who gave me the material for study.

***Dasytes taiwanensis* Lib.**

♀. Colour completely black, bright, with light metallic reflexes. Pubescence double all over the body, with upright black bristles and laid down white jellowish hairs. Antennae reaching the pronotal base, all the joints from the 3rd onwards longer than wide; up to the 8th about triangular shaped (the 5th about trapezoidal), the 6th smaller than 5th and 7th, 9th and 10th about rectangular.

Head with normal eyes; a dimple in the forehead, between the eyes and the antennal insertion. Narrower than the prothorax.

Prothorax a little wider than long, bright, punctuated, rounded on the lateral sides, narrower than the elytral basis.

Elytra slightly bellied, about two times longer than head and prothorax together, covered with an abundant white jellowish pubescence.

Length: 4.5–5 mm.

Additional material studied: Taiwan: Nantou Pref., Hohuanchi, 1950 m, 28–31.III.1982 (8 ♂ and 18 ♀); Taoyuan Pref., near Ssuling, 900 m, 19.III–7.IV.1982 (12 ♂ and 17 ♀, loc. typ.); Taoyuan Pref., near Paling, 700 m, 6.IV.1982 (1 ♂ and 1 ♀); Taoyuan Pref., near Taman, 800 m, 23.III.1982 (2 ♂ and 1 ♀). All collected by T. Shimomura.

* For the first part see LIBERTI (1982).

Dasytes shimomurai Lib.

Additional material studied: Taiwan: Ilan Pref., near Chihtuan, 1200 m, 3.IV.1982 (1 ♂ and 1 ♀); Taoyuan Pref., near Ssuling, 900 m, 3–7.IV.1982 (4 ♂ and 2 ♀). All collected by T. Shimomura.

Dasytes opacicornis Lib.

Additional material studied: Taiwan: Taoyuan Pref., near Ssuling, 900 m, 2–7.IV.1982, T. Shimomura (1 ♂ and 5 ♀).

Dasytes macropthalmus Lib.

♀. Colour completely black, bright, with blue metallic reflexes. Antenna not reaching the prothorax basis, 3rd joint elongated, from 4th to 8th about triangular (5th larger than 4th and 6th), 9th and 10th joints about square.

Head with fairly small and well spaced eyes. Forehead wrinkled, without dimple. Head clearly narrower than prothorax.

Prothorax a little wider than long, strongly punctuated (this character seems to be variable); the rear corners are rounded, depressed and wrinkled. The prothorax is a little narrower than the elytral basis.

Elytra bellied, more than two times longer than head and prothorax together, with a sharp apex and a thick white pubescence.

Length: 6–6.5 mm.

Additional material studied: Taiwan: Nantou Pref., Hohuanchi, 1950 m, 23.III.1982, T. Shimomura (5 ♂ and 9 ♀).

Dasytes gemmatus n. sp.

Figs 1–4.

♂. Colour completely dark brilliant blue, with beautiful metallic reflexes; pubescence double all over the body, with upright black bristles and yellowish laid down hairs.

Antenna reaching the half of the body; 3rd and 4th joints similar, triangular shaped; 5th larger, nearly trapezoidal; 6th, 7th and 8th very elongated triangular; 9th and 10th cylindrical.

Head with big and bulging eyes, their distance, at the inner edge, is about half of the eye diameter (looking at the insect from above). Forehead, between eyes and antennal insertion, slightly depressed.

Prothorax nearly square-shaped, bright and coarsely punctuated at middle, dull and strongly wrinkled on the side edges. Prothorax narrower than the elytral basis.

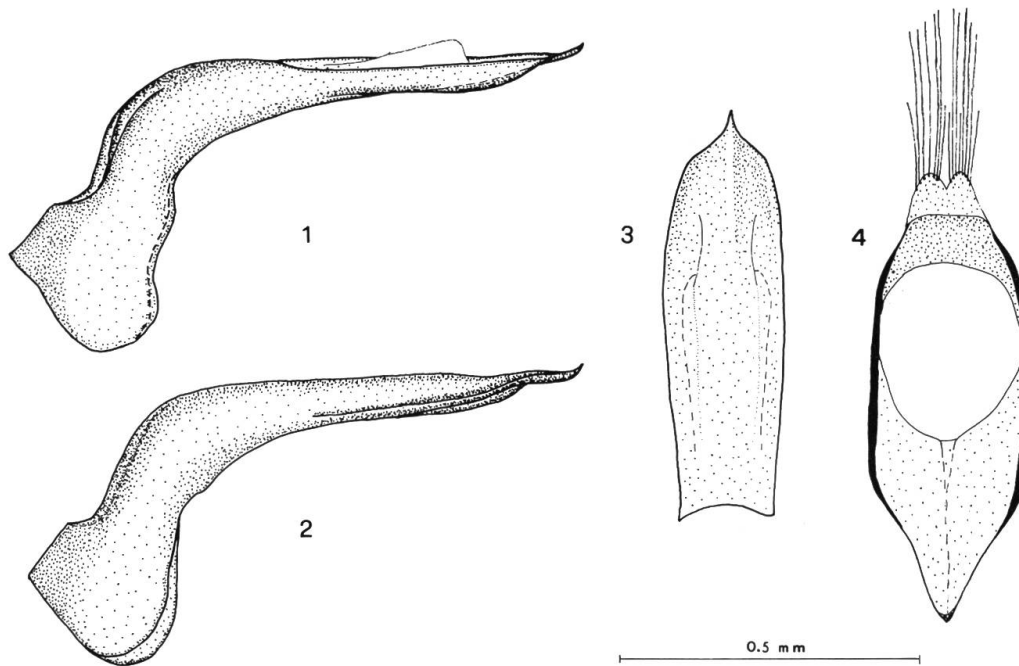
Elytra parallel, elongated, at the apex jointly rounded; sutural margin with a very slight wrinkle at the basal third.

Abdomen: 2nd, 3rd and 4th sternites slightly depressed at middle (the 4th bright), 5th simple, with a small and hardly visible emargination on the hind edge.

Tarsi: 4th metatarsal segment as long as about half of the 3rd.

Length: 6 mm.

Aedeagus (Figs 1–4)



Figs 1–4: *Dasytes gemmatus* n. sp., aedeagus: 1, paratype of near Ssuling, median lobe in lateral view. 2, paratype of near Chituan, median lobe in lateral view. 3, holotype, median lobe in ventral view, apex. 4, paratype of near Chituan, tegmen.

♀. Colour and pubescence as in the male, the jellowish laid down hairs are thicker on the elytra.

Antenna reaching the prothorax basis, joints nearly triangular, longer than wide; 6th smaller than 5th and 7th, about as long as wide. Head with small eyes, each other apart (their distance is greater than the eye diameter).

Prothorax about square, wrinkled on the sides and bright in the middle.

Elytra bellied, with a sharp apical angle. Elytra basis a little narrower than the prothorax. Sutural margin with an hardly visible wrinkle in the fore half.

Length: 5.5–6 mm.

Types: Holotype ♂, allotype ♀, 1 paratype ♂ (all NHM-Basel); locality: Taiwan: Taoyuan Pref., Kaohsiung, 600 m, 6.IV.1982, T. Shimomura. 2 paratypes (1 ♂, NHM-Basel; 1 ♂ in author's collection); locality: Taiwan: Ilan Pref., near Chihtuan, 1200 m, 3.IV.1982, T. Shimomura. 4 paratypes (1 ♂ and 3 ♀, NHM-Basel); locality: Taiwan: Taoyuan Pref., near Ssuling, 900 m, 2.–7.IV.1982, T. Shimomura.

Etymology: the name refers to the bright blue appearance of the insect.

In colour and shape, this species recalls *Dasytes coeruleus* De Geer of center Europe, with good differences: bigger eyes, shorter antenna, less bright appearance, elytral pubescence whitish and more abundant.

Reference

LIBERTI, G. (1982): *Dasytes (Metadasytes) of Taiwan (Col., Dasytidae)*. Entomologica Basiliensia 7: 373–380.

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