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New and interesting species of Chrysomelidae (Coleoptera) from South Asia

By L. N. Medvedev

Abstract: One new genus, *Trichoxantha* (Eumolpinae), 9 new species: *Liliocerus brancuccii* (India), *L. laetus* (Indochina), *Smaragdina fulvitarsis* (India, Nepal), *S. motschulskyi* (Nepal), *S. flavicoxis* (China), *Adiscus wittmeri* (Nepal), *A. tricolor* (Vietnam), *Trichoxantha nigripennis* (India), *Euphitrea bhutanica* (Bhutan), *Hispa fulvispinosa* (India) and 1 new subspecies, *Chrysolina dhaulagirica arunensis* (Nepal) are described. *Adiscus nigripennis* Jac. is recorded for the first time for India, *A. nigroplagiatus* Jac. is redescribed.

Key words: Coleoptera Chrysomelidae – South Asia – new species.

Thanks to the amability of Dr. W. Wittmer and Dr. M. Brancucci I had the possibility to study Chrysomelid material of Himalaya, China and Vietnam in the Basel Museum of Natural History, among which a lot of new and interesting species were found; some of them are described in the present article. All materials except specially mentioned are deposited in the Natural History Museum Basel. The following abbreviations are used in the text:

SMNS = State Museum of Natural History, Stuttgart;

ZIL = Zoological Institute, St. Petersburg.

***Liliocerus brancuccii* n.sp.**

Flavous, underside except last abdominal segment black.

Body small, rather narrow. Head strongly constricted behind eyes, without longitudinal groove on vertex, covered with pubescence and punctures along eyes, smooth and shining on other parts. Antennae slender, about 3/5 of body length, segments 4-11 about 2.5-3 times as long as broad. Prothorax slightly longer than wide, deeply constricted at middle, surface feebly convex, shining, impunctured. Scutellum elongate triangular, glabrous. Elytra parallelsided, with regular rows of punctures, which are distinct in basal 2/3 and more strong in subbasal depression; in apical 1/3 rows are almost invisible. Suture raised only in hind part. Metasternum, including lateral parts, with short sparse hairs. Segment 1 of fore tarsi twice as long as broad. Length of body 5.3-5.4 mm.

This very small species in general appearance is similar to *fulvous* species of *Lema* and may be compared only with *Liliocerus nepalensis*

Takizawa, 1989, but differs from it in the absence of opaque dark spot on elytra, other structure of elytral suture and more blackened underside.

Holotype (NHMB) and 1 paratype (coll. L. Medvedev): India, Darjeeling Dist.: Kalimpong, 9th mile, 1500 m, 14.VII.1984.

***Lilioceris laetus* n.sp.**

Body metallic blue, elytra flavous.

Head elongate, frons with deep furrows and central groove, central part of frons smooth, lateral parts pubescent and punctured. Antennae about half of body length, segment 2 short and subquadrate, segment 3 also short, but longer than broad, next ones elongate, preapical segments about 4 times as long as broad. Prothorax just a little more broad than long, strongly constricted just behind middle, shining and impunctured. Scutellum bare, without punctures. Elytra without impression behind base, with regular rows of punctures, including shortened scutellar row, all of them are distinct up to apex, however more feeble in the apical part; all interspaces flat, except sutural one, which is convex in the hind part. Mesosternum flat between middle coxae, metasternum, including episterna, smooth, impunctured, finely shagreened, with sparse short hairs.

Length of body 11.5-12.7 mm.

Holotype and 3 paratypes (1 paratype in my collection): Indochina: Pa-kha, 1914, ex coll. Düssault.

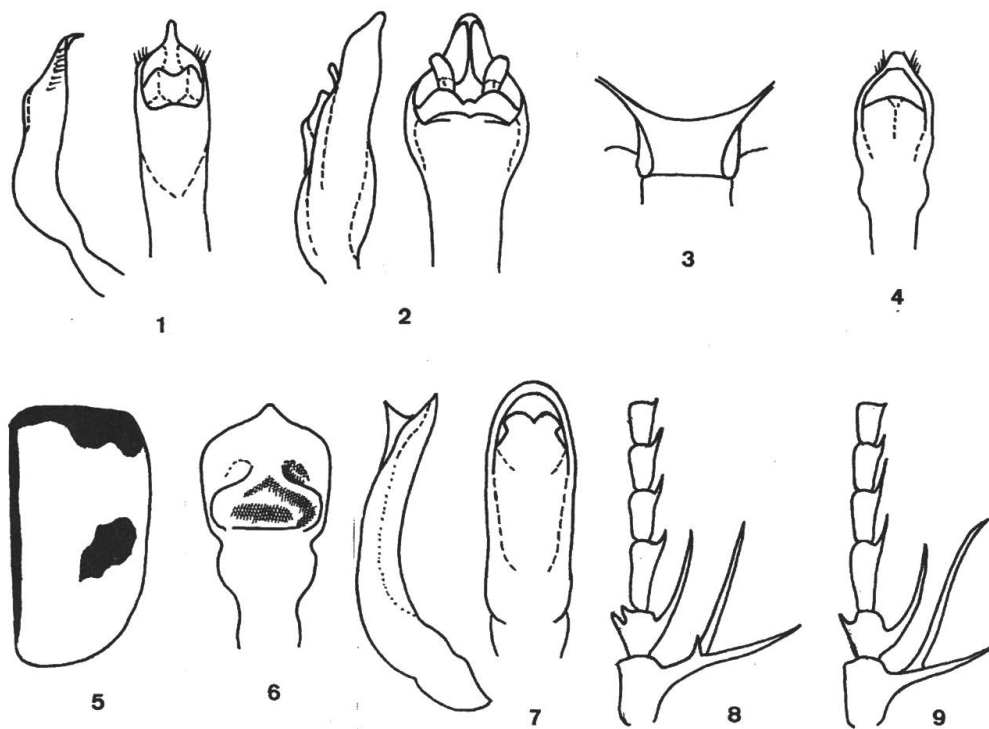
Similar to *L. flavipennis* Baly, 1859, from Northern India, but prothorax feebly constricted and all elytral rows are quite regular. From *L. semicostata* Jacoby, 1908, it differs in larger size, metallic antennae and other form of prothorax.

***Smaragdina fulvitarsis* n.sp.**

Fig. 1.

Fulvous, sides of breast darkened, apical antennal segments dark fulvous.

Body cylindrical, elongate, about 2.2 times as long as broad. Frons much more broad than transverse diameter of eye, grooved in the middle, indistinctly punctured, fore margin of clypeus subtriangularly incised. Mandibles of male slightly enlarged, more or less bulbous in basal part. Antennal segment 3 small and cylindrical, next one more broad, subtriangular, 5-10 segments strongly widened, more or less subquadrate. Prothorax almost twice as broad as long, hind angles and side margins rounded, surface shining, impunctured except a few of



Figs 1 - 9: 1, *Smaragdina fulvitarsis* n.sp., aedeagus lateral and dorsal. 2, *S. motshulskyi* n.sp., aedeagus lateral and dorsal. 3, *Adiscus wittmeri* n.sp., prosternum. 4, *A. wittmeri* n.sp., aedeagus dorsal. 5, *A. nigroplagiatus* Jacoby, elytral pattern. 6, *A. nigroplagiatus* Jacoby, aedeagus dorsal. 7, *Chrysolina dhaulagirica arunensis* n.ssp., aedeagus lateral and dorsal. 8, *Hispa fulvispinosa* n. sp., 1-6 antennal segments. 9, *H. andrewesi* Wse., same.

them near basal margin. Elytra distinctly punctured. Pygidium fully covered with elytra. Proepimera without any pubescence. First segment of tarsi, especially of fore one, slightly widened in male. Aedeagus (Fig. 1) with long and acute apical process curved to underside.

Length of male 4-4.6 mm, of female 4.2-4.7 mm.

Holotype (male) and 5 paratypes (2 in author's collection); India, Darjeeling Dist.: Magghal Dhara, 1200 m, 16.IV.1983, leg. B. Bhakta; India, Darjeeling Dist.; Tar Khola near Madelli, 540 m, 18.IV.1979, B. Bhakta, 3 paratypes; India, Darjeeling Dist., Tirpay, 1280 m, 7.IV.1979, B. Bhakta, 1 paratype; East Nepal, Arun Valley, Tumlingtar, 450 m, 20.VI.1983, M. Brancucci, 2 paratypes.

Near *S. sikhima* Jacoby 1903, but smaller, with fulvous tarsi, small 4th antennal segment, enlarged mandibles of male and other form of aedeagus. From *S. montana* L. Medvedev, 1988, it differs in having finger-like apical process of aedeagus.

***Smaragdina motschulskyi* n.sp.**

Fig. 2.

Reddish fulvous, elytra with transverse dark blue band behind middle, which is often enlarged and occupies all hind part of elytra.

Body cylindrical or slightly broadened to behind, about 1,8 times as long as broad. Head practically impunctured, clypeus convex with feebly arcuate front margin, frons broad, with 3 grooves. Antennae triangularly widened from the 4th segment, which is however more narrow and elongate, as compared with the next ones. Prothorax twice as broad as long, narrowed anteriorly, with lateral margins feebly arcuate and hind angles obtuse (neither rounded nor angulate) and slightly elevated; surface shining, indistinctly punctured, more or less grooved before hind angles. Scutellum triangular, finely punctured, elevated at apex. Elytra very densely punctured, much less shining than prothorax. Pygidium covered with elytra. Proepipleura without distinct pubescence. First segment of fore tarsus slightly broadened in male. Aedeagus (Fig. 2) on underside with acute central ridge and longitudinal grooves before apex.

Length of male 6.8-7 mm, of female 7.5-8.2 mm.

Holotype ♂: East Nepal: Bhandar, 2100 m, 26.V.1979. B.Bhakta; East Nepal: Thamur Valley, Dhankuta, 1150 m, 23.V.1983, M. Brancucci, 2 ♀ - paratypes (1 in author's collection); Nepal: Piple, 24-26.V.1968, E. Woynarovich, 1 ♀ - paratype (author's collection); «India or Himalaya, *Diapromorpha bimaculatus* Motsch.», 1 ♂, 1 ♀ - paratypes ex coll. V. Motschulsky (ZIL). Motschulsky's name was never published. Nepal: Janakpur, Dolakha, Tama Koshi, 850-1100 m, 24-29.5.1989, M. Brancucci, 2 paratypes (NHMB).

Similar to *S. crassipes* Duvivier, 1891, differs in more large and broad body, very densely punctured elytra and other form of aedeagus.

***Smaragdina flavicoxis* n.sp.**

Blackish blue; mouthparts, clypeus and all legs, including coxae flavous. Antennae dark brown with fulvous basal segments. Prothorax usually almost black, elytra much more metallic.

Body elongate, slightly widened posteriorly. Head distinctly punctured, frons broad, grooved in the middle. Antennae serrate from the

fifth segment, segments 3 and 4 very small. Prothorax 2,2 times as broad as long, narrowed anteriorly, with hind angles broadly rounded. Surface shining, with small and sparse punctures, mostly near front margin and hind angles; sometimes punctures are indistinct. Scutellum triangular with elevated apex, finely punctured. Elytra with dense and deep punctures, more feebly behind, especially on apical slope. Pygidium flattened, covered with elytra. Proepisterna smooth, without any punctures or pubescence.

Length of body 4.4.-4.5 mm.

Holotype and paratype (paratype in my collection): China, Sichuan: Mt. Emei, 600-1050 m, 5-19.V.1989, L. Bočak, 2 females.

Near *S. obscuripes* Weise, 1887, differs in coloration of head and legs and feebly punctured, almost smooth prothorax.

***Adiscus wittmeri* n.sp.**

Figs 3, 4.

Reddish fulvous, 6 apical segments of antennae, prothorax, a broad lateroapical stripe on elytra, deeply incised behind humerus and prosternal ridges black. Prothorax usually with basal lobe and sometimes with fore and side margins more or less red.

Frons and vertex shining, distinctly punctured, clypeus mat, with dense microsculpture and a few feeble punctures. Antennae long, reach to base of abdomen, all segments elongate, 6-11 segments widened, almost twice as long as broad. Prothorax distinctly punctured, punctures are fine and microscopically fine. Elytra with regular rows of punctures, interspaces flat and almost smooth. Prosternum twice as broad as long, fore margin slightly concave, hind margin straight, sides margined with elevated bifurcate ridge, central ridge absent (Fig. 3). Mesosternum 2,5 times as broad as long. First segment of fore and middle tarsi of male moderately widened, elongate triangular.

Aedeagus Fig. 4.

Length of body 2.8-3 mm in male, 3-3.3 mm in female.

Holotype ♂: East Nepal: Num Hedangna, Arun Valley, 750-1500 m, 26.V.1980, W. Wittmer, 3 ♂, 2 ♀ (NHMB); East Nepal: Arunthal, Chichila, Arun Valley, 1300-1950 m, 29.V.1983, M. Brancucci, 1 ♂; Arunthal, Tumlingtar, Arun Valley, 450-1300 m, 20.VI.1983, M. Brancucci, 2 ♀; Nepal: Kathmandu Valley, Balaju-Iamachok, 1400-2096 m, 20.VI.1983, M. Brancucci, 1 ♀; Nepal: Sankhua Sabha Dist., Arun Valley, between Num and Mure, tree-rich cultural land, 1600-1900 m, 8.VI.1988, J. Martens & W. Schawaller, 1 ♀ (SMNS). 2 paratypes in author's collection.

Near *A. manipurensis* Jacoby, 1908, but larger, with other type of elytral pattern and distinctly punctured prothorax.

***Adiscus tricolor* n.sp.**

Reddish fulvous, 4 apical segments of antennae dark brown, frons with more or less darkened central part, upperside more reddish, elytra in posterior 3/5 pitchy brown, with large round pale yellow spot.

Head densely punctured, including clypeus. Antennae thin, 6 apical segments feebly widened, at least twice as long as broad. Prothorax with rather fine dense punctures, more sparse near base. Elytra with distinct rows of punctures, which are much more feeble in the hind part; epipleural lobe rather small, broadly rounded, quite not angulate. Prosternum 1,5 times as broad as long, fore margin slightly concave, hind margin straight, sides margined, but practically unelevated, middle ridge absent. Length 4,6-4,7 mm.

Holotype: Vietnam: prov. Vinh-Phu; Tamdao, 3-11.VI.1985, A. Olexa, 1 ♀ paratype, same locality and date; I.Strnod, 1 ♀ paratype in my collection.

Differs well from all species of Indochina by its peculiar coloration of elytra.

***Adiscus nigroplagiatus* Jacoby**

Figs 5, 6.

Adiscus nigroplagiatus JACOBY, 1903, Ann. Soc. Ent. Belg. 47: 92.

This species is not quite clear. M. Jacoby described «typical» dark form and, as a variation, a light form; very possibly, they are different species. I include in this species a population, which has «prosternum deeply concave, lateral margins strongly carinate», according description. This population has a very constant elytral pattern, shown on figure 5, 6-11 antennal segments feebly widened, twice as long as broad. Clypeus shagreened and indistinctly punctured. Prosternum about 1.2 times as broad as long, with very high and angulate lateral ridges. Mesosternum 1.5 times as broad as long. Aedeagus with cordiform apex and deep transverse groove on underside before base (Fig. 6).

Length 2.2-2.8 mm.

India, Darjeeling Dist.: Kalimpong, Hitli, 900 m, 8.V.1987, Ch.Rai, 1 ♂; Central Nepal, Kathmandu Valley, Godavari, 1500-1600 m, 6.VII.1986, C. Holzschuh, 1 ♀; East Nepal, Arun Valley, Num-Chichila,

1300-1900 m, 17.VI.1980, C. Holzschuh, 2 ♂ (coll. m.); East Nepal, Sankhua Sabha Dist., Arun Valley, Chichila, 1900-2000 m, *Quercus* forest and bushes, 18-20.VI.1988, J. Martens & W. Schawaller, 1 ♂ (SMNS).

***Adiscus nigripennis* Jacoby 1890**

Adiscus nigripennis JACOBY, 1890, Entomologist 23: 89.

India, Darjeeling Dist.: Gharap, 1300 m, 15-16.IV.1983, B. Bhakta, 1 ♂.

Species was known from China, Vietnam and Japan, recorded from the Himalaya for the first time.

***Trichoxantha* n.gen.**

Body robust, with general appearance of small *Aoria*. Head with clypeus distinctly divided from frons, supraocular grooves absent, antennae filiform with thin and elongate segments. Prothorax subcylindrical, feebly transverse, finely pubescent, with very thin lateral margin, placed lower than usually in Eumolpinae and not seen from above. Scutellum narrowed to behind, with truncate apex. Elytra much broader than prothorax, with subdepressed pubescence, 16 regular rows of punctures and very narrow interstices. Pygidium without central longitudinal groove. Anterior margin of proepisterna straight, prosternum rather narrow between coxae, about twice as long as broad and 1/2 of coxal cavity diameter. Mesosternum as wide as prosternum, truncate behind. Fore legs more elongate, fore femora much thicker than other, with large triangular tooth beneath. Mid and hind tibiae not notched before apex. Claws bifid.

This new genus of the tribe Leptotini is in general appearance similar to *Xanthonia*, in structure of fore legs and head, resembles *Trichotheca*, but differs immediately from both in the margined lateral sides of prothorax. Generotype: *Trichoxantha nigripennis* n.sp.

***Trichoxantha nigripennis* n.sp.**

Body black, head, antennae, prothorax, legs and often prosternum and mesosternum fulvous red, apical segments of antennae infuscate; elytra sometimes more or less reddish at extreme base and apex.

Head finely and sparsely punctured and pubescent, frons with triangular depressions. Antennae about 2/3 of body length, 6-11 segments slightly thickened, proportions of segments are as

13:9:17:27:25:25:23:20:20:17:20. Prothorax 1.25 times as broad as long, broadest behind middle, with dense and deep punctures. Elytra 1.35 times as broad as long, without subbasal depression. Males are smaller and more slender than females.

Length of male 3.2-3.9 mm, of female 3.8-4.5 mm.

Holotype and 2 paratypes (NHMB): India, Darjeeling Dist.: Dumra Busty, 800 m (KPG), 9.V.1986, Ch.J.Rai; Sindepung, 23.IV.1987, B.Bhakta, 1 paratype; Renok, 7-11.IV.1987; Ch.J.Rai, 1 paratype; Kalimpong, Chibo, 900 m, 27.IV.1987, Ch.J.Rai, 2 paratype; Mirike-Ghumba, 1400 m (KPG), 15.V.1986, Ch.J.Rai, 1 paratype; 3rd mile from Ghumba, 2500 m (KPG), 21.V.1986, Ch.J.Rai, 2 paratypes (author's collection); same locality, 20.V.1986, Ch.J.Rai, 4 paratypes; Baluwa Khni, 2700 m (KPG), 24.V.1986, Ch.J.Rai, 1 paratype.

***Chrysolina dhaulagirica arunensis* n.ssp.**

Fig. 7.

Differs from the nominative form in the bronze, not dark blue upperside, much more feeble elytral rows of punctures, more narrow red basal margin of elytra and smaller size: Length of male 5.2-5.5 mm, of female 6.0 mm.

Aedeagus (Fig. 7).

Holotype ♂ and 6 paratypes (NHMB) (2 in my collection): East Nepal: Arun Valley, Mumbug, east of Makalu, 3500 m, 9.VI.1980, C. Holzschuh.

***Euphitrea bhutanica* n.sp.**

Body reddish fulvous, apical segments of antennae darkened, elytra metallic green or bronze green, prothorax of female with dark metallic central patch, broad at base and narrowed to the front margin.

Rounded-ovate, strongly convex. Head with deep supraocular grooves, vertex slightly narrowed to the front, indistinctly punctured, frons (between antennal bases) short and wide, almost twice as broad as long. Antennae short, segments elongate, 6 apical segments slightly widened. Prothorax twice as broad as long, fore angles acute, hind angles obtuse, lateral margins feebly rounded, hind margin arcuate, surface in dense small punctures, interspaces in extremely small dots. Scutellum triangular, smooth. Elytra very densely punctured, punctures much more large and deep than on prothorax, interspaces finely punctured. First segment of all tarsi distinctly widened in male.

Length of body 6.3-7.1 mm.

Among series of 8 specimens 6 females have dark central patch on

prothorax and 2 males, both very young have this patch very indistinct in one case and quite absent in the other.

Holotype and paratypes (NHMB) (3 in author's collection): Bhutan; Chasilakha, 6425', 1978, Dorjee Khandu.

Near *E. viridipennis* Jacoby, 1889 from Burma and Indochina, but much larger, with dark central patch on prothorax.

***Hispa fulvispinosa* n.sp.**

This species is very similar to *H. andrewesi* Weise 1897, widely distributed in Southern Asia, but differs from it as follows:

***Hispa fulvispinosa* n.sp.**
 Spines of upperside dark fulvous with infuscated apices.
 Antennal segment 1 with 2 long spines and additional spine at the place of bifurcation; outer spine is not more than 1.5 times as long as inner one (Fig. 8).
 Antennal segment 2 with 1 long spine and 2 short spines on opposite side.
 Spines of antennal segments 3-6 short.
 Elytra with distinct metallic sheen.

***Hispa andrewesi* Wse.**
 Spines of upperside black.
 Antennal segment 1 with 2 spines; outer spine is almost twice as long as inner one (Fig. 9).
 Antennal segment 2 with 1 long spine and 1 short spine on opposite side.
 Spines of antennal segments 3-6 more long.
 Elytra with feeble metallic sheen.

Holotype (NHMB) and 1 paratype (paratype in my collection). India, Radjastan: Eklingji near Udaipur, 26.II.1984, W. Wittmer.

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