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To the Knowledge of the Genus *Trichochrysea* Baly (Chrysomelidae, Eumolpinae) from Thailand

by L. Medvedev and G. Eroshkina

Abstract. Three new species: *Trichochrysea transversicollis*, *T. trapezicollis* and *T. grisea* and a new subspecies, *T. quadrifasciata igneicollis* are described from Thailand. *T. viridis* Jacoby is resurrected from synonymy and is accepted as a distinct subspecies of *T. hirta* Fabricius.

Key words. Chrysomelidae, Eumolpinae - Thailand - new taxa.

Introduction

The genus *Trichochrysea* Baly is rather well studied in Indochina and neighboring countries. KIMOTO & GRESSITT (1982) published a key for 12 Indochinese species, however they did not use the aedeagus, which is a very necessary character in this genus. Later a complete revision of *Trichochrysea* from Vietnam was published by MEDVEDEV & EROSHKINA (1987). We have also studied all Jacoby's types from Burma, deposited in the Museo Civico di Storia Naturale, Genua.

During our stay in the Basel Museum of Natural History, we had an opportunity to look through the very large material from Thailand, in which 8 species of the genus were found, among them 3 species and 1 subspecies are new to science. Descriptions and notes concerning a few rare species are given below.

All types are deposited in the above mentioned museum (NHMB), duplicate paratypes are in the L. Medvedev's collection (LM).

Trichochrysea transversicollis sp.n.

Figs 1, 6

Holotype (NHMB): Thailand, „Thanon Thong Chai“, Erawan n. p., (14°16' N, 93°12' E), 300 m, 4—7. iv. 1991, D. Král & V. Kubáň.

Description. ♀. Pitch black with very feeble metallic sheen, labrum bright red cupreous, 5 basal segments of antennae more or less fulvous. Venter pitch brown, very soft (not fully matured specimen). Head and upperside with short white and long dark hairs, underside with dense short white hairs.

Body short ovate. Head with strong dense punctures. Frons about 3× as wide as diameter of eye. Anterior margin of clypeus with broad semicircular emargination. Labrum with 2 setigerous punctures near anterior margin. Antennae reach a little behind humerus, thin, segments 3-5 subequal, segment 6 distinctly shorter than 5 and 7, segments 7-11 slightly thickened, subequal, each of them about 3× as long as wide. Prothorax (fig. 1) almost as wide as elytra at base, 1.8× as wide as long, broadest in middle, with side margins feebly rounded and anterior angles acute; lateral margin well developed, acute, reaches anterior angles. Surface with dense and strong punctures, a tubercle near anterior angles low, impunctate. Upperside with dense short erect pubescence and more sparse long hairs, which are about twice as long as the first segment of antennae. Scutellum semicircular, strongly punctate. Elytra 1.1× as long as wide, slightly broadened posteriorly, with strong dense punctures. Femora without tooth on underside. All tibiae straight, feebly widened to apex.

Bursa copulatrix - fig. 6. Length 6.6 mm.

Remarks. This species has very short and broad prothorax, unusual for genus and resembles in body form genus *Colasposoma*. With this characters it differs immediately

from all species, except *T. parvula* Jacoby 1892 from Burma (we have studied a type of this species). The latter species, having practically same prothorax, is much smaller (4.5 mm), very finely punctate, with dark fulvous labrum and more thin preapical segments of antennae (about 4× as long as wide).

***Trichochrysea trapezicollis* sp.n.**

Figs 2-4, 7

Holotype (NHMB): Thailand, „Thanon Thong Chai“, Chiang Dao (19°25' N, 98°52'E), 1000 m, 17-24. vi. 1991, V. Kubán.

Description. ♂. Pitch black with very feeble bronze sheen, labrum and 6 basal segments of antennae dark fulvous, scape not darkened above, legs dark brown with femora dark red. Short pubescence white, long hairs dark.

Body robust. Head unusual broad, about 0.9 of prothoracal width, eyes small, frons about 5× as wide as diameter of eye, anterior margin of clypeus almost straight, labrum (fig. 2) very short, strongly transverse, not divided on vertical and horizontal part, with 6 large setiferous punctures along anterior margin. Punctures of head are very fine and moderately dense. Antennae reach a little behind humerus, thin, with segments 2-10 subequal, segments 7-11 slightly thickened, about 3× as long as wide (fig. 3). Prothorax (anterior margin) as wide as elytra at base, 2.1× as wide as long, broadest just behind anterior angles and narrowed to base (fig. 4), lateral margins very feebly rounded, almost straight, sharp and reach anterior angles, which are obtusely angulate not produced; elevation near anterior angles absent. Surface with very fine dense punctures. Upperside with erect pubescence, short hairs are numerous, long hairs are much more sparse, each of them about twice as long as the first antennal segment. Scutellum semicircular, feebly transverse, finely punctured. Elytra 1.1× as long as wide, finely and densely punctate, punctures are a little larger than on prothorax. Femora not toothed. Anterior tibiae slightly curved and widened at apex. Upperside of venter feebly sclerotized, without metallic luster.

Aedeagus (fig. 7) partly flattened, but not concave on underside, rather thick in lateral view.

Length 5.7 mm, width of head 2.7 mm, width of prothorax and elytra 2.9 mm.

Remarks. This is the third species of *Trichochrysea* with very broad prothorax. It differs from other two, namely *T. parvula* Jacoby and *T. transversicollis* sp.n. in very broad head and trapeziform prothorax; from *T. parvula* Jacoby it differs also in form of aedeagus, from preceding species - in very finely punctured upperside.

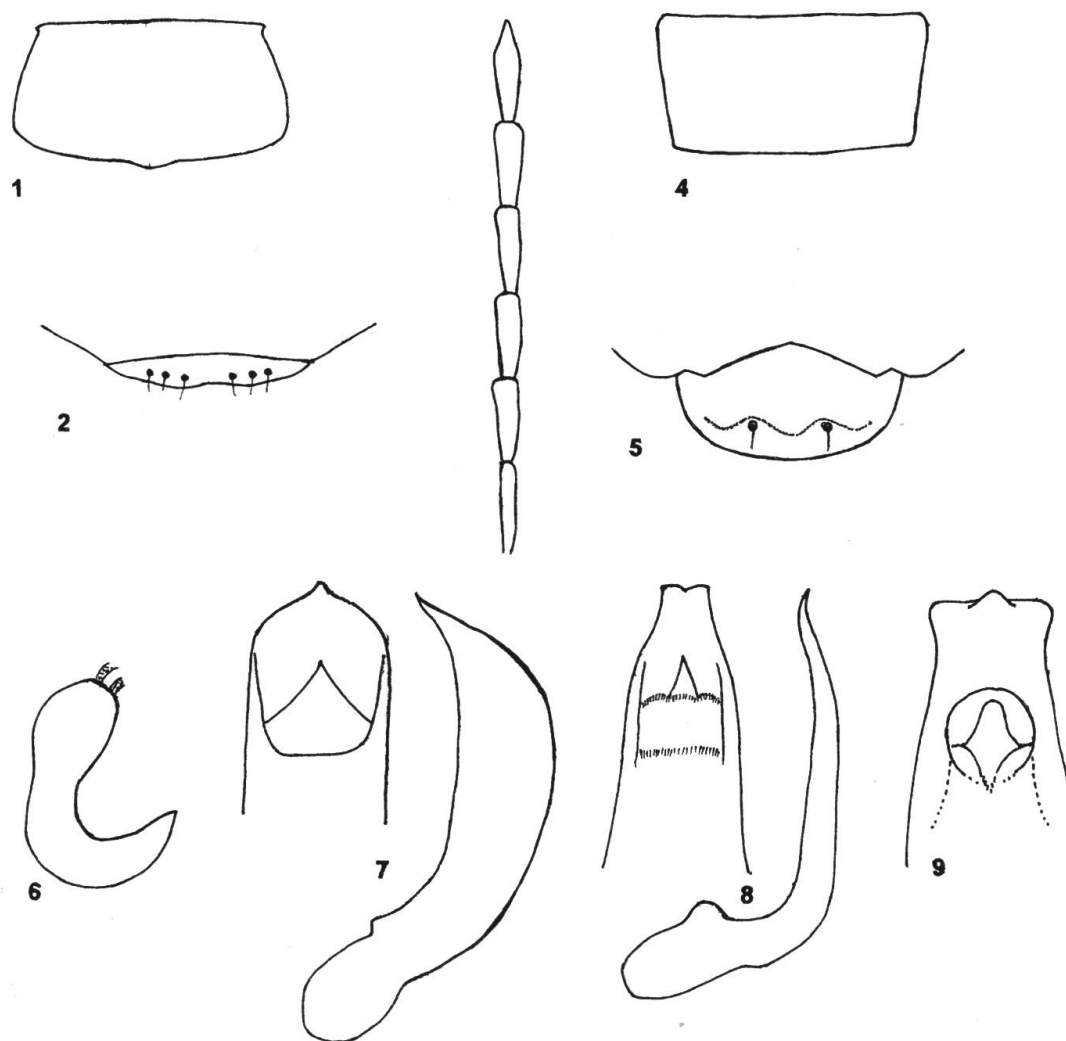
***Trichochrysea grisea* sp.n.**

Figs 5, 8

Holotype (NHMB) and 1♂ paratype (LM): NW Thailand, Chiang Mai Prov., Doi Suthep, 19-22. iv. 1991, S. Bílý.

Description. ♂. Dark blue green labrum and violaceous scutellum; 3 basal segments of antennae fulvous (the first darkened above), pubescence white.

Body robust. Head strongly and densely punctate, shining; frons 3× as wide as diameter of eye, with tubercle in middle, anterior margin of clypeus angularly emarginate (fig. 5). Labrum with two setigerous grooves near anterior margin of horizontal part (fig. 5). Antennae reach a little behind humerus, segment 2 subequal with 3, 4th a little longer and subequal with next two segments, 7-11 slightly thickened, each of them about 2.5-3× as long as wide. Prothorax 1.1× as wide as long, practically



Figs 1-9: 1, *Trichochrysea transversicollis* sp.n., prothorax. 2-4, *Trichochrysea ptarexicollis* sp.n.: 2, anterior margin of clypeus and labrum. 3, antennal segments 6-11. 4, prothorax. 5, *Trichochrysea risea* sp.n., labrum. 6, *Trichochrysea transversicollis* sp.n., spermatheca. 7, *Trichochrysea rapezicollis* sp.n., aedeagus dorsal and lateral. 8, *Trichochrysea grisea* sp.n., aedeagus dorsal and lateral. 9, *Trichochrysea hirta viridis* Jacoby, aedeagus dorsal.

cylindrical with straight side margins, anterior angles almost rectangular; lateral margin sharp, reaches anterior angles. Surface shining, densely and strongly punctate, with distinct smooth tubercle near anterior margin. Upperside with dense erect pubescence; all hairs more or less of same length. Scutellum a little longer than broad, subquadrangular with rounded hind margin, densely and strongly punctate. Elytra 1.15× as long as wide, slightly narrowed to behind, with strong dense punctures. Femora not toothed, tibiae straight, more or less widened to apex.

Aedeagus (fig. 8) flattened on underside.

Length 7.8-8.4 mm.

Remarks. This species belongs to *T. hirta* group and is near *T. incana* Medvedev & Eroshkina 1987 and *T. albopilosa* Medvedev & Eroshkina 1987, both from Vietnam. All

these three species have only white hairs, but a new species is smaller, distinctly metallic blue upperside and other form of aedeagus.

***Trichochrysea quadrifasciata igneicollis* n. ssp.**

Holotype, ♀ (NHMB) and 2 **paratypes** (NHMB, LM): NW Thailand, Mae Hong Son, Ban Huai Po, 800-1600 m, 1-15. iv. 1991, S. Bílý.

Fully identical with nominative form described from Burma in all morphological characters and type of coloration, except prothorax, which is not entirely green, but red cupreous with green emargination. Red stripes of elytra are more broad; because of this elytra look as red with green emargination and discal green stripe.

Length 6.5-6.6 mm.

***Trichochrysea hirta viridis* Jacoby 1890, stat.n.**

Fig. 9

Heteraspis nitida Jacoby, 1892, Ann. Mus. Civ. Genova 32: 909, **syn.n.**

Material studied. Thailand: Chiang Mai, Doi Inthanon, 19. v. 1988, G. Minet, 1 ex., - Thanon Thong Chai, Lansang Nat. Park (16°48' N, 98°57' E), 20. v. 1991, D. Král & V. Kubáň, 1 ex.: - Thanon Thong Chai, Muan Kong, 600 m (19°24' N, 98°45' E), 20. v. 1991, D. Král & V. Kubáň, 2 ex.; - Thanon Thong Chai, Palong (19°55' N, 99°06' E), 750 m, 26-28. v. 1991, D. Král & V. Kubáň, 2 ex., Man Hong Son, Ban Si Lang (19°19' N, 97°59' E), 1200 m, 23-31. v. 1991, Dembický, 2 ex.; - Chumphon Prov., Pha To env. (9°48' N, 98°47' E), 14-21. iii. 1996, Průdek, 1 ex.

T. viridis Jacoby was synonymized with *T. hirta* Fabricius by KIMOTO & GRESSITT (1982) without any explanation. However this form has very constant bright green coloration, while *T. hirta* is deep blue or violaceous. Also an apex of aedeagus is more truncate in this subspecies (fig. 9). We had studied large series of *T. hirta* from Vietnam and Himalaya and never saw green coloration among them. Typical *T. hirta* is known also from Thailand, but seems to be rather rare here. *T. hirta viridis* is known only from Burma and Thailand. Aedeagus is practically identical in both subspecies.

T. nitida was described from Burma. We found 1 ♂ in Thailand, which is identical with Jacoby's type. This form is practically same, as *T. hirta viridis*, including form of aedeagus, but much smaller (type is 5.2 mm, our specimen is 6.2 mm.) Because specimens of small size are known in the typical form also, we accept *T. nitida* as a synonym of *T. hirta viridis*.

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