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A contribution to knowledge of the Alticinae of the Philippines (Coleoptera, Chrysomelidae)

by Lev N. Medvedev

Abstract. One new genus of Alticinae (*Lypneana* gen.nov.), 11 new species (*Chabria hieroglyphica* sp.nov., *Ch. mindanaica* sp.nov., *Phyllotreta nigritula* sp.nov., *Trachyaphthona palawanica* sp.nov., *Hyphasis palawana* sp.nov., *Lipromorpha banksi* sp.nov., *L. palawana* sp.nov., *Philaphthona palawana* sp.nov., *P. pallida* sp.nov., *Lypneana cyanipennis* sp.nov., *Manobiella robusta* sp.nov., and *M. apicalis* sp.nov.) and 2 new subspecies (*Xenidea schereri nigriventris* ssp.nov., *Lipromorpha mindanensis palawana* ssp.nov.) are described, and additional data for 4 known species are also presented.

Key words: Coleoptera – Chrysomelidae – Alticinae – Philippines – taxonomy – new genus – new species – new subspecies

The Alticinae of the Philippines have intensively studied in recent years (MEDVEDEV 1993a, b, 1996, 1997), but nevertheless each new collected adds more new taxa. In this article, a proposed genus, 11 species and 2 subspecies new to science are described and additional records for 4 species are presented, mainly based on materials from the Museum of Natural History, Basel.

The following abbreviations are used for places in which the types are deposited:

NHMB Naturhistorisches Museum, Basel
LM Author's collection

Taxonomy

Xenidea schereri nigriventris ssp.nov.

Material examined. Holotype (male): Mindanao, Maramag prov., Portulin, 1700 m, 3. I. 1991, leg. Bolm (NHMB). Paratype: same locality, 1 female.

Description. Identical with nominative form morphologically and in structure of aedeagus, differs in having underside and hind legs black (in *X. schereri schereri* MEDVEDEV underside and all legs are entirely red).

Length: 3.5 mm.

Chabria hieroglyphica sp.nov.

Fig. 1

Material examined. Holotype (male): Palawan, North Province, Cleopatra Needle N. P., valley of Tanabank river, 300 m, 20–22. XII. 1990, leg. Bolm (NHMB). Paratype: same locality, 1 female.

Description. Fulvous with elytra a little more pale, antennal segments 4–10, narrow basal band on elytra, large common spot on suture, oblique stripe near lateral margin just behind middle (Fig. 1), sides of mesosternum and tarsi black.

Short ovate, almost round, strongly convex. Head impunctate, frontal tubercles transverse, flat, feebly delimited behind; interantennal space comparatively narrow, with short ridge. Antennae reach only humeral area, segments 4–11 moderately thickened and pubescent, segments 2 and 3 subequal, 4 about 1.5 times as long as 3, next segments subequal with 4. Prothorax 2 times as wide as long, distinctly narrowed anteriorly, with sides feebly rounded and not angulate near anterior angles; surface impunctate, glossy, Elytra strongly convex, without humeral tubercle, 1.15 times as long as wide, finely and densely punctate. Epipleurae broad, narrowing towards the rear. Wings present. Anterior tarsi of male with segment 1 feebly widened. Aedeagus asymmetrical.

Length: 4.5 mm.

Remarks. This species differs sharply from all species of the genus in the black markings on the elytra.

Chabria mindanaica sp.nov.

Fig. 4

Material examined. Holotype (male): Mindanao, Momungan, ex Staudinger & Bang-Haas (LM).

Description. Dark red fulvous with flavous antennae; upperside very glossy.

Body elongate ovate. Head impunctate, clypeus convex, labrum large, not emarginate on anterior margin, frontal tubercles triangular, moderately convex. Antennae reach middle of elytra, segment 2 short, segment 3 twice as long as 2, but distinctly shorter than 4; segments 4–10 subequal. Prothorax 1.9 times as wide as long, anterior margin almost straight, hind margin with very feeble basal lobe, side margins rounded, distinctly angulate before anterior angles, maximal width just before base, surface practically impunctate. Elytra 1.45 times as long as wide, with distinct humeral tubercles. Wings present. Segment 1 of anterior and mid tarsi feebly widened in male. Aedeagus (Fig. 4) very unusual for the genus, with very short main part and very large and broad basal part; underside with two longitudinal and deep grooves.

Length: 7.2 mm.

Remarks. Very near to *C. pallida* MEDVEDEV, 1993, but the latter species has labrum emarginate, antennal segment 3 equal to 4, prothorax widest near middle, segment 1 of all tarsi strongly widened in male and aedeagus quite different.

Longitarsus manilensis WEISE, 1913

Material examined. Mindanao, 30 km of Maramag, 1600 m, 28–30. XII. 1990, leg. Bolm, 1 ex.

Remarks. First recorded from Mindanao.

Phyllotreta nigritula sp.nov.

Fig. 5

Material examined. Holotype (male): Mindanao, Momungan, ex. Staudinger & Bang-Haas (LM).

Description. Entirely black, including antennae.

Body elongate ovate. Clypeus and interantennal space with narrow ridge, frontal tubercles feeble, poorly delimited, elongate triangular, divided with feeble groove. Vertex microsculptured, but glossy, with a group of 7–8 punctures near eye. Antennae reach middle of elytra, with segment 2 short, 3 a little longer and subequal to next segments; 5 apical segments slightly widened. Prothorax 1.6 times as wide as long, finely punctate in middle, more strongly and densely so on the sides, especially near rear angles. Elytra 1.5 times as long as wide, with feeble humeral tubercle, densely and rather strongly punctate, with fine microsculpture. Wings present. Segment 1 of anterior and mid legs feebly widened in male. Aedeagus (Fig. 5) with acute apex, longitudinally channelled on underside.

Length: 1.9 mm.

Remarks. Differs immediately in black coloration and small size from all species registered on the Philippines and from both species from Kalimantan. It resembles only *P. yunnanica* CHEN, 1933 from China, but the latter species has a strongly punctate frons.

Trachyaphthona palawanica sp.nov.

Fig. 6

Material examined. Holotype (male): Palawan, Cleopatra Needle N.P., valley of Tanabank River, 300 m, 22. XII. 1992, leg. Bolm (NHMB). Paratype: same locality, 35 specimens (NHMB, LM – 4 ex.).

Description. Dark brown to piceous black, including also basal segments of antennae.

Body elongate ovate. Head impunctate, finely microsculptured; frontal tubercles transverse, sharply delimited; interantennal space carinate, clypeus flat, triangular. Antennae with segments 5–11 slightly widened, segments 3–10 subequal, however segment 7 a little longer than others. Prothorax 1.6–1.7 times as wide as long, with side margins straight from base to anterior pore, where they are angulate; surface finely punctate and densely microsculptured. Elytra 1.5 times as long as wide, strongly and densely punctate, glossy. Aedeagus (Fig. 6) with feeble longitudinal groove in apical part of underside, in lateral view nearly straight, except extreme apex, which is feebly curved downwards. Segment 1 of anterior tarsi strongly widened in male.

Length: 2.3–2.8 mm.

Remarks. Near *T. leyteana* MEDVEDEV, 1993, differs in entirely dark body, dull head and prothorax and different form of aedeagus. Differs from *T. mindanaica* MEDVEDEV, 1993, apart from the aedeagus, in its non-metallic elytra.

Philopona vibex ERICHSON, 1834

Material examined. Palawan, Cleopatra Needle N.P., Tanabank river, 300 m, 20–22. XII. 1990, leg. Bolm, 1 ex.

Remarks. First recorded from Palawan.

Hyphasis palawana sp.nov.

Fig. 7

Material examined. Holotype male (NHMB) and 2 paratypes (male – LM, female – NHMB): Palawan, Cleopatra Neddle Nat. Park, valley of Tanabank, 300 m, 20–22. XII. 1990, leg. Bolm.

Description. Fulvous, antennae except 3 basal segments black.

Body elongate ovate, comparatively flat. Head impunctate, clypeus with sharp central ridge, frontal tubercles subquadrate. Antennal segment 3 a little longer than 2, segment 4 distinctly longer than 2 and subequal to 5th and 6th; next segments a little shorter. Prothorax twice as wide as long, with explanate margins and impunctate surface. Elytra ovate, about 1.3 times as long as wide, finely punctate.

Male: segment 1 strongly widened on fore tarsi and moderately broad on mid tarsi. Aedeagus (Fig. 7) with flagellum protruding above apex.

Length of male: 3.3–3.5 mm.

Length of female: 3.8 mm.

Remarks. Very near to *H. philippina* MEDVEDEV, 1994 and *H. armata* MEDVEDEV, 1996, differs mostly in smaller size and form of aedeagus; proportions of antennal segments is also different. *H. sucki* WEISE, 1922 from Borneo has different proportions in the antennal segments, but its aedeagus is unknown.

Sebaethe philippina MEDVEDEV, 1996

Material examined. Palawan, North Province, Cleopatra Needle N.P., valley of Tanabank river, 300 m, 20–22. XII. 1990, leg. Bolm, 1 ex.

Description. First recorded from Palawan.

Erystus martensi MEDVEDEV, 1994

Material examined. Mindanao, Malabay env., 1200 m, 6. I. 1991, leg. Bolm, 2 ex.

Remarks. First recorded from Mindanao.

Lipromorpha banksi sp.nov.

Fig. 8

Material examined. Holotype (male): Luzon, Davao, leg. C. S. Banks (LM).

Description. Entirely fulvous.

Head impunctate, with thin ridge between bases of antennae; frontal tubercles elongate triangular, delimited behind with transverse impressed line, not reaching eyes. Antennae (only 3 basal segments present) with segment 2 about twice as short as 1, segment 3 more thin and slightly longer than 2. Prothorax 1.1 times as wide at anterior margin as long, strongly constricted in basal third, surface impunctate, glossy, without impression behind anterior margin. Scutellum triangular, impunctate, with fine microsculpture. Elytra 1.8 times as long as wide, with very sparse hairs, mostly on apical slope, transversely impressed behind basal convexity, distinctly divided on horizontal and vertical part. Aedeagus (Fig. 8) with very long apical finger-like process.

Length: 2.5 mm.

Remarks. This species resembles *L. luzonica* MEDVEDEV, 1993 and *L. gracilis* MEDVEDEV, 1996 in the entirely fulvous body, but differs from all known species in form of aedeagus with finger-like apical process.

***Lipromorpha mindanensis palawana* ssp.nov.**

Material examined. Holotype (female): North Palawan, Binaluan, XI–XII. 1913, leg. G. Boettcher (LM). Paratypes: Palawan, North Province, Cleopatra Needle N.P., valley of Tanabank river, 300 m, 20–22. XII. 1990, 2 females (NHMB).

Description. Black or piceous black, head, antennae and prothorax red or fulvous, antennae with segments 1 and 9–11 more or less darkened, tarsi mostly more light than tibiae.

Head and prothorax impunctate, frontal groove distinct, arcuate, more deep in middle, but almost reaches eyes. Proportions of antennal segments, prothorax and elytra as in *L. mindanensis mindanensis*. Length: 2.4–2.7 mm.

Remarks. This form is very possibly a valid species, but as I have no males I prefer to propose it as a subspecies of *L. mindanensis* MEDVEDEV, 1993. It differs in the absence of metallic coloration, pale antennae and distinct frontal groove. *L. schawalleri* MEDVEDEV, 1993 differs from other near species in its red head and prothorax.

***Philaphthona palawana* sp.nov.**

Fig. 9

Material examined. Holotype (male): Palawan, North Province, Cleopatra Needle N.P., valley of Tanabank river, 300 m, 20–22. XII. 1990, leg. Bolm (NHMB). Paratype: same locality, 2 females (NHMB, LM).

Description. Entirely fulvous.

Body elongate, convex. Head impunctate, clypeus triangular, convex; frontal tubercles narrow, obliquely placed; frons distinctly wider than eye. Proportions of antennal segments: 7–4–6–7–8–8–8–8–8–10. Prothorax 1.5 times as wide as long, with well developed basal groove, deeper in middle. Surface extremely finely and sparsely punctate, punctures in groove more large and dense. Elytra 1.6 times as long as wide, without basal convexity, with distinct and rather dense punctures. Segment 1 of anterior tarsus of male short triangular, very feebly widened. Segment 1 of metatarsus thin, about 5 times as long as wide and 0.4 times as long as tibia; latter slightly curved, widened in apical part and flattened above. Abdominal process of the first sternite elevated, with short divergent ridges, longer in male. Aedeagus (Fig. 9) with elevated lateral ridges and deep, more or less transparent, longitudinal groove in middle.

Length of male: 2.4 mm.

Length of female: 2.7–2.9 mm.

Remarks. Differs from all species in entirely fulvous antennae. Nearer to *P. fulva* MEDVEDEV, 1993, from which it differs further in short ridges of abdominal process, proportions of antennal segments and a form and sculpture of the aedeagus.

Philaphthona pallida sp.nov. Fig. 10

Material examined. Holotype (male): Mindanao, Maramag Province, Portulin, 1700 m, 3. I. 1991, leg. Bolm (NHMB). Paratypes: same locality, 1 male (LM), 1 female (NHMB).

Description. Entirely fulvous with apical half of hind tibiae black, apices of hind femora and mid tibiae more or less infuscated. Antennae of male entirely flavous, of female with segments 6–8 black.

Body elongate, convex. Head impunctate, clypeus triangular, feebly convex; frontal tubercles elongate triangular, frons a little wider than eye. Proportions of antennal segments: 9–5–8–8–10–10–10–10–8–10. Prothorax 1.6 times as wide as long, lateral margins feebly arcuate, with thickened anterior angles, basal groove deep in middle, shallow laterally; surface very finely and sparsely punctate. Elytra 1.3–1.4 times as long as wide, without basal convexity, very feebly and sparsely punctate. Abdominal process with parallel ridges in anterior quarter of sternite. Segment 1 of anterior and mid tarsi elongate, but not widened in male; same segment of hind tarsus thin, 0.5–0.55 times as long as tibia. Aedeagus – Fig. 10.

Length: 2.6–2.8 mm.

Remarks. Very near to *P. fulva* MEDVEDEV, 1993, differs in entirely fulvous antennae of male and different sculpture of aedeagus.

Lypneana gen.nov. Fig. 3

Type species: *Lypneana cyanipennis* sp.nov.

Description. Body elongate ovate, not pubescent above. Interantennal space rather broad, carinate. Frontal tubercles transverse, sharply delimited behind. Prothorax transverse, with protruding anterior angles, side margins explanate, disc with basal groove delimited on each side with sharp and long longitudinal grooves (Fig. 3). Elytra with regular rows of punctures and lateral ridge starting from humerus. Wings present. Anterior coxal cavities open. Tibiae cylindrical, neither flattened nor sulcate on upperside. 3rd tarsal segment bilobed. Claws appendiculate.

Remarks. This genus resembles *Xuthea* BALY, 1865, which has, however, closed anterior coxal cavities. I place this genus near *Lypnea* BALY, 1876, but it differs markedly in the bilobed third tarsal segment, non-pubescent elytra, explanate lateral margins and long longitudinal grooves of prothorax (in *Lypnea* these grooves are developed only behind the transverse groove).

Lypneana cyanipennis sp.nov.

Material examined. Holotype (female): Philippines, Belevaare [? Luzon], 28. I. 1920 (LM).

Description. Red fulvous, elytra metallic blue, antennae black with the first and the last segment reddish; tarsi black.

Head impunctate, antennae reaching anterior third of elytra, proportions of segments: 16–8–12–10–12–11–14–12–12–11–15. Prothorax 1.8 times as wide as long,

with anterior and posterior margins straight, basal lobe absent, lateral margins feebly arcuate, surface moderately convex, impunctate. Scutellum triangular, impunctate. Elytra 1.65 times as long as wide, humeral ridge reaches behind middle, but more acute anteriorly, basal convexity delimited to the rear and outwards with deep impressions, elytral rows partly irregular, interspaces broad and flat, finely and sparsely punctate.

Length: 5.7 mm.

***Manobiella robusta* sp.nov.**

Fig. 11

Material examined. Holotype (male): Palawan, Cleopatra Needle N.P., valley of Tanabank River, 300 m, 20–22. XII. 1990, leg. Bolm (NHMB). Paratypes: same locality, 11 specimens (NHMB, 2 – LM).

Description. Light to dark fulvous, antennal segments 7–9 black.

Body short, robust, widened towards the rear. Labrum large. Head impunctate, clypeus subquadrate, moderately long, longitudinally carinate. Frontal tubercles very small and indistinct, frontal grooves sharp, divergent under obtuse angle. Antennae with segment 2 a little shorter than 3, segments 3–10 subequal, 11 a little longer than 10. Prothorax without transverse basal groove (or sometimes with very feeble traces: flattened before scutellum or slightly impressed near hind angles), 1.7 times as wide as long, narrowed anteriorly, with side margins feebly rounded and slightly angulate near anterior pore; surface glossy, very finely and sparsely punctate. Elytra 1.2 times as long as wide, with well developed basal convexity and postbasal impression; rows of punctures feeble behind the impression especially on apical slope, and practically absent on basal convexity. Segment 1 of anterior tarsi moderately widened in male. Aedeagus – Fig. 11.

Length: 2.2–2.5 mm.

Remarks. Differs from *M. longirostris* MEDVEDEV, 1993 in shorter clypeus, non-metallic upperside and antennal segments 7–9 black.

***Manobiella apicalis* sp.nov.**

Fig. 2

Material examined. Holotype (female): Luzon, Mt. Pulog, ex Staudinger & Bang-Haas (LM).

Description. Black to piceous black, 3 basal antennal segments fulvous, legs dark brown, anterior 2/5 of elytra fulvous except suture and round spot at base near suture (Fig. 2).

Body robust, short ovate. Head impunctate, clypeus triangular, as wide as long, not carinate longitudinally. Frontal tubercles narrow, transverse; frontal grooves divergent under very obtuse angle. Antennae reach middle of elytra, with segment 2 a little shorter than 3, segments 3–10 subequal, 11 a little longer. Prothorax 1.3 times as wide as long, without transverse basal groove, but slightly flattened before scutellum, lateral margins feebly rounded, broadest behind middle, feebly angulate anteriorly. Surface glossy, practically impunctate. Elytra 1.2 times as long as wide, with high basal convexity, delimited behind and outwards with deep impressions, impunctate. except a few punctures on postbasal impression and at lateral margin behind humerus.

Length: 2.8 mm.

Remarks. Differs well from both known species with not carinate clypeus and unusual colour of upperside.

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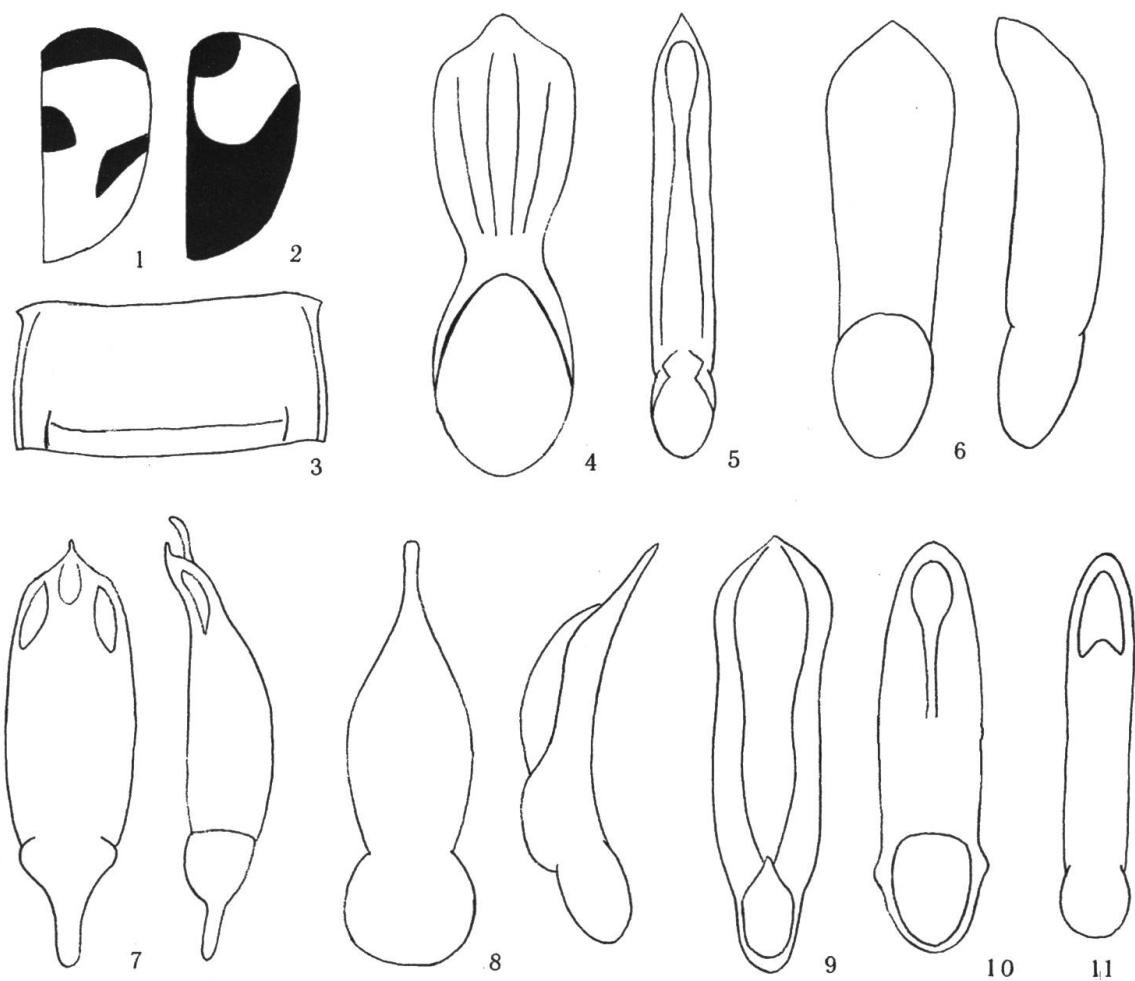
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Figs 1–11. 1, 2 – pattern of elytra: 1 – *Chabria hieroglyphica*; 2 – *Manobiella apicalis*; 3 – prothorax of *Lypneana*; 4 – 11 – Aedeagus (d – dorsal, v – ventral, l – lateral): 4 – *Chabria mindanaica*, v; 5 – *Phyllotreta nigritula*, v; 6 – *Trachyaphthona palawanica*, v, l; 7 – *Hyphasis palawana*, v, l; 8 – *Lipromorpha banksi*, v; 9 – *Philaphthona palawana*, v; 10 – *Philaphthona pallida*, v; 11 – *Manobiella robusta*, d.

