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Agetocera silva sp.nov. from the *A. lobicornis* species group (Coleoptera, Chrysomelidae, Galerucinae)

by Jan Bezděk

Abstract. A new species from the *Agetocera lobicornis* species group, *A. silva* sp.nov. (southern Vietnam), is described, illustrated and compared with related species. The type material of an additional three species of this group, *A. lobicornis* Baly, 1865, *A. nigripennis* Laboissière, 1927 and *A. yunnana* Chen, 1964, is examined. A lectotype is designated for *A. lobicornis*. All four species may be distinguished by the structure of the ninth antennomere in the male. *Agetocera yunnana* and *A. nigripennis* are recorded from Laos for the first time.

Keywords. taxonomy – new species – lectotype designation – Coleoptera – Chrysomelidae – Galerucinae – *Agetocera* – Oriental Region

Introduction

The genus *Agetocera* is distributed in south-east Asia: the Himalayan region, eastern India, Myanmar, Thailand, Laos, Vietnam and southern China. WILCOX (1971) listed 16 species but omitted three species described by CHEN (1964). Additional species have recently been described by MEDVEDEV (1981), JIANG (1992), CHEN (1997), YANG *et al.* (2001) and ZHANG & YANG (2005). The number of *Agetocera* species has thus increased to 24.

Revising the galerucine material from the collection of my colleague Jiří Voříšek I found one specimen from southern Vietnam identified as *A. lobicornis* but the structure of its ninth antennomere was other than in true *A. lobicornis*. Unfortunately, the aedeagus of this specimen is missing. Dr. L. N. Medvedev kindly sent me an additional specimen published from Vietnam under the name *A. lobicornis* by SAMODERZHENKOV (1992). Both specimens undoubtedly relate to a heretofore undescribed species, well characterized by the structure of the ninth antennomere. A description appears below.

Material and methods

The following abbreviations are used in the text for the collections housing the material examined:

BMNH	.....	The Natural History Museum (formerly British Museum), London, U.K. (Sharon Shute)
IRSNB	.....	Institut Royal des Sciences Naturelles de Belgique, Brussels, Belgium (Pol Limbourg)
IZCAS	.....	Chinese Academy of Sciences, Institute of Zoology, Beijing, China (Lijie Zhang)
JBBC	.....	The Jan Bezděk collection, Brno, Czech Republic
JSPC	.....	The Jaromír Strejček collection, Prague, Czech Republic
JVIC	.....	The Jiří Voříšek collection, Jirkov, Czech Republic
LMMC	.....	The Lev N. Medvedev collection, Moscow, Russia
NHMB	.....	Naturhistorisches Museum, Basel, Switzerland (E. Sprecher-Uebersax, M. Brancucci)
SMTD	.....	Staatliches Museum für Tierkunde, Dresden, Germany (Olaf Jäger)
ZMUH	.....	Zoologisches Institut und Museum, Universität von Hamburg, Hamburg, Germany (Hans Riefenstahl, Kai Schütte)

Exact label data are cited for the type material. A single slash (/) separates the data appearing on different rows and a double slash (//) divides the data on different labels. Type localities are cited in the original spelling. Additional remarks are in square brackets: [p] – preceding data printed; [h] – the same, but handwritten; [w] – white label.

Taxonomy

Agetocera lobicornis species group

The group is characterized as follows: head and pronotum red, elytra black, antennae completely yellow, pro- and mesosternum red, metasternum red or black, abdomen yellow. Legs black, usually with more or less reddish femora and tibiae. In male, antennomere 9 strongly modified, bulbous, antennomere 10 not modified or widely C-shaped. Aedeagus of simple structure, with sharply projecting apex, very similar in all species of the group, which consists of 4 species: *A. lobicornis* Baly, 1865, *A. nigripennis* Laboissière, 1927, *A. yunnana* Chen, 1964 and *A. silva* sp.nov.

Agetocera lobicornis Baly, 1865

(Figs 1, 5, 9)

Agetocera lobicornis Baly, 1865: 437 (Type locality: India).

Agetocera lobicornis: WEISE (1924): 19 (catalogue); MAULIK (1932): 949; MAULIK (1936): 127 (key), 133; WILCOX (1971): 260 (catalogue); KIMOTO (1989): 43 (key), 44; MEDVEDEV & SPRECHER-UEBERSAX (1998): 30; MEDVEDEV & SPRECHER-UEBERSAX (1999): 299 (catalogue); YANG *et al.* (2001): 106 (key), 121; KIMOTO (2005): 44 (catalogue).

Type material. Lectotype (designated here) (male), labelled: “Type [white round label with red collar] // India [w, h] // *Agetocera lobicornis* / Baly / India [grey label, h] // Baly coll. [w, p]” (BMNH). Paralectotype (male), labelled: “India bor. [w, h] // Baly coll. [w, p]” (BMNH); Paralectotype (female), labelled: “India [w, h] // Baly coll. [w, p] // Baly coll. [w, p]” (BMNH). These specimens are provided with an additional printed red label: “LECTOTYPUS [or PARALECTOTYPUS], / *Agetocera lobicornis* / Baly, 1865, / des. Jan Bezděk 2006”.

Described from unspecified number of specimens, but both male and female are mentioned (BALY 1865). I found 3 syntypes in BMNH from Baly’s collection and one male specimen is designated here as a lectotype. **Additional material examined.** INDIA: Assam, 5 km N of Umrongso, 25°27’N 92°43’E, 700 m, 17.–25.v.1999, J. Rolčík leg., 1 male, 2 females (JVJC); Meghalaya, Nokrek N. P., 3 km S Daribokgiri, 25°27’N 90°19’E, 1400 m, 26.iv.1999, J. Rolčík leg., 1 female (JBBC); West Bengal, Gopaldhara, Darjeeling, 19.v.1914, H. Stevens leg., 1 male (BMNH); Gopaldhara, Rungbong valley, 1916, H. Stevens leg., 3 males 2 females (BMNH); Sikkim, without additional data, 1 male (SMTD); Nagas, Doherty leg., 3 males, 1 female (BMNH); “Indes Anglaise”, x.1910, without collector’s name, 1 male (IRSNB); MYANMAR: Kachin state, Nansabon vill., 25 km E Putao, 800 m, 6.–9.v.1998, S. Murzin leg., 1 male (JBBC); Putao distr., Sumprabum, 1924, B. Fischer leg., 3 males (BMNH); Nam Tamai valley, 22.ix.1938, R. Kaulback leg., 1 female (BMNH); Sumtsangtap, 22.vii.1938, R. Kaulback leg., 1 male (BMNH); Shan state, Momeik, Doherty leg., 1 female (BMNH); Karen state, Karen hills, 18.–21.v.1916, F. M. Mackwood leg. 1 female (BMNH).

Distribution. India: Assam, West Bengal (MAULIK 1936, present study), Meghalaya, Sikkim (present study), Myanmar (MAULIK 1936, present study), Nepal (MEDVEDEV & SPRECHER-UEBERSAX 1998). KIMOTO (1989) also published *A. lobicornis* from Thailand and Laos. I did not examine these specimens but I have some doubts about the identification. In my opinion, the specimens from Thailand and Laos may be *A. yunnana*.

Differential diagnosis. *Agetocera lobicornis* can be distinguished from other similar species by the structure of the antennomere 9, with its apex is produced outwards. Last five antennomeres in male as in Fig. 9. Metathorax red. Aedeagus as in Fig. 5.

Agetocera nigripennis Laboissière, 1927

(Figs 2, 6, 10)

Agetocera nigripennis Laboissière, 1927: 48 (Type locality: Tonkin: Ha-Giang; Tam Dao).

Agetocera nigripennis: WILCOX (1971): 260 (catalogue); MEDVEDEV (1981): 619 (key); MEDVEDEV (1983): 147; KIMOTO (1989): 42 (key), 45; SAMODERZHENKOV (1992): 124 (key), 126; YANG *et al.* (2001): 106 (key), 125.

Type material. Syntype (male), labelled: "TYPE [w, red letters, p] // Hagiang / Tonkin N. / U. Laboissière / 5.1905 [w, h] // *Agetocera / nigripennis* / m. [h] / V. Laboissière — Dét. [w, p] // Le Moul't vend. / via Reinbek / Eing. Nr. 1, 1957 [w, p]" (ZMUH). Described on the basis of two syntypes: a male from Tonkin: Ha-Giang (ZMUH, examined) and a female from Tam Dao (Pic collection, not examined).

Additional material examined. VIETNAM: Vinh Phu prov., Tam Dao, 70 km N of Hanoi, 21°27'N 105°39'E, 900–1200 m, 11.–17.v.1996, P. Spáčil leg., 3 males, 2 females (JBBC); Tam Dao Mts., 950 m, 16.–31.v.1995, J. Jaroš & K. Spitzer leg., 1 female (JBBC); Tam Dao, 4.–11.vi.1990, J. Secký leg., 1 female (JBBC); Tam Dao, 3.–11.vi.1985, J. Víša leg., 1 male, 3 females (JSPC); Lao Cai prov., Chapa [= Sa Pa], without additional data, 1 male, 3 females (ZMUH); LAOS: Hua Phan prov., Ban Kangpabong env., 25 km SE of Vieng Xai (by road), 20°19'N 104°25'E, 14.–18.v.2001, J. Bezděk leg., 1 male, 3 females (JBBC).

Distribution. Vietnam (LABOISSIÈRE 1927, SAMODERZHENKOV 1992, present study), China: Yunnan (YANG *et al.* 2001), Laos (present study). New species for Laos.

Differential diagnosis. *Agetocera nigripennis* is well characterized by black metathorax (red in other species of *A. lobicornis* group). Males with antennomere 9 relatively short, subquadrangular. Antennomere 10 C-shaped while in other species it is simply elongated. Last five antennomeres of male as in Fig. 10. Aedeagus as in Fig. 6.

Host plants. MEDVEDEV (1983) published an unspecified species of Cucurbitaceae as a host plant of *A. nigripennis* in Vietnam.

Agetocera yunnana CHEN, 1964

(Figs 3, 7, 11)

Agetocera yunnana Chen, 1964: 204, 210 (Type locality: Yunnan).

Agetocera yunnana: YANG *et al.* (2001): 106 (key), 129.

Type material. Paratype (male), labelled: "[in Chinese, p] // [in Cyrillic = Yunnan, Damonlun] / 610 m. 28.IV.1958. / [in Cyrillic = Liu Da-khua leg.] [w, p] // PARATYPE [yellow label, p] // *Agetocera / yunnana* Chen [h] / [Chinese letters] [w, p]" (IZCAS); paratype (female), labelled: "[in Chinese, p] // [in Cyrillic = Yunnan, Damonlun] / 610 ž. 28.IV.1958. / [in Cyrillic = Liu Da-khua leg.] [w, p] // PARATYPE [yellow label, p]" (IZCAS); paratype (female), labelled: "Para- / type [round white label with yellow collar] // PARATYPE [yellow label, p] // [in Chinese, p] // 1959.V.4 / [Chinese letters] [w, p] // Brit. Mus / 198 [p] 6-247 [w, h] // *Agetocera / yunnana* / Chen [h] / [Chinese letters] [w, p]" (BMNH). The original description is based on 115 specimens (43 males, 72 females) deposited in IZCAS. An additional female paratype was found to be deposited in BMNH.

Additional material examined. LAOS: Louangnamtha prov., Luang Namtha env., 800–1200 m, v.1997, without collector's name, 2 males (JBBC); Namtha-Muang Sing, 21°09'N 101°19'E, 900–1200 m, 5.–13.v.1997, V. Kubáň leg., 5 males, 2 females (NHMB). Bolikhamxai prov., Ban Nape (8 km NE); 600 m, 18°21'N 105°08'E, 1.–18.v.2001, C. L. Peša leg., 2 males (JBBC).

Distribution. China: Yunnan (CHEN 1964, YANG *et al.* 2001), Guangxi (YANG *et al.* 2001), Laos (present study). New species for Laos.

Differential diagnosis. The relatively elongate antennomere 9 in male *A. yunnana* renders it very similar to *A. lobicornis*. However, the apex of antennomere 9 in *A. yunnana* is not produced outwards as in *A. lobicornis*. Last five antennomeres in male as in Fig. 11. Metathorax red. Aedeagus as in Fig. 7.

***Agetocera silva* sp.nov.**

(Figs 4, 8, 12)

Agetocera lobicornis: SAMODERZHENKOV (1992: 124) (key), 126 [misidentification].

Type locality. Vietnam, Gia Lai prov., Buon Loi, 40 km N of Ankhe.

Type material. Holotype (male), labelled: "SRV, Prov. Gialai- / Contum, Buon-Loi, / 40 km N Ankhe [p] / 6.VI.80. [w, h] // [in Cyrillic = tropical forest] [w, p] // *Agetocera lobicornis* Baly [h] / L. N. Medvedev det. 19 [w, p]" (LMMC). Paratype (male), labelled: "VIETNAM mer. 17.–21.4.95 / 12km N of DALAT LANGBIAN / 12.03n 108.27E / PACHOLATKO+DEMBICKY lgt. [w, p]" (JVJC). The specimens are provided with additional printed red labels: "HOLOTYPUS [or PARATYPUS], / *Agetocera silva* sp.n., / J. Bezděk det. 2009".

Description. Body length of males: 10.1–12.0 mm (holotype 10.1 mm).

Male (holotype). Body robust, widening posteriorly, glabrous, lustrous. Head yellow, increasingly reddish posteriorly, antennae completely yellow. Apices of mandibles blackish. Pronotum, scutellum, pro-, meso- and metasternum red, abdomen yellow. Elytra shiny black, with brownish extreme suture behind scutellum and apical angles. Pro- and mesofemora red, metafemora red with apical two-thirds on outer side and apical third on inner side black. Protibiae red with black outside, meso- and metatibiae black with reddish knees. All tarsi black with brownish apex of tarsomere 4 and claws.

Labrum transverse, covered with pale setae, anterior margin moderately rounded. Head lustrous, nearly impunctate. Anterior part of head triangularly raised, deeply impressed in front of antennal insertions. Antennal insertions separated from the front by elevated nasal keel. Interantennal space as wide as transverse diameter of antennal insertion. Frontal tubercles large, obliquely quadrangular, lustrous, separated from each other by distinct furrow. Lateral margins of frontal tubercles indistinctly merged with frontal surface, posterior margins separated from frons by a distinct furrow. Frons impressed in the middle just beyond frontal tubercles. Head at base narrower than anterior margin of pronotum. Antennae robust, dull, covered with short, dense hairs, 0.50 times as long as body, length ratios of antennomeres 35–13–17–15–14–12–18–15–54–28–60. Antennomeres 2 to 8 more or less as wide as long. Antennomere 9 strongly modified, bulbous, covered with longer hairs, obliquely cut in the apical half of outer side. Surface of cut area lustrous and glabrous and with distinct orifice in the middle. Outer anterior angle with large, flattened tooth. Antennomere 10 slightly deflected, with apex slightly extended. Antennomere 11 very long, distinctly constricted for two-thirds of its length.

Pronotum transverse, 1.45 times as broad as long, widest in anterior third, slightly narrowed forward and strongly so posteriorly, with transverse impression from side to side at two-thirds of pronotal length. Surface lustrous, impunctate, glabrous. Anterior margin

moderately concave, unbordered. Posterior margin straight at centre, laterally obliquely skewed, border thin in the middle, widening towards posterior angles. Lateral margins distinctly bordered, thinly explanate. All angles obtuse with a distinct tooth bearing a setigerous pore. Pronotal base much narrower than elytral base.

Scutellum lustrous, glabrous, subtriangular with widely rounded apex, covered with microsculpture.

Elytra wide, divergent posteriad, widest at three-quarter length. Humeral calli well developed. Elytral surface lustrous, glabrous, covered with microsculpture and sparsely covered with very small, almost indistinct, confused punctures. Epipleura narrower in basal third of elytral length, widest in the second third, suddenly narrowing and disappearing before apex. Macropterous.

Ventral surface semi-opaque, finely punctate, and densely covered with yellow hairs. Last visible ventrite trilobed, incisions thin and deep, reaching one-third of the ventrite length. Surface with deep cavity in the middle. Pygidium subconical.

Tarsi robust, tarsomere 1 of all legs subtriangular, wider than tarsomere 2. Claws bifid.

Shape of aedeagus as in Fig. 8.

Variability. The paratype with head, pronotum, scutellum and underside uniformly orange and apices of pro- and mesofemora with small black spot.

Female. Unknown.

Distribution. Southern Vietnam.

Etymology. The species is dedicated to my lifelong friend Silva Peperníková (Czech Republic, Drahotuše).

Differential diagnosis. The red metasternum and simple antennomere 10 in male make *A. silva* sp.nov. resemble *A. lobicornis* and *A. yunnana*. All the species differ in the structure of antennomere 9 in males, which is longer in *A. lobicornis* and *A. yunnana* and shorter and with a distinct tooth in the outer apical angle in *A. silva* sp.nov. The aedeagi of all three species are similar (Figs 5, 7, 8), but the apex in lateral view curves gradually in *A. silva* sp.nov. but abruptly in *A. lobicornis* and *A. yunnana*.

Key to identification of *Agetocera lobicornis* species group (predominantly for males)

1. Metathorax black (red in other species of *A. lobicornis* group). Males with antennomere 9 relatively short, subquadrangular. Antennomere 10 C-shaped (Fig. 10). Aedeagus as in Fig. 6. Distribution: Vietnam, Laos, China (Yunnan). *Agetocera nigripennis* Laboissière, 1927
- Metathorax red. 2.
2. Males with antennomere 9 short and with distinct tooth in outer apical angle (Fig. 12). Aedeagus as in Fig. 8. Distribution: southern Vietnam. *Agetocera silva* sp.nov.
- Males with antennomere 9 longer. 3.

3. Apex of antennomere 9 not produced outwards (Fig. 11). Aedeagus as in Fig. 7. Distribution: Laos, China (Yunnan, Guangxi), ?Thailand.
 *Agetocera yunnana* Chen, 1964
- Apex of antennomere 9 produced outwards (Fig. 9). Aedeagus as in Fig. 5. Distribution: Myanmar, Nepal, India (Assam, West Bengal, Meghalaya, Sikkim), ?Thailand, ?Laos.
 *Agetocera lobicornis* Baly, 1865

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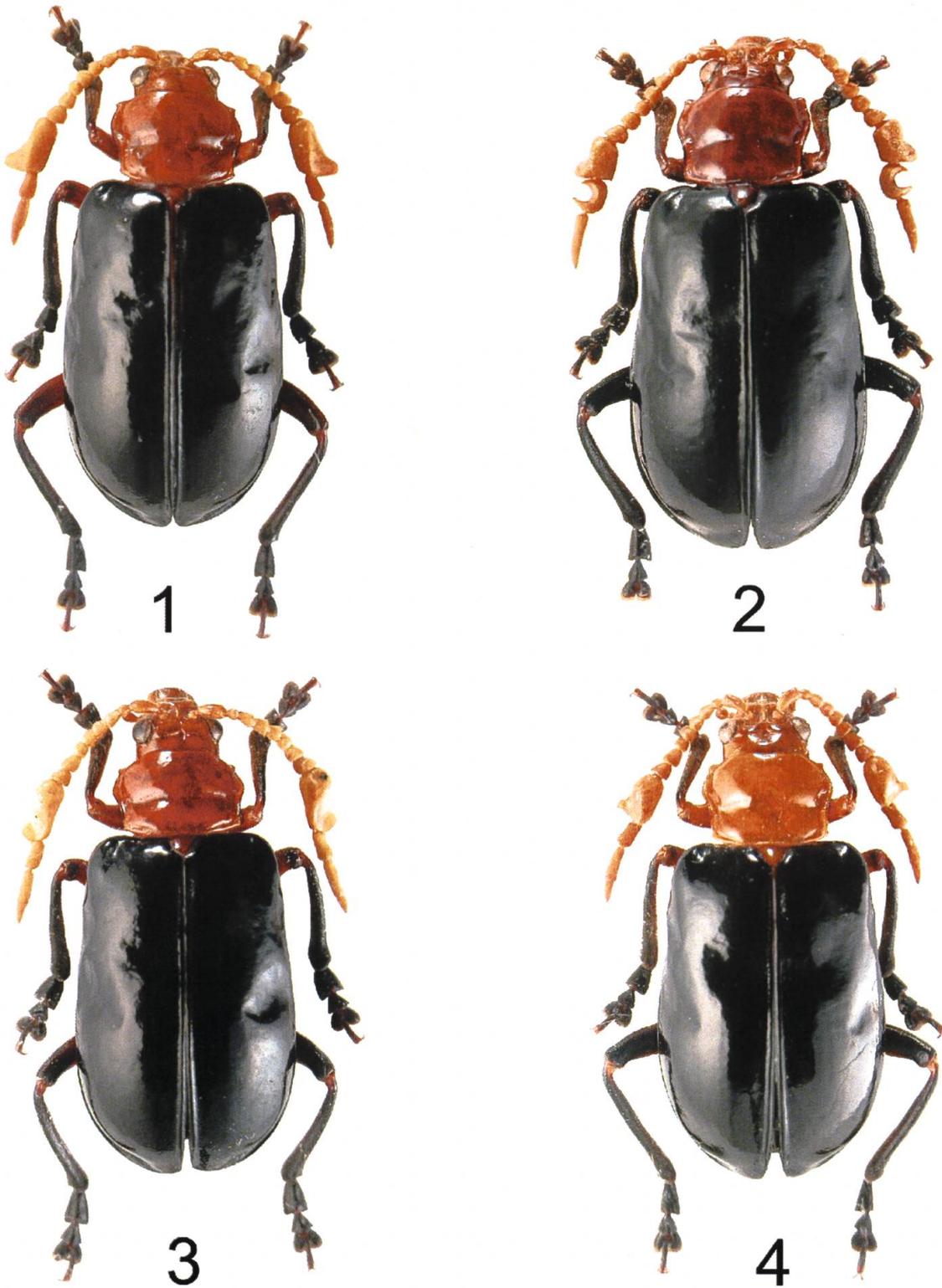
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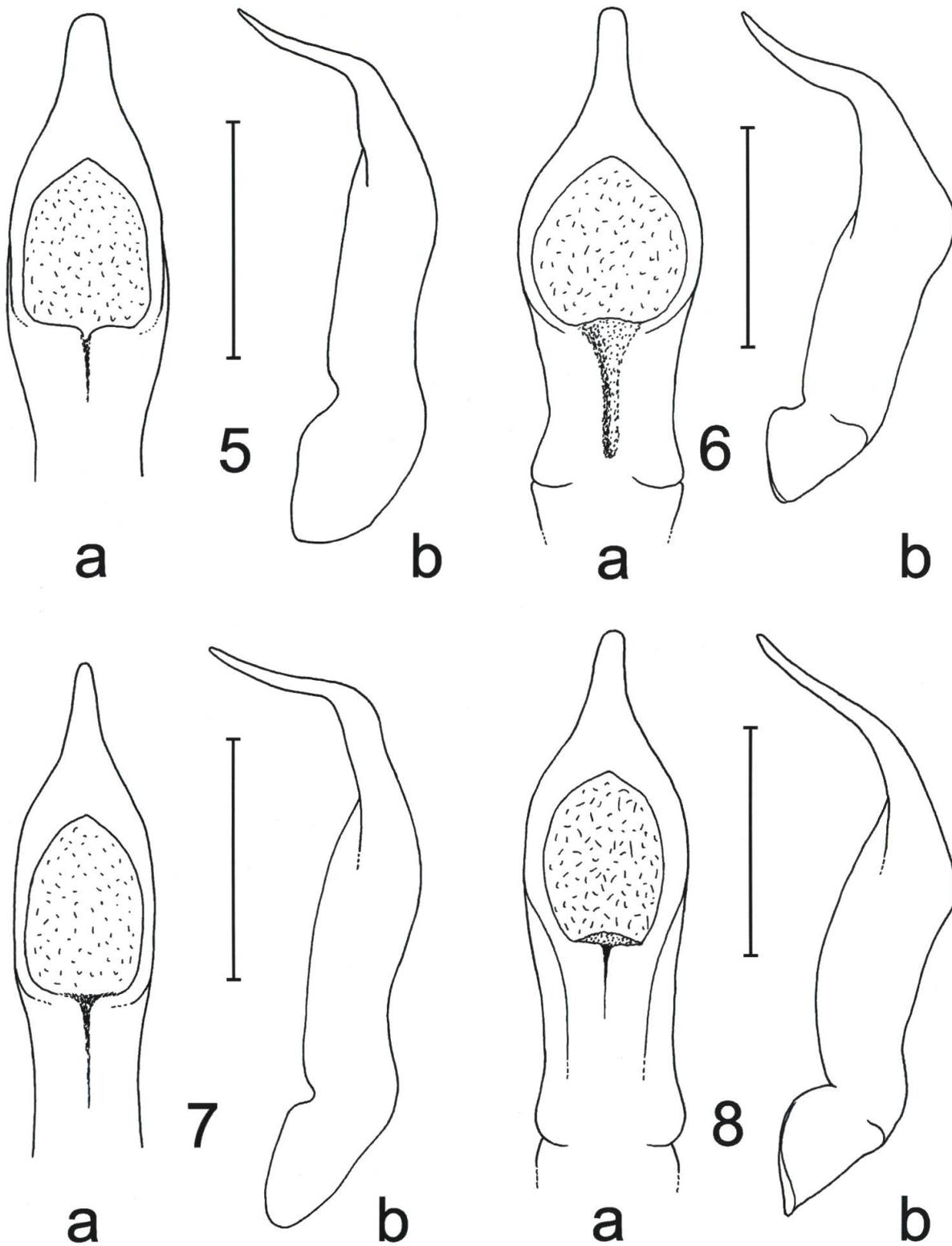
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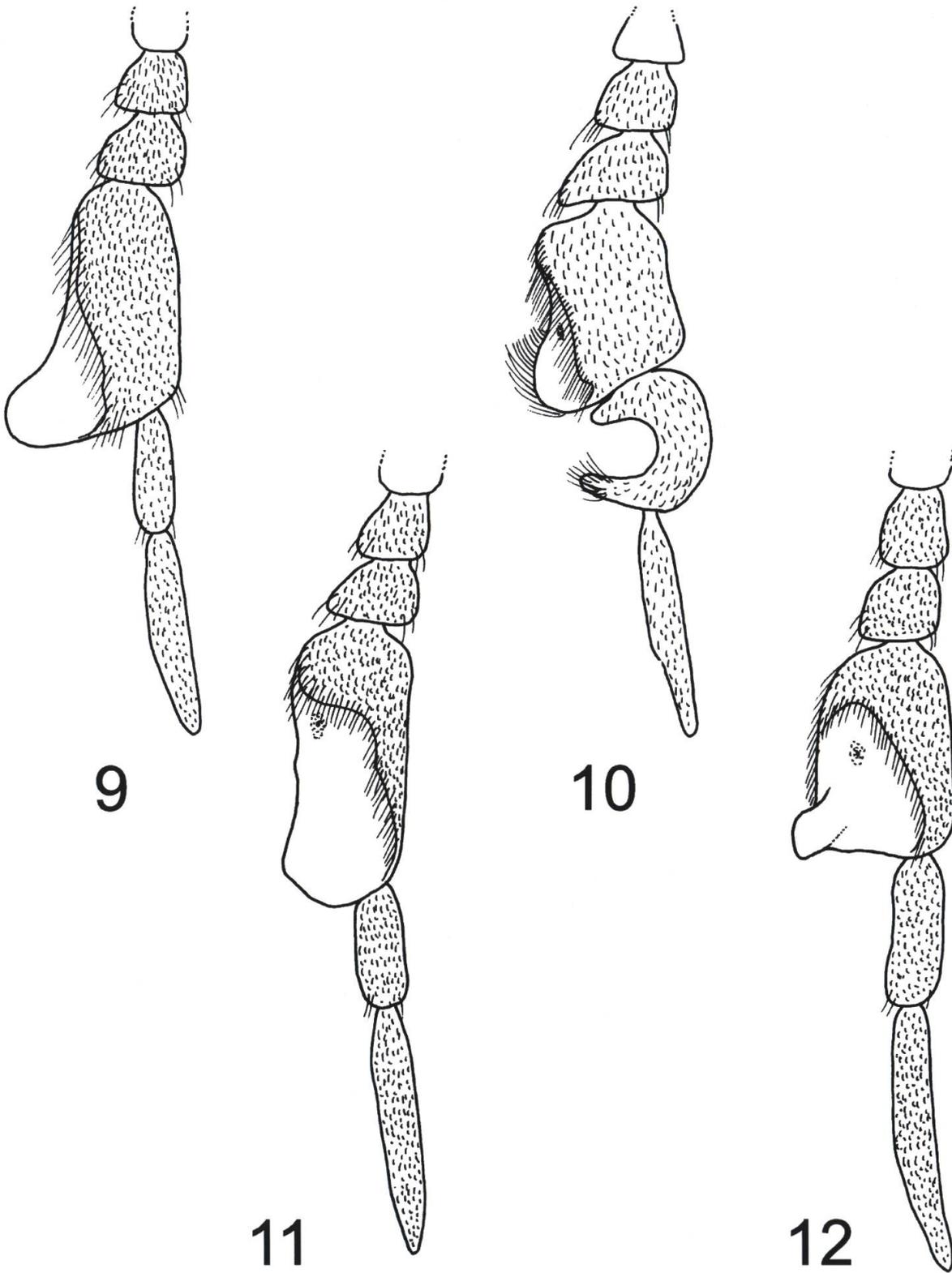
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Figs 1–4. Habitus of males: 1, *Agetocera lobicornis* Baly (India: Assam, 11.30 mm); 2, *Agetocera nigripennis* Laboissière (North Vietnam, 11.70 mm); 3, *Agetocera yunnana* Chen (North Laos, 11.50 mm); 4, *Agetocera silva* sp.nov. (paratype, 12.00 mm).



Figs 5–8. Aedeagus (a – dorsal view, b – lateral view): 5, *Agetocera lobicornis* Baly; 6, *Agetocera nigripennis* Laboissière; 7, *Agetocera yunnana* Chen; 8, *Agetocera silva* sp.nov. Scale: 1 mm.



Figs 9–12. Antennomeres 7–11: 9, *Agetocera lobicornis* Baly; 10, *Agetocera nigripennis* Laboissière; 11, *Agetocera yunnana* Chen; 12, *Agetocera silva* sp.nov.