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**New data on the Xantholinini of the Oriental Region. 38.
New species and new records for Laos from the collections of the
Naturhistorisches Museum, Basel (Coleoptera, Staphylinidae)**

by Arnaldo Bordoni ^{*)}

Abstract. Ten new species are described from Laos, collected by the Basel Laos Expeditions (1999–2009): *Achmonia laosiana* sp.nov., *Thyrecephalus brevis* sp.nov., *Thyrecephalus laosianus* sp.nov., *Paratesba monstifica* sp.nov., *Liotesba laosiana* sp.nov., *Megalinus brancuccii* sp.nov., *Indomorphus humeralis* sp.nov., *Mitomorphus boreri* sp.nov., *Atopolinus spinosus* sp.nov., and *Atopolinus speciosus* sp.nov. New records for Laos are given for five previously described species.

Keywords. Coleoptera – Staphylinidae – Xantholinini – Laos – *Achmonia* – *Thyrecephalus* – *Paratesba* – *Liotesba* – *Megalinus* – *Indomorphus* – *Mitomorphus* – *Atopolinus* – new species – new records.

Introduction

For environmental and past geopolitical reasons, Laos remains a comparatively poorly studied region of the Indochinese Peninsula with respect to Staphylinidae. The author's previous studies of the Xantholinini of Laos (BORDONI 2002, 2003, 2010a, 2012, 2013) have yielded a total of 24 species of the tribe. The following 24 species are cited in the above listed papers (apparently endemic taxa marked with an asterisk): *Pachycorynus phou* Bordoni, 2012*, *Ulisseyus dispilus* (Erichson, 1839), *Thyrecephalus annulatus* (Fauvel, 1895), *T. tonkinensis* Bordoni, 2002, *T. feae* (Fauvel, 1895), *Achmonia solodovnikovi* Bordoni, 2012*, *Oculolabrus laotianus* Bordoni, 2003*, *Paratesba laotiana* Bordoni, 2002*, *P. schillhammeri* Bordoni, 2002*, *Metolinus laotianus* Bordoni, 2010*, *M. gardneri* (Cameron, 1945), *Mahavana anomala* Bordoni, 2010*, *Talliella laosiana* Bordoni, 2013*, *Metosina laotiana* Bordoni, 2012*, *Indolinus mitomorphoides* (Coiffait, 1984), *I. laosianus* Bordoni, 2013*, *Phacophallus japonicus* (Cameron, 1933), *Erymus puphan* Bordoni, 2010*, *Xanthophius filum* (Kraatz, 1859), *Indomorphus laotianus* Bordoni, 2012*, *Atopolinus sulcatus* Bordoni, 2003*, *A. laosianus* Bordoni, 2013*, *A. phongsali* Bordoni, 2013*, *A. hayashii* Bordoni, 2013*.

Thanks to the kind and helpful collaboration of Matthias Borer (Naturhistorisches Museum, Basel), I was able to study specimens collected between 1999 and 2009 in North Laos by the Basel Laos Expeditions, from near to the borders with China and Vietnam. This work considerably increases the knowledge of these staphylinids in the region, with the description of 10 new species. This paper is the result of this study, and I have also added some records from other collections.

^{*)} 262th contribution to the knowledge of the Staphylinidae.

Material and methods

Dry-mounted specimens were studied under a Wild M5A binocular stereomicroscope; aedeagus and genital segments under an Optika B-293 compound microscope. Measurements and line drawings were made using an ocular grid and ocular scale with the above-mentioned compound or stereomicroscopes. Genitalia of dissected males were embedded in Euparal.

Measurements were made as follows: *body length*, from the apex of closed mandibles to the tip of the abdomen; *forebody length*, from the front of the clypeus to the basal margin of the pronotum; *aedeagus length*, the maximum length including parameres.

The terminology of the aedeagus follows BORDONI (2002), with the broader part of the aedeagus referred to as the basal bulb and the apical portion between the parameres as the median lobe, and the free, posterior structures of the aedeagus of the genera *Indomorphus* BORDONI, 2002, *Mitomorphus* Kraatz, 1859, and *Atopolinus* Coiffait, 1982, not connected to the phallobase, are the pseudoparameres. Locality labels for the material examined are cited in their original form. All descriptions are given in brief form accompanied by illustrations, to highlight the distinctive characters, since the species are often externally very similar to one another.

Abbreviations

| | | |
|------|-------|--|
| cB | | Coll. A. Bordini, Firenze, Italy |
| cI | | Coll. T. Ito, Kyoto, Japan |
| NHMB | | Naturhistorisches Museum, Basel, Switzerland |

Taxonomy

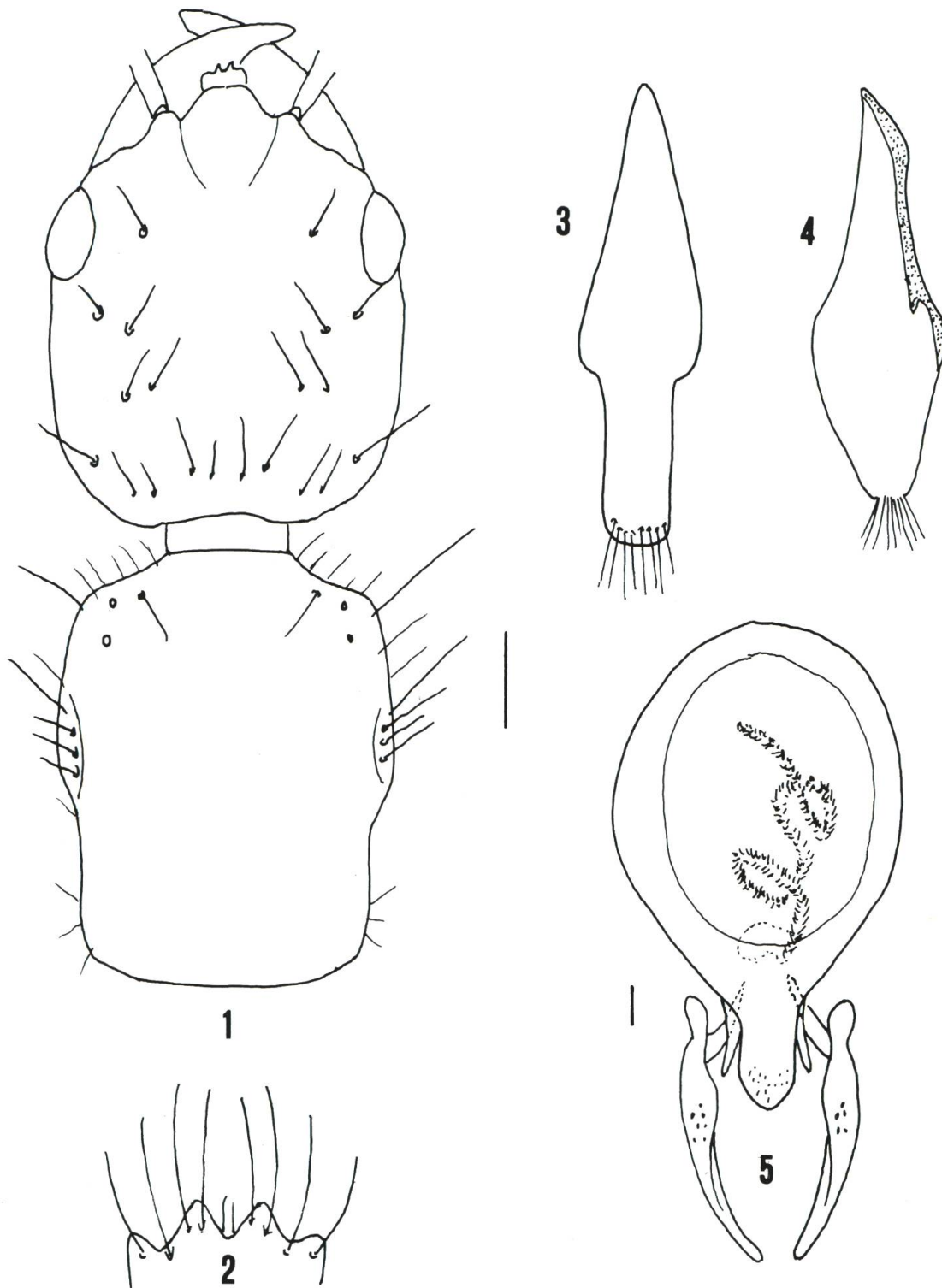
Oculolabrus laotianus BORDONI, 2003

Material examined. NE Laos, Hua Phan Prov., Phu Phan Mt., 1750 m, 20.12'N, 104.01'E, Vít Kubán 17. V–3. VI. 2007, 1 ♂ (NHMB).

Note. The species was described from North Laos (Nam Miang riv., 30 km SE Muang Xai, 1200 m). This is the first record since the description of the species.

Achmonia laosiana sp.nov.

Material examined. Holotype ♂: NE Laos, Xieng Khouang Prov., 39 km NE Phonsavan, Ban Na Lam to Phou Sane Mt, 1300–1500 m, 19°37.8'N, 103°20'E, M. Brancucci 10.–30.V. 2009 (NHMB); paratypes: same data, 19°38.20'N, 103°38.20'E, 1420 m, M. Brancucci 10.–30.V. 2009, NHMB Basel Laos 2009 Exped. M. Brancucci, M. Geiser, D. Hauck, V. Vít Kubán 2 ♀ (NHMB); same data, Phou Sane Mt, 1420 m, 19°38.20'N, 103°38.20'E, D. Hauck 10.–30. V. 2009, 1 ♀ (cB); Laos, Bokeo Prov., 5 km W Ban Toup, Bokeo Nature Res., 500–700 m, 20°27.28'N, 100°45'E, NHMB Basel Laos 2011 Exped. M. Brancucci, M. Geiser, D. Hauck, A. Phantala, E. Vongphachan 4.–18. V. 2011, 1 ♂, 7 ♀ (NHMB), 1 ♂, 5 ♀ (cB); NE Laos, Houa Phan Prov., Phou Pane Mt, 1350–1500 m, 20.13'N, 104.00'E, NHMB Basel Laos 2009 Exped. M. Brancucci, M. Geiser, D. Hauck, V. Kubán 1.–16. VI. 2009, 2 ♀ (NHMB), 1 ♀ (cB); NE Laos, Hua Phan Prov., Phu Pan Mt, 1750 m, 20°12.328'N, 104°00.621'E, V. Kubán 17.V–3.VI.2007, NHMB Basel Laos 2007 Exped., 2 ♀ (NHMB).



Figs 1–5. *Achmonia laosiana* sp.nov.: 1 – head and pronotum (scale bar: 0.5 mm); 2 – labrum; 3 – tergite and 4 – sternite of the male genital segment; 5 – aedeagus (scale bar: 0.1 mm).

Description. Length of body 13.5–13.7 mm; from anterior margin of head to posterior margin of elytra: 7–7.2 mm.

Head and pronotum black, elytra testaceous with brown scutellum; abdomen brown light. Body shiny. Head and pronotum and related punctation as in Fig. 1. Labrum as in Fig. 2.

Elytra sub-rectangular, longer and wider than pronotum, not dilated posteriad, with sub-parallel and sub-rectilinear sides and marked humeral angles. Surface with fine, sparse punctures, arranged into some series.

Abdomen with some series of deep, evident punctures.

Tergite and sternite of the male genital segment as in Figs 3–4. Aedeagus (Fig. 5) 1.33 mm long; basal bulbus sub-spherical, with narrow and relatively long median lobe; parameres narrow and long; internal sac tape-like, folded on itself, covered with fine scales.

Female with narrower head.

Etymology. The specific epithet refers to Laos.

Differential diagnosis. The species differs from the only known *Achmonia* from Laos (*A. solodovnikovi* Bordoni, 2012) by the shape of the body, punctation of head and on the sides of pronotum, shape of the aedeagus, with long median lobe.

Distribution. The species is known only from Laos.

Thyrecephalus annulatus (Fauvel, 1895)

Material examined. Laos, Bokeo Prov., 5 km W Ban Toup, Bokeo Nature Res., 500–700 m, 20°27.28'N, 100°45'E, NHMB Basel Laos 2011 Exped. M. Brancucci, M. Geiser, D. Hauck, A. Phantala, E. Vongphachan 4.–18. V. 2011, 382 exx. (NHMB), 33 exx. (cB).

Note. The species, known from Burma to Sunda Islands (BORDONI 2002, 2010b), was cited for the first time from Laos (South Laos: Champasak Prov., Bolaven Plateau, 800 m) in an earlier contribution (BORDONI 2013). It seems to be very common in the cited locality. Some specimens have the abdomen almost entirely brown instead of with some reddish segments, but the aedeagus is the same.

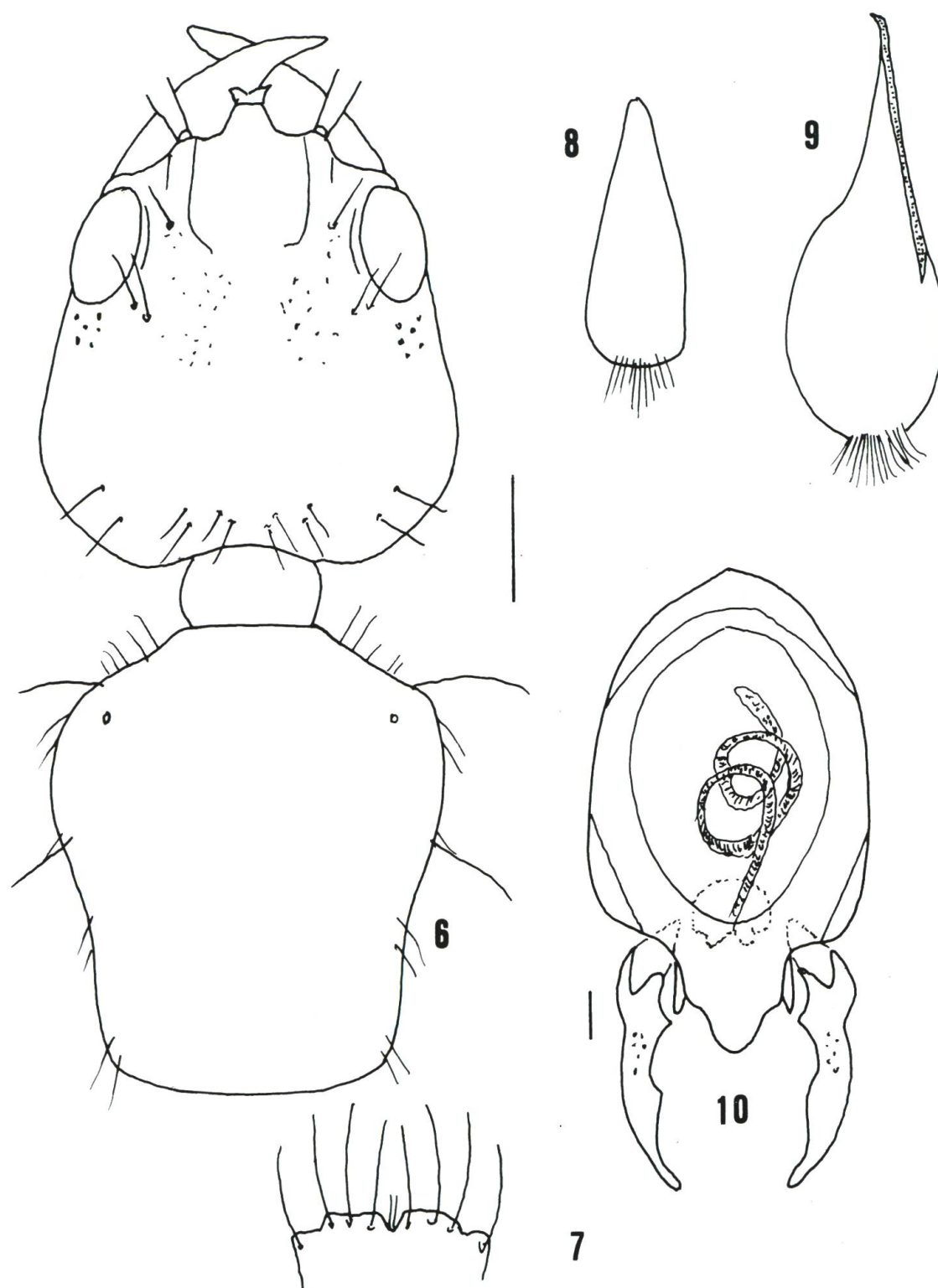
Thyrecephalus brevis sp.nov.

Material examined. Holotype ♂: CE Laos, Boli Kham Xai Prov., Ban Nape, 8 km NE, 600 m, 18.21'N, 105.08'E, P. Pacholátko 1.–18. V. 2001 (NHMB).

Description. Length of body 11.5 mm; from anterior margin of head to posterior margin of elytra: 6.5 mm.

Head black, pronotum, elytra and abdomen reddish brown very dark; antennae and legs brown. Body squat and shiny. Head and pronotum and related punctation as in Fig. 6. Labrum as in Fig. 7.

Elytra sub-rectangular, a little dilated posteriad, feebly shorter than pronotum, as wide as it. Surface with superficial and spaced punctures arranged in three series, one near the suture, one median and one lateral.



Figs 6–10. *Thyrecephalus brevis* sp.nov.: 6 – head and pronotum (scale bar: 0.5 mm); 7 – labrum; 8 – tergite and 9 – sternite of the male genital segment; 10 – aedeagus (scale bar: 0.1 mm).

Abdomen with two series of fine and very sparse punctures.

Tergite and sternite of the male genital segment as in Figs 8–9. Aedeagus (Fig. 10) 1.37 mm long; basal bulb sub-ovoid, short, with broad and short median lobe; parameres robust; internal sac very narrow and long, tape-like, folded some times on itself and covered with fine spinulae.

Etymology. The specific epithet refers to the Latin *brevis*/-e (short), in relation to the squat body.

Differential diagnosis. This species is similar in shape and size to the taxa of the *Thyrecephalus hongkongensis* (Redtenbacher) group (BORDONI 2002), but differs in the pubescence, punctuation and particular shape of aedeagus.

Distribution. The species is known only from Laos.

Thyrecephalus laosianus sp.nov

Material examined. Holotype ♂: NE Laos, Houa Phan Prov., Phou Pane Mt, 1480–1550 m, 20°13'09–19"N, 103°59'54"–104°00'03"E, Z. Kraus 1.–16. VI. 2009, NHMB Basel, NMPC Prague Laos 2009 Expedition: M. Brancucci, M. Geiser, Z. Kraus, D. Hauck, V. Kubáň (NHMB).

Description. Length of body 12.5 mm; from anterior margin of head to posterior margin of elytra: 7.5 mm.

Head black, pronotum amarant dark, elytra testaceous with amarant scutellum; abdomen, antennae and legs brown; 6th visible abdominal segment and genital segment reddish. Head and pronotum and related punctuation as in Fig. 11. Characterized in particular by the narrow pronotum. Labrum as in Fig. 12.

Elytra broad, longer and wider than pronotum, dilated posteriad, with rounded humeral angles. Surface with very fine, dense punctuation, arranged in numerous series, and with short, dense, yellowish pubescence that gives a silky look. Scutellum with some punctures.

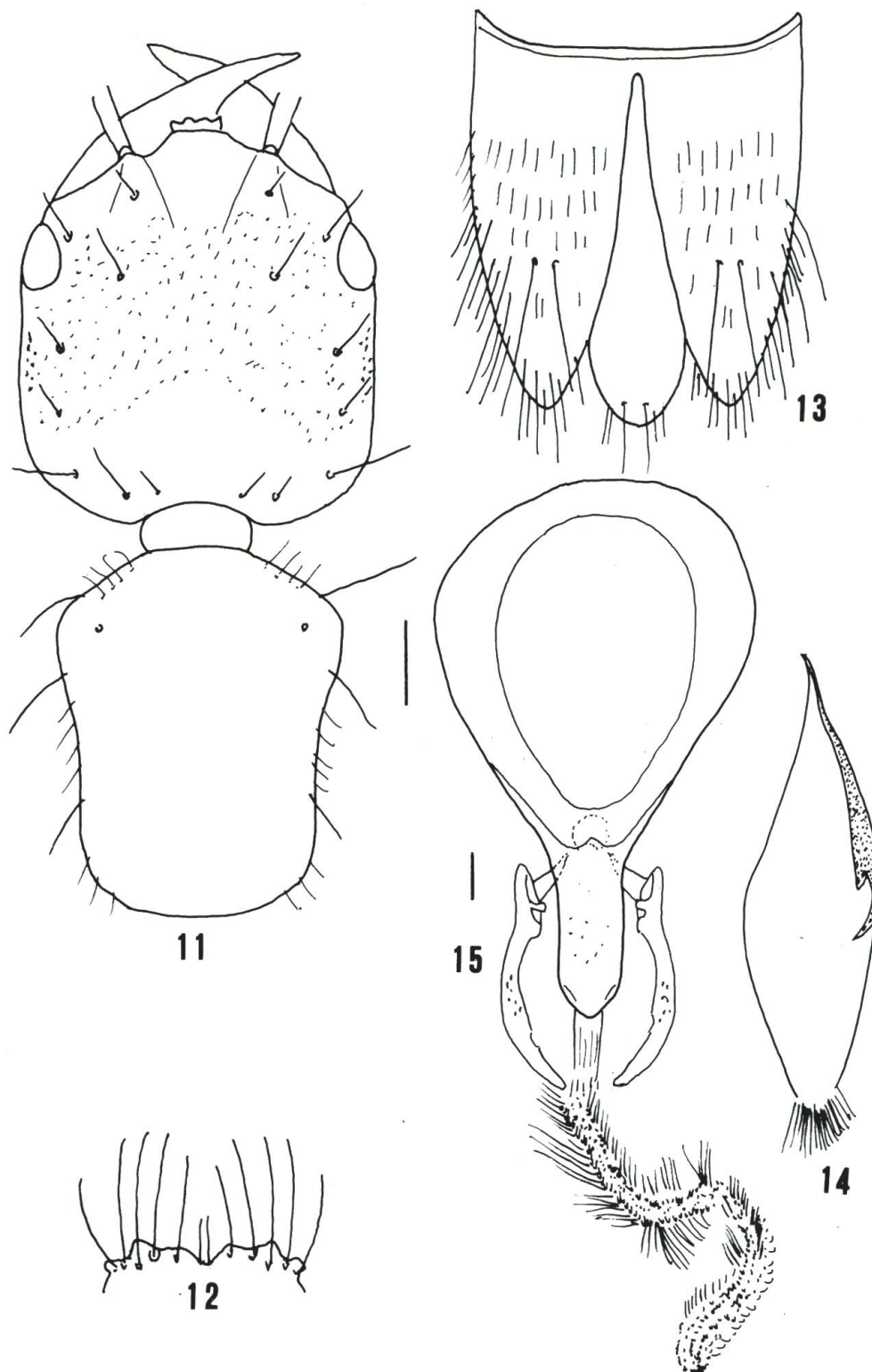
Abdomen with traces of transverse micro-striation and fine punctuation on the sides.

Male genital segment long (Fig. 13), sternite of the same as in Fig. 14. Aedeagus (Fig. 15) 1.4 mm long, with characteristic shape of basal bulb and median lobe, long and narrow; parameres narrow and long; internal sac (everted) tape-like, long, covered with scales and very long setae.

Etymology. The specific epithet refers to Laos.

Differential diagnosis. This taxon differs from its congeners from surrounding areas (*T. burckhardti* Bordoni, 2002, *T. feae* (Fauvel, 1895), *T. indicus* (Fauvel, 1895), *T. laticeps* (Erichson, 1840), *T. meghalayaensis* Bordoni, 2002, *T. nigricantis* Bordoni, 2009, *T. perakensis* Bordoni, 2004, *T. punctifasciatus* Bordoni, 2005, *T. thailandicus* Bordoni, 2013, *T. vietnamicus* Bordoni, 2014) by colouration, punctuation, shape of head-pronotum, and aedeagus.

Distribution. The species is known only from Laos.



Figs 11–15. *Thyrecephalus laosianus* sp.nov.: 11 – head and pronotum (scale bar: 0.5 mm); 12 – labrum; 13 – male genital segment; 14 – sternite of the same; 15 – aedeagus (scale bar: 0.1 mm).

***Paratesba laotiana* Bordoni, 2002**

Material examined. NE Laos, Houa Phan Prov., Phou Pane Mt, 1750 m, 20°12.328'N, 104°00.621'E, Vít Kubáň 17.V–3.VI.2007, NHMB Exped. Laos 2007, 1 ♀; same data, 1200–1600 m, S. Jakl et. al. 10.–22. V. 2011, 1 ♀ (cI).

Note. The species was described from Laos (Louangnamtha Prov., 25 km SE Muang Sing, 900 m). I refer the listed females to this species despite some differences in size, shape of labrum and pronotum. This is the first record since the description of the species.

***Paratesba monstifica* sp.nov.**

Material examined. Holotype ♂: NE Laos, Houa Phan Prov., Phu Phan Mt, 1750 m, 20°12.328'N, 104°00.621'E, Vít Kubáň 17. V–3. VI. 2007, NHMB Exped. Laos 2007 (NHMB); paratype ♀: Laos, Xam Nua, Bansa roi, M. Sawai 18.–25. IV. 2014 (cB).

Description. Length of body 26 mm; from anterior margin of head to posterior margin of elytra: 15.5 mm.

Body shiny, black with red elytra and black scutellum. Characterized by the shape of head provided with very long, arched, narrow mandibles and two median, convergent, arched, very protruding carinae and with lateral arched, less protruding carinae before a broad, deep depression still the lateral margin of head (Fig. 42). All the surface with deep, dense, elongated punctures, between irregular, small carinae. Pronotum shorter and narrower than head, dilated anteriorly, with marked anterior angles. Surface with dorsal series of 13–14 anterior punctures and a group of punctures near the anterior angles.

Elytra large, sub-rectangular, with parallel and rectilinear sides, longer and wider than pronotum. Surface with fine, dense punctation, arranged in numerous regular series. Scutellum with some punctures.

Abdomen with fine and dense, transversal micro-striation and dense, deep punctures

Tergite and sternite of the male genital segment as in Figs 16–17. Aedeagus (Fig. 18) 4.14 mm long, very large; basal bulbus ovoid, with sub-triangular median lobe; internal sac broad, covered with numerous, fine scales.

Etymology. The specific epithet refers to the Latin *monstrificus/-a/-um* (enormous) in relation to the head dorsal surface.

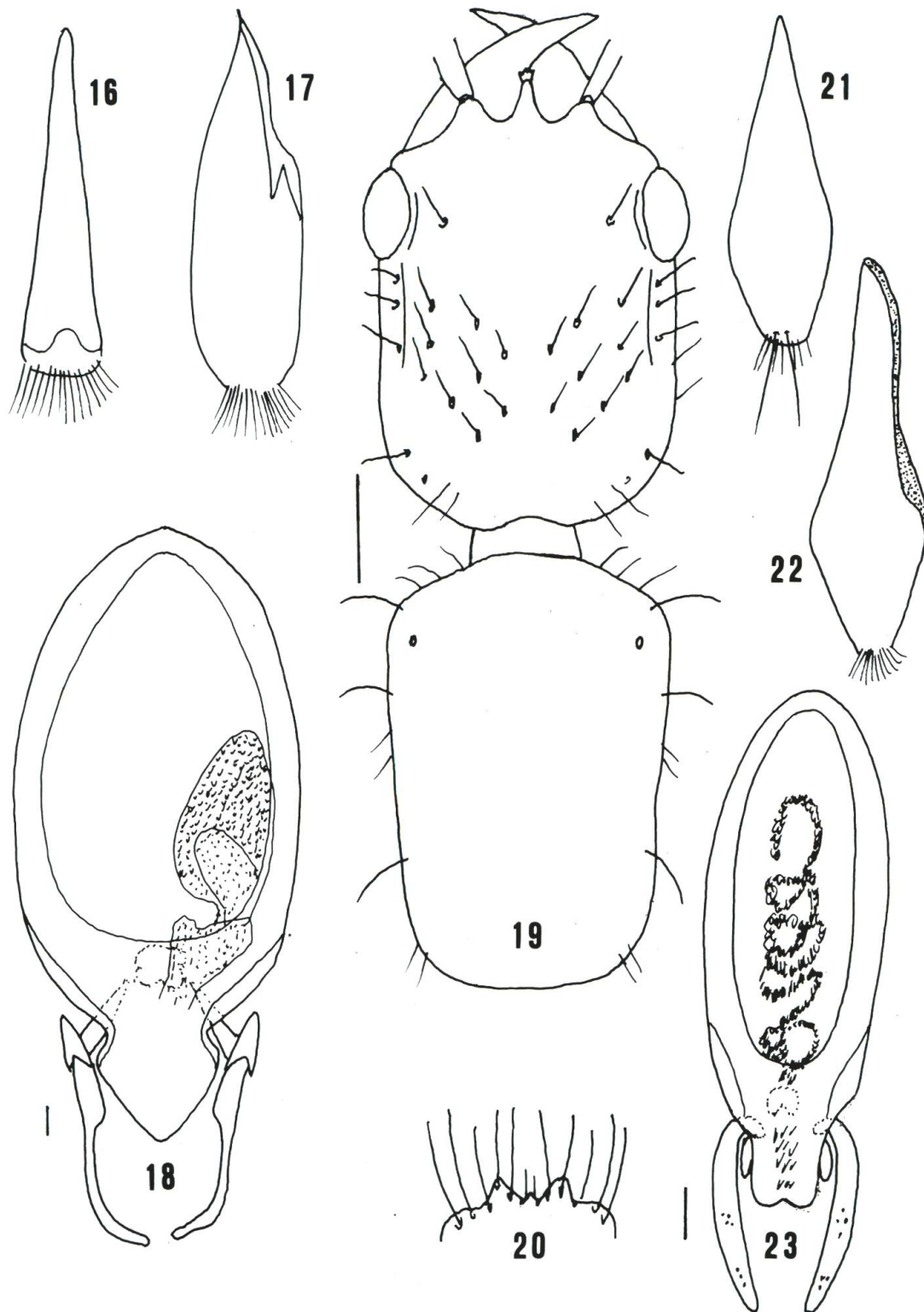
Differential diagnosis. This extraordinary species differs from all the known taxa of this Oriental genus by the characteristic structure of head and aedeagus.

Distribution. The species is known only from Laos.

***Lioatesba laosiana* sp.nov.**

Material examined. Holotype ♂: NE Laos, Hua Phan Prov., Phu Phan Mt, 1750 m, 20°12'N, 104°01'E, Vít Kubáň 17. V–VI. 2007, NHMB Exped. Laos 2007 (NHMB); paratypes: same data, 2 ♀(NHMB), 2 ♂ (cB).

Description. Length of body 9.5 mm; from anterior margin of head to posterior margin of elytra: 5 mm.



Figs 16–23. *Paratesba monstrifica* sp.nov.: 16 – tergite and 17 – sternite of the male genital segment; 18 – aedeagus. *Liothesba laosiana* sp.nov.: 19 – head and pronotum (scale bar: 0.5 mm); 20 – labrum; 21 – tergite and 22 – sternite of the male genital segment; 23 – aedeagus (scale bar: 0.1 mm).

Body shiny. Head and pronotum black, elytra reddish brown, lighter near the suture, with black scutellum; abdomen, antennae and legs brown. Head and pronotum and related punctation as in Fig. 19. Labrum as in Fig. 20.

Elytra very long, very longer and a little wider than pronotum, a little dilated posteriad and with marked humeral angles. Surface with three series of punctures, one near the suture, one median and one lateral. Scutellum with some punctures.

Abdomen with some series of deep, evident punctures.

Tergite and sternite of the male genital segment as in figs 21–22. Aedeagus (Fig. 23) 1.33 mm long, very long, ovoid elongated, with short, broad median lobe; parameres robust; internal sac very characteristic, long, tape-like, folded on itself numerous times, covered with fine spinulae.

Etymology. The specific epithet refers to Laos.

Differential diagnosis. This is the first species of the genus collected in Laos. It differs from its congeners in the shape and punctation of head and pronotum and by the characteristic structure of the internal sac of aedeagus.

Distribution. The species is known only from Laos.

Megalinus brancuccii sp.nov.

Material examined. Holotype ♂: Laos, Phongsaly Prov., Phongsaly env., 1500 m, 21°41.2'N, 102°06.8'E, Brancucci 28. V.–20. VI. 2003 (NHMB); paratypes: same data, 1 ♂ (cB); same data, P. Pacholátko, 1 ♂ (NHMB).

Description. Length of body 11.5 mm; from anterior margin of head to posterior margin of elytra: 6.5 mm.

Body (Fig. 43) shiny. Reddish brown with lighter elytra. Characterized by colouration, shape and punctation of head.

Elytra sub-rectangular, long, very longer and visibly wider than pronotum, with sub-parallel and sub-rectilinear sides, marked humeral angles. Surface with fine, dense punctures, arranged in numerous, regular series.

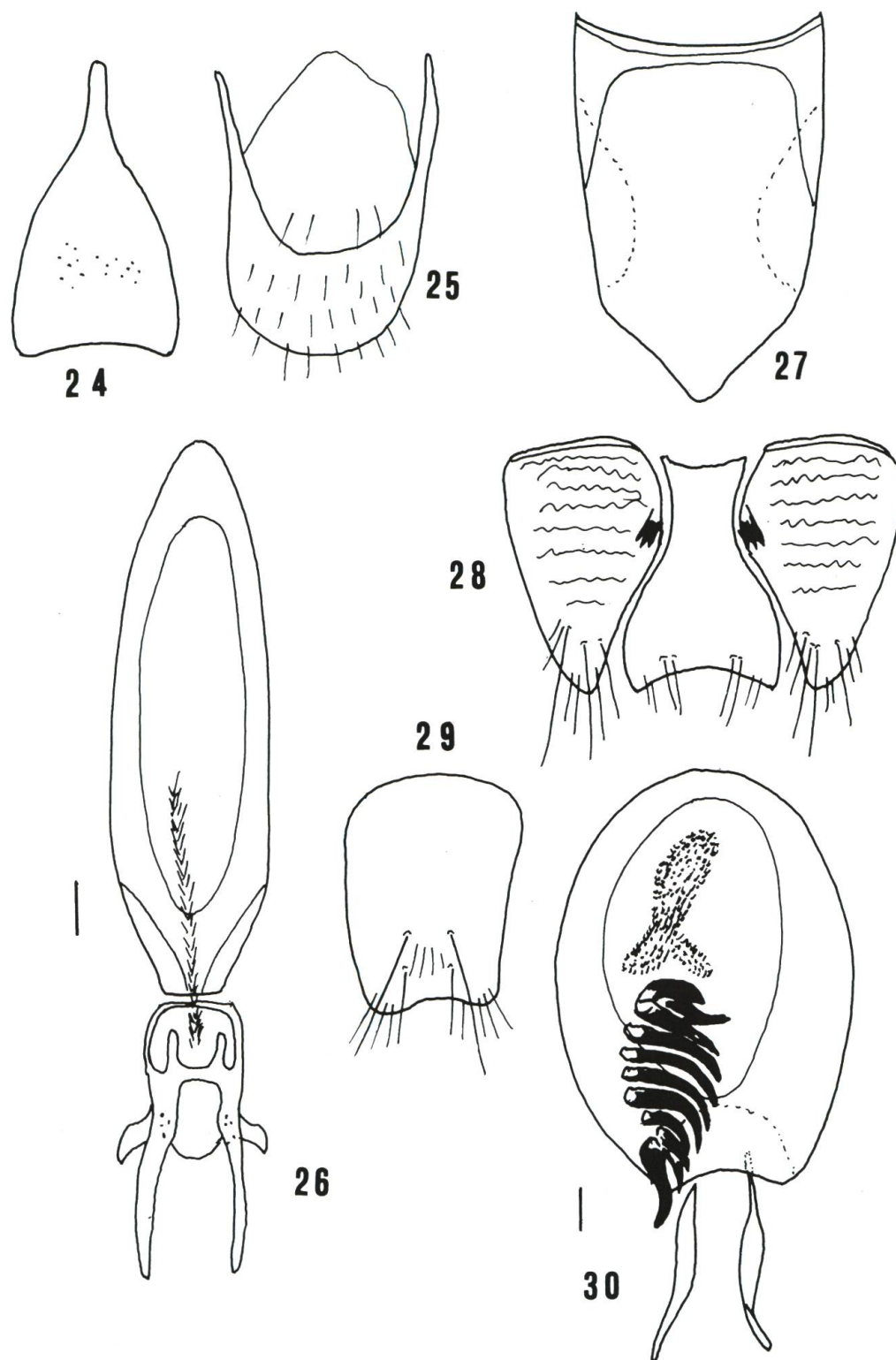
Abdomen with lateral traces of transverse micro-striation and some series of very fine punctures.

Tergite and sternite of the male genital segment as in figs 24–25. Aedeagus (Fig. 26) 1.6 mm long, very long; basal bulbus ovoid elongated, with characteristic distal portion; parameres narrow and short; internal sac short, very narrow, covered with fine spinulae.

Etymology. Patronymic. In memory of Dr. Michel Brancucci, who also collected the species.

Differential diagnosis. The species differs from its congeners by the narrow head and pronotum, especially the second, by the colouration, punctation, and by the largely membranous sternite of the male genital segment, and by the very long and narrow aedeagus, with peculiar distal structure, narrow parameres and filiform internal sac.

Distribution. The species is known only from Laos.



Figs 24–30. *Megalinus brancuccii* sp.nov.: 24 – tergite and 25 – sternite of the male genital segment; 26 – aedeagus (scale bar: 0.1 mm). *Indomorphus humeralis* sp.nov.: 27 – 6th visible male tergite; 28 – male genital segment; 29 – sternite of the same; 30 – aedeagus (scale bar: 0.1 mm).

***Indomorphus humeralis* sp.nov.**

Material examined. Holotype ♂: N Laos, Louangphrabang, Thong Khan, 750 m, 19.35°N, 101.58°E, Vít Kubáň 11.–21. V. 2002 (NHMB).

Description. Length of body 5.2 mm; from anterior margin of head to posterior margin of elytra: 2.1 mm.

Body shiny. Reddish brown with lighter elytra and abdomen; humeral angles reddish; antennae and legs brown light.

Head ovoid, a little narrow anteriorly, with largely rounded posterior angles. Eyes medium-sized, almost flat. Surface of head with two parallel, longitudinal series of 3 punctures on the clypeus, and with few other punctures on the sides. Pronotum narrow posteriad, as long as head, anteriorly dilated and here as wide as it, with very oblique anterior margins and largely rounded anterior angles. Surface with dorsal series of 7 deep punctures and lateral series of 5–6 punctures.

Elytra broad, longer and wider than pronotum, dilated posteriad, with marked humeral angles. Surface with fine and sparse punctures, arranged in some series.

Abdomen with few, fine, lateral punctures.

Sixth visible tergite as in Fig. 27; 6th visible sternite with rounded posterior margin. Male genital segment as in Fig. 28, with characteristic toothed structure near the tergite; sternite of the same as in Fig. 29. Aedeagus (Fig. 30) 1.55 mm long, with narrow pseudoparameres and internal sac provided with some parallel spines.

Etymology. The specific epithet refers to the Latin *humeralis*/-e (humeral), in relation to the red humeral angles.

Differential diagnosis. The taxon, similar in the external characters to the congeners, differs from these in particular by the structure of the sixth visible male tergite with a median, posterior lobule, by the shape of the tergite of the male genital segment, and especially by the internal sac of the aedeagus.

Distribution. The species is known only from Laos.

***Indomorphus laotianus* Bordoni, 2012**

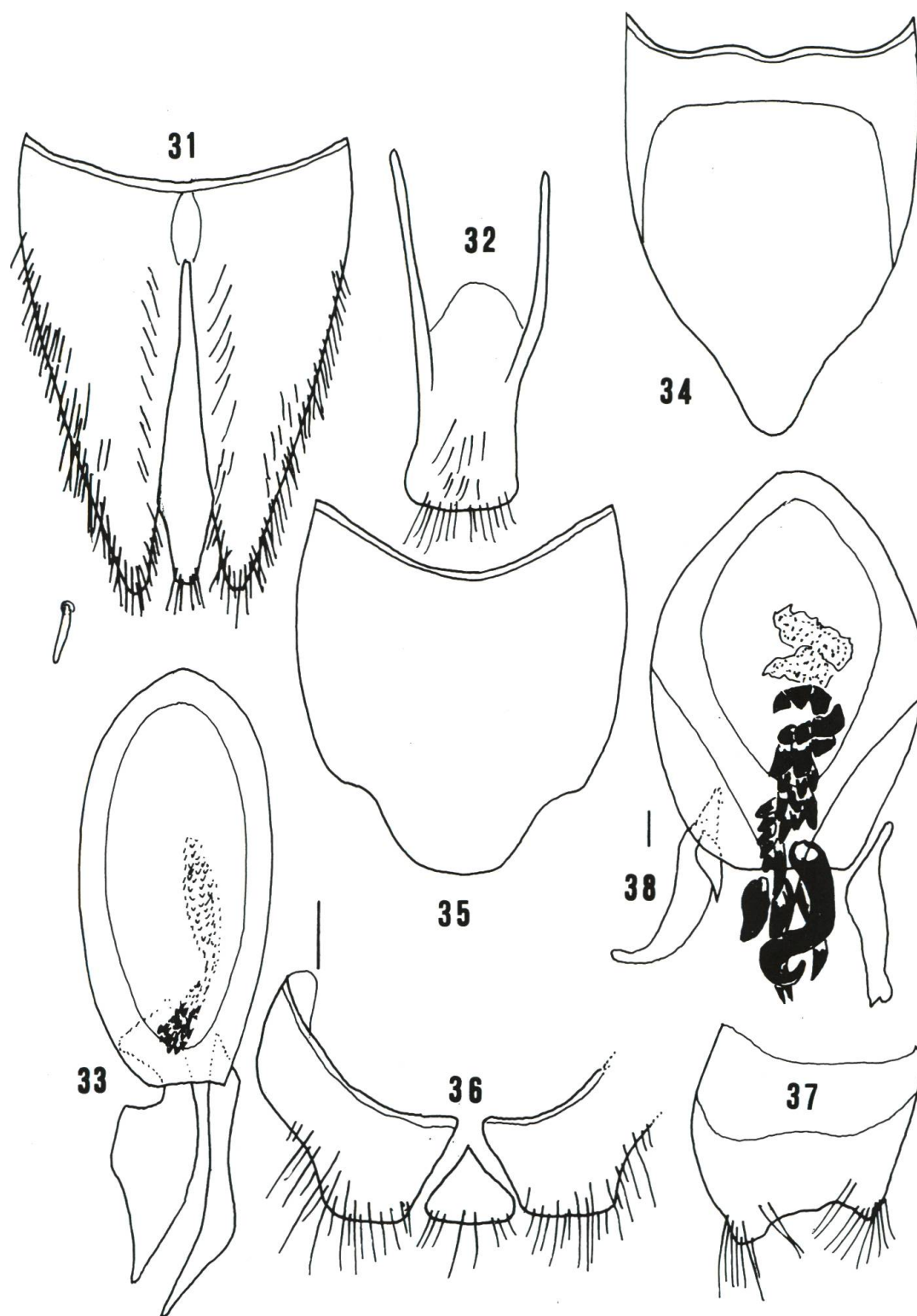
Material examined. Laos, Bokeo Prov., 5 km W Ban Toup, Bokeo Nature Res., 500–700 m, 20°27.28'N, 100°45'E, NHMB Basel Laos 2011 Exped. M. Brancucci, M. Geiser, D. Hauck, A. Phantala, E. Vongphachan 4.–18. V. 2011, 1 ♂ (NHMB).

Distribution. The species is known from Laos only.

Note. This taxon was described from Laos (Vientiane Prov., Phou Khao Khouay, 700–800 m). This is the first record since the description of the species.

***Mitomorphus boreri* sp.nov.**

Material examined. Holotype ♂: N Laos, Oudomxai, 17 km NNE, 1100 m, 20.45°N, 102.09°E, Vít Kubáň 1.–9. V. 2002 (NHMB); paratypes: same data, 3 ♂ (NHMB), 1 ♂ (cB); Bokeo Prov., 5 km W Ban Toup, Bokeo Nature Res., 500–700 m, 20°27.28'N, 100°45'E, NHMB Basel Laos 2011 Exped. M. Brancucci, M. Geiser, D. Hauck, A. Phantala, E. Vongphachan 4.–18. V. 2011, 1 ♂ (cB); N Laos, Louangphrabang, Thong Khan, 750



Figs 31–38. *Mitomorphus boreri* sp.nov.: 31 – male genital segment with particular of seta; 32 – sternite of the same; 33 – aedeagus (scale bar: 0.1 mm). *Atopolinus spinosus* sp.nov.: 34 – 6th visible male tergite; 35 – 6th visible male sternite; 36 – male genital segment; 37 – sternite of the same; 38 – aedeagus (scale bar: 0.1 mm).

m, 19.35'N, 101.58'E, Vít Kubáň 11.–21. V. 2002, 2 ♂, 4 ♀ (NHMB), 2 ♂, 1 ♀ (cB); Phongsaly Prov., Ban Sano Mai, 1150 m, 21°21'N, 102°03'E, Vít Kubáň 19.–26. V. 2004, 1 ♂ (NHMB).

Description. Length of body 7–7.3 mm; from anterior margin of head to posterior margin of elytra: 3.5–3.7 mm. Body shiny, reddish brown; antennae brown, legs yellowish pale.

Head sub-rectangular, a little dilated, with barely rounded sides and strictly rounded posterior angles. Eyes small and a little protruding. Surface of head with two longitudinal series of 2 punctures on the clypeus, and with few other, spaced punctures on the sides. Pronotum longer than head, anteriorly dilated and here as wide as it, with oblique anterior margins, rounded anterior angles, and a little sinuate sides. Surface with dorsal, irregular series of 6–7 deep punctures and lateral series of 4 punctures.

Elytra narrow, sub-rectangular, longer than pronotum, as wide as it, with sub-parallel and sub-rectilinear sides, and marked humeral angles. Surface with some spaced series of deep, fine but clearly visible punctures.

Abdomen with some series of fine punctures.

Male genital segment long, covered with very numerous, long setae with rounded apex (Fig. 31); sternite of the same as in Fig. 32. Aedeagus (Fig. 33) about 1 mm long, ovoid elongated, with asymmetrical pseudoparameres; internal sac covered with fine scales

Etymology. Patronymic. The species is dedicated to Matthias Borer (NHMB) for his very helpful collaboration.

Differential diagnosis. The shape of the internal sac of aedeagus, tape-like, is variable because differently turned on itself from specimen to specimen. The species differs from its congeners by the structure of the very long male genital segment and by the shape of the sternite, and by the aedeagus, with very large pseudoparameres. The genus *Mitomorphus* Kraatz, 1859 occurs in India, Sri Lanka, Borneo and particularly in New Guinea (BORDONI 2002, 2010b). Only one species (*M. cupreolus* Fauvel, 1895) is known from the Indochinese Peninsula (Burma and perhaps Thailand) with very different parameres and internal sac of aedeagus.

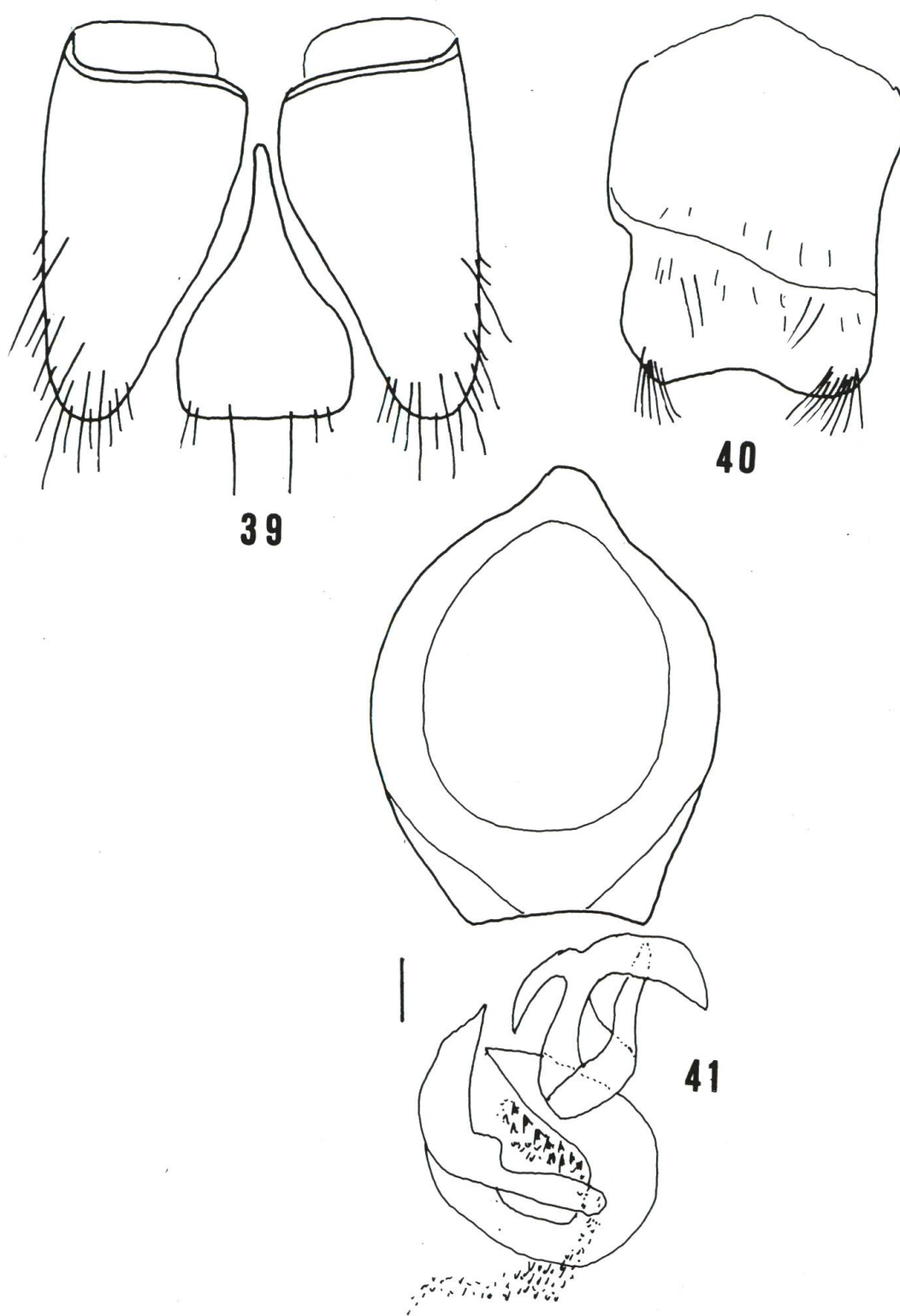
Distribution. The species is known only from Laos.

Atopolinus hayashii Bordoni, 2013

Material examined. Laos, Phongsaly Prov., Phongsaly env., 1500 m, 21°41.2'N, 102°06.8'E, Vít Kubáň 28. V.–20. VI. 2003, 42 exx. (NHMB), 16 exx. (cB); same data, 6.–17. V. 2004, 7 exx. (NHMB); Phongsaly Prov., Ban Sano Mai, 1150 m, 21°21'N, 102°03'E, Vít Kubáň 19.–26. V. 2004, 14 exx. (NHMB); NE Laos, Hua Phan Prov., Phu Phan Mt., 1750 m, 20.12'N, 104.01'E, Vít Kubáň 17.V.–3. VI. 2007, 3 exx. (NHMB), 1 ex. (cB); NE Laos, Louangphrabang Prov., Ban Song Cha, 5 km W, 1200 m, 20°33.4'N, 102°14'E, Vít Kubáň 1.–16. V. 1999, 1 ex. (NHMB)

Distribution. The species is known only from Laos.

Note. *Atopolinus hayashii* was described from the same locality of Phongsali. These are the first records since the description of the species.



Figs 39–41. *Atopolinus speciosus* sp.nov.: 39 – male genital segment; 40 – sternite of the same; 41 – aedeagus (scale bar: 0.1 mm).

***Atopolinus spinosus* sp.nov.**

Material examined. Holotype ♂: Laos, Phongsaly Prov., Phongsaly env., 1500 m, 21°41.2'N, 102°06'E, Vít Kubáň 6.–17. V. 2004 (NHMB); paratypes: same data, 8 ♂, 14 ♀ (NHMB), 3 ♂, 5 ♀ (cB); same data, 28. V.–20. VI. 2003, 10 exx. (NHMB), 8 exx. (cB); same data, 6.–17. V. 2004, 20 exx. (NHMB), 8 exx. (cB); same data, Ban Sano Mai, 1150 m, 21.21'N, 102.03'E, Vít Kubáň 19.–26. V. 2004, 3 ♂, 4 ♀ (NHMB), 1 ex. (cB); N Laos, Louangphrabang, Ban Song Cha, 5 km W, 1200 m, 20°33.4'N, 102°14'E, Vít Kubáň 1–16. V. 1999, 1 ♂, 2 exx. (NHMB); same data, Thong Khan, 750 m, 19.35'N, 101.58'E, Vít Kubáň 11–21 V. 2002, 19 exx. (NHMB), 4 exx. (cB); N Laos, Oudom Xai, 17 km NNE, 1100 m, 20.45'N, 102.09'E, Vít Kubáň 1–9. V. 2002, 14 exx. (NHMB), 10 exx. (cB); Laos, Xieng Khouang Prov., Phou Sane Mt., 1420 m, 19°38.20'N, 103°20.20'E, D. Hauck 10.–30. V. 2009, 6 exx. (cB); Hua Phan Prov., Phu Phan Mt., 1750 m, 20.12'N, 104.01'E, Vít Kubáň 17. V.–3. VI. 2007, 1 ex. (NHMB); Laos, Bolikhamxai Prov., Ban Nape, 8 km NE, 600 m, 18.21'N, 105.08'E, Vít Kubáň 1–18. V. 2001, 4 exx. (NHMB).

Description. Length of body 7–7.5 mm; from anterior margin of head to posterior margin of elytra: 4–4.2 mm. Very similar to *A. hayashii* Bordoni, 2013.

The two species differ in the following characters:

A. spinosus (Fig. 44): Body shiny, eyes a little protruding, pronotum sub-rectangular, longer and narrower, with feebly sinuate sides; elytra with few series of fine and sparse punctures; 6th male visible tergite with a median, posterior, rounded protrusion; 6th female visible sternite with rounded posterior margin.

A. hayashii (Fig. 45): Body opaque, eyes flat, pronotum shorter, wider, with almost not sinuate sides; elytra with numerous series of evident punctures; 6th male visible tergite with three acute, posterior protrusions; 6th female visible sternite with concave posterior margin.

Sixth visible tergite and sternite of the new species with median, posterior protrusion (figs 34–35). Male genital segment and sternite of the same as in figs 36–37; tergite very small.

Aedeagus (Fig. 38) 1.85 mm long; basal bulbus ovoid, with asymmetric pseudoparameres; internal sac with rounded or ovoid median scales and with a big, distal S-shaped spine.

Etymology. The specific epithet refers to the big spine of internal sac of the aedeagus.

Differential diagnosis. The mentioned two species, and the following *A. speciosus* sp.nov., differs from its congeners in particular by the internal sac of the aedeagus.

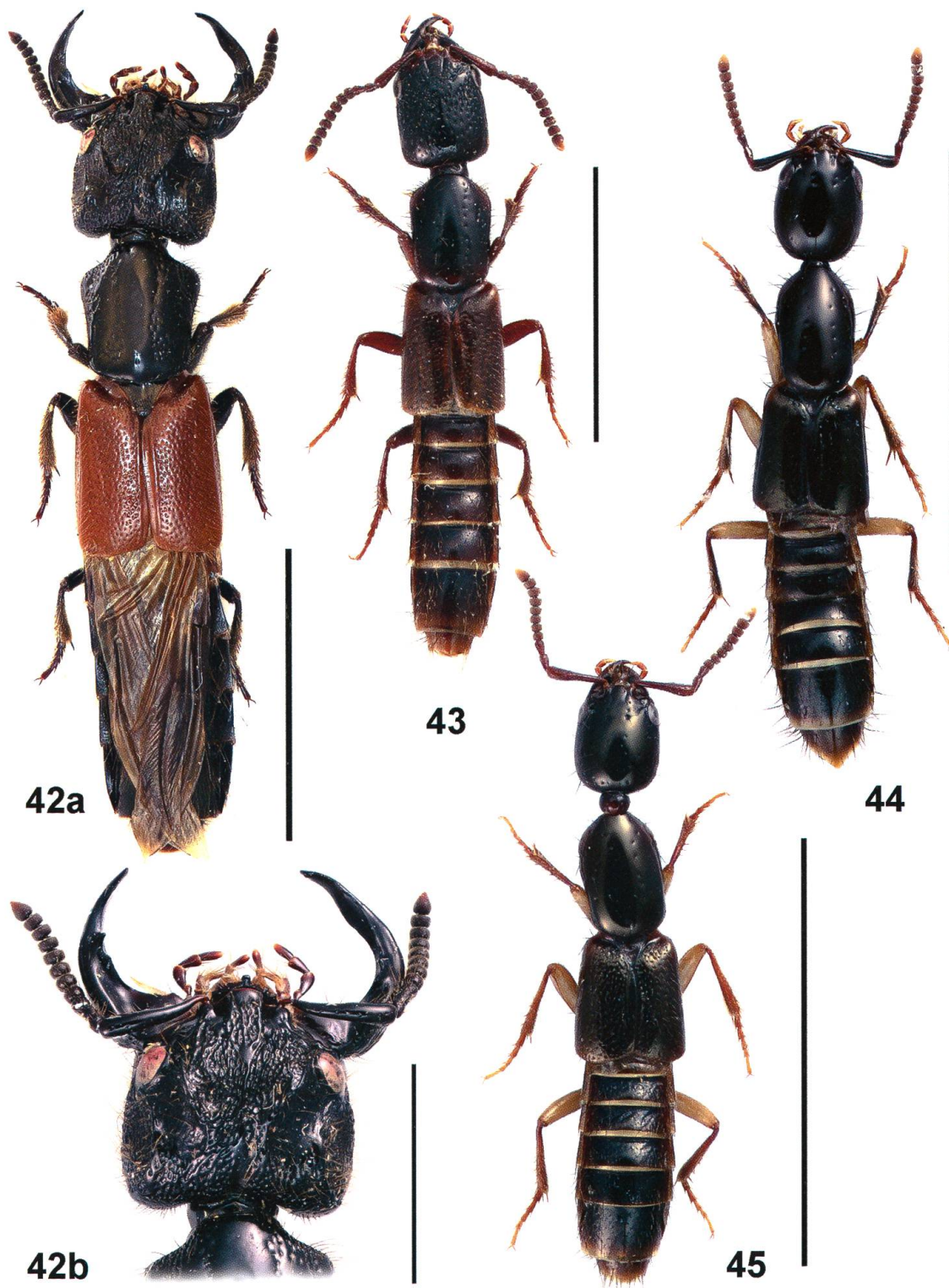
Distribution. The species is known only from Laos. In some localities of Laos, it coexists with *A. hayashii*.

***Atopolinus speciosus* sp.nov.**

Material examined. Holotype ♂: Laos, Bolikhamxai Prov., Ban Nape, 8 km NE, 600 m, 18.21'N, 105.08'E, Vít Kubáň 1.–18. V. 2001 (NHMB).

Description. Length of body 8 mm; from anterior margin of head to posterior margin of elytra: 4.5 mm. Entirely reddish brown.

Head ovoid elongate, with very largely rounded posterior angles. Eyes small and a little protruding. Surface of head with two series of 2 punctures on the clypeus and with few other punctures on the sides. Pronotum sub-rectangular, longer than head, as wide as it, with oblique anterior margins, almost obsolete anterior angles, and feebly sinuate sides. Surface with dorsal series of 5–6 spaced punctures and lateral series of 4 very spaced punctures.



Figs 42–45. Habiti: 42a – *Paratesba monstifica* sp.nov (42b – detail of head); 43 – *Megalinus brancuccii* sp.nov.; 44 – *Atopolinus spinosus* sp.nov.; 45 – *Atopolinus hayashii* Bordon, 2013. Scale bars: 42a = 10 mm, 42b–45 = 5 mm. (Photos: M. Borer.)

Elytra broad, longer and wider than pronotum, dilated posteriad, with rounded humeral angles. Surface with numerous series of fine punctures.

Abdomen with traces of transverse micro-striature and fine, sparse punctures.

Sixth visible sternite with a median, posterior lobule. Tergite and sternite of the male genital segment as in Figs 39–40. Aedeagus (Fig. 41) 1.25 mm long, ovoid, characterized by the particular shape of the big pseudoparameres; internal sac everted, covered with fine scales.

Differential diagnosis. This species differs from its congeners from Laos by the brown colouration, by the sixth visible male sternite with a median lobule, and by the extraordinary structure of the pseudoparameres. The internal sac is everted in the examined specimen but no other species have a internal sac, normally provided with large spines, covered with similar, sparse scales.

Etymology. The specific epithet refers to the Latin *speciosus/-a/-um* (beautiful).

Distribution. The species is known only from Laos.

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