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Cassida timorensis n. sp. from Timor Is.
(Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae: Cassidinae)

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ABSTRACT. *Cassida timorensis* n. sp. is described from Timor Is., Indonesia. It is similar to Papuan species *C. papuana* and *C. astrolabiana* and forms with them a natural group close to Oriental *Cassida circumdata* group.

Key words: Entomology, Coleoptera, Chrysomelidae, Cassidinae, new species, Papuan-Oriental Regions.

Cassida timorensis n. sp.

ETYMOLOGY

Named after the type-locality, Timor Is., in the eastern part of Sunda Archipelago.

DIAGNOSIS

It is close to Papuan *Cassida papuana* SPAETH, 1903 and *C. astrolabiana* SPAETH, 1903. All the three species have similar elytral pattern with broad, black bands along each side of elytral disc, and elongate, black spot along basal half of suture. *C. astrolabiana* distinctly differs in immaculate pronotum, while *C. papuana* and *C. timorensis* have pronotal disc with large basal spot. In *C. papuana* the spot varies in size and shape (for figs. see BOROWIEC, 1990: p. 42), while in *C. timorensis* it is rather constant, cordiform (figs. 6-8). *C. papuana* is distinctly larger and stouter, length: 4.90-5.70 mm (mean 5.17), width: 4.35-5.00 mm (mean 4.61), length/width ratio: 1.08-1.17 (mean 1.12). Lateral band of elytra in *C. timorensis* is more irregular, with both external and internal margin with

irregular emarginations (figs. 6-8), while in *C. papuana* external margin of the band is usually straight or only slightly emarginate in the middle, and internal margin is only indistinctly, shallowly emarginate or also straight. *C. timorensis* is at first glance also similar to Oriental *Cassida circumdata* HERBST, 1799 and its relatives, but most forms of *C. circumdata* group have immaculate pronotum, or with only a V-shaped small spot, or two arch-shaped thin spots. Species of the group are distributed more westward, mostly in continental Orient, in insular part east to Philippines and Bali.

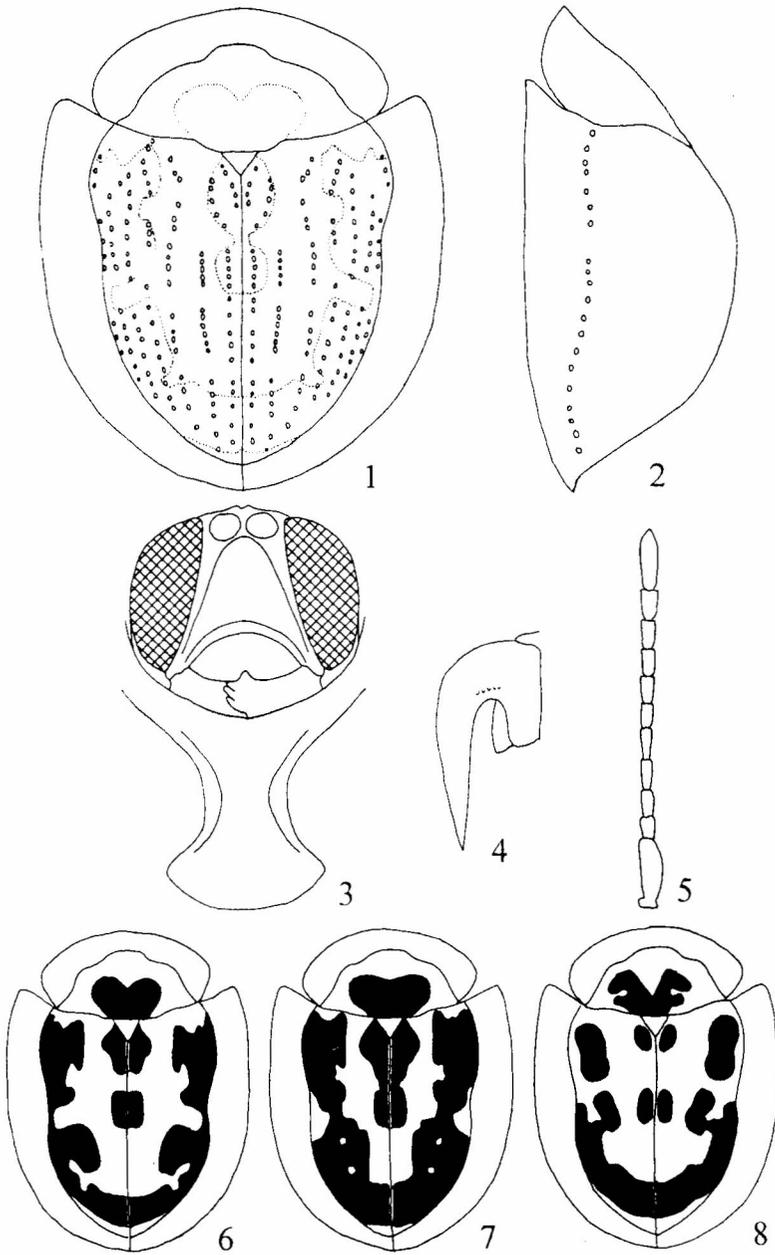
DESCRIPTION

Length: 4.30-4.90 mm (mean 4.55), width: 3.35-4.10 mm (mean 3.75), length/width ratio: 1.15-1.26 (mean 1.20), length of pronotum: 1.10-1.30 mm, width of pronotum: 1.80-2.15 mm.

Pronotum yellow, disc with large, cordiform basal spot (figs. 6, 7). In the palest form lateral lobes of the spot deeply emarginate (fig. 8). Scutellum yellow, brown or black. Elytra yellow, margins slightly paler yellow than elytral relief, with broad, black band along sides, joined in apical part of disc, and black spot along anterior half of sutural part of disc. External margin of the band irregular, with deep emargination at least in half length of the margin (fig. 7). In extreme cases the emargination is so deep, that it divides the band into two elongate spots (fig. 8). Marginal interval yellow, or lateral band reaching its half width in posthumeral and posterolateral parts. Internal margin of the band also irregularly emarginate in 1/3, 1/2 and 2/3 length. Behind the second emargination the band is often widened and reaches the third elytral rows of punctures, in extreme cases the widest part of the band reaches the second row of punctures and joins sutural spot. In some cases the band in posterior part with one or two small yellow spots. Suture spot usually strongly narrowed in the middle, or completely divided into two spots by slightly elevated, yellow postscutellar fold (figs. 6, 8). Yellow parts of disc slightly elevated, form a relief, especially in postscutellar area. Anterior margin of the lateral band usually not reaching anterior margin of elytron and humerus yellow, or partly marked by two triangular processes of anterior margin of the band. Ventrites completely yellow. Antennae yellow, or last segment partly infusate.

Pronotum elliptical, 1.60-1.65 times wider than long, with maximum width in the middle, sides moderately rounded. Disc indistinctly bordered from explanate margin, moderately convex, smooth, shiny. Explanate margin broad, subhorizontal, smooth, shiny, with honeycomb structure.

Base of elytra distinctly wider than pronotum, humeral angles moderately protruding anterad, subangulate (fig. 1). Disc regularly convex, with maximum of the convexity in anterior third (fig. 2). Postscutellar impressions shallow, postscutellar elevation only slightly marked by transverse fold. Puncturation of disc mostly regular, only on yellow spots partly interrupted by elytral relief. Punctures moderately large, but dense, in sutural rows almost touching each other, in external rows space between punctures 1.5-2.0 times wider than puncture diameter, only in



1-8. *Cassida timorensis*: 1 - body outline, 2 - body in profile, 3 - head and prosternum, 4 - tarsal claw, 5 - antenna, 6-8 - variation of dorsal pattern

posteroapical part of disc space between punctures about thrice wider than punctures. Intervals about twice wider than rows, flat. Marginal interval distinct, marginal row with punctures about twice larger than in submarginal row. Explanate margin moderately declivous, in the widest part about as wide as half width of each disc, surface smooth, shiny, with honeycomb structure. Apex of elytral epipleura bare.

Clypeus 1.3-1.4 times wider than long, flat, surface smooth, shiny. Clypeal grooves faint but distinct along whole sides of clypeus, converging into arch (fig. 3). Prosternal process broad, strongly expanded apically, its surface smooth, shiny.

Antennae elongate, reaching to the middle of metasternum (fig. 5). Length ratio of antennal segments: 100:35:45:55:50:40:50:50:50:55:[female 85, male 115].

Last tarsal segment as long as the third, claws simple but appearing slightly appendiculate due to the distally projecting flanks of the claw segment.

TYPES

Holotype and 17 paratypes: "TIMOR (Portuguese): Ermera, 1100-1350 m, 20.XII.1963", "J. SEDLACEK Collector, BISHOP MUS."; holotype and 11 paratypes in the Bishop Museum, Honolulu, Hawaii, USA, 5 paratypes in the author's collection, one paratype in the Manchester Museum, University of Manchester, England.

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REFERENCE

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