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Redescription of *Cephennodes japonicus* (SHARP) (Coleoptera: Scydmaenidae)

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ABSTRACT. *Cephennodes japonicus* (SHARP, 1886) occurring in Japan is redescribed based on the type material. Important characters are illustrated, and a new record from Kyushu is given.

Key words: Coleoptera, Scydmaenidae, Cephenniini, *Cephennodes*, redescription, Japan.

INTRODUCTION

Three species of *Cephennodes* REITTER have so far been described from Japan. In 1886 David SHARP gave a brief description of *Cephennium japonicum* collected in Nagasaki, Kyushu (SHARP 1886). This species was later transferred by JAKOBSON (1910) to the genus *Cephennodes*. JAŁOSZYŃSKI & HOSHINA (2003) discovered and reported the occurrence of *C. vafer* KURBATOV in Honshu, Kyushu and Shikoku; this species had been originally described from Kunashir (=Kuril) Is. Very recently HOSHINA & KISHIMOTO (2004) have described *C. mizunoi* from the subtropical Ogasawara Islands. Aedeagi of *Cephennodes vafer* and *C. mizunoi* show a high degree of similarity, but distinctly different external morphology and allopatric distribution suggest their separate positions. The aedeagus of *C. japonicus* was illustrated by KURBATOV (1995); however, it was shown in latero-dorsal view (not dorsal, as stated in the figure legend) and the shape of the median lobe seems to be simplified. Identification based solely on that illustration may be uncertain. Herein, this species is redescribed basing on the type material, and a new record from the southern part of Kyushu is given.

The material used is deposited in The Natural History Museum, London, U.K. (BMNH), and in the Hokkaido University, Sapporo, Japan (HU).

***Cephennodes japonicus* (SHARP)**

(Figs 1-5)

Cephennodes japonicus (SHARP); JAKOBSON 1910: 591; CSIKI 1919: 17; KURBATOV 1995: 948, fig. 7; O'KEEFE & LI 1998: 158.

Cephennium japonicum SHARP, 1886: 50; FRANZ 1976: 58.

DIAGNOSIS

This species can be distinguished from its Japanese congeners by the relatively large body and distinctly granulated, coarse surface of elytra. Examination of the aedeagus is necessary to confirm identification.

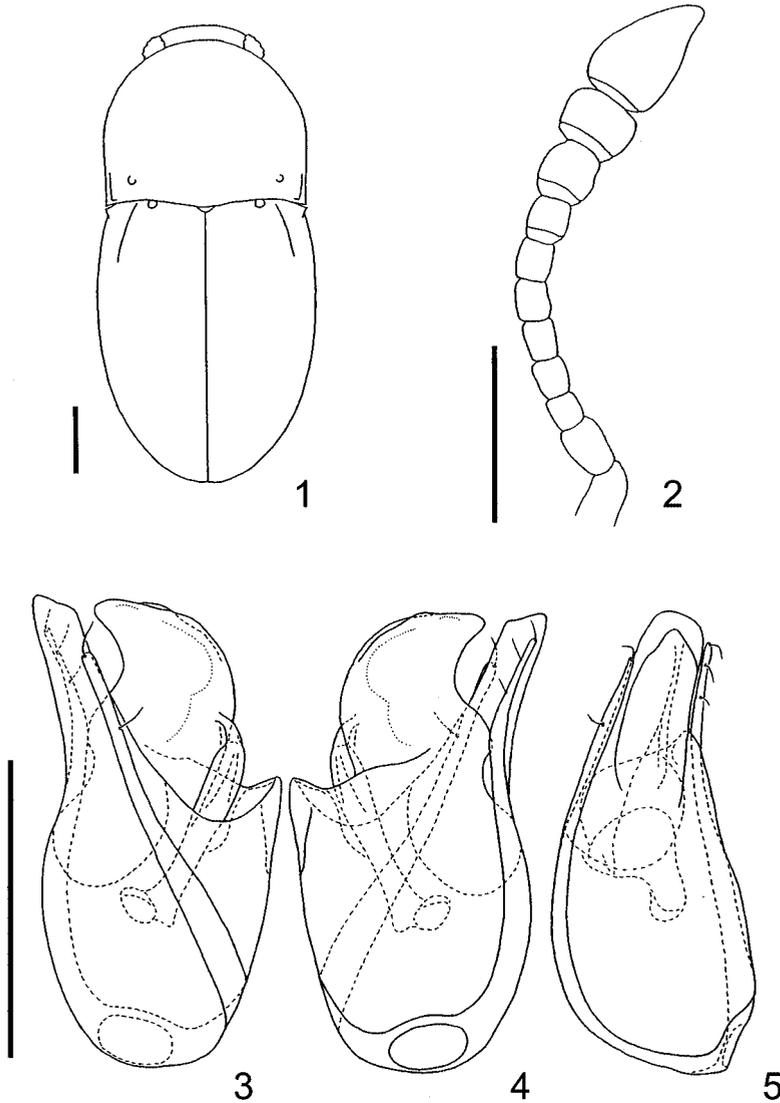
REDESCRIPTION

Male (Fig. 1). Body length 1.46-1.52 mm (mean 1.5 mm), pigmentation dark brown, legs, antennae and palpi slightly lighter, setation yellowish. Head broadest at eyes, length (from anterior margin of frontoclypeal area to posterior margins of eyes) 0.19-0.2 mm (mean 0.2 mm), width 0.375 mm; vertex slightly convex, four times as broad as width of eye in frontal view; frons subtrapezoidal, slightly convex, moderately lowering anteriorly; vertex and frons covered densely with very fine, but distinct punctures; setation on vertex moderately long, suberect, directed from sides toward middle; setae on anterior part of frons longer, more erect, directed distinctly posteriorly; eyes moderately large, coarsely faceted, moderately convex. Antennae (Fig. 2) moderately long, relatively slender, length 0.64-0.65 mm (mean 0.65 mm), all antennomeres longer than wide, except for X which is as long as wide or minimally wider.

Pronotum broader than long, length 0.49-0.5 mm (mean 0.5 mm), width 0.6 mm, widest at base or slightly anterior to base; basal margin biemarginate, with median part (slightly broader than third of base width) expanded toward scutellum; hind angles well marked, acute; lateral margins broadly rounded, anterior to hind angles very slightly emarginate, then minimally broadening and from posterior third regularly narrowing anteriorly, toward broad anterior margin (in strictly dorsal view anterior margin not visible and pronotum seems to be nearly semicircular). Antebasal pits very small and shallow, each located near hind angle; each side in basal half with narrow lateral carina. Punctuation distinct, composed of small, but sharply delimited punctures separated one from one another by about two diameters of individual puncture, punctuation along anterior and posterior margins slightly shallower than in central part of disc. Setation moderately long and dense, composed of suberect to erect setae.

Elytra oval, elongate, about 1.3 times as long as pronotum, broadest near anterior third, length 0.78-0.82 mm (mean 0.8 mm), combined width 0.64-0.66

mm (mean 0.65 mm), elytral index (length/width) 1.22-1.24. Each elytron with small, circular basal fovea located closer to scutellum than to humerus, and with distinct, short humeral fold running toward lateral margin of elytra, as long as about fourth of length of elytra; humerus with distinct and acute humeral denticle; apices of elytra separately rounded; scutellum very small, triangular, broader than



1-5. *Cephennodes japonicus* (SHARP). 1 – schematic body outline; 2 – left antenna in dorsal view; 3-5 – aedeagus of holotype in dorsal (3), ventral (4) and lateral (5) views (scale bar: 1-2 – 0.2 mm, 3-5 – 0.1 mm)

long. Elytral punctation dense, composed of very small punctures, each with raised anterior margin, so that surface of elytra is uneven and looks as if covered with small, slightly coarse granules. Setation distinctly longer and more erect than that on pronotum, relatively dense. Metathoracic wings well developed.

Legs relatively slender and long, with no particular characters.

Surface of mesosternum covered with punctures resembling pronotal punctation, but less regularly distributed.

Aedeagus (Fig. 3-5) 0.16 mm in length, in dorso-ventral view with very long and slender apical part of median lobe and broad, curved apical part of ventral wall; parameres slender, shorter than median lobe, with 2-3 apical and subapical setae.

Female. Unknown

TYPE MATERIAL

Holotype (male): large circular label (white with red margins) typed „Type H.T.”, white typed label „Sharp Coll. 1905-313”, white square of thick cardboard, handwritten „Cephennium japonicum Type DS Nagasaki 19. 4. 81. Lewis”, white partly typed partly handwritten label „Cephennodes japonicus Sharp, Cl. Besuchet dét. X 1957” (BMNH).

ADDITIONAL MATERIAL STUDIED

1 ♂, possible paratype, white typed label „Nagasaki 13. II. – 21. IV. 81”, white typed label „Japan (underlined in yellow) G. Lewis. 1910-320”, white, handwritten „Cephennium japonicum”, typical identification label by C. BESUCHET, as in holotype except for det. VII 1965, and printed label „Cephennodes japonicus Det. H. Hoshina (1999)” (BMNH); 1 ♂, Kyushu, Kagoshima, 22. v. 1953, S. MIYAMOTO leg., NAKANE Collection of HU.

DISTRIBUTION

Japan: Kyushu.

REMARKS

SHARP (1886) in his original description mentioned „four examples” from Nagasaki. There are three specimens of „*Cephennium japonicum*” in the BMNH coming from the SHARP Collection. However, one of them is not from Nagasaki, but from Miya(mo?)shita, labelled as „*Cephennium japonicum* var.?”), apparently by SHARP (with a thick cardboard label typical of him). This specimen bears further labels: „*Cephennodes* n. sp. ♀, Cl. Besuchet dét. X 1967” and „*Cephennodes* sp., det H. Hoshina (1999)”. It was identified by the author of the present paper as a female of *Cephennodes vafer*.

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