The genus *Leptispa* in Taiwan  
(Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae: Cassidinae: Leptispini)

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**Abstract.** *Leptispa bicolor* Chûjô, 1933, is regarded a new synonym of *L. miwai* Chûjô, 1933. *Lesptispa miwai* Chûjô, 1933 is redescribed.

Key words: entomology, taxonomy, new synonym, Coleoptera, Chrysomelidae, Cassidinae, Taiwan.

The genus *Leptispa* species in Taiwan is little known. Chûjô (1933) described two species of *Leptispa*: *L. bicolor* and *L. miwai* from Taiwan. Latter he (Chûjô 1934) proposed the replacement name, *L. formosana* for *L. bicolor* Chûjô because of homonymy with *L. bicolor* Pic. 1929. Kimoto (1950) regarded *L. formosana* as a subspecies of *L. abdominalis*. In addition, only one record (Kimoto 1970) was added to *L. miwai*.

The Taiwan Chrysomelid Research Team (TCRT) has been initiated to conduct a survey of the Chrysomelidae of Taiwan. A number of specimens belonging to this genus have been collected during this survey. In this paper, the Taiwan species of the genus *Leptispa* are reviewed taxonomically.

One specimen of *Leptispa abdominalis* was studied for comparison. It is labeled: “CHINA / Leptispa abdominalis Baly DET. M. CHUJO”, deposited at the TARI. Abbreviation used: TARI, Taiwan Agricultural Research Institute, Taichung, Taiwan; USNM, National Museum of Natural History, Washington, USA.
**Leptispa miwai** CHÛJÔ, 1933

_Leptispa bicolor_ CHÛJÔ, 1933: 311 (nec PIC, 1929). _syn. nov._  
_Leptispa formosana_ CHÛJÔ, 1934: 249 (replacement name for _L. bicolor_).  

**Type Material**

Holotype ♀ of _Leptispa miwai_ (with antennae lost) labeled: “Formosa Y. Miwa (“Noko 1.8.1929” on the back) / Holotype / _Leptispa miwai_ CHÛJÔ DET. M. CHUJO / 2941” (TARI). Holotype ♀ of _Leptispa bicolor_ (with antennae lost) labeled: “Formosa Shinchiku, 18. / VII 1-30 J. Sonan / Holotype / _Leptispa bicolor_ CHÛJÔ Det. M. CHÛJÔ / _Leptispa formosana_ CHÛJÔ DET. CHUJO / 2940” (TARI). It is not correct that Chûjô (1933) indicated that both holotypes were males. A paratype (sex not determined) of _L. formosana_ labeled “Paratype (circle, green) / SINTEN TAIHOKU-SYÛ FORMOSANA

1-2. _Leptispa miwai_ CHÛJÔ, 1933: 1 – dorsal habitus, 2 – ventral habitus
3-4. Pronotum: 3 -- *Leptispa miwai* Chûjô, 1933. 4. -- *Leptispa abdominalis* Baly, 1858; 5-7. *Leptispa miwai* Chûjô, 1933. 5 – penis, dorsal view, 6 – spermatheca, 7 – penis, lateral view
15.V.1941 COL. I. KAYASIMA / Leptispa formosana CHÛJÔ DET. CHUJO / 1858” (TARI). The paratype is not valid since it was not indicated by the original paper.

ADDITIONAL MATERIAL

DESCRIPTION
Length 5.9-6.5 mm; width 2.0-2.1 mm. Shining black (Figs. 1, 2), abdomen blackish-brown. Head densely and coarsely punctate, surface finely sculptured. Pronotum densely punctate, more prominent on sides, surface finely sculptured. Elytra elongate, 2.2-2.4 times longer than wide. Penis (Figs. 5, 7) strongly curved near base; internal sac with one elongate sclerite, basally bifurcate, strongly curved near apex. Spermatheca (Fig. 6): pump much narrower than receptacle; receptacle narrowed towards pump.

DIAGNOSIS
This species is similar to Leptispa abdominalis Baly. L. abdominalis differs from L. miwai by the absence of sculpture on the head and pronotum and the small, random punctures on the pronotum (Fig. 4).

HOST PLANT
Miscanthus floridulus (Labill.) Warb. ex K. Schum. & Lauterb., 1901 (Poaceae).

REMARKS
CHÛJÔ (1933) recognized two species from Taiwan based on differences of color patterns on the abdomen, the shape of the median longitudinal groove on the head, and the shape of the posto-lateral angles of the pronotum. However, these differences are infraspecific variation after examination of a number of specimens, these variations can appear in individuals of the same population. Actually, Leptispa miwai is a common species which inhabits low altitude habitats and displays various morphological variations. A similar situation occurs to the genus Lasiochila. Four species had been described from TAIWAN by 1930. KIMOTO & CHU (1996) regarded them as morphological variations of the same species.
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REFERENCES


