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A new species of *Neseuthia* SCOTT from Taiwan (Coleoptera: Scydmaenidae)

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ABSTRACT. A new species of the Cephenniini, *Neseuthia taiwanensis* n. sp. from Taiwan, is described. This is the first member of the genus known to occur in Taiwan.

Key words: entomology, taxonomy, new species, Scydmaenidae, Cephenniini, *Neseuthia*, Taiwan.

INTRODUCTION

Only a few species of *Neseuthia* SCOTT have been found in Asia. Three species are known to occur in Sri Lanka and Sumatra (FRANZ, 1983, 1984a, 1984b), and recently four new members of the genus have been discovered in the south-west part of Japan (JAŁOSZYŃSKI & HOSHINA, 2003). The discovery of *Neseuthia* in Iriomote Is. and Ishigaki Is., the southernmost islands of Okinawa Pref., Japan, suggested that the occurrence of this interesting genus also in Taiwan is highly plausible. Indeed, among specimens of Scydmaenidae preserved in the Hungarian Natural History Museum, a male of *Neseuthia* was found. It is very similar to some Japanese congeners by having a pair of small tubercles on the vertex, but clearly differs from all members of the genus in having a unique design of the aedeagus. This new species is described below as *Neseuthia taiwanensis* n. sp. Since undescribed species of *Neseuthia* are known also from Vietnam (JAŁOSZYŃSKI, unpublished data), the new finding in Taiwan fills a gap in the genus distribution within Southeast Asia.

The holotype of the new species is deposited in the Hungarian Natural History Museum, Budapest, Hungary (HNHM).

Genus *Neseuthia* SCOTT

Neseuthia SCOTT, 1922, p. 201. Type species: *Neseuthia typica* SCOTT, 1922, by original designation.

Neseuthia is a member of the tribe Cephenniini within the subfamily Scydmaeninae. Detailed generic characters have been listed and discussed recently by JAŁOSZYŃSKI & HOSHINA (2003). The members of *Neseuthia* are relatively unusual among other genera of the tribe in having rather slender, elongate body with well marked division between pronotum and elytra. The following set of features can be used to identify the genus: apex of pygidium visible in dorsal view; procoxae separated by narrow prosternal process; mandibles with subquadrate, broad base and subtriangular apical part; maxillary palpomere IV very short; antennae slender, with variously developed club composed of two or three antennomeres; pronotum with basal pits and sometimes transverse or/and longitudinal groove; males often with secondary sexual characters (modifications located on frons or/and vertex).

***Neseuthia taiwanensis* n. sp.**

(Figs. 1-6)

NAME DERIVATION

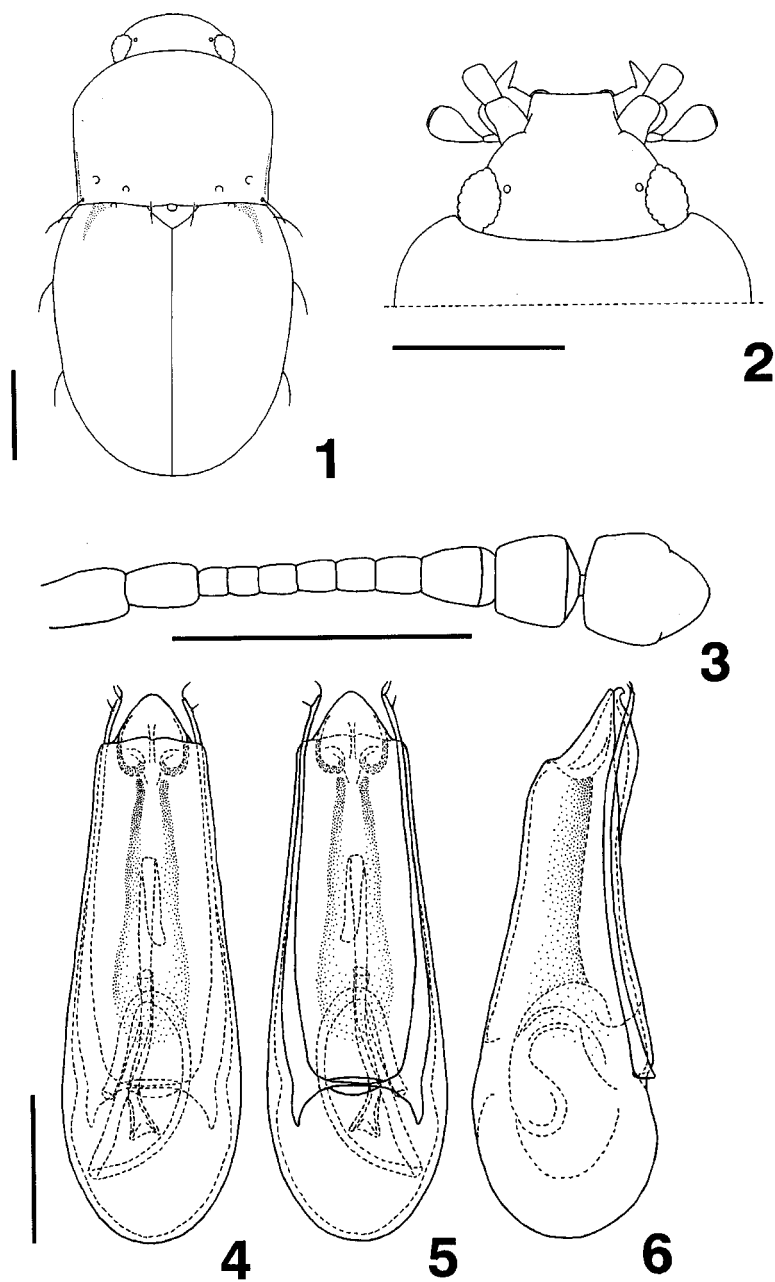
The specific epithet is locotypical, after Taiwan, the type locality.

DIAGNOSIS

The male of this species can be certainly distinguished from similar congeners by the following combination of characters: dark brown body, vertex with pair of very small tubercles, pronotum with four basal pits and without grooves, elytra widest distinctly anterior to middle, elytral setation extremely short, recumbent, aedeagus unusually slender, with asymmetrical internal armature.

DESCRIPTION

Male (Fig. 1). Body length 1.03 mm, coloration dark reddish-brown, palpi, antennae and legs slightly lighter; setation yellowish. Head (Fig. 2) broader than long, widest at large, very convex, coarsely faceted eyes, length 0.15 mm, width 0.26 mm. Tempora not visible, head retracted to pronotum up to posterior margins of eyes; vertex about twice as broad as long, slightly convex, with flat, circular tubercle near internal margin of each eye, diameter of tubercles minimally larger than diameters of ommatidia; frons subtrapezoidal, relatively steeply lowering anteriorly; clypeus subrectangular, with slightly concave, arcuate anterior margin and well marked antero-lateral angles (best visible in dorsal and slightly anterior view); supraantennal tubercles minimally raised, relatively indistinct. Punctuation of frons and vertex sparse and fine; setation sparse, short, suberect, eyes covered



1-6. *Neseuthia taiwanensis* n. sp. 1 – simplified body outline; 2 – head of male in antero-dorsal view; 3 – right antenna in dorsal view; 4-6 – aedeagus in dorsal (4), ventral (5) and lateral (6) views (scale bar: 1-3 – 0.2 mm, 4-6 – 0.1 mm)

with short, sparse, erect setae. Antenna relatively slender, length 0.45 mm, with enlarged antennomeres X-XI, like in Fig. 3.

Pronotum (Fig. 1) broader than long, subrectangular with broadly emarginate anterior margin and blunt antero-lateral angles (Fig. 2; in strictly dorsal view emargination not visible), length 0.31 mm, maximum width 0.41 mm, width at base 0.4 mm. Sides slightly convergent posteriorly, nearly straight, with barely noticeable serration; base minimally biemarginate, with additional, very short median emargination adjacent to anterior margin of scutellum, and with two pairs of distinct lateral foveae. Punctuation composed of relatively dense, very fine punctures and much sparser, unevenly distributed larger circular punctures, each hind angle with large, well visible setiferous puncture; setation moderately dense, very short, recumbent, base additionally with four very long, posteriorly-directed setae: one in each hind angle, and a pair between internal ante-basal foveae.

Elytra (Fig. 1) oval, widest between anterior fourth and third, length 0.57 mm, width 0.5 mm. Humeri well marked, demarcated by very shallow, elongate internal humeral impression; base of each elytron with a single, small fovea located in the middle between humerus and antero-lateral margin of scutellum; apices separately rounded, not covering apex of pygidium; narrow adsutural area in anterior half slightly impressed; scutellum large, triangular, with rounded apex and indistinct circular median impression at anterior margin. Elytral punctuation fine, relatively dense, composed of scale-like, diffused punctures; setation moderately dense, very short, recumbent, additionally lateral margin of each elytron bears three long, erect, latero-posteriorly directed setae located near humerus, in widest place and between middle and posterior third. Hind wings well developed, about twice as long as elytra.

Legs slender, moderately long; all femora clavate, tibiae straight, widest near apex, tarsi slender, tarsomeres I-IV gradually reducing in size, tarsomere V about as long as III-IV together.

Aedeagus (Fig. 4-6) elongate, slender, with symmetrical median lobes and parameres and asymmetrical internal armature, length 0.37 mm. In dorso-lateral view, median lobe with rounded base, from basal fourth gradually narrowing toward triangular, rounded apex; in lateral view apex with ventrally curved denticle; parameres very slender, not exceeding apex of median lobe, with 2-3 short, apical and subapical setae; inner sac with characteristic, moderately entangled, long duct and additional short duct with expanded, funnel-like basal part, in lateral view internal armature very indistinct.

Female. Unknown.

TYPE MATERIAL

Holotype (male): white printed labels "TAIWAN, Taipei Hsien, Fu-Shan, LTER site, lake shore, meadow" and "swept, 25. III. 2003, leg. L. Papp & M. Földvári" (HNHM).

DISTRIBUTION

Taiwan.

REMARKS

Neseuthia taiwanensis is externally most similar to Japanese *N. cactiformis* JALOSZYŃSKI & HOSHINA and *N. japonigena* JALOSZYŃSKI & HOSHINA, and examination of the aedeagus is necessary to certainly distinguish those three species. All other Asiatic species (i.e. *N. anderssoni* FRANZ, *N. minima* FRANZ, and *N. sumatrana* FRANZ) have ante-basal transverse groove on pronotum, in contrast to the new species, which has four foveae not connected by a groove.

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