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A new genus and its two new species of leaf-beetles from Vietnam (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae: Galerucinae)

IGOR LOPATIN

Department of zoology, Belorussian State University, Skoryna-Prospect 4, 220050 Minsk, Belarus

ABSTRACT. A new genus *Vietocerus* and its two new species (*V. kabakovi* and *V. mirandus*) from Vietnam are described. *Vietocerus* n.gen. belongs to the tribe *Luperini* and differs from all related genera of the tribe in its peculiar shape of antennae, which apical segments strongly dilated, massive body, antennal calli well delimited from vertex, and all borders of pronotum marginate as well as in anterior coxal cavities closed behind, tibiae unspined and tarsal claws with tooth at base.

Key words: entomology, taxonomy, new genus, new species, *Coleoptera*, *Chrysomelidae*, *Galerucinae*, *Luperini*, Vietnam.

The new species described below were kindly submitted for identification by my colleague O. KABAKOV (St. Petersburg), whom I thank very much. Types of both new species are preserved at the collection of the Zoological Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences (ZIN) in St. Petersburg.

***Vietocerus* n. gen.**

Type species. *Vietocerus kabakovi* n. sp. – Fig. 1.

ETYMOLOGY

Vieto – from Vietnam, *keros* – antenna. Masculine.

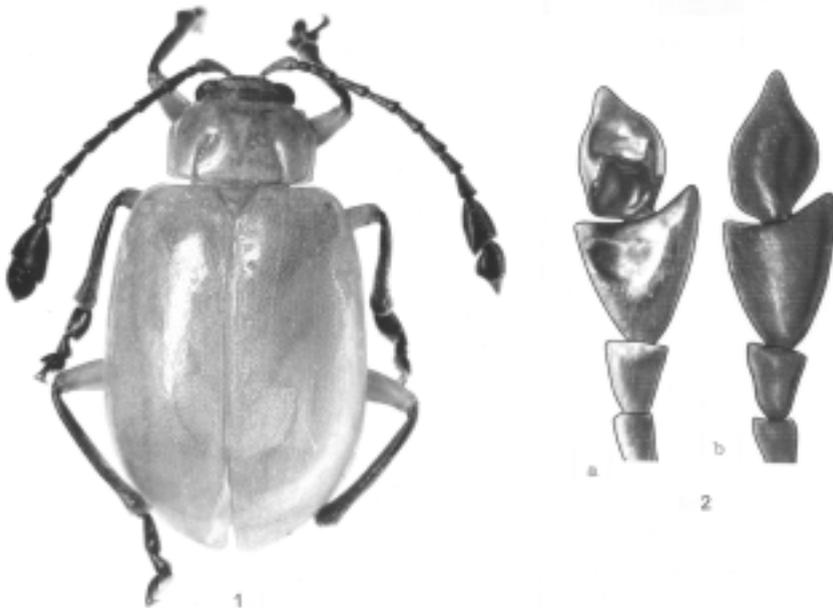
DESCRIPTION

Body massive, glabrous above, winged. Antennal calli large, convex, smooth, transverse, their ends reaching ventral margin of antennal cavity; supraantennal

sulcus well developed. Frontal ridge convex, much broadened downwards. Labrum feebly emarginate medially with a groups of long setae on the sides. Antenna long, segments 2-7 cylindrical, 2 the shortest, 9 moderately and 10-11 strongly dilated and spoon-like excavated within (Fig. 2 a, b). Preapical segments of maxillary palpus large, apical segment short. Pronotum transverse with all borders margined. Disc of pronotum with a short longitudinal impressions basally; fore- and posterolateral angle with a setigerous pore. Scutellum triangular, its apex roundish. Elytra distinctly widest than base of pronotum with shallow humeral calli and punctures confused. Elytral epipleuron at the base broad, gradually narrowed to apex. Anterior coxal cavities closed behind, prosternal intercoxal process narrow but distinct remarkable. Mesosternum and metasternum contiguous with their processes. Tibiae unspined, without ridges. Tarsal claws appendiculate.

DISCUSSION

There are several genera among the Oriental *Luperini* having the pronotum with antebasal impression and two longitudinal furrows near base at the same time with monstrous antennae. However, such a combination of features: last two segments of antennae strongly enlarged, pronotum with antebasal transverse impression limited on sides by short longitudinal furrows, claws appendiculate, and procoxal cavities closed behind, were not observed in any Oriental genus of the tribe. These characters clearly distinguish *Vietocerus* from all related genera.



1-2. *Vietocerus kabakovi* n. sp: 1 - habitus, 2 - the last segments of antenna of *V. kabakovi* n. sp: a - top view, - ventral view

Vietocerus kabakovi n. sp.

TERRA TYPICA

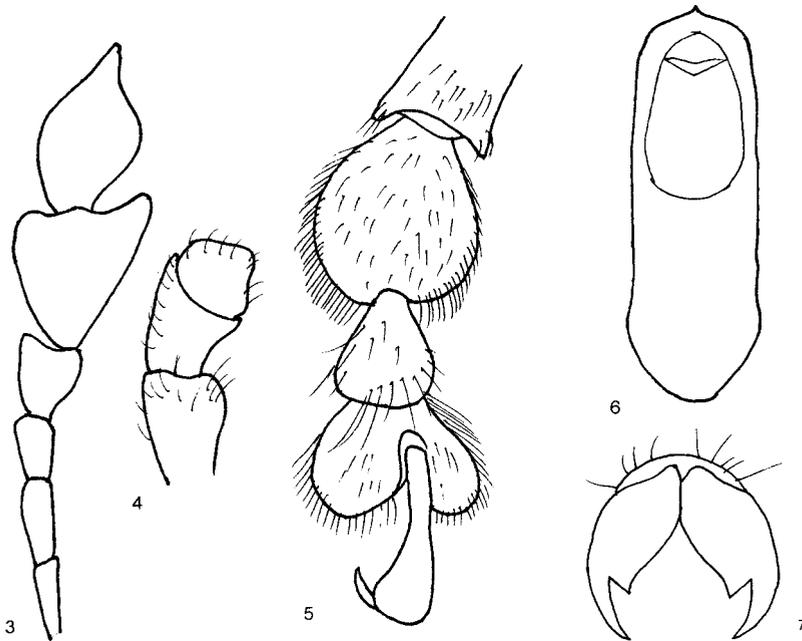
Vietnam, prov. Zialai-Kontum.

ETYMOLOGY

The new species is dedicated to O.N. Kabakov, the famous researcher of the insect fauna of Vietnam.

DESCRIPTION

Male. Length of body 10.5 mm, breadth of elytra in the humeral part 5.0 mm. Ochraceous-yellow, antenna, tibiae and tarsi pitch-black. Frons and vertex without punctures. Antennal calli strongly convex, smooth. Frontal ridge narrow, convex. Antennae long, their apex reaches to 1/3 length of elytrae, length proportion of segments: 18:5:11:15:15:15:15:10:13:25:25; 10-th segment on the apex 1.25 as long as broad and 11-th 1.6 as long as broad (the last 6 segments are presented in Fig. 3). Antennal segments covered with moderately dense depressed hair and their apices with longer bristles. The last segment of maxillary palpi short, conical (Fig. 4).

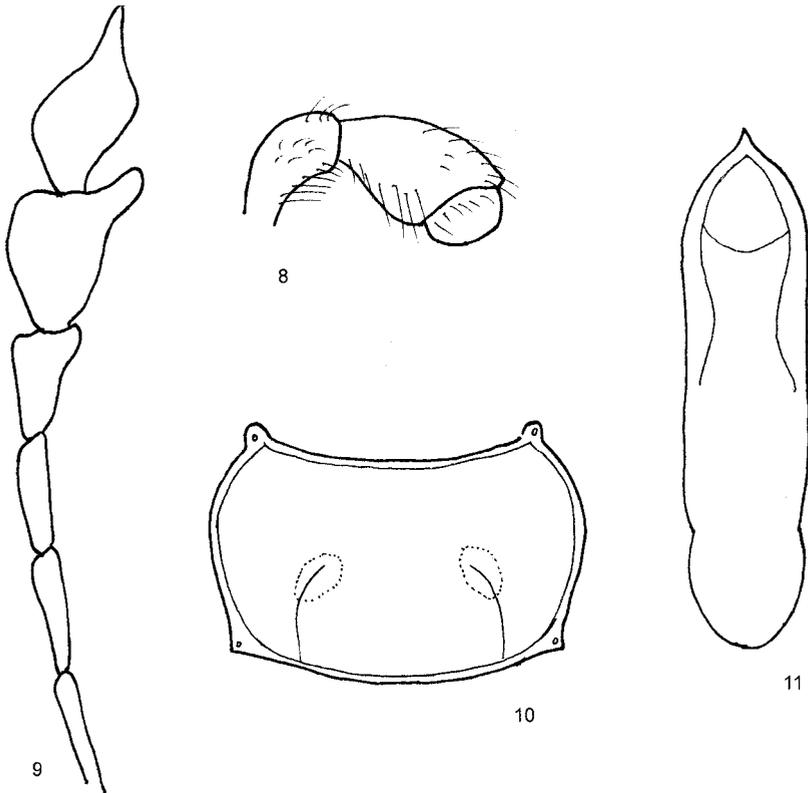


3-7. *Vietocerus kabakovi* n. sp: 3 - apical half of antenna, 4 - maxillary palpus, 5 - fore tarsi, 6 - aedeagus, 7 - claws

Pronotum 1.6 as broad as long, to front 1/3 of their length roundish-narrowed to angles, to hind 2/3 feebly narrowed towards base. Front and hind borders of pronotum narrowly marginate, lateral border turned back and delimited by deep furrow. Disc feebly convex, at hind half flattened with antebasal impression and two arcuated longitudinal furrows near base. Surface of pronotum almost impunctate except for a single row of punctures at base parallel to lateral margin. Scutellum triangular with apex rounded.

Elytra 1.9 as long as broad at base, from humeral angles to the beginning of apical swelling roughly rectilinearly broadened and then arcuated-narrowed. Apical corners of elytra blunt-rounded. Humeral calli moderately convex with feeble impression from inner side. Surface of elytra smooth, extremely finely and confusedly punctate. Epipleuron on whole length concave.

Sternum glabrous, abdomen covered with moderately dense fine hairs. Last abdominal segment of male trilobed with a median lobe deep depressed. Apex of pygidium arcuately excavated and with long fine hairs on apical margin.



8-11. *Vietocerus mirandus* n. sp: 8 - apical half of antenna, 9 - maxillary palpus, 10 - pronotum, 11 - aedeagus

Tibia very feebly curved with short depressed hairs. Segments 1-th and 3-th of tarsi on fore and middle legs strongly dilated, not longer than broad (Fig. 5). Claws with a strong tooth basally (Fig. 7). Aedeagus – Fig. 6.

MATERIAL EXAMINED

Holotype male: Vietnam, provinces Zialai-Kontum, Kontum Buonloi, 5.V.1995, A. Gorochov leg.; paratype male: the same data.

Vietocerus mirandus n. sp.

TERRA TYPICA

Vietnam, prov. Zialai-Kontum.

ETYMOLOGY

Mirandus – miraculous.

DESCRIPTION

Male. Length of body 12.0 mm, breadth of elytra in the humerus part 5.0 mm. Similar to *V. kabakovi* sp.n. but differs from it in having the proportion of segments of antenna as 20:6:15:20:20:20:17:16:24:25; segment 10-th at the apex 1.1 and 11-th 1.5 longer as broad (Fig. 8). The last segment of maxillar palpi transverse with apical margin straight (Fig. 9). Pronotum 1.77 as broad as long with lateral margins broadly rounded and front angles strongly prominent forwards and sideways (Fig. 10). Elytra 3.6 as long as broad at base with distinct punctation; discal punctures as large as interstices; along each elytra runs 8 feebly elevated glabrous lines.

Last abdominal sternite of male with a longitudinal furrow above of median lobe which is short and deep depressed. Coloured as *V. kabakovi* sp.n. but 1st segment of antennae and apex of femora deep-brown. Aedoeagus – Fig. 11.

MATERIAL EXAMINED

Holotype male: Vietnam, prov. Zialai-Kontum, Troim Loip, V.1996. N. Orlov leg.

REFERENCES

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