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Notosacantha riedeli, a new species from Sulawesi (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae: Cassidinae)

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ABSTRACT. *Notosacantha riedeli*, a new species from Sulawesi (Indonesia) is described and illustrated.

Key words: entomology, taxonomy, new species, Coleoptera, Chrysomelidae, Cassidinae, *Notosacantha*, Sulawesi.

Notosacantha CHEVROLAT, 1837, one of the most speciose genera within the subfamily *Cassidinae*, comprises c. 250 species distributed in the Old World tropics and subtropics (BOROWIEC 1999, ŚWIĘTOJAŃSKA & BOROWIEC 1999, ŚWIĘTOJAŃSKA 2000 a, 2000 b, 2001 a, 2001 b, 2002, ŚWIĘTOJAŃSKA & al. 2001). More than 100 were recorded from the Oriental Region. Most species have very small distribution areas, 31 are endemic to Philippines, 29 occur on various Pacific islands, and 49 are known from continental Asia and adjacent islands. Only three species were described from Sulawesi hitherto: *N. obscura* (WAGENER, 1881), *N. reinecki* (SPAETH, 1913) and *N. sulawesica* BOROWIEC, 1999.

In the material sent me by Matthias SCHÖLLER (Berlin, Germany), I found a specimen of *Notosacantha* from Sulawesi representing a new species. Its description is given below.

Notosacantha riedeli n. sp.

ETYMOLOGY

Dedicated to a German entomologist, Alexander RIEDEL, who collected this new species.

DIAGNOSIS

Notosacantha riedeli belongs to the species group with body short-oval to circular, principal tubercle with at least three costae, at least dorsal costa complete, basal tubercle not bent outwards, without transverse costa running from basal tubercle to humeral tubercle, apical costa distinct and complete, anterior and posterior branch of dorsal costa at principal tubercle converging in different points, and explanate margin of elytra with dark spots. This group also includes *N. flavicornis* (Sp.) described from "India Orientalis" (probably from one of Indonesian island), *N. sumbawaensis* ŚWIĘT. & BOR. from Sumbawa, *N. reinecki* (Sp.) from Sulawesi, *N. sulawesica* BOR. from Sulawesi, *N. weyersi* (Sp.) from Sumatra and Java, *N. nigrodorsata* CHEN & ZIA from S China and Laos, *N. vicaria* (Sp.) from India, Ceylon and Andaman, and *N. kantneri* ŚWIĘT. et BOR. from Thailand. *N. riedeli* differs from all its relatives in the presence of incomplete postapical costa. The character is rare within the genus and in Oriental species occurs only in *N. kinabaluensis* ŚWIĘT. from Borneo, belonging to another species group with anterior and posterior branch of dorsal costa converging at the principal tubercle in the same point. *N. kinabaluensis* differs also in complete postapical costa (in *N. riedeli* not connected with costa ultima), antennal club stouter than in *N. riedeli*, black posterior half of elytra (mostly yellowish-brown in *N. riedeli*), and anterior branch of dorsal costa broken between basal and subbasal tubercle (in *N. riedeli* complete). The hitherto known species from Sulawesi differ in the following characters: *N. obscura* (WAGENER, 1881) in mostly reduced dorsal costae and elytral disc completely black, *N. reinecki* in long furca interna which is connected with lateral branch of principal tubercle (in *N. riedeli* furca interna is shortened, not connected with lateral branch of principal tubercle), and *N. sulawesica* in elytral disc with only costae, without distinct tubercles (*N. riedeli* has complete set of costae and tubercles). Both *N. reinecki* and *N. sulawesica* differ also in stout antennal club.

DESCRIPTION

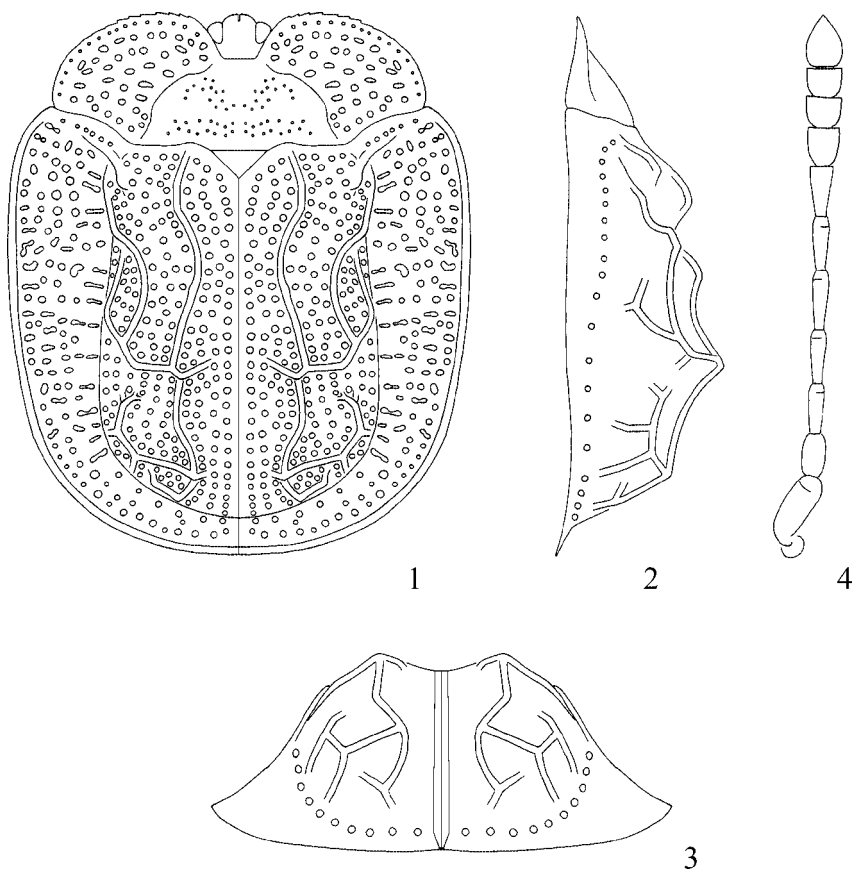
Length: 6.7 mm, width: 5.4 mm, length of pronotum: 1.7 mm, width of pronotum: 4.3 mm, length/width ratio: 1.24, width/length ratio of pronotum: 2.52. Body short-oval, the widest in 2/5 body length (fig. 1).

Head yellowish-brown, with yellowish frontal plate. Disc of pronotum yellow at top and yellowish-brown in punctate areas on sides and along base. Explanate margin of pronotum yellow. Scutellum yellow. Disc of elytra yellowish-brownish-red with brownish-black principal and apical tubercles, lateral and sutural branch of principal tubercle, and apical costa. Explanate margin of elytra reddish, with slightly darker reddish-brown humeral and posterolateral spots, and well marked yellow "window". Ventrites and legs yellow, antennae uniformly yellowish-brown.

Head with moderately large frontal plate, its sides converging in triangle, apex with shallow cleft.

Pronotum broad, with maximum width in $1/3$ basal length, sides regularly rounded. Disc with small punctures placed in four shallow impressions: two in anterior part of sides and two along base. Explanate margin, except row of small and circular punctures placed close to margin, with moderately large and circular pores, disposed regularly. Some pores along border of disc slightly elongate. Anterior part of pronotal extreme margin serrate, sides only indistinctly crenulate.

Base of elytra wider than base of pronotum. Elytral disc with complete set of costae and tubercles: principal tubercle the highest, basal tubercle slightly smaller, humeral, subbasal and apical tubercles the smallest, and postapical tubercle barely elevated (figs 1 and 2). Principal tubercle with four costae. Dorsal costa complete. Anterior and posterior branch of dorsal costa in the middle distinctly curved towards suture. Anterior and posterior branch of dorsal costa at the top of principal tubercle converging in different points. Sutural branch of principal tubercle



1-4. *Notosacantha riedeli*: 1 - dorsal view, 2 - lateral view, 3 - hind view, 4 - antenna

extending to second row of punctures. Lateral branch of principal tubercle complete, runs obliquely anterad, extending to eighth row of punctures. Apicosutural costa extending to first row of punctures. Apicolateral costa complete, with complete costa ultima and costa terminalis, and short furca interna and externa. Furca interna not connected with lateral branch of principal tubercle. Postapical tubercle with distinct but incomplete postapical costa, runs obliquely anterad but not connected with costa ultima (fig. 3). Humeral costa distinct, with highly elevated anterior half. Humeral tubercle distinct. Puncturation between costae moderately coarse, distance between punctures as wide as puncture diameter. Puncturation of explanate margin mostly circular, only on sides along border of disc slightly elongate, pale "window" punctate.

Antennae slim with distinct 4-segmented club. Pedicel c.2.6 times longer than club. Second antennal segment slightly elongate, c. 1.8 times as long as wide, segment 8 longer than wide, segments 9, and 10 slightly wider than long (fig. 4).

TYPE MATERIAL

Holotype: "Indonesien, Sulawesi, Palu: Palolo Lindu-National Park, 25-27. VIII. 1990, leg Alexander Riedel" (preserved at the Department of Systematic Zoology and Zoogeography, Wrocław University, Wrocław, Poland).

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