

Short Communication

**A New Species of *Trichopsenius* Horn (Coleoptera :
Staphylinidae) from Japan**

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Abstract : A new species, *Trichopsenius crassicornis* Naomi et Terayama, sp. nov. of the tribe Trichopseniini of the subfamily Aleocharinae is described on the basis of one male and one female from Iriomote Island, Japan.

The termitophilous genus *Trichopsenius* Horn belongs to the tribe Trichopseniini of the subfamily Aleocharinae (Newton and Thayer, 1992). Up to the present this genus is distributed in North America (5 species), Europe (1 species) and Japan (4 species), and the members of the genus live exclusively in the nests of the reticulitermine termites (Kistner and Assing, 1995). In the course of our study on the Japanese termitophilous Staphylinidae, we found a new species of the genus *Trichopsenius* from Iriomote Is. of the Nansei Islands. This is the fifth species from Japan. In this paper we would like to describe it under the name of *Trichopsenius crassicornis*.

***Trichopsenius crassicornis* NAOMI et TERAYAMA, sp. nov.**

Male and female. Body 1.2-1.3 mm in length.

Coloration. Head and pronotum pale yellow to pale yellowish brown; elytra yellowish brown; abdomen pale yellow except for brown 9th tergites; antennae, mouth parts and legs pale yellow to pale yellowish brown; body moderately shining.

Relative measurements: HL : 18; HW : 40; PL : 38; PW : 51; EL : 40; SL : 28; EW : 66.

Head trapeziform, narrowed anteriorly, with anterior margin straight; surface very weakly convex, smooth, a pair of setae at anterolateral corners, and the other pair of setae between antennal sockets. Eyes basilateral in position, a little longer than half length of head, moderately convex and weakly faceted. Antennae (Fig. 1 A) rather thick, reaching a little before the middle of pronotum, gradually broadened apically, 2nd and 3rd each narrowed at base, 4th to 10th each broader than long, with ALP : 21 : 10.3 : 8 : 7 : 7 : 8.6 : 8.5 : 9 : 10 : 10 : 10.4.

Pronotum transverse, broadest near the middle, anterior margin with the median reversed-W-shaped flap which is almost transparent, lateral and posterior margins continuously rounded; surface moderately convex, almost smooth, with very sparse and erect setae.

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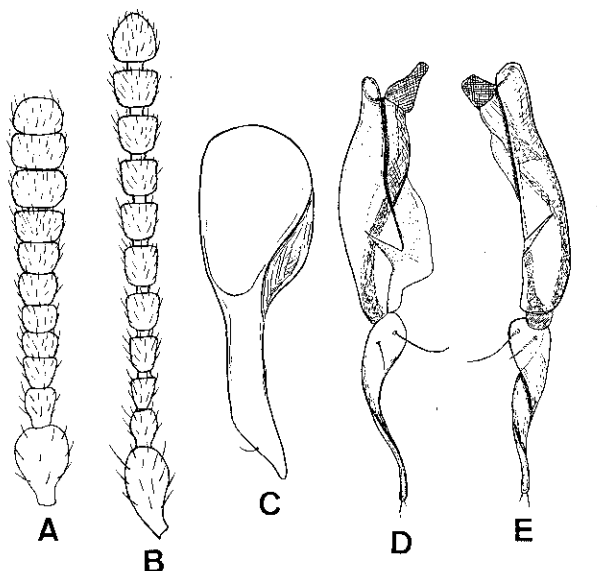


Fig. 1. A, C-E, *Trichopsenius crassicornis* Naomi et Terayama, sp. nov. ; B. *T. brunneus* Naomi et Terayama. A, B, Antenna ; C, median lobe of aedeagus in left ventro-lateral view ; D, left paramere ; E, right paramere. Scale : 0.2 mm.

Mesoscutellum tongue-shaped, very smooth.

Elytra much broadened posteriorly, posterior margin of each elytron very weakly rounded, surface smooth, with very sparse and erect setae, of which the several setae around posterior margin of elytron are especially long.

Abdomen strongly narrowed posteriorly ; 4th to 6th tergites each with indistinct longitudinal striae along posterior margin ; 7th to 8th tergites without striae at least in the specimens examined ; 4th to 8th tergites each covered with indistinct reticulate microsculptures and with a line of long setae along posterior margin ; 9th tergite well-developed, baculiform, about as long as pronotum.

Male. Aedeagus with median lobe (Fig. 1 C) bulbous at base, distinctly constricted at the middle, turned dorsad at the apex which is bluntly pointed, with a seta on ventro-apical margin ; right paramere (Fig. 1 E) a little narrower than left one, apical plate twice twisted, with two setae at base, and the other two setae at apex ; left paramere (Fig. 1 D) with apical plate once twisted, with 4 setae similarly situated as in right paramere.

Type-series. Holotype (Type No. CBM-ZI 34022), female, Funaura, Iriomote Is., Nansei Islands, 16. vi. 1987, T. Matumoto, Y. Hirono and S. Ichitani coll. Paratype, 1 male, same data as holotype.

Distribution. Japan (Nansei Isls. : Iriomote Is.).

Remarks. *Trichopsenius crassicornis* sp. nov. is allied to *T. brunneus* Naomi et Terayama, 1986 and *T. serratus* Naomi et Terayama, 1986, but the antenna is thicker, its 4th segment is broader than long (while it is longer than broad in *T. brunneus* and *T. serratus* as in Fig. 1 B),

and the longitudinal striae are absent in the 7th and 8th tergites of abdomen.

The specimen measured is the holotype.

Host. *Reticulitermes speratus yaeyamanus* Morimoto.

Etymology. The specific name is a combination of the Latin adjective *crassus*, -a, -um (thick) and the noun *cornu*, -us, n (horn or antenna). It refers to the thick antenna of this species.

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