

Economic Chrysomelid Beetles from New Guinea, with New Species.

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THE following notes and descriptions concern species of the beetle family Chrysomelidae found associated with economic plants in the Territory of Papua and New Guinea. Most of the specimens were collected by Dr. J. J. H. Szent-Ivany and some by J. H. Ardley, Mrs. E. Anderson, J. H. Barrett, W. W. Brandt, W. E. Casey, A. Catley, B. G. Griffith, D. E. Hardy, F. Kingsford-Smith, T. C. Maa, C. D. Michener, J. Pendergast, J. Sedlacek and J. Sedlacek, Junior. In this paper 23 species are recorded, of which seven are described as new species. One new genus is described. I am indebted to Dr. Szent-Ivany for the privilege of studying the bulk of this material. I am grateful to Mrs. Maria Szent-Ivany for her painstaking preparation of the principal illustrations and to Miss Carol Nakashige for the drawings of the aedeagi.

Bishop Museum field workers have been assembling a large representation of this family of beetles from New Guinea. As the study of the assembled material will occupy a few years, these species of economic importance are herewith recorded in advance, to make their names available to economic entomologists and agriculturists. Only the subfamily Hispinae has so far been reported upon in our studies (Gressitt, 1957, 1958, 1959, 1960, 1963), and of these 161 species have been recorded from New Guinea proper, and about 10 additional from the Bismarck Archipelago and Bougainville Island. The total collections assembled in this family probably number in the neighbourhood of 2,000 species for New Guinea including the Bismarck Archipelago and Bougainville.

SUBFAMILY EUMOLPINAE.

Rhyparida arachi Gressitt, n. sp. Fig. 1.

Female: Reddish brown to pitchy black, in part paler; head reddish brown, slightly paler on labrum; palpi quite pale but darker on apical segment of each pair; antenna yellowish testaceous basally, gradually becoming brownish towards apex; pronotum pitchy black, tinged with reddish on anterior margin and near base; scutellum reddish brown; elytron dark reddish brown with a slightly pitchy tinge; ventral surfaces reddish brown, paler reddish on pro- and mesosterna, somewhat dull testaceous toward apex of abdomen; legs reddish brown, darker on apices of femora and tibiae and paler on apices of tarsi. Dorsum largely glabrous; moderate fine pale hairs on antenna and parts of ventral surfaces; only a few scattered hairs on head.

Head considerably narrower than prothorax, moderately deep; occiput broad and swollen, sparsely but distinctly punctured and micro-punctulate, with a fairly deep oblique groove from edge of vertex extending in a straight line above, and close to, upper border of eye; frontoclypeus continuous with vertex and occiput and similarly punctured, anterior margin strongly concave in middle and produced forward on each side of middle; labrum fairly large and flattish, finely punctured and slightly emarginate apically; gena feebly punctured, one-quarter as deep as eye. Antenna slender, two-thirds as long as body; segment 1 elliptical, thickest near middle; 2 similar in shape to 1, about four-fifths as long and less stout; 3 quite slender, slightly thickened preapically, slightly longer than 1; 4 slightly thicker apically than 3 and very slightly shorter; 5 slightly shorter and stouter; 6 stouter, as long as 5;

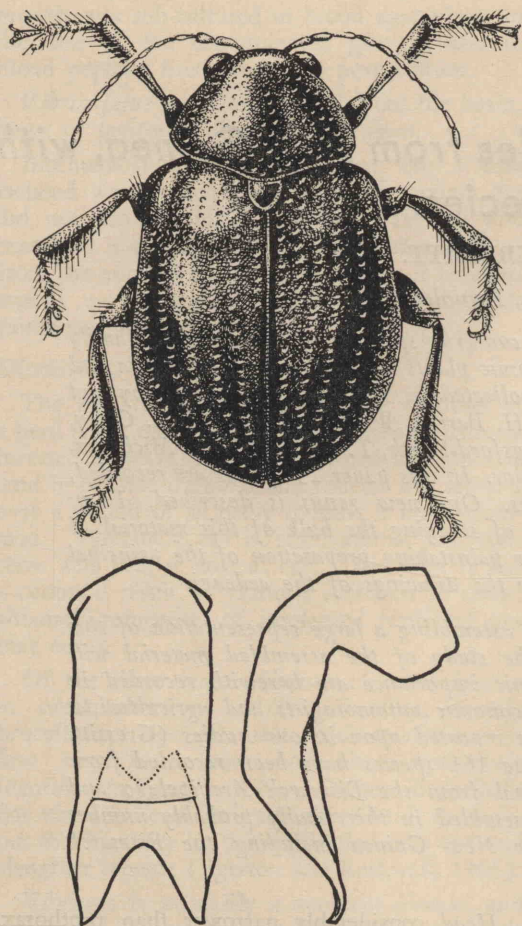


Figure 1.—*Rhyparida arachi*.

6-10 similar, becoming slightly stouter and more parallel-sided; 11 longest. *Prothorax* just over three-fifths as long as broad, rounded anteriorly, narrowed at side which is rounded and strongly convex with widest portion fairly close to base; basal margin weakly obtuse, rounded at middle; disc evenly convex, fairly smooth, with regularly fine punctures, slightly closer at side and sparser in centre, mostly separated by two to four times their diameters, sparsest near anterior margin. *Scutellum* triangular, slightly broader than long and somewhat rounded apically; feebly punctured. *Elytron* twice as long as broad, subevenly rounded at side, widest somewhat anterior to middle; lateral margin slightly expanded to behind middle and gradually narrowed to apex; disc with 10 distinct rows

of punctures at middle, inner 4 rows quite fine with punctures separated by two to three times their diameters, and outer rows with stronger punctures, in part as large as interspaces in anterior one-half, all puncture-rows with finer punctures posteriorly. *Ventral surfaces* in large part rather finely frosted with vague punctures on abdomen, becoming more distinct on last sternite. *Legs* moderately stout; femora somewhat strongly swollen in middle; hind tibia fairly straight, deeply emarginate on outer side just before apex; hind tarsal segment 1 slightly longer than 2 or 3, claw segment distinctly longer than 1. Length 3 mm; breadth 2.1 mm.

Holotype ♀ (BISHOP 3585), Wewak, 25.6.1959, Gressitt; paratype, same data, on palm; 16 paratypes, New Settlement, nr. Wewak, Sepik Distr., N.E. New Guinea, in large masses on peanut (*Arachis*), causing shot-hole damage, 11.10.1957, J. J. H. Szent-Ivany, (H/415); paratype ♂ (D.A.S.F., Port Moresby), Wewak, damaging kapok (*Ceiba*) leaves, 12.10.1957, Szent-Ivany (H/416); paratype ♂ (A.N.I.C., C.S.I.R.O., Canberra), Tanbada Settlement, nr. Vareodoso Vill., Wewak, on peanut, 11.10.1957, Szent-Ivany (H/1062).

Differs from most species of *Rhyparida* in having supraocular groove rather strong and occiput more strongly raised. Similar to *Rhyparida atra* Jacoby but prothorax with a different outline.

Rhyparida atra Jacoby, 1894, Novit. Zool. 1 : 281 (N.W. New Guinea).

N.E. NEW GUINEA : New Settlement, nr. Wewak, causing shot-hole damage on peanuts, 11.10.1957, Szent-Ivany (H/424).

Rhyparida basalis Baly, 1867, Trans. Ent. Soc. Lond. ser. 3, 4 (2) : 168 (N.W. New Guinea).

N.E. NEW GUINEA : Maprik, on cacao, 1953, J. Ardley (H/342).

Rhyparida casuarinae Gressitt, n. sp. Fig. 2.

Female : Shiny black to reddish ochraceous; head black to pitchy black with a reddish ochraceous spot on each side of occiput; labrum reddish brown; mandible pitchy reddish; antenna reddish brown, testaceous on basal 5 segments; pronotum shiny black, becoming reddish pitchy at anterior margin; scutellum pitchy black; elytron black with a large reddish ochraceous humeral spot reaching to end of basal third,

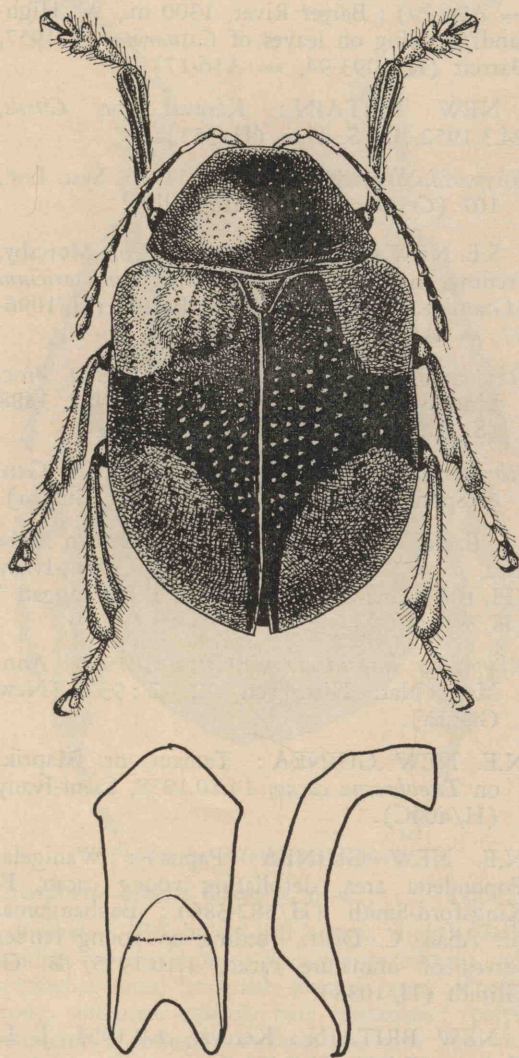


Figure 2.—*Rhyparida casuarinae*.

and a large preapical spot occupying most of discal portion of posterior half, leaving suture and external margin dark; ventral surfaces largely blackish, becoming somewhat reddish pitchy at side of abdomen; legs pitchy black, somewhat reddish on coxae, trochanters and apical portions of tarsi.

Head five-sixths as broad as prothorax, vertical in front, rather coarsely punctured, more densely punctured at side of postocciput; a moderately deep groove above eye, reaching to edge of frontoclypeus; frontoclypeus deeply

emarginate anteriorly; labrum broader than long, weakly emarginate at middle of apex; gena about one quarter as deep as eye. *Antenna* two-thirds as long as body; segment 1 elliptical, widest in middle; 2 more slender, widest beyond middle and four-fifths as long as 1; 3 much more slender, slightly longer than 2; 4 slender, barely longer than 3; 5 slightly stouter preapically, slightly shorter than 4; 6 as long as 5, distinctly thickened towards apex; 7 slightly stouter than 6; 8-10 similar to 7; 11 slightly longer than 10, widest just beyond middle. *Prothorax* not quite two-thirds as long as broad, convex on anterior margin, weakly convex on basal margin; side widest well behind middle and strongly bowed, nearly obtuse; disc strongly convex anteriorly, depressed at side toward anterior angle, with numerous moderately fine distinct punctures. *Scutellum* subtrapeziform, slightly convex apically and feebly punctured basally. *Elytron* two-fifths as broad as long, subevenly rounded at side from humerus to sutural angle, somewhat deeply grooved parallel to lateral margin; epipleuron moderately broad to within one-sixth length of apex and then more strongly narrowed and disappearing somewhat before sutural angle; disc strongly convex, with a post-basal swelling followed by a distinct depression; surface with 11 puncture-rows at middle, 2 of these starting well behind humerus, an additional basal row reaching to slightly more than one-quarter length from base; punctures varying in size, largest near humerus and in post-basal depression, becoming fairly fine on posterior half and those of inner rows fairly fine on basal portion. *Ventral surfaces* finely frosted on metepisternum, subtransversely ridged on metasternum, and weakly punctured on much of abdomen. *Legs* fairly stout and not very long; femora moderately swollen at middle; hind tibia moderately straight, deeply emarginate preapically; hind tarsal segment 1 nearly as long as 2 + 3 and only slightly shorter than last. Length 2.9 mm.; breadth 1.6 mm.

Male: Antennae slightly paler, nearly three-quarters as long as body; pronotum reddish pitchy in central portion and reddish on anterior one-third; elytron with dark areas pitchy reddish; ventral surfaces somewhat reddish on metasternum and dull ochraceous on last abdominal sternite; legs largely pitchy reddish.

Length 2.75 mm.; breadth 1.5 mm.

Paratypes : Length 2.2-3.0 mm.; breadth 1.0-1.9 mm.

Holotype ♀ (BISHOP 3586), Moife, 2100 m, 15 km. N.W. of Okapa, E. Highlands, N.E. New Guinea, 7-14.10.1959, T. C. Maa; allotype ♂ (BISHOP), S.E. of Korn Farm, 1600 m, Mt. Hagen area, W. Highlands, on *Pipturus*, 15.10.1958, Gressitt. *Paratypes* : N.E. New Guinea : 2 ♀ ♀, Aiyura, 1500 m, E. Highlands, feeding on *Casuarina equisetifolia*, 19.6.1958, J. H. Barrett (H/2051, 2052, = A108, A110); 6, same data as holotype; Minj, 1700 m, W. Highlands, 3.7.1957, D. E. Hardy; Minj, sweeping, 8-13.9.1959, Maa; 1, Korn Farm, 15.10.1958, Gressitt; 1, Ahl Valley, 1750 m, nr. Nondugl, 8.7.1955, Gressitt; 1, Goiburung, E. of Korn Farm, on *Pipturus*, 16.10.1958, Gressitt; Aiyurop-Rumpi, and Rumpi, nr. Mendi, S. Highlands, on *Pipturus* and *Melastoma*, 14.10.1958, Gressitt; 2, Wum, 540 m, Upper Jimi Valley, 15.7.1955, Gressitt; 1, Mobitei, 750 m, Torricelli Mts., 16-31.3.1959, W. W. Brandt; 1, Siaute, nr. sea level, nr. Torricelli Mts., 9-17.11.1958, Brandt; 1, Funyende, 1200 m, nr. SSaidor, Finisterre Range, 24.9.1958, Brandt; 1, Wewak, 2-20 m, on *Pipturus*, 13.10.1957, Gressitt. N.W. New Guinea : Many, Waris, 450-550 m, sweeping, 1-17.8.1959, Maa. *Paratypes* in BISHOP, D.A.S.F., C.A.S., U.S.N.M., B.M.N.H., A.N.I.C., BOGOR.

Differs from *moesta* Baly in being smaller, not metallic, with elytron narrower and bearing two large pale areas, and occiput not subrugose. Differs from *quadripustulata* Jacoby in being larger, more contrastingly coloured, with large anterior and posterior pale spots on elytron, smaller elytral spots and prothorax much longer in proportion to breadth.

Rhyparida coriacea Jacoby, 1895, Stett. Ent. Ztg. 56 : 57 (New Guinea).

N.E. NEW GUINEA : Wau, 1050 m, causing serious defoliation to *Eucalyptus deglupta*, 26.4.1958, J. J. H. Szent-Ivany (H/404E, G); Tanbada, nr. Wewak, on young coconut palms, 12.10.1957, Szent-Ivany (H/4091); Kumbunga, nr. Maprik, damaging leaves of *Coffea arabica*, 7.3.1958, Szent-Ivany (H/408); Goroka, 1600 m., E. Highlands, in leaf-axils and husks of maize, 11.11.1957, J. H. Barrett (H 2007-2010, = A30-33); same data but on leaves of *Citrus*, 12.10., Barrett (H/2003-6

= A26-29); Baiyer River, 1300 m., W. Highlands, feeding on leaves of *Casuarina*, 1.8.1957, Barrett (H/1093-94, = A16-17).

NEW BRITAIN : Keravat, on *Citrus*, 24.3.1952, G. S. Dun (H/355).

Rhyparida didyma (Fabricius), 1775, Syst. Ent., 107 (*Cryptocephalus*; Australia).

S.E. NEW GUINEA (Papua) : Port Moresby, feeding on seed heads of *Dichanthium sericum* (Gramineae), 3.2.1956, J. H. Barrett (H/1096-97, = A19-20).

Rhyparida discopunctata Blackburn, 1889, Proc. Linn. Soc. N.S. Wales ser. 2, 3 : 1485, 1488 (S. Australia) (H/1003).

Rhyparida fasciata Baly, 1864, Descr. N. Gen. & Spec. Phytoph., 10 (N.W. New Guinea).

S.E. NEW GUINEA (Papua) : Brown River area, on cowpea, 4.3.1959, Szent-Ivany (H/1043). Also "New Guinea, J. L. Froggatt" (H/340, KER).

Rhyparida impressipennis Bryant, 1949, Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist. ser. 12, 2 : 937 (New Guinea).

N.E. NEW GUINEA : Tamaui, nr. Maprik, on *Theobroma cacao*, 14.10.1958, Szent-Ivany (H/404C).

N.E. NEW GUINEA (Papua) : Wanigela, Popondetta area, defoliating young cacao, F. Kingsford-Smith (H/382-386); Baubauguina, nr. Abau, C. Distr., feeding on young tender leaves of immature cacao, 1.10.1955, B. G. Griffith (H/1038).

NEW BRITAIN : Kerevat, 1.8.1954, J. L. Froggatt (C/893, H/348).

Rhyparida morosa Jacoby, 1884, Ann. Mus. Civ. Genova 20 : 202 (New Guinea).

S.E. NEW GUINEA (Papua) : Port Moresby, feeding on seeding heads of *Dichanthium sericum* (Gramineae), 3.2.1956, Barrett (H/1098-2002, = A21-25).

Rhyparida novaeguineensis Bryant, 1949, Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist. ser. 12, 2 : 933 (New Guinea).

NEW BRITAIN : Rabaul, on foliage of *Ixora* sp., 11.9.1934, J. L. Froggatt (C/929, H/350).

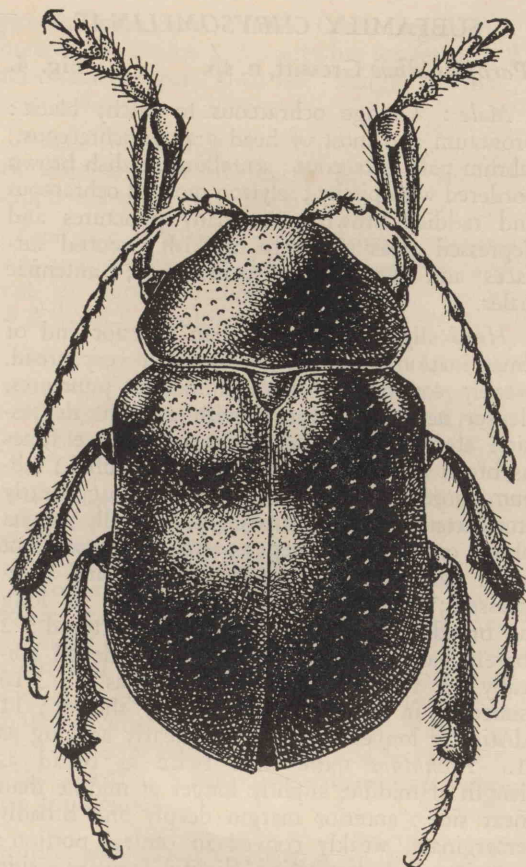


Figure 3.—*Cleoporus hibisci*.

Cleoporus hibisci Gressitt, n. s.

Fig. 3.

Female: Bright reddish brown, slightly dark reddish on pronotum except anterior margin and somewhat more brownish towards apex of elytron; antennae entirely pale testaceous; palpi testaceous; ventral surfaces reddish brown, slightly paler towards apex of abdomen; legs pale reddish brown, slightly darker just before apices of femora and slightly darkened on tibial carinae; tarsi paler, testaceous preapically and slightly reddish on claws. Body glabrous above, with a few pale hairs on sides of head and around mouthparts; antennae thinly clothed with fine suberect hairs; ventral surfaces rather thinly clothed with suberect pale hairs; legs feebly clothed on femora, with more pale hairs on tibiae and tarsi.

Head distinctly narrower than prothorax, strongly swollen above; occiput slightly uneven, slightly depressed at centre, moderately

punctured; a deep oblique groove from edge of frontoclypeus extending above and behind eye; frontoclypeus subparallel-sided, more strongly punctured than occiput, strongly emarginate at middle of apex; labrum fairly large, smooth in centre, emarginate apically; gena about one-third as deep as eye. *Antennae* slender, three-quarters as long as body; segment 1 slightly arched, convex anteriorly, thickest near middle; 2 slightly shorter and narrower than 1; 3 longer than 1, quite slender; 4 and 5 decreasing in length and quite slender; 6 as long as 5 but slightly stouter; 6-10 subequal in length, becoming slightly stouter; 11 slightly longer than 3. *Prothorax* two-thirds as long as broad, convex anteriorly, narrowed towards side; lateral margin convex, oblique anteriorly and rounded obtuse well behind middle and narrowed posteriorly; basal margin slightly obtuse, rounded at middle; disc subevenly convex, fairly smooth, with numerous moderately fine but distinct punctures, mostly separated by two to three times their diameters, becoming sparser near anterior and basal margins and slightly denser near side; a fairly distinct groove parallel to lateral and basal margins. *Scutellum* slightly longer than broad, rounded posteriorly and fairly smooth. *Elytron* somewhat more than twice as long as broad, subevenly convex at side, slightly widened to just anterior to middle and evenly convex to sutural angle; lateral margin slightly flattened throughout, narrowing near sutural angle; disc strongly convex, distinctly depressed behind mid-basal swelling; 10 fairly regular rows of punctures at middle, inner rows with punctures a little finer, mostly just a little smaller than interspaces, and some punctures towards side slightly larger than interspaces, punctures larger in postbasal depression and smaller towards apex. *Ventral surfaces* in part frosted at sides, slightly wrinkled on metasternum, frosted to moderately punctured on abdomen. *Legs* not very stout; femora moderately thickened and constricted preapically; mid and hind tibiae moderately straight, deeply emarginate before apices; hind tarsus with segment 1 slightly longer than 2 or 3, distinctly shorter than last. Length 3 mm.; breadth 1.55 mm.

Holotype ♀ (BISHOP 3587), Kerema Government Station, on *Hibiscus manihot*, 5.5.1959 (H/2041); paratype (D.A.S.F., Port Moresby), same data.

This species does not fit very well in *Cleoporus*, as the pro-epimeron does not project forward (not convex in anterior outline). It differs from *C. timorensis* otherwise in having anterior femur very weakly toothed, prothoracic angle located near base, and dorsal punctures finer and sparser. Some of the species which have been described from New Guinea as belonging to *Cleoporus* do not belong to this genus.

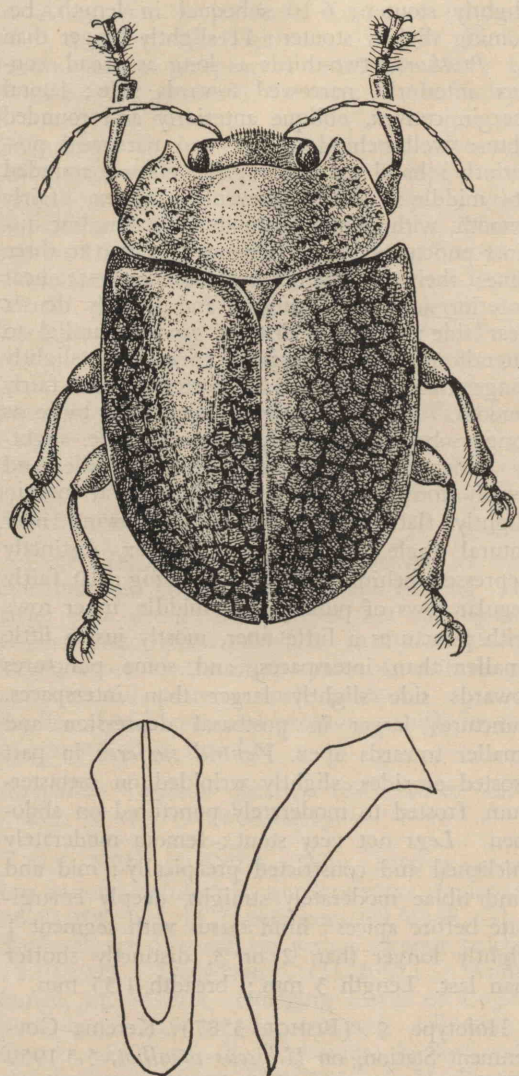


Figure 4.—*Paropsis albae*.

SUBFAMILY CHRYSOMELINAE.

Paropsis albae Gressitt, n. sp.

Fig. 4.

Male: Orange ochraceous to pitchy black: pronotum and most of head orange ochraceous; labrum pale testaceous; scutellum reddish brown bordered with pitchy; elytron mottled ochraceous and reddish brown with many punctures and depressed areas pitchy to blackish; ventral surfaces and legs orange ochraceous; antennae paler.

Head slightly narrower than anterior end of emargination of pronotum; occiput very broad, weakly convex and with numerous punctures, denser near side; vertex with a slight depression at centre; frontoclypeus fully three times as broad as long, rather closely punctured; labrum more than twice as broad as long, nearly impunctate, weakly emarginate apically; gena about one-fifth as deep as eye. *Antennae* not quite half as long as body, slender and compressed; segment 1 more than twice as long as broad, flattened and slightly punctured; 2 barely half as long as 1, slightly widened apically; 3 about two-thirds as long as 1; 3-10 subequal in length, but 4 slightly shorter; 11 distinctly longer than 10 and nearly as long as 1. *Pronotum* more than twice as broad as length at middle, slightly longer at middle than near side; anterior margin deeply and broadly emarginate, weakly convex in central portion; anterior angle projecting slightly forward; side strongly convex but less weakly so in middle; disc subevenly convex, with scattered moderate and fine punctures on central portion and subrugose with fairly coarse punctures near side, but smoother near basal portion of side. *Scutellum* subtriangular, slightly convex at side, longer than broad. *Elytron* five-eighths again as long as broad, moderately rounded externally but fairly straight between humerus and slightly before middle; disc subevenly convex with about 11 very irregular zigzag rows of punctures with irregular connections, leaving small flat areas which are pale and bare and a few weak punctures, these areas becoming more convex posteriorly and a few of them at side in basal two-fifths fairly large and weakly convex. *Ventral surfaces* largely impunctate, with a few wrinkles and sparse punctures and with a slightly arched roughened depression on metepisternum and a roughening on each side of base of abdominal segment 1. *Legs* moderately stout and

sparsely punctured; hind tarsal segment 1 shorter than 2 plus 3, 3 somewhat longer than 2 and distinctly shorter than last. Length 8.7 mm.; breadth 6.6 mm.

Female: Antennae two-fifths as long as body; last abdominal sternite rather flat and smooth. Length 8.4 mm.; breadth 6.8 mm.

Paratypes: Elytral pale patches sometimes paler and sometimes duller or disappearing, with most of surface reddish ochraceous. Length 7.8-8.3 mm.; breadth 5.5-6.6 mm.

Holotype ♂ (BISHOP 3588), Port Moresby, Papua, 25.4.1959, C. D. Michener; allotype ♀ (BISHOP), on *Eucalyptus alba*, 27.4.1954, J. J. H. Szent-Ivany; 8 paratypes (D.A.S.F., A.N.I.C. U.S.N.M., B.M.N.H., BISHOP): 2, same data as holotype, 5, same data as allotype; 1, Lawes Road Hill, on *Eucalyptus papuana*, Szent-Ivany (H/1019-1023, 1026-1028).

Differs from *P. omphale* Blackburn in being smaller, more reddish (with less pattern) on pronotum, darker and more vaguely mottled on elytron, and particularly blacker at side, but with some larger pale areas anteriorly at side. Also, pronotal punctures are much more dense in centre, more numerous, stronger and less merged on side; elytron is smoother, with distinct punctures throughout.

Paropsis andersonae Gressitt, n. sp. Fig. 5.

Female: Reddish ochraceous, somewhat orange on elytron; more reddish beneath and on legs; antenna pitchy reddish distally. Body glabrous above; very sparsely and briefly clothed beneath and on legs

Head distinctly narrower than anterior end of emargination of pronotum; occiput very broad and somewhat densely punctured; vertex finely grooved medially; frontoclypeus nearly three times as broad as long, fairly densely punctured; labrum more than three times as broad as long, slightly emarginate apically; gena about one-eighth as deep as eye. *Antennae* slender, nearly two-fifths as long as body; segment 1 somewhat compressed and slightly arched, sparsely punctured; 2 about one-third as long as 1, slightly broadened apically; 3 nearly twice as long as 2, distinctly broadened apically; 4 slightly longer than 3; 4-10 subequal in length, all slightly compressed; 11 distinctly longer than 10, nearly as long as 1. *Prothorax* twice

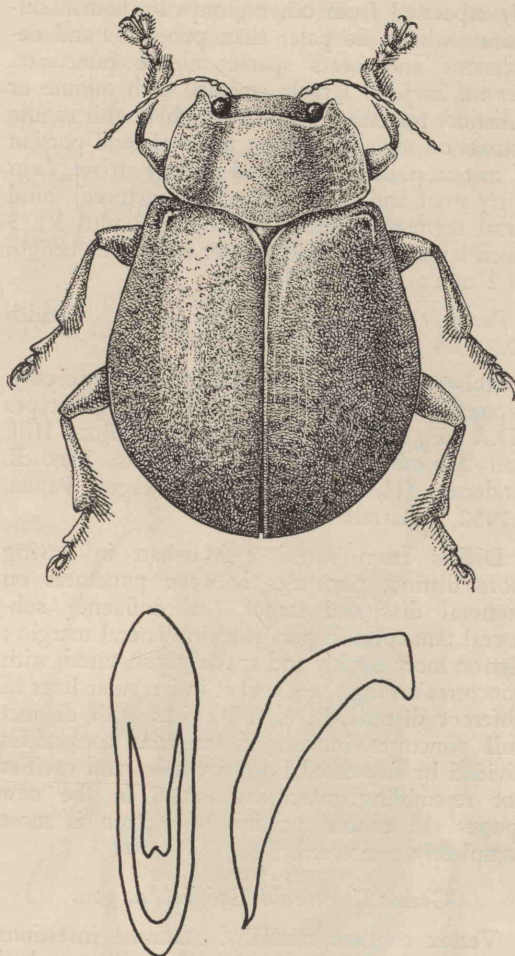


Figure 5.—*Paropsis andersonae* Gressitt n. sp.

as broad as length at middle which is slightly greater than length near lateral margin; anterior margin deeply emarginate, slightly convex in central portion; anterior angle slightly produced; lateral margin distinctly convex, less convex in central portion; basal margin convex and sinuate, produced medially; disc rather even on central portion with irregularly scattered punctures and minute punctules, slightly swollen and subrugose with larger punctures near side. *Scutellum* distinctly longer than broad, scutiform. *Elytron* not quite twice as long as broad, subevenly convex at side but humeral angle slightly projecting outward; disc subevenly convex, with irregular groups of punctures over most of surface, the groups in part tending to be oblique and gener-

ally separated from other groups by flattish callosities which are paler than punctures and depressions and bears sparse minute punctures. *Ventral surfaces* largely smooth, with minute or indistinct punctures; a broad groove with rugose bottom on metepisternum; posterolateral portion of metasternum swollen and slightly striate. *Legs* fairly stout and short, distinctly punctured; hind tarsal segment 1 nearly as long as 2 plus 3; 3 much larger than 2 and shorter than last. Length 14.2 mm.; breadth 10.7 mm.

Paratypes: Length 13-14 mm.; breadth 10.2-11.5 mm.

Holotype ♀ (BISHOP 3589), Port Moresby, Papua, 25.4.1959, C. D. Michener; paratypes (D.A.S.F., A.N.I.C., BISHOP), Lawes Road Hill, Port Moresby, 20.11.1951, at lights, Mrs. E. Anderson (H/1036, 1037), and Mageri, Papua, 6.1952, J. Barrett (H/361).

Differs from *variolosa* Marshan in having more distinct punctules between punctures on pronotal disc and larger (subconfluent) sub-lateral punctures in part reaching lateral margin; elytron more weakly and sparsely punctured, with punctures arranged somewhat in irregular lines in different directions; elytral apices with distinct dull punctures instead of irregular convexities divided by depressed lines, wrinkles and cavities not resembling punctures. Also in the new species the central portion of elytron is more completely punctured.

Genus *Kurumeld* Gressitt, n. gen.

Vertex concave medially, antennal insertions distinct, adjacent to eye; last maxillary palpal segment broad and concave apically; antennae more than half as long as body, distinctly flattened beyond basal portion; pronotum much broader than long, deeply and evenly emarginate anteriorly; elytron strongly convex, with fairly distinct subregular puncture-rows; prosternum convex anteriorly, fairly broad between coxae, broadened posteriorly; anterior coxal cavity slightly open posteriorly; mesosternum broad, emarginate posteriorly; metasternum produced somewhat forward between middle coxae, slightly produced over inner ends of hind coxae, obtusely emarginate at middle of posterior margin; elytral epipleuron quite broad, continuing almost to sutural angle; tarsal claws strongly bifid.

Type species: *Kurumeld citri* Gressitt, n. sp., here designated.

Differs from *Phyllochavis* in having tarsal claws bifid instead of appendiculate, and from *Stethomela* in having prothorax moderately narrowed anteriorly, and parallel-sided in approximately basal two-fifths. Differs from *Augomela* in having pronotum much shorter in middle than at side and prosternum shallowly emarginate apically. The new generic name is constructed from "Kuru", an endemic disease centered at the type locality of the type species, plus "mela" of *Chrysomela*, said to mean sheep, presumably from the phytophagous habit.

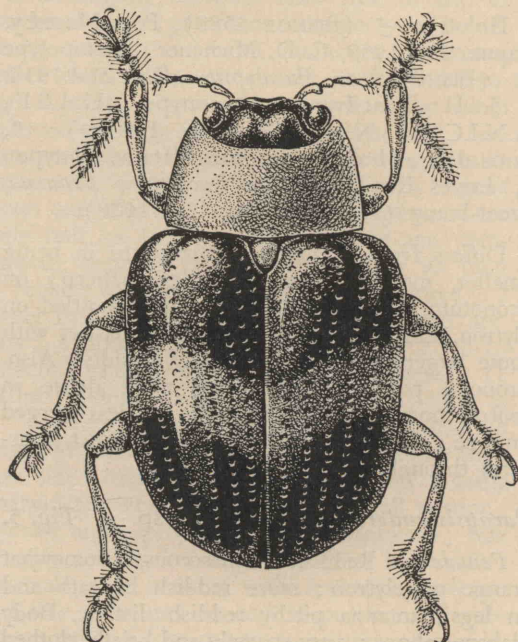


Figure 6.—*Kurumeld citri* n. gen. n. sp.

Kurumeld citri Gressitt, n. sp.

Fig. 6.

Male: Yellowish testaceous to bluish black: head largely greenish black with purplish reflections, slightly brownish on labrum and paler on borders of labrum and most of undersides; antennae purplish black, partly testaceous basally; pronotum yellowish testaceous; scutellum pitchy reddish; elytron purplish to greenish black with central one-third yellowish testaceous; ventral surfaces largely blackish, but mostly testaceous on prosternum, mesosternal process, part of median portion of metasternum and middle of central portion of abdominal segment 1; coxae largely pale; legs largely blackish. Body glabrous above, moderately hairy on anterior portion

of head, antennae, and last abdominal sternite ; legs with very sparse short hairs except on tarsi and apical portions of tibiae ; most of ventral surfaces with very sparse hairs, becoming more numerous towards posterior portion of abdomen.

Head short, concave medially on vertex, with an oblique groove extending towards antennal insertion from anterior end of median groove ; frontoclypeus very short, transversely convex between anterior portions of antennal insertions ; labrum fairly broad, slightly concave anteriorly ; occiput impunctate posteriorly ; anterior portion of head moderately punctured ; gena very short ; last maxillary palpal segment nearly as broad as long. *Antennae* just over half as long as body ; segment 1 arched, smooth with a few punctures ; 2 about three-fifths as long as 1, stouter apically ; 3 nearly as long as 1, slightly widened apically ; 4 as long as 3 ; 5 slightly longer ; 5-8 similar, becoming slightly broader and flatter ; 9 and 10 slightly shorter ; 11 longest, quite flat. *Prothorax* just over twice as broad as long, slightly wider at side than at middle, deeply and evenly emarginate anteriorly ; lateral margin weakly arcuate and narrowed anteriorly, fairly straight in basal three-fifths, basal margin moderately convex ; disc subevenly convex, rather weakly and irregularly punctured. *Scutellum* slightly longer than broad, subevenly narrowed apically, impunctate. *Elytron* just over twice as long as broad, widest slightly behind humerus, slightly narrowed post-medially and broadly rounded apically ; epipleuron wide and extending almost to sutural angle ; disc strongly convex, with 10 subregular rows of fairly small punctures, besides sutural row ; post-basal punctures partly as large as interspaces, smaller posteriorly. *Ventral surfaces* in large part sparsely or feebly punctured, more distinctly punctured on abdomen. *Legs* fairly stout ; hind tarsal segment 1 somewhat shorter than 2 plus 3 and not quite as long as last. Length 6.75 mm. ; breadth 4.3 mm.

Female : Antennae slightly shorter ; anterior portion of head, legs and ventral surfaces largely pale. Length 6.7 mm. ; breadth 4.5 mm.

Paratype : Elytron entirely purplish pitchy ; legs largely pitchy black. Length 6.75 mm. ;

Holotype ♂ (BISHOP 3590), Okapa, 1800 m., 64 km. S. of Kainantu, E. Highlands, N.E. New Guinea, 29.9.1959, T. C. Maa ; allotype ♀ (A.N.I.C.), Goroka, E. Highlands, on *Citrus*, 12.10.1957, J. H. Barrett (H/2030 = A56) ; paratype ♂ (D.A.S.F.), same data as allotype.

Differs from species of *Phyllochoris* in being shorter, aside from the structural characters mentioned above.

SUBFAMILY GALERUCINAE.

Oides basalis rubra Blanchard, 1853, Voy. Pole Sud, Zool. 4:342 (New Guinea).

N.E. NEW GUINEA : Aiyura, 1800 m., E. Highlands, on leaves of *Vitis* sp., 21.9.1957 Barrett.

S.E. NEW GUINEA (Papua) : Bamu River, 1952, G. Rio (H/360, KER).

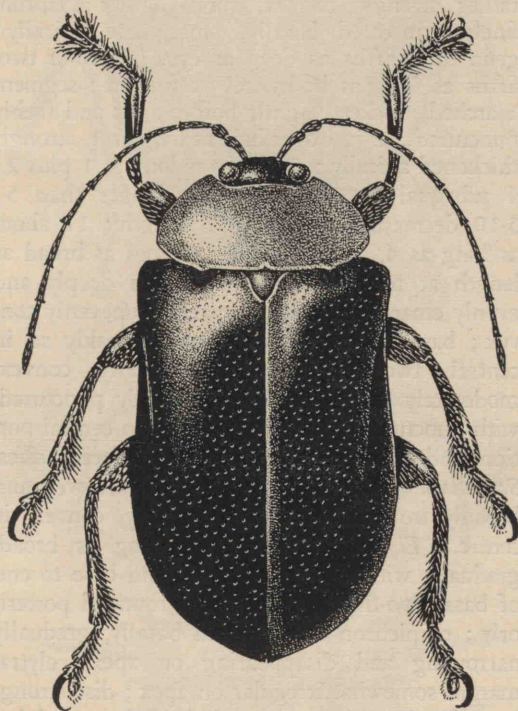


Figure 7.—*Oides vitae* Gressitt n. sp.

Oides vitae Gressitt, n. sp.,

Fig. 7.

Orange testaceous to pitchy and black. Head black above, slightly pitchy reddish on frontoclypeus and labrum ; antennae pitchy black, reddish brown on undersides of segments 1-2 and base of 3. Pronotum orange testaceous, slightly more reddish at side ; scutellum dull reddish ; elytron dark reddish, becoming somewhat pitchy at side ; ventral surfaces pitchy to reddish, paler on mesosternum, almost entirely reddish brown on abdomen ; legs pitchy black ; coxae pitchy

to pale brown; trochanters testaceous. Body glabrous above; ventral surfaces somewhat heavily clothed with pale buff hairs, antennae and legs with more adpressed shorter pale hairs.

Head somewhat narrower than width of emargination of pronotum; occiput rather smooth and convex, with a fovea behind centre and a few punctures on each side, as well as a fovea near upper edge of eye; postantennal tubercles fairly small, followed by a subtransverse groove on central portion between eyes; antennal insertions separated by a space slightly less than diameter of insertion; frontoclypeus rather strongly convex, subtriangular; labrum finely punctured basally, emarginate apically; gena three-fifths as deep as eye. *Antenna* two-fifths as long as body, not very stout; segment 1 arched, thickest slightly before apex and feebly punctured; 2 just over half as long as 1, strongly thickened apically; 3 nearly as long as 1 plus 2; 4 subequal to 3 and slightly longer than 5; 5-10 decreasing gradually in length; 11 about as long as 4. *Prothorax* 2.25 times as broad as length at middle; anterior margin deeply and evenly emarginate; lateral margin subevenly convex; basal margin convex, more weakly so in central two-thirds; disc subevenly convex, moderately and somewhat irregularly punctured, with punctures somewhat stronger on central portion and those on side of two different sizes. *Scutellum* about as broad as long, narrowed and broadly rounded apically, strongly convex in centre. *Elytron* 2.7 times as long as broad, gradually widened from just behind base to end of basal two-thirds, then evenly rounded posteriorly; epipleuron fairly broad basally, gradually narrowing and disappearing on apex; elytral margin somewhat irregular on apex; disc strongly and subevenly convex, slightly depressed behind humerus; surface with rather dense, moderately fine punctures, most punctures nearly as large as interspaces but becoming somewhat finer and sparser posteriorly. *Ventral surfaces* rather closely punctured on thorax except for a glabrous impunctate median strip which broadens posteriorly, slightly less densely punctured on abdomen. *Legs* fairly long; hind femur somewhat elliptical and closely punctured; hind tibia fairly straight; hind coxal segment 1 about as long as 2 plus 3 and not quite as long as last. Length 12.5 mm.; breadth 7.0 mm.

Paratypes: 1 specimen coloured as in holotype; other paler with elytron orange brown, frontoclypeus and labrum partly testaceous and abdomen rather pale reddish. Length 11-12 mm.; breadth 7.0-7.55 mm.

Holotype ♀ (BISHOP 3591), Wau, 1400 m., Morobe Distr., N.E. New Guinea, 17.6.1961, J. Sedlacek; two paratypes (A.N.I.C., D.A.S.F.), Aiyura, 1800 m., E. Highlands, 21.9.1957, J. H. Barrett. Differs from *O. rubra* Blackburn in having elytron more heavily punctured and unicolorous.

Aulacophora rigoensis Jacoby, 1905, Ann. Mus. Civ. Genova 41 : 495 (Papua). Fig. 8.

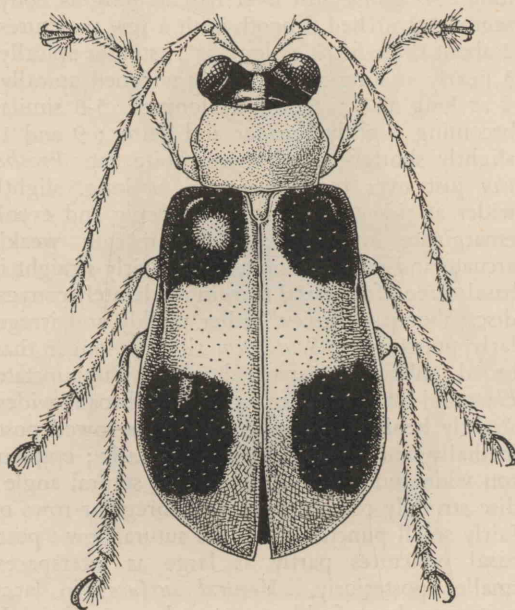


Figure 8.—*A rigoensis*.

S.E. NEW GUINEA (Papua) : Brown River, on eggplant, 31.3.1958, Szent-Ivany (H/2076). Cocolands Block, nr. Otomata, Abau Subdistr., on pumpkin, 12.3.1958, W. E. Casey (H/1051).

Aulacophora similis (Olivier), 1808, Entomologie 6 : 624 (Sunda Is.).

N.E. NEW GUINEA : Wewak, on pumpkin, 13.10.1957, Szent-Ivany (H/1424) : Tanbada, Sepik Distr., on castor bean (*Ricinus communis*), 11.10.1957, Szent-Ivany (H/424-26); Baiyer River, 1350 m., W. Highlands, feeding on pumpkin leaves, 1.8.1957, Barrett (H/1089-91, = A12-14).

S.E. NEW GUINEA (Papua) : Tapini, 950 m., Goilala Subdistr., on *Cucurbita pepo*, 19.8.1963, Szent-Ivany (H/2164-65); Givena Vill. Garden, 1350 m., Goilala, on *Cucurbita pepo*, J. Pendergast (H/2160-66); Laloki, C. Distr., 24.4.1959, Szent-Ivany (H/992); Cocolands Block, nr. Otomata, Abau Subdistr., on pumpkin, 12.3.1958, W. E. Casey (H/1053).

Prasyptera antennata Jacoby, 1886, Ann. Mus. Civ. Genova 24 : 78 (New Guinea).

S.E. NEW GUINEA (Papua): Cocolands Block, nr. Otomata, Abau Subdistr., on pumpkin, 12.3.1958, W. E. Casey (H/1052).

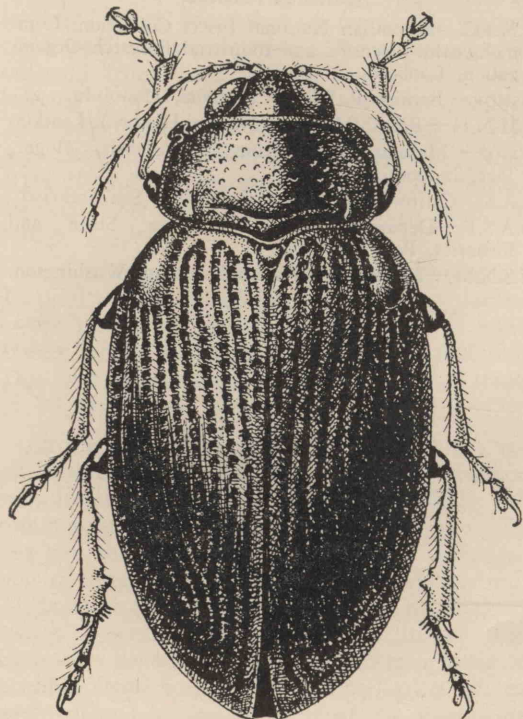


Figure 9.

SUBFAMILY ALTICINAE.

Arsipoda tenimberensis (Jacoby), 1894, Novit. Zool. 1:297 (*Chaetocnema*; Tenimber, Indonesia) Fig. 9.

N.E. NEW GUINEA : Aiyura, 1500 m, E. Highlands, feeding on leaves of *Ipomoea batatas*, 19.6.1958, J. H. Barrett (H/2036, 2037).

Podagrica obliterata (Jacoby), 1885, Ann. Mus. Civ. Genova 22 : 35 (*Nisotra*; New Guinea) Fig. 10.

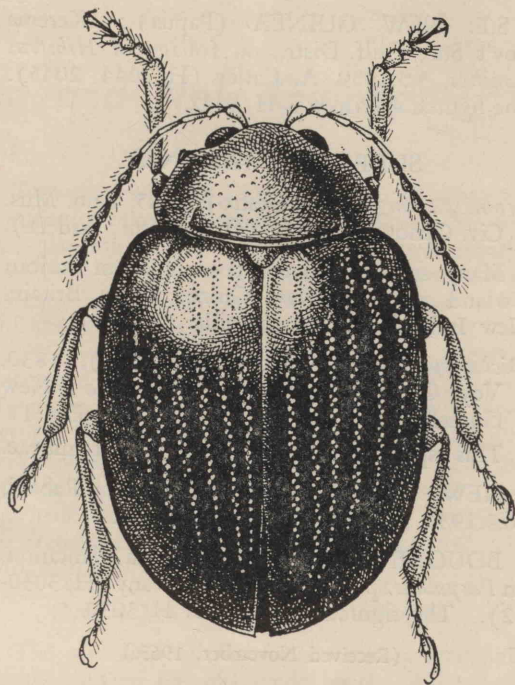


Figure 10.

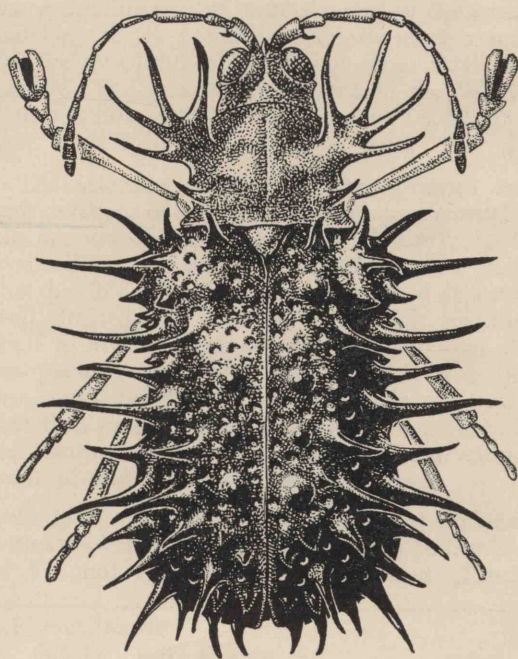


Figure 11.—*fabricii*.

S.E. NEW GUINEA (Papua) : Kerema Gov't Sta., Gulf Distr., on foliage of *Hibiscus manihot*, 5.5.1959, A. Catley (H/2044, 2045). The figured specimen is H/3042.

SUBFAMILY HISPINAE.

Brontispa longissima (Gestro), 1885, Ann. Mus. Civ. Genova 22 : 162 (*Oxycephala*; Aru Is.).

Many specimens from coconut from various lowland areas of New Guinea, New Britain, New Ireland and Bougainville.

Dicladispa fabricii (Guérin-Ménéville), 1830, Voy. Coquille, Zool. 2 : 140 (*Hispia*; New Guinea). Fig. 11.

This species is a leaf-miner in Gramineae.

NEW BRITAIN : Keravat, nr. Rabaul, 16.5.1952, G. Dun (H/341, KER).

BOUGAINVILLE : Numa Numa Plantation, on *Paspalum* sp., 3.6.1956, Szent-Ivany (H/3030-32). The figured specimen is H/3030.

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ABBREVIATIONS.

- A.N.I.C.—Australian National Insect Collection, Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization, Canberra.
- BISHOP.—Bernice P. Bishop Museum, Honolulu.
- B.M.N.H.—British Museum (Natural History), London.
- BOGOR.—Museum Zoologicum Bogoriensis, Bogor, Java, Indonesia.
- C.A.S.—California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco.
- D.A.S.F.—Department of Agriculture, Stock and Fisheries, Port Moresby.
- U.S.N.M.—United States National Museum, Washington.