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A NEW SPECIES OF *CORIACEPHILUS* SCHEDL FROM BRUNEI DARUSSALAM (COLEOPTERA: CURCULIONIDAE: SCOLYTINAE)

Beaver, R. A.
161/2 Mu 5, Soi Wat Pranon, T. Donkaew, A. Maerim,
Chiangmai 50180, Thailand

ABSTRACT

A new species of *Coriacephilus*, *C. exiguus* is described from Brunei Darussalam. *C. coriacephilus* (Eichhoff) is recorded from Thailand for the first time since its description in 1878.

ABSTRAK

Spesies baru *Coriacephilus*, *C. exiguous* diperihal dari Brunei Darussalam. *C. coriacephilus* (Eichhoff) direkodkan dari Thailand buat pertama kalinya semenjak ianya diperihalkan pada tahun 1878.

INTRODUCTION

Coriacephilus Schedl (1939) is a small and rarely collected genus in the tribe Cryphalini of the weevil subfamily Scolytinae. It includes only four species, all from the Oriental region (Wood 1986, Wood & Bright 1992). The type species, *Stephanoderes coriaceus* Eichhoff (1878), was described from 'Asia (Siam)'.

Within the Cryphalini, the genus is characterised by the following combination of characters: 1) the antenna has a five-segmented funicle (as shown by Schedl (1939, Fig. 4), and not four-segmented as stated by Wood (1986)), and a club with procurved sutures in which the first suture has an angular septum; 2) the eye is emarginate; 3) the pronotum has a fine raised line on the basal but not the lateral margin; 4) the elytral vestiture is restricted to single rows of setae on the striae and interstriae. The general appearance is of a small species of the tribe Xyloctonini, but examination of recently collected specimens shows that the locking mechanism of the elytra is of the Cryphaline type (see Wood (1986) for figures). Besides the type species, the genus includes *Coriacephilus xyloctonoides* Schedl (1939), described from West Malaysia, *Coriacephylus* [sic] *cribripennis* Schedl (1943) from the Philippine Islands (Mindanao), and *Cryphalus proximus* Eggers (1925) from southern India (Karnataka).

The latter species was transferred to *Coriacephilus* (again misspelt as *Coriacephylus)* by Schedl (1950). These three species are known only from the type collections. Schedl (1940) synonymised *Cryphalus birmanus* Eggers (1925), described from Myanmar, with *C.coriaceus*, so this species is known from two collections. Details of the biology of the genus are unknown. The only host record is for *C.xyloctonoides*, collected by F.G. Browne from the bark of *Knema* sp. (Myristicaceae) (Browne 1961). Beeson (1961), and Wood and Bright (1992), give the host as *Knema furfuracea*, but whilst this host species is quite likely, neither the original description nor Browne (1961), identify the host to species.

Here, I describe a new species of *Coriacephilus* from Brunei Darussalam, and give the first new record of *C.coriaceus* from Thailand since the original description.

TAXONOMY
Description of new species
Coriacephilus exiguus Beaver, new species
(Figs. 1 - 2)

The smallest species in the genus, 1.15 – 1.2 mm long, 2.1 – 2.2 times as long as wide, testaceous, base of pronotum paler, yellowish, elytra yellowish-brown, legs and venter pale yellowish. Frons weakly convex, semi-matt, finely, quite densely granulate-punctate on the lower half, the granules becoming obsolete towards the vertex, the punctures with short hairs. Antennae typical of the genus (Fig.2). Pronotum 1.1 – 1.2 times wider than long, the basal angles a little more than right angles, the sides curved, widest one-third from base, then broadly rounded, the anterior margin slightly projecting, with 8 – 10 minute, closely placed teeth; anterior slope with a broad area bearing numerous, small, separated, transverse asperities which are barely raised above the surface of the pronotum, arranged somewhat concentrically, more closely placed near the summit, a short, fine hair arising behind each asperity, and from punctures between the asperities; summit slightly behind middle, basal area semi-matt, weakly transversely impressed, densely granulate-punctate with fine, short, semi-appressed hairs. Scutellum large, triangular, impunctate, slightly raised above the level of the elytra. Elytra 1.2 – 1.3 times as long as wide, equal in width to the pronotum or very slightly wider, 1.4 – 1.5 times as long as pronotum, weakly shining, regularly striate-punctate, the sides almost parallel in the basal third then slightly incurved, the apex slightly angularly rounded, declivity beginning at about the middle, obliquely convex; striae a little wider than interstriae, not impressed, striae 1 and 2 diverging outwards at base on either side of scutellum, interstriae slightly rough on disc, minutely granulate on declivity, both striae and interstriae with close, regularly placed, fine punctures, a little more widely spaced on the interstriae; strial punctures with fine, appressed hairs, each hair a little longer than the distance between punctures, interstrial setae in a single row without ground vestiture, erect, about twice as long as strial hairs, hairlike at base, becoming spatulate on declivity. Abdomen with

ventrites 1 – 2 fused, ventrites 3 – 5 rising slightly to meet elytra. Fore tibia moderately expanded apically, its outer margin with about eight socketed teeth, the anterior face with a tarsal groove extending two-thirds of its length, the posterior face convex. Mid- and hind-tibiae flattened, more strongly expanded in apical half, the posterior side with a glabrous area extending three-quarters of its length, onto which the tarsus can be retracted behind a row of long setae arising near the inner margin. Third tarsal segment narrow, laterally compressed. No external sexual differences were observed.

The specific name refers to the small size of the species.

HOLOTYPE: BRUNEI: KBSFC, 4º 32'.8 N 115º 09'.4 E, Flight intercept-canopy, 17 Aug 1985, GU-23446 (R.L.Kitching, H.Mitchell). In the Queensland Museum, Brisbane (registration no. 99165).

PARATYPES (8): As holotype, except: 6 Aug 1985 (GU-23482), 20 Aug 1985 (GU-23480) (in the Queensland Museum, Brisbane, registration nos. 99166, 99167), and 19 Aug 1985 (GU-23448), (in R.A.Beaver's collection). BRUNEI: E115.7º, N4.34º, Kuala Belalong FSC, Dipterocarp forest, Ground FIT, 260m alt, 16.vi.91, NM 214, BM (NH) 1991-173 (N.Mawdsley); as previous except: 260m alt, 4.vii.91, NM 291; Aerial Malaise, 260m alt, 8.vi.91, NM 184; Aerial FIT, 220m alt, 16.vii.91, NM 287 (in the Natural History Museum, London); Ground FIT, 270m alt., 16.vi.91, NM 187 (in R.A.Beaver's collection).

Remarks. The species can be distinguished from other species of *Coriacephilus* by its smaller size (1.15 – 1.2 mm *vs* 2.0 mm (*C.proximus*), 1.7 – 1.8 mm (*C.coriaceus*), 1.5 mm (*C.xyloctonoides*), 1.4 mm (*C.cribripennis)*, and by the larger number (10 – 12 *vs* 4 – 6) and closer spacing of the teeth on the anterior margin of the pronotum. It is distinguished from *C.coriaceus* and *C.xyloctonoides* by the weaker, less strongly raised asperities on the anterior slope of the pronotum. In addition, in *C.coriaceus*, the elytra are 1.6 – 1.7 times as long as the pronotum, the interstriae are wider, and the striae impressed,

the interstrial setae are relatively shorter, flattened, and parallel-sided on both disc and declivity. According to Schedl (1943), *C.cribripennis* is distinguished by its coarse strial punctures, and very narrow interstriae.

New Record

Coriacephilus coriaceus (Eichhoff), THAILAND: Trang, Khao Chong Nature Educ. Centre, 7º 35'N, 99º 46'E, Lowland Trop. Rain Forest, 21-24.vii.1996 (R.A.Beaver). Five specimens were collected from below bark of an undetermined fallen tree, 20 cm in diameter. The species had bred there, because two teneral adults were present. This is the first record from Thailand since the original description of the species in 1878, and the first to be localised within the country.

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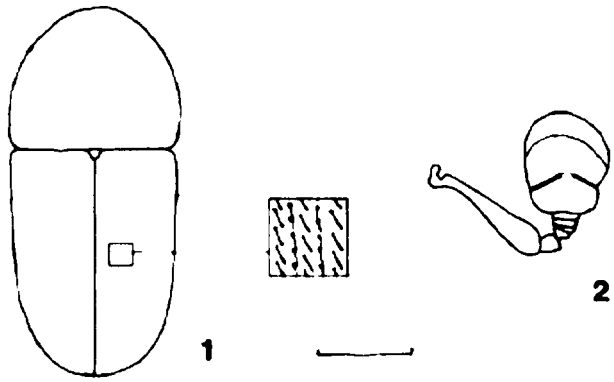

Figs. 1 – 2. *Coriacephilus exiguus*. 1, dorsal view, with part of right elytron enlarged to show vestiture; 2, antenna, posterior view (setae omitted). Scale line = 0.3 mm (Fig. 1); 0.1 mm (Fig. 2).