Three new species of Microdytes Balfour-Browne from Laos and Borneo (Coleoptera: Dytiscidae)

G. Wewalka & L.-J. Wang

Abstract

Three new species of Microdytes Balfour-Browne (Coleoptera: Dytiscidae) are described: M. franz sp.n. [Laos], M. holzmanni sp.n. [Laos] and M. mazzoldii sp.n. [Borneo].

Key words: Coleoptera, Dytiscidae, Hyphydrini, Microdytes, new species, taxonomy.

Introduction

The genus Microdytes Balfour-Browne (Coleoptera: Dytiscidae) was recently revised by Wewalka (1997) who recorded 30 species. The junior author discovered two new species of Microdytes in the collection of the Bishop Museum, Hawaii. Specimens of one of the new species which are described below were also collected by Katsumi Akita, Hisai City, Japan. The third species was collected by Paolo Mazzoldi, Brescia, Italy.

Material

The study material consists of about 45 specimens which are deposited in the following institutions and private collections.

BMH Bishop Museum, Honolulu, Hawaii, USA
CAH Coll. Akita, Hisai City, Japan
CBB Coll. Balke, Berlin, Germany
CBP Coll. Bilton, Plymouth, UK
CHB Coll. Hendrich, Berlin, Germany
CMB Coll. Mazzoldi, Brescia, Italy
CNU Coll. Nilsson, Umeå, Sweden
CSN Coll. M. Satô, Nagoya, Japan
CWT Coll. Wang, Taipei, Taiwan
CWW Coll. Wewalka, Vienna, Austria
FMNH Finnish Museum of Natural History, Helsingfors
NMW Naturhistorisches Museum, Vienna, Austria
NSMT National Science Museum, Tokyo, Japan

Microdytes franz sp.n.

Type locality: Laos, Prov. Vientiane, Phou Khao Khouay.

DIAGNOSIS: According to the key published by WeWALKA (1997) M. franzi resembles M. zetteli but can be distinguished by the smaller size, the stronger punctures of the elytra and the male genitalia. Microdytes franzi is also closely related to M. akitai WeWALKA but this species has a testaceous pronotum.

DESCRIPTION: Habitus (fig. 1): body regularly oval, moderately convex.
Length of body: 1.4 - 1.6 mm, width: 1.0 - 1.1 mm.

Head: dark-ferrugineous; clypeus not bordered; moderately strongly and very sparsely and irregularly punctured, more strongly on the vertex, a row of coarser punctures alongside the eyes; anterior half finely microreticulate. Antennae flavo-testaceous, moderately long and slender (similar to that of M. akitai or M. zetteli).

Pronotum: dark-ferrugineous, indistinctly rufo-testaceous along the lateral margins; lateral margin finely bordered, lateral sides regularly rounded; punctures moderately irregular, moderately strong and sparse, coarsely punctured along the posterior margin; without microreticulation.

Elytra: ferrugineous, at the base with a distinct testaceous transverse band which is waved posteriorly, not reaching the suture, dilated at the shoulder and continuing along the lateral margin almost to the apex forming a triangular spot, with a small post-median comma-shaped testaceous band and an oblong-oval post-median testaceous spot near the suture (fig. 1); punctures fairly fine and regular, moderately dense, more fine and sparse towards the lateral sides; a longitudinal row of rudimental punctures; highly polished and shining; without microreticulation.

Ventral side: head testaceous, epipleura and the rest of the ventral side ferrugineous; punctures on metacoxae fine to moderately strong but very sparse and irregular, metasternum and abdomen almost without punctures; without microreticulation.

Legs testaceous.

Male: penis (fig. 2); parameres (fig. 3); without secondary sexual characters.

Female: spermatheca (fig. 4).

ETYMOLOGY: This species is dedicated to Prof. DI DDr. h.c. H. Franz, Mödling.

BIOLOGY: This species was collected in a small pit hole at a dried up mountain stream together with specimens of M. akitai.

DISTRIBUTION: Laos.

*Microdytes holzmanni* sp.n.

Type locality: Laos, Prov. Vientiane, Ban Van Heue, E of Phou Khao Khouay.

Holotype ♯ (BMH): "Laos: Ban Van Heue / 20 km E of Phou-kow- / kuei [Phou Khao Khouay], 1.-15. V.1965 / J.A. Rondon Collection / BISHOP Mus.", Paratypes: 1 ♯, 1 ♀, with same data as the holotype (BMH, CWW).

DIAGNOSIS: M. holzmanni resembles M. akitai and M. shunichi SATO in the habitus, the size, the elytral markings and the punctures on the dorsal surface. The key given in the revision of Microdytes (WeWALKA 1997) leads to these species. M. holzmanni can be separated from both species by the very fine punctures on the abdomen and the male genitalia. From M. akitai M. holzmanni can also be distinguished by the darker ventral side including the epipleura. M. holzmanni is also closely related to M. zetteli and M. franzi sp.n. but these species have the pronotum ferrugineous.

DESCRIPTION: Habitus (fig. 5): body regularly oval, moderately convex.

Length of body: 1.6 - 1.7 mm, width: 1.1 - 1.2 mm.
Head: dark rufo-testaceous to ferrugineous; clypeus not bordered; very finely and very sparsely
and irregularly punctured, a row of coarser punctures alongside the eyes; anterior half finely
microreticulate. Antennae flavo-testaceous, moderately long and slender (similar to that of M.
akitai or M. zetteli).

Pronotum: rufo-testaceous, indistinctly ferrugineous along the posterior and the anterior margins;
lateral margin very finely bordered, lateral sides regularly rounded; punctures moderately
irregular, very fine and sparse, coarsely punctured along the posterior and the anterior margin;
without microreticulation.

Elytra: ferrugineous, at the base with a more or less distinct testaceous transverse band, not
reaching the suture, dilated at the shoulder and continuing along the lateral margin almost to the
apex forming a triangular spot, with a small post-median testaceous band and a oblong-oval post-
median testaceous spot near the suture (fig. 5); punctures fine, regular and sparse, more fine and
sparse towards the lateral sides; two longitudinal rows of punctures fairly distinct; highly polished
and shining; without microreticulation.

Ventral side: head and prothorax testaceous, epipleura and the rest of the ventral side
ferrugineous; punctures on the metasternum and the metacoxae very fine and sparse and
irregular; puctures on the abdomen present but very fine and sparse; without microreticulation.

Legs testaceous.

Male: penis (fig. 6); parameres (fig. 7); without secondary sexual characters.

Female: sclerotized spermatheca not found.

ETYMOLOGY: The species is dedicated to our friends Chantale and Prof. Dr. Robert
Holzmann, Washington D.C.

BIOLOGY: unknown.

DISTRIBUTION: Laos.

**Microdytes mazzoldii** sp.n.

Type locality: Indonesia, Borneo, E Kalimantan, Apokayan, Sungai Barang.

**Holotype δ (NMW):** "Indonesia, E Kalimantan / Apokayan, Sungai Barang / Lalut Boq, 870 m, 3.1.1998 / leg. P.
Mazzoldi"; **Paratypes:** 2 δ δ, 2 φ φ, with same data as the holotype (CMB, CWI); 2 φ φ, Indonesia, E Kalimantan,

DIAGNOSIS: M. mazzoldii resembles M. pasiricus (CSIKI) and M. menopausis WEWALKA in the
habitus and the punctures on the ventral side but is distinguishable by the smaller size, the
concoloured ferrugineous elytra and the male genitalia.

DESCRIPTION: Habitus (fig. 8): body oblong-oval, slightly rhomboid, dilated at the shoulders,
strongly convex.

Length of body: 1.3 - 1.4 mm, width: 0.8 - 1.0 mm.

Head: rufo-testaceous; clypeus not bordered; finely, moderately sparsely and regularly punctured,
a row of coarser punctures alongside the eyes; anterior half finely microreticulate. Antennae (fig.
9) flavo-testaceous, rather short and plump, similar to those of M. pasiricus.

Pronotum: rufo-testaceous, indistinctly ferrugineous along the posterior margin; lateral margin
finely bordered, regularly rounded; punctures quite coarse, moderately sparse and irregular, some
coarser punctures along the posterior margin; without microreticulation.

Elytra: entirely ferrugineous (fig. 8); punctures regular, moderately strong and moderately dense;
two longitudinal rows of stronger punctures, particularly the inner one quite distinct and
impressed at the base; highly polished and shining; without microreticulation.
Figs. 1 - 4: *Microdytes franzi* sp.n.; 1) body outline and colour pattern, (a) holotype, (b) paratype; 2) penis, holotype, (a) dorsal view, (b) lateral view; 3) left paramere, holotype; 4) spermatheca.

Figs. 5 - 7: *Microdytes holzmanni* sp.n.; 5) body outline and colour pattern, (a) holotype, (b) paratype; 6) penis, holotype, (a) dorsal view, (b) lateral view; 7) left paramere, holotype.

Figs. 8 - 11: *Microdytes mazzoldii* sp.n.; 8) body outline and colour pattern, holotype; 9) left antenna; 10) penis, holotype, (a) dorsal view, (b) lateral view; 11) left paramere, holotype.
Ventral side: epipleura, head and prothorax rufo-testaceous, rest of the ventral side ferrugineous; metacoxae and metasternum regularly, sparsely and moderately coarsely punctured, first two sternites sparsely and finely punctured, rest of the abdomen almost without punctures; without microreticulation.

Legs testaceous.

Male: penis (fig. 10); paramere (fig. 11); without secondary sexual characters.

Female: sclerotized spermatheca not found.

ETYMOLOGY: This species is dedicated to Mr. Paolo Mazzoldi, Brescia.

BIOLOGY: The specimens were collected in very small spring-fed pools.

DISTRIBUTION: Indonesia, Borneo.

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Zusammenfassung

Die Gattung Microdytes Balfour-Browne, die erst kürzlich ausführlich bearbeitet worden war (Wewalka 1997), umfaßte bisher 30 Arten. Hier werden zwei Arten aus Laos (M. franca sp.n. and M. holzmanni sp.n.) und eine Art aus Borneo (M. mazzoldii sp.n.) neu beschrieben.

Reference


Dr. Günther Wewalka
Starkfriedgasse 16, A - 1190 Wien, Austria

Liang-Jong Wang
Department of Plant Pathology & Entomology, National Taiwan University, Taipei, Taiwan 10764, Republic of China