

Revision of the genus *Labaninus* MORIMOTO of the world

Part I: the *L. confluens* KWON & LEE group

with descriptions of six new taxa

(Coleoptera: Curculionidae)

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Abstract

A key to the species of the genus *Labaninus* MORIMOTO of the world (Part I) with descriptions of six new taxa and review of one known species is presented. The following new taxa are described: *L. basofasciatus* sp.n., *L. beverlyae* sp.n., *L. bicolor* sp.n., *L. meregallii* sp.n. *L. reticulopunctatus* sp.n., and *L. sexmaculata* sp.n. The known taxon in this group is presented with a short review: *L. confluens* KWON & LEE. The characteristics that define the *L. confluens* group are the following: metafemur does not exceed apex of the elytra and the rostrum gradually emerges from the frons.

Key words: Coleoptera, Curculionidae, *Labaninus confluens* group, key, new species, world.

Introduction

The genus *Labaninus* MORIMOTO, 1981 was proposed by combining *Curculio fukienensis* (VOSS), *Curculio kimotoi* (MORIMOTO) and *Carponinus plicatulus* (HELLER), type species of the genus, based on the definition of the genus proposed by MORIMOTO (1981).

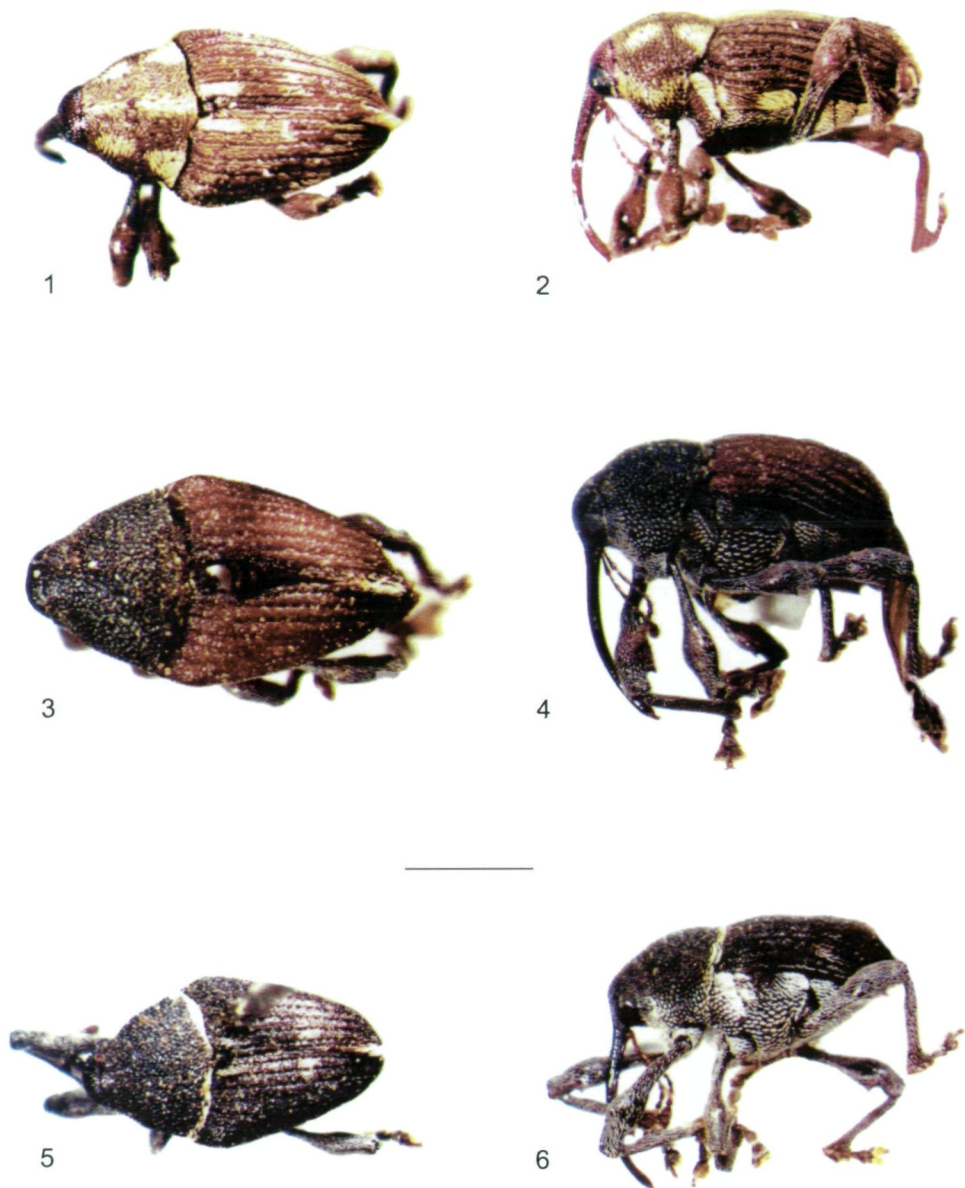
The type species of the genus, *C. plicatulus*, did not have the typical *Carponinus* notch above the metepisternum even though the basal margin of the elytra was sinuate, thus indicating the necessity of further study resulting in the proposal of the genus *Labaninus*. The only new species known to date is *Labaninus confluens* KWON & LEE (1990).

Material and Methods

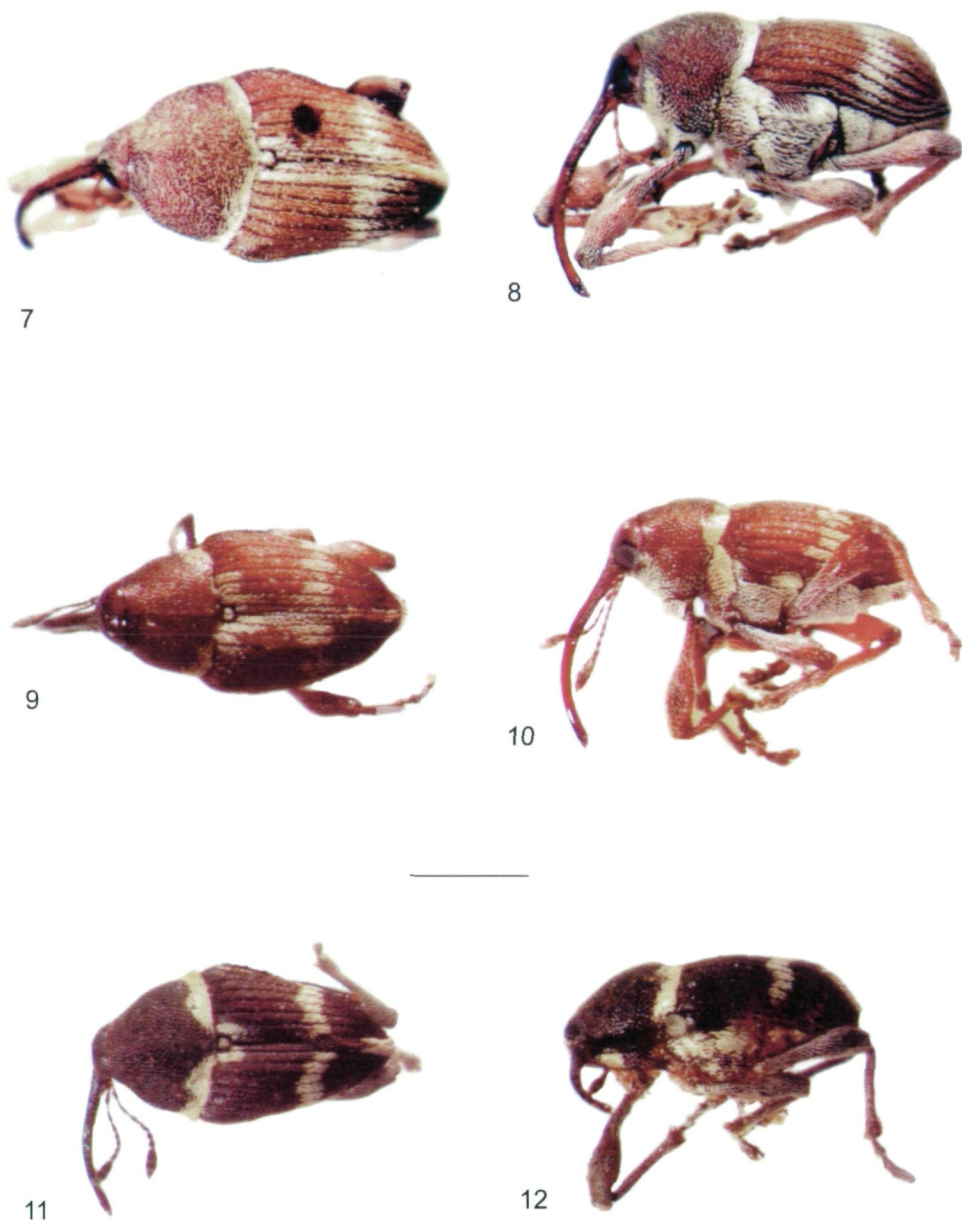
In reviewing collections from the following institutions new taxa and new combinations have been discovered belonging to the genus *Labaninus*: Bernice P. Bishop Museum, Honolulu (BPBM); Charles W. O'Brien Collection, Tallahassee; Institute of Zoology, Academia Sinica, Beijing; Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris; The Natural History Museum, London; Russian Academy of Sciences, St. Petersburg; and United States National Museum of Natural History, Washington, D.C. Part I treats the *L. confluens* group. Members of this group were discovered in the collections of the Bernice P. Bishop Museum (Dr. A. Samuelson) and the Chinese Academy of Sciences, Institute of Zoology (Dr. R. Zhang).

BPBM
CASB
FWPC

Bernice P. Bishop Museum, Honolulu, Hawaii
Chinese Academy of Sciences, Zoological Institute, Beijing
Frank W. Pelsue collection



Figs. 1 - 6: Photographs of the dorsal and lateral habitus of 1) *Labaninus sexmaculata* sp.n., dorsal, holotype; 2) *L. sexmaculata* sp.n., lateral, holotype; 3) *L. bicolor* sp.n., dorsal, holotype; 4) *L. bicolor* sp.n., lateral, holotype; 5) *L. basofasciatus* sp.n., dorsal, holotype; 6) *L. basofasciatus* sp.n., lateral, holotype. Scale = 1.0 mm.



Figs. 7 - 12: Photographs of the dorsal and lateral habitus of 7) *Labaninus confluens*, dorsal, China; 8) *L. confluens*, lateral, China; 9) *L. beverlyae* sp.n., dorsal, holotype; 10) *L. beverlyae* sp.n., lateral, holotype; 11) *L. reticulopunctatus* sp.n., dorsal, holotype; *L. reticulopunctatus* sp.n., lateral, holotype. Scale = 1.0 mm.

Type specimens are deposited in the following institutions: Bernice P. Bishop Museum (BPBM) (Dr. Al Samuelson), Chinese Academy of Sciences, Institute of Zoology (CASB) (Dr. Runzhi Zhang), and Frank W. Pelsue Collection (FWPC).

Unless stated otherwise in the description the following characters are considered shared by all taxa: all scales are decumbent; gena glabrous; eyes rounded with fine facets; rostrum subcylindrical, antennal club oval acuminate, clothed with fine pile and few erect seta-like scales, segment 1 longer than funicular segment 7; antennal funicular segments glabrous with suberect seta-like scales toward apex; elytra with basal and scutellar declivity, pleuron compressed laterally in frontal view; abdominal sternite 1 longer than 2; base of profemur bent; elytral margin sinuate above metepisternum, slightly impressed.

Measurements were made using an ocular micrometer and in the key indicate body length as measured from anterior margin of eye to apex of elytra. Photographs were made using a Canon D30 digital camera mounted on a Zeiss stereoscopic binocular microscope. Photographs were edited using AcrSoft photo Studio 2000. Plant associations unknown unless stated otherwise.

***Labaninus* MORIMOTO, 1981**

This genus is closely allied with *Shigizo* MORIMOTO, 1981 based on the subrhomboid body shape, an emarginate anterobasal margin of the pronotum, hook-like process on male inner margin of the metatibia, profemur bent in basal third, sinuate basal margin of elytra over metacoxae noticeably impressed, metepisternum subrectangular, and in some species the suture between sternites 1 and 2 not evident medially.

In some species the profemur may not be noticeably bent basely, and suture between sternites 1 and 2 complete.

***Labaninus confluens* species group**

The *Labaninus confluens* species group is characterized as follows: Metafemur reaching apex of elytra; rostrum gradually emerging from frons (Fig. 2).

Key to species of the *Labaninus confluens* species group

- 1 Dorsal pronotum with six macula; metafemoral tooth medium; elytra with short vittae flanking scutellum of white scales (Fig. 1). Male 3.5 mm..... ***sexmaculata* sp.n.**
- Dorsal pronotum without six macula 2
- 2 Rostrum, pronotum, legs, sternum piceous, elytra fuscurofous (Fig. 3). Male 3.5 mm..... ***bicolor* sp.n.**
- Rostrum, pronotum, legs, sternum and elytral not as above 3
- 3 Scutellum dark scaled; elytral interval 2 with short white vittae flanking scutellum; metasternum with discrete, clavate, white scales (Fig. 3). Male 3.7 mm..... ***basofasciatus* sp.n.**
- Scutellum white scaled, scaling may be minute, but visible with higher magnification. No short white vittae flanking scutellum 4
- 4 Mesosternal intercoxal process visible in lateral view..... 5
- Mesosternal intercoxal process not visible in lateral view..... 6

- 5 Sternites 1-4 with median carina; small-size less than 3 mm (Fig. 8). Male 2.8 mm. *beverlyae* sp.n.
- Sternites 1-4 without median carina; larger-size more than 3 mm; with short vittae on intervals 1-2 at base of elytra flanking scutellum (Figs. 9-10). Male 3.4 - 4.5 mm..... *confluens*
- 6 Basal macular fascia on pronotum reaching interval 2 of elytra; scutellum flanked by short cretaceous vittae on intervals 1-2 (Fig. 11). Male 3.7 mm..... *reticulopunctatus* sp.n.
- Pronotum without basal macular fascia; scutellum with minute white scales; color evenly piceous with scattered white scales (Fig. 13). Male 5.0 mm *mergallii* sp.n.

***Labaninus sexmaculata* sp.n.**

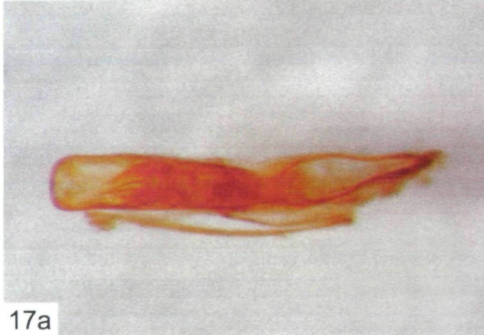
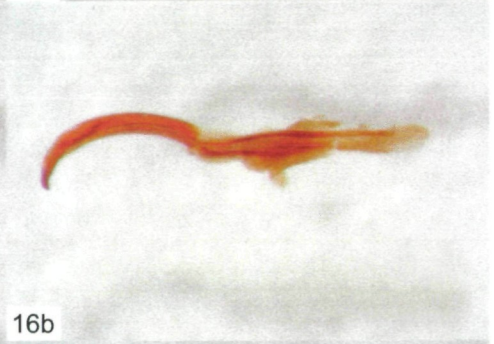
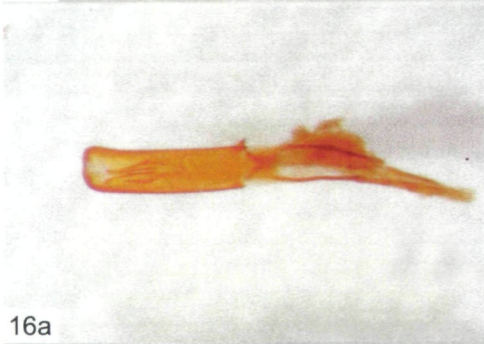
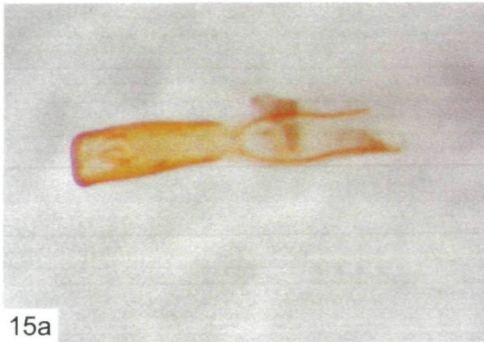
TYPE LOCALITY: Tenompok, N. Borneo [= Sabah], Malaysia.

TYPE MATERIAL: **Holotype** ♂ (BPBM): "British N. Borneo [= Sabah, Malaysia]/Tenompok/13 February 1959/leg. Maa". **Paratype** 1 ♀: "British N. Borneo [= Sabah, Malaysia]/Tenompok/460m/Jesseltown/7 mi. E/26-31 January 1959/leg. Maa".

DESCRIPTION: Length: 3.5 mm. Width: 1.8 mm. Head with small discrete punctures, glabrous; frons 0.16 times as broad as head across eyes. Rostrum 1.9 mm long; 0.54 times as long as body; derm fuscous; broad at base, becoming cylindrical to apex; continuous with frons; elongate groove-like punctures from frons to insertion of scape, lateral carinae above scrobe; evenly deflected; scrobe ventral; scape inserted in basal half. Antenna: scape 0.75 mm; funicle 0.95 mm; club 0.4 mm; scape 0.79 as long as funicle; funicular segment 1 longer than 2, segment 3 longer than 4, segments 5-7 same length; club not as long as funicular segments 4-7; segment 7 not as long as segment 1 of club. Thorax 1.3 mm long, 1.6 mm long; 0.81 times as long as broad; slightly rounded from base to constriction, base sinuate; disc subconvex in lateral view, punctures small, clothed with narrow, elongate, truncate, dirty white scales; median vittae, four lateral macula of clavate white scales; pleuron with broad vittae of white scales; mesosternal intercoxal process feebly prominent; scutellum small, impressed, broader than long, clothed with few white scales; mesepimeron densely clothed with clavate white scales; mesepisternum clothed with narrow, elongate, testaceous scales; metepisternum with small anterior and larger posterior macula of clavate, yellowish white scales; metasternum clothed with clavate, white scales. Elytral striae narrow, deep, with small punctures; median declivity rather deep; humeri pronounced, rounded; intervals broad, 3 not as broad as 2 and 4, clothed with narrow, elongate, testaceous scales, acute apices; interval 2 with short vittae of clavate, white scales flanking scutellum; small macula on intervals 2, 3, 7, and 8, of clavate white scales; crosshatch setae long, erect, starting testaceous becoming clavate white scales. Legs: femoral teeth small; clava of profemur larger than in metafemur; all femora with base piceous, clava fuscous, knee piceous; clothed with narrow, elongate, white scales; tibiae subsinuate, pro- and mesotarsus large, meta-hook large. Abdomen: sternum clothed with clavate white scales, broader on sternite 1 becoming narrow down to sternite 5; sternite 5 truncate. Pygidium small, crescent-shaped, concave, fringed with short, testaceous seta-like scales. Genitalia not dissected. Female: 3.5 mm long; rostrum 2.0 mm long, scrobe inserted in basal third. Antenna: funicular segment 1 longer than 2.

DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS: This species appears different from all the other taxa of *Labaninus* and can be distinguished by the six macula, and lateral vittae on the pronotum.

ETYMOLOGY: The specific epithet "sex" from the Latin noun for "six" and "maculata" from the Latin noun "macula" meaning "spot".



Figs. 13 - 14: Photographs of the dorsal and lateral habitus of 13) *Labaninus meregallii* sp.n., dorsal, holotype; 14) *L. meregallii* sp.n., lateral, holotype. Scale = 1.0 mm.

Figs. 15 - 17: Photographs of the aedeagus, a) dorsal, b) lateral, 15) *Labaninus bicolor* sp.n., holotype; 16) *L. meregallii* sp.n., holotype; 17) *L. reticulopunctatus* sp.n., holotype. Scale = 0.5 mm.

Labaninus bicolor sp.n.

TYPE LOCALITY: Xishuangbanna, Yunnan Province, China.

TYPE MATERIAL: **Holotype** ♂ (CASB): "China/Yunnan Province/Xishuangbanna/1600 m/21 May 1958/leg. Meng".

DESCRIPTION: Length: 3.5 mm. Width: 1.9 mm. Head: small punctures, glabrous, gena glabrous; frons 0.14 times as broad as head across eyes. Rostrum: 2.1 mm long; 0.6 times as long as body; derm piceous; gradually emerging from frons; glabrous with small punctures; gradually, evenly deflected; scrobe lateral; scape inserted in basal half. Antenna: scape 0.75 mm; funicle 1.05 mm; club 0.4 mm; scape 0.71 as long as funicle; funicular segment 1 longer than 2, segment 3 longer than 4, segments 5-7 same length; club not as long as funicular segments 5-7. Thorax length: 1.2 mm; width: 1.7 mm. 0.7 times as long as broad; derm piceous; margin almost straight line from humeri to constriction, base sinuate; disc with small, raised margin, deep, punctures, moderately convex, glabrous; pleuron with short, clavate, discrete, recumbent, white scales set in punctures, dorsally with small, narrow, elongate, white scales; scutellum small, impressed, as broad as long, piceous, glabrous; mesepimeron with small, narrow, elongate, white scales; mesepisternum with large, clavate, discrete, white scales; metepisternum with small, narrow, elongate, seta-like, white scales set in rugose punctures; metasternum with larger narrow, elongate, clavate, white scales. Elytra: derm rubiginose; striae deep with large, deep punctures; declivity deep, piceous; humeri pronounced, rounded; intervals broad, stippled, with very small, fine testaceous scales; crosshatch setae erect, short, testaceous, becoming white to apex with acute apices. Legs: derm piceous; all femora with small teeth; femoral clava moderate; clothed with narrow, elongate, white scales; tibiae subsinuate, pro- and mesotarsus large, meta-hook large. Abdomen: sternite 1 with large, clavate, white scales; sternites 3-4 with small, clavate, white scales; sternite 5 with narrow, elongate, white scales; sternite 3 longer than 4. Pygidium small, crescent shaped, concave, fringed with short, seta-like, gray scales. Genitalia: median lobe 0.68 mm long, base narrower than apex, lateral margin rather thick with apex truncate; apodeme 0.95 mm long, margin moderately thick (Fig. 15).

DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS: This species is distinguished from the remaining taxa of *Labaninus* by the dominant piceous thorax, rubiginose elytra and the lack of a scale pattern except for the white crosshatch setae.

DISTRIBUTION: China: Yunnan Province, Xishuangbanna.

ETYMOLOGY: The specific epithet "bicolor" is from the English meaning two colors.

Labaninus basofasciatus sp.n.

TYPE LOCALITY: Emeishan, Sichuan Province, China.

TYPE MATERIAL: **Holotype** ♂ (CASB): "Sichuan Province/Emeishan/800-1000m/23 April-03 May 1957/leg. Huang".

DESCRIPTION: Length: 3.7 mm. Width: 2.1 mm. Head: derm piceous, punctures medium-sized, glabrous; frons 0.20 times as broad as head across eyes, with shallow interocular declivity; small, short, narrow, white scales along eye margin. Rostrum: length 2.25 mm; derm piceous; 0.60 times as long as body; broader at base than at apex; punctures slit-like causing area from insertion of scape to base appear rough; straight to insertion of scape then gradually deflected to apex; scape inserted in basal half just before midpoint; scrobe ventral; scape not reaching eye. Antenna: length of scape 1.8 mm, funicle 1.9 mm, club 0.45 mm, scape 0.95 times as long as funicle; funicular segment 1 and 2 same length, segment 3 0.5 times as long as 2, segment 3 subequal to 4, segments 5-6 same length, shorter than 4, segment 7 longer than 6 and not as long

as segment 1 of club; club longer than funicular segments 5-7. Thorax: length 1.5 mm, width 1.8 mm; 0.80 times as long as broad; derm piceous; lateral margin slightly arched to just before constriction; disc: punctures deep with raised margins appearing reticulate, glabrous; base with narrow fascia interrupted at scutellar declivity of short, recumbent, clavate, white scales; pleuron with deep punctures with short, broad, recumbent, white scales on anterior and posterior margins medially with small, narrow, acute apex, white scales set in punctures; mesosternal intercoxal process not visible; scutellum small, as long as broad, piceous with few short white scales visible under high magnification; anteroventral macula between procoxae and basal margin of pronotum with short, broad, subclavate, recumbent, white scales; mesepimeron densely clothed with clavate, recumbent white scales; mesepisternum with discrete, recumbent white scales; metepisternum with anterior and posterior macula of clavate, recumbent, white scales; metasternum clothed with discrete, recumbent, clavate, white scales set in deep punctures; pro- and mesocoxae clothed with clavate white scales. Elytra with striae narrow, deep, with moderate punctures; somewhat deep median declivity from scutellum to midpoint; humeri rounded; intervals broad, clothed with piceous scales, intervals 1 and 2 with few white scales flanking scutellum; faint macula of narrow, elongate, white scales on intervals 1 and 2 just past midpoint; crosshatch setae of few short piceous becoming white to apex. Legs: pro-, meso- and metafemoral teeth small; profemur strongly bent; profemoral clava larger than metafemoral clava; clothed with narrow, elongate, white scales with acute apices; tibiae straight, pro- and mesotarsus large, metatibial hook moderate. Abdominal sternites clothed with recumbent, clavate, white scales, longer on sterna 1 and 2 becoming smaller on sternites 3-5; sternite 5 not as long as 3-4 combined, truncate. Pygidium small; clothed with short whitish seta-like scales. Genitalia not dissected.

DIFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS: This species appears very similar to *L. reticulopunctatus* sp.n., but differs in having a dark scaled scutellum, narrower basal pronotal fascia, all scales narrower and not cretaceous, with distance from base of rostrum to insertion of scape 1.5 mm.

DISTRIBUTION: China: Sichuan Province, Emeishan.

ETYMOLOGY: The specific epithet "basofasciatus" is from the Latin adjective "baso" for "basal" and the Latin noun "fasciatus" for "stripe" on the pronotum.

Labaninus confluens KWON & LEE, 1990

TYPE LOCALITY: Hallasan, South Korea.

TYPE MATERIAL: *Holotype* ♂ (NSMK). Not examined.

DIAGNOSIS: 3.1 - 4.5 mm in length. Derm piceous; pronotum with basal fascia of narrow, elongate, clavate, yellowish-white scales; scutellum white scaled, as long as broad; elytra with short vittae of white scales flanking scutellum on interval 2, with fascia of white scales past midpoint, lateral margin impressed above metepisternum; metafemur reaching apex of elytra; metasternum with dense clothing of clavate white scales. Genitalia are described in KWON & LEE (1990).

PLANT ASSOCIATION: *Pyrus betulaefolia* BUNGE.

DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS: This species is very similar to *L. fukienensis* except for the gradually emerging rostrum; rostrum not as long as elytra; pronotal fascia more or less densely scaled; distance from base of rostrum to insertion of scape 1.13 mm; mesosternal intercoxal process feebly prominent; crosshatch setae short, but extending from elytral fascia to apex and rather thick.

DISTRIBUTION: South Korea: Hallasan, Chochon Myon, San'gumberi, Toksungsan; China: Shandong Province, Huimin.

Labaninus beverlyae sp.n.

TYPE LOCALITY: Macao, China.

TYPE MATERIAL: **Holotype** ♂ (BPBM): "China/Macao/leg. Muir".

DESCRIPTION: Length: 2.8 mm. Width: 1.5 mm. Head: small punctures, glabrous; frons 0.23 as broad as head across eyes, glabrous. Rostrum length: 1.8 mm; 0.64 times as long as body; derm fuscous; broad at base, tapering to cylindrical apex; gradually emerging from frons; small, slit-like punctures; evenly deflected from base to apex; scrobe lateral; scape inserted in basal 0.5. Antennae: scape 0.80 mm long, funicle 0.80 mm, club 0.35 mm; scape as long as funicle; funicular segment 1 longer than 2, segment 3, 0.5 times as long as 1, segments 4, 6, 7 same length, segment 5 shorter; club as long as funicular segments 4-7. Thorax length: 0.8 mm; width: 1.2 mm; 0.66 times as long as broad; dorsal margin evenly rounded to constriction, base not as broad as elytra, sinuate; disc with many small punctures with raised margins, small, dirty white scales; laterobasal macula of clavate, yellowish-white scales connected by line of clavate scales, indication of median carina; scutellum impressed, as long as broad, with clavate white scales; mesosternal intercoxal process visible; anteroventral macula of clavate white scales, laterally reaching to middle of eye; mesepimeron, and mesepisternum with clavate white scales; metepisternum with small anterior and larger posterior macula of clavate, white scales with fuscous derm between; metasternum densely clothed with clavate white scales. Elytra: striae deep with small punctures; median declivity shallow; humeri squared, pronounced; intervals broad, flat, interval 1 with long vitta to midpoint, intervals 2-4 with short vittae gradually becoming shorter to interval 4; midpoint fascia with shorter and longer vittae, alternating from intervals 2-8, all of clavate, yellowish white scales; crosshatch setae suberect, testaceous to apex with short vitta of single row of clavate white scales. Legs with pro- and metafemoral tooth medium, mesofemoral tooth small, all acute apices; clava medium-sized; all clothed with narrow, elongate, white scales; tibiae subsinuate, pro- and mesotarsus large, meta-hook small. Abdomen: sternites 1 and 2 with medium keel, suture between 1 and 2 deflected to center keel; sternite 3 longer than 4, together longer than 5 with indication of median keel; sternite 5 with 2 apical lateral seta-like scales; all sternites with clavate, white scales. Pygidium medium-sized, crescent shaped, concave medially with punctures and elongate seta-like, testaceous scales. Genitalia not dissected.

DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS: This species appears similar to *Curculio dijoui* PELSUE & ZHANG, 2003, but has rostrum gradually emerging from frons, larger pronotal basolateral macula, less densely clothed mesepimeron and metepisternum and lacks the median vittae on the suture to the median elytral fascia.

DISTRIBUTION: China: Macao.

ETYMOLOGY: Named in honor of the author's wife Beverly Lou Penter Pelsue.

Labaninus reticulopunctatus sp.n.

TYPE LOCALITY: Shaowu, Fujian Province, China.

TYPE MATERIAL: **Holotype** ♂ (BPBM): "Fukien [= Fujian]/S. China/Shao-wu/Tachulan/1000m/leg. Maa [1st label]/30 IV 42 [2nd label]".

DESCRIPTION: Length: 3.7 mm. Width: 1.9 mm. Head: derm piceous; punctures moderately deep, glabrous, gena sparsely clothed with small, short, recumbent, white scales; frons 0.19 times as broad as head across eyes, clothed with small, narrow, elongate, white scales along margin of eye, with shallow declivity. Rostrum 2.1 mm in length; 0.56 as long as body; derm piceous; broader at base than frons and apex; tapers from insertion of scape to slightly enlarged apex; punctures slit-like, rather deep to insertion of scape then very small to apex; straight to insertion of scape then slightly arched to apex; scrobe ventral; scape inserted at midpoint; scape not reaching eye. Antenna: length of scape 1.5 mm, funicle 1.7 mm, club 0.45 mm; scape 0.88 times as long as funicle; funicular segment 1 as long as 2, segment 3 0.5 times as long as 2, segments 4, 6-7 same length, segment 5 shorter than 4; club as long as funicular segments 4-7. Thorax: length 1.4 mm; width 1.7 mm; derm piceous; 0.82 as long as broad; dorsal margins gradually arched to before constriction; disc: punctures large, with raised margins appearing reticulate, glabrous, slightly convex basally in lateral view, sloping down toward constriction with basally interrupted fascia of broad, clavate, cretaceous scales, fascia broadest between elytral intervals 4-7 with sinuate anterior margin; mesosternal intercoxal process not visible; scutellum as broad as long, densely clothed with small cretaceous scales; mesepimeron densely clothed with broad, clavate, cretaceous scales; mesepisternum with fewer scales; metepisternum with anterior macula and posterior macula of broad, clavate, cretaceous scales; metasternum discretely clothed with recumbent, clavate, cretaceous scales; pro- and mesocoxae clothed with white scales. Elytral derm fuscopiceous; stria narrow, deep with moderately large punctures; humeri rounded; intervals broad clothed with small, narrow, elongate, decumbent, fuscopiceous scales; median declivity moderately deep; intervals 1-2 with short vittae flanking scutellum of broad, clavate, cretaceous scales; submedian sinuate fascia on intervals 1-9; crosshatch setae short, stout, cretaceous to apex. Legs with pro-, meso- and metafemoral teeth very small; clothed with narrow, elongate, white scales with acute apices; tibiae straight; pro- and mesotarsus large, meta-hook moderate. Abdominal sternite 5 longer than 3-4 combined; sternites 1-2 clothed with broad, clavate, cretaceous scales laterally, smaller scales medially same as on sternites 3-5. Pygidium small sparsely clothed with short, white hair-like scales. Genitalia: median lobe 0.6 mm long, margin somewhat sinuate, thickened toward base to rounded off set apical point; apodeme 0.6 mm long, with moderately thickened margins (Fig. 17).

DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS: This species appears very similar to *L. kimotoi*, but differs in the rostrum gradually emerging from frons, and the submedian fascia sinuate and with rather long spots; white scaled scutellum densely clothed.

DISTRIBUTION: China: Fujian Province, Shaowu.

ETYMOLOGY: The specific epithet "reticulopunctatus" is from the Latin adjective "reticulose" for "reticulo" meaning "net-like" and the Latin noun "punctatus" meaning "impressed points" on the dorsal pronotum.

Labaninus meregallii sp.n.

TYPE LOCALITY: Shaanxi Province, Qin Ling, China.

TYPE MATERIAL: **Holotype** ♂ (FWPC): "China/Shaanxi Prov./11 July 1998/Qingling [= Qin Ling] Shan Mts.[top label]/40 km SE Taibai Shan Mt./Hou Zen Zi [not on map] vill env zd./leg. Jindra/cca 1200 m [bottom label]".

DESCRIPTION: Length: 5.0 mm. Width: 2.5 mm. Head glabrous; gena with small punctures, small, narrow, white scales; eyes large. Frons 0.19 times as broad as head across eyes. Rostrum length: 2.3 mm; 0.46 times as long as body; fuscopiceous; evenly deflected from base to apex; apex as broad as frons; punctures small, glabrous; scape inserted in basal half near midpoint; scrobe lateral along ventral margin. Antenna: scape 1.0 mm long; funicle 1.2 mm; club 0.5 mm;

scape 0.83 as long as funicle; funicular segment 1 as long as 2, segments 3-4 same length, segments 5-6 shorter than 4 and 7; segment 7 longer than segment 1 of club; club as long as funicular segments 5-7. Thorax length: 1.7 mm; width: 2.1 mm; 0.81 times as long as broad; dorsally lateral margins arched to constriction, basal margin carinate medially; disc with small punctures, few small, narrow, white scales; slightly convex in lateral view; pleuron clothed with small, narrow, elongate, white scales; mesosternal intercoxal process not visible in lateral view; scutellum moderate sized, longer than broad, clothed with small, narrow, white scales; mesepimeron clothed with larger, narrow, elongate, white scales; mesepisternum clothed with fewer longer, narrow, elongate, white scales; metepisternum with scattered white scales. Elytra: derm fuscopiceous; striae deep with small punctures; scutellar declivity long and deep; humeri prominent, rounded; intervals narrow with few narrow, elongate, white scales; indication of fascia past midpoint of larger, narrow, elongate, white scales with more scales laterally toward apex; crosshatch seta long, erect, piceous, with few long prominent white scales on outer margin. Legs with pro-, meso- and metafemoral teeth small; pro-, meso- and metafemoral clava of equal tumidity; tibiae subsinuate, pro- and meso-uncus large, longer than tarsal claw; meta inner hook like process, as long as pro- and meso-uncus. Abdomen: sterna clothed with long, narrow, elongate, white scales. Pygidium moderate sized, clothed with long white seta-like scales. Genitalia: median lobe 0.9 mm in length with straight margins to bluntly rounded apex; apodeme 1.3 mm in length, margins narrow (Fig. 16).

DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS: The derm of this species is evenly fuscopiceous with the small to moderate scattered white scale giving it a uniform color under low magnification. This taxon is larger than most of *Labaninus* and really can not be confused with any of the remaining species of this group.

ETYMOLOGY: The species is named in honor of Dr. Massimo Meregalli, University of Torino, Italy who provided the specimen for study.

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