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The fourth species of *Rhomphocallus* ASSING (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae: Aleocharinae: Oxypodini)

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Abstract: *Rhomphocallus coreanus* nov.sp. from South Korea, the fourth representative of the genus, is described and illustrated. A recent key to the species of *Rhomphocallus* ASSING 2003 is modified to account for *R. coreanus*.

Key words: Coleoptera, Staphylinidae, Aleocharinae, Oxypodini, *Rhomphocallus*, South Korea, taxonomy, new species, key to species.

Introduction

The oxypodine genus *Rhomphocallus* ASSING 2003 was previously represented in the Palaearctic region by three species, two of them, *R. princeps* (SHARP 1874) and *R. maruyamai* ASSING 2003, distributed in Japan and one, *R. bernhaueri* (SAINTE CLAIRE-DEVILLE 1907), in the West Palaearctic (ASSING 2003). The genus is best identified by the conspicuous morphology of the aedeagus, particularly the shape of the ventral process, by the coarse punctuation of the forebody, as well as by the elongated antennomere XI.

During a recent meeting of Central European coleopterists a specimen of *Rhomphocallus* was found while screening a few staphylinids recently collected in South Korea. A subsequent closer examination of the external and sexual characters revealed that it represents an undescribed species similar to *R. maruyamai* ASSING 2003.

Material and methods

The holotype is deposited in the author's collection.

The morphological studies were conducted using a Stemi SV 11 microscope (Zeiss Germany) and a Jenalab compound microscope (Carl Zeiss Jena). A digital camera (Nikon Coolpix 995) was used for the photographs.

Head length was measured from the anterior margin of the clypeus to the posterior margin of the head, elytral length at the suture from the apex of the scutellum to the posterior margin of the elytra. The length of the median lobe of the aedeagus was measured from the apex of the ventral process to the base of the capsule.

***Rhomphocallus coreanus* nov.sp.** (Figs 1-10)

Type material: Holotype ♂ [apparently slightly teneral]: "14.07.2010, Ulleongdo, Gyeongsangbukdo (Südkorea), leg. T. Kölkebeck / 607 / Holotypus ♂ *Rhomphocallus coreanus* sp. n. det. V. Assing 2010".

Description: Body length 5.7 mm. Habitus as in Fig. 1. Coloration: head and pronotum blackish-brown; elytra bicoloured, dark-brown, with the humeral portion, the posterior 4/5 of the sutural portion, and the posterior margin broadly yellowish; abdomen blackish-brown, with the apex (posterior 1/3 of segment VII; segments VIII-X) reddish-yellow; legs dark-reddish; antennae dark-brown, with the basal three antennomeres reddish.

Head (Fig. 2) weakly transverse; punctuation dense and coarse, but not areolate; interstices much narrower than diameter of punctures and with very shallow microsculpture visible only at high magnification (Fig. 5). Eyes bulging, projecting from lateral contours of head, and slightly longer than postocular portion in dorsal view. Antenna (Fig. 3) approximately 1.5 mm long and relatively slender; preapical antennomeres weakly transverse; antennomere XI constricted in the middle and strongly elongated, longer than the combined length of VIII-X, but shorter than the combined length of VII-X (Fig. 4).

Pronotum (Fig. 2) approximately 1.3 times as broad as long and 1.35 times as wide as head, widest approximately in the middle; posterior angles weakly marked; punctuation and microsculpture similar to those of head (Fig. 5).

Elytra 1.08 times as long and about 1.3 times as wide as pronotum (Fig. 2); humeral angles marked; punctuation and microsculpture similar to those of head and pronotum (Fig. 6). Hind wings fully developed. Legs slender; metatarsomere I extremely elongated, much longer than the combined length of II-IV, almost as long as the combined length of II-V.

Abdomen with segments III-VI of subequal width (Fig. 7); tergites III-V with moderately deep, tergite VI with very shallow anterior impression; punctuation dense and distinct; interstices glossy, but with shallow microsculpture visible only at high magnification; posterior margin of tergite VII with palisade fringe.

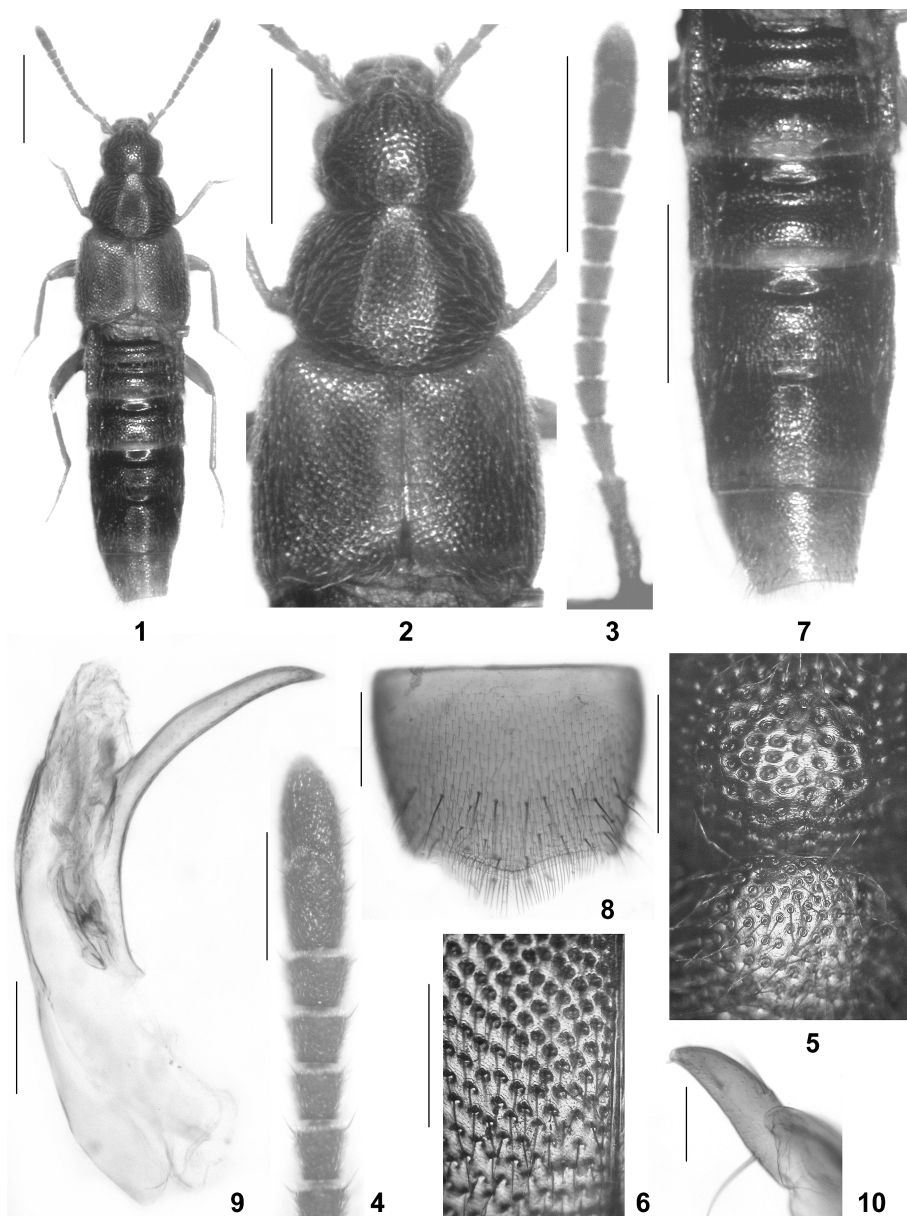
♂: tergite VIII with very weakly and broadly concave posterior margin (Fig. 7); sternite VIII posteriorly with fringe of dense, long, thin marginal setae, posterior margin produced in the middle (Fig. 8); median lobe of aedeagus approximately 1 mm long; ventral process long and sickle-shaped (Fig. 9); apical lobe of paramere as in Fig. 10.

♀: unknown.

Etymology: The specific epithet is an adjective derived from South Korea, where this species is currently the only known representative of the genus.

Comparative notes: In order to account for the new species, the key in ASSING (2003) is modified as follows:

- 2 Apical antennomere shorter, shorter than the combined length of antennomeres VIII-X (ASSING 2003: Fig. 2). Aedeagus and spermatheca as in ASSING (2003: Figs 3-4, 6).
Japan *R. princeps* (SHARP)
- Apical antennomere conspicuously long, longer than the combined length of antennomeres VIII-X (Fig. 4).....3
- 3 Antennomere XI as long as the combined length of antennomeres VII-X; preapical antennomeres more transverse (ASSING 2003: Fig. 11). Punctuation of head and pronotum extremely dense and – at least partly – areolate, interstices reduced to very narrow ridges. Male tergite VIII weakly convex posteriorly (ASSING 2003: Fig. 16). Posterior margin of male sternite VIII as in ASSING (2003: Fig. 17). Aedeagus and spermatheca as in ASSING (2003: Figs 12, 14-15). Japan..... *R. maruyamai* ASSING



Figs 1-10: *Rhomphocallus coreanus* nov.sp. (holotype): (1) habitus; (2) forebody; (3) antenna; (4) apical portion of antenna; (5) posterior median portion of head and anterior portion of pronotum; (6) sutural portion of elytra; (7) abdomen; (8) male sternite VIII; (9) median lobe of aedeagus in lateral view; (10) apical lobe of paramere. Scale bars: 1-2, 7: 1.0 mm; 3: 0.5 mm; 4-6, 8-9: 0.2 mm; 10: 0.1 mm.

- Antennomere XI shorter than the combined length of antennomeres VII-X; preapical antennomeres less transverse (Fig. 4). Punctuation of head and pronotum less dense and not areolate, interstices somewhat shiny (Fig. 5). Male tergite VIII weakly concave posteriorly (Fig. 7). Male sternite VIII as in Fig. 8. Aedeagus as in Fig. 9. South Korea
..... *R. coreanus* nov.sp.

Distribution: The type locality is situated in Ulleongdo [= Ulleungdo, = Ullung] island, some 130 km off the east coast of mainland South Korea. Bionomic data are not available.

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Zusammenfassung

Rhomphocallus coreanus nov.sp. (Südkorea), die vierte Art der Gattung, wird beschrieben und abgebildet. Eine kürzlich erschienene Bestimmungstabelle der *Rhomphocallus*-Arten wird aktualisiert.

References

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