

## New species of Chrysomelidae (Coleoptera) from Nepal

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### Abstract

Five new species of Chrysomelidae are described from Nepal: *Cneorane nigripennis*, *Luperomorpha schmidtii*, *Longitarsus hartmanni*, *Cleonica unicolor*, *Mantura nepala*. Genus *Cleonica* Jacoby, 1887 is firstly recorded for Nepal, genus *Mantura* Stephens, 1831 is practically firstly found in Oriental region.

### Zusammenfassung

Fünf neue Blattkäfer-Arten (Chrysomelidae) werden aus Nepal beschrieben: *Cneorane nigripennis*, *Luperomorpha schmidtii*, *Longitarsus hartmanni*, *Cleonica unicolor*, *Mantura nepala*. Die Gattung *Cleonica* Jacoby, 1887 wird erstmals für Nepal und die Gattung *Mantura* Stephens, 1831 erstmals für die Orientalis nachgewiesen.

**Key words:** Chrysomelidae, Himalaya, Nepal, new species, new records

### Introduction

Descriptions of five new species of the leaf beetles based on materials of the Naturkundemuseum Erfurt are proposed below, among them representatives of two genera not registered earlier in Nepal. The most species described are represented with single specimens, but happily they differ well enough from their congeners.

I am grateful to my friend and colleague M.Hartmann for the possibility to study this material.

The following abbreviations are used for depository places:

NME - Naturkunde museum Erfurt

LM - author's collection.

### Taxonomical part

#### *Cneorane nigripennis* sp. n.

**Holotype (male):** Nepal, Janakpur Dolakha, Tama Koshi valley, Simigau to Chet Chet, 1800-1300 m, 3.VI.2000, leg. J.Schmidt (NME).

**Description.** Fulvous, elytra black with fulvous epipleurae, mesosternum and abdomen black.

Body parallel-sided, narrow, 2.65 times as long as wide. Head impunctate, microsculptured, frontal tubercles triangular, strongly convex and sharply delimited, touch each other, interantennal space narrow. Antennae thin, as long as body, without thickened segments, their proportions are as 12-4-11-10-10-10-11-10-10-8-10, preapical segments about 3-3.5 times as long as wide, segments 3-7 with erect hairs beneath. Prothorax 1.3 times as wide as long, broadest in middle, side margins rounded, all angles acute and produced, surface dull, impunctate, but very densely microsculptured. Scutellum as long as wide, semicircular, densely microsculptured. Elytra 1.7 times as long as wide, dull, with dense, but not strong punctures, more feeble on apical slope, interspaces with dense microsculpture, apical slope with erect hairs. Pygidium convex, emarginated on apex. Hind margin of last abdominal sternite with broad trapeziform emargination. Segment I of anterior and mid tarsi parallel-sided, almost not widened, about twice as long as broad. Aedeagus with very characteristic apex, its underside not sclerotized in middle (fig.1). Length 5.3 mm.

**Diagnosis.** Differs well from all known species with black, not metallic elytra with fulvous epipleurae, but nearest to *C. hirsuta* Kimoto & Takizawa, 1973, which also has erect hairs on elytra, but quite other form of aedeagus.

***Luperomorpha schmidtii* sp. n.**

**Holotype (male):** Nepal, Annapurna, Mt. Panchhase W Pokhara, 2000-2300 m, 18.V.1997, leg. J.Schmidt (NME).

**Description.** Black, elytra metallic blue, head and prothorax with very feeble metallic sheen.

Body elongate ovate. Head impunctate, frons and vertex with dense microsculpture, frontal tubercles triangular. Antennae reach behind middle of elytra, proportions of segments are as 9-5-5-12-11-10-10-10-10-10-15, preapical segments about twice as long as wide. Prothorax 1.5 times as wide as long, side margins rounded, all angles with bristle, anterior angles acute, hind angles obtuse, surface with very small and sparse punctures and microsculpture. Scutellum shining, with rounded apex. Elytra 1.35 times as long as wide, surface uneven (specimen seems to be not fully matured), strongly and densely punctate, but without distinct microsculpture. Segment 1 of anterior tarsus very strongly widened, short ovate, 1.4 times as long as wide, longer than segments 2+3 and much broader than apex of tibia (fig.4); same segment of mid tarsi distinctly widened, triangular, 1.7 times as long as wide, a little broader than apex of tibia (fig.5). A spur of hind tibia short. Aedeagus (fig.2) thin and long, with acute apex.

Length 3.2 mm.

**Diagnosis.** Very alike at *L. metallica* Chen, 1935, but differs immediately with strongly widened basal segment of mid and especially anterior tarsi, as well as with more thin and elongate aedeagus. In *L. metallica* Chen basal segments of tarsi not widened in male.

***Longitarsus hartmanni* sp. n.**

**Holotype (female):** Nepal, prov. Karnali, distr. Mugu, Rara Lake National Park, 29°37'N, 82°04' E, 2990 m, meadow on south coast, 25.VI.1999. leg. M. Hartmann (NME).

**Paratype:** same locality, 1 female (LM).

**Description.** Body black, very shining, antennae blackish with 3-5 basal segments fulvous, legs fulvous with black hind femora.

Head impunctate, frons and vertex microsculptured, interantennal space carinate, frontal tubercles indistinct, ocular grooves deep and sharp. Antennae reach behind middle of elytra, proportions of segments are as 11-4-6-7-8-8-8-8-7-6-9, preapical segments about 4 times as long as wide. Prothorax 1.5 times as wide as long,

indistinctly punctate, but microsculptured. Elytra ovate, 1.4-1.45 times as long as wide, at base not broader than prothorax, side margins distinctly rounded, surface strongly convex, shining, very finely, almost indistinctly punctate, without humeral tubercle. Wings absent. Pygidium exposed. Spermatheca – fig.6.

Length 2.3-2.6 mm (1.9-2.4 without head).

**Diagnosis.** Very near to *L. gressitti* Scherer, 1969, widely distributed in the Himalaya, including Nepal (MEDVEDEV & SPRECHER 1999), but the last species is much smaller (female 1.85-2.0 mm), with less ovate and distinctly punctate elytra, having also feeble humeral tubercle. It seems that a new species is connected with more high altitude.

***Cleonica unicolor* sp. n.**

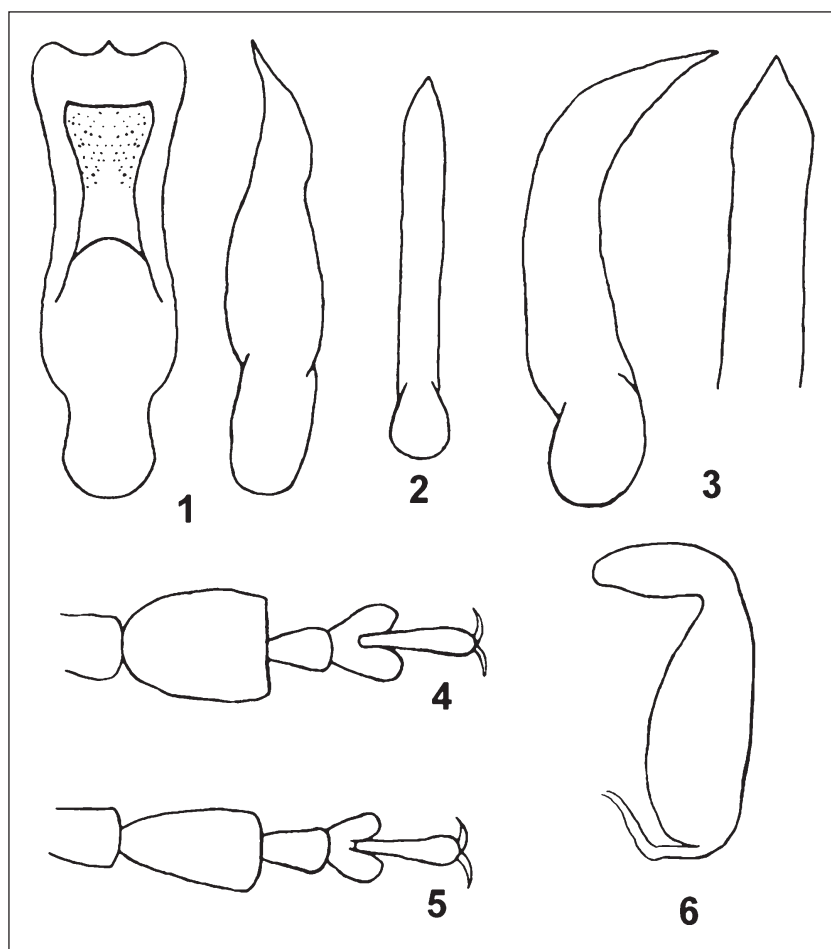
**Holotype (male):** Nepal, prov. Gandaki, 10 km NW Pokhara, Yamdi Khola, 1100 m, valley, 3.VI.2002, leg. J.Schmidt (NME).

**Description.** Dark fulvous, antennae except 3 basal segments black, segment 9 pale flavous, apices of tarsi more or less darkened.

Body widened to behind. Head impunctate, clypeus short, feebly convex; interantennal space as broad as antennal insertion, frontal tubercles small, subtriangular, touch each other, distinctly delimited. Eyes small, frons broad, vertex with a trace of longitudinal impression. Antennae reach behind middle of elytra, thin, proportions of segments are as 15-5-11-16-16-16-16-16-16-15-16, preapical segments about 4 times as long as wide. Prothorax 1.7 times as wide as long, anterior and lateral margins almost straight, posterior margin feebly arcuate, surface shining, convex, impunctate, with transverse impression on each side behind middle. Scutellum semicircular. Elytra 1.3 times as long as wide, surface impunctate, with feeble basal convexity and deeply impressed furrow along suture from anterior quarter to posterior third, there is also deep impression on each side starting behind and below humerus and ending behind middle; because of this impression lateral margin is much broader explanate in this area. Aedeagus with acute, not quite symmetrical apex, distinctly curved in lateral view (fig.3).

Length 4.6 mm.

**Diagnosis.** Only 2 species are known in this genus: *C. quadriplagiata* Jacoby, 1887 from Sumatra and *C. nagaja* Maulik, 1926 from Assam (CHEN 1936).



#### Legend to figures

1 – 3 aedeagus, ventral and lateral (1, 3):

1 *Cneorane nigripennis* sp. n.,

2 *Luperomorpha schmidtii* sp. n.,

3 *Cleonica unicolor* sp. n.,

4/5 *Luperomorpha schmidtii* sp. n.:

4 anterior tarsus,

5 mid tarsus,

6 *Longitarsus hartmanni* sp. n. spermatheca

A new species differs from both with unicolor upper-side, unspotted elytra and pale 9<sup>th</sup> antennal segment. In *C. nagaja* antennae without pale segment, in *C. quadriplagiata* 8<sup>th</sup> segment is pale. This genus is firstly found in Nepal.

#### *Mantura nepala* sp. n.

**Holotype (female):** Nepal central, Kathmandu E, Gorkhana Park Bagmati (Mauer), 27°43'N, 85°20'E, 1350 m, 17.VI.1999, leg. A.Weigel (NME).

**Description.** Metallic bronze, head dark fulvous, antennae black with fulvous basal segments, elytra dark fulvous with metallic sheen, darkened around scutellum, tarsi fulvous, prothorax, being in general bronze, transparent with red fulvous, especially in anterior

part, last abdominal segment dark fulvous.

Body parallel-sided, rounded anteriorly and posteriorly, twice as long as wide. Head shining, strongly punctuate, with interspaces mostly smaller than punctures, interantennal space broad and flat, frontal tubercles absent, ocular lines deep and sharp. Antennae reach base of elytra, 5 apical segments thickened, proportions of segments are as 6-2-3-3-3-2-3-3-5, preapical segments about 1.2 times as long as wide. Prothorax 1.6 times as wide as long and a little broader than elytra at base, broadest before middle, anterior margin arcuate and partly covers head, side margins rounded, but slightly emarginated before hind angles, posterior margin very feebly biemarginate, surface shining, without microsculpture, densely and

strongly punctuate, with narrow and flat interspaces. Basal longitudinal grooves distinct, but comparatively short, not more than one third of prothoracic length. Elytra 1.5 times as long as wide, very shining, with strong punctures in rows and narrow flat interspaces, the outermost lateral row confused in anterior half, with additional punctures.

Length of body 2.5 mm.

**Remark.** Holarctic genus *Mantura* Stephens, 1831 includes 18 species, among them 11 species are Mediterranean. For Oriental region only 1 doubtful species from Tonkin was recorded. Only 2 species are known from Middle and Central Asia (LOPATIN 1977, MEDVEDEV 1982), but far enough from Nepal. Practically it is a first definite record of this genus for Oriental region. A new species, having large prothorax and partly confused lateral row on elytra might be compared only with Mediterranean *M. matheusi* Stephens, 1832 and *M. nitens* Allard, 1866, which however have metallic color of elytra and prothorax broadest at base.

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Jahr/Year: 2004

Band/Volume: [23](#)

Autor(en)/Author(s): Medvedev Lev N.

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