

L. N. MEDVEDEV, S. ZOIA

**New and interesting species of Eumolpinae from Pakistan and Thailand
(Coleoptera Chrysomelidae)**

Abstract - First records are given for *Eryxia grandis* Lefèvre, 1890 from Pakistan; for *Tricliona melanura* Lefèvre, 1890 and *Colaspoides piceus* Gressitt & Kimoto, 1982 from Thailand. *Mesocolaspis spinulosum* sp. n. and *Lypsthes regalis* sp. n. are described both from northern Thailand (neighbourhood of Mae Hong Son, Ban Hual Po); the former is characteristic for its peculiar elytral sculpture and the entirely black body, the latter, among the other species of the same genus, for its metallic colouration and the simple structure of the pygidium.

Riassunto - *Specie nuove o interessanti di Eumolpinae del Pakistan e della Thailandia (Coleoptera Chrysomelidae).*

Vengono forniti nuovi dati sulla distribuzione di alcune specie di Eumolpinae: *Eryxia grandis* Lefèvre, 1890 è citata per la prima volta del Pakistan, *Tricliona melanura* Lefèvre, 1890 e *Colaspoides piceus* Gressitt & Kimoto, 1982 della Thailandia. Inoltre, vengono descritte due specie nuove per la scienza, entrambe provenienti dalla Thailandia (dintorni di Mae Hong Son, Ban Hual Po): *Mesocolaspis spinulosum* sp. n. è caratterizzato dalla forte e sparsa punteggiatura elitrale, dalla particolare scultura della zona omerale e dal corpo completamente nero, *Lypsthes regalis* sp. n. si distingue dalle specie congeneriche per la colorazione metallica e per il pigidio liscio, privo di incavatura.

Key words: Chrysomelidae, Eumolpinae, *Mesocolaspis spinulosum* sp. n., *Lypsthes regalis* sp. n., Pakistan, Thailand.

In this work we describe two new species from Thailand and give some additional data about a few poorly known species from Pakistan and Thailand.

Tricliona melanura Lefèvre, 1890.

MATERIAL. Thailand N, Mae Hong Son env., Ban Hual Po, 1700 m, 24-30.VI.1993, J. Schneider leg., 1 ♀ (coll. Zoia, Milan).

REMARKS. This is the first record from Thailand of a species already known for Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia.

Colaspoides piceus Kimoto & Gressitt, 1982.

MATERIAL. Thailand N, Mae Hong Son env., Ban Hual Po, 1700 m, 24-30.VI.1993, J. Schneider leg., 2 ♀♀ (coll. Zoia, Milan).

REMARKS. This species was described from Vietnam and Laos; this is the first record from Thailand. Of the two specimens that we have examined, one fully corresponds to the original description (Kimoto & Gressitt, 1982), while the other specimen has an oval red spot in the middle of the elytra.

Eryxia grandis Lefèvre, 1890.

MATERIAL. Pakistan, W Balochistan, Turbat, 8-19.IV.1993, S. Becvar leg., 1 ♀ (coll. Zoia, Milan); Pakistan, Karachi, 20.IV.1979, E. Kwieton leg., 1 ♀ (coll. L.N. Medvedev, Moscow).

REMARKS. The small african genus *Eryxia* includes five poorly known species from North and, especially, North-East Africa South of Sahara. *E. grandis* is rather common in Ethiopia and Arabia and was also found in Iran, from which it was redescribed twice, as *Iranomolpus badius* Lopatin, 1979 and *Andosiomorpha argentata* Lopatin, 1981 (Medvedev, 1996). This is the first record from Pakistan.

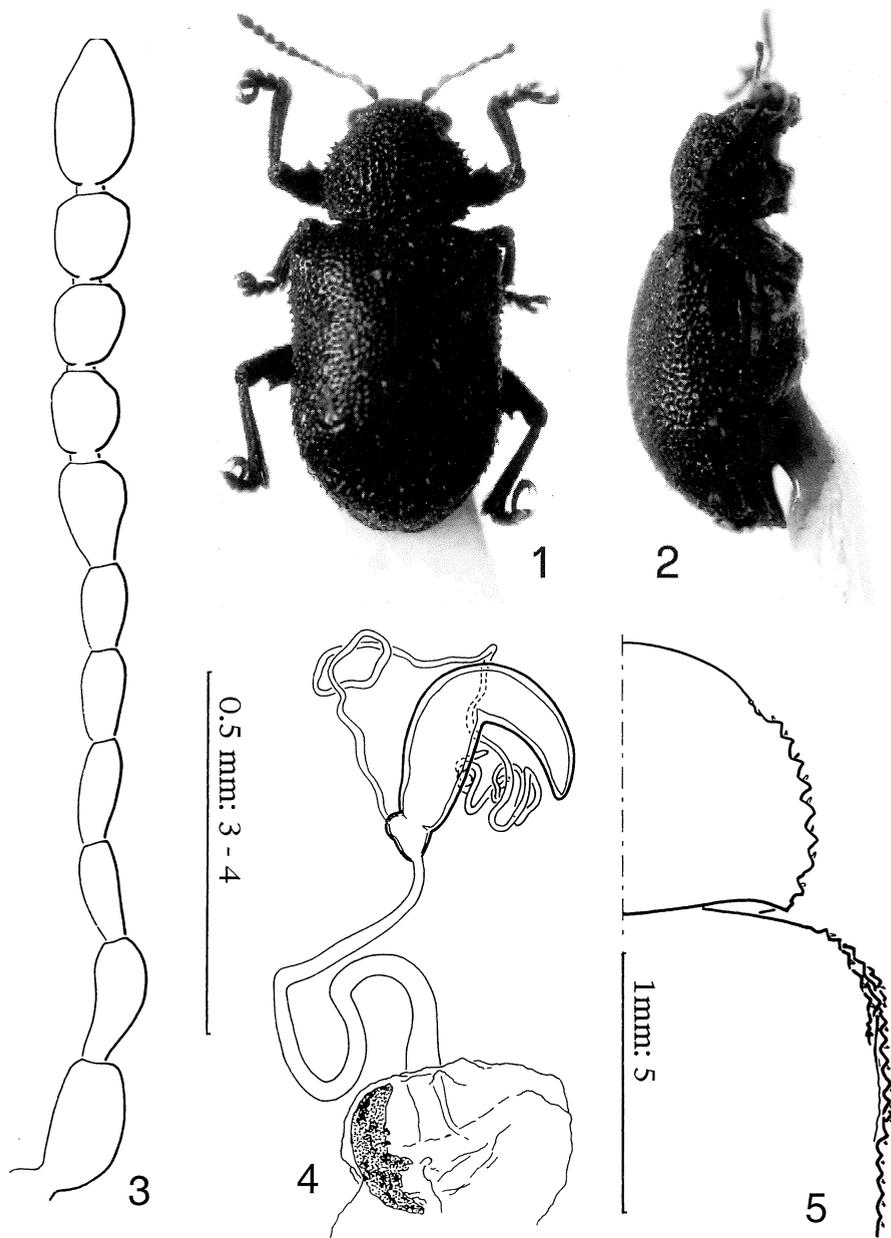
Mesocolaspis spinulosum sp. n.

MATERIAL. Holotype (♀): Thailand N, 1700 m, Mae Hong Son env., Ban Hual Po, 24-30.VI.1993, J. Schneider leg. (coll. S. Zoia, Milan).

Paratypes: same locality and date, 2 ♀♀ (coll. L. N. Medvedev, Moscow and coll. S. Zoia, Milan).

DESCRIPTION. Body length 4.0-4.2 mm. Body and legs black, the body superiorly smooth between the punctures, without metallic gloss; labrum and clypeus dark fulvous, antennomere 1 piceous, 2-6 fulvous, 7-11 black.

Body elongate (figs. 1 and 2). Clypeus triangular, shiny, with sparse strong



Figs. 1-5 - *Mesocolaspis spinulosum* n. sp. (Holotypus, ♀): 1. habitus, dorsal view; 2. habitus, lateral view; 3. antenna; 4. spermatheca; 5. right side margin of pronotum and humeral zone of elytron.

punctures, each puncture bearing a single hair. Front and vertex not excavated near eyes, flat except for a very narrow longitudinal median groove, with very large punctures bearing short, simple but strong hair; interspaces of punctures narrow and smooth. Antennae about $2/5$ of the body length, with segments 1-4 subequal in length; segment 1 strongly thickened; 5 and 6 progressively shorter, 7 longer and thicker than 6, 8-10 shortest, subequal, subovate, 1.2 times as long as wide; 11 elongate, ovate, twice as long as wide (fig. 3).

Prothorax slightly transverse, 1.2 times as wide as long, distinctly narrowed anteriorly and, less, posteriorly, the maximum width near the basal third; side margins regularly rounded and strongly toothed (8 teeth throughout each side plus 1 smaller near each basal angle), bearing each a single scale directed anteriorly (fig. 5). Pronotum with very large and dense punctures divided by narrow costiform, sometimes elevated interspaces; each puncture bears a white scale, similar to those present on head.

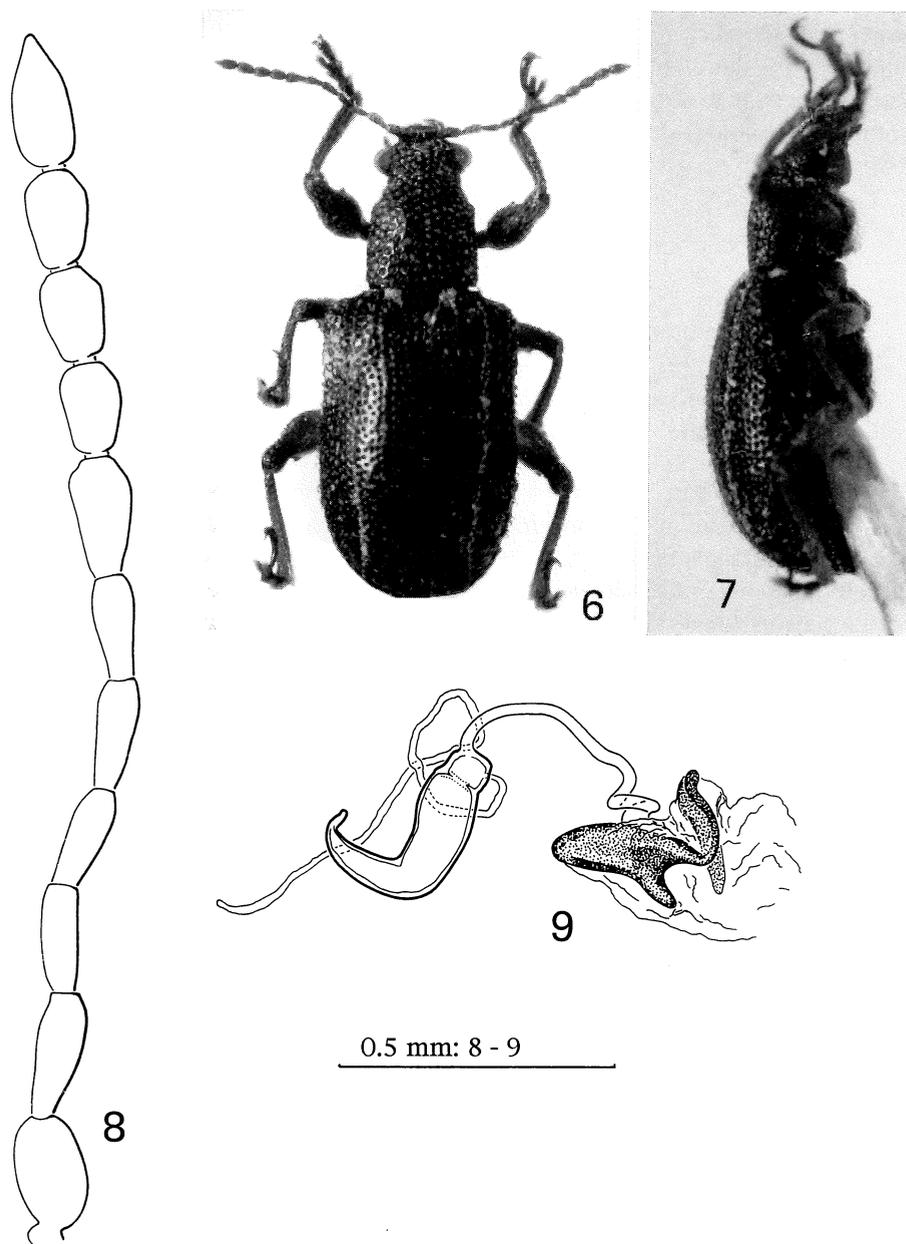
Scutellum subquadrate, $1/4$ wider than long, with rounded posterior margin and a few superficial scattered punctures, smooth in the interspaces. Elytra feebly widened behind the humeral tubercle until the apical third and broadly rounded at apex. Humeral tubercle strongly developed and bearing 3 to 4 rows of elevated teeth (fig. 5) bearing each a single scale at one side; the external row of teeth is longer and reaches the apex of the elytron. Lateral margins of elytra not visible from above, surface with dense coarse punctures, smaller than those of pronotum, and smooth interspaces with scattered scales; punctures more superficial and confluent in distinct rows on the apical slope where a few teeth bearing each a single scale, arranged in more or less regular rows, are also evident on the interspaces.

Propleurae distinctly punctured, prosternum broad, truncate posteriorly. Underside with thin sparse and white hairs. Femora with one acute tooth; tibiae relatively thin and straight, feebly and gradually enlarged from basis to apex. Pygidium smooth, covered by the elytra.

Spermatheca as in fig. 4; spermathecal duct simple, relatively short and wide in the proximal part, it begins from a non-sclerotized part of the vagina, near a well sclerotized transversal plate.

DERIVATIO NOMINIS. This name refers to the characteristic conformation of the prothorax sides and the humeral zone of elytra.

DISCUSSION. In general aspect, this new species remembers those of the genus *Pseudometaxis*, nevertheless it is undoubtedly a representative of the genus *Mesocolaspis* because of the distinctly thickened apical segments of the antennae. Only two species of *Mesocolaspis* were known till now, both from South India. The new species is related to *M. nigrita* Jacoby, 1908, but differs in the almost twice



Figs. 6-9 - *Lypesthes regalis* n. sp. (Holotypus, ♀): 6. habitus, dorsal view; 7. habitus, lateral view; 8. antenna; 9. spermatheca.

larger size, the very roughly sculptured prothorax and especially the confused punctures on the elytra, more or less arranged in rows only on apical slope, and the peculiar sculpture in the humeral zone. The same characters and the entirely black colouration make the new species different from *M. indica* (Jacoby, 1904).

***Lypesthes regalis* sp. n.**

MATERIAL. Holotype (♀): Thailand N, Mae Hong Son env., Ban Hual Po, 1700 m, 24-30.VI.1993, J. Schneider leg. (coll. S. Zoia, Milan).

Paratypes: same locality and date, 4 ♀♀ (coll. L. N. Medvedev, Moscow and coll. S. Zoia, Milan).

DESCRIPTION. Body length 3.5-4.8 mm. Body elongate, posteriorly widened (figs. 6 and 7). Head and pronotum black with more or less distinct metallic gloss, labrum and clypeus dark fulvous, antennae black with segments 2-4 fulvous or piceous (sometimes also segment 1 partially piceous); elytra metallic green or blue with a narrow longitudinal stripe of white hairs in the middle. Underside black with distal margin of abdominal sternites 1-2 and, at least, median part of sternite 3 and the entire apical part of the abdomen fulvous; anterior legs black (femora sometimes more or less fulvous proximally), mid and hind legs red fulvous with black knees and tarsi.

Clypeus triangular, smooth, with sparse strong punctures and a few simple hairs; frons and vertex not excavate near eyes, slightly longitudinally impressed, with very large punctures, bearing each a short curved scale emarginate at apex; interspaces of punctures very narrow, smooth. Antennae a little shorter than half of the body. Antennomeres 1-5 subequal in length, 1 strongly thickened, 6 shorter, 7 as long as 6 but thicker, 8-10 the shortest, ovate, about 1.3 times as long as wide, 11 elongate oval (fig. 8).

Pronotum as long as wide, with side margins straight or feebly arcuate from the base to the apical fourth where they are evidently convergent; surface with very large and dense punctures divided by narrow costiform interspaces, each puncture bears a white scale, similar to those on head.

Scutellum subquadrate with rounded posterior margin, smooth and shining. Elytra slightly widened posteriorly and broadly rounded at apex; humeral tubercle strongly pronounced. Elytral surface with dense coarse punctures, smaller in comparison with those of pronotum, and with two longitudinal rows of short curved scales, not emarginate on apex; the white stripes consist of two closely placed rows of scales and a white powdery excretion.

Propleurae distinctly punctate; prosternum broad, truncate posteriorly. Un-

derside covered with thin sparse hairs. Femora with a small acute tooth in the middle of the internal side; anterior and posterior femora thicker than mid ones. Tibiae thin and straight, almost not widened at apex. Pygidium without longitudinal groove, covered by elytra.

Spermatheca as in fig. 9; the spermathecal duct is short and wide, it begins from a non sclerotized part of the vagina, between two large, well sclerotized and divergent plates.

DERIVATIO NOMINIS. The name refers to its unusual metallic hue.

DISCUSSION. The indochinese species of this genus were revised twice in the last years (Kimoto & Gressitt, 1982; Eroshkina, 1992); the new species differs from all the known *Lypestes* mainly in the unusual, for this genus, metallic colouration and the simple structure of the pygidium.

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DR. LEV N. MEDVEDEV - Institute of Animal Morphology and Ecology, Leninski Prospect 33, Moscow 117071, Russian Federation.

STEFANO ZOIA - Istituto di Entomologia agraria, Università degli Studi, via Celoria, 2, I-20133 Milano, Italy.

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