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Notes on the Genus *Lipromela* Chen, with the
Description of a New Species from Formosa
(Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae, Alticinae)¹⁾

With 1 Text-figure

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(Communicated by M. UENO)

Through the courtesy of Messrs. N. Hayashi and M. Tokeji, I had an opportunity to examine some specimens, collected at Kuraru and Mt. Ari-san in Formosa by the late Mr. H. Kondo in 1941, which undoubtedly belong to the present genus and may be considered to be a species new to science. In this paper a description of the species is given together with some notes on another species of this genus.

Before going further I wish to express my hearty thanks to Prof. Tsunamitsu Adachi, of Toyo University, for his constant interest and guidance in my study, and to Messrs. N. Hayashi, Y. Kurosawa, and M. Tokeji, for their kindness in giving me the opportunity of studying this interesting insect.

Genus *Lipromela* Chen

Lipromela Chen, Bull. Soc. Ent. France, XXXVIII, 9, p. 144 (1933)—Chûjô, Trans. Nat. Hist. Soc. Formosa, XXVI, 148, p. 20 (1936).

Genotype: *Lipromela costata* Chen (Japan).

Range: Japan, Loo-Choo, and Formosa.

General characters: Body elongate, somewhat broadened behind, frontal tubercles not so prominent, contiguous to each other and delimited behind with a faint shallow depression, interantennal space rather prominent; antennae filiform, with the segments elongate and somewhat thickened towards the apex; pronotum subquadrate, longer than wide, narrowed posteriorly, antero-basal transverse impression extending on either side to the basal angle; scutellum triangular, not covered with hairs or punctures; elytra much broader at the base than prothorax, humeri strongly raised, basal parts more or less prominent and

1) Studies on the Flea-beetles of Japan (4)

broadly depressed behind them; punctuation regular, each elytron having nine rows of punctures which include a short scutellar row and an extreme marginal one; epipleuron horizontal, rather broad, and reaching the apex of elytron.

Anterior coxal cavities open behind, prosternum very narrow but distinctly visible between coxae; femora moderately incrassate, especially in hind legs, tibiae subcylindrical, furnished with a spine at the apex; claws appendiculate.

KEY TO THE SPECIES

- 1(1) Colour pale reddish brown, with the elytra yellowish and seven or eight apical joints of antennae, sutural margin of elytra abbreviated near basal parts, dark brown or blackish; second joint of antennae distinctly shorter than third; intervals of striae nearly flat in the sutural half of elytron; length: 3.0 mm.....*L. formosana* sp. nov.
- 2(1) Colour yellowish brown, with sutural margin of elytra not blackish
- 3(4) Colour entirely yellowish brown, with three apical joints of antennae blackish brown; second joint of antennae subequal to the third; each interval of the striae of elytron rather distinctly raised; length: 2.5 mm.*L. costata* Chen
- 4(3) Colour yellow-brown, lustrous, with apices of mandibles and 11th segment of antenna more or less infuscated, second joint of antenna slightly shorter than third, each interval of the striae of elytron more (on the outer area) or less (on the inner area) costate; 2.5-2.8 mm..... *L. okinawana* Chûjô

1. *Lipromela costata* Chen

Lipromela costata Chen, Bull. Soc. Ent. France XXXVIII, 9, p. 144 (1933)-Chûjô, Trans. Nat. Hist. Soc. Formosa XXVI, 148, p. 20 (1936); Trans. Shikoku Ent. Soc. V, 4, p. 52 (1957); Shin-Konchu X, 1, p. 43 (1958)-Chûjô and Kimoto, Ins. Hikosan, II, p. 66 (1959).

Specimen examined: 1♀, Kotsunagi-tôge, Ohkawa-mura, Minami-Aizu, Fukushima-pref., Honshu, Japan, 9-VIII-1949, K. Nagayama leg. (in Coll. of Nat. Sci. Mus. Tokyo). Tokyo (after S. H. Chen, 1933), Hiroshima (after M. Chûjô, 1958), Omogokei (after M. Chûjô, 1957), Mt. Hiko (after Chûjô and Kimoto, 1959).

Distribution: Japan (Honshu, Shikoku, Kyushu).

2. *Lipromela okinawana* Chûjô

Lipromela okinawana Chûjô, Mem. Fac. Lib. Arts and Educ. Kagawa Univ. II, 64, p. 12 (1958).

Distribution: Loo-Choo (Is. Okinawa).

3. *Lipromela formosana* sp. nov. (Fig. 1)

Body elongate, somewhat broadened behind, shining, colour reddish brown with elytra yellowish and seven or eight apical joints of antennae and sutural margin of elytra abbreviated near basal parts, dark brown or blackish.

Head of moderate size, vertex prominent, with a few scattered hairs on each side along the eye, frontal tubercles not distinctly prominent, subtriangular, contiguous to each other and delimited behind with an indistinct shallow transverse depression; interantennal space more or less strongly prominent without any impression on its surface, eyes large and strongly prominent; antennae

filiform, not reaching the middle of elytra, the segments elongate, somewhat thickened towards the apex and sparsely covered with fine hairs especially in the thickened joints; 1st joint long and club-shaped, 2nd, shorter and thicker than 3rd, the 3rd as well as the four following being subequal in length; from 7th to 10th respectively slightly, stouter and longer than the preceding one and nearly equal in length; the last one somewhat longer than the preceding one and pointed at the apex. The rough order of the length of these antennal joints is as follows: $11 \geq 1 > 7 \div 8 \div 9 \div 10 > 3 \div 4 \div 5 \div 6 > 2$.

Prontum subquadrate, longer than wide, rather noticeably narrow posteriorly, sides margined and very slightly rounded, anterior and basal margin almost straight and immarginated, anterior angles oblique and furnished with a large hair-bearing pore on its posterior corner; disk moderately convex with antero-basal

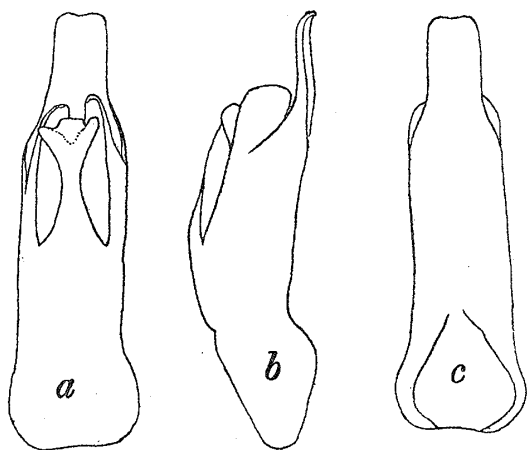


Fig. 1. *Lipromela formosana* sp. nov. Penis. a, dorsal aspect; b, lateral aspect; c, ventral aspect.

transverse impression extending on either side to the basal angle, anterior area of disk also transversely depressed, the depression becomes more feeble in the median part of it; surface of pronotum very sparsely covered with minute punctures, which are placed more distinctly at the basal half, but these punctuations markedly variable; they are sometimes rather distinctly marked and sometimes nearly obsolete; interspaces of these punctures smooth and shining. Scutellum triangular, with the apex slightly rounded, somewhat wider than long at the base, the surface smooth, not covered with hairs or punctures.

Elytra oblong, much broader at the base than prothorax; humeri strongly raised, basal parts more or less prominent and broadly depressed behind it; punctuation regular, each elytron having nine rows of punctures including a short and indistinct scutellar row and an extreme marginal one; these rows become more feeble towards the apical half, shallowly striate, intervals of these rows of punctures nearly flat or slightly elevated in the sutural half of elytron, but more distinctly and strongly raised in its outer marginal half, in which the 7th is the most remarkable one consisting of a long and strong costa which reaches near the apical portion of elytron; epipleuron horizontal, rather broad and reaching the apex of elytron, the surface flat, smooth, and impunctate, but very sparsely covered with fine hairs in its apical parts.

Underside smooth, shining, impunctate, and sparsely scattered over with fine yellowish hairs; abdomen slightly wrinkled. Prosternum very narrow but distinctly visible between the coxae, more or less dilated behind with the posterior end rounded, and the surface slightly grooved longitudinally in the anterior parts; mesosternum broad, subquadrate, somewhat narrowed behind, the sides margined and reflexed, and the posterior margin widely emarginated;

metasternum strongly raised, with the anterior projection subtruncated.

Femora moderately incrassate, especially in hind legs; tibiae slender, sub-cylindrical, with external face more or less plain and furnished at the apex with a spine; claws appendiculate. Length: 3.0 mm.

Holotype: 1 ♂, Mt. Ari-san, Formosa, 20-VII-1941, H. Kondô leg.

Allotopotype: 1 ♀, same data as the holotype.

Paratopotype: 1 ♂, 1 ♀, same data as the holotype.

Paratype: 1 ♂, 1 ♀, Kuraru, Formosa, 13-VII-1941, H. Kondô leg.

Distribution: Formosa.

This new species will be easily distinguished from both *Lipromela costata* Chen from Japan and *L. okinawana* Chûjô from Loo-Choo, by the coloration, the length order of antennal segments, and the structure of elytra, etc.

The type-specimens are preserved in the author's cabinet except for one paratopotype which is in Mr. N. Hayashi's collection.