Chrysomelidae of Hong Kong Part 2 Subfamily *Alticinae*

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Abstract

This is the second part of this study of the Chrysomelidae occurring in Hong Kong. Thirty five species are covered by the keys. Photographs of the larvae and life history information on *Podontia lutea* Olivier 1790 and *Altica cyanea* (Weber) are also given.

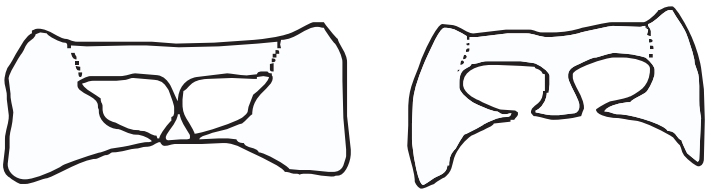
The Alticinae, commonly known as the Flea Beetles, due to their extraordinary power of jumping, are generally small in size, though in Hong Kong we have species up to 15.5mm in length. The following characteristics distinguish the Alticinae from other groups of coleoptera (1) Phytophagous in both larval and adult stages; (2) the posterior femora are usually much thickened, and in all cases thicker than the femora in the two pairs of anterior legs; (3) the antennae are always placed between the inner margins of the eye; (4) the anterior coxae are not conically prominent at the apex as they are in the closely related Galericinae.

Keys have been built on and modified from Gressitt and Kimoto (1963) and are best used for fresh specimens, though older specimens should pose no problem for more experienced users. Note that colours do generally become darker in older specimens. It is very likely that many more species will be discovered in Hong Kong, but most or all of our commonly occurring species should be adequately covered in the keys.

In the systematic section, for each species are given the (1) Name (2) References to the type description are given to the right of the species name. (3) Length and description. (4) **Host** information, if known, is generally taken from existing literature on south China, and is only listed if the species of plant is included in the *Agriculture, Fisheries* and *Conservation Department* Bulletin 1 (revised) *Checklist of Hong Kong Plants 2004.* (5) **Imago** - period when adults can be seen in Hong Kong, mostly from personal notes of the author (and in brackets – Literature records of when adults have been seen in south China). Also information on Hong Kong records. (6) World Distribution – indicating edges of range.

Key 1 - Major groups

1. Anterior coxal cavities closed behind see figure below right (Group 1) . . . . . Key 2
- Anterior coxal cavities open behind see figure below left (Group 2) . . . . . Key 5



Prosternum showing pro-coxal cavities.

Right: closed coxal cavities
i.e. The posterior of the coxa are not touching the mesosternum.

Left: open coxal cavities.
i.e. The posterior of the coxa are against the mesosternum.

Key 2 - Group 1 Genera with anterior coxal cavities posteriorly closed

1. Antenna ll segmented 2
- Antenna 9-segmented, terminal segments usually flattened; body ovate (Figure below). . . . . ***Nonarthra***

Nine segmented antennae of *Nonarthra* sp.

2. (1) Pronotum and elytra pubescent 3
- Pronotum and elytra not pubescent; Pronotum without a distinct ante-basal impression 4

3. (2) Hind tibia with 1 apical spine; Pronotum with ante-basal, transverse impression shallow, bounded laterally by a small, deep impression . . . . . ***Micrepitrix***
- Hind tibia with 2 apical spines; body elongate, densely covered with adpressed hairs; postantennal tubercles contiguous . . . . . ***Eutrea***

4. (2) Mid and hind tibiae excavated apically; each side of excavation with a marginal row of stiff bristles ..... ***Chaetocnema***
- Mid and hind tibiae not as above 5

5. (4) Rows of elytral punctures easily counted; disc of elytron with 9 complete rows; inter-antennal space usually broad 6
- Rows of elytral punctures indistinct or confusedly punctate; claws appendiculate. 8

6. (5) Body massive, length 8-17mm; pronotum with fossettes ; claws bifid 7
- Length 3 - 4 mm; Body sub-quadrate; each tibia armed with 1 apical spine ..... ***Podagricomela***

7. (6) Prosternum triangularly excavated to fit mesosternum; hind femur angularly dilated on inner edge ..... ***Podontia***
- Prosternum truncate along posterior margin; hind femur not angularly dilated ..... ***Ophrida***

8. (5) Vertex evenly convex, disc not elevated, sides not deeply excavated above eye 9
- Vertex with disc longitudinally elevated; sides deeply excavated above eye (see figure right) ..... ***Neorthaea***

9. (8) Sides of pronotum with opposing, short, longitudinal impressions situated on anterior and posterior margins, though the latter only visible under high magnification ..... ***Nisotra***
- Pronotum not as above Abdominal sternite 1 distinctly longer than 2 ; apical segments of maxillary palp forming a spherical globule; terminal segment of antenna flattened ..... ***Acrocrypta***

Shaded area showing longitudinally elevated disc of vertex in *Neorthaea* species.

1. *Nonarthra variabilis* Baly, 1862, Jour. Ent. 1: 456

Length The 9-segmented antenna with the flattened terminal segments is diagnostic of this genus, the only other members likely to occur in Hong Kong have blue elytra. This species is extremely variable in colour. The head may be completely black; or when it is yellow-brown there are usually two round black spots on the vertex. The prothorax may be light yellow, red brown or black. The scutellum is generally black, sometimes red brown or lighter. The elytra may be entirely yellow, red-brown, or black; otherwise they has two variable transverse black bands.

Host: *Zea mays; Lagerstroemis indica; Castanea mollissima.*

Imago: HK : April – August (March – November).

Distribution: Northern India, Myanmar, North Vietnam, China (Sichuan, Hubei, Jiangxi, Fujian, Guangdong, Hainan and Taiwan).

2. *Micrepitrix coomani*

Laboissiere, 1933, Mus. Paris, Bull. 1933: 206

Length 1.1-1.4 mm. Shining blackish brown, dorsal surface darker; antenna pale brown with apical segments slightly darker; legs pale brown, posterior femora slightly darker; Pronotum transverse, almost as broad as base of elytra, with deep ante-basal, transverse impression attaining lateral margin; Hind tibia with 1 apical spine.

Imago: Kimoto 1967 lists 2 specimens from Tai Po Kau in April 1965, surprisingly he listed it under the subfamily galericinae.

Distribution: Vietnam and Hainan.

3. *Eutrea bowringii*

Baly, 1875, Ent. Soc. Lond., Trans. 1875: 25

Pronotum and elytra pubescent; Hind tibia with 2 apical spines; body elongate, densely covered with adpressed hairs; postantennal tubercles contiguous.

Distribution: This species was described from Hong Kong and is the type or the genus. There appears to be no records since the original description in 1875.

Key 3 - species of *Chaetocnema*.

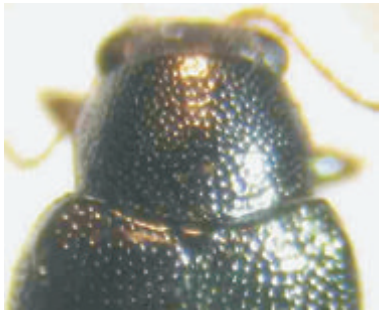
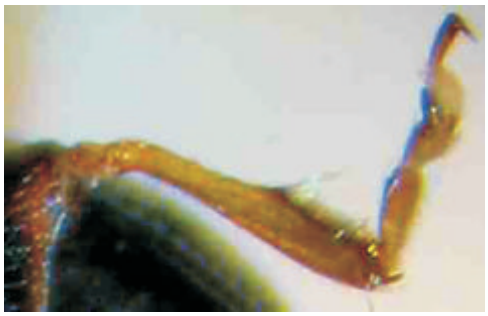
Even though the species in this genus are particularly small (0.9 to 2 mm long locally) they have a characteristic build, making them easy to identify (see photos and drawings below). The important distinguishing character of this genus is the mid and hind tibiae possess a long excavation on the outer edge, extending from its apex. This excavation is fringed by a row of bristly hairs, some of which are developed into spines. The first segment of the tarsi is long. Almost always the first five or six segments of the antennae, the front and middle legs and the posterior tibiae and tarsi are brown.

1. Interantennal space flat and strongly punctured; vertex distinctly and rather regularly punctured (subgenus *Chaetocnema*) . . . . . ***concinnipennis***
- Interantennal space carinate or swollen medially, not punctured; vertex impunctate or with few punctures (subgenus *Tlanoma*) 2

2. Posterior angles of pronotum distinctly exceeding breadth of elytra at humeral angles . . . . . ***hainanensis***
- Posterior angles of pronotum narrower or equaling breadth of elytra at humeral angles . . . . . ***discreta***

4. *Chaetocnema (Chaetocnema) concinnipennis*

Baly, 1877, Ent. Soc. Lond., Trans. 170

Length 2 mm. Colour shining brassy-greenish or bluish. Antennae and legs tawny, with posterior femora sometimes darker or pitchy. Elytral punctures closely arranged in 15 rows. Elytral epipleura with rows of punctures. Frequently attracted to village lights at night.

Imago: May – November. All records Lantau Island on a wide range of shrubs.

Distribution: India, Sri Lanka, N. Vietnam (Tonkin), Hainan. This species has not been recorded previously in Hong Kong.

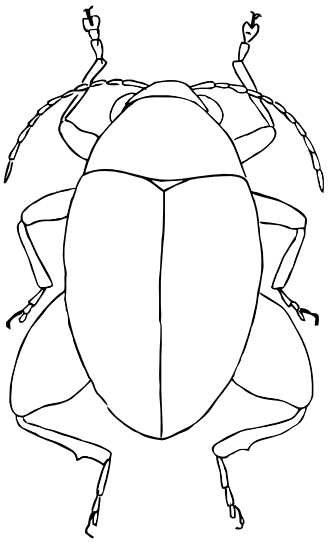
5. *Chaetocnema (Tlanoma) hainanensis*

Chen, 1933, Sinensia 3 : 228

Length 0.9 - 1 mm. Posterior angles of pronotum distinctly exceeding breadth of elytra at humeral angles. Elytron without a transverse depression.

Imago: (April – July). Recorded in Hong Kong by Chen (1934). No modern records known.

Distribution: China (Hainan, Guangdong, Jiangsu and Fujian.)



Sketch right: outline of *Chaetocnema* (Tlanomd) hainanensis after Gressitt (1963)

6. *Chaetocnema (Tlanoma) discreta discreta*

Plectroscelis discreta Baly, 1876, Ent. Soc. Lond., Trans. 1876: 596

Length 1.8 - 2mm. Cupreous above; Pronotum fully 2/3 times as long as broad, lateral margin feebly convex; vertex with 3 or 4 large punctures near inner margin of eye.

Host: *Duchesnea indica; Solanum melongena* L. var. *esculentum; Alternanthera sessilis.*

Imago: July (April – August.). Recorded by Gressit (1963) in the Lam Tsuen Valley July 1962.

Distribution: China (Jiangsu, Fujian, Guangdong, Hunan, Hubei, Guizhou), North Vietnam and Japan.

7. *Podagricomela nigricollis*

Chen, 1934, Peking Nat. Hist. Bull. 8: 58

Length 3.0-3.5mm. Head, pronotum and elytral humerus usually black, but sometimes varying from brown to pitchy black; elytron brown or red brown with interstices slightly raised.

Host: *Citrus* spp. Occasionally is attracted to village lights at night. . Lee and Winney (1981) lists *Citrus sinensis, C. paradisi* and *C. reticulata.*

Imago: February – May (March – June). Lee and Winney (1981) recorded this species for the first time in Hong Kong.

Distribution: China (Guangdong, Zhejiang and Sichuan).

8. *Podontia lutea*

Olivier 1790, Encycl. Meth. 5 : 692

Length 13 - 15.5 mm. Elytra not distinctly marked; body flavous to reddish testaceous above. Tibiae, tarsi and the seven apical segments of the antennae black.

Host: Rhus succedanea.

Imago: April to September (April – October) with last instar larvae recorded in April and September – photo above. Originally found in Hong Kong by Hadden of California Academy of Science in 1933 (Gressitt 1963).

Distribution: Myanmar, China (Shaanxi, Xinjiang, Sichuan, Guizhou, Yunnan, Hubei, Guangxi, Zhejiang, Fujian and Guangdong), Taiwan, and SE Asia.

9. *Ophrida scaphoides*

Podontia scaphoides Baly, 1865, Ent. Soc. Lond., Trans, ser. 3, 2 : 430

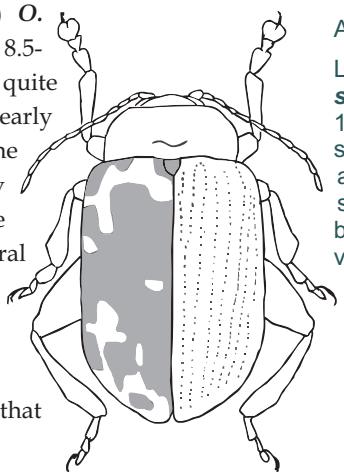
Length 7.5 - 9.0mm. Large size and markings make this species quite distinctive. Antenna less than 1/2 body length; interstices of elytron not distinctly raised.

Host: *Rhus vernicifera.* Occasionally is attracted to village lights at night.

Imago: April – September (June – October). Originally recorded by Kimoto (1963) in Lam Tsuen valley May 1956.

Distribution: China (Zhegiang, Jiangxi, Jiangsu, Fujian, Hubei, Guizhou, Sichuan, Yunnan, Xikang and Taiwan).

Another species of ***Ophrida*** is listed by Hua (2000) ***O. spectabilis*** Baly, 1862, but need confirmation. Length 8.5-11.0mm. Large size and markings make this species quite distinctive. Antenna with segments 1-4 testaceous, 5-11 nearly piceous. The spotting similar to O. scaphoides, but the spots darker and more confluent, forming irregularly shaped lines along the anterior margin, 1/3 of the anterior lateral margins, 1/3 of the posterior lateral margins, and two spots in the centre of the elytra, each side of the suture.



Above: ***Ophrida scaphoides***

Left: sketch of ***Ophrida spectabilis*** after Gressitt 1963. Right hand elytra showing punctures. Grey area on left hand elytra showing the extent of the brown, though this is quite variable.

Host: *Rhus chinensis.*

Imago: (May – September). in Hong Kong. Confirmation that this species does occur in Hong kong is needed.

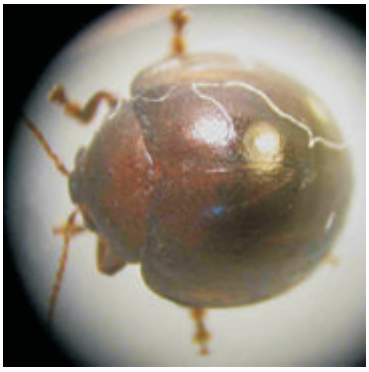
Distribution: China (Zhejiang, Jiangxi, Jiangsu, Fujian, Hubei, Gweizhou, Sichuan, Yunnan and Sikang) and Taiwan..

Key 4 - species of *Neorthaea*

1. Posterior edge of pronotum distinctly bisinuate both sides. Colour dark reddish brown usually with a greenish or brassy / bronze tinge. . . . . ***Neorthaea micans***
- Posterior edge of pronotum mildly sinuate both sides. Colour blackish . . . . . **c.f. *Neorthaea gressitti* (Chûjô)**

10. *Neorthaea micans*

Baly, 1875, Ent. Soc. Lond., Trans. 28

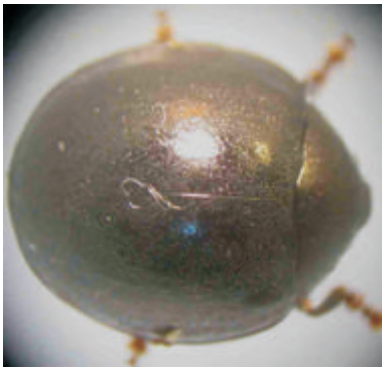


Length 5–7mm. Fairy evenly Reddish testaceous to dark brown above, usually with a brassy or dull greenish lustre. Posterior edge of pronotum distinctly bisinuate both sides.

Imago: The above individual Mui Wo Lantau, June 08, this is the first record for this species in Hong kong.

Distribution: Indonesia, Malaysia, N. Vietnam (Tonkin), China (Guizhou, Hubei, Guangxi, Guangdong), Myanmar and India.

11. c.f. *Neorthaea gressitti* (Chûjô)



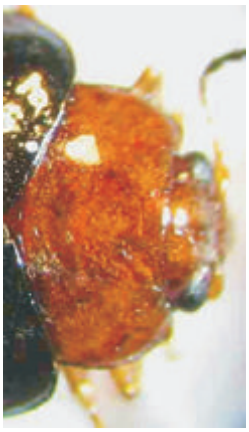
Length 4.8 – 5.5 mm. Punctures on pronotum much lighter than *N. micans*. Colour darker, almost black brown. Posterior edge of pronotum mildly sinuate both sides.

Imago: May to October, Mui Wo, Lantau.

Note: Kimoto 1967 recorded ***Neorthaea gressitti*** Chûjô on 30 May 1965 from the Lam Tsuen Valley. No information on this species was available and it has therefore been excluded from the above key, it could well be that the above unidentified species is indeed this species.

12. *Nisotra gemella*

Haltica gemella Erichson, 1834, Nov. Acta Acad. Leop. Carol. 16 (Suppl. 1): 275
syn. *Nisotra orbiculata* **= *Sphaeroderma orbiculata*** Mots., 1866, Soc. Nat. Mosa, Bull. 39, 1 (2): 421



Length 3.5 - 4 mm. Blue or blue green of varying shades; underside, scutellum and seven apical segments of the antennae piceous; legs, prothorax, and head light brown to dark brown (darker in older specimens). Eyes black. The type of Nisotra bowringi Baly, 1876, a synonym of this species was taken in Hong Kong.

Host: This common species is found on many species of plant, but is especially common on Hi.biscus species.

Imago: March – October

Distribution : India, Myanmar, Indonesia, China (Sichuan, Guangxi, Kiangsi, Fukien, Jiangxi, Guangdong, Hainan and Taiwan), Vietnam and Thailand.

13. *Acrocrypta convexa*

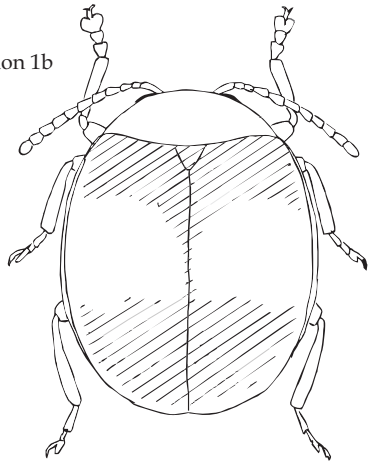
Colpodes convexa Gressitt and Kimoto 1963-Chrysomelidae of China & Korea - Pac Ins mon 1b

Length 3.0 mm. Ochraceous and reddish brown above; head and pronotum ochraceous; scutellum brown; elytron reddish brown with 2 broad ochraceous bands; 1st area in 2nd ¼, rounded and not quite reaching suture, but broader than dark areas, 2nd in apical 1/4, laterally rounded and not touching external margin or apex, reaching to suture, which is slightly pigmented; antenna with scape, pedicel and segment 3 pale ochraceous, 4-5 becoming slightly darker, 6-11 reddish brown; ventral surfaces largely ochraceous; legs pale testaceous with femora slightly duller apically. Glabrous above, except for scattered hairs on anterior portion of head.

Host: Zantedeschia aethiopica.

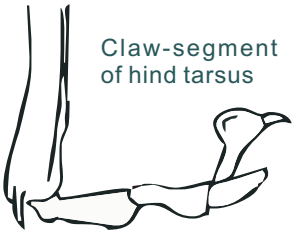
Imago: (April and July) Hua in List of Chinese Insects 2 lists this species as occurring in Hong Kong, .

Distribution : Hainan.



Sketch of *Acrocrypta convexa* (after Gressitt 1963) – shaded area shows the extend of the reddish brown colour of the elytra.

Key 5 - Group 2 Genera with anterior coxal cavities posteriorly open.



Lateral view of end of the posterior tibiae and tarsus in Hyphasis showing the strongly dilated claw-segment (after Maulik 1926).

1. Claw-segment of hind tarsus strongly dilated. . . . . ***Hyphasis***
- Claw-segment of hind tarsus not strongly dilated 2

2. (1) Pronotum and elytra densely pubescent. . . . . ***Hespera***
- Pronotum and elytra not densely pubescent 3

3. (2) Pronotum evenly convex, without a distinct ante-basal, transverse impression (several spp. of *Aphthona* and *Manobidia* are somewhat depressed transversely at base or middle of pronotum). 6
- Pronotum with transverse impression, usually near and parallel to basal margin 4

4. (3) Elytron with punctation regularly arranged in 10 or 11 rows. Pronotum with anti-basal transverse impression not limited on sides by a short longitudinal line. Clypeus with anterior margin truncate. . . . . ***Manobia***
- Elytron with punctation irregular, confused or obsolete ***5***

5. (4) Pronotum with ante-basal, transverse impression limited on sides by a short, longitudinal impression . . . . . ***Phygasia***
- Pronotum with ante-basal, transverse impression not limited on sides by a short, longitudinal impression . . . . . ***Altica***

6. (3) Tarsus with segment 3 entire. 7
- Tarsus with segment 3 bilobed 9

7. (6) Hind tibia not produced apically, tibial spine and tarsus inserted at apex ***8***
- Hind tibia produced apically, projection usually curved, tibial spine and tarsus inserted subapically. . . . . ***Argopistes***

8. (7) Maxillary palpus stout, last segment pointed apically; elytron with epipleuron (more or less) horizontal. Prosternal process not longitudinally channeled. Clypeus entire, anterior margin truncate . . . . . ***Sphaeroderma***
- Maxillary palpus with 2 apical segments incrassate, forming a spherical globule; elytron with epipleuron vertical. . . . . ***Chilocoristes***

9. (6) Elytron with punctation irregular, confused or obsolete 11
- Elytron with punctation arranged in 10 or l l rows 10

10. (9) Postantennal tubercles contiguous, not distinctly delimited from vertex ..... ***Aphthonomorpha***
- Postantennal tubercles separated, distinctly delimited from vertex ..... ***Manobidia***

11. (9) Interantennal space broad, with bredth exceeding transverse diameter of eye. ..... ***Ivalia***
- Interantennal space narrow, bredth much less than transverse diameter of eye 12

12. (11) Hind tibia with an axial excavation extending from apex to basal 1/4 or more. ..... ***Hemipyxis***
- Hind tibia without, or with a short, sub-apical excavation 13

13. (12)Hind tarsus with segment 1 distinctly shorter than ½ length of tibia 14
- Hind tarsus with segment 1 equaling or exceeding ½ length of tibia ..... ***Longitarsus***

14. (13) Elytron not pubescent 15
- Elytron with sparse, fine pubescence on apical edge; prosternum narrow; antenna with segments 2 and 3 small, nearly equal in length ..... ***Luperomorpha***

15. (14) Each elytron white, with all the margins (including sutural) black and a thick black line running longitudinally from the anterior border for ¾ of the elytral length. Pronotum almost square. Pronotum and head black. ..... ***Agasicles***
- Not as above. 16

16. (15) Postantennal tubercles obsolete; hind tibia with apical spine inserted medially on apex ..... ***Phyllotreta***
- Postantennal tubercles prominent; hind tibia with apical spine inserted laterally on apex ..... ***Aphthona***

Key 6 - *Hyphasis* species

1. Antenna black beyond segment 2; length generally 2.8-4.0 mm ..... ***Hyphasis moseri***
- Antennae black or brown on last 6 or 7 segments; antennal segment 2 as long as 3; elytral punctures rather strong and close; length 2.0-2.8 mm ..... ***Hyphasis inconstans***

14. *Hyphasis moseri*

Weise 1922, Tijdschr. Ent. 65: 124

Length 3.0-4.0 mm. Boby oblong ovate. Pronotum without an ante-basal impression; Antenna long, black beyond segment two. Elytral epipleura extraordinarily broad. Pronotum 2.3 times as broad as long and somewhat depressed with flattened margins. Dorsal surface dull yellow. Antenna passing a little beyond middle of elytra, segment 2 shorter than 3.

Host: *Vitex negundo* L var. *cannabifolia*

Imago: June – August.

Distribution: N. Vietnam, China (Jiangxi, Fujian, Guangdong and Hainan).

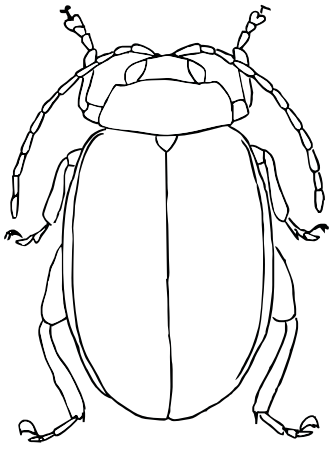
15. *Hyphasis inconstans*

Jacoby 1885, Zool. Soc. Lond., Proc. 1885: 733

Elytra very dark brown, very closely punctured. Pronotum dark orange with areas of large dark smudges. Compared with photographs of the type specimen in Harvard University.

Imago: April to July in south China. This is the first record of this species in Hong Kong 24 April 08 Tung Chung valley, Lantau Island.

Distribution: Japan, China (Giangxi, Guangdong, Fujian and Hainan) and Vietnam.



above right: sketch of ***Hyphasis inconstans*** after Gressitt 1963

16. *Hespera lomasa*

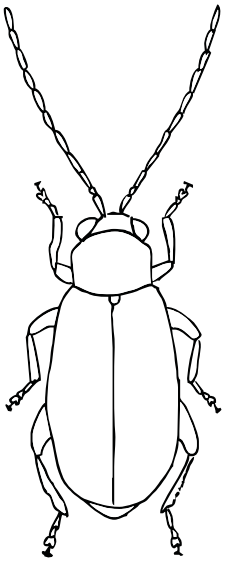
Maulik, 1926, Fauna India, Chrys. & Halt., 142

Length 2.0-3.0 mm; coloration varying from brown to brownish black. Pubescence dense, adpressed, usually golden-yellow or rarely silvery in colour. (the species name 'lomasa' coming from the sanskrit word for hairy). Apical segments of the antennae and the apex of the posterior femora, piceous.

Host: variety of flowers including *Ligustrum* sp. and *Rosa laevigata*.

Imago: March – September.

Distribution: Myanmar, India, Sri Lanka, China (Xikang, sichuan, Guangdong, Guizhou, Hubei, Jianxi, Fujian, Hainan) and Vietnam



above right: sketch of ***Hespera lomasa*** after Maulik 1926

17. *Manobia* sp.

Length 2.9 mm. Entirely reddish testaceous in colour. Last 5 antennal segmants slightly expanded. Pronotum with a deeply impressed line in front of the basal margin. Scutellum with apex rounded. Elytra much broader at base than prothorax. Tarsal claws appendiculate.

Imago: commonly found in scrubby woodland and bamboo Lantau March - April 2009.

Key 7 - species of Phygasia .

1. Pronotum Orange or reddish brown . . . . . ***Phygasia ornata***
- Pronotum black . . . . . ***Phygasia dorsata***

18. *Phygasia ornata*

Baly, 1876, Ent. Soc. Lond., Trans. 1876: 445

Length 4 – 6.5 mm. Elytra fulvous with basal and apical black or pitchy bands connected along suture and lateral margin with narrow dark stripe; extreme apex often orange or red. Elytron without costae.

Imago: May - September. Type from Hong Kong.

Distribution: China (Guangdong, Jiangxi,, Fujian, Guizhou and Taiwan) and Myanmar.

19. *Phygasia dorsata*

Baly, 1878, Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist. Ser. 5, 2 : 231

Length 6 – 7.5 mm. Elytra flavous with sutural stripe widening in middle into large common central spot and apices black. Other body parts black. Elytron with 3 costae.

Imago: June (Yiu Vor 21 June 2007 Ng Tung Tsai).

Distribution: China (Yunnan, Sichuan), India, Indonesia and Vietnam.

Key 8 - species of *Altica* .

1. Dorsal surface finely or weakly shagreened or granulate ....*Altica viridicyanea*
- Dorsal surface smooth ....*Altica cyanea*

20. *Altica cyanea*

Galleruca cyanea Weber , 1801, Observ. Ent. 1: 67

Length 5.0-5.5 mm. Dorsal surface smooth, dark blue, antennae black. Scutellum nearly black. Elytron without feebly impressed longitudinal sulcus laterally. Photo below of Larvae on 17/6/08 from Lam Tseun Valley on Polygonum sp. Emerged (bottom right) 29/6/08, When originally emerged dirty brown , gradually becoming blue over 2 days.

Host: Gressit 1963 lists Ludwigia spp, however in Hong Kong more frequently seen on Polygonum spp. Lee and Winney (1981) lists Oryza sativa.

Imago: March – Novemebr (April – December).

Distribution: Wide distribution from India to Japan and Australia. China (Shanxi, Hubei, Sichuan, Zhejiang, Xikang, Anhui, Fukian, Guangdong)

21. *Altica viridicyanea*

Graptodera viridicyanea Baly., 1874, Ent. Soc. Lond., Trans. 1874: 191

Length 3.5-4.0 mm. Shining bluish green with ventral surface blackish blue. Antennae black. Ventral surfaces of aedeagus with a pair of feebly raised costae and their insides distinctly grooved, and these grooves run subparallel. Gressitt 1965 noted that this species is easily confused with Altica fragariae (Nakane 1955), an almost identical species. Can only be told apart in certainty by the male genitalia, in A. viridicyanea the ventral surface of the aedeagus has one distinct pair of costa, however in A. fragariae there is also a pair of feebly raised internal costa.

Imago: (July – September).

Distribution: Indian, Korea, Japan and China (Jilin, Hubei, Sichuan, Guizhou, Fujian, Guangdong and Yunnan).

Key 9 - species of *Argopistes*

1. Dorsal surface pitchy black, edged with brown all around the pronotal and elytral margins. . . . . ***Argopistes lamprotes***
- Not as above . . . . . ***Argopistes coccinelliformis***

22. *Argopistes coccinelliformis*

Csiki, 1940, Col. Cat. 169 : 524 (new name for *coccinelloides* Baly).
= *Argopistes coccinelloides* Baly, 1874 (nee Suffrain, 1868), Ent. Soc. Lond., Trans. 1874: 202

Length 3.2-4.0 mm. Elytron black, with a reddish area, occasionally almost entirely reddish brown;.

Host: *Ligustrum* sp. Lee and Winney (1981) lists *Clausena lanium* and *Citrus* sp.

Imago: February – June (March – September.).

Distribution: Japan, South China (including Taiwan) and Vietnam.

Note: A third species of this genus has been incorrectly listed as occurring in Hong Kong.*Argopistes biplagiatus* Motschulsky 1860, is a Siberian and Japanese species.

23. *Argopistes lamprotes*

Maulik 1926 Fauna of British India - Chrysomelinae and Halticinae p 297

Length 3.5 mm. Dorsal surface pitchy black, edged with brown all around the pronotal and elytral margins. Underside covered with brownish hairs. Double spine at the apex of the posterior tibia large and sharp.

Host: . Lee and Winney (1981) lists *Citrus* sp.

Distribution: India

24. *Sphaeroderma fuscicorne*

Baly, 1864, Ent. Monthly Mag. 1: 134

Length 2.2 – 2.8mm. Legs entirely reddish brown or yellowish; Body reddish brown above(more orange in live specimens). Antennae quite short, thickens after the fifth segment. Generally black with segments 1-4 , and occasionally 5 or even all, pale. Males distinguished by broader anterior tibiae and dilated first segment to all antennae.

Host: *Akebia quinata* and *A. trifoliata.*

Imago: First records for Hong Kong. Only recorded June and July, both times at circa 500 m altitude on Sunset and Lantau Peaks, Lantau Island.

Distribution: Japan. Type specimen from China, exact location unknown.

25. *Chilocoristes smilacis*

Gressitt and Kimoto 1963 Chrysomelidae of China & Korea - Pac Ins mon.1b

Length 4.3 mm. Strongly convex. Dorsum deep reddish brown to nearly pitchy on upper portions of elytron, becoming rich reddish brown on pronotum and median portion of elytron and quite pale reddish brown on outer borders of pronotum and elytron; antenna and legs fairly pale testaceous; head and ventral surfaces ochraceous, paler towards apex of abdomen. Dorsum glabrous; antenna, mouthparts, ventral surfaces and legs thinly clothed with short oblique golden buff hairs.

Host: *Smilax china.*

Imago: Type from Hong Kong July in Tai Po Kau.

Distribution: To date endemic to Hong Kong.

26. *Aphthonomorpha collaris*

Crepidodera collaris Baly, 1877, Ent. Soc. Lond., Trans. 1877

Length 2.2-2.5 mm. Head and pronotum red, elytra black. Abdominal sternite 1 with a pair of short, longitudinal intercoxal carinae.

Imago: Kimoto (1967) noted 1 specimen taken on 21 April 1965 from Tai Po Kau. (April – June)

Distribution: China (Jiangsu, Jiangxi, Fujien, Guangdong, Hunan, Hubei and Taiwan), Vietnam and Japan.

Key 10 - species of *Manobidia.*

1. Pronotum depressed at base; pale yellow-brown to dark brown; antenna flavous except apical segments darker; length 1.6 mm . . . . . ***M. intermedia***
- Pronotum not depressed at base; dark or pale reddish brown; abdomen and apical 1/2 of hind femur more or less piceous, in some cases abdomen and femora entirely reddish brown; length 1.5mm . . . . . ***M. simplicithorax***

27. *Manobidia simplicithorax*

Chen, 1934, Sinensia 5 (3 - 4) : 350, 360

Length 1.5mm. Pronotum not depressed at base; dark or pale reddish brown; abdomen and apical 1/2 of hind femur more or less piceous, in some cases abdomen and femora entirely reddish brown.

Imago: (April – July).

Distribution: Vietnam ,China (Guangdong and Hainan).

28. *Manobidia intermedia*

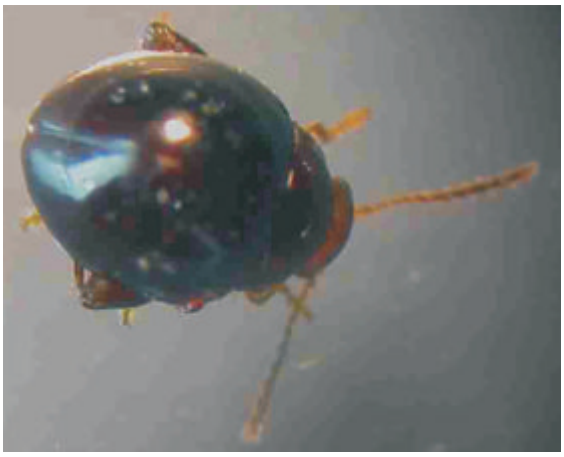
Chen, 1934, Sinensia 5 (3-4) : 360

Length 1.6 mm. Pronotum depressed at base; pale yellow-brown to dark brown; antenna flavous except apical segments darker. Chen 1935 in the type description noted this species as occurring in Hong Kong.

Distribution: Vietnam.

29. *Ivalia* sp.

Length: 1.8 mm. These very small convex leaf beetles feed on moss and are probably totally nocturnal. The metasternum is expanded anteriorly, becoming vertical and covering mesosternums so the latter also becomes vertical, and is difficult to see. Metatibia curved in dorsal view with long metatibial spur.



Host: Moss on boulder.

Imago: 15 November 2008 Wang Tong, Lantau. A group of around 10, not present a week before or the next night – seen only in the night. Many feeding on moss.Only recorded in November.

Note: Gressitt described 2 species of Taizonia for China, neither of which meet the description of this species. Taizonia is a junior synonym of Ivalia. Alexander S. Konstantinov (pers comm.) commented that this is probably an, as yet undescribed species.

Key 11 - species of *Hemipyxis* .

Hong Kong species all have the elytra not distinctly marked or metallic. In this genus the lateral margins of the prothorax are rounded, somewhat explanate and reflexed. The elytral lateral margins are also somewhat explanate and reflexed. In many publications these species are place synonymic genus *Sebaethe.*

1. Pronotum and elytra differing in colour . . . . . ***Hemipyxis flavipennis***
- Pronotum and elytra nearly alike in colour.. . . . . ***Hemipyxis* sp.nr. *nigricornis***

[30. *Hemipyxis flavipennis*]

Sebaethe flavipennis Baly, 1874, Ent. Soc. Lond., Trans. 1874

Pronotum moderately punctate and pitchy brown to pieous in colour. Elytron impunctate along lateral margins.

Host: *Alnus* sp.

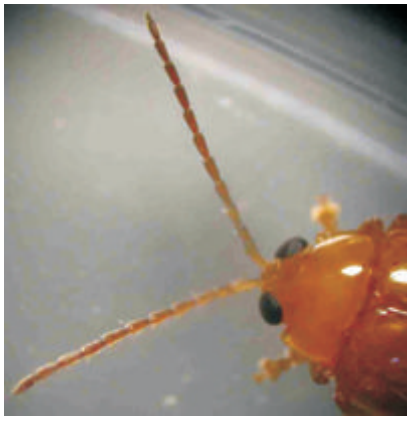
Imago: Japan and south China.

Note: Gressitt 1963 indicated this species may occur in Hong Kong, possibly because Bowring collected specimens from south China.

Distribution: Japan and South China.

31. *Hemipyxis* sp. nr. *nigricornis*

Sebaethe nigricornis Baly, 1877, Ent. Soc. Lond., Trans. 1877



Length: 3.4 – 3.8 mm The first 3 of 4 segments of the antennae are testaceous the rest becoming darker grey or blackish (though in one specimen I have seen even the apical segments are testaceous, though somewhat darker). These are close to H. nigricornis, but the whole insect is generally paler.

Host: found in mangroves, also seen attracted to village lights, close to the coast.

Imago: April, August – October.

32. *Longitarsus belgaumensis*

Jacoby.1896 Ann. Soc. Ent. Belg XL p 260

Length 2.5 mm Body oblong, parallel sided. Colour obscure brown with elytral suture narrowly piceous, antennae brown with several of the apical segments darker. Labrum black. Punctures of the elytra confused. Interocular space without punctures. Posterior femora black at apex.

Host: Lee and Winney (1981) lists Crotalaria sp. I n India is listed as a pest of Phaseolus vulgaris (French Bean)

Note: This genus is very large and several other species are more likely to occur here. This genus is diverse, however, the following characters are constant: Generally small in size; Antennae fairy long and slender, extending beyond the middle or even the end of the elytra. Posterior tibiae are long and flat above towards the apex.

Distribution: India, Nepal and Vietnam

33. *Luperomorpha rubra*

Chen, 1933, Sinensia 3(9)

Length 2.3-2.8 mm. Surface of pronotum smooth but not shagreened; Head, pronotum and elytra reddish brown. More orange in live specimens.

Host: seen on large variety of plants, sometimes attracted to village lights, or even under street lights.

Imago: April – October. Chen (1934) recorded this species from Hong Kong.

Distribution: Vietnam, China (Guangdong and Hainan).

34. *Agasicles hygrophila*

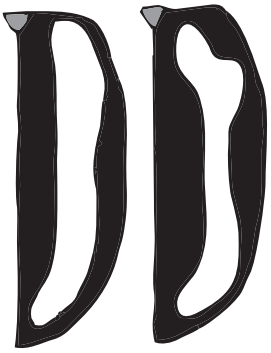
Selman and Vogt, 1971

This south American species has been introduced to many parts of the world the naturalized south American aquatic perennial herb *Alternanthera philoxeroides*, which according to the Flora of Hong Kong (2006) is now common. Specimen from Yiu Vor, March 2007.

Distribution: Now quite widely distributed both North and South American and now Asia and Australia.

35. *Phyllotreta striolata* *Crioceris striolata* Fab., 1801, Index Syst. Eleuth. 38

Left: *Phyllotreta striolata*
Right: right hand elytra of
(1) *P. rectilineata* Chen 1939 and
(2) far right *P. striolata* (Fabricius)



Length 2 – 2.2 mm. Distinctive patterned elytra and small size quite distinctive, however a similar species ***P. rectilineata*** Chen 1939 could well occur in Hong Kong, but as yet has not been recorded.

Host: Many species of ***Cruciferae.*** Lee and Winney (1981) lists *Rorippa nasturtium aquaticum, Raphanus sativus* L var. *longipinnatus, Brassica chinensis, B. juncea* and *B. parachinensis.*

Imago: Throughout the year.

Distribution: Holarctic.

36. *Aphthona strigosa* Baly, 1874, Ent. Soc. Lond., Trans. 1874:

Length 2 – 2.4 mm. Upper side finely granulose, scarcely perceptibly punctate; color subopaque metallic green, sometimes slightly aeneous or bluish or even in some individuals blackish or blackish blue. Aphthona wallacei Baly a synonym of this species has been listed for Hong Kong.

Host: *Mallotus* spp. Lee and Winney (1981) lists *Mallotus apelta.* In colder weather can be found on citrus spp (and also commonly found on dark green railings).

Imago: Common throughout the year.

Distribution: Japan, China (Jiangxi, Fujian, Guangdong and Sichuan), Indonesia and Vietnam.

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