A Remarkable New Species of the Genus *Leptelmis* SHARP from Amami-Ôshima, with Redescription of the Larva of *Leptelmis gracilis* SHARP (Coleoptera, Elmidae, Elminae)

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Abstract  A new species of the genus *Leptelmis*, *L. torikaii* sp. nov., is described from Amami-Ôshima, the Ryukyu Islands, Japan. The larva of *Leptelmis gracilis* is redescribed using SEM technology.

Key words: comparative morphology, SEM, rifle beetle, Elmini, Stenelmina.

Introduction

The genus *Leptelmis* SHARP, 1888 is a small genus in the family Elmidae and is represented by 24 species and two subspecies in the Afrotropical, the Palearctic, and the Oriental Regions (Jäch et al., 2016; Kodada et al., 2016). The most species-rich area is the Oriental Region, however taxonomic study on the Oriental species is considered to be insufficient. Two species of the genus *Leptelmis*, *L. gracilis* SHARP and *L. parallela* Nomura, had been recorded from Japan (Honshu, Shikoku, Kyushu), but Hayashi et al. (2013) found out that *L. parallela* was just a winged morph of *L. gracilis*.

In 2017, two authors collected some specimens of this genus from Amami-Ôshima, the second largest island in the Ryukyu Islands. This is the first record of this genus from the Ryukyu Islands. After close examination including comparison with *L. gracilis* (redescribed in detail by Hayashi & Yoshitomi, 2014) and the Taiwanese species, *L. formosana* Nomura (redescribed in detail by Jeng & Yang, 1993), and some Chinese species, it is clear that the Amami specimens represent an undescribed species, which is described below.

In addition, the larva of *Leptelmis gracilis* is redescribed.

Material and Methods

The specimens were examined with a stereoscopic microscope (Olympus SZH10), a biological microscope (Olympus BX51) and scanning electron microscopes (SEM; HITACHI Miniscope® TM-3030Plus for adult observation, and JEOL JCM-6000 Neoscope Scanning Electron for larval observation).

Abbreviations:
AF: apterous form
MF: macropterous form
EL: elytral length along suture from scutellar base to elytral apices
EW: maximum width of elytra
PL: pronotal length along midline in dorsal view
PW: maximum width of pronotum
TL: total length of PL and EL

Type specimens and the material examined are deposited in the following collections:
CKN: collection of Yuuki Kamite, Nagoya, Japan
EMEC: Essig Museum of Entomology, University of California, Berkeley, California, USA (W. D. Shepard)
EUMJ: Ehime University Museum, Matsuyama, Japan (H. Yoshitomi)
HOWP: Hoshizaki Institute for Wildlife Protection, Izumo, Japan (M. Hayashi)
NMW: Naturhistorisches Museum Wien, Vienna, Austria (M. A. Jäch)
The terminology generally follows Kodada et al. (2016). The mean of the measurements is indicated in parenthesis after the ranges.

Taxonomy

Leptelmis torikai Kamite, Yoshitomi et Hayashi, sp. nov.
[Japanese name: Amami-yokomizo-doromushi]
(Figs. 1A, B, 2A, C, E, 3A, C, E, 4 & 5)

Type series. Holotype (EUMJ), 1 male (AF), Toguchi-gawa, alt. 20–30 m, Toguchi, Tatsugō-chō, Amami-Ōshima, Japan, 12.III.2017, Y. Kamite leg. Paratypes (CKN, EMEC, EUMJ, HOWP, NMW), 20 exs. (AF), same data as for the holotype; 11 exs. (AF), ditto, 21.IV.2017, H. Yoshitomi leg.

Description. Adult. Male. Body elongate oval, convex dorsally. Coloration of body black, but ventral surface and legs reddish brown; tibia, tarsus and claws somewhat paler; antennae and mouth parts brown. Plastron present on head, pronotum, prosternum, meso- and metaventrite, abdominal ventrites 1–5 and legs except for tarsi and claws.

Head (Fig. 2C) almost flat on dorsal surface, pubescent; median area and around eyes and clypeus punctate. Eyes moderate in size, somewhat prominent. Clypeus transverse, about three times as wide as long. Labrum transverse, about twice as wide as long.

Pronotum (Fig. 2E) convex, pubescent, longer than wide, widest at basal 1/3, with large punctures except for antero-medial area; lateral margins constricted at apical 1/3; apical 1/3 with transverse groove and basal area with two oblique posteriorly convergent grooves; middle of anterior margin and antero-lateral corners produced anteriorly.

Elytra (Fig. 3A) elongate oval, moderately convex, widest at apical 1/3; intervals pubescent; basal part of strial punctures large and deep, gradually smaller and shallower to apex; basal area of interval III convex.

Prosternum with large punctures at basal 2/3; prosternal process narrowing posteriorly and slightly emarginate at apex. Meso- and metaventrite (Fig. 3E), and abdominal ventrites 1 and 2 covered with large punctures.

Abdominal ventrite V (Fig. 4A) bearing short stout setae in apical part, shallowly concave at apical margin. Tergite VIII (Fig. 4C) semicircular, sparsely covered with short setae. Sternite VIII (Fig. 4D) transverse, shallowly concave in caudal margin, with rather long median strut. Sternite IX (Fig. 4E) asymmetrical, shallowly concave in caudal margin, with long and slender lateral struts.

Aedeagus (Fig. 4F–H) long, about 0.6 mm; phallobase long, membranous in mesal part, widest
Fig. 1. Habitus of Leptelmis spp. —— A (Holotype), B, L. torikai sp. nov.; C (AF), D (MF), L. gracilis Sharp.
Fig. 2. SEM photographs of *Leptelmis* spp. —— A, C, E & *L. torikaii* sp. nov.; B, D & F, *L. gracilis* SHARP (AF).
—— A & B, Habitus in dorso-lateral view; C & D, head; E & F, pronotum.
Fig. 3. SEM photographs of *Leptelmis* spp. —— A, C, E & *L. torikaii* sp. nov.; B, D, F & *L. gracilis* SHARP (AF).
—— A & B, Elytra; C & D, basal part of elytra; E & F, meso- and metaventrite.
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at basal 1/3; parameres long and rather wide, as long as phallobase, with slightly pointed apices, with plate-like projections in ventro-basal parts; penis slender, evenly tapering apically.

Female. Abdominal ventrite V (Fig. 4B) bearing short stout setae in apical part, gently arcuate in apical margin. Tergite VIII (Fig. 4I) semicircular, sparsely covered with short setae. Sternite VIII (Fig. 4J) trapezoidal, gently arcuate in caudal margin, with long median strut. Ovipositor (Fig. 4K) relatively long; approximate ratio of stylus, distal portion of coxite, basal portion of coxite, and valvifer (n = 1) as 1.0 : 3.6 : 1.8 : 6.4; vagina lacking serration.

Measurement data and ratios. See Table 1.

Etymology. The specific name is dedicated to Mr. Hisahiro Torikai who guided the first author’s field investigation in Amami-Ôshima and found the type locality of this new species.

Ecological notes. The habitat of this species is a small stream at low elevation. Adults of this species mainly held onto submerged roots of Ipomoea indica (Burm.) Merr. (Fig. 5D) or Zingiberaceae. They were collected with Elmomorphus amamiensis Nomura (Dryopidae) and Dryopomorphus amami Yoshitomi et Satô (Elmidae).

Remarks. In Asia, 16 species and two subspecies of the genus were recorded so far (Jäch et al., 2016; Fig. 8). Judging from the presence of plate-like projections of parameres, this species is related to southern Chinese species, Leptelmis fujiana Yang et Zhang, 2002 known from Fujian, L. brunnelinata Zhang, Su et Yang, 2003 and L. vittata Zhang, Su et Yang, 2003 known from Guangxi (Yang & Zhang, 2002; Zhang et al., 2003), but differs from them by the elongate phallobase and slender penis. In contrast, Leptelmis gracilis Sharp, 1888 (known from mainland Japan and Korea) and L. formosana Nomura, 1962 (known from Taiwan) have slender parameres lacking plate-like projections (Jeng & Yang, 1993; Hayashi & Yoshitomi, 2014). Taking into consideration these relationships, it appears that L. torikaii sp. nov. is an example of relict endemic species in Amami-Ôshima of the central Ryukyus, similar to the Amami rabbit (Pentalagus furnessi (Stone)) and the Amami jay (Garrulus lidthi Bonaparte) (BCJ, 2010).

The larva of this species is unknown.

Wing dimorphism in the new species is not recognised in the present time, and all 32 specimens of the type series are of the apterous form (AF). The percentage of the appearance of macropterous form (MF) in L. gracilis is relatively low (24.2 % in Hayashi et al., 2013), and it is expected that the MF of L. torikaii sp. nov. will be discovered in near future.

Adult Leptelmis gracilis live in middle to lower stream reaches (frequently in large rivers), and

Table 1. Measurement data and ratios of Leptelmis spp.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>torikaii n = 10</th>
<th>gracilis n = 3</th>
<th>gracilis n = 10</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TL (mm)</td>
<td>2.23–2.62 (2.46)</td>
<td>2.62–2.85 (2.71)</td>
<td>2.75–2.95 (2.83)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PW (mm)</td>
<td>0.60–0.70 (0.67)</td>
<td>0.65–0.70 (0.68)</td>
<td>0.73–0.79 (0.75)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PL (mm)</td>
<td>0.78–0.90 (0.83)</td>
<td>0.75–0.80 (0.78)</td>
<td>0.80–0.91 (0.85)</td>
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<tr>
<td>EL (mm)</td>
<td>1.45–1.72 (1.62)</td>
<td>1.82–2.05 (1.92)</td>
<td>1.90–2.08 (1.99)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EW (mm)</td>
<td>0.80–0.93 (0.88)</td>
<td>1.02–1.05 (1.03)</td>
<td>1.08–1.17 (1.11)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PW/PL</td>
<td>0.77–0.85 (0.81)</td>
<td>0.87–0.88 (0.87)</td>
<td>0.80–0.93 (0.89)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EL/EW</td>
<td>1.78–2.00 (1.84)</td>
<td>1.77–1.95 (1.86)</td>
<td>1.73–1.89 (1.80)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EL/PL</td>
<td>1.83–2.13 (1.96)</td>
<td>2.28–2.56 (2.46)</td>
<td>2.09–2.51 (2.35)</td>
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<tr>
<td>EW/PW</td>
<td>1.19–1.38 (1.31)</td>
<td>1.47–1.57 (1.51)</td>
<td>1.47–1.51 (1.48)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TL/EW</td>
<td>2.67–3.00 (2.78)</td>
<td>2.54–2.71 (2.62)</td>
<td>2.50–2.65 (2.56)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Fig. 4. Abdominal ventrites (A & B), male (C–H) and female (I–K) genitalia of *Leptelmis torikaii* sp. nov. —— A, Ventrites I–V, male; B, ventrites IV–V, female; C & I, tergite VIII; D & J, sternite VIII; E, sternite IX; F–H, aedeagus in dorsal (F), ventral (G), and lateral (H) views; K, ovipositor.
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are collected from the riparian roots of reeds and willows and from decaying submerged wood (Hayashi & Yoshitomi, 2014). Adult L. torikaii sp. nov. live in a small, low elevation stream and were collected mainly from the submerged roots of Ipomoea indica and Zingiberaceae.


Leptelmis gracilis Sharp, 1888

[Japanese name: Yokomizo-doromushi]

(Figs. 1C, D, 2B, D, F, 3 B, D, F, 6 & 7)


Leptelmis coreana Jung et Bae, 2012: 255 (synonymized by Jung et al., 2014: 103).

Leptelmis ochra Jung et Bae, 2012: 256 (synonymized by Jung et al., 2014: 103).


Redescription of mature larva. Body length is ca. 5.0 mm in expanded specimen preserved in 70% ethanol; ca. 4.0 mm in dry condition.

Body elongate and flat, gradually narrowing middle to apex; slightly convex dorsally and flattened ventrally; meso- and metathorax and abdominal segments I to VIII with blade-like lateral projections on both sides; remarkably prominent spiracles on mesothorax and abdominal segments I to VIII; middle suture present on thorax and abdominal segments I to VII; body color entirely cream-colored but head and apical half of abdominal segment IX dark brown. Two types of granules on body surface; large granules with a pectinate seta.

Head (Figs. 6A, 7C & D) more or less flat, visible from above, well exposed from prothorax; width as long as length; eyes not prominent in both sides; clypeus transverse and entirely smooth, with setae on base; frons and vertex with granules and indistinct setae with short branched setae; posterior edge emarginate; epicranial stem present but short; frontoclypeal suture distinct. Antenna with three antennomeres; 1st shorter than 2nd, with pectinate setae on frontal margin; 2nd longest, in 1st to 3rd, with slender sensorial appendage; 3rd slender and shorter than sensorial appendage of 2nd. Labrum transverse and short, with short branched setae and long simple setae along frontal margin; epipharynx with dense setae. Mandible tridentate at apex, articulated pubescent process in inner margin, long, dense setae in outer margin. Maxilla and labium forming a unit (maxillolabial unit). Maxilla with palp having four palpomeres; cardo small; stipes large; galea and lacinia separate, setose apically. Labium narrow with palp with two palpomeres; ligula short and transverse; mentum long, apex wider than base, with scattered branched setae; submentum short and transverse.

Thorax (Figs. 6B–G, 7E & F) dentate on lateral sides and hind margin; dorsum with two types of granules. Prothorax longer than width, 1.9 times as long as mesothorax; with two ventral sclerites, procoxae closed posteriorly by a postero-medial sclerite; pectinate setae on front and hind margins; areas of lacking granules and setae on apical and middle parts. Meso- and metathorax transverse, dense granules and setae with a pectinate seta on dorsum. Mesothorax with five ventral sclerites. Legs 5-segmented, short and stout; apical segment long and simple without setae.

Abdomen (Figs. 6H, 7A, B, G & H) 9-segmented. Segments I to VIII transverse, granules with branched setae on dorsum and lateral parts; pleural sclerites on segments I to VII. Segment IX with longitudinal ridge on dorsum, longer than width, gradually narrowing to apex; ridge with short spines; apex with a pair of spines on the sides; ventral side flat with dense granules and scattered setae; ventral operculum pentagonal in shape, with branched setae on lateral side; opercular claws and anal gills present.

Description of immature larva. Body length is ca. 4.0 mm in expanded specimen preserved in 70% ethanol; ca. 3.0 mm in dry condition. Prominent spiracles lacking on mesothorax and abdominal segments I to VIII.

Ecology. Hayashi and Yoshitomi (2014) discussed the ecology of this species. The larvae examined in this study were collected from roots of Carex dispalata Boot in a small stream in Shimane Prefecture.

Distribution. Japan (Honshu, Shikoku, Kyushu), South Korea.
Fig. 6. SEM photographs of mature larva of *Leptelmis gracilis* Sharp. — A, Head; B, C & D, prothorax (C, middle part; D, basal margin); E, meso- and metathorax; F, prominent spiracle of mesothorax; G, granules and setae of mesothorax; H, prominent spiracle of abdominal segment I. —— A–G, Dorsal view; H, lateral view. Scale bars: A, B & E in 100 μm; C, F–H in 50 μm; D in 20 μm.
Fig. 7. SEM photographs of mature larva of Leptelmis gracilis Sharp. —— A, B, G & H, Abdominal segment IX; C & D, head; E, pro- and mesothorax; F, meso- and metathorax and abdominal segments I to II. —— A & B, Dorsal view; C–H, ventral view. Scale bars: A, F & G in 200 μm; C & E in 100 μm; H in 50 μm; B, D in 20 μm.
Key to Species of the Genus *Leptelmis* SHARP from Japan

1a. Elytra with large humeri; lateral margins subparallel (Fig. 1D). ............... *L. gracilis* SHARP (MF)

1b. Elytra with reduced humeri; lateral margins not subparallel (Fig. 1A–C). ................................. 2

2a. Body larger (TL 2.75–2.95 mm, Table 1). Legs blackish. Head lacking widely distributed plastron (Fig. 2D, not punctated area). Pubescence of pronotum and elytra longer (Figs. 2F & 3D). Punctures of pronotum, meso- and metaventrite (Fig. 3F), and abdominal ventrites 1 and 2 smaller. Apical 1/3 of lateral margins of elytra more expanded (Fig. 3B). Aedeagus relatively slender; parameres slender, with obtuse apices, lacking plate-like projections in ventro-basal parts; penis subparallel-sided near base to apical 1/3. Distributed in Honshu, Shikoku, Kyushu. .......................................................... *L. gracilis* SHARP (AF)

2b. Body smaller (TL 2.23–2.62 mm, Table 1). Legs reddish. Head with widely distributed plastron (Fig. 2C, not punctated area). Pubescence of pronotum and elytra shorter (Figs. 2E & 3C). Punctures of pronotum, meso- and metaventrite (Fig. 3E), and abdominal ventrites 1 and 2 larger. Apical 1/3 of lateral margins of elytra not so expanded (Fig. 3A). Aedeagus relatively stout; parameres wide, with slightly pointed apices, with plate-like projections in ventro-basal parts; penis slender, evenly tapering apically. Distributed in Amami-Ôshima. .......................................................... *L. torikaii* sp. nov.

Fig. 8. Geographical distribution of Asian *Leptelmis*. 
Acknowledgements

We thank Mr. Hisahiro TORIKAI who guided the first author’s collecting trip in Amami-Ōshima. We would also like to acknowledge Mr. Seibun HIGA who identified Ipomoea indica (Burm.) MERR. We also thank Dr. William D. SHEPARD (EMEC) and Dr. Manfred A. JÄCH (NMW) for reading the manuscript and Mr. Hirofumi FUJIMOTO, Mr. Masato MORI and the late Mr. Takeshi OGATA for offering adult specimens of Leptelmis gracilis.

要約

上手雄貴・吉富博之・林 成多：奄美大島から注目すべきヨコミゾドロムシ属 Leptelmis の 1 新種およびヨコミゾドロムシ L. gracilis 幼虫の再記載（鞘翅目ヒメドロムシ科ヒメドロムシ亜科）。

References


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