

A NEW GENUS (*NEOSTEREOPALPUS*) OF THE EURYGENIINI (COLEOPTERA:  
ANTHICIDAE) FROM JAPAN\* †

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(Received December 14, 1966)

A new genus (*Neostereopalpus*) is proposed for the Japanese species *Eurygenius niponicus* Lewis, 1895, chiefly on the basis of the ovipositor of the female, which is short and compact and in this respect different from other Anthicidae and similar to most Meloidae.

### Introduction

It has been customary in the past to place in the genus *Eurygenius* species that could not satisfactorily be placed elsewhere in the tribe. Consequently, many species have later been removed and placed in recently described or revised genera.

There were formerly three described species of the Eurygeniini recorded from Japan. One of them is redescribed here and placed in a new genus. The other two were found to be synonymous and have been placed in the genus *Stereopalpus*.<sup>1</sup>

Lewis<sup>2</sup> described *Eurygenius niponicus* from "Chiuzenji", Japan, also labelled Nikko in the British Museum collection. In this species unlike other Anthicidae the ovipositor is similar to most Meloidae in being short, compact and reduced. The immature stages are not known but they should be very interesting too.

### Description

*Neostereopalpus* Abdullah, **new genus.**

*Diagnosis.*—The presence of short compact ovipositor in the female (Fig. 8) serves to distinguish this genus from all others in the Eurygeniinae and even the Anthicidae (*sensu lato*).

*Head.*—Widest across eyes. Tempora prominent. Apical segment of maxillary palp cultriform to subcultriform. Apical segment of labial palp securiform. Eyes entire, large, protuberant. Antenna filiform; apical (or eleventh) segment slightly longer than tenth segment.

*Thorax.*—Pronotum constricted on sides subapically near middle; widest subapically above

middle. Mesepisterna meeting in front of mesosternum. Wing with anal (or Wedge) cell closed.

*Abdomen.*—Tegmen dorsal, median lobe ventral in orientation. Tegmen long; parameres tapering at apex, irregularly, minutely multispined dorso-laterally near apex, without ridges on ventral surface; basal-piece short (Fig. 4). Median lobe with blades longitudinally serrate along inner margins and at base; median struts very short (Fig. 5). Ovipositor (Fig. 8) short, compact (not tubular), with a pair of styli borne at apices of short, weakly sclerotized coxites; no valvifers.

Type of the genus. *Eurygenius niponicus* Lewis<sup>2</sup>—*Neostereopalpus niponicus* (Lewis).

*Neostereopalpus niponicus* (Lewis<sup>2</sup>), **new combination** (Figs. 1-9).

*Eurygenius niponicus* Lewis.<sup>2</sup>

*Lectotype.*—Male (author's no. 524), Japan, Nikko (? Chiuzenji), June (G. Lewis); in the British Museum (Natural History) London.

*Colour.*—Black; eyes brown.

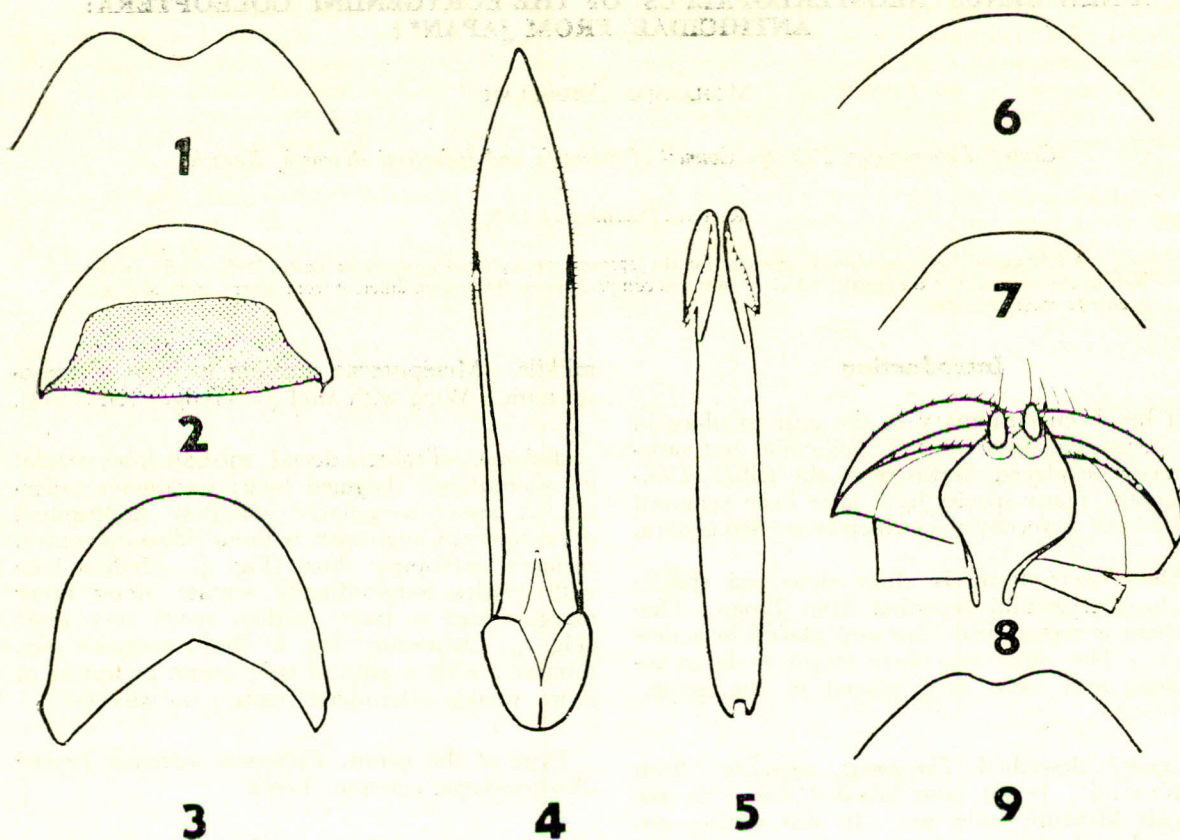
*Vestiture.*—Consisting of short, decumbent, rather dense brown hairs, not completely concealing surface below, and of longer, sparser, suberect to erect brown hairs distributed along margins of head, pronotum and elytra. Pubescence on ventral surface sparse, short; cinereous or light yellow on legs.

*Head.*—Slightly wider than pronotum at its widest part. Mandible entire at apex.

*Thorax.*—Pronotum coarsely punctate; with a deep, median groove. Elytra coarsely punctate. Wing with cross-vein between 2d A<sub>2</sub> and 2d A<sub>3</sub> incomplete, between 3d A<sub>1</sub> and 3d A<sub>2</sub> present.

\*This work was supported by a Postdoctorate Fellowship of the National Research Council of Canada in 1965.

†Publication number 58 on the Coleoptera.



Figs. 1-9.—*Neostereopalpus niponicus* (Lewis): 1, apex of seventh sternite of male; 2, eighth sternite of male; 3, eighth tergite of male; 4, tegmen of male, ventral view; 5, median lobe of male, ventral view; 6, apex of seventh sternite of female; 7, apex of seventh tergite of female; 8, ovipositor, ventral view; 9, apex of seventh sternite of female.

**Abdomen.**—Seventh sternite emarginate at apex (Fig. 1). Seventh tergite entire at apex. Eighth sternite entire at apex, basal portion membranous (Fig. 2). Eighth tergite rounded at apex (Fig. 3). Aedeagus as in Figs. 4 and 5.

**Measurements in mm.**—Total length 12. Antennal length: total 4.20; segments I-XI: 0.46, 0.30, 0.40, 0.36, 0.40, 0.38, 0.38, 0.39, 0.38, 0.34 and 0.41 respectively. Maxillary palp: total 1.45; segments I-IV: 0.14, 0.45, 0.23 and 0.63 respectively. Head: width across eyes 1.87; dorsal interocular distance 0.80. Pronotum: length 2.10; width at apex 0.94; maximum width 1.70; width at base 1.61. Elytron: length 8; maximum width 1.87. Front tarsus: total 1.92; segments I-V: 0.55, 0.27, 0.25, 0.11 and 0.74 respectively. Middle tarsus: total 1.96; segments I-V: 0.57, 0.30, 0.23, 0.12 and 0.74 respectively. Hind tarsus: total 1.85; segments I-IV: 0.68, 0.26, 0.17 and 0.74 respectively. Hind tibial spur 0.27.

**Paralectotype.**—Female (author's no. 437), Japan (G. Lewis), in the B.M. (N.H.) London. Differs from the lectotype as follows. Elytra dark brown; distal tarsal segments brown to piceous. Ventral body surface with short, moderately dense, decumbent white hairs, much dense on coxae. Head nearly as wide as pronotum at their widest portions. Vertex medially sulcate at base. Neck medially sulcate. Punctures on pronotum comparatively fine and sparse. Seventh abdominal sternite entire (Fig. 6). Seventh tergite entire (Fig. 7). Ovipositor as in Fig. 8. Total length 11.5 mm.

**Records and Variation.**—There are two further paralectotypes in the B.M. (N.H.), one with the locality data identical with the lectotype and other with the female paralectotype. Two other specimens without a more precise locality label other than Japan, collected by Lord Dormer, are in the British Museum collection. They are in general, like the female no. 437.

Another female (author's no. 436) from Japan, collected by J. Harmand in 1906 is in the Paris Museum collection. This specimen differs from the first mentioned paralectotype (no. 437) as follows. Entirely black, eyes dark brown. Pubescence denser on pronotum and elytra. Head slightly wider than pronotum. Apical segment of maxillary palp sub-cultriform. Pronotum dull. Hind wing with cross-vein between 2dA2 and 2dA3 incomplete but more developed. Seventh abdominal sternite weakly, narrowly emarginate

at apex (Fig. 9). This specimen may prove to belong to another species, but, until a similar male specimen has been examined, it would be unwise to describe it as such for the present.

#### References

1. M. Abdullah, Opusc. ent., **30**, 25 (1964-1965).
2. G. Lewis, Ann. Mag. nat. Hist., **15**(6) 423 (1895).