A NEW GENUS AND SPECIES OF THE GALERUCINAE (COLEOPTERA: CHRYSOMELIDAE) FROM PEAR TREE IN WEST PAKISTAN

MOHAMMAD ABDULLAH and (Miss) SHAMEEM SAEED QURESHI

Central Laboratories, Pakistan Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, Karachi

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A new genus (*Abdullahius* **gen. n.**) and species (*A. shameemae* **sp. n.**) has been described from material collected on pear tree (*Pyrus communis* L.) in Dobi, West Pakistan, now deposited in the West Pakistan Agricultural University at Lyallpur.

Introduction

We have now completed the study of the Hispinae, Cassidinae, Chrysomelinae and Halticinae of Pakistan (Abdullah and Qureshi, in press) and are examining the remaining subfamilies of the Chrysomelidae of Pakistan. Our work could be considered a supplement of the Fauna of British India series on the Chrysomelidae by S. Maulik as far as Pakistan is concerned. We have received a very interesting galerucine beetle collected on pear tree from Dr. Mohammad Yunus of the West Pakistan Agricultural University, Lyallpur, which is described below. In the key of Maulik (1936: 88), the material keys out to the last couplet, where it is quite different from both *Sastra* Baly, 1865 and *Galerotella* Maulik, 1936. Maulik's key (*op. cit.*) should be modified as follows:

23. Third antennal segment nearly as long as second; elytron truncate at apex; pygidium exposed *Abdullahius* **gen. n.**

Third antennal segment much longer than second; elytron entire, covering the pygidium 24

24. Pronotum with punctures differing from those of the elytra; elytra with the clothing of hairs always more than that of pronotum *Sastra* Baly, 1865.

Pronotum and elytra equally punctate with the same kind of punctures and hairy to an equal extent *Galerotella* Maulik, 1936

Before giving a formal description, it seems useful to mention that the inner lobe of the tarsal claw is short and one may confuse the claws as being appendiculate. In the keys of Maulik (1936), the specimen would then come out to section IV D (p. 273) and to couplet 5 (p. 291) but would not fit either alternatives being much different than either *Anastena* Maulik, 1936 or *Kanarella* Jacoby, 1896. However, in consideration of Maulik (1936: fig. 28 b), we regard the tarsal claws as bifid.

Description

Abdullahius, new genus

Body oblong, widened behind, apex of abdomen exposed (since the elytra are truncate).

Head together with the eyes a little narrower than the front margin of pronotum; vertex gently convex, frons depressed or concave in middle and sparsely hairy; clypeus concave in middle and convex on sides, being hairy on sides and near clypeolabral suture; labrum broader than long, with the front margin broadly and narrowly emarginate, surface smooth and with a few longish hairs; a short, median tubercle present between frons and clypeus; mandible toothed at apex; maxillary palp with the apical (*i.e.*, fourth) segment conical, nearly twice as long as penultimate segment; labial palp with the apical (*i.e.* third) segment conical, nearly as long as penultimate segment. Eyes strongly convex, protuberant, slightly oblique. Antenna long, slender, extending slightly beyond the middle of elytron, hairy; first segment long, club-shaped, slightly arched dorsally; second and third very small, nearly equal, second being swollen or thick; fourth longest, about four times longer than third; fifth to ninth nearly equal in length, slightly longer than tenth and eleventh; apical or eleventh segment nearly as long as tenth. *Pronotum* nearly twice or more broader than long, hairy along margins, very slightly narrowed towards the base, sides and basal border margined but not front border; front margin almost straight, being slightly raised near sides; posterior margin widely and uniformly rounded; sides broadly rounded; anterior lateral angles thickened, posterior widely obtuse; each corner having a long seta arising from a pore; dorsal surface convex (side margins being nearly straight), a slight transverse depression apparent near middle, punctures not visible at even fairly high magnification apparently impunctate. *Scutellum* triangular with

the apex pointed and the surface slightly sculptured and impunctate. *Elytra* broader at base than the pronotum; humerus prominent; each lateral border narrowly margined, margin being straight; apex obliquely truncate, leaving seventh abdominal tergite exposed; surface fairly closely and confusedly covered with punctures which are fine and not well impressed. *Underside* sparsely covered with fine hairs; epipleuron widest one third distance near base, generally wide throughout the lateral border, narrowed and continued upto apex. Legs fairly long, slender; tibiae and tarsi long; posterior tibia longer than others; first segment of posterior tarsus longer than the following two and than each of the corresponding segments of other tarsi; tibial spurs prominent; claw bifid, inner lobe being wider and shorter than the outer lobe.

Type of the genus. Abdullahius shameemae **sp. n.**

The genus has been named after the senior author, Dr. Mohammad Abdullah.

Abdullahius shameemae, **new species**

General colour shining yellow or yellowish-brown with the following parts being black: eyes; apex of eleventh antennal segment; apex of mandible; gular area; hypomera; mesosternum (part); metasternum; meso-and metathoracic episterna and epimera; scutellum; elytron with a spot on base near shoulder (just visible from above) and another elongated spot on sutural border near apex; base of first posterior tarsal segment; pygidium with a triangular spot at spex; basal segment of abdomen (*i.e.* third sternite) mostly black ventrally except for a narrow area before apex, fourth sternite similar but less than half portion black *i.e.* more narrowly black throughout except near sides, fifth sternite only narrowly black at base and spot on side also getting smaller than in preceding sternite, sixth sternite with a still reduced and roughly triangular spot on each side, and seventh sternite (and covering pygidium or seventh tergite which are long, triangular and pointed apically) with a distinct triangular spot on each side at base.

Length, 8 mm; *breadth*, 3.5 mm.

Holotype, West Pakistan, Dobi, on pear ("M.Y" —probably Dr. Mohammad Yunus), 14. XII. 1930, at Agricultural University, Lyallpur.

The species has been named after the junior author, Miss Shameem Saeed Qureshi.

References

1. M. Abdullah and S.S. Qureshi, *The Chrysomelidae, Coleoptera of Pakistan I. A key to the genera and species of the Hispinae and Cassidinae; and Hispa yunusi, new species.* In press.
2. M. Abdullah and S.S. Qureshi, *The Chrysomelidae, Coleoptera of Pakistan II. A key to the genera and species of the Chrysomelinae and Halticinae, with descriptions of new genera and species.* In Press.
3. S. Maulik, *The fauna of British India, including Ceylon and Burma. Coleoptera, Chrysomelidae (Galerucinae)* (Taylor and Francis Ltd., London, 1936) XIV+648 pp., pl. I.