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A NEW ENDOMYCHID BEETLE FROM JAPAN

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In 1873, H. S. Gorham established the new genus *Panamomus* for the reception of the new species *lewisi*, which was represented by a single example collected by G. Lewis in Nagasaki Prefecture, Japan. In 1887, he described two other new species of the same genus, *decoratus* and *brevicornis*, both from Japan.

In the fascicle 210 of the "Genera Insectorum", Strohecker (1953) transferred *decoratus* to the genus *Leiestes*, basing his argument upon several points, especially upon very prominent and contiguous front coxae. Thus, the present genus has hitherto been known by the two species *lewisi* and *brevicornis*.

Recently, another species of this genus was obtained by myself and one of my friends

at Mt. Tsurugi-san, Tokushima Prefecture, Japan. It will be described in this paper accompanied with a key to the species of the genus.

Before going further, I wish to express my hearty thanks to Professor M. Chûjô (Kagawa Univ.) for his constant guidance and encouragement, and also to Professor H. Sasaji (Fukui Univ.) for his kind aid in consulting with the literature. Further, I express my gratitude to Mr. M. Yoshida for his kindness in supplying with material.

Panamomus yoshidai sp. nov.

Body elongate oval, narrowed posteriorly; dorsum moderately convex, shiny; whole surface sparsely clothed with shallow punctures, a recumbent hair arising from each of these punctures. General colour reddish brown, but tinged with yellowish brown in some cases; antennae and legs usually much paler than the other parts; pronotum either with a large patch or with two (transversely placed) smaller dark ones on discal area; each elytron with an obscure arcuate patch before middle, which has the concave side outwards and does not reach the basal, sutural and lateral margins, though it varies in both shape and size to a considerable extent and sometimes disappears completely.

Head lightly convex, vertex impunctate and smooth, clypeus delimited from frons by an arched impression; eyes coarsely faceted, with each ocellus rather convex; antennae short, 1st segment robust and massive, 2nd to 5th subcylindrical, 2nd about 1.5 times as long as 3rd, 6th to 8th moniliform, nearly equal in shape and size, apical three segments forming a loosely articulated but distinct club, very finely and closely pubescent, 9th rather sharply produced on inner side; mandible robust, sharply bifid at apex; labrum wider than long, strongly raised transversely; terminal segment of maxillary palpus elongate-pyriform, with the apex somewhat truncated; terminal segment of labial palpus longer than wide and rotundate; submentum dilated, with front margin arcuate-emarginate and the posterior straight.

Pronotum about 1.3 times as wide as long, slightly widened at apical third, then strongly narrowed forwards, rather strongly convex on dorsum; front margin of pronotum narrowly bordered, with middle part of marginal bordering developed posteriorly in the shape of a triangle; lateral margins of pronotum narrowly but distinctly bordered, finely dentate at each outer edge, the dentations varying from 9 to 12 in number according to individuals, each furnished with an erect seta at the tip; basal margin of pronotum gently trisinate and finely bordered, with its border produced forwards at middle in a wedge shape; basal groove deep, ending at each side in a deep triangular fovea, of which the outer wall is produced forwards, extending about one-third the length of pronotum.

Scutellum transverse semioval, with tip not pointed; surface smooth, with a few fine punctures.

Elytra strongly convex on dorsum, widest at about basal one-fourth, moderately tapering from there to the posterior end; each shoulder bearing a carinate prominence, which is excavated in front to receive the hind angle of pronotum; each elytron with about eight irregular longitudinal rows of punctures which become finer towards the apex; lateral margins distinctly bordered except for posterior part; sutural stria distinct at its posterior half, but evanescent at post-scutellar part; epipleura broad though disappearing at the posterior part, simply narrowed posteriorly in the female, while in the male their inner edges are arcuate-emarginate from the level of 2nd sternite to the posterior.

Prosternal process briefly prolonged behind front coxae, carinate on each side, with apex rounded; mesosternum with a longitudinal furrow to receive the end of the process, the lateral margins of the furrow being raised throughout to form a pair of round brackets; metasternum with two foveae on each side just behind each middle coxa, and in the male with a longitudinal ridge extending from behind middle to posterior border; in the female this ridge is not prominent.

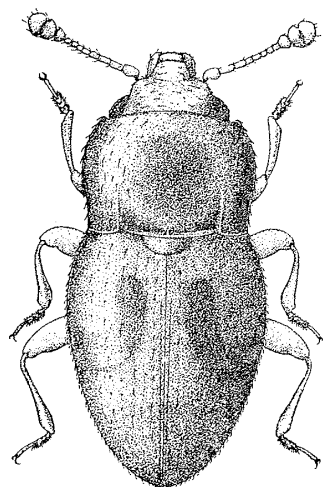


Fig. 1. *Panamomus yoshidai* sp. nov.
Scale: 1.0 mm.

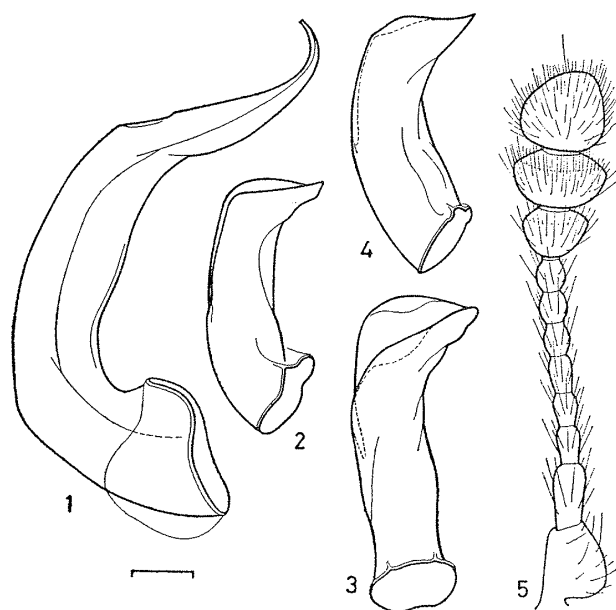


Fig. 2. 1-4, aedeagus: 1, *Leiestes decoratus*;
2, *P. lewisi*; 3, *P. brevicornis*; 4, *P. yoshidai*. 5,
antenna; *P. yoshidai*. Scale: 0.1 mm.

Abdomen with five visible sternites, of which the terminal is generally rounded at its posterior margin in the female and arcuate-emarginate along the middle in the male.

Femora thickened, middle and hind tibiae strongly dilated terminally in the male, tarsi composed of four joints, with 3rd joint rather small.

Length: 2.3 mm, width: 1.0 m.

Holotype - ♂, Minokoshi, Mt. Tsurugi-san, Tokushima Pref., Shikoku, Japan, 3.V. 1969, M. Kiuchi *leg.* Allotype - ♀, Meoto-ike, Mt. Tsurugi-san, Tokushima Pref., Shikoku, Japan, 22. VII. 1968, M. Yoshida *leg.* Paratype - 4♂♂ & 5♀♀, same data as holotype.

This new species can be easily distinguished from the known species of the genus by the dentate-serrate lateral margins of the pronotum. It is close to *P. lewisi* Gorham, but may be distinguished from the latter by the following key.

The holo- and allotypes are preserved in the Chûjô Laboratory, Kagawa University.

Key to the species of *Panamomus*

- 1 (2) Body elongate; whole surface clothed with distinct punctures; front margin of pronotum not bordered. *P. brevicornis*
- 2 (1) Body short, with roundish sides; punctures small and shallow; front margin of pronotum narrowly bordered.
- 3 (4) Pronotum not dentate-serrate on the lateral margins, front and basal borders without projection at the median point; sutural stria complete throughout; antennae longer. *P. lewisi*
- 4 (3) Pronotum dentate-serrate on the lateral margins, front and basal borders each with median point triangularly projecting inwards; sutural stria evanescent at the postscutellar part; antennae shorter. *P. yoshidai*