

A NEW INTERTIDAL SPECIES OF STAPHYLINIDAE
FROM ISHIGAKIJIMA, RYUKYU
ISLANDS (Coleoptera)

By Kohei Sawada

Brachypronomaea gen. nov.

Body elongate, rather depressed, head inserted, not constricted behind, rather truncate, labrum short and transverse, with front angles strongly rounded, not denticulate, antennae 11-jointed, inserted at sides close to eyes, in distal half asymmetric as shown in Fig. 2, A, head distinctly margined beneath the postgenae, neck less than one-third as wide as head, mandibles robust, hooked at pointed apex, right one with minute several denticulus and again a small molar proximally, the left simple, maxillae elongate, with inner lobes corneous, sharply hooked at apex, distal half bearing about 7 denticulus and proximal half furnished with 5 or 6 setae, outer lobes slightly longer than the inner, gently incurved, maxillary palpi of ordinary form, gular sutures separate but distinctly approximate at before middle, labial palpi 2-jointed, elongate, with 1st joint gradually narrowed from base to apex, about twice as long as 2nd, which is slightly narrowed distally, ligula extremely membranous, broad and entire but subtriangularly produced in the middle of front margin, mentum transverse, trapezoidal, its front angles strongly produced, posterior trochanters very large, oblong-oval, tarsi 4-5-5 jointed, protarsi with basal 3 short and subequal, 4th elongate, as long as the 2 preceding together, mesotarsi with the 1st slightly longer than 2nd, 2nd-4th short, subequal in length, 5th as long as the 3 preceding united, metatarsi with 1st-4th short, 5th as long as the 2 preceding conjointly.

Genotype: *Brachypronomaea esakii* sp. nov.

The new genus is closely related to *Pronomaea* Erichson, 1837, in the structure of mouth-parts, but the new genus has no hind wings and without bifid ligulae, thus the labrum is represented by a short transverse sclerite.

Brachypronomaea esakii sp. nov.

Male: 3 mm, linear, subopaque, fulvous or

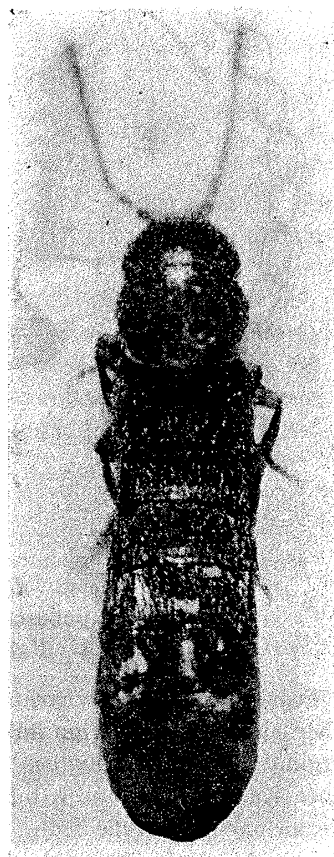


Fig. 1. *Brachypronomaea esakii* sp. nov.

more or less brown, but mouth-parts, tarsi, extreme distal part of abdomen lightly pallid, closely and densely pubescent though more asparate on elytra and abdomen.

Head relatively small, suborbicular, but rather abruptly retracted in front, epicranium gently convex above, genae, or the space between each eye and an ennal fossa, considerably shorter than a half of eyes (1:1.3), eyes not prominent with oval outlines, postgenae broadly rounded at base, nearly equal to eyes in length, antennal fossae small, not bounded an elevated or attenuate margin, integuments finely and rather sparsely punctured on entire epicranium, without trace of ground sculpture.

Antennae elongate, densely, finely pubescent in all joints, in which proximal 3 more or less robust and distinctly longer than broad, 3rd slightly shorter, and feebly narrower than 2nd (3:4), 4th-9th moderately longer than broad, the penultimate quadrate or seemingly transverse, the last apparently longer than the preceding (3.7:2.5).

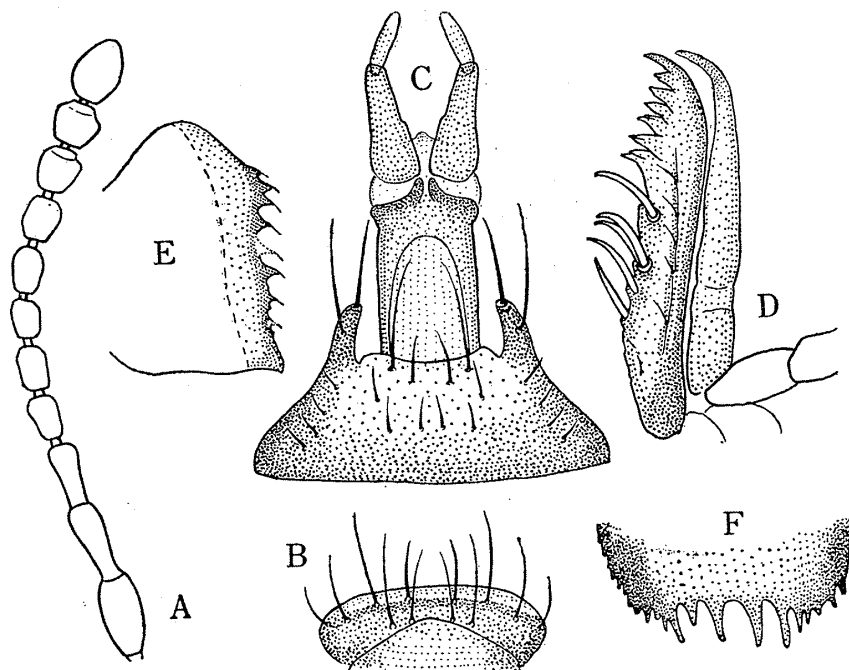


Fig. 2. *Brachypronomaea esakii* sp. nov.

A: Antenna, pubescence not shown. B: Labrum. C: Labium.
D: Maxilla. E: Right elytron. F: Last tergite of male.

Pronotum distinctly transverse, but apparently converging posteriorly and rather strongly convex on anterior disc, abruptly declivous on anterior half, lateral marginal lines gradually bent down anteriorly though shortly raised up at just before front angles, and a light sinuation at proximal one-third, and then, except anterior one finely reflected in full length, postero-lateral surface shallowly foveolate, prothoracic epipleura visible from sides, prosternum broad and triangularly pointed behind, mesosternal process prolonged between coxae.

Punctuation and pubescence as on the head.

Apterous. Elytra slightly shorter and feebly wider than pronotum, disc slightly swollen basally but posterior half rather depressed, having short horizontal fin-like projections at sides in their full length, and its margins irregularly serrated, not distinctly punctate but with minute punctures, partially coriaceous as on abdomen in general.

Abdomen relatively broad, slightly divergent distally and its lateral sides narrowly but distinctly bordered, proximal 4 segments subequal in length, 5th the longest, with distinct serration on the hind margin of last visible sternite and tergite, but the serration in the former close and small while in the latter it is very irregular at middle.

Female: The lateral margin of each elytron without such a fin as mentioned above and hind margin of the last segment not modified.

This species inhabits the coral-reef.

Type locality: Coral reef off the coast of Ishigakijima, Ryukyu Islands.

Types: Holo-, allo-, and one paratype, collected by Dr. T. Esaki on July 14, 1934. In the collection of Entomological Laboratory, Kyushu University.

I wish to thank sincerely to Professor T. Esaki for the kindness in lending me the material. I am also much indebted to Professor T. Nakane for his valuable guidance in various points.

Biological Notes on *Brachypronomaesa esakii* Sawada

By Teiso Esaki

A brief account of the insect fauna on the coral-reef lying between the Islands of Ishigaki and Taketomi of the Yaeyama Group, Ryukyu Islands, was published in my previous paper (Zool. Mag., Tokyo 47:140-141, 1935). In this paper I recorded a Staphylinid beetle of the Subfamily Aleocharinae, Tribe Pronomaeni, which may represent a new genus and species, now described by Mr. Sawada in the foregoing paper. The place where this beetle was discovered was about five km. off the coast of Ishigaki Island and the reef is submerged under sea-water except for about two hours at each low tide. The beetle was found on under surface of a

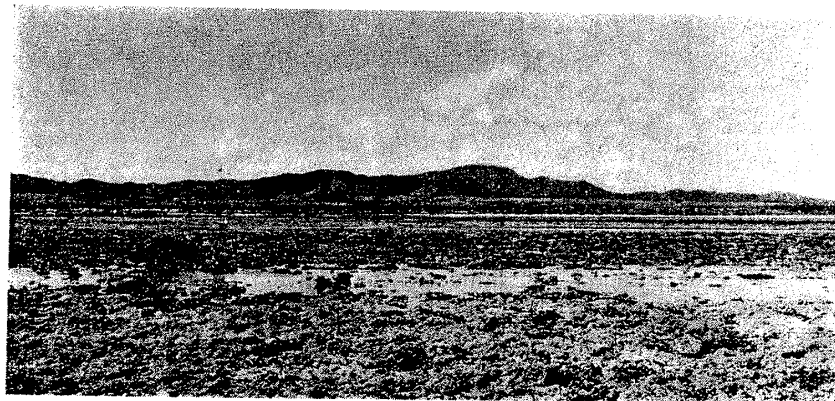


Fig. 1. Exposed coral-reef where the Staphylinid beetle was found. The background is the Island of Ishigaki (Photo Teiso Esaki).