

Notes on the Distribution of *Cephennodes vafer* KURBATOV, 1995  
(Coleoptera, Scydmaenidae) in the Mainland of Japan

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**Abstract** *Cephennodes vafer* KURBATOV, 1995 is recorded for the first time from the mainland of Japan.

*Cephennodes vafer* KURBATOV, 1995 has been described from the southern part of Kunashir Is. belonging to the Chishima Archipelago (Kuril Isls.) (KURBATOV, 1995). The present paper represents the first report of the occurrence of this scydmaenid species in the mainland of Japan, where it seems to be widely distributed throughout the country. Up to now, six species of the tribe Cephenniini have been known from Kyushu, Shikoku and Honshu: *Cephennodes japonicus* (SHARP) (SHARP, 1886; CSIKI, 1919; FRANZ, 1976; KURBATOV, 1995; O'KEEFE & LI, 1998), *Chelonoidum besucheti* KURBATOV, *Ch. loebli* KURBATOV, *Ch. moderatum* KURBATOV, *Ch. pullatum* KURBATOV, and *Ch. torosum* KURBATOV (KURBATOV, 1995). *Cephennodes vafer* is the second representative of the genus in the fauna of mainland Japan.

The confirmation of the identification of Japanese specimens was possible thanks to a kind help of Dr. Serguei KURBATOV and Dr. Giulio CUCCODORO, who arranged a loan of the paratypes of *C. vafer* from the collection of the Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle, Genève (MHNG). The Japanese material is deposited in the collections of the authors and in the National Science Museum, Tokyo (NSMT).

***Cephennodes vafer* KURBATOV, 1995**

[Japanese name: Chishima-munabiro-kokemushi]

(Figs. 1–2)

*Cephennodes vafer* KURBATOV, 1995, 946. — O'KEEFE & LI, 1998, 158.

*Material examined.* [Honshu]: Mt. Tsukuba (alt. 50–100 m), Ibaraki Pref.: 2♂♂,



Fig. 1. Distribution of *Cephennodes vafer* KURBATOV.

8 ♀♀, 13–XI–2001; 1 ♂, 1 ♀, 2–II–2002; 1 ♂, 2 ♀♀, 16–II–2002; 4 ♂♂, 2 ♀♀, 6–IV–2002; 2 ♂♂, 1 ♀, 23–IV–2002, P. JAŁOSZYŃSKI leg.; Yokohama National University, Yokohama City, Kanagawa Pref., 1 ♂, 1 ♀, 5–X–2000, H. HOSHINA leg.; Minami-rokuroshi, Ōno City, Fukui Pref., 1 ♂, 2 ♀♀, 3–VII–2001, H. HOSHINA leg.; Ura-Hikimi, Hikimi-chô, Shimane Pref., 1 ♀, 5–VI–1988; 1 ♂, 6–VI–1988, S. NOMURA leg. (coll. NSMT). [Kyushu]: Mt. Fukuchi, Fukuoka Pref., 1 ♂, 2 ♀♀, 30–IV–1995, H. HOSHINA leg. [Shikoku]: Mt. Kanpûzan, Kôchi Pref., 1 ♂, 11–VI–1997, H. HOSHINA leg.

*Type material examined.* Paratypes: 1 male, white printed label: “20.07.1990, S Kunashir, env. Tretjakovo, litter near stream, S. KURBATOV (in Russian)”; yellow printed label: “Paratypus”; and white printed label with black edge: “*Cephennodes vafer* sp. n., det S. Kurbatov”; 1 female, same data except for collecting date, “18.07.1990”; coll. MHNG.

*Distribution.* Kunashir Is., Honshu, Shikoku, Kyushu.

*Remarks.* Specimens collected in the mainland of Japan are significantly larger than the paratypes examined. According to the original description, *C. vafer* from Kunashir is 0.95–1.05 mm long. The length of the males from Honshu, Kyushu and Shikoku is 1.28–1.35 mm (mean: 1.33 mm), females are slightly larger, 1.35–1.4 mm (mean: 1.36 mm). All other characteristics of the studied individuals, including the

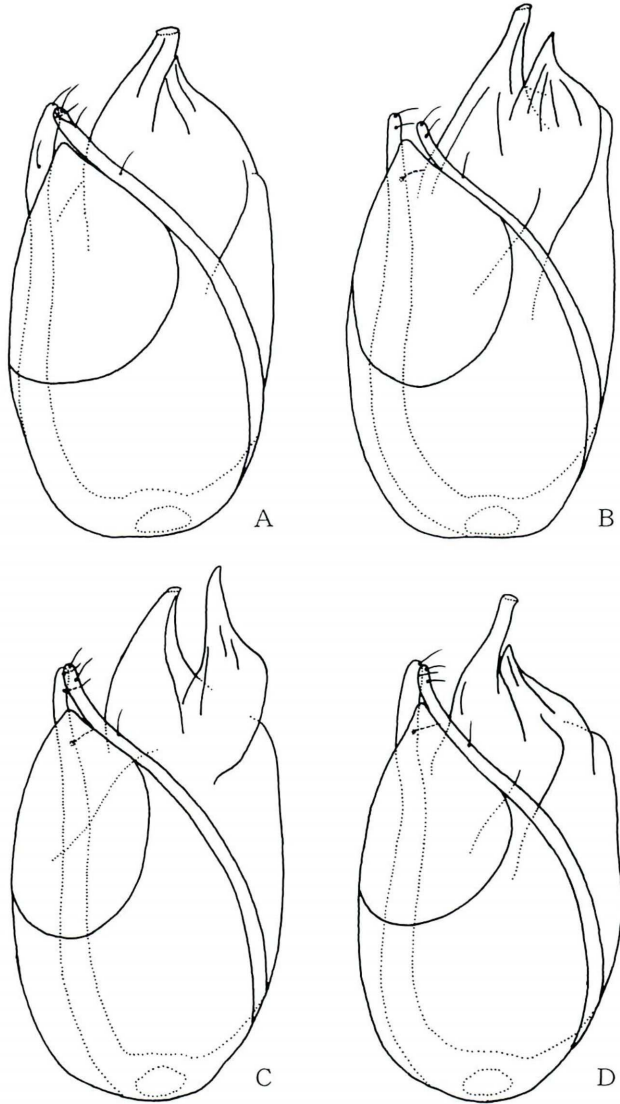


Fig. 2. Aedeagus of *C. vafer*; paratype, Kunashir, Russia (A); variation in the shape of the aedeagus among specimens from Mt. Tsukuba, Ibaraki Pref., Japan (B, C, D).

shape of the aedeagus, remain consistently the same.

The shape of the aedeagus in *C. vafer* shows a slight variation (Fig. 2). However, since a various extent of extrusion of the right apical sclerite (from dorsal view) was observed, this might be due to preparation conditions.

KURBATOV (1995) stated that the species is brachypterous; however, examination

of the Japanese material revealed that both males and females may be brachypterous as well as macropterous. Also the female paratype is macropterous, whereas the male possesses reduced and not functional hind wings. In order to address the question whether this phenomenon is a part of geographical variation, and how it affects the species dispersal, specimens from numerous localities have to be examined.

*Biological notes.* All the studied specimens of *C. vafer* have been collected from leaf litter. On Mt. Tsukuba, Ibaraki Pref., this species is common at low altitude, in bamboo and bamboo/pine mixed forests, especially in wet places along streams.

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Special thanks are due to Dr. Serguei KURBATOV and Dr. Giulio CUCCODORO for arranging the loan of the paratypes. The first author is greatly indebted to Dr. Shûhei NOMURA for his kind help during my stay in Japan and for giving me the opportunity to examine specimens of the Scydmaenidae from the collection of the National Science Museum, Tokyo.

### 要 約

Pawel JAŁOSZYŃSKI · 保科英人：チシمامナビロコケムシの分布に関する知見。—— チシمامナビロコケムシ（和名新称）は、KURBATOV (1995)によって国後島から記載されたが、今回新たに本州、四国、九州の広い範囲にまたがって分布していることが明らかになった。国産産標本を用いた原記載と比較すると、体サイズやオス交尾器などに若干の差が見られた。

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