

***Laricobius ludmilae* sp. nov., a new species
from China (Coleoptera: Derodontidae: Laricobiinae)**

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Abstract. *Laricobius ludmilae* sp. nov., a new species from China is described, illustrated and compared with similar east-Asian species.

INTRODUCTION

Leschen (2011) published a world review of the genus *Laricobius* Rosenhauer, 1846. A further Chinese species was described by Háva (2012) after that. The genus contains 22 species distributed in the Holarctic Region. A new species of the genus from China is described in the present paper.

METHODS

The size of the beetles or of their body parts can be useful in species recognition and thus, the following measurements were made:

total length (TL) - linear distance from anterior margin of head to apex of elytra.

pronotal length (PL) - maximum length measured from anterior margin to posterior margin.

pronotal width (PW) - maximum linear transverse distance.

elytral length (EL) - linear distance from shoulder to apex of elytron.

elytral width (EW) - maximum linear transverse distance.

The specimen of the presently described species is provided with a red label with a text as follows: „HOLOTYPE *Laricobius ludmilae* sp. n. J. Háva det. 2013”.

DESCRIPTION

***Laricobius ludmilae* sp. nov.**

(Figs. 1-2)

Laricobius nr. *jizu*: Háva, 2010: 3.

Laricobius sp. 1 nr. *jizu*: Leschen, 2011: 44.

Type material. Holotype (♀): China, W Guizhou prov., Leigongshan, Xijiang, 29 May-2 Jun 1997, 1200-1900 m, Bolm lgt. Holotype deposited in Naturhistorisches Museum Basel, Switzerland.

Description. Oblong ovate, transversely convex, black, ventral surface dark brown to black, antennae and legs honey. Pubescence of normal length, thin, light, semierect, inconspicuous. Body measurements (mm): TL 3.4 PL 0.7 PW 0.9 EL 2.3 EW 1.5.

Female. Head somewhat transverse, eyes large, convex, finely faceted. Clypeus short, transversely convex, anteriorly truncate, finely densely punctulate, not separated from frons by any transverse impression. Frons flatly convex with irregularly dispersed large and deep punctures with diameter nearly equal to the width of antennal flagellum and more widely separated transversely than longitudinally. Most of the large punctures arranged in two irregular longitudinal rows on each side of frons; spaces between them finely punctulate, moderately shining. Ocelli present on vertex of head. Antennae 11-segmented, light-brown with yellowish setation.

Pronotum subquadrate, transversely convex, punctate like frons, but some of the punctures larger, with diameter nearly equal to the width of the second antennomere, separated mostly by less than one diameter. Spaces between punctures moderately shining, finely punctulate. Sides of pronotum in the median third arcuately outcurved, anterior angles acute, projecting laterally, posterior ones obtuse, indistinct.

Scutellum small, semicircular.

Elytra unicolored, black, elongate-ovate, widest behind their midlength, simultaneously rounded at the apex. Base of elytra wider than pronotum, humeri rounded. Surface of elytra strongly transversely convex, transversely impressed at about one fourth of their length; lateral margins just visible simultaneously only in posterior half. Each elytron with scutellar striae and 10 complete striae. All striae canaliculate (incised), punctures nearly equal in size to those of frons, within one stria separated by nearly one diameter. The first three complete striae (counted from suture) more deeply incised with smaller and more widely spaced punctures in posterior half. Interstriae in anterior half nearly as wide as striae, moderately convex, sutural one somewhat swollen behind scutellar striae. Interstriae as well as impunctate humeral bulge moderately shining, finely and sparsely punctuated. Elytral epipleura vanishing at the end of the third abdominal sternum.

Legs slender. Tarsal claws simple, honey. Tibiae and femora yellowish-light brown.

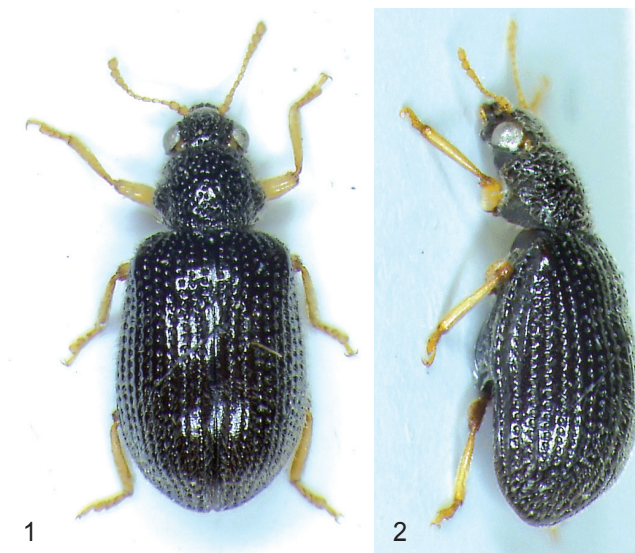
Prosternum short, distinctly bordered anteriorly, prosternal process behind procoxae subtriangular, truncate apically.

Mesosternum with broad and low impunctate mediolongitudinal ridge bifurcate anteriorly, its posterior intercoxal process acute. Metasternum transversely convex, finely punctulate, shining, with sharp mediolongitudinal furrow all along its length and somewhat impressed besides its posterior third.

Metepisterna as well as abdominal sterna punctulate like metasternum, apex of hypopygium rounded.

Male unknown.

Differential diagnosis. The new species very similar to the east-Asian species *L. jizu* Háva, 2010, *L. daliensis* Háva, 2009 and *L. loebli* Jelínek et Háva, 2001 but differs from them by the characters mentioned in the following key.



Figs. 1-2. *Laricobius ludmilae* sp. nov. (holotype): 1- habitus dorsal aspect; 2- habitus lateral aspect.

- 1(4) Femora pale
 2(3) Prothorax transverse (China: Yunnan) *L. jizu* Háva, 2010
 3(2) Prothorax elongate to quadrate (China: Guizhou) *L. ludmilae* sp. nov.
 4(1) Femora dark; prothorax elongate to quadrate
 5(6) Tibiae dark; elytral surface incurvate (China: Yunnan) *L. daliensis* Háva, 2009
 6(5) Tibiae pale; elytral surface flat (Nepal, India: Darjeeling) *L. loebli* Jelinek et Háva, 2001

Distribution. China: Guizhou province.

Etymology. Dedicated to my grandmother and mother Ludmila.

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