Annals and Magazine of Natural History: Series 9

Publication details, including instructions for authors and subscription information:

<http://www.tandfonline.com/loi/tnah15>

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Published online: 02 Sep 2009.

To cite this article: K.G. Blair B.Sc. F.E.S. (1922) LXVI.—The Mordellidæ of the Fiji Islands , Annals and Magazine of Natural History: Series 9, 9:53, 562-568, DOI: [10.1080/00222932208632709](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222932208632709)

To link to this article: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/00222932208632709>

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elytra, which is seldom the case in *M. przewalskyi*. The description of the form of the head, the sculpture, and coloration of the elytra agree well with this species, but the characters cited above indicate a different, though perhaps closely allied, genus.

Fam. Curculionidæ.

Leptomias sp.

Allied to *L. waltoni*, Marshall, from Sikkim; the single specimen is incomplete and insufficiently well preserved for description.

LXVI.—*The Mordellidæ of the Fiji Islands.*

By K. G. BLAIR, B.Sc., F.E.S.

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A SINGLE species of this interesting family appears to have been hitherto recorded from the Fiji Islands, viz., *Mordellistena dodoneæ*, Montr., originally described from New Caledonia. A small collection sent from time to time to the Imperial Bureau of Entomology for identification contains not less than nine species, including that mentioned. Of the others one species is identified with some doubt as *Mordella 10-guttata*, F.; the rest appear to be new.

Only two genera are represented, *Mordella* and *Mordellistena*. The species of the latter are very similar to the small species of *Mordella*, but are distinguished by the presence on the outer face of the posterior tibiæ and first three tarsal joints of series of stiff bristles forming comb-like ridges; these extend from the posterior edge of the tibiæ and run obliquely upwards but usually not right across the external face of the tibia.

Key to the Species of Mordella.

1. Large species (10 mm. or over), black, clothed with black pubescence varied with numerous white spots 2.
- Small species (less than 5 mm.), black or fuscous, clothed with black pubescence, varied with silvery-grey spots or bands 3.
2. Elytra with scutellar white spots; four confluent white spots along base of thorax 10-guttata, F.

- Elytra without scutellar spots; two white spots at base of thorax *vitiensis*, sp. n.
3. Thorax, basal half of elytra and legs obscurely reddish, antennæ and abdomen paler; elytra each with three silvery spots *nigroterminata*, sp. n.
- Black, except labrum, palpi, base of antennæ, anterior femora, and posterior tibial spurs, which are testaceous; elytra with two oblique silvery fasciæ *veitichi*, sp. n.

Mordella decemguttata, Fabr.

Fabricius, Syst. Eleuth. ii. 1801, p. 123; Montrouzier, Ann. Soc. Agr.

Lyon, vii. 1, 1855, p. 34.

Mordella plurinotata, Blanchard, Voy. Pôle Sud, iv. 1853, p. 190, pl. xii. fig. 16.

Two specimens—1 (*F. P. Jepson*), 1909, "on orange-tree"; 1 (*W. Greenwood*), l. v. 1921. Mts. Lautoka.

This identification and synonymy are perhaps a little doubtful. Fabricius originally described the species from Java, but this was probably in error; at least I have seen no specimen answering to the description from anywhere in that region. Montrouzier later more fully described what he considered to be the same species from Woodlark Id. (near the S.E. end of New Guinea). Except that he describes the spots as yellow (and in some allied species they are sometimes yellow), his description quite fits the specimens from Fiji. Previously to this Blanchard had described and figured *M. plurinotata* from Ceram, and with this also the Fiji examples agree well.

The Australian *M. 14-maculata*, Macleay (?=*M. vitticollis*, Lea), is very closely allied, but the thorax of the Fiji species is more quadrangular, more strongly transverse, and differently marked, the sides lacking the white border and the spots, except the basal row, not confluent or connected by lines.

Mordella vitiensis, sp. n.

Large, black, clothed with black pubescence, variegated with white spots and lines which are arranged as follows :—head, a narrow white margin on each side of base; thorax, four white spots in a slightly arcuate line a little before the middle, the outer pair near the sides, a round spot on each side of base opposite the middle of the base of each elytron; elytra, a round spot (No. 1) on each directly behind the basal thoracic spot nearly as far from it as the two latter are from one another, a minute spot (No. 2) a little behind this

and halfway between it on the lateral margin, No. 3 rather further behind 2 than 2 is behind the basal thoracic, and very much nearer the suture, No. 4, small, a little behind 3 and in direct line with the basal thoracic and No. 1, No. 5, towards apex, a little further from the suture than No. 3; an elongate spot on each side of base of pygidium; on the under side, one on the metathoracic epimeron, one in the middle of the lateral border of the posterior coxa, and one in the antero-lateral angle of each of the first three ventral segments. Style long, straight, acutely pointed at apex.

Length $12\frac{1}{2}$ mm., including style; 8 mm. to tip of elytra.

A single specimen, Labasa, xi. 14 (*R. Veitch*).

Distinct among all these large, white-spotted forms in the lack of scutellar spots on the elytra, in conjunction with the lack of extensive white markings along the base of the thorax. Its nearest ally is probably *M. 16-guttata*, Montr., from New Caledonia, from which it differs in the number and distribution of the spots. It also resembles *M. funerea*, Pasc., from New Zealand, though in this the white spots are yet fewer. The position of the white spot on the posterior coxæ is unusual, and is similar in *M. 16-guttata*; in most species it is situated in the antero-lateral angle. Of the Australian species *M. chrysophora*, Lea, is probably its closest ally.

Mordella nigroterminata, sp. n.

Small, stout, obscurely rufous above, with the head and apex of elytra black, antennæ and abdomen paler, rufo-fulvous. Head, except a large space between the eyes, clothed with silvery-grey pubescence; thorax with a narrow line along the anterior margin, a small spot near each anterior angle, and a larger spot on each side of the middle of the base of the same colour; scutellum strongly transverse but not emarginate at apex, clothed with silvery-grey pubescence; elytra with an elongate oblique spot behind each shoulder, an oval spot just before the middle and not far from the suture, and a squarish spot halfway between this and the apex silvery grey; the derm beyond this spot is distinctly blacker than that of the greater part of the clytron. Pygidium acute, almost twice as long as hypopygium.

Length 4 mm. (style included).

1 ex., Nausori, Oct. 1920 (*R. Veitch*).

In its short stout build this little species bears some

resemblance to a *Tomoxia*, but the scutellum, though transverse, is bluntly rounded at the apex instead of being emarginate. Other species of similar form, but different coloration, are *M. graphiptera*, Champ., and some undescribed species from the Malay Archipelago.

Mordella veitchi, sp. n.

Small, slender, black, with the exception of the labrum, palpi, base of antennæ, anterior legs, and posterior tibial spurs, which are testaceous; pubescence black variegated with silvery-grey which is distributed as follows:—head, almost entirely; thorax, anterior and posterior margins, a pair of submedian lines on disc, slightly oblique, and a spot on each side between these and the anterior angle; scutellum; elytra, a humeral spot on each, an oblique spot behind it extending nearly to the suture, an oblique spot near the outer margin just behind the middle which is confluent with a common sutural spot at about two-thirds of their length. Antennæ slender, 2nd joint larger than 3rd, 4th to 10th serrate within but longer than wide. Intermediate tarsi a little longer than the tibiæ, first joint longer than the rest together. Spurs of posterior tibiæ unequal, the inner three times as long as the outer. Style slender, feebly bent downwards about middle, twice as long as hypopygium.

Length $3\frac{1}{4}$ mm. (style included).

2 ex., Labasa, Dec. 1921 (*R. Veitch*).

A small slender species with the general appearance of a *Mordellistena*, but with no oblique comb-ridges on the posterior tibiæ and tarsi. The spots and bands of pale pubescence on the elytra form two V-shaped marks, the anterior originating from the shoulders and open on the suture, the second situated a little behind the middle.

MORDELLISTENA.

Small species differing from *Mordella* in the presence of oblique comb-like ridges on the outer face of the posterior tibiæ and of the first two or three tarsal joints.

Key to the Species.

1. Colour black with more or less extensive yellow markings..... 2.

- Colour entirely flavo- or rufo-testaceous (except eyes and the comb-ridges of the posterior tibiae) 3.
2. Head yellow; elytra with the base and two large round spots on each yellow; ridge formula 3:2.2.0 *xanthocephala*, sp. n.
- Head and body black, elytra with pale markings forming three rather irregular transverse bands; formula 3:3.2.1 *greenwoodi*, sp. n.
3. Anal style about twice as long as hypopygium, tapering 4.
- Anal style much longer, slender, sinuate; ridge formula 3:3.2.2; inner spur nearly as long as 1st tarsal joint *gracilicauda*, sp. n.
4. Formula 5:4.2.2; spur $\frac{1}{2}$ as long as 1st tarsal joint *dodoneae*, Montr.
- Formula 4:3.2.2; spur $\frac{2}{3}$ as long as 1st tarsal joint *consimilis*, sp. n.

Mordellistena xanthocephala, sp. n.

Elongate, narrow, thinly pubescent; black above, with the head, scutellum, base of elytra and two round spots on each, one before and one after the middle, pale flavous; underside and legs also black with flavous bands. Head emarginate behind; prothorax as long as wide, its greatest width across the base, anterior margin prominent, anterior angles obtusely rounded, posterior angles rectangular, base straight at sides, strongly produced in middle; scutellum minute; elytra elongate, parallel; clothed with rather sparse fuscous pubescence, except on the pale areas, where it becomes silvery. Pygidium long and slender, more than four times as long as hypopygium, bent in middle and feebly sinuate towards apex, fuscous above except at base, flavous beneath. Anterior legs, basal half of intermediate tibiae, and base of posterior tibiae and tarsal joints flavous, posterior tibiae with a short subapical oblique ridge, and two very long ones about middle, extending right across the outer face of tibiae; spurs unequal, flavous.

Length (with style) 3 mm., (without) 2 mm.

3 ex., Labasa, xii. 21 (*R. Veitch*); 1 ex., Mts. Lautoka, xii. 21 (*W. Greenwood*).

This pretty little species cannot well be confused with any other, owing to its striking pattern.

Mordellistena greenwoodi, sp. n.

Black, with parts of the elytra, the antennae, and anterior

legs rufo-fulvous. Head slightly emarginate behind, covered with ashy-grey pubescence; prothorax as long as wide, with variegated black and ashy-grey pubescence, the black forming a large patch in each of the angles and two median pairs of dart-like marks, with point directed backwards, the anterior pair before the middle smaller than the posterior pair; elytra fulvous with suture narrowly and apex broadly black, a large black patch behind the scutellum and two lateral patches on each nearly meeting the sutural streak also black; the pubescence on the black parts is black, that on the fulvous parts mostly silvery grey, but in parts, *e. g.* a streak from the anterior lateral dark patch to the base, and also between the posterior lateral dark patch and the suture, is also black. Style slender, fuscous, about three times as long as hypopygium. Posterior tibiæ fulvous at base, with two short comb-ridges near apex, and a third long strongly defined ridge running from the middle of the posterior edge across the outer face almost to the base; the tarsal ridges 3.2.1, are very short and indistinct.

Length 2 mm. without ($2\frac{1}{2}$ mm. with) style.

1 ex., Loliti, 18. ix. 21 (*W. Greenwood*).

A very distinct little species, the pattern of the thorax is very characteristic, and the incomplete coincidence between the colour-pattern of the derm of the elytra and that of the pubescence is very striking.

Mordellistena dodoneæ, Montrouzier.

Montrouzier, Ann. Soc. Ent. France, (3) viii. 1860, p. 306 (*Mordella*); Fairmaire, *op. cit.* (6) i. 1881, p. 286 (*Mordella*).

Described originally from New Caledonia, this species was subsequently recorded by Fairmaire from the Fiji Islands. A series of eleven rufo-testaceous specimens from the Fijis now before me appears to be divisible into three very similar species, the largest of which appears to be identical with a series from New Caledonia, with which I identify *Mordella dodoneæ*. The posterior tibiæ, however, and tarsal joints, bear very distinct comb-ridges, so that if this identification is correct the species must be referred to *Mordellistena*.

On the tibiæ are four short ridges, sometimes with traces of a fifth, uppermost, ridge, all roughly parallel with the apex, none of them reaching halfway across the outer face of the tibiæ; the tarsal ridges are 4.2.2; the tibial spurs are unequal, the inner one about twice as long as the outer

and about half as long as the first tarsal joint. The antennæ are slender, joints 2 and 3 elongate, subequal, joints 4-11 nearly twice as long and much thicker.

Length 4 mm. with ($3\frac{1}{4}$ mm. without) style.

2 ex. Natova, ix. 18 (*R. Veitch*); 2 ex. Labasa, xii. 21 (*R. Veitch*, no. 388); 1 ex. Lautoka, ix. 20 (*W. Greenwood*).

Mordellistena consimilis, sp. n.

Rufo-fulvous, pygidium about twice as long as hypopygium. Very similar to *M. dodoneæ*, but differing in the comb-ridges of the posterior tibiæ and tarsi. On the tibiæ are four ridges, one subapical, parallel with the apex, the other three longer, equal, and much more oblique, the uppermost extending from about halfway along the posterior edge almost to the base; the tarsal ridges are 3.2.2. Tibial spurs very unequal, the inner more than twice as long as the outer and reaching the third ridge of the first tarsal joint.

Length $3\frac{2}{3}$ mm. with (3 mm. without) style.

4 ex., Labasa, Dec. 1921 (*R. Veitch*).

That the slight differences between this species and *M. dodoneæ* are not merely sexual is certain, since the ♂ of each, with the genital organs protruding, is identifiable. I am unable, however, to detect any obviously ♀ individual.

Mordellistena gracilicauda, sp. n.

Flavo-testaceous, with a long, slender, somewhat sinuate, anal style, more than three times as long as hypopygium. Combs of posterior tibiæ four in number, one very short subapical, parallel with apex, the second close to it and but little longer, but more oblique, then two very long, very strongly oblique, the first reaching halfway up the posterior edge of the tibiæ, the other starting a little above it and reaching almost to the base; tarsal combs distinct, 3.2.2. Tibial spurs very unequal, the inner nearly as long as the first tarsal joint.

Length $2\frac{3}{4}$ mm. with (2 mm. without) anal style.

2 ex., Labasa, Dec. 1921 (*R. Veitch*).

Readily distinguished among the uniformly rufous or flavous species by its smaller size and paler coloration. The form of the anal style is very different, resembling that of *M. xanthocephala*, but the insect, apart from its different colour, is of rather stouter build and with very different tibial comb-ridges.