

A New Stag-beetle of the Genus *Aegus* MACLEAY from the Bonin Islands

(Coleoptera, Lucanidae)

By

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In June 1973, Mr. Shûzô HAYASHIDA collected in the Bonin Islands three males and three females of a strange stag-beetle, which seems apparently new to science and belongs to the genus *Aegus* MACLEAY. This is the second species to the lucanid fauna of the Bonin Islands, and will be described in the following lines in comparison with *A. laevicollis subnitidus* WATERHOUSE from Japan proper, the nearest congener of this new species.

Before going further, the authors express their sincere gratitude to Dr. Yoshihiko KUROSAWA and Dr. Ryôsuke ISHIKAWA of the National Science Museum, Tokyo, for their kind guidance in this study, and also to Mr. Akinori YOSHITANI for preparing an excellent illustration.

Aegus ogasawarensis sp. nov.

Male. Body subdeplanate, subparallel, and somewhat robuster than in *A. laevicollis subnitidus*; black or brownish black, with head opaque, pronotum and ventral segments lustrous, and elytra slightly polished; legs blackish, with femora, tibiae, and claws tinged with red; antennae blackish, tinged with red or brown.

Head a little broader than twice the length, sparsely scattered with small round punctures, though not so conspicuous as in *subnitidus*, the punctures becoming larger around eyes and on genae; genae blunt and obtuse, slightly produced beyond eyes, but not subangulate and not so acute as in *subnitidus*; frons somewhat narrower than in *subnitidus*, with the ridge at the inferior side of each eye not so sharp as in *subnitidus*; eyes somewhat larger than in *subnitidus*, and not completely divided by ocular ridge; clypeus less than 0.35 times as wide as the width of head, with the anterior margin somewhat arcuately emarginate, but the emargination is narrower than and not so strongly angulate at the bottom as in *subnitidus*, and the lateral angles are more narrowly produced than in *subnitidus*. Mandibles shorter and robuster than in *subnitidus*, slightly longer than head, with two inner teeth at the basal third though they are of

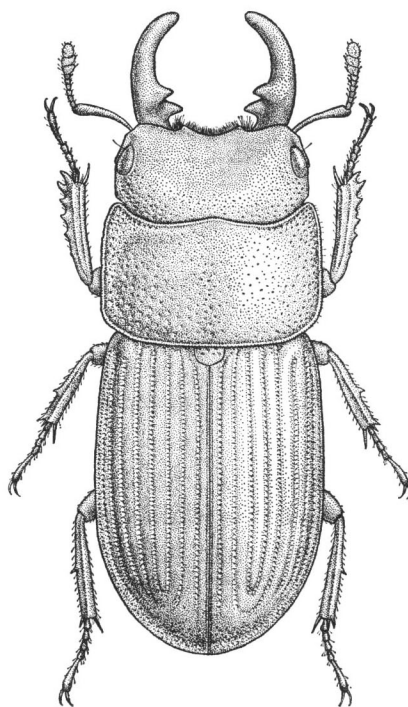


Fig. 1. *Aegus ogasawarensis* OKAJIMA et KOBAYASHI, sp. nov.; ♂.

nearly equal size and the upper tooth is not so small as in *subnitidus*; outer basal angle blunt, not so conspicuously angulate as in *subnitidus*.

Pronotum a little broader than twice the length; sides subparallel, narrowly reflexed and feebly crenulate or not; anterior margin bisinuate, with a broad median lobe which is not so strongly produced as in *subnitidus*; anterior angles produced, but blunt and rounded at the apex, not so acute as in *subnitidus*; posterior margin strongly reflexed; disk with the median groove inconspicuous; surface sparsely punctate, but the punctures are smaller, weaker and sparser than in *subnitidus*.

Scutellum broader than in *subnitidus*, slightly but distinctly wider than long, rounded and not pointed at the apex, with the punctuation sparser than in *subnitidus*.

Elytra of about equal width to pronotum, about 1.3 times as long as wide, widest just before the middle, but distinctly shorter than in *subnitidus*; sides slightly expanded from humeri to near the middle, where they are slightly arcuate, then arcuately attenuate to round apex; lateral margins feebly and obsoletely crenulate, not so distinctly as in *subnitidus*; disk slightly convex, punctato-striate, with 8 striae which are somewhat deeper than in *subnitidus*; interstices subcostate, but not so sharply convex as in *subnitidus*; punctures smaller and weaker than in *subnitidus*.

Legs somewhat slenderer than those of *subnitidus*, with the hairs sparser at the apical

part of the inner margin of middle and posterior tibiae.

Length: 14–15 mm (without mandibles), 16.5–18.0 mm (with mandibles); width: 6.0–6.3 mm.

Female. Body oval, black, somewhat lustrous, sometimes with a slight brownish tinge.

Head narrower and smaller than that of *subnitidus*, with narrower clypeus, the anterior margin of which is more deeply and triangularly emarginate than in *subnitidus*; ridge at the inferior side of each eye narrow and not angulate posteriorly; eyes not completely divided; surface coarsely covered with round punctures, but the punctuation is not so strongly confluent as in *subnitidus*.

Pronotum attenuate in front from base to anterior angles, which are more strongly produced than in *subnitidus*; lateral margin narrowly reflexed, very irregularly and sparsely crenulate; anterior margin narrower and more deeply emarginate than in *subnitidus*; posterior margin narrowly but distinctly reflexed; posterior angles rounded; disk subdeplanate at the middle, with the median groove inconspicuous; punctuation on the surface sparser than in *subnitidus*, leaving lustrous intervals.

Elytra shorter than those of *subnitidus*; sides more strongly arcuate than in *subnitidus*, with the lateral margins evenly but narrowly reflexed, neither crenulate nor serrate; punctures on the interstices smaller than those of *subnitidus*, being arranged in rows, not irregular as in *subnitidus*.

Length: 13.0–14.5 mm (without mandibles), 14.2–15.8 mm (with mandibles); width: 5.5–6.5 mm.

Holotype (♂), allotopotype (♀), and paratopotypes: 3 ♂♂, 3 ♀♀, Haha-jima I., Bonin Is. (=Ogasawara Is.), 1. vi. 1973, S. HAYASHIDA lgt.

The holotype and the allotopotype are deposited in the National Science Museum (Natural History Institute), Tokyo. The paratopotypes are in the collection of the Entomological Laboratory, Tokyo University of Agriculture.

The present species closely stands by *A. laevicollis subnitidus* WATERHOUSE known from Japan proper, but differs from the latter in the points mentioned in the description given above. The most pronounced peculiarity of this species is in the structure of the eyes, which are not completely divided. In all the other species of the genus *Aegus* known up to now, the eyes are completely divided, which is currently regarded as the character distinguishing the genus from the other dorcine genera of the family Lucanidae. Therefore, *A. ogasawarensis* is unique in this respect, although it is a member of *Aegus* beyond all doubts.

