

***Kashmirobia*, a new genus of flea beetles from the Oriental Region (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae)**

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Abstract

A new genus, *Kashmirobia*, with the type species *Aphthona hugeli* Jacoby from the Oriental Region is described and illustrated. Comparative notes are provided. Host plant of *K. hugeli* is *Euphorbia nerifolia* L. (Euphorbiaceae).

Key words: Chrysomelidae, new genus, Oriental Region

Introduction

As a result of a revision of the *Aphthona* Chevrolat of the Oriental Region, 19 wrongly placed species were removed from the genus (Konstantinov & Lingafelter, 2002). Most of them were placed in more or less related genera such as *Longitarsus* Latreille, *Luperomorpha* Weise, and *Trachyaphthona* Heikertinger (Konstantinov & Lingafelter, 2002). Four species were considered *incertae sedis* since their proper generic placement was not possible at the time. The genus *Orisaltata* Prathapan and Konstantinov (2006) was proposed to include two of these four species. Further studies and additional material revealed that the third species, originally described as *Aphthona hugeli* Jacoby (1900), belongs to a new genus which is described below. Dissecting techniques and terminology follow Konstantinov (1998). The beetles are deposited in the following collections: National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington D. C. (USNM), Museum of Comparative Zoology, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA (MCZC), and the personal collection of the second author (PKDC).

The only information on the host plant of this genus was the remarks on the label of a paralectotype from Satara in central India cited by Maulik (1926): “feeds on *Pereskia*