



A review of the genus *Chelobasis* Gray, 1832 (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae: Cassidinae)

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Abstract

The genus *Chelobasis* Gray, 1832 is reviewed. Four species are recognized. A key to the species is presented. The literature is summarized and each species is illustrated.

Key words: *Chelobasis*, Chrysomelidae, Cassidinae, key to species

Introduction

Chelobasis was proposed by Gray (1832) for the new species *Ch. bicolor* from South America. Weise (1911a) transferred *Arescus perplexus* Baly 1858, *A. laevicollis* Waterhouse 1879, and *A. aemulus* Waterhouse 1881 to *Chelobasis*. Maulik (1931) described the larva of *Ch. bicolor*. Maulik (1932) illustrated and discussed the larva of *Ch. perplexa*. The genus has never been revised and there are no identification aids.

Chelobasis is one of four genera placed in the tribe Arescini Chapuis (Staines 2002a). The tribe can be distinguished from all other Cassidinae by the following combination of characters: elytron without costae, elytral punctures little impressed, pronotum with seta in each anterior angle, antennae with 11-antennomeres, antennae not separated by longitudinal keel, pro- and mesocoxae very large.

For this study, measurements were taken with an ocular micrometer. Pronotal length and width were measured along the midlines. Elytral width was measured at the humeri. Elytral length was measured from the base to the apex along the midline. Total length was measured from the base of the antennae to the apex of the elytra. In recording label data from type specimens, a double slash (//) separates data on different labels. Collection acronyms are from Arnett *et al.* (1993). In specimens examined, a double question mark (??) indicates a locality which I could not find in a gazetteer.

Chelobasis Gray 1832

Chelobasis Gray 1832: 143. Type species: *Chelobasis bicolor* Gray by monotypy. Baly 1885: 31 (distribution); Weise 1905: 320 (distribution), 1910: 99 (distribution), 1911a: 12 (catalog), 1911b: 17 (catalog); Uhmann 1930: 235 (Costa Rica species), 1957: 33 (catalog); Blackwelder 1946: 721 (faunal list); Papp 1953: 29 (catalog); Wilcox 1975: 138 (catalog); Seeno & Wilcox 1982: 159 (generic catalog); Jolivet & Hawkeswood 1995: 144 (host plants); Staines (1996)1997: 30 (Nicaragua species), 2002a: 741 (New World genera); Mexzón 1997: 28 (host plant); Farrell & Sequeira 2004: 175 (evolution); Chaboo 2007: 239 (note).

Generic description. Head: frontal horn truncate at apex; vertex impunctate, depressed between eyes. Antenna: antennomere 1 lengthened into a ventral process which is as long as antennomere 2. Pronotum: