

Revision of *Phaelota* Jacoby (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae) with descriptions of three new species

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Abstract

The genus *Phaelota* Jacoby is redescribed and differentiated from the genera *Acrocrypta* Baly, *Chabria* Jacoby and *Schenklingia* Heikertinger and Csiki. Three new species of *Phaelota* namely *P. jacobyi*, *P. sindhoori* and *P. vaishakha* from south India are described and illustrated. A key for adult identification and host plant data are provided.

Key words: Chrysomelidae, *Phaelota*, south India, Sri Lanka, new species

Introduction

The flea beetle genus *Phaelota*, hitherto considered monotypic and endemic to Sri Lanka, was established by Jacoby in 1887 for *P. semifasciata* from Bogawantalawa (1490–1581m). Three new species of *Phaelota* collected from high ranges (800–1000m) in southern India are described herein. This is the first report of the genus from India. The descriptive terminology follows Konstantinov (1998). The measurements are in millimeters (mm) and the mean values are provided in brackets. In the case of male and female genitalia only single specimens were measured. Other measurements are from ten haphazardly selected specimens (five males and five females). The holotypes are deposited in the Natural History Museum, London (BMNH). Paratypes will be deposited in the Pusa National Collection, Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi (PNC), University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore (UASB), National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington DC (USNM), Natural History Museum, Basel, Switzerland (NHMB) and the personal collection of the first author (PKDC).