

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

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Abstract

A new genus, *Orisaltata*, with the type species *Aphthona azurea* Jacoby (the only known species) from the Oriental Region is described and illustrated. Comparative notes and host plant information are provided. *Aphthona babai* Kimoto is synonymized with *Orisaltata azurea*.

Key words: Chrysomelidae, new genus, synonymy, Oriental Region

Introduction

A revision of the *Aphthona* Chevrolat of the Oriental Region necessitated removal of 19 incorrectly placed species from the genus (Konstantinov & Lingafelter, 2002). Two congeneric species, *Aphthona azurea* described by Jacoby (1896) from Myanmar and *A. babai* described by Kimoto (2000) from Thailand, were placed under *incertae sedis* in the above revision because they do not share any synapomorphy with *Aphthona*. Further studies of additional material collected in India and Thailand revealed that these species are synonymous and belong 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); University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore, India (UASB), Kitakyushu Museum and Institute of Natural History, Kitakyushu, Japan (KMHJ), and the personal collection of the senior author (PKDC).