

CHRYSOMELID BEETLES FROM THE PAPUAN SUBREGION, 7 (Donaciinae)¹

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Abstract: This paper describes the first species of the subfamily Donaciinae to be recorded from New Guinea, *Donacia* (*Cyphogaster*) *papuana*. It is from the Fly River area.

In the first installment of this series³, to which this paper forms a supplement, no members of the subfamily Donaciinae were recorded from New Guinea or other parts of the Papuan Subregion. The Donaciinae are poorly represented in the tropics and in the Southern Hemisphere. In this paper one new species of this subfamily is put on record. It is from the Fly River area of Papua (SE New Guinea).

Members of this subfamily are associated with water plants, and many of them spend part of their life-cycle within the aquatic plants, below the water level. Nothing is known of the biology of this new species, but it is safe to assume that its habits do not deviate from the normal for the group. All of the specimens are from Lake Daviumbu or from along the Fly River.

Only 2 closely related species of this group occur in Australia, and this new species from Papua is closely related to them.

Donacia (*Cyphogaster*) *papuana* Gressitt, new species Fig. 1.

♀. Reddish-brown, somewhat pale castaneous, with a slight bronzy sheen, darker on prothorax and posterior portion of head; antenna reddish brown at base, duller brown on remainder; ventral surfaces paler brown; legs pale brown on bases and undersides of femora, slightly duller on remainder and darkest on upper portions of femoral clubs. Head, pronotum, and antenna with fine short pale pubescence, thicker on antenna; scutellum moderately covered with pale pubescence except on median line posteriorly; elytron glabrous; ventral surfaces almost entirely clothed with close silvery-buff pubescence; legs with thinner and less adpressed pubescence of a somewhat more golden-buff tinge.

Head rather short, eyes hardly projecting beyond the side of prothorax; occiput rather densely punctured and with a fine slightly raised median line; vertex more finely and closely punctured, depressed and grooved medially, raised on each side anteriorly just behind antennal insertions and somewhat grooved on each side parallel to eye; inter-antennal area smooth, flat, and minutely punctured; frons rather small and flattened, subtriangular, minutely punctured; gena rather wide, subangular at lower anterior corner, finely punctured and silvery pubescent, about 3/4 as deep as eye; eye strongly convex, slightly longer than deep; neck slightly constricted

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2. Bishop Museum, Honolulu.
3. For preceding installment see *Pacific Insects* 11 (1): 1-31, 1969.

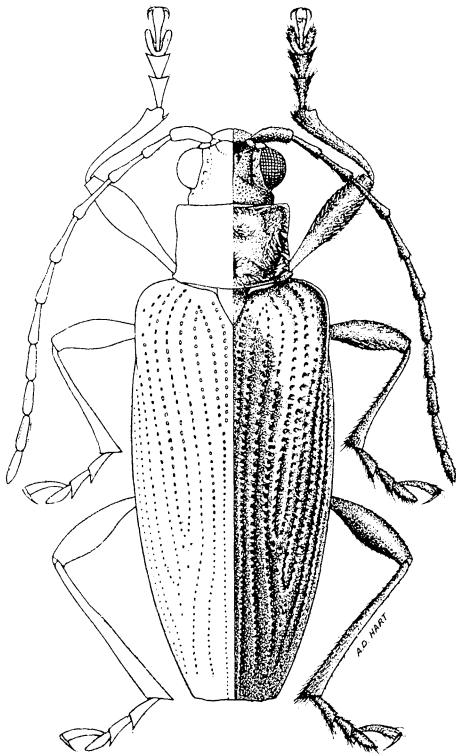


Fig. 1. *Donacia (Cyphogaster) papuana*, n. sp.

distinctly larger than interspaces longitudinally; interspaces smooth and evenly convex, slightly wrinkled behind humerus. *Ventral surfaces* rather smooth and minutely and closely punctured; abdominal sternite 1 fully as long as remainder combined; sternite 5 weakly and evenly convex apically and sternite 6 more strongly convex apically; pygidium distinctly narrowed and rounded apically, distinctly punctured. *Legs* with femora distinctly swollen; hind femur not reaching elytral apex, swollen in less than distal 1/2; hind tibia weakly sinuate, only slightly thickened distally; hind tarsal segment 1 about 1/3 longer than 2 and barely longer than 3; last segment slightly longer than 1. Length 7.5 mm; breadth 2.55.

♂. Antenna 3/4 as long as body; last segment nearly as stout as preceding and slightly thickened preapically; hind femur slightly exceeding elytral apex; abdominal sternite with a pair of minute ridge-like processes at center. Length 8 mm; breadth 2.8.

Paratypes: Length 7.5-9.5 mm; breadth 2.7-3.1.

Holotype ♀ (BISHOP 9484), Middle Fly River, 400-480 km up from coast, SE New Guinea (Papua), VII.1928, C. E. Pemberton; allotype ♂ (AMNH), Lake Daviumbu, Fly River, 21-30.IX.1936, Archbold Exped.; 3 paratypes, ♂ ♀ ♀ Lake Daviumbu, 1-10. IX.1936, Archbold Exped.

Differs from *australasiae* Blackburn and *inopinata* Goecke in having postantennal tu-

immediately behind eyes. *Antenna* just over 2/3 as long as body, slightly thickened distally; segment 1 fairly slender, slightly arched, finely punctured; 2 nearly 3/4 as long as 1, slightly thickened apically; 3 nearly as long as 1, thickened apically; 4 nearly 1/2 again as long as 3; 5 nearly as long as 4; 6 barely longer than 3, 6-10 decreasing slightly in length and becoming more cylindrical; 11 more slender than 10 and about the same length. *Prothorax* subrectangular, transversely oblong, length at side not quite 2/3 as great as breadth at apex; anterior margin subtransverse, weakly sinuate, concave on each side of middle; lateral margin fairly straight, slightly concave anterior to middle; hind angle slightly projecting; basal margin somewhat convex in middle; disc rather flat, slightly uneven, raised on each side of middle of base and grooved medially in posterior 1/2; surface minutely granulate to punctate and wrinkled; upper edge of side transversely corrugated, lower portion of side closely punctured. *Scutellum* nearly 1/2 as long as prothorax, triangular, slightly longer than broad, finely punctured at side and smoother and more sparsely punctured along middle. *Elytron* 4.5 × as long as broad, subparallel-sided in basal 3/4, then gradually narrowed to rather broadly subtruncate apex; apical angles somewhat rounded; disc moderately convex, rather even, with 10-1/2 rows in anterior 2/3 of strong regular punctures, mostly dis-

bercle more prominent, corners of prothorax more prominent, median groove extending farther posteriorly and not ending in a pit, with hind tarsal segment 2 longer than broad, and the last abdominal sternite without a deep impression. In the lack of femoral teeth this species is clearly most closely related to the Australian species, as might be expected since it occurs in the part of New Guinea with savanna country similar to that of parts of Australia and not typical for most of New Guinea. Whether a species related to *javana* Wied. occurs in New Guinea remains to be seen.

Differs from *javana* Wiedemann in nearly lacking femoral teeth, in having postantennal tubercles distinct, antennal segment 3 distinctly longer than 2, and prothorax slightly broader at apex than just behind apex.

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