

New Plagithmysines from Kauai and West Maui (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae)¹

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This paper adds a further two species to the growing number of known plagithmysines, the only group of native Hawaiian cerambycid beetles which has speciated in the islands.⁴ These two species fill further gaps in the general picture which is emerging of related endemic species in the same host plant on different islands. The first species in *Urera* from other than the Island of Hawaii is here described from West Maui, and the third *Euphorbia* species is described, this one from Kauai while previous *Euphorbia* species were known from Oahu and Hawaii.

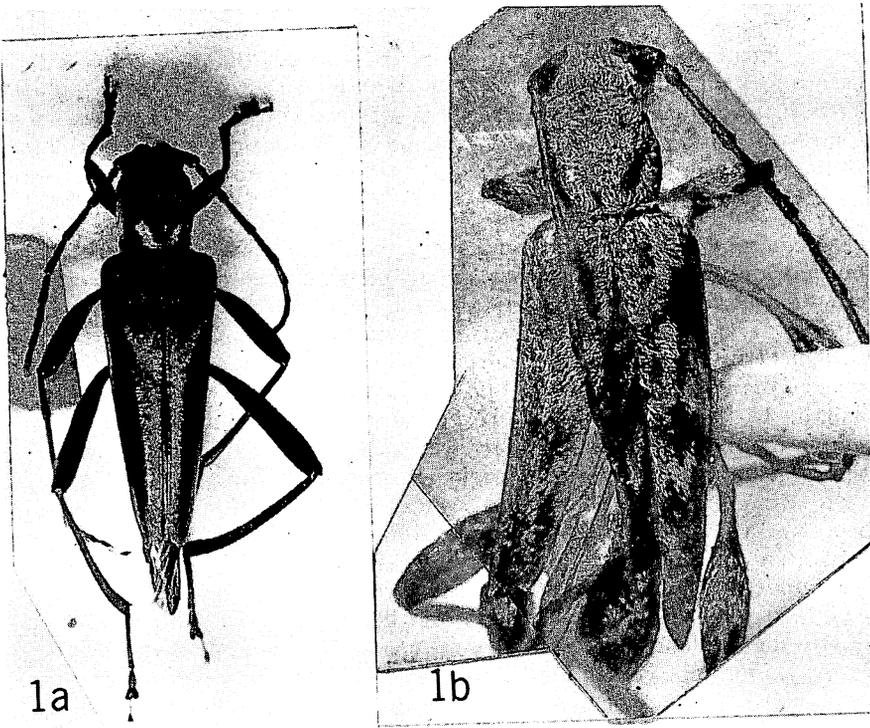


FIG. 1. a, *Plagithmysus* (*P.*) *urerae* n. sp.; b, *P.* (*Neoclytarius*) *akoko* n. sp.

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⁴For other recent papers on this group of beetles, see Proc. Hawaiian Entomol. Soc. 20(2): 331-393, 1969; 20(3): 567-569, 1970; 21(1): 67-77, 1972; 21(2): 213-221, 1972; 21(3): 359-363, 1973; Pacific Ins. 14(1): 83-92; 14(4): 635-645, 1972.

The new species from *Urera* was collected and reared by Gressitt and S. Montgomery, and the *Euphorbia* species was collected and reared by Davis. We are indebted to Steve Montgomery for his perceptive field work.

Plagithmysus (Plagithmysus) urerae Gressitt and Davis, new species (Fig. 1 a.).

Male. Black and reddish to testaceous: Head black, somewhat reddish on labrum, clypeus and upper corner of gena; antenna somewhat pitchy brown, brighter reddish brown on segments 1-2 and apices of following segments; prothorax black, slightly reddish at side anteriorly; scutellum pitchy to reddish; elytron black with base mostly reddish, extending acutely along suture to end of basal $\frac{1}{4}$; humerus with a small pitchy spot above, but reddish area continuing posteriorly and ochraceous at side behind basal $\frac{1}{5}$; disc with a pale sulphur pubescent stripe along suture in posterior $\frac{4}{5}$, broadened and oblique anteriorly; ventral surfaces reddish on thorax, ochraceous on coxae and parts of pleurites; abdomen black, partly pitchy brown on last 2 segments; legs largely reddish; femora testaceous basally and blackish distally; hind tarsus paler than hind tibia. Body clothed in part with pale short pubescence, forming a pair of stripes on frons, 4 stripes on pronotum, a thin covering on scutellum, the sutural stripe described above on elytron and also a less distinct submarginal stripe; ventral surfaces with moderate pubescence, sparser on parts of metasternum; abdomen with a broad lateral stripe on segments 2-4 and apex of 1, glabrous on much of sternite 1 and sparsely pubescent on remainder.

Head minutely punctured on parts, smooth, glabrous and impunctate on borders and median line of frons, deeply cleft between antennal insertions; eye subrounded except for emargination. *Antenna* $\frac{3}{5}$ as long as body, tapering and somewhat flattened; scape shiny, finely punctured, strongly thickened distally; pedicel not quite 2x as long as broad; segment 3 distinctly shorter than 1, subequal to 4 and 5; 6 much shorter; 6-10 decreasing in length; 11 barely longer than 10. *Prothorax* slightly longer than broad, subparallel-sided, very slightly narrowed anteriorly, strongly raised medially, the ridge vertical to anterior margin anteriorly, sloping to behind middle, then strongly raised and broader, surface of ridge subrugulose and subasperate, a lesser arcuate ridge at top of side, from which side is nearly vertical, and area below outer stripe shiny and impunctate. *Scutellum* broad, subrounded behind, declivous and finely punctured. *Elytron* broad, evenly narrowed posteriorly; apex oblique and bluntly rounded; disc closely and finely subgranulose punctate; side more sparsely punctured. *Ventral surfaces* rather shiny, somewhat sparsely punctured on lower parts of metasternum, impunctate on most of abdominal sternite 1, sparsely punctured on non-pubescent areas of others. *Legs* finely asperate, more sparsely so on hind tibia; hind femur moderately swollen; hind tibia flattened and slightly sinuate; hind tarsal segment 1 slightly longer than remainder combined. Length 17 mm; breadth 5.

Female. Very similar to male; abdomen paler; sutural stripe less strongly oblique anteriorly. Length 16.5 mm; breadth 4.7.

Paratypes. Some individuals with reddish areas more pitchy and sutural stripe slightly wider anteriorly and more strongly narrowed at middle. Length 13-16.5 mm; breadth 3.4-5.

Holotype male (BISHOP 10,186): Wahikuli, 800 m, SW side of West Maui, from larva collected in *Urera sandwicensis* by L. Gressitt and S. Montgomery, reared by Gressitt 8.VI.1973; allotopotype, same data; 4 paratopotypes, 3 reared in June and early July by Gressitt, 1 reared on 20.VIII.1973 by Montgomery.

Differs from *pipturi* Gressitt in being considerably larger and especially stouter, more blackish above with sutural stripe longer and more distinct, being set off by black discal area, and with prothorax more strongly ridged, more distinctly striped and more glabrous and shiny at side.

Plagithmysus (Neoclytarlus) akoko Gressitt and Davis, new species (Fig. 1b.).

Female. Reddish brown, in part testaceous or pitchy, unevenly clothed with pale pubescence: Head largely pitchy, reddish anteriorly and on gena; antenna pale reddish, pitchy on distal $\frac{1}{2}$ of scape, very slightly pitchy on postbasal portions of postbasal segments; prothorax reddish, slightly pitchy at side; scutellum pitchy; elytron subuniformly reddish; ventral surfaces tawny to dull brown, more pitchy along median portion; legs with femora testaceous on petioles, pitchy brown on clubs, and tibiae ochreous brown with apical $\frac{1}{6}$ of hind tibiae pitchy; tarsi reddish brown with distal portions of segments pitchy. Body extensively clothed with silvery white pubescence, rather dense on head, slightly sparser on center of frons and behind antennal insertions, rather sparse and fine on antenna, rather coarse and dense on prothorax, but thinner on 3 ridges, moderate on scutellum, dense on 4 uneven broad bands on elytron which are crossed by 3 narrow vague subglabrous longitudinal lines; ventral surfaces rather densely pubescent at side, more sparsely so medially; legs with some fine golden hairs and dense white pubescence on central portions of femoral clubs.

Head nearly as broad as prothorax, densely and finely punctured, with asperities behind antennal supports; vertex obtusely concave; frons slightly broader than deep; gena subasperate, as deep as eye which is nearly round. *Antenna* as long as body, rather slender and subcylindrical; scape moderately thickened apically. *Prothorax* somewhat flattened, longer than broad, obtuse at side, with distinct fairly even median ridge except for interruption at middle, and a less distinct subarcuate swollen ridge toward side of disc; surface finely granulose to asperate-punctulate. *Scutellum* subtrapeziform, finely rugose. *Elytron* fairly long, gradually narrowed, subacute apically, finely granulose punctate. *Ventral surfaces* finely punctured, less punctate, but somewhat frosted, on abdomen. *Legs* sparsely punctured to finely asperate; hind femur with slender peduncle for nearly $\frac{3}{5}$ its length, then with elliptical club; hind tibia flattened, slightly sinuate; hind tarsal segment 1 distinctly longer than remainder combined. Length 6 mm; breadth 1.4.

Holotype ♀ (BISHOP 10,187), Awaawapuhi Trail, 790 m, Kauai, in native *Euphorbia* collected by D. Sugawa, 8.XI.1973, emerged 1.XII.1973 from rearing medium, C.J. Davis.

Differs from *euphorbiae* Bridwell of Oahu in being a little more slender, with prothorax longer than broad, more obtuse at side, elytron longer, hind femoral club longer and more slender, and hind tibia more sinuate.