VIETETROPIS BICOLORIPES – A NEW SPECIES FROM LAOS WITH COMMENTS ON THE GENUS *VIETETROPIS* AND NEW DISTRIBUTIONAL RECORDS OF *V. VIRIDIS* (CERAMBYCIDAE, PRIONINAE, ANACOLINI)

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Abstract: The new species *Vietetropis bicoloripes* **sp. nov.** is described from Laos with differential diagnosis and illustrations of diagnostic characters. Comments on the morphology of the genus *Vietetropis* and new distributional records for *V. viridis* Komiya, 1997 are given.

Key words: Oriental region, taxonomy, new species, *Prioninae, Anacolini*

INTRODUCTION

Vietetropis was proposed by KOMIYA (1997) as a genus and placed to the tribe *Anacolini* of subfamily Prioninae. The main character of tribe *Anacolini* is the position of eyes, which are closer to antennae than to mandibulae and surround the base of antennae postero-ventrally. Genae are short, palpi are closely adjacent and minute. The pronotal margin is rarely crenate, but sometimes with a single cusp. Antennae are longer in male than in female, antennomere 3 is the longest one. The elytral structure is same at both sexes (GRESSITT 1951, HEYROVSKÝ 1955).

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Locality data of examined specimens are cited verbatim in double quotes. Type specimens are labeled with the red label with status (holotype or paratype), the name of the species, its author and year, and with the inscription R. Hergovits det. 2020.

Collection codens. **PVCC**: collection of Petr Viktora, Czech Republic; **RHCS**: collection of Roman Hergovits, Slovak Republic.

TAXONOMY

Vietetropis Komiya, 1997

The genus *Vietetropis* is known from mountainous regions of Palaearctic (China) and Oriental (Vietnam, Laos, Myanmar, Cambodia) regions (KOMIYA 1997, 2001; DRUMONT et al. 2007; DRUMONT & COLLARD 2010; LI et al. 2014; DRUMONT et al. 2019). The genus comprised two metallically green or purple species: *Vietetropis viridis* Komiya, 1997 described from Northern Vietnam and *V. cheni* Drumont, Bi & Ripaille, 2019 from Guangxi in China. The examination of recently collected specimens from Laos revealed another new species which was, so far, misidentified as *V. viridis* (DRUMONT & COLLARD 2010).

The metallic color suggests their diurnal activity which may explain the fact that they are not attracted to light. Both species are known from small series.

KOMIYA (1997), in the original description, mentioned 12 antennomeres of *Vietetropis viridis*. The examination revealed that though the antennomere 11 has an indication of antennomere 12, the interconnection if fused and lacks flexible articulation. Therefore, the number of antennomeres should be considered 11 (Figs 3F-G). Scutellum of *V. cheni* is smooth, in *V. viridis* and *V. bicoloripes* sp. nov. is punctured. Therefore, the new species is compared only with *V. viridis.*

Vietetropis viridis Komiya, 1997
(Figs 1, 3F, G; 4D, E, G; 5D-F, H; 6A-C)

Studied material. 1 ♂ "Vietnam, Mukangchai – Yen Bai Pro, 1700m, 06. 2018, local coll." (RHCS), 1 ♀ "Vietnam N, Yen Bai Pro, Van Chan District. N.T. Lien Son env.1300m, VI. 2017, local coll." (RHCS), 5 ♂ "Vietnam N, Tu Le, Van Chan District. Yen Bai, V. 2020, local coll." (RHCS).

Remarks. The taxonomic concept of this species was judged from the image of holotype in Drumont et al. (2019). The species was described from Vietnam (Lao Cai and Cao Bang provinces) and later cited from Cambodia (Rattanakiri), China (Xizang, Yunnan), Laos (Xekong, Xieng Khouang, Houaphan), Myanmar (Kachin), Vietnam (Tuyen Quang, Yen Bai). The range of *V. viridis* has to be revised and at least Laos (Houaphan) dismissed, because records from this region pertain actually to *Vietetropis bicoloripes* sp. nov.

Figure 1. *Vietetropis viridis* Habitus (RHCS).

***Vietetropis bicoloripes* sp.nov.**
(Figs 2A-D; 3A-E, 4A-C, F, H, I; 5A-C, G; 6D-F)

Type locality. Laos, Houaphan province, Mount Phu Pane, altitude 1200-1900 m, Ban Saluei village, 20°12N; 103°59'E.

Type specimens. Holotype ♂ (RHCS): "N Laos, Huaphanne prov., Mt. Phu Pane, 1200-1900m, Ban Saluei vill. env, IV. 2019, 20°12N; 103°59'E, local collector leg.". **Paratypes:** 4 ♂♂, 2 ♀♀ (PVCC, RHCS) same locality: 2 ♂♂ and 1 ♀, IV. 2019 (RHCS), 1 ♂, 26. IV. - 10. V. 2013 (RHCS), 1 ♂, V. 2020 (RHCS), 1 ♀, IV. 2019 (PVCC).

Description. Body of holotype 43.5 mm long, 11.2 mm wide across humeri. Head green-blue; antennae deep blue or violet with black apices. Scutellum bluish green; elytra green with golden tinge. Body dark or black with greenish tinge.

Head robust, cylindrical, sharply enlarged at genae (dorsal view) (Figs 2A-B) where wider than anterior part of pronotum; head with obvious antennal (Figs 4H-I) and mandibular (Fig. 5G) attachments, with deep sulcus between base of antennae (Figs 2A-B), with distinct medial line on disk (Figs 2A-B) and with fine tubercle behind base of antenna (Figs 2A-B); structure of head coarsely punctate, ventral side with impression covered with small, pale pubescence. The head and pronotum interface with small yellow row of pubescence on pronotum. **Eyes** dorso-ventrally divided into two drop-like lobes (Figs 4H, I); inner side of dorsal lobe prolonged into small conical projection (Figs 4H, I); ventral lobe larger than dorsal one. **Palpi** closely adjacent, black, small, cylindrical, covered with golden pubescence. **Mandibles** bifid**,** strong, black, evenly arcuate on outer margin; inner side with two emarginations; upper side with coarsely punctate, lower side shiny. **Labrum** V-shaped, with cluster of golden pubescence.

Antennae with 11 segments, in male extending distinctly beyond elytral apices; scapus robust, dark blue-green, irregularly punctate; inner and outer side of scapus strongly dentate with obvious costa on outer side; apex of scapus on inner side with perpendicular long projection (Figs 2A-B); antennomeres 1-6 dark violet or dark blue-green, antennomeres 7-11 black. Lengths [mm] of antennomeres 1-11 equal to: 5.5 / 1.1 / 13.2 / 8.3 / 5.9 / 4.4 / 3.1 / 2.2 / 2.2 / 1.7 / 2.6 (Fig. 2A). Antennomeres 3-5 moderately arcuate and enlarged on apex; antennomeres 7-10 shorter and with distinct apical projections on inner side (Figs 2A-B, 3A); antennomere 3 metallic dark violet or blue-green, flat and punctate, inner side crenulate, outer side convex, strongly, irregularly dentate, lower side with strong costa.

Pronotum trapezoid; widest posteriorly; posterior angles projected to sharp spines; disk coarsely punctured with medial line; pronotal margins smooth, without dentation or spines. Length 7 mm, width at anterior margin 6.6 mm, posterior margin 10.1 mm (Figs 2A-B, 4F).

Scutelum metallic-green with golden tinge, regularly arcuate; disk coarsely punctured and with indication of medial line.

Elytra glabrous with metallic tinge, widest across humeri, moderately attenuate; disk with coarse structure and sparse granulation most evident in basal part; each elytron with two distinct and one indicated longitudinal costae converging and vanishing in apical part (Figs 2A-B, 4A-C); elytral sutura adjacent to scutellum sparsely granulated.

Legs dark with metallic tinge; femora in medial upper part red (holotype) or uniformly metallic green (paratype), lower part with sparse whitish pubescence (Figs 2A-D, 3A-C). Tibiae straight with two spines on apical inner side. **Prosternal projection** in male wide and globular (Figs 5A-B). **Mesosternal process** in male wide and bordered with raised protuberance (Figs 5A-B).

Variability. Size 28–45.5 mm in males, 36.3 mm in females. The holotype a two paratypes with red femora, 2 paratypes with dark concolor femora.

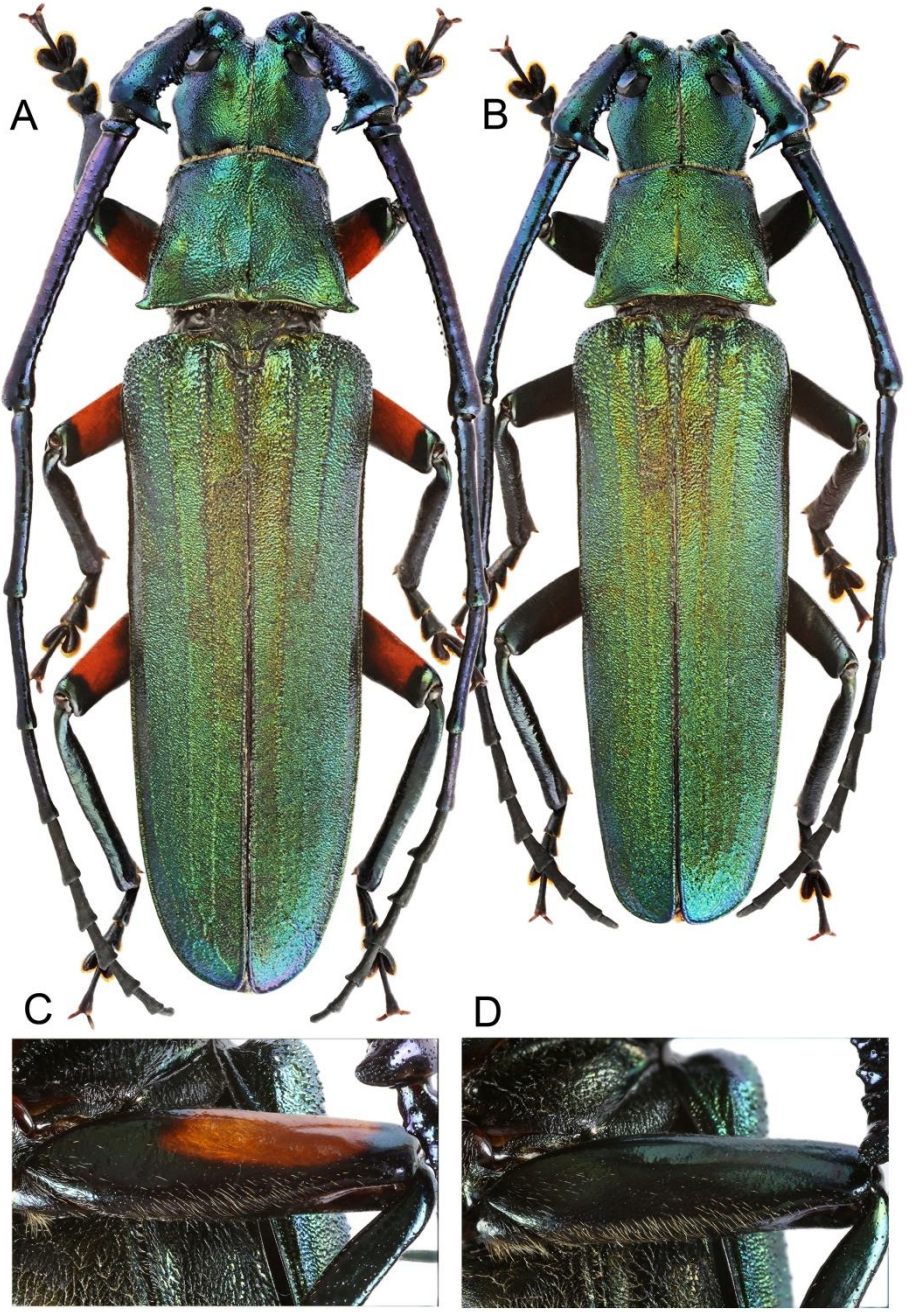
Sexual dimorphism. Female with wider elytra, antennae extending just beyond half of body length, abdomen red, brighter blue or bluish-green color (Figs 3B-C) and mesosternal process wide and convex (Fig. 5C).

Differential diagnosis. *Vietetropis bicoloripes* sp. nov. is very similar to *V. viridis* with which it was confused. The table below provides principal characters for distinguishing both species.

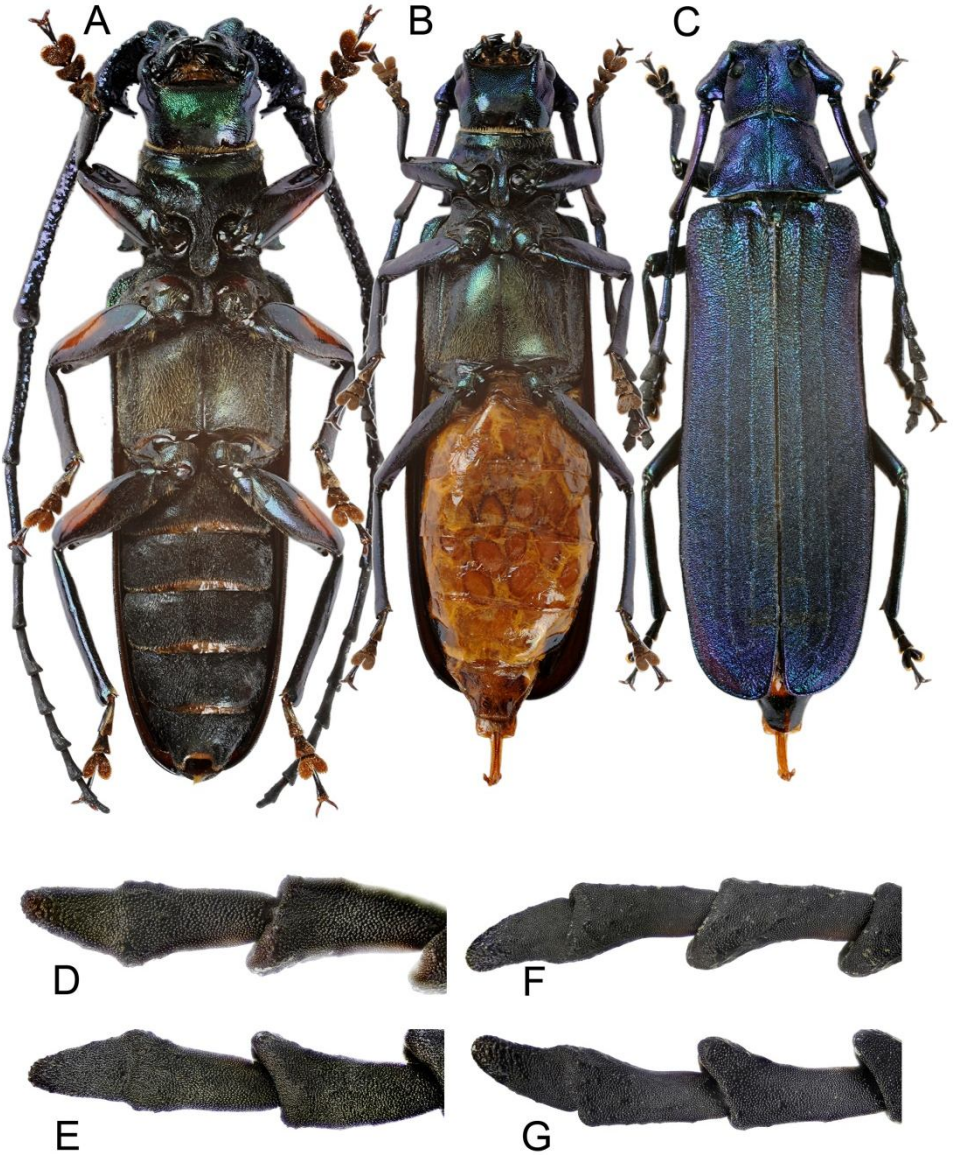
	V. viridis	*V. bicoloripes* sp. nov.
Body	smaller (37–38.5 mm), less robust; green with violet tinge (Fig. 1)	larger (28–45.5 mm), more robust; green with golden tinge (Figs 2A-B)
Head	with spine behind base of antenna (Fig. 5H)	with fine tubercle behind base of antenna (Fig. 5G)
Femora ♂	concolor dark with brownish tinge (Fig. 5E)	upper side red or metallic green (Figs 2C-D)
Pronotum	slightly extended posteriorly (Fig. 4G)	strongly extended posteriorly (Fig. 4F)
Elytra	subparallel (Figs 4D-E)	attenuate posteriorly (Figs 4A-C)
Prosternal process ♂	narrow, subparallel (Figs 5D-E)	wide, globular. (Figs 5A-B)
Mesosternal process	narrow sulcus ♂ (Figs 5D-E) deep sulcus ♀ (Fig. 5F)	wide, bordered with protuberance ♂ (Figs 5A–B); wide, convex ♀ (Fig. 5C)
Aedeagus	Figs 6A-C	Figs. 6D-F
Range	Vietnam	Laos

Etymology. The specific name is a combination of Latin *bicolor* (having two colors) and *pes* (foot). It refers to the bicolored femora of the species.

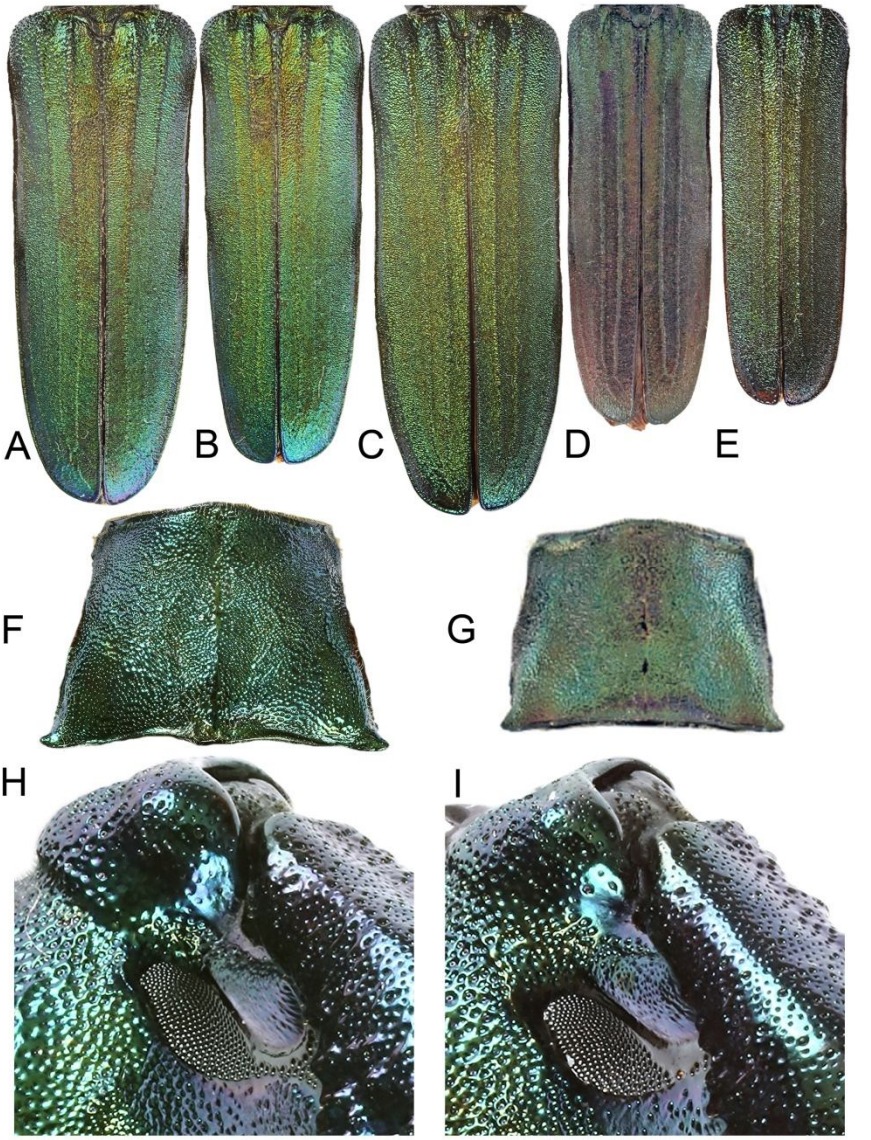
Distribution. Laos: Houaphan.



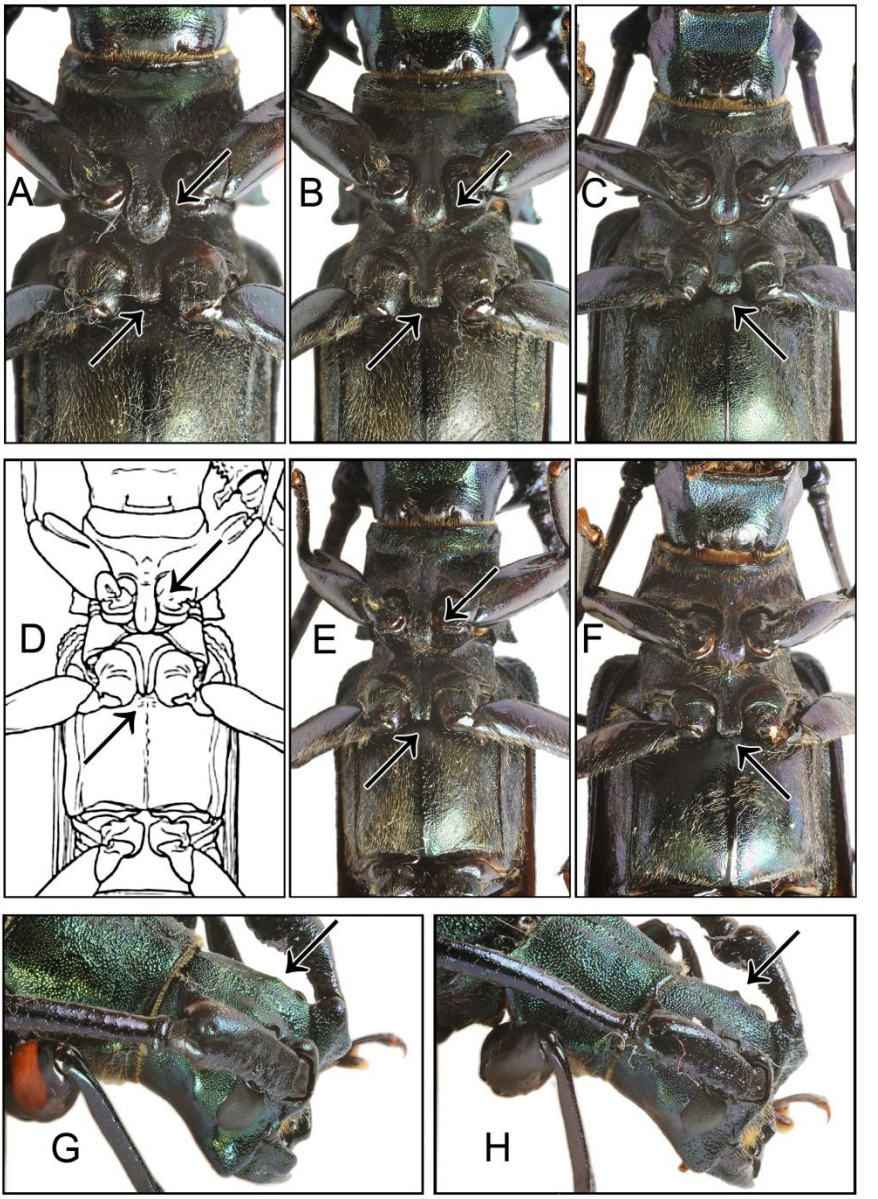
Figures 2A-D. *Vietetropis bicoloripes* **sp. nov. A-B:** Habitus (dorsal view); **C-D:** Femur (ventral view); **A:** *Vietetropis bicoloripes* **sp. nov.**, holotype ♂; **B:** *Vietetropis bicoloripes* **sp. nov.**, paratype ♂; **C:** *Vietetropis bicoloripes* **sp. nov.**, holotype ♂; **D:** *Vietetropis bicoloripes* **sp. nov.**, paratype ♂. Photo: Roman Hergovits.



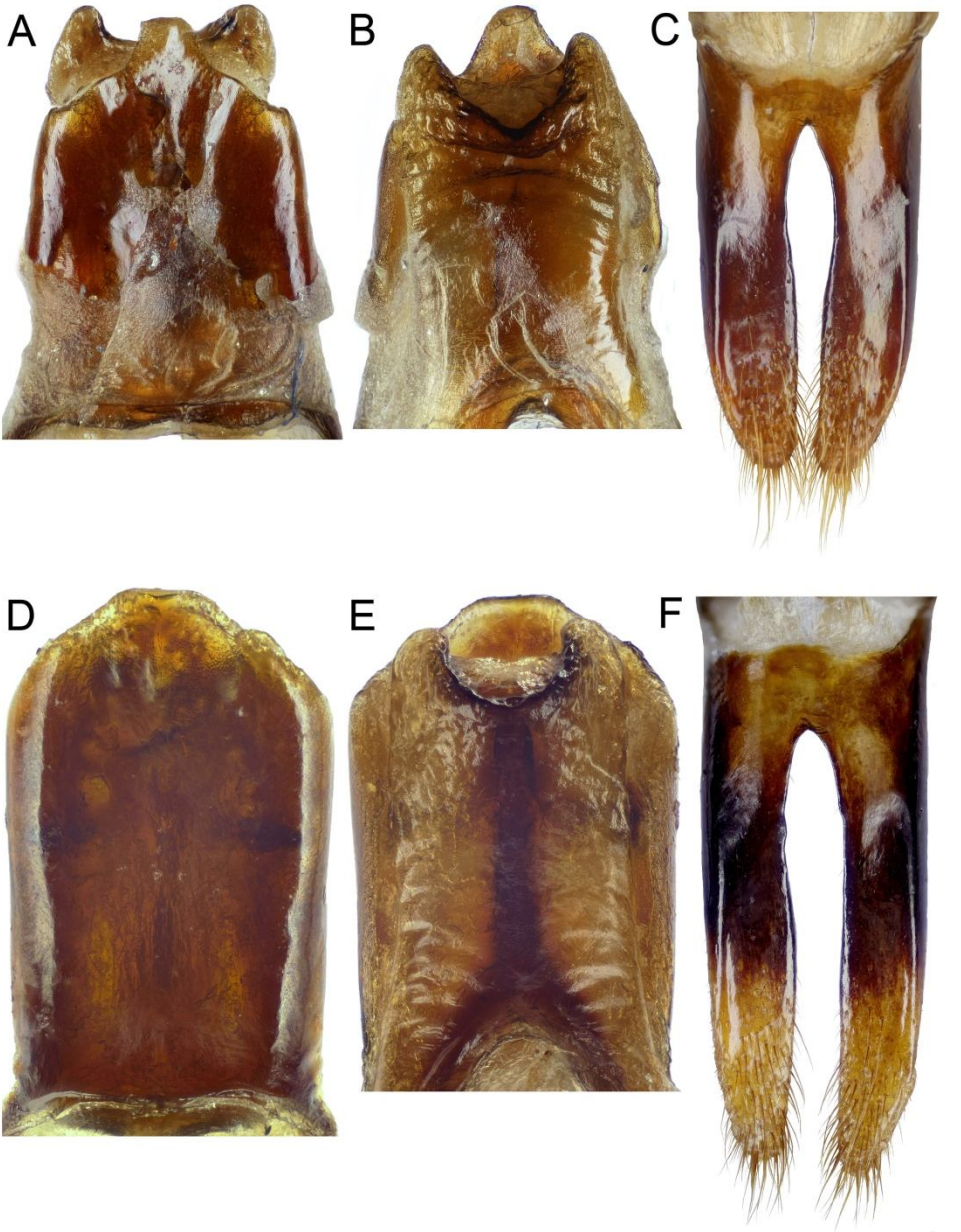
Figures 3A-G. *Vietetropis* spp. **A-C:** *Vietetropis bicoloripes* **sp. nov.**, habitus; **D-G:** *Vietetropis* spp., last antennal segments; **A:** *Vietetropis bicoloripes* **sp. nov.**, holotype ♂ (ventral view); **A:** *Vietetropis bicoloripes* **sp. nov.**, paratype ♀ (ventral view); **C:** *Vietetropis bicoloripes* **sp. nov.**, paratype ♀ (dorsal view); **D:** *Vietetropis bicoloripes* **sp. nov.**, holotype ♂ (dorsal view); **E:** *Vietetropis bicoloripes* **sp. nov.**, holotype ♂ (ventral view); **F:** *Vietetropis viridis,* ♂ (dorsal view); **F:** *Vietetropis viridis,* ♂ (ventral view). Photo: Roman Hergovits (A-C), Peter Kurina (D-G).



Figures 4A-I. *Vietetropis* spp. **A-E:** Elytra (dorsal view); **F-G:** Pronotum (dorsal view); **H-I:** Eyes (both antero-lateral view); **A:** *Vietetropis bicoloripes* **sp. nov.**, holotype ♂ (form with red femora); **B:** *Vietetropis bicoloripes* **sp. nov.**, paratype ♂ (form with dark femora); **C:** *Vietetropis bicoloripes* **sp. nov.**, paratype ♂ (form with red femora); **D:** *Vietetropis viridis*, holotype ♂; **E:** *Vietetropis viridis,* ♂ (RHCS); **F:** *Vietetropis bicoloripes* **sp. nov.**, holotype ♂; **G:** *Vietetropis viridis*, holotype ♂; **H:** *Vietetropis bicoloripes* **sp. nov.**, holotype ♂ (form with red femora; **I:** *Vietetropis bicoloripes* **sp. nov.**, paratype ♂ (form with dark femora).
Photo: Roman Hergovits (A–C, E-F, H-I), figures D and G from Drumont et al. (2019).



Figures 5A-H. *Vietetropis* spp. **A-F:** Prosternal projection and Mesosternal proces (ventral view); **G-H:** Head (both antero-lateral view); **A:** *Vietetropis bicoloripes* **sp. nov.**, holotype ♂ (form with red femora); **B:** *Vietetropis bicoloripes* **sp. nov.**, paratype ♂ (form with dark femora); **C:** *Vietetropis bicoloripes* **sp. nov.**, paratype ♀; **D:** *Vietetropis viridis,* holotype ♂ (adopted from description); **E:** *Vietetropis viridis,* ♂ (RHCS); **F:** *Vietetropis viridis,* ♀ (RHCS); **G:** *Vietetropis bicoloripes* **sp. nov.**, holotype ♂; **H:** *Vietetropis viridis,* ♂ (RHCS).
Photo: Roman Hergovits (A-C, E-H), drawing (D) from Komiya (1997).



Figures 6A-F. *Vietetropis* ssp., Adeagus. **A-C:** *Vietetropis viridis* (RHCS); **D-F:** *Vietetropis bicoloripes* **sp. nov.**, holotype.
Photo: Peter Kurina.

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