

A NEW GENUS OF AMARYGMINI  
(COLEOPTERA : TENEBRIONIDAE) FROM INDIA

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INTRODUCTION

The new genus *Apelina*, under the tribe Amarygmini, described here, is very near to the genus *Platolenes* Gebien (1913) from the Philippines. It can be clearly distinguished from *Platolenes* by having the frons not elevated over the base of the antennae which are more elongate, thin and not clavate apically and for having the elytra distinctly striate and the mesosternum with a pair of elevated sharp spines. The single specimen on which the new genus and species are based and collected from Kavalai (Kerala), is deposited in the National Collections at the Zoological Survey of India, Calcutta.

*Apelina* gen. nov.

Body oval, curved, shiny and brown in colour. Head deflexed fairly rounded, finely punctate and inserted into prothorax upto behind the eyes ; labrum small, transverse and sparsely hairy ; eyes transverse and emarginate in front ; antennae 11 segmented fairly elongate, thin and not clavate apically ; mandibles moderately broad at base and fairly elongate apically ; apical segment of maxillary palpi fairly flattened and triangular in shape. Pronotum finely punctate, fairly flattened and triangular in shape. Pronotum finely punctate, fairly convex in middle, narrow apically and fairly deflexed laterally in front. Prosternum short, slightly concave ; mesosternum also very short and with a pair of elevated sharp spines ; metasternum moderately large. Procoxae

large, convex ; femora elongate, semi-rounded ; tibiae slender with small spines ; tarsi slender, with setae ; claws simple.

*Type of genus* : *Apelina keralaensis* sp. nov.

***Apelina keralaensis* sp. nov.**

(Fig. 1)

*Male* : Body curved, elongate-oblong, shiney, completely brown, length 9mm. *Head* small ; labrum transverse, slightly elevated in front, apically semi rounded ; mandibles small, pointed apically ; clypeus truncate anteriorly ; front margin membranous, remaining part finely and thickly punctate ;

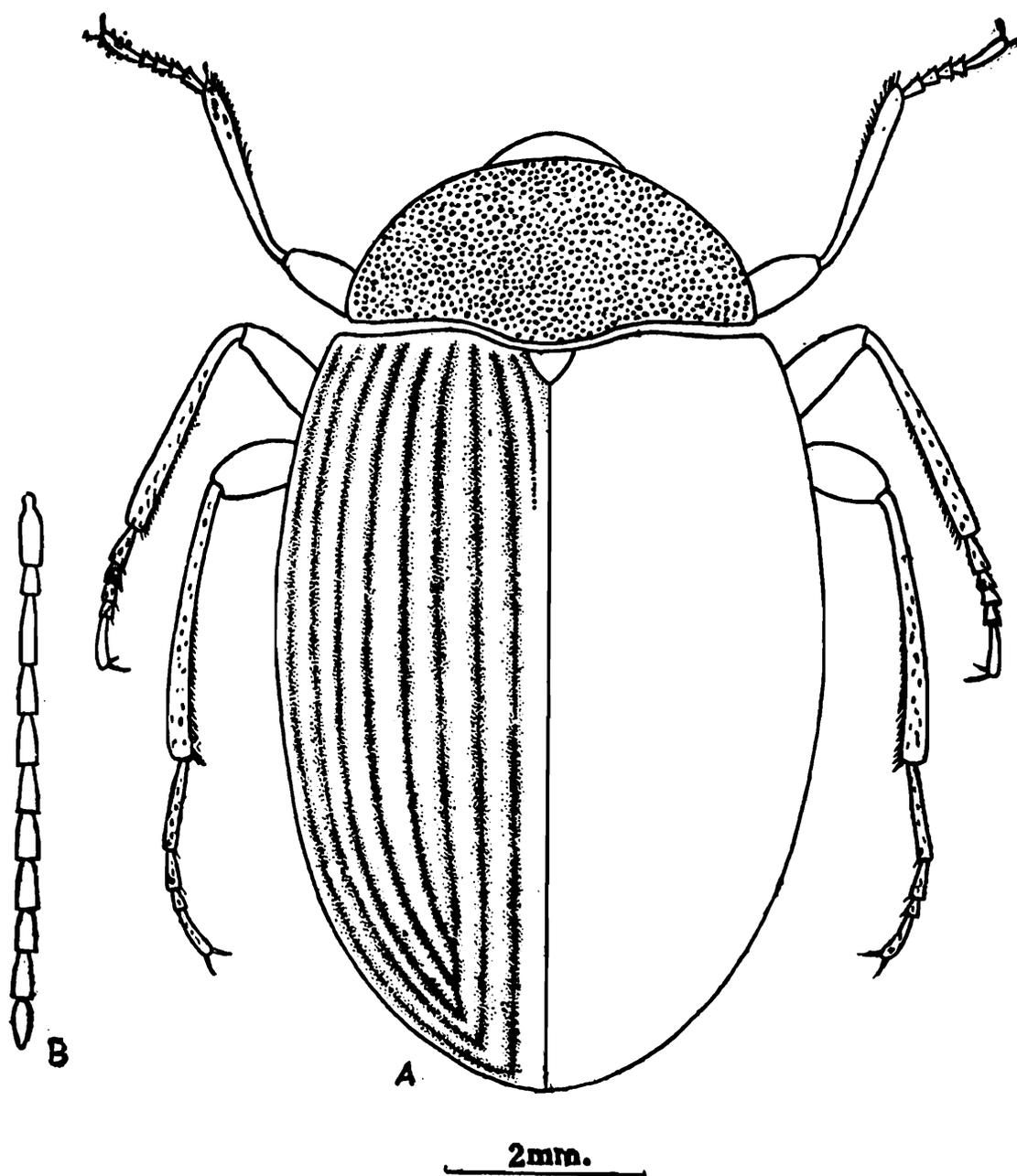


Fig. 1. A. Whole specimen, dorsal view. B. Antenna

fronto-clypeal suture prominent ; frons fairly small, not elevated over base of antennae, finely rugose ; interocular space fairly narrow ; vertex finely punctate ; eyes strongly emarginate and finely granular ; antennae very slender, elongate, apical segment poorly forming a club ; mentum very small ; apical segment of maxillary palpi large and triangular. *Pronotum* : Fairly convex, finely punctate, strongly narrowed apically and explanate laterally. *Scutellum* : Small, flat and triangular in shape. Elytra : Convex, distinctly striate, strongly curved downward apically, fairly narrowed at apex and with distinct epipleura. *Procoxae* : Strongly convex ; prosternal process slightly elevated and pointed at apex ; Mesosternal processes elevated upwards in the form of two sharp spines. Metasternum with a median longitudinal impressed line below. Tibiae and tarsi very slender. *Aedeagus* : Slender, curved at base and finely pointed at apex.

Holotype, Male (Z.S.I. Reg. No. 10767/H<sub>4</sub>A), INDIA : Kerala (Cochin State), Kavalai, 396-914m. 24-27.ix.14 (F.H. Gravely Coll.).

#### SUMMARY

The tribe Amarygmini has larvae inhabiting rotten wood while the adults are short-lived, active, long-legged beetles which fly readily (Watt 1974). The tribe contains 41 genera, most of which occur in the Old World.

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