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A new species of *Oberea* Dejean, 1835 (Coleoptera: Lamiinae: Saperdini) from Mt. Candalaga Range in Maragusan, Davao de Oro, Mindanao, Philippines

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Oberea cabrasae Medina & Panangcad sp. nov., a new species of Saperdini is described and illustrated. High-definition images of species habitus and genitalia are also presented. The present species is a new addition to the *Oberea* fauna endemic in the Philippines, the eighth species for the Eastern Mindanao Biodiversity Corridor (EMBC), Philippines.

Keywords: Asia, Beetles, Lamiinae, Mindanao, New Species, Philippines.

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INTRODUCTION

The tribe Saperdini Mulsant, 1839 has a worldwide distribution with an exception for Neotropical region among the cerambycidae beetles (Wang, 2017). It is characterized by entire or closely lobed eyes (if divided), a reclining head, a large intercoxal process; mesosternum anteriorly rounded (rarely truncate), body generally elongated, antennae longer and fine. In the Philippines, the tribe includes 14 genera, 9 subgenera comprising 176 species, and 10 subspecies (Roguet, 2025).

One of the genera under Saperdini is *Oberea* Dejean, 1835. The genus is characterized by having *a pronotum slightly retracted, slightly longer than wide; without distinct tubercles, slight dents; antennae widely spaced, not thickened apically; elytra elongate, fully covering the abdomen; raised lateral intervals; hind legs barely reaching the second abdominal segment; normal metasternum; pectinate claws; and with an abdomen that does not extend beyond the elytral apex* (Breuning,1952). There are

more than 314 species and 26 non-nominal subspecies in the world, wherein twenty-nine species are recorded in the Philippines (twenty-eight species and one subspecies) (Roguet, 2025). Seven species were found in the Eastern Mindanao Biodiversity Corridor (EMBC), namely, *Oberea davaoensis* Breuning, 1962; *Oberea elongaticollis* Breuning, 1962; *Oberea macilenta* Newman, 1842; *Oberea mickolitzi* Heller, 1915; *Oberea (Oberea) philippinensis* Breuning, 1962; *Oberea quianga* Heller, 1915; *Oberea (Oberea) subviperina* Breuning, 1960.

The Eastern Mindanao Biodiversity Corridor (EMBC) spans 909,191 hectares along Mindanao's eastern coast, covering parts of Region XI and Region XIII. It includes key biodiversity areas like Mount Hamiguitan, Aliwagwag, Pantaron Range, and Agusan Marsh, serving as a vital wildlife conservation zone. However, it faces serious threats from deforestation, mining, poaching, agriculture, climate change, invasive species, and weak enforcement (Ibanez, 2015).

One of the mountain ranges in EMBC is the Mount Candalaga Range, located in Maragusan, Davao de Oro, the Southeastern section of the Philippines. This mountain reaches an elevation of 2,100 meters above sea level (masl), characterized by three vegetation types: tropical lowland rainforest mixed with agroecosystem, tropical lower montane rainforest, and tropical upper montane rainforest (Medina et. al., 2024a, 2024b; Obrial et. al., 2024). Recently, a few species have been described from the area, for example, *Tsounkranaglenea cabrasae* Medina & Barševskis, 2024, *Plocia barsevskisi*, and *Plocia vivesi* Medina & Avergonzado, 2024.

Unfortunately, Mount Candalaga Range is confronted with varying ecological threats like extensive deforestation and rapid conversion of forest area into agricultural and tourism spaces (Agbas et. al.,2024). Fueled by this urgency, several expeditions are made by the Philippine Coleopterists Society Incorporated (PCSI) to document the beetle fauna of the mountain range. This paper describes a new species of *Oberea* Dejean, 1835, collected from the recent expedition of PCSI, the ninth species within EMBC.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The specimen was collected through the beating sheet method at an elevation of 1500 masl, killed using ethyl acetate, and brought to the Invertebrate Research Laboratory of Davao Oriental State University for examination. Morphological characters were observed under a Leica MZ 12.5 stereomicroscope. Habitus images were taken using a Canon EOS 6D digital camera equipped with an MP-E 65 mm macro lens mounted in a StackShot macro rail, automated with Helicon Remote version 4.3.0.w. All images were stacked using Helicon Focus version 8.1.1 and processed using licensed Photoshop CS6 Portable software.

Measurements of the various body parts as follows:
LB = length of body from antennal support to apices elytra;
WH = maximum width across head from the outer margin of a gena to that of another;
LG = length of gena from upper margin to lower margin;
LL = length of lower eye lobe from upper margin to lower margin;
WL = maximum width across lower eye lobe;
LP = length of pronotum from base to apex along midline;
WP = maximum width across pronotum;

LE = length of elytra from level of basal margins to apices of clothed elytra;
WE = width of elytra (widest section);
WEH = width of elytra at humeri; / Separates different lines on a label; // separates different labels.

All measurements are given in millimeters (mm).

Comparative materials and specimens used in this study are deposited in the following collections:
MMCP Milton Medina Collections, Tagum City, Philippines.
PNM Philippine National Museum, Ermita, Manila, Philippines.

TAXONOMY

***Oberea cabrasae* sp. nov.**
Fig. 1.

HOLOTYPE, male: PHILIPPINES – Mindanao, Davao de Oro / Maragusan / Brgy. New Albay / 7-9.vi.2024 / 1,800 masl. M.N.Medina, leg. / Printed on red card. The holotype is currently at MMCP and will be deposited at the PNM. No paratypes.

Description. Dimensions: Holotype, male: LB: 16.0 mm. WH: 3.5 mm. LL: 1.0 mm. WL: 0.7 mm. LP: 3.4 mm. WP: 3.5 mm. LE: 9.0 mm. WE: 4.5 mm. WEH: 4.5 mm.

Adult male
Teguments. Head including eyes, antennae, prothorax, abdomen, legs, matte black. Basal half of elytra yellow, apical half matte black. Head as viewed laterally ovate, vertex and frons slightly convex. As viewed dorsally, with prominent longitudinal slit along midline from base of head towards basal half of frons; forming a ridge towards basal half of frons. Vertex and frons setigerous, covered with blackish recumbent pubescence, densely covered with deep and shallow punctures arranged in random. Genae wider than long, lustrous, sparsely covered with deep punctures but densely covered with shallow punctures. Apical margin of head thick, slightly raised, sinuate at each side; clypeus trapezoidal, brownish at proximal end, dark brown at distal end. Labrum bell-shaped with apical declivity, brownish, with 4-5 erect black setae. Mandible matte black, lateral side covered with small recumbent black pubescence.

Prothorax cylindrical densely covered with black recumbent setae. Pronotum longer than wide, widest at center, slightly convex near apical third, with microsculptures extended up to propleuron, covered with black erect setae including propleuron. Antennae a little longer than body.

Antennae a little longer than the body, covered with blackish semi-erect setae; scape robust, shorter than antennomere III but subequal to antennomere VII; pedicle short; antennomere III shorter than antennomere IV, but subequal with antennomere VII; antennomere IV, V, VI subequal; antennomere VII and VIII subequal; antennomere IX and X subequal and longer than XI.

Elytra longer than wide, widest at humeri, densely covered with semi-erect pubescence, with 6-7 visible striae with punctures uniformly arrange from base diminishing towards apical third, suture and margin slightly raised lined with semi-erect setae, apex acuminate.

Legs. Procoxa, mesocoxae, metacoxa raised, slightly raised, not raised respectively. Profemora slightly longer than mesofemora and metafemora; mesofemora and metafemora subequal. Tibia densely covered with black erect setae; protibia and mesotibia subequal, densely covered with black semi-erect setae; metatibia longer than protibia and mesotibia; tibia with short

apical spine densely covered with black semi-erected setae. Tarsi densely covered with brownish recumbent pubescence and black erect setae towards apex. Protarsi shorter than mesotarsi; mesotarsi and metatarsi subequal. Claws matte black, simple.

Prosternum densely covered with black short recumbent pubescence. Lateral side of abdomen covered with black erect setae; abdominal ventrites II to VI subequal, cylindrical. Metepisternum wider than mesepimeron; mesepisternum short, densely covered with microsculptures.

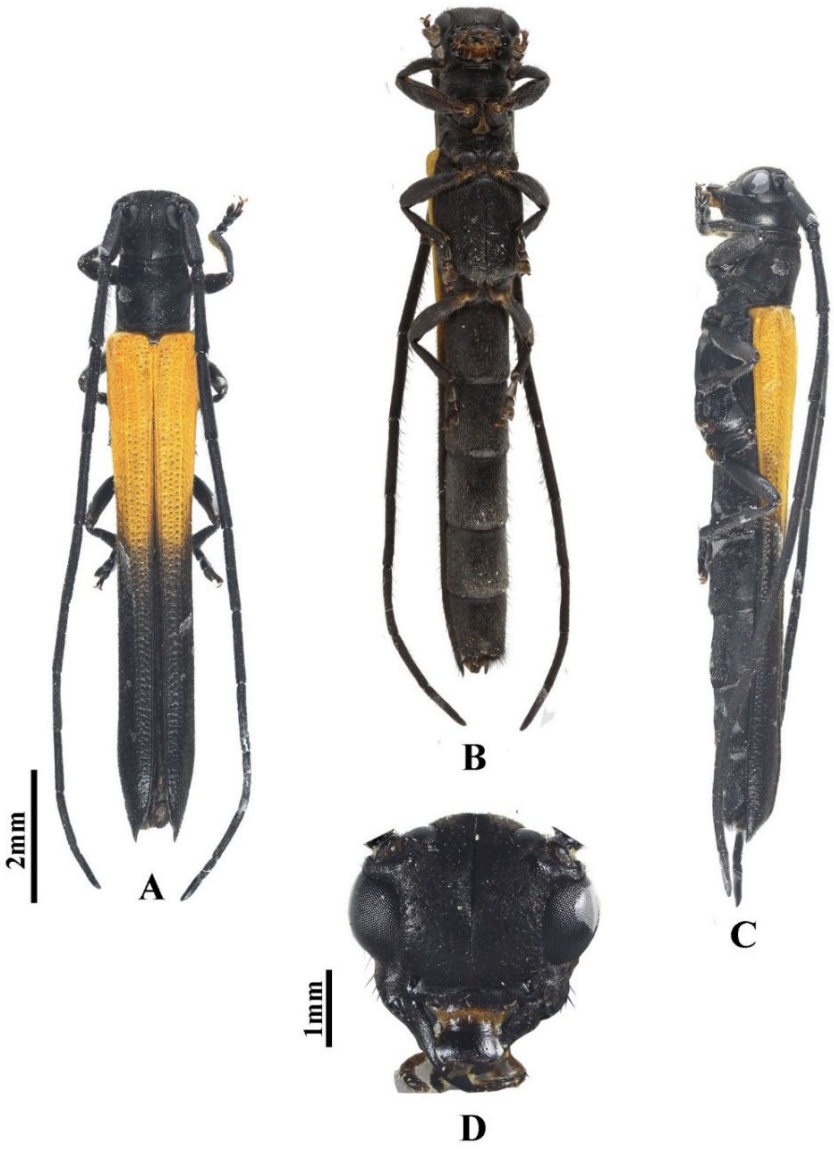

Fig. 1. Habitus of *Oberea cabrasae* Medina & Panangcad sp. nov: A. Dorsal aspect, B. Ventral aspect, C. Lateral aspect, D. Frons.

Genitalia. Whole system of genitalia slender; aedeagus longer than tegmen, with expanded base, lanceolate apex. Tegmen longer than wide; parameres broad, apex covered with long soft black setae. Tergite VIII & sternite IX (Fig. 2F-G).

Fig. 2. Genitalia of *Oberea cabrasae* Medina & Panangcad sp. nov., holotype male: A. whole system of genitalia, B. aedeagus, dorsal aspect, C. aedeagus, ventral aspect, D. tegmen, dorsal, E. tegmen, ventral, F. tergite VIII & sternite IX, dorsal, G. tergite VIII & sternite IX, ventral aspect.

Etymology. The new species is named in honor of our dearest colleague, Dr. Analyn Anzano Cabras, 'The Queen of Philippine Weevils', a remarkable Philippine weevil worker, who has been instrumental in advancing Philippine coleopterology.

Differential diagnosis. The new species belongs to the subgenus *Oberea* for having a pronotum slightly retracted, slightly longer than wide; without distinct tubercles, slight dents; antennae widely spaced, not thickened apically; elongated elytra fully covering the abdomen; raised lateral intervals; hind legs barely reaching the second abdominal segment; and with an abdomen that does not extend beyond the elytral apex. The new species is close to its Philippine endemic congeners *vis-à-vis* having a basal half of elytra yellow and apical half matte black, as in the case of *O. macilenta* (Newman, 1842) and *O. seminigra* Chevrolat, 1841 but can be easily identified for having a matte black prothorax (vs. reddish brown or light yellow in congeners). In addition, the new species is unique from other *Oberea* species for having a unique trapezoidal clypeus, labrum with bell-shaped apical declivity, and an acuminate elytral apex.

Distribution. Philippines: Mindanao (Davao de Oro: Mt. Candalaga, Maragusan, Davao de Oro).

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