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Diversity of the genus *Metapocyrtus* Heller, 1912 (Coleoptera: Curculionidae: Pachyrhynchini) in Mt. Apo, Davao del Sur, Mindanao, Philippines with description of new species

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A total of nine (9) species of the genus *Metapocyrtus* Heller, 1912 were collected across the three surveyed areas: Sitio Baras (Brgy.Kapatagan), Balutakay Trail (Brgy. Managa), and the Sibulan Range (Sitio Kinambulan, Brgy. Kapatagan). Among the *Metapocyrtus* species, two were found to have new distribution records, significantly expanding their known ranges. One of the collected species appeared to be new to science: *Metapocyrtus (Dolichocephalocyrtus) metom* sp. nov. and is described and illustrated herein.

Keywords: Diversity, new record, *Metapocyrtus*, new species, Mindanao

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INTRODUCTION

Metapocyrtus Heller, 1912 (Coleoptera: Curculionidae: Pachyrhynchini) is a hyperdiverse, predominantly Philippine-endemic genus of flightless weevils notable for its striking elytral color patterns and a high proportion of range-restricted species. Many species are known only from single mountains or localities in the archipelago, which makes targeted field surveys essential to improve knowledge of their diversity, biogeography, and conservation status. Recent taxonomic work and regional surveys have continued to reveal new species and range extensions on Mindanao (Cabras & Medina, 2018; Cabras et al., 2017; 2022; Gultiano et al., 2024; Patano et al., 2020; 2021).

Mount Apo, the highest peak in the Philippines (Mindanao), supports montane and mossy-forest habitats known to harbor several Pachyrhynchini taxa, but much of the mountain remains underexplored for *Metapocyrtus* and other weevils (Cabras et al., 2016; Patano et al., 2021). Prior records from Mt. Apo include narrow-ranged taxa such as *M. apoensis* Schultze, and the recently described *M. tboli* Cabras, Bollino & Medina, 2022, which was originally reported from Mt. Apo and subsequently highlighted as a species of conservation

concern in IUCN (Cabras et al., 2022). These earlier works emphasize both the taxonomic richness of Mindanao *Metapocyrtus* and the frequency with which new locality records or species are discovered when remote slopes are surveyed.

Here we report the results of a targeted entomological expedition (May 2024), a collaboration between Daugavpils University and the University of Mindanao Coleoptera Research Center, to three mountain sites on Mt. Apo: Sitio Baras (Brgy. Kapatagan), Balutakay Trail (Brgy. Managa), and the Sibulan Range (Sitio Kinambulan, Brgy. Kapatagan). Our survey yielded nine *Metapocyrtus* species, including two species representing new distributional records for Mt. Apo. Notably, one of these records is the IUCN-listed taxon *M. willietorresi* Cabras & Medina, 2018, previously reported from a single slope of Mt. Apo and considered of conservation concern due to its restricted known range (Cabras & Medina, 2018; Cabras et all., 2022). In addition, one of the collected taxa proved to be undescribed and is formally described below as *Metapocyrtus metom* sp. nov.. These findings further underscore the importance of systematic sampling on Mindanao mountains for documenting the region's still-incomplete macrofaunal inventory and for informing conservation prioritization of narrowly endemic weevils.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Prior to the field expedition, a Wildlife Gratuitous Permit (XI-2024-49) was secured from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Region XI, and permission to conduct the study was granted by the Mount Apo Natural Park Protected Area Management Board (MANP-PAMB) through resolution no. 23, series of 2023. Specimen collection was carried out through manual handpicking from May 8 to May 11, 2024, across three key sites: Sitio Baras (Brgy.Kapatagan), Balutakay Trail (Brgy. Managa), and the Sibulan Range (Sitio Kinambulan, Brgy. Kapatagan). Specimens were collected and stored in vials with 70% ethanol. The laboratory research and measurements have been carried out using Nikon SMZ 745T and NIS-Elements 6D software. The illustrations were made using a digital camera Canon EOS 6D with Canon MP-E 65mm macro lens, using stack shot montage, subsequently edited using Photoshop.

Collected material is stored in the following collections:
DUBC - Daugavpils University Beetle Collection (Daugavpils, Latvia)
UMCRC - University of Mindanao Coleoptera Research Center (Davao City, Philippines)

RESULTS

A total of 155 beetle specimens were collected across the three sampling sites (Fig. 6). Of these, 87 were males (56.13%) and 68 were females (43.87%), representing 9 species of the genus *Metapocyrtus* Heller, 1912. Of the 9 species documented, 8 (89%) are endemic to Mindanao, and the other, *M. (T.) adspersus* Waterhouse, 1843 distribution is Philippine wide, Malaysia, Singapore, and Japan.

The most abundant species was *M. (T.) apoensis*, represented by 45 specimens (29.03%). This was followed by *M. (T.) adspersus*, with 34 specimens (21.94%). Species belonging to the subgenus *Dolicephalocyrtus* exhibited relatively even abundances: *M. (D.) bituberosus* (7 specimens; 4.52%), *M. (D.) lindabonus* (8 specimens; 5.16%), *M. (D.) tagabawa* (12 specimens; 7.74%), and *M. (D.) clemensi* (10 specimens; 6.45%). The rarest species

encountered was *M. (D.) dolosus*, represented by a single specimen (0.65%).

One noteworthy result is the unexpectedly high number of *M. (O.) willietorresi*, with 11 specimens collected (7.10%). This is remarkable given the species' historically rare occurrence and the fact that none were obtained from the original type locality. Its local abundance may reflect specific biotic or microhabitat factors, including diel activity patterns or behaviors that increase detectability, such as leaf-surface movement. These hypotheses could be tested by temporal (time-of-day) sampling or microhabitat stratification on future surveys.

Among the 9 species, one is new to science and two were recently described: *M. willietorresi* Cabras & Medina, 2018, *M. tagabawa* Cabras, Medina, Bollino 2020. (Cabras & Medina, 2018; Cabras, Medina & Bollino 2020). Two species have new distribution records.

The newly described species was collected in substantial numbers, with 27 specimens (17.42%), making it one of the dominant components of the sampled beetle community. This abundance highlights the ecological relevance of the species within the surveyed habitats and emphasizes the importance of continued sampling to better understand its distribution and population dynamics.

Notably, a new locality record was confirmed for *M. willietorresi* Cabras & Medina, 2018, a species of conservation concern listed by the IUCN. Previously known only from a small, highly degraded area on the southeastern slope of Mt. Apo—restricted to an elevation of 1,000–1,200 m and known from just three individuals—*M. willietoresi* was newly recorded along the trail at Sibulan Range, Sitio Kinambulan, Digos City. The collection of additional individuals from this site suggests the existence of a second population of this rare species, indicating a broader and potentially more stable distribution than previously understood.

Additionally, *M. tagabawa* Cabras, Medina, Bollino 2020 was recorded outside of its formerly known range in Mindanao, which was limited to the vicinity of Wao, Lanao del Sur and Toril, Davao. This new record highlights a significant range extension including Mt. Apo Natural Park range.

The assemblage displays moderate diversity ($H' \approx 1.88$) with relatively high evenness ($J' \approx 0.86$). This pattern arises because, although two taxa (*M. (T.) apoensis* and the new species are numerically dominant (together ~46% of individuals), many species are present in small but steady numbers. Simpson-derived metrics ($1 - D \approx 0.82$; $1/D \approx 5.47$) emphasize that the community diversity is driven by a handful of relatively common species plus several rare ones; the effective number of dominant/common species is around five–six.

Annotated list

***M. (T.) adspersus* Waterhouse, 1843 (Figs 1.3 - 1.4)**

Material examined. (19♂, 15♀) 1♂, 3♀: Philippines, Mindanao / Balutakay Trail, Mt. Apo Natural / Park, Brgy. Managa, Bansalan / Davao del Sur, May 9, 2024 / A. Rukmane-Bārbale leg. (DUBC); 8♂, 5♀: Philippines-Mindanao / Sitio Baras / Brgy. Kapatagan / Digos City / Davao del Sur / May 08-11, 2024 / coll. UMCRC; 6♂, 4♀: Philippines-Mindanao / Balutakay Trail / Mt. Apo Natural Park / Brgy. Managa / Bansalan / Davao del Sur / May 09, 2025 / coll. UMCRC; 4♂, 3♀: Philippines- Mindanao / Sibulan Range / Sitio Kinambulan / Brgy.

Kapatagan / Digos City / Davao del Sur / May 10, 2024 / coll. UMCRC.

Identification. Small, integument black except brownish legs, densely covered with brown scales.

Endemism and distribution. *M. adspersus* is native to the Philippines, with confirmed occurrences on the islands of Bohol, Leyte, Samar, Mindanao and Biliran. The species has also been introduced to several regions outside its native range, including Peninsular Malaysia and Japan's Ryukyu Islands (Okinawa, Miyako, and Ishigaki). Its presence in artificial and horticultural habitats suggests ecological adaptability and potential dispersal through the plant trade.

Remarks. A highly adaptable and resilient species, *M. adspersus* thrives across a wide range of environmental conditions. It is frequently encountered in large numbers, including in heavily degraded or anthropogenic habitats.

***M. (T.) apoensis* Schultze, 1925**
(Figs 1.1 - 1.2)

Material examined. (24♂, 21♀**)** 6♂, 5♀: Philippines, Mindanao / Sibulan Range, Sitio Kinambu / Brgy. Kapatagan, Digos City / Davao del Sur, May 10, 2024 / A. Rukmane-Bārbale leg. (DUBC); 5♂, 3♀: Philippines- Mindanao / Sitio Baras / Brgy. Kapatagan / Digos City / Davao del Sur / May 08-11, 2024 / coll. UMCRC; 7♂, 9♀: Philippines- Mindanao / Balutakay Trail / Mt. Apo Natural Park / Brgy. Managa / Bansalan / Davao del Sur / May 09, 2025 / coll. UMCRC; 6♂, 4♀: Philippines- Mindanao / Sibulan Range / Sitio Kinambulan / Brgy. Kapatagan / Digos City / Davao del Sur / May 10, 2024 / coll. UMCRC.

Identification. Small, integument black except reddish legs; prothorax with rather irregularly arranged scales distributed along entire length; elytra with three transverse lines of scales, which appear partially fused or blended due to the presence of scattered individual scales.

Endemism and distribution. Mindanao endemic. Recorded from Davao and Bukidnon.

Remarks. Second most common species after *M. adspersus* in site. The species can be found on a wide variety of trees and shrubs, regardless of specific plant species or cultivation type, often occurring in very large numbers.

***M. (D.) bituberosus* Heller, 1912**
(Figs 1.6 - 1.7)

Material examined. (6♂, 1♀**)** 4♂, 1♀: Philippines, Mindanao / Balutakay Trail, Mt. Apo Natural / Park, Brgy. Managa, Bansalan / Davao del Sur, May 9, 2024 / A. Rukmane-Bārbale leg; 1♂: Philippines, Mindanao / Sibulan Range, Sitio Kinambu / Brgy. Kapatagan, Digos City / Davao del Sur, May 10, 2024 / A. Rukmane-Bārbale leg; 1♂: Philippines, Mindanao / Sitio Baras, Brgy. Kapatagan / Digos City, Davao del Sur / May 8 - 11, 2024 / A. Rukmane-Bārbale leg. (DUBC).

Identification. *M. (D.) bituberosus* is characterized by a uniform, dense vestiture of metallic scales covering both the pronotum and elytra, most commonly bright green but occasionally exhibiting bluish or golden-yellow hues.

Endemism and distribution. Mindanao endemic. Davao city (Cabras et al. 2022); Dolicaon, Bukidnon (Yap, 2008); Samal (Schultze, 1925).

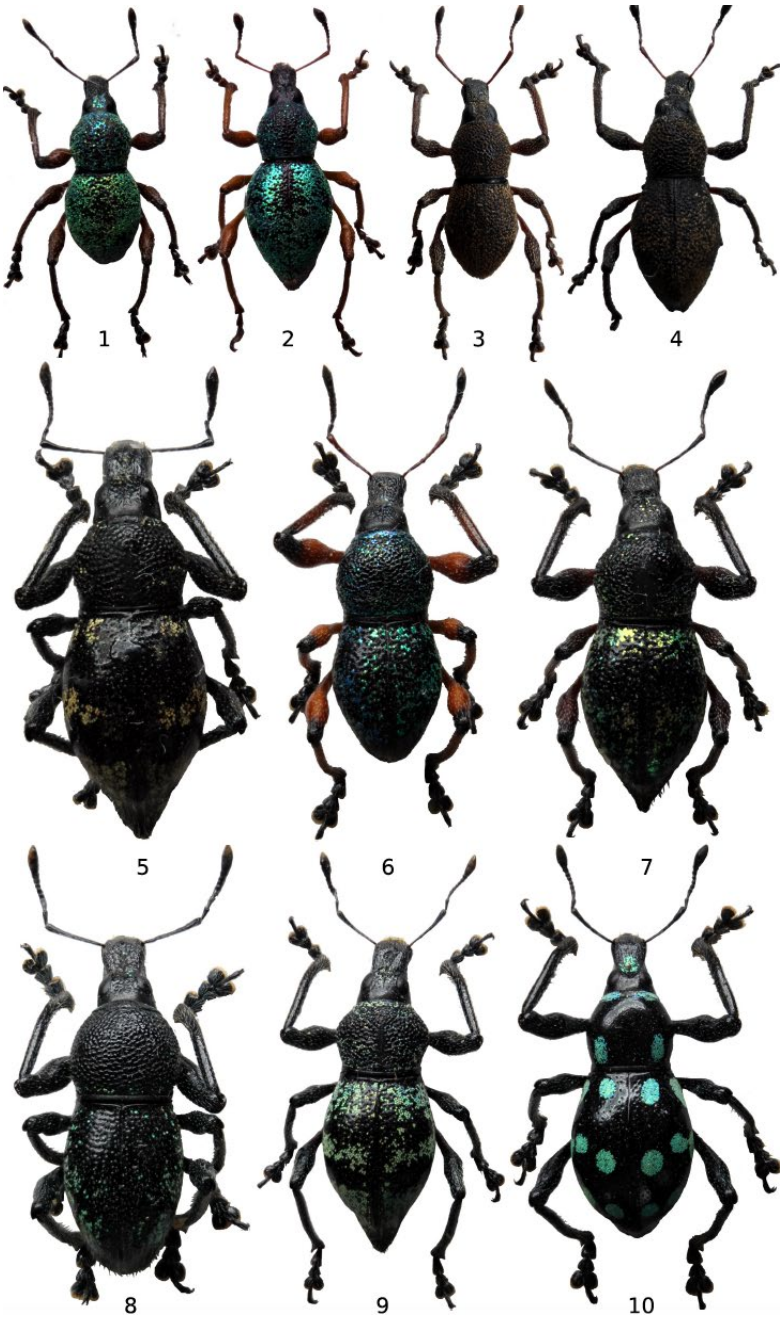

Fig. 1. Habitus of selected species. 1, 2 - *M. (T.) apoensis* Schultze, 1925 (1 - male, 2 - female); 3, 4 - *M. (T.) adspersus* Waterhouse, 1843 (3 - male, 4 - female); 5 - *M. (D.) dolosus* Heller, 1912, female; 6, 7 - *M. (D.) bituberosus* Heller, 1912 (6 - male, 7 - female); 8, 9 - *M. clemensi* Schultze, 1925 (8 - male, 9 - female); 10 - *M. (M.) lindabonus* Schultze, 1922, female.

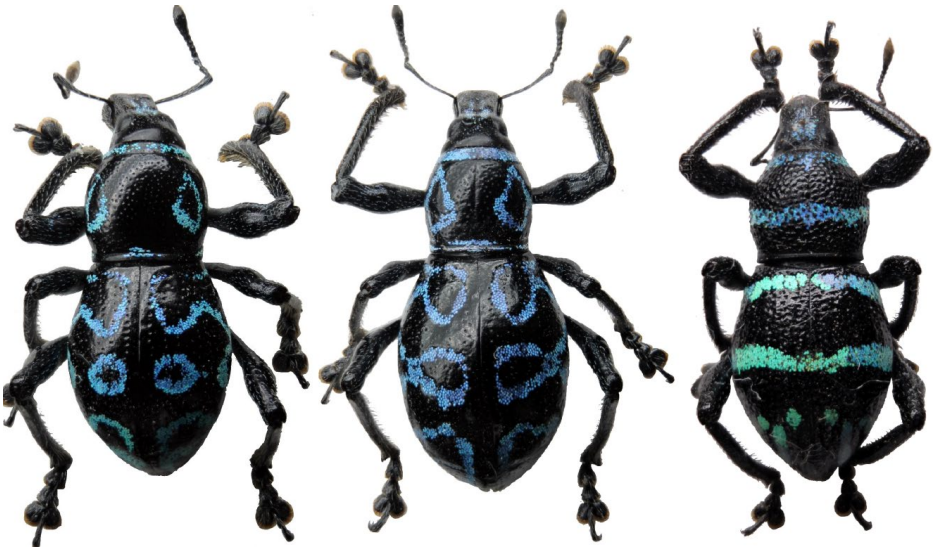

Fig. 2. Habitus of selected species. 1, 2 - *M. (O.) willietorresi Cabras* & Medina, 2018 (1 - male, 2 - female); 3 - *M. tagabawa* Cabras, Medina, Bollino 2020, male.

Fig. 3. Habitus of *M. (D.) metom* sp. nov.. A - male, holotype; B - female, paratype.

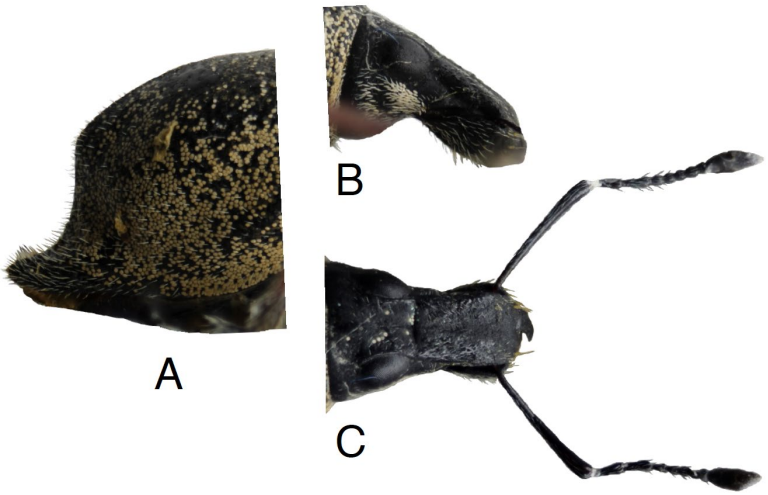

Fig. 4. *M. (D.) metom* sp. nov.: A - elytra in lateral view, female; B - rostrum in lateral view, male; C - rostrum in dorsal view, male.

Remarks. This species is very common and frequently encountered even in heavily degraded or human-disturbed habitats.

***M. (M.) lindabonus* Schultze, 1922**
(Fig. 1.10)

Material examined. (4♂, 4♀**)** 2♂, 3♀: Philippines, Mindanao / Balutakay Trail, Mt. Apo Natural / Park, Brgy. Managa, Bansalan / Davao del Sur, May 9, 2024 / A. Rukmane-Bārbale leg. (DUBC); 2♂, 1♀: Philippines-Mindanao / Sibulan Range / Sitio Kinambulan / Brgy. Kapatagan / Digos City / Davao del Sur / May 10, 2024 / coll. UMCRC.

Identification. Prothorax dorsally with two elongate scale patches along basal margin; each elytron with three pairs of distinct scale bands or confluent scale lines.

Endemism and distribution. Mindanao endemic. Bukidnon, Lindaban (Yap 2008); Davao city (Catbas et al. 2022)

Remarks. A highly variable species, exhibiting considerable variation in the pattern and shape of scale bands, which range from sparse, rounded patches to complete, elongate bands on the prothorax, and from paired, rounded spots to continuous lines of scales on the elytra. The coloration of the scales is also variable, spanning bluish, green, metallic, orange, and golden hues. Despite this variation, the proportions of the relatively short prothorax in relation to the elliptic elytra remain consistent across examined specimens.

The species is similar to *M. willietorresi* but can be readily distinguished by the presence of smaller scale bands on the basal half of the prothoracic disc, in contrast to the large, dull patches extending along the entire length of the prothorax in *M. willietorresi*. Additionally, the species possesses a shorter prothorax; rostrum of *M. (M.) lindabonus* is straight dorsally, while widened towards apex in *M. willietorresi*.

***M. (D.) dolosus* Heller, 1912**
(Fig. 1.5)

Material examined. 1♀: Philippines, Mindanao / Balutakay Trail, Mt. Apo

Natural / Park, Brgy. Managa, Bansalan / Davao del Sur, May 9, 2024 / A. Rukmane-Bārbale leg. (DUBC).

Identification. With metallic greenish golden scale markings. Rostrum dorsally strongly punctured, subrugose, with indistinct elongate depression in the basal half.

Endemism and distribution. Mindanao endemic, Surigao Province (Schultze).

Remarks. The species closely resembles *M. (D.) clemensi* in general appearance but can be distinguished by the structure of the rostrum, which bears a shallow, V-shaped dorsal ridge, in contrast to the deep, longitudinal impression characteristic of *M. (D.) clemensi*.

***M. clemensi* Schultze, 1925**
(Figs 1.8 - 1.9)

Material examined. (5♂, 5♀**)** 2♂, 1♀: Philippines, Mindanao / Balutakay Trail, Mt. Apo Natural / Park, Brgy. Managa, Bansalan / Davao del Sur, May 9, 2024 / A. Rukmane-Bārbale leg.; 1♀: Philippines, Mindanao / Sibulan Range, Sitio Kinambu / Brgy. Kapatagan, Digos City / Davao del Sur, May 10, 2024 / A. Rukmane-Bārbale leg; 2♀: Philippines, Mindanao / Sitio Baras, Brgy. Kapatagan / Digos City, Davao del Sur / May 8 - 11, 2024 / A. Rukmane-Bārbale leg. (DUBC); 2♂: Philippines- Mindanao / Sitio Baras / Brgy. Kapatagan / Digos City /

Davao del Sur / May 08-11, 2024 / coll. UMCRC; 1♂, 1♀: Philippines- Mindanao / Sibulan Range / Sitio Kinambulan / Brgy. Kapatagan / Digos City / Davao del Sur / May 10, 2024 / coll. UMCRC.

Identification. With light greenish to bronze scale markings. Rostrum dorsally strongly punctured, with deep, elongate depression, dorsolateral edge rounded.

Endemism and distribution. Mindanao endemic, Davao Province, Mt. Apo.

Fig. 5. *M. (D.) metom* sp. nov.. A - aedeagus, lateral view; B - sternite IX; C - sternite VIII, dorsal view; D - ovipositor; E - spermatheca; F - aedeagus, ventral view.

***M. (O.) willietorresi Cabras* & Medina, 2018**
(Figs 2A - 2B)

Material examined. (6♂, 5♀**)** 2♂, 3♀: Philippines, Mindanao / Sibulan Range, Sitio Kinambu / Brgy. Kapatagan, Digos City / Davao del Sur, May 10, 2024 / A. Rukmane-Bārbale leg. (DUBC); 1♂, 1♀: Philippines- Mindanao / Sitio Baras / Brgy. Kapatagan / Digos City / Davao del Sur / May 08-11, 2024 / coll. UMCRC; 1♂: Philippines- Mindanao / Balutakay Trail / Mt. Apo Natural Park / Brgy. Managa / Bansalan / Davao del Sur / May 09, 2025 / coll. UMCRC; 2♂, 1♀: Philippines-

Mindanao / Sibulan Range / Sitio Kinambulan / Brgy. Kapatagan / Digos City / Davao del Sur / May 10, 2024 / coll. UMCRC.

Identification. *M. willietorresi* is distinguished by characteristic bare patches extending along the entire length of the prothoracic disc, accompanied by well-defined, rounded bare spots on the elytra. The species possesses a comparatively elongated prothorax relative to *M. lindabonus*, providing an additional diagnostic feature.

Endemism and distribution. The distribution of *M. willietorresi* is clarified by recent field observations on Mt. Apo. Although the species was originally described from a single slope of the mountain, revisitation of this type locality during the present expedition yielded no individuals. However, the species was successfully located on an alternative slope of Mt. Apo, constituting a new distribution record for the taxon. This finding demonstrates that *M. willietorresi* is not restricted to its originally described site but instead occurs more broadly across the mountain's elevational and habitat gradients. When combined with the previously documented population from Kapatagan (Cabras et al. 2022), the species is now confirmed from three distinct localities—two on Mt. Apo and one in Kapatagan. These new records support a revised understanding of the species' actual distribution, indicating that it may be more widespread and locally abundant than previously assumed, despite its current classification as a rare species on the IUCN Red List.

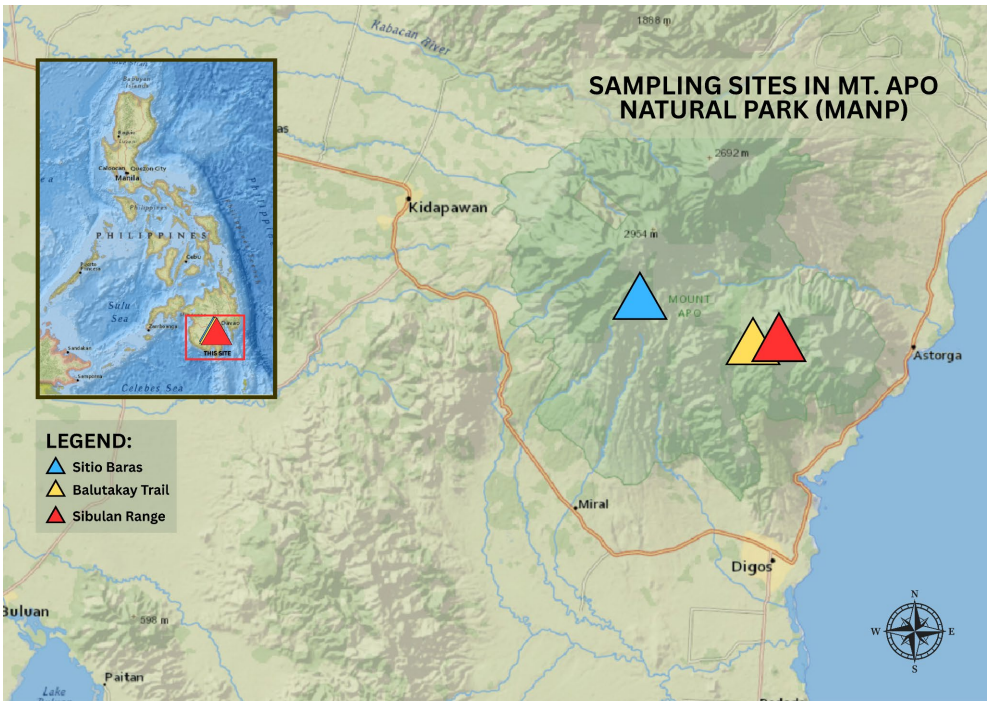

Fig. 6. Sampling Sites in Mount Apo Natural Park (MANP), Davao del Sur.

***M. tagabawa* Cabras, Medina, Bollino 2020**
(Fig. 2C)

Material examined. (7♂, 5♀**)** 1♂, 1♀: Philippines, Mindanao / Sibulan Range, Sitio Kinambu / Brgy. Kapatagan, Digos City / Davao del Sur, May 10, 2024 / A. Rukmane-Bārbale leg. (DUBC); 6♂, 4♀: Philippines- Mindanao / Sibulan Range / Sitio Kinambulan / Brgy. Kapatagan / Digos City / Davao del Sur / May 10, 2024 / coll. UMCRC.

Identification. *M. tagabawa* is characterized by a strongly granulated pronotum with two transverse scale lines, one along apical margin and one medial; elytra well punctured, with three transverse bands of metallic-green to bluish scales at the basal, median, and subapical regions.

Endemism and distribution. Mindanao endemic. Toril, Davao City; Wao, Lanao del Sur (Cabras et al. 2020).

Remarks. The new finding reveals a wider species distribution outside Davao city and Lanao.

Taxonomy

***Metapocyrtus (Dolichocephalocyrtus) metom* sp. nov.**
(Figs 3, 4, 5)

Type material. Holotype, male (Fig. 2A): Philippines, Mindanao / Balutakay Trail, Mt. Apo Natural Park, Brgy. Managa / Bansalan / Davao del Sur, May 9, 2024 / A. Rukmane-Bārbale leg. (typed on white label); HOLOTYPE / *Metapocyrtus (D.) metom* Pajota & Rukmane-Bārbale, 2025 / det. Pajota, 2025 (typed on red label).

Paratypes. (15♂, 11♀): 3♂, 2♀: Philippines, Mindanao / Balutakay Trail, Mt. Apo Natural / Park, Brgy. Managa, Bansalan / Davao del Sur, May 9, 2024 / A. Rukmane-Bārbale leg.; 2♂, 3♀: Philippines, Mindanao / Sibulan Range, Sitio Kinambu / Brgy. Kapatagan, Digos City / Davao del Sur, May 10, 2024 / A. Rukmane-Bārbale leg.; 3♂, 1♀: Philippines, Mindanao / Sitio Baras, Brgy. Kapatagan / Digos City, Davao del Sur / May 8 - 11, 2024 / A. Rukmane-Bārbale leg. (DUBC) (typed on white label); 5♂, 4♀: Philippines, Mindanao / Balutakay Trail, Mt. Apo Natural / Park, Brgy. Managa, Bansalan / Davao del Sur, May 9, 2024 / coll. UMCRC; 2♂, 1♀: Philippines, Mindanao / Sitio Baras, Brgy. Kapatagan / Digos City, Davao del Sur / May 8 - 11, 2024 / coll. J. Retardo-Agua (UMCRC) (Typed on white label) all with additional red label: PARATYPE / *Metapocyrtus (D.) metom* Pajota & Rukmane-Bārbale, 2025 / det. Pajota, 2025

Diagnosis. *Metapocyrtus (Dolichocephalocyrtus) metom* sp. nov. is placed under the subgenus *Dolichocephalocyrtus* based on the following morphological characters: (A) a long and slender rostrum, proportionally longer in males than in females, (B) the presence of a V-shaped ridge on the basal half of the rostrum, and (C) an elytral apex exhibiting the subgenus-typical sexual dimorphism– rounded in males but forming a pronounced, sharp triangular projection in females. These morphological features conform to the subgeneric diagnostic characters prescribed by Schultze (1925), Yap & Gapud (2007), and Cabras et al. (2022). Among its closest congeners, the new species bears a superficial resemblance to *M. (D.) kutongbusaw* Pajota, Medina & Cabras, 2022 known exclusively from Lake Holon, South Cotabato. However, it can be differentiated from *M. (D.) kutongbusaw* by several morphological characters, notably: (A) the antennal scape–funicle length ratio: with the scape of the new species being shorter than the funicle, whereas in *M. (D.) kutongbusaw*, the scape is slightly longer

than the funicle; (B) in the head, the new species possesses a flat forehead, in contrast to the forehead of *M. (D.) kutongbusaw*, which is weakly raised at the middle; (C) Furthermore, in female individuals, the elytra of the new species are relatively longer and narrower; and (D) the hump-like protuberance at the beginning of the apical declivity is smaller in the new species, resulting in a less concave inward curvature toward the triangular projection at the elytral apex compared to female individuals of *M. (D.) kutongbusaw*. Among all morphological features, the male genitalia provide the most definitive distinction between the two species: *M. (D.) metom* exhibits a relatively longer and more slender aedeagal body, in contrast to the shorter and stouter aedeagus observed in *M. (D.) kutongbusaw*. Lastly, the new species also bears a superficial resemblance to *Metapocyrtus (Metapocyrtus) adaptatus* Schultze, 1925 s.s., but can be readily distinguished from the latter, as female individuals of *M. (M.) adaptatus* do not possess the hump-like protuberance at the beginning of the apical declivity, resulting in a completely different morphology of the elytral apex.

Description. Holotype. Male. Dimensions: LB: 8,8 - 10,7 (holotype 9,9, mean 9,54); LE: 5,6 - 6,9 (holotype 6,4, mean 6,12); LP: 3,2 - 3,8 (holotype 3,4, mean 3,38); WE: 3,4 - 4,0 (holotype 3,9, mean 3,7); WP: 3,3 - 3,9 (holotype 3,7, mean 3,52); LR: 1,7 - 1,9 (holotype 1,9, mean 1,78); WR: 1,6 - 1,8 (holotype 1,8, mean 1,68). N = 5 for all measurements.

Integument black, except brownish femur and tibia, with markings of round, pearl white shiny scales. Head dorsally with rare single scales on forehead and narrow longitudinal scale stripe on basal half of rostrum, with rare white setae in all length; lateral parts with lanceolate scales on genae, long white setae from base to scrobe and shorter setae after scrobe to apex. Prothorax and elytra densely covered with single, round pearl white shiny scales; prosternum with rare, single white setae; elytral margin with long write setae from medial portion to apex, suture with long white setae from ⅓ of apical half to apex; underside with lanceolate scales and long, white setae on lateral parts of metasternum, with shorter setae on rest of ventrites; coxa with rare, single white setae; femur, tibia and tarsus with short, white setae in all length.

Head minutely punctured; forehead flat, with shallow medial furrow from subbasal part to base of rostrum; eyes medium sized, slightly bulging from outline of head. Rostrum finely punctured, with moderate triangular medial impression widened to apex; slightly longer than wide (LR/WR 1,05); in dorsal contour nearly straight, slightly widened along medial part, underside bulging from outline of dorsal contour (Fig. 4C); in lateral contour straight (Fig. 4B). Antennal scape with rare setae at apical half, shorter than funicle; funicular segment I and II equal in length, three times as long as wide, twice as long as segment III; segments III - VII subequal; club ellipsoidal, 2.5 times as long as wide.

Pronotum subspherical, rough - scaly textured, slightly wider than long (WP/LP 1,08), narrower than elytra (WE/WP 1,05); widest along the middle.

Elytra ovate (LE/WE 1,64), less than two times longer than prothorax (LE/LP 1,88), with minor puncture in all length, without expressed puncture rows; dorsal contour highest just before middle, lateral contour widest at middle, declined along apical ⅓.

Genitalia as illustrated in Figs 5A - B.

Female. Dimensions: LB: 9,2 - 11,8 (mean 10,64); LE: 6,6 - 8,6 (mean 7,66); LP: 2,6 - 3,2 (mean 2,92); WE: 3,7 - 4,8 (mean 4,32); WP: 2,9 - 4,2 (mean 3,5); LR: 1,7 - 1,8

(mean 1,74); WR: 1,6 - 1,7 (mean 1,64). N = 5 for all measurements.

Dorsal habitus as shown in Fig. 3B.

Prothorax wider (WP/LP 1,19), widest just before the middle, highest at base; elytra subovate, wider than in males (WE/WP 1,23); apical declivity with a small humplike protuberance, sharply declined then curved to apex. Genitalia as illustrated in Figs 5C-E. Otherwise essentially as in males.

Distribution. The new species is known exclusively from type locality, Davao del sur, Mt. Apo natural park.

Etymology. The specific epithet "*metom"* is an Indigenous word meaning "black," used by both the Bagobo-Tagabawa and Obu Manuvu tribes. It refers to the predominantly black integument of the new species and honors the cultural and geographic context of its type localities, which are primarily inhabited by these two Indigenous tribes.

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