



A new remarkable species of *Parimera* Faust, 1896 from Vietnam (Coleoptera: Curculionidae)

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Abstract. *Parimera bartolozzii* sp. nov. is described upon a single male from Vietnam. This new species can be immediately distinguished from all the remaining ones by the unusual protuberance of male metatibiae. A brief comparison with all other species known to date is also made. The new synonymy: *Parimera palmarum* Voss, 1940 [= *P. palmara* Kojima & Morimoto, 2005 (unjustified emendation), **syn. nov.**] is established, and *Tithene fusca* (Voss, 1961), **comb. nov.** is moved from *Parimera* Faust to *Tithene* Pascoe.

Riassunto. Una nuova straordinaria specie di *Parimera* Faust, 1896 del Vietnam (Coleoptera: Curculionidae). La nuova specie *Parimera bartolozzii* sp. nov. viene descritta sulla base di un singolo esemplare maschio proveniente dal Vietnam. Essa si distingue immediatamente da tutte le altre per l'insolita protuberanza delle metatibie del maschio. Viene inoltre brevemente confrontata con tutte le altre specie conosciute fino ad oggi. Viene stabilita la nuova sinonimia: *Parimera palmarum* Voss, 1940 [= *P. palmara* Kojima & Morimoto, 2005 (emendamento ingiustificato), **syn.nov.**], e *Tithene fusca* (Voss, 1961), **comb. nov.** viene spostata da *Parimera* Faust a *Tithene* Pascoe.

Tóm tắt. Một loài mới khác thường thuộc giống *Parimera* Faust, 1896 từ Việt Nam (Coleoptera: Curculionidae). Loài mới *Parimera bartolozzii* sp. nov. được mô tả dựa trên mẫu một cá thể đực duy nhất thu thập ở Việt Nam. Loài này có thể được phân biệt dễ dàng với tất cả các loài còn lại trong giống nhờ phần lồi bất thường trên ống chân sau của con đực. Sự so sánh sơ bộ với tất cả các loài đã biết tính đến nay cũng được trình bày. Tên đồng vật mới được thiết lập: *Parimera palmarum* Voss, 1940 [= *P. palmara* Kojima & Morimoto, 2005 (sửa đổi tên không hợp lệ), syn. nov.]; đồng thời, loài *Tithene fusca* (Voss, 1961), comb. nov. được chuyển từ giống *Parimera* Faust sang giống *Tithene* Pascoe.

Keywords. Curculionidae, *Parimera*, new species, Vietnam, new synonymy, new combination.

ZooBank Registration. <https://zoobank.org/NomenclaturalActs/710bab8c-8d1b-4b5d-ae42-d5d24cbb672b>

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Introduction

During a recent entomological trip to Vietnam, a single male specimen of the Acalyptini genus *Parimera* Faust, 1896 was collected, showing unusual features, particularly on the metatibiae. Among the five species of *Parimera* known so far from East Asia, according to the review of the Acalyptini C.G. Thomson, 1859 by Kojima & Morimoto (2005) (i.e. *P. flava* Kojima & Morimoto, 2005 from the Ryukyus Islands, Japan, *P. palmarum* Voss, 1940 from Sumatra, *P. signata* Faust,

1896 from Java and Timor, *P. subflava* Kojima & Morimoto, 2005 from Taiwan and *P. vittata* Faust, 1896 from Java) none possesses even a trace of these extraordinary leg modifications. Although our decision is based on this single male, we therefore have no doubt in considering it to belong to a new species.

Materials and methods

Measurements are all in dorsal view. Body length was taken from anterior margin of eyes to elytral apex as customary for Curculionoidea. Width/length ratio of pronotum and elytra are their respective maximum width and length. Labels are quoted as written, a slash (/) separating lines on the same label. The second author of this note took the pictures of the holotype with a Nikon D810 camera equipped with Mitutoyo Plan Apo 10 × 0.28 ∞ microscope objective, coupled with tube lenses F=200 mm. Images were stacked with Helicon Focus 8.3.11, post-production and composition of plates was done with Adobe Photoshop Release 27.6.0. Photos ©Francesco Sacco #677/2026.

Results

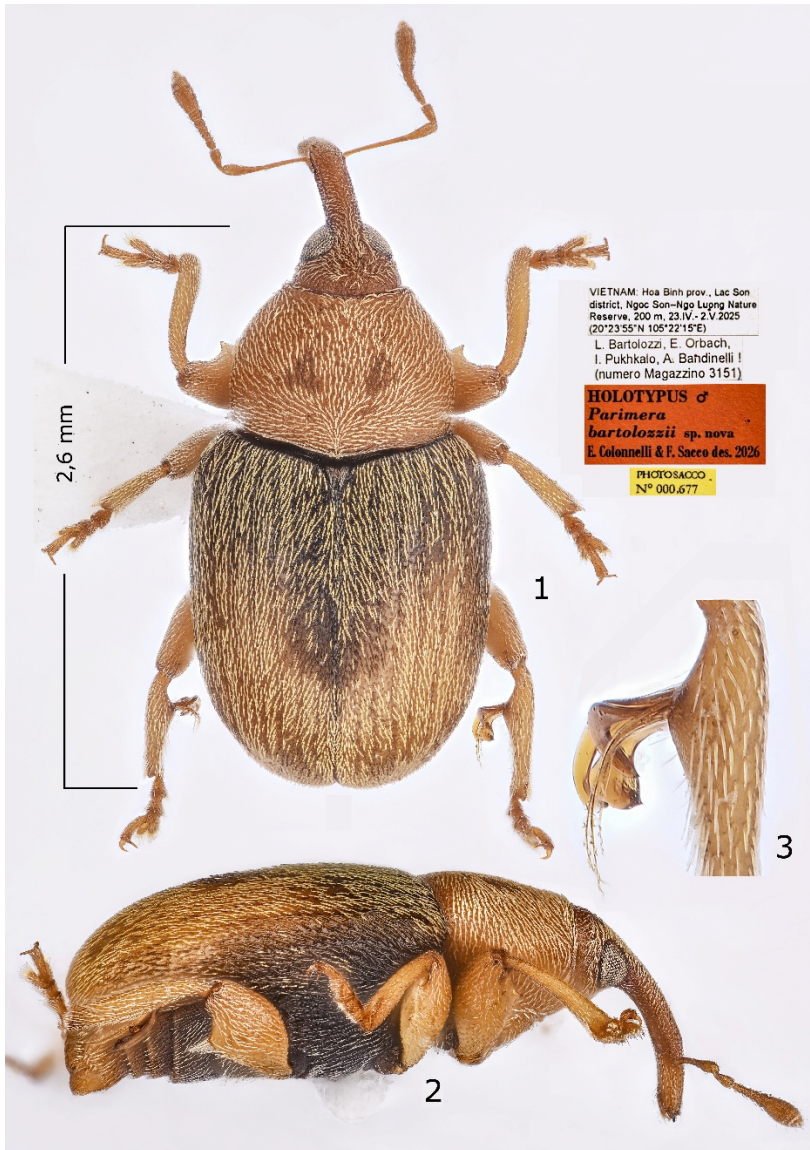
Parimera bartolozzii sp. nov. (Figs. 1-10)

Holotype: ♂ (not dissected), labelled: "VIETNAM: Hoa Binh prov., Lac Son / district, Ngoc Son-Ngo Luong Nature / Reserve, 200 m, 23.IV.-2.V.2025 / (20°23'55"N 105°22'15"E)" [white, printed], "L. Bartolozzi, E. Orbach, / I. Pukhalo, A. Bandinelli! / (numero Magazzino 3151)" [white, printed], and "HOLOTYPE ♂ / *Parimera bartolozzii* sp. nova / E. Colonnelli & F. Sacco des. 2026" [red, printed], (fig. 1) (Vietnam National Museum of Nature, Hanoi, Vietnam).

Etymology. The new species is named after our colleague and friend Luca Bartolozzi, former curator of the "La Specola" museum, and one of the skilled collectors of the holotype.

Description. Habitus of the holotype: figs. 1-10. Body length 2.6 mm. Body honey-red, elytral basal third brownish-red, meso-metasternum and first two ventrites pitchy-brown. Dorsal surface (fig. 1) with rather sparse recumbent piliform scales, which are pale yellow on head and pronotum. Scales point backward from apex towards base on pronotum, and become centripetal from sides towards middle of base. In addition, pronotum with two small patches of brownish setae on each side of midline. Setae are golden-yellowish on elytra and disposed in 3-4 irregular rows across the width of an interstria. Thin and quite sparse silvery setae on ventral surface, except for a tuft of long erected setae on internal margin of metafemora (fig. 4). Rostrum almost as long as pronotum, gently curved, not carinate on dorsum. Antennae inserted at apical third, scape elongate and not abruptly clubbed, funicle 7-jointed, first funicle twice as long as and clearly wider than 2, this a little longer than 3, segments 4-7 slightly diminishing in length and widening towards club, 7 somewhat annexed to club which is slender and slightly shorter than the 5 preceding funicular joints (fig. 9). Head hemispherical, eyes large. Pronotum 1.4 times as wide as long, with regularly rounded sides, more tapering anteriorly than posteriorly, widest at basal third. Disc slightly convex, with moderately coarse and dense punctures. Elytra suboval, a little longer than wide, widest just apicad of humeri, with slightly rounded sides, apically broadly rounded. In lateral view (fig. 2) elytra slightly convex dorsally, apex almost vertically sloping. Striae narrow, quite regularly punctured, not so clearly visible through the scaling, interstriae wide, flat, punctured. Ventrites slightly arcuate at apex, ventrite 1 a little longer than 2, this about as long as 3+4, 5 with a deep fovea (fig. 4). Femora clubbed, dentate, pro and metafemora slightly thicker than mesofemora, being the profemoral tooth somewhat larger and more acute than those of meso and metafemora. Tibiae quite slender, slightly curved inwards shortly after base. Metatibiae with a twisted long appendix, uncinat and setose at apex as in figs. 3, 5, 6 and 8. This appendix, slightly less long than half the length of tibia, starts from a bulge at basal third of internal

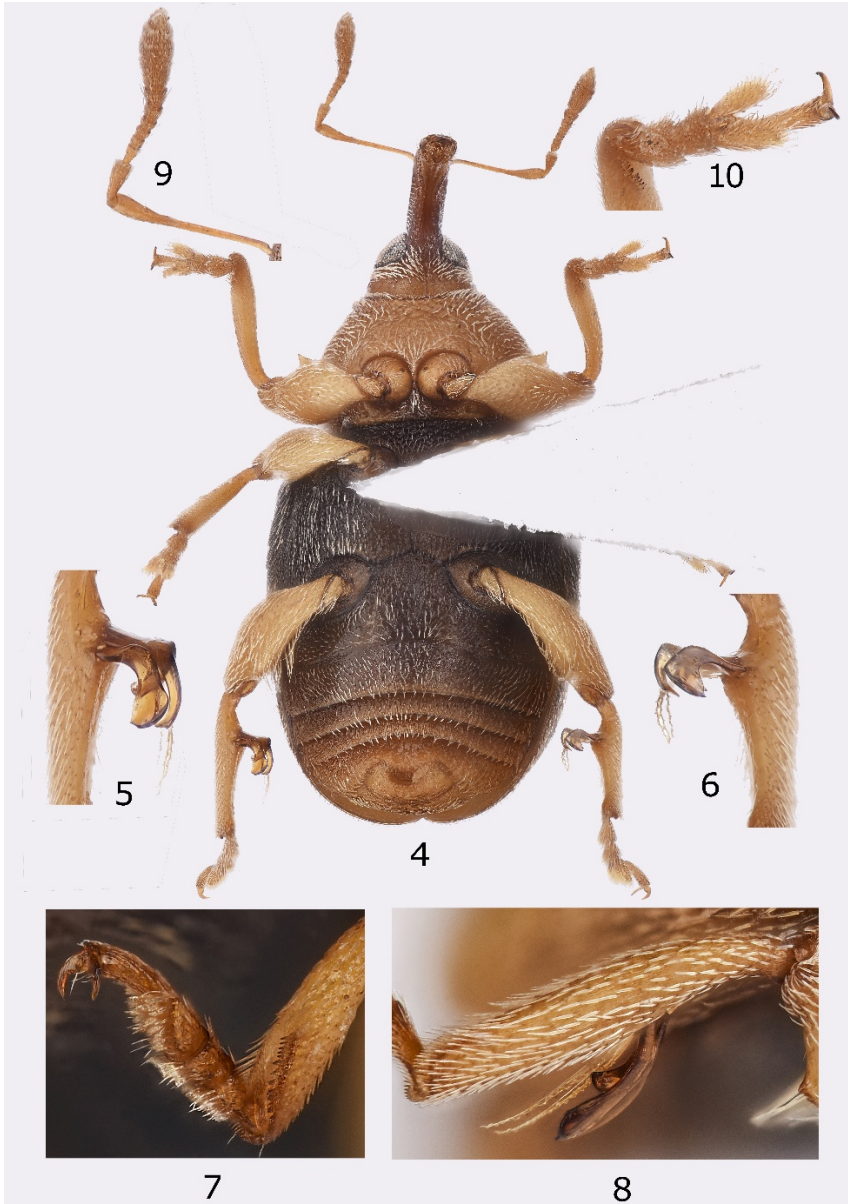
margin of tibia (fig. 6). Tarsi (figs. 7 and 10) robust, two basal segments about the same length and not transverse, third bilobed, onychium a little longer than segment 3, claws strongly diverging and with basal inconspicuous swelling. Genitalia not examined.



Figures 1-3. *Parimera bartolozzii* sp. nov., holotype. Habitus in dorsal view and labels borne by the same (1). Lateral view of the same (2). Appendix of right metatibia from above (3). Not to scale.

Remarks. This new species is placed in *Parimera* due to its dentate femora, tergite 7 broadly exposed, sides of pronotum moderately dilated, metafemoral tooth about as large as those of pro- and mesofemora, rostrum shorter than the combined length of head and pronotum,

procoxae almost touching each other, tarsal claws obsolete toothed at base, male ventrite 5 longer than the combined length of 3 and 4 (KOJIMA & MORIMOTO 2005). Among this genus, *Parimera bartolozzii* is an isolated species immediately distinguished from the remaining ones by the bizarre structure of male metatibiae.



Figures 4-10. *Parimera bartolozzii* sp. nov., holotype. Habitus in ventral view (4). Right metatibia in ventral (5) and lateral (8) view. Left metatibia in ventral view (6). Right mesotarsus in lateral view (7). Right metatibia in lateral view (8). Right antenna in ventral view (9). Left protarsus in ventral view (10). Not to scale.

Since it is probable that the presently unknown females may lack this feature, it is worthy to compare *P. bartolozzii* with all the hitherto described species. Among them, both *P. flava* and *P. subflava* have integument almost entirely yellowish-brown and only posterior femora with a small tooth (KOJIMA & MORIMOTO 2005). Both *P. vittata* and *P. palmarum* - incorrectly purposely spelled “*palmara*” by Kojima & Morimoto (2005), see below - have more or less evidently striped prothorax and elytra (FAUST 1896, VOSS 1940), whereas integument of *P. signata* is pitchy brown with pale spots (FAUST 1896).

It is worth pointing out -perhaps because this species was included by HELLER (1915) in the key of *Parimera* when dealing with Philippine species of Acalyptini- that the distribution of this last was erroneously quoted by KOJIMA & MORIMOTO (2005) as Luzon, whereas FAUST (1896) reported *P. signata* from Java and Timor. The known distribution of all described *Parimera* is shown in fig. 11. KOJIMA & MORIMOTO (2005) considered the brownish-red coloured *P. fusca* Voss, 1961 from Java as doubtfully belonging to *Parimera* due to its female rostrum of about one fourth longer than pronotum, this latter being almost as long as wide in female and narrowing toward base in male, and elytra quite elongate (VOSS 1961). Indeed, the above characteristics and the widely variable body length (mm 1.9-4.2) point to a species of *Tithene* Pascoe, 1874 as rightly envisioned by KOJIMA & MORIMOTO (2005). In consequence, we here move *P. fusca* to *Tithene* as *Tithene fusca* (Voss, 1961), **comb. nov.** Moreover, since KOJIMA & MORIMOTO (2005: 100) intentionally used “*palmara*” as the valid name by quoting in parentheses the original correct spelling “*palmarum*” (ICZN, art. 33.2.3), the following synonymy must be established: *Parimera palmarum* Voss, 1940 [= *P. palmara* Kojima & Morimoto, 2005 (unjustified emendation), **syn. nov.**].



Figure 11. Distribution of hitherto known *Parimera*. Asterisk (*) = *P. bartolozzii* sp. nov.; rhombus (◆) = *P. flava* Kojima & Morimoto, 2005; square (■) = *P. subflava* Kojima & Morimoto, 2005; heart (♥) = *P. palmarum* Voss, 1940; dots (●) = *P. signata* Faust, 1896; triangle (▶) = *P. vittata* Faust, 1896.

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