Genetic Variability Among *Xyleborus glabratus* Populations Native to Southeast Asia (Coleoptera: Curculionidae: Scolytinae: Xyleborini) and the Description of Two Related Species

Anthony I. Cognato, Sarah M. Smith, You Li, Thai Hong Pham, and Jiri Hulcr

Abstract

The redbay ambrosia beetle, *Xyleborus glabratus* Eichhoff, is native to Southeast Asia, where it specializes on Lauraceae trees. It forms a symbiosis with the ambrosia fungus *Raffaelea lauricola* T.C. Harr., Fraedrich & Aghayeva, which can act as a pathogen in living host trees. The beetle and fungus were recently introduced into the United States, where they have killed millions of native Lauraceae trees and threaten the avocado industry. These introduced populations have limited genetic variation. In the native range, the fungi are genetically variable, but the native genetic variability of the beetles is unknown. It is important to assess the beetle’s native genetic variation because different lineages may vary in the capacity to vector this fungus, which may affect disease etiology. Here, we analyzed genetic variation in several Chinese, Taiwanese, and Vietnamese populations of *X. glabratus* using mitochondrial (COI) and nuclear DNA (CAD) markers. Phylogenetic analysis revealed nine COI haplotypes and four CAD genotypes. Uncorrected 'p' distance for intrapopulation comparisons ranged from 0 to 0.1 and 0 to 0.013 and interpopulation comparisons ranged from 0.137 to 0.168 and 0.015 to 0.032 for COI and CAD, respectively. Two populations exceeded the range of intraspecific nucleotide differences for both genes. Given that individuals from these populations also exhibited consistent morphological differences, they are described as two new species: *Xyleborus insidiosus* Cognato & Smith, n. sp. and *Xyleborus mysticus* Cognato & Smith, n. sp. *Xyleborus glabratus* was redescribed and a lectotype was designated to facilitate its recognition in light of these new species. These results indicate that *X. glabratus* is genetically variable and is related to two morphologically similar species. Whether these new species and *X. glabratus* lineages associate with different fungal strains is unknown. Given that the biology and host colonization of these new species are unknown, preventing their introduction to other regions is prudent.

Key words: Laurel wilt, invasive pest, ambrosia beetle

The redbay ambrosia beetle, *Xyleborus glabratus* Eichhoff, is an Asian endemic ambrosia beetle that was first detected in the Southeastern United States in 2002 (Rabaglia et al. 2006). *Xyleborus glabratus* vectors a symbiotic fungus, *Raffaelea lauricola* T.C. Harr., Fraedrich & Aghayeva, which is pathogenic to many species of Lauraceae trees and causes the systemic vascular disease laurel wilt. Within 16 yr of its discovery, the beetle and the fungus have colonized forests across nine Southeastern states and have killed over 300 million redbay, swampbay, and avocado trees (*Persea* Mill. spp.; Hughes et al. 2017, Formby et al. 2018). Although the beetle and fungus prefer *Persea* spp. as hosts, they have the potential to decimate sassafras trees (*Sassafras albidum* (Nutt.) Nees (Lauraceae)), which would increase their range into more northern latitudes (Hulcr and Lou 2013, Kendra et al. 2013, Formby et al. 2018). Based on the limited genetic variation found in the adventive populations of both the beetle and the fungus, it is likely that only a few individuals, perhaps a single one, founded the U.S. population (Hughes et al. 2017, Wuest et al. 2017). In contrast, the native populations of the fungus in Asia are genetically variable lending evidence for a limited introduction to the United...
Materials and Methods

Specimens

Eighteen specimens of *Xyleborus* species initially identified in the field as *X. glabratus* were included (Table 1). Specimens were excised from dead and dying tree parts or caught in ethanol-baited flight intercept traps. Prior to DNA extraction, a subset of specimens (one per morphospecies) was photographed with a Visionary Digital Passport II system (Palmyra, VA) using a Canon EOS 5D Mark II, 65.0 mm Canon Macro photo lens, Dynalite MH2015 road flash heads (Union, NJ), and a Stack Shot (Cognisys, Inc, Kingsley, MI). Montage images were created using Helicon Focus Mac Pro 6.7.1 (Helicon Soft, Kharkov, Ukraine). Specimens were examined using Leica (Wetzlar, Germany) MZ6 and MZ12.5 stereomicroscopes and illuminated with an Ikeano Jansjo LED work lamp (Delft, the Netherlands). Final species identifications were made in reference to the lectotype specimen of *X. glabratus* and the following entomological collections are referenced in the text:

- IRSNB: Institut Royal des Sciences Naturelles de Belgique, Brussels, Belgium
- IZAS: Institute of Zoology, Chinese Academy of Science, Beijing, China
- MIZ: Zoological Museum, Museum and Institute of Zoology, Polish Academy of Science, Warsaw, Poland
- MNHP: Museum of Natural History, Prague, Cechia
- MSUC: A.J. Cook Arthropod Research Collection, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI, United States
- NHML: Natural History Museum, London, United Kingdom
- NMNH: National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington DC, United States
- NEHMW: Naturhistorisches Museum Wien, Vienna, Austria
- RABC: Roger A. Beaver collection, Chiang Mai, Thailand
- UHZN: Universität Hamburg Zoological Museum, Hamburg, Germany
- UFFE: Forest Entomology Lab, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL, United States

The following entomological collections are referenced in the text:

- States and causing concern for future introductions of new strains of *R. lauricola* (Wuest et al. 2017).

Genetic variability within the native range of the vector beetle *X. glabratus* is unknown. Given that the species occurs in deciduous forests from southern Japan to northeastern India, genetic variation among populations is likely as high as observed for other Xyleborini species (Dole et al. 2010, Cognato et al. 2015, Gohli et al. 2017, Cognato et al. 2018). The sister species to *X. glabratus* and the diversity of related species are unknown; however, molecular phylogenies of Xyleborini suggest that a clade of globally distributed *Xyleborus* species is the closest related lineage (Cognato et al. 2011, 2018). The unusual elytral declivity morphology of *X. glabratus* also suggests that the species represents a monotypic clade.

As part of a multiyear survey of Southeast Asian Xyleborines, specimens of *X. glabratus* were collected from several locations in China, Taiwan, and Vietnam. We sequenced cytochrome oxidase I (COI), carbamoyl-phosphate synthetase 2, aspartate transcarbamylase, and dihydoroxyrate (CAD), and the large subunit ribosomal 28S DNA for a subset of these specimens in order to assess the genetic diversity within the beetle’s native range. In the process, we discovered genetic variability among *X. glabratus* individuals and two lineages, which had a large amount of DNA sequence difference and associated morphological differences. These lineages are described here as new species.

**DNA Sequences**

DNA was individually extracted from uncrushed prothoraces using a Qiagen DNeasy blood and tissue kit (Hilden, Germany) following the manufacturer’s protocols. The intact prothoraxes and the remaining body parts were vouchered in the MSUC. Aliquots of these purified DNA samples were used for the polymerase chain reaction (PCR) of COI, CAD, and 28S genes using general insect and scolytine-specific primers and protocols (Hebert et al. 2003, Smith and Cognato 2014). PCR products were produced using 17.25-μl ddH₂O, 2.5-μl 10× PCR buffer (Qiagen), 1.0-μl 25-mM MgCl₂ (Qiagen), 0.5-μl dNTP mix (Qiagen), 4.5-μl DNA template, 0.25-μl HotStar Taq DNA polymerase (Qiagen), and 0.75 μl of forward and reverse primers (COI: 1495b and rev750; CAD: apCADforB2 or apCADfor4 and apCADrev1mod; 28S: 3665 and 4068; see Smith and Cognato 2014 for details). PCRs were performed on a thermal cycler (PTC-2000, MJ Research, Waltham, MA, or MyCycler Thermocycler, BioRad, Hercules, CA). PCR was performed under the following conditions: one cycle for 15 min at 95°C; 34 cycles for 30 s at 95°C, 30 s at 50°C (COI) or 55°C (CAD and 28S), 45 s at 72°C; and a final elongation cycle of 5 min at 72°C. PCR products were treated with Exo-SAP (USB Corp., Cleveland, OH) and sequenced in the Michigan State University Research Technology Support Facility using BigDye Terminator v1.1 (Applied Biosystems, Foster City, CA). Forward and reverse DNA strands were visualized in Sequencher (Ann Arbor, MI) to trim primer sequences, examine for ambiguities and create consensus sequences. Consensus sequences were blasted in GenBank to examine for potential contamination, pseudogenes, or both, none of which were found. Sequences were compiled as a Nexus file and deposited in GenBank (Table 1). The outgroup species *Xyleborus affinis* Eichhoff and *Xyleborus perforans* (Wollaston) were chosen because they represented closely related species to *X. glabratus* (Cognato et al. 2011). Their DNA sequences were retrieved from GenBank (Table 1).

**Phylogenetic Analyses**

Phylogenies were reconstructed PAUP* 4.0 b10 PPC (Swofford 2002) using the criteria of parsimony and likelihood. For both analyses, heuristic searches with 100 stepwise random additions with tree bisection-reconnection were performed. Characters were unordered and equally weighted for the parsimony analysis. A GTR + I + G model for the likelihood analysis included six states with ordered and equally weighted for the parsimony analysis. For both analyses, heuristic searches with 100 stepwise random additions with tree bisection-reconnection were performed. Characters were unordered and equally weighted for the parsimony analysis. A GTR + I + G model for the likelihood analysis included six states with equal rates, empirical state frequencies, estimated invariable sites, and a gamma distribution for variable sites with shape = 0.5 (as in, Cognato et al. 2018). Bootstrap values under parsimony and likelihood criteria (under the same conditions above) were calculated by performing 500 pseudoreplicates with simple additions in PAUP*. Nucleotide difference among sequences was measured as uncorrected ‘p’ distance.

**Species Concept**

Species are hypotheses of evolutionary independent lineages (Hey 2006 and for example, Yeates et al. 2011). For this study, evidence for species includes the congruence between diagnostic morphological and molecular traits, monophyly, phylogenetic branches longer between clades than within clades, and/or nonoverlapping intra- and interspecific nucleotide differences.
Intra- and interspecific nucleotide differences for COI and CAD did not overlap among the species (Table 2). Considering all species, the intraspecific differences ranged from 0 to 0.1 and 0 to 0.013 and the interspecific differences ranged from 0.137 to 0.168 and 0.015 to 0.032 for COI and CAD, respectively. For X. glabratus, the DNA sequences from Vietnam (Thua Thien-Hue prov.) were the most different from conspecifics with means of 0.09 for COI and 0.007 for CAD. For some interspecific comparisons, the nucleotide difference was similar to comparisons made to the outgroup species (COI: 0.157−0.2, mean = 0.182; CAD: 0.03−0.052, mean = 0.045). In comparison to X. glabratus, the range of interspecific nucleotide differences for COI and CAD observed for X. insidiosus n. sp. and X. mysticus n. sp. exceeded the maximum intraspecific differences for X. glabratus (Table 2).

The lineages labeled as X. insidiosus and X. mysticus (Fig. 2) are described as new species, because they associate with diagnostic morphological and molecular characters and demonstrate nonoverlapping intra- and interspecific nucleotide differences. Xyleborus glabratus is redescribed to facilitate comparison to the new species, to present new distribution records, and to designate a lectotype. These three species represent a monophyletic group, which is diagnosed below so to facilitate identification compared with other Xyleborus species.

### Xyleborus glabratus Eichhoff

(Figs. 3A–D and 4)

Xyleborus glabratus Eichhoff, 1877: 127.

Xyleborus kumamotoensis Murayama, 1934: 288. syn. n.

Diagnosis: Small body size 2.20–2.50 mm long; anterior half of the pronotum strongly shining; discal interstriae two times

### Table 1. Specimens, collection location, and GenBank numbers

<table>
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<th>OTU label</th>
<th>Voucher code</th>
<th>Locality</th>
<th>GenBank</th>
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<td>Xyleborus glabratus</td>
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<td>MK251508, MK251526</td>
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<td>Xyleborus mysticus</td>
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<td>Taiwan: Pinglin: Chen Tea Farm, ex. Machilus sp.</td>
<td>MK251516, MK251534</td>
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<td>Xylgal25</td>
<td>Vietnam: Cao Bang: Phia Oac Res.</td>
<td>MK251511, MK251529</td>
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</table>

N/A, not applicable.

### Nomenclature

This paper and the nomenclatural act(s) it contains have been registered in Zoobank (www.zoobank.org), the official register of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature. The LSID (Life Science Identifier) number of the publication is as follows: urn:lsid:zoobank.org:pub:262B82F9-823C-4F93-8009-8546C28F5AC6

### Results

In total, 1,266 nucleotides, 672 from COI, and 594 from CAD were included in the phylogenetic analyses. There was no nucleotide difference among the 285 sequences and these were excluded from the analyses. A longer region of CAD (~630 bp) that included a region of the mitochondrial COI and CAD characters, respectively. Using the COI and CAD data together, the parsimony analysis revealed five most parsimonious trees and the likelihood analysis found four most likely trees. The strict consensus trees of the most parsimonious trees and the most likely trees were unresolved for X. glabratus from Hong Kong (Fig. 2). The placement of X. mysticus n. sp. (Taiwan) sister to X. insidiosus n. sp. was the only difference between the parsimony (not shown) and likelihood tree (Fig. 2). Both analyses resolved a well-supported monophyletic X. glabratus including individuals from Hong Kong, Taiwan, Vietnam, and United States. Nine mtDNA haplotypes and four CAD genotypes were discovered—some with comparatively large nucleotide differences (Fig. 2). Xyleborus mysticus n. sp. included a monophyletic group of individuals from Vietnam and Taiwan. Although this relationship was poorly supported, these individuals shared morphological characters diagnostic for X. mysticus. One Vietnamese individual represented X. insidiosus n. sp. in the phylogeny as a long-branch sister to X. glabratus (Fig. 2). Xyleborus insidiosus n. sp. also occurs in China (Sichuan) as evidenced by museum specimens (see species description below).

**Xyleborus glabratus Eichhoff**

(Figs. 3A–D and 4)
the width of striae; discal strial punctures four to five times the diameter of those of interstriae; declivital striae and interstriae clearly distinguishable; declivital striae flat to feebly impressed; declivital interstriae denticulate and granulate, numerous closely spaced granules, and 1−3 small denticles (typically one), 1–3 larger denticles (typically three) on interstriae 1; and strongly developed posterolateral carina that extends from the apex to interstriae 7 (Figs. 3B and C and 4).

**Redescription.** Female. Length: 2.20−2.50 mm long (mean = 2.36 mm; n = 5); 3.14−3.57 times as long as wide. Body color uniformly ferrugineous to dark brown, but typically brown. Legs and antennae yellow-brown. Appearing glabrous with sparse setae on the anterior third of the pronotum.

Head. Epistoma entire, transverse, lined with a row of long hair-like setae. Frons feebly to weakly convex from epistoma to upper level of eyes with a weak median carina extending from
epistoma to upper level of eyes; surface shagreened, dull, punctate; punctures uniformly sized, sparse; sparse erect hair-like vestiture in lateral areas. Eyes deeply emarginated above level of antennal insertion, upper portion of eyes smaller than lower part. Submentum flat, deeply impressed below genae, very narrow, triangular. Scape regularly thick, about as long as length of club. Antennal funicle four segmented, segments equal in size. Pedicle as long as funicle.

Club 1.6 times taller than broad, asymmetrical; club type 2 (Hulcr et al. 2007), obliquely truncate; segment 2 visible on posterior face, appearing soft, segment 1 covering most of posterior face, its margin completely costate; segment 1 on anterior face corneous, occupying approximately basal 40% (37−42%); segment 2 narrow, pubescent with corneous part visible on anterior face only.

Pronotum. 1.3 times as long as wide. Sides straight; pronotum elongated, with low summit from lateral view (type 7, Hulcr et al. 2007). Anterior margin basic, parallel-sided, rounded when viewed dorsally (type 2, Hulcr et al. 2007), lacking a row of serrations. Surface strongly shining, anterior half finely asperate, asperities close, arranged in concentric rings from midpoint of pronotum to anterior margin; each asperity bearing a single semi-erect hair-like seta; disc glabrous, feebly and sparsely punctate. Lateral margins rounded. Base straight.

Legs. Procoxae contiguous, prosternal posterocoxal piece large, inflated. Protibia obliquely triangular, broadest at apical third, posterior face flat, unarmed; three to five small socketed denticles present on outer margin of apical third. Mesotibia strongly flattened, obliquely triangular, broadest at apical third; posterior face flat, unarmed; six small socketed denticles present on apical third. Metatibia with evenly rounded outer margin, flattened, posterior face unarmed, six to seven socketed denticles present on outer margin.

Elytra. Elytral base transverse, humeral angles rounded. Scutellum moderately sized, ‘u’ shaped, flat, flush with elytra. Sides straight from base to apical half of declivity; lateral profile of declivity steep, convex; apex entire, rounded. Disc occupying two-third of total elytral length. Disc smooth, shining, glabrous; stria and interstria punctures uniseriate, parallel; interstriae two times as wide as striae, minutely, sparsely punctate; striae not impressed; punctures irregularly spaced, four to five times the diameter of those of interstriae. Declivital face shining; declivital interstriae 1 laterally broadened from base to declival midpoint and then narrowing toward apex; strial punctures coarse, denser, larger than on disc, approximately equal sized; interstriae impunctate; striae and interstriae clearly distinguishable; interstriae variously denticulate and granulate (often asymmetric, see Remarks); interstriae 1 with at least one large denticle (typically 3) and numerous closely spaced granules and one to three.

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Table 2. Average and range of pairwise uncorrected ‘p’ differences

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Interspecific</th>
<th>Lower diagonal COI</th>
<th></th>
<th>Upper diagonal CAD</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Xyleborus glabratus</td>
<td></td>
<td>Xyleborus insidious</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Xyleborus mysticulus</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xyleborus glabratus</td>
<td>+ 0.024 (0.021−0.032)</td>
<td></td>
<td>0.017 (0.015−0.024)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Xyleborus insidious</td>
<td>+ 0.168 (0.137−0.168)</td>
<td></td>
<td>0.144 (0.143−0.145)</td>
<td>+ 0.015 (n/a)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xyleborus mysticulus</td>
<td>0.16 (0.143−0.16.8)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Intraspecific

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
<th>CAD</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>0.034 (0−0.10)</td>
<td></td>
<td>0.003 (0−0.013)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>n/a</td>
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<tr>
<td>Xyleborus mysticulus</td>
<td>0.01</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Compared to outgroups

|                     | 0.182 (0.157−0.2) |       | 0.45 (0.03−0.052) |

Fig. 3. Xyleborus glabratus. Female habitus: (A) lateral; (B) dorsal; (C) posterior oblique; (D) frontal.
Fig. 4. Sketches of the left elytron (at 125× magnification) for *X. glabratus*, *X. insidiosus* and *X. mysticus*. Sketches emphasize the arrangement and size of granules (x) and punctures (o). Setae and tumescences are not shown. *Xyleborus glabratus* (SAX203) was compared to the lectotype and has similar morphology. Other illustrations of *X. glabratus* show typical variation of granules and punctures.

**Distribution**: Bangladesh, China (Fujian, Guangdong, Guangxi, Hunan, Jiangxi, Sichuan), India (Assam, Bengal), Japan, Myanmar, Taiwan, Thailand, and Vietnam. Imported to and established in United States (Wood and Bright 1992, Beaver et al. 2014, Smith et al. 2018b).

**New records**: CHINA: Guangxi, Malu, 27.iii.2018, You Li, ex. *Cinnamomum cassia* (UFFE, 1). Guangdong, Danxia Shan NP, Wo Long Gang Forest Walkway, 25°01.3’N, 113°44.5’E, 100 m, 23–26.iv.2013, J. Háyek & J.T. Růžička (RABC, 1). Hong Kong,

Host plants: The species has an evident preference for the family Lauraceae, and its attacks are restricted to that family in the United States (Rabaglia et al. 2006, Fraedrich et al. 2008). In the Oriental region it has also been recorded on a few occasions from different families including Dipterocarpaceae, Fabaceae, Fagaceae, Pinaceae, and Theaceae (Beaver and Liu 2010, Hulcr and Lou 2013), but it is unclear whether individuals were breeding in these trees.

Remarks: The elytral declivity is variable among individuals and often between each elytron of a single individual (Fig. 4). In general, declivital interstriae 1 typically has three large denticles and a single additional small denticle. However, individual elytra may have one to three large and one to three small denticles on interstriae 1. The number of denticles of any size can vary significantly on the other declivital interstriae, especially interstriae 2 and 3. Each of these interstriae exhibits a range of zero to three denticles, which can vary among individuals collected from the same tree. However, we generally observed four main varieties of elytral declival granulation (Fig. 4).

_Xyleborus glabratus_ was described from an unspecified number of specimens (Eichhoff 1877). Eichhoff’s collection and types were deposited in UZHM (Hamburg, Germany) and were destroyed when the museum was bombed during WWII. Approximately a dozen Eichhoff types were saved by K.E. Schedl as detailed by Wood and Bright (1992). These types are deposited in Schedl’s collection in NHMW and only two Eichhoff type specimens remain in the Hamburg collection (Weidner 1976). Wood and Bright (1992) list the syntype series as deposited in IRSNB. However, type specimens of _X. glabratus_ are not present in this collection (Pol Limbourg, pers. comm. 31.vii.2017). Specimens are also not present in NHMW (Schedl 1979). A single remaining syntype was located in MIZ. A similar erroneous IRSNB depository was also listed for _Xyleborus festivus_ Eichhoff (Wood and Bright 1992), the holotype of which is still present in UHZM as detailed in Smith et al. (2018a).

To ensure correct and consistent application of the name, we here designate the female specimen from Japan as the lectotype of _Xyleborus glabratus_ Eichhoff. The lectotype is labeled “Japan Hiller [typed] \ coll. Kraatz Hagedorn det. [typed] \ Xyleborus glabratus ♂ & ♀ [handwritten] \ Dtsch. Entomol. Institut Berlin [typed] ex. coll. M. Nunberg Inst. Zool. PHN Warszawa 28/79 [handwritten] \ [red label] Mus. Zool. Polonicum Warszawa Typus 784 _Xyleborus glabratus_ Eichhoff 1877 SYNTYPUS \ [red label] LECTOTYPE _Xyleborus glabratus_ Eichhoff [typed]”. The specimen is the last remaining Eichhoff syntype and is deposited in MIZ. The male specimen referred to on the label is missing.

The lectotype of _X. glabratus_ (Hagi, Kagoshima Prefecture, Chugoku region, Honshu) (MIZ) and the female syntype of _X. kumamotoensis_ (Jissa, Yagamuchi Prefecture, Kyushu) (NMNH) were directly compared. Though collected from different islands, both specimens were collected within relatively close geographic area. The morphology of the two specimens was found to be conspecific and _X. kumamotoensis_ is here placed in synonymy.

**Xyleborus insidiosus Cognato & Smith n. sp.**

(Figs. 4 and 5A–D)

(_Zoobank LSID: urn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:1104F78F-A89C-49A9-93E4-B078F7F65612_)

**Diagnosis:** Large body size, 2.70–2.80 mm long; anterior half of pronotum distinctly shagreened; broad discal interstriae, four times the width of discal stria; discal strial punctures three times the diameter of those of interstriae; declivital stria and interstriae clearly distinguishable; declivial stria clearly impressed; interstriae uniformly granulate, never denticulate; and strongly developed posterolateral carina that extends from the apex to interstriae 6 (Figs. 4 and 5B and C).

**Type material:** Holotype, female: Vietnam: Cao Bang prov., 22°36.804′N, 105°51.982′E, 1831 m, 17.iv.2014, VN43, Cognato, Smith, Pham, ex. punky log (MSUC). Paratypes, female: as holotype except: VN46, ex. punky bark (MSUC, 4; NHML, 1); CHINA: Sichuan, Leibo, 800 m, 16.iv.1964, Fusilng Huang, ex. Fagaceae (IZAS, 1; NMNH, 3).

**Description:** Female. 2.70–2.80 mm long (mean = 2.74 mm; n = 5); 3.00–3.50 mm long as times as wide. Body and legs uniformly dark brown. Appearing glabrous with sparse setae on the anterior third of the pronotum.

Head. Epistoma entire, transverse, lined with a row of long hair-like setae. Frons feebly to weakly convex from epistoma to upper level of eyes with a weak median carina extending from epistoma to upper level of eyes; surface shagreened, dull, punctate; punctures uniformly sized, sparse; sparse erect hair-like vestiture in distributed evenly across frons. Eyes deeply emarginated above level of antennal insertion, upper portion of eyes smaller than lower part. Submentum flat, deeply impressed below genae, very narrow, triangular. Scape regularly thick, about as long as length of club. Antennal funicle four segmented, segments equal in size. Pedicle as long as funicle. Club 1.6 times taller than broad, asymmetrical; club type 2 (Hulcr et al. 2007), obliquely truncate, segment 2 visible on posterior face, appearing soft; segment 1 on anterior face corneous, covering most of posterior face, its margin completely costate; segment 1 corneous, occupying approximately basal 40% of club; segment 2 narrow, pubescent with corneous part visible on anterior face only.

_Pronotum._ 1.1–1.2 times as long as wide. Sides straight; pronotum elongated, with low summit from lateral view (type 7, Hulcr et al. 2007). Anterior margin basic, parallel-sided, rounded when viewed dorsally (type 2, Hulcr et al. 2007), lacking a row of serrations. Basal half strongly shining, anterior half strongly shagreened,
anterior half finely asperate, asperities close, arranged in concentric rings from midpoint of pronotum to anterior margin; each asperity bearing a single semi-erect hair-like seta; disc glabrous, feebly and sparsely punctate. Lateral margins rounded. Base straight.

Legs. Procoxae contiguous, prosternal posterocoxal piece large, inflated. Protibia obliquely triangular, broadest at apical third, posterior face flat, unarmed; four to five small socketed denticles present on outer margin of apical third. Mesotibia strongly flattened, obliquely triangular, broadest at apical third; posterior face flat, unarmed; four to six small socketed denticles present on apical third. Metatibia with evenly rounded outer margin, flattened; posterior face unarmed, six socketed denticles present on outer margin.

Elytra. Elytral base transverse, humeral angles rounded. Scutellum moderately sized, ‘u’ shaped, flat, flush with elytra. Sides straight from base to apical half of declivity; lateral profile of declivity steep, convex; apex entire, rounded. Disc occupying two-third of total elytral length. Disc smooth, shining; strial and interstrial punctures uniseriate, parallel; interstriae four times as wide as striae, minutely, sparsely punctate, each puncture bearing a short semi-erect hair-like seta; striae not impressed; punctures irregularly spaced, three times the diameter of those of interstriae. Declivital face shining; declivital interstria 1 laterally broadened from base to declivital midpoint and then narrowing toward apex; strial punctures denser, larger than on disc; striae and interstriae clearly distinguishable; interstriae impunctate; granules uniformly sized on each interstriae, decreasing in size laterally from interstria 1, granules bearing a short semi-erect hair-like seta at its base. Striae clearly, distinctly impressed. Posterolateral declival costa strongly developed, extending from apex to interstriae 6.

Etymology: *insidiosus* = (L.) cunning, deceitful.

Distribution: China (Sichuan), Vietnam.

Host plants: This species has been collected from Fagaceae as well as unidentified punky wood.

Remarks: Specimens of *Xylebrous insidiosus* were collected together with *X. glabratus* at both collection events in Vietnam (VN43 and VN46).

*Xyleborus mysticus* Cognato & Smith n. sp.

(Figs. 4 and 6A–D)

(Zoobank LSID: urn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:CE6DF2CB-767E-4ECB-BAAA-9E5B0A0315BB)

Diagnosis: Small body size 2.20−2.50 mm long; anterior half of pronotum strongly shining; discal interstriae that are two times the width of discal striae; discal strial punctures three times larger than interstrial punctures; declivital striae and interstriae difficult to distinguish; declivital striae not impressed; declivital interstriae denticulate and granulate, denticles on low tumescences giving the declivity a rugged sculptured appearance, one to three larger denticles on interstriae 1; and strongly developed posterolateral carina that extends from the apex to interstriae 7 (Figs. 4 and 6B and C).

Type material: Holotype, female: VIETNAM: Cao Bang prov., 22°36.454′N 105°52.083′E, 1661 m, 15.iv.2014, VN37, Cognato, Smith, Pham, ex. standing dead ~25 cm DBH tree (MSUC). Paratypes, female: same locality as holotype (MSUC, 8; NMNH, 2; NHML, 2); TAIWAN: Pinglin, Chen tea farm, 16.ix.2015, ex. fallen branch with other beetle spp., A. Black & J. Skelton, ex. *Machilus* sp. (MSUC, 1).

Description: Female. Length: 2.20−2.50 mm long (mean = 2.38 mm; n = 5); 3.14–3.57 times as long as wide. Body color uniformly ferrugineous to dark brown. Legs and antennae yellow-brown. Appearing glabrous with sparse setae on the anterior third of the pronotum.

Head. Epistoma entire, transverse, lined with a row of long hair-like setae. Frons feebly to weakly convex from epistoma to upper level of eyes with a weak median carina extending from epistoma to upper level of eyes; surface shagreened, dull, punctate; punctures uniformly sized, sparse; sparse erect hair-like vestiture in distributed evenly across frons. Eyes deeply emarginated above level of antennal insertion, upper portion of eyes smaller than lower part. Submentum flat, deeply impressed below genae, very narrow, triangular. Scape regularly thick, about as long as
length of club. Antennal funicle four segmented, segments equal in size. Pedicle as long as funicle. Club 1.3 times taller than broad, symmetrical; club type 2 (Hulcr et al. 2007), obliquely truncate, segment 2 visible on posterior face, appearing soft; segment 1 covering most of posterior face, its margin completely costate; segment 1 on anterior face corneous, occupying approximately basal 40% of club; segment 2 narrow, pubescent with corneous part visible on anterior face only.

Pronotum. 1.1–1.2 times as long as wide. Sides straight; pronotum elongated, with low summit from lateral view (type 7, Hulcr et al. 2007). Anterior margin basic, parallel-sided, rounded when viewed dorsally (type 2, Hulcr et al. 2007), lacking a row of serrations. Basal half strongly shining, anterior half strongly shagreened, finely asperate, asperities close, arranged in concentric rings from midpoint of pronotum to anterior margin; each asperity bearing a single semi-erect hair-like seta; disc glabrous, feebly and sparsely punctate. Lateral margins rounded. Base straight.

Legs. Procoxae contiguous, prosternal posterocoxal piece large, inflated. Protibia obliquely triangular, broadest at apical third, posterior face flat, unarmed; three small socketed denticles present on outer margin of apical third. Mesotibia strongly flattened, obliquely triangular, broadest at apical third; posterior face flat, unarmed; five small socketed denticles present on apical third. Metatibia with evenly rounded outer margin, flattened; posterior face unarmed, six socketed denticles present on outer margin.

Elytra. Elytral base transverse, humeral angles rounded. Scutellum moderately sized, ‘u’ shaped, flat, flush with elytra. Sides straight from base to apical half of declivity; lateral profile of declivity steep, convex; apex entire, rounded. Disc occupying 20% of total elytral length. Disc smooth, shining, glabrous; strial and interstrial punctures uniseriate, parallel; interstriae twice as wide as striae, minutely, sparsely punctate; striae not impressed; punctures irregularly spaced, three times the diameter of those of interstriae. Declivital face shining, largely glabrous; declivital interstriae 1 laterally broadened from base to declivital midpoint and then narrowing toward apex; strial and punctures coarse, denser, larger than on disc; interstriae impunctate; striae and interstriae difficult to distinguish; interstriae asymmetric, variously denticulate and granulate; denticles on low tumescences giving the declivity a rugged sculptured appearance, each denticle bearing a short, semi-erect seta at the base; interstriae 1 with one to two large denticles and one to two small denticles; remaining interstriae with numerous smaller denticles; striae flat. Posterolateral declivital costa strongly developed, extending from apex to interstriae 7.

Etymology: mysticus = (L.) secret (diminutive).

Distribution: Taiwan, Vietnam.

Host plants: Machilus sp. (Lauraceae).

Remarks: Although the clade that includes X. mysticus is not well-supported, the species diagnostic characters of this specimen are indistinguishable from the diagnostic characters of the other X. mysticus specimens.

Xyleborus glabratus species group

Included species: Xyleborus glabratus Eichhoff, X. insidiosus Cognato & Smith n. sp., and X. mysticus Cognato & Smith n. sp.

Diagnosis: These species are distinguished from other Xyleborus species by declivital interstriae 1 laterally broadened from base to declivital midpoint and narrowing toward apex.

Phylogenetic placement: These species form a monophyletic group related to globally distributed Xyleborus species (e.g., X. affinis, X. perforans) in the context of a 150 xyleborine species phylogeny based on COI and CAD data (Cognato, unpublished). More data-rich phylogenetic analyses including only Xyleborus glabratus support the above observation and also suggest a close relationship to a clade of endemic Hawaiian Xyleborus spp (Cognato et al. 2011, 2018).

Discussion

DNA sequence data from COI and CAD genes representing widely dispersed populations of X. glabratus demonstrated multiple genotypes, some of which are associated with isolated localities (Table 1). Region-specific genotypes with gradual overlap is a typical pattern for bark and ambrosia beetles (e.g., Cognato et al. 1999, Storer et al. 2017), although isolation by distance has a greater effect on the fixation of genetic differences for the highly inbred xyleborines.
(e.g., Cognato and Sun 2007, Jordal and Kambestad 2014, Cognato et al. 2015). 28S sequence differences were not observed, although population level differences have been observed for *Xylosandrus* species (Dole et al. 2010). Phylogenetic resolution based on 28S data is most predictable among genera and deeply divergent xyloborine species (Jordal et al. 2008, Dole et al. 2010, Jordal and Kambestad 2014, Stouthamer et al. 2017).

Intra- and interspecific nucleotide differences for COI and CAD are similar to those observed in previous xyloborine studies (Dole et al. 2010, Jordal and Kambestad 2014, Stouthamer et al. 2017). *Xylosandrus* species demonstrated 0.3–10% COI and 0.1–0.8% CAD intraspecific nucleotide differences (Dole et al. 2010). However, 12–16% COI intraspecific nucleotide differences associated with paraphyletic lineages of *Xyloborus saxsenii* (Ratzburg) and clades of *Euswallaca formicatus* (Eichhoff) (Jordal and Kambestad 2014, Stouthamer et al. 2017). Four species were recently recognized within the *E. formicatus* complex (Gomez et al. 2018), but taxonomic actions have yet to be taken for *X. saxsenii*.

Our assessment of the new species described here is concordant with these previous observations and with an emerging pattern of COI and CAD intraspecific nucleotide differences based on a larger DNA taxonomic study of xyloborine species (>400 individuals representing 150 species). Intraspecific COI and CAD differences nearing 10 and 2%, respectively, suggest the potential for undescribed species (Cognato, unpublished). When associated with morphological (or biological) differences, these divergent lineages may be recognized as new species, as in *X. insidiosus* and *X. mysticus*. Conversely, the lineage of *X. glabratus* from Thua Thien-Hue, Vietnam was not described as new even though it exhibited 9% COI intraspecific difference (Table 2, Fig. 2). Diagnostic characters were not found that differentiated this lineage from the remaining *X. glabratus* (Fig. 4, SAX176).

As reported here, recent scolytine-targeted collecting in Southeast Asia yielded multiple specimens of *X. glabratus* and extended its known range further south to 16° latitude (Thua Thien-Hue, Vietnam). It is likely that *X. glabratus* occurs throughout the range of its laurel hosts which includes much of eastern and southern Asia. Potentially, *X. glabratus* may occur as far north as 40° latitude (near Beijing, China) as suggested by cold tolerance experiments (Formby et al. 2018). *Xyloborus insidiosus* and *X. mysticus* were collected at higher elevations and maybe restricted to the cooler habitats of cloud forests.

This study provides additional records of the association of *X. glabratus* with laurel trees exhibiting symptoms of laurel wilt within the beetle’s native range (Table 1, Fig. 2). *Raffaelea lauricola* cultured from symptomatic laurel tree provided direct evidence for the association between the Taiwanese *X. glabratus* and laurel wilt (Huler et al. 2017), whereas only leaf flagging and branch dieback was associated with the Vietnamese *X. glabratus* individuals (Fig. 2). Specimens from Hong Kong were collected from recently dead and apparently diseased lauraceous hosts, but the role of *X. glabratus* in this mortality was unclear. These beetles exhibited various degrees of relatedness from sharing the same mtDNA COI haplotype to exhibiting a p-distance value of 0.09. A relatively similar range of p-distances was observed for CAD. These results suggest that these beetle lineages may associate with pathotypes suited for different climates given they were collected at different latitudes. Different laurel wilt fungal strains, as recorded from the native range (Wuest et al. 2017), may also associate with the beetle lineages and these fungal strains may exhibit various degrees of pathogenicity, as observed for other fungi (for example, O’Donnell et al. 1998). More detailed research of the beetle lineages’ adaptation to different climates and of the association among fungal strains and beetle lineages is needed. In the absence of further knowledge at this time, it is prudent to remain vigilant of the potential spread of these beetle lineages beyond their native range. If these additional beetle lineages from the southern extent of their range can tolerate hotter and drier conditions, then the more arid areas of California and Mexico may be at greater risk of infestation by yet-introduced *X. glabratus* lineages and laurel wilt, which places a greater risk onto the loss of the world’s largest avocado industry (Lira-Noriega et al. 2018).

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