

**AZLANIA SHEHAH, NEW SPECIES,
THE FOURTH SPECIES FOR THE GENUS
(COLEOPTERA: CHRYSOMELIDAE: GALERUCINAE)**

Mohamed S. Mohamedsaid

Centre for Insect Systematics, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, 43600 Bangi, Malaysia

ABSTRACT. - A new species of galerucine beetles of the genus *Azlania* Mohamedsaid, 1996, is described from Malaysia. The new species, *Azlania shehah*, is the fourth species in the genus, and its affinities with allied taxa is discussed.

KEY WORDS. - Coleoptera, Chrysomelidae, Galerucinae, new species, *Azlania shehah*.

INTRODUCTION

The genus *Azlania* Mohamedsaid, 1996, was established, with *Aenidea costatipennis* Jacoby as the type species (Mohamedsaid, 1996). Three species have been described, with distribution in Sumatra, Peninsular Malaysia, Sarawak and Sabah. The genus *Azlania* differs from other genera in the Galerucinae with the following combination of characters: procoxal cavities closed posteriorly, metatibiae with a single spine at apex, clypeus excavated, elytra costate, pronotum depressed. This paper describes another species, the fourth for the genus. One of the specimens for this new species was examined when the genus *Azlania* was established, but the author decided not to describe it, simply because the specimen was a female and suspected to be a variation of *Azlania costatipennis* (Jacoby). Now, a male specimen was discovered from the same state of Pahang, Peninsular Malaysia, where the female was found. The new species is significantly different from the abovementioned species, as well as from the other two *Azlania*-species. Type specimens are deposited in the Centre for Insect Systematics, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, Bangi, Malaysia (UKM).

Azania shehah, new species

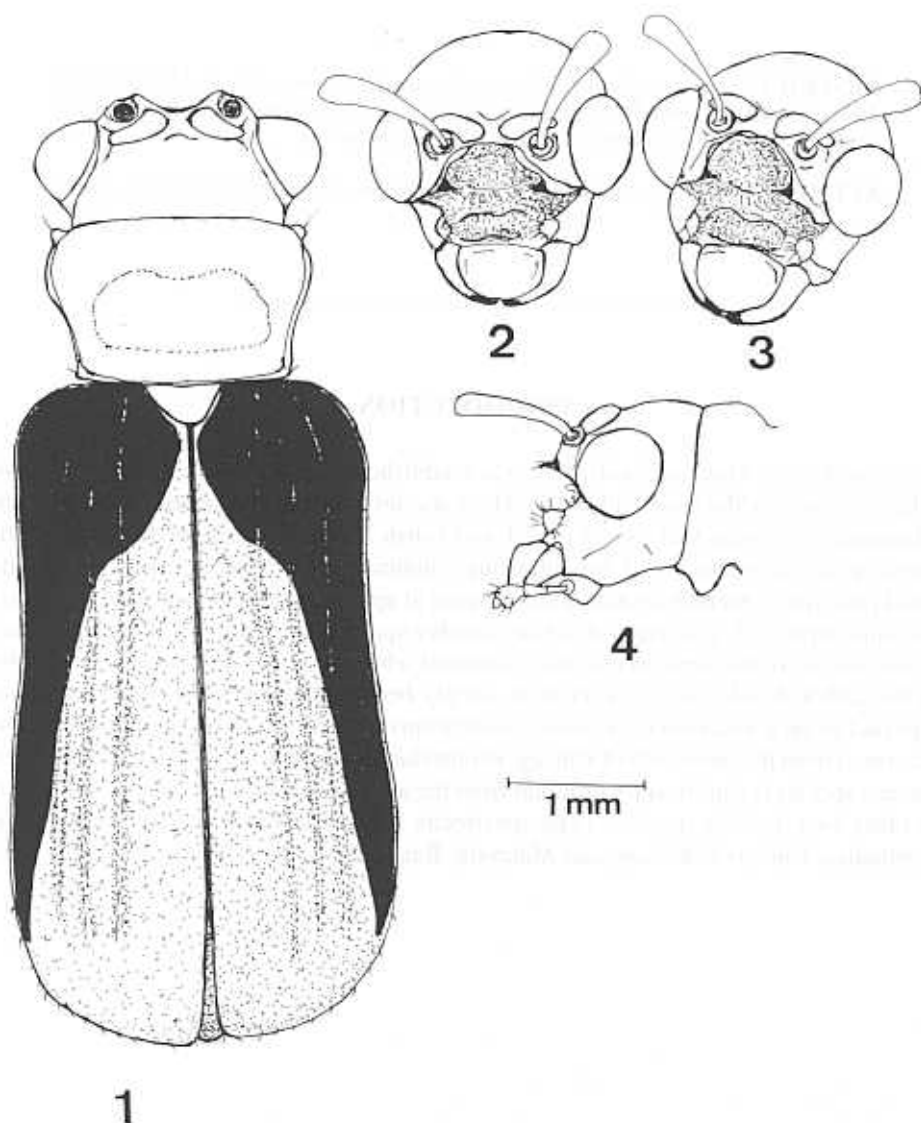
(Figs 1, 2, 3, 4)

Material examined. - Holotype - male, Kuala Juram, Merapuh, Pahang, Malaysia, coll. Zaidi, Ismail & Ruslan, 4-9 May, 1997.

Paratype - 1 female, Kuala Kenyam, Taman Negara, Pahang, Malaysia, coll. Zaidi, Ruslan & Mahadir, 29-31 Aug, 1995.

Description.- Brownish, except elytra black on basal and lateral areas.

Head impunctate, with vertex alutaceous, deeply depressed behind frontal tubercles, the latter alutaceous, transverse, widely separated. Clypeus deeply excavated; anterior and lateral



Figs. 1-4. *Azania shehah*, new species. 1. Habitus. 2. Head, frontal view. 3. Head, fronto-lateral view. 4. Head, lateral view.

borders, surrounding the excavation, with very sharp ridges; a pair of spines located in front of eyes and a pair of ridges with hairs near bases of mandibles. Labrum transverse, strongly convex. Maxillary palpi with penultimate segment swollen, apical segment smaller, conical. Gena deeper than one-half depth of eye. Eyes prominent; interocular space 2.4 times as broad as transverse diameter of each eye; distance across eyes broader than pronotum. Antennae filiform, long, extending to apex of elytra; segment 1 club-shaped, as long as 3; segment 2 shortest, slightly longer than broad; segments 4-11 gradually shortened toward apex; interantennal space twice as broad as antennal socket.

Pronotum 1.5 times as broad as long, broadest at apical one-third, narrowest at base; anterior border unmarginated, lateral and posterior borders margined; anterior margin straight, posterior margin slightly sinuate in middle; lateral sides rounded at apical one-third, then straight and converged toward base; anterior angles strongly produced; disc transversely, deeply depressed, alutaceous, impunctate. Scutellum triangular, slightly broader than long, impunctate, alutaceous.

Elytra subparallel-sided, two times as long as broad, yellowish, except on the basal and lateral part black, the black areas not extended to lateral margins; apical margins rounded, with rows of fine hairs; lateral sides depressed in middle; disc transversely depressed subbasally, densely covered with small punctures, with tendency arranged in rows; each elytron with 3 distinct longitudinal costae. First segment of protarsi broadened, the inner surface partly covered with oval black pad. Metatibiae with a spine at apex. Metatarsi with the first segment longer than the remainder segments combined. Tarsal claws appendiculate.

Abdomen yellowish, pubescent. Procoxal cavities closed posteriorly. Apical sternite trilobed, with median lobe transverse. Pygidium rounded. Body length 6.9 mm.

Female. Head moderately excavated, without structures. Apical sternite entire. Pygidium emarginate at apex. First segment of protarsi without a pad on the inner surface. Body length 7.5 mm.

Etymology. The new species is dedicated to Shehah, who has provided support throughout my career in insect systematics. The name is used as a noun in apposition.

Remarks.- *Azlania shehah*, new species, differs from the other three known *Azlania*-species in having the elytra entirely yellowish, with lateral sides black, the antennae and legs entirely brownish, the frontal tubercles widely separated, not contiguous, the pronotum deeply, transversely depressed, and the male having different structures on the excavated clypeus.

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LITERATURE CITED

Mohamedsaid, M. S., 1996. A new genus and two new species of Galerucinae from Malaysia (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae). *Serangga*, 1: 79-89.