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# A new species of *Didrepanephorus* Wood-Mason, 1878 from Vietnam with notes on the genus (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae Rutelinae)

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*dangvani*;

taxonomy;  
description ;  
new species;  
South East Asia;  
Vietnam.

**Abstract.** – *Didrepanephorus dangvani* n. sp. is described from northern Vietnam, figured and compared to the closest species. A catalogue of the genus *Didrepanephorus* Wood-Mason, 1878 from Vietnam is also provided.

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## Introduction

The genus *Didrepanephorus* Wood-Mason, 1878 currently includes 16 species and 5 subspecies distributed in the China, India and South East Asia of which 11 taxa are currently described or reported from Vietnam (Zhao & Liu, 2022). Also, according to Zhao & Liu in the subtribe Didrepanophorina Ohaus, 1918, the genus is morphologically characterized by the following combination of characters: lower margin of mandibles with prominent protrusion at the base, which is either sharp or blunt at apex and lower margin concave or strongly concave before the protrusion; body length 13-22.5 mm in males (mandible excluding) and 13.5-23.2 mm in females. In addition, the species currently attributed to this genus generally have strong sexual dimorphism in the shape of mandibles and upper surface of the body densely setose (Wood-Mason, 1878), generally complete frontoclypeal suture (Ohaus, 1934), mandibles bent upward in males (Yung, 1999), prosternal process well developed and abbreviation of abdominal ventrites 1-4 in males (Muramoto, 2005). However, even with this combination of characters it is difficult to attribute clearly some of the species to the genus *Didrepanephorus*. No doubt that only molecular phylogenetic studies will make possible to draw a clear frame and picture of the genera described so far in the subtribe Didrepanophorina that currently includes: *Didrepanephorus*, *Nagainokoganea* Hirasawa, 1992, *Fruhstorferia* Kolbe, 1894, *Kibakoganea*, Nagai, 1984, *Masumotokoganea*, Hirasawa, 1992 and *Pukapuku* Muramoto, 2006. Considering the overarching systematic and current taxonomy in the Rutelinae, some of these genera might be downgraded at the level of group of species instead of genera. Moreover, considering shape of paramera it is not clear why other Rutelini genera form South East Asia like *Peperonota* Westwood, 1847, can't be also included in the Didrepanophorina but this excides the purpose of the present work.

## Material and methods

Specimens were examined using a Leica MS5 stereomicroscope. Male and female genitalia were dissected and cleaned manually without any chemical treatment, then glued to a cardboard pinned under each specimen from which they were removed. Length measurements of specimens were taken with an integrated eyepiece grid from the anterior margin of the clypeus to the apex of the elytra. A Leica DFC425 camera in conjunction with a Leica M205C stereomicroscope was used to produce source images of male and female genitalia, which were subsequently stacked using the software Zerene Stacker. All images were adjusted and grouped in plates using Adobe Photoshop.

For the material examined, the exact label data is quoted and the following signs indicate: // data on different labels; / different lines on same label.

The specimens studied are deposited in the Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle of Geneva, Switzerland (MHNG), the Institute of Ecology and Biological Resources (IEBR), the coll. Denis Keith, Chartres (DKC) and in the first author collection (GSC).

## Taxonomic treatment

Family **Scarabaeidae** Latreille, 1802

Subfamily **Rutelinae** MacLeay, 1819

Tribe **Rutelini** MacLeay, 1819

Subtribe **Didrepanophorina** Ohaus, 1918

Genus **Didrepanephorus** Wood-Mason, 1878

## Reviewer :

Denis Keith (France) - <https://zoobank.org/841FF99A-A032-4703-86AD-2E38DC0CC92E> - <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-2554-4325>



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***Didrepanephorus dangvani* n. sp.**

(Fig. 1-8)

ZooBank : <https://zoobank.org/70D47A4D-7040-45B0-9452-70500B3C9354>

**Holotype**, ♂, // VIETNAM, Hà Giang Prov. / Minh Tân, 1300 m / V.2024, local collectors // (MHNG).

**Paratypes**

- same data as for the holotype, 1 ♀ (NHMG), 1 ♂ (IEBR), 2 ♂ & 2 ♀ (GSC), 1 ♂ (DKC);
- // VIETNAM, Lào Cai Prov. / Bát Xát Distr., Y Tý Com., Bát Xát Nature Res. / 30.V.2022, N.T. Pham leg. //, 1 ♀ (IEBR).

**Etymology**. – We dedicate the species to Mr Đặng Ngọc Văn (Bảo Lộc city, Vietnam). Interested in insects since child, he is the major collector of insects for Vietnam allowing the discovery of many new species and a better understanding of its fauna.

**Description of the holotype**

**General morphology and coloration** (Fig. 1). – Body oval and convex; length 18 mm (24 mm including mandibles), 9 mm maximum width; head, pronotum, scutellum, abdomen and legs dark brown; elytra light brown with lateral margins, suture and a stripe connecting humeral to apical umbones black; body covered by uniform dense and short setae yellowish.

**Head**. – Clypeus flat, trapezoidal, anterior margin straight; anterior angles rounded, sides strongly convergent anteriorly and expanded in basal half, concave near middle, then almost subparallel in apical half; with dense fine punctures, not punctured near anterior margin, frontal-clypeal suture almost absent, represented by a short carina at each side; frons and vertex with dense large punctures and dense, erect long setae; eye-canthus wide and truncate at outer margin not extends beyond outermost point of eye, anterior angle nearly right; antennal scapus brown, base of antennal club dark brown, gradually changed fulvous to apex, length of antennal club distinctly longer than antennomeres 2-7 combined; labrum exposed, anterior margin deflected, dorsal surface sparsely microsculptured, with sparse, short and long setae; mandible dark brown, broadest at base, lower margin deeply constricted before basal tooth, apex sharply bent upwards (Fig. 4); maxillary palps and labial palps dark brown; mentum with dense punctures and long erect setae, anterior margin slightly concave in middle; gula dark brown, glabrous and matt.

**Pronotum**. – Strongly convex, 1.55 times as wide as long, widest near middle; anterior margin distinctly bisinuate; anterior marginal membrane distinct, obsolete before reaching anterior angle; lateral margins feebly concave and convergent posteriorly in basal half, roundly and broadly curved at middle, convergent anteriad in apical half; posterior margin broadly protruding in middle; basal marginal line interrupted before scutellum, all other marginal lines completed; anterior angle moderately protruding, posterior angle slightly protruding, both blunt at apex; surface with dense small punctures, rugopunctate along lateral margin, and disc with indistinct longitudinal medial line; most areas of disc with rather dense semierect short setae, setae on lateral portions being longer.

**Scutellum**. – Triangular, lateral margin slightly curved, apex rounded, surface with dense large punctures, glabrous.

**Elytra**. – Convex, almost as wide as long, and widest at middle; striae and interval unrecognizable the surface coarsely, with sparse, shallow, round fine punctures and dense, short, semierect setae; humeral umbone and apical umbone convex; epipleura glabrous.

**Ventral thoracic surface**. – Base of ventral prothoracic and anterior half of ventral metathoracic surfaces with dense long hairs; anterior half of ventral prothoracic and posterior half of ventral mesothoracic surfaces with erect short setae; prosternal process small, horizontally broad, and shield-like with a medial carina.

**Propygidium**. – Surface uniformly granulose, with dense, semierect short setae.

**Pygidium**. – Convex, disc finely microsculptured, setosus as in propygidium.

**Abdomen**. – Distinctly curved in lateral view, abdominal ventrites 1-4 abbreviated; with dense round punctures and semierect long setae; posterior margin of abdominal ventrite 6 broadly and distinctly concave medially, with a row of dense, semierect long setae.

**Legs**. – With moderately dense, erect long setae; femora with dense punctures; tibiae with dense, coarse and irregular punctures. Inner protarsal claw simple and thickened, outer protarsal claw smaller and sharp at apex; outer meso- and metatarsal claws widely and deeply split into two branches respectively, the upper branches thinner and sharper; in outer mesotarsal claw the two branches equal in length, in outer metatarsal claw the upper branch slightly longer than the lower branch; inner meso- and metatarsal claws more curved than the outer ones; protibia with three distinct and acute teeth; protibial spur situated at the level of middle protibial tooth, vertically oriented forwards; meso- and metatibiae bidentate at apical edges, the upper tooth in mesotibia distinctly protruding; protarsus strongly thickened; protarsomeres 2-4 abbreviated; protarsomere 4 ventrally with a short blunt protrusion; meso- and metatarsomeres 4 each with an acute ventroapical protrusion, each protrusion with a pair of spines at base; tarsomeres 5 of all legs with a small and blunt ventral protrusion in basal third.

**Aedeagus**. – As in Fig. 3, 7, 8 composed by long phallobase narrowing toward distally, evenly curved in lateral view and paramera lobose, fused basally, with undulated lateral margins and distal margin of right paramere medially with two parallel short processes.

**Variability of male paratypes**. – Large specimens have longer mandibles reaching 27 mm as total length of the body.

**Description of female paratypes**. – Body colour as described for the holotype male (Fig. 2); mandible small, short, nearly triangular, outer edge bidentate, apical tooth acute and bends upwards, second tooth broadly rounded; clypeus longer than in males; anterior margin straight and strongly reflected; labrum not visible in dorsal view; antennal club as in the males; punctures on dorsal surface of head, pronotum and scutellum, much deeper and coarser than in males; setae and hairs on the whole body surface rather sparser than in males, on pronotum present only on the anterior-lateral sides; abdominal ventrites convex; abdominal ventrite 1 abbreviated medially, abdominal ventrites 2-4 almost equal in length; posterior margin of abdominal ventrite 6 straight medially; protarsus smaller than in males; styligénitalis dorsal and ventral, respectively as in Fig. 5 and 6.

**Relationships**. – In general appearance, *Didrepanephorus dangvani* n. sp. is close to *D. heterocolor* Qiu, Zhao & Xu, 2021, *D. nishiyamai* and *D. subvittatus*, a cluster of species characterized by the combination of the following characters: lower margin of male mandible with a distinct concavity before basal tooth; pronotum evenly covered with untufted dense setae in male, with sparse short setae in female; abdominal ventrites with sparse setae; phallobase evenly curved in profile; parameres fused basally. The closest species appears to be *D. heterocolor*, described from China, Guizhou, of which the new species represent a southern vicariant. The two sister species are easily distinguishable by the different shape of paramera: see Fig. 7-8 and Fig. 35-36 in Qiu, Zhao & Xu (2021).

**Distribution**. Vietnam: Ha Giang and Lao Cai provinces. This new species is found only in the high mountain (> 1000 m) in the North of Vietnam with strongly seasonal climate while so than in the rest of the country prevail subtropical and tropical climate. Northern Vietnam present extensive karst formations, areas of irregular limestone eroded into towers, hills, caves and passages.

**The genus *Didrepanephorus* Wood-Mason, 1878 in Vietnam**

*arnaudi* Muramoto, 2003: Lam Dong province

*dangvani* Sabatinelli & Pham, new species: Ha Giang, Lao Cai, Yen Bai provinces

*lamdongensis* Muramoto, 2013: Lam Dong province

*mizunomai* Nagai & Hirasawa 1991: Lao Cai province

*ohbayashi* (Nagai, 2004) = *pilosus* Bouchard, 2007 new record

*subvittatus* Benderitter, 1922: Lào Cai province

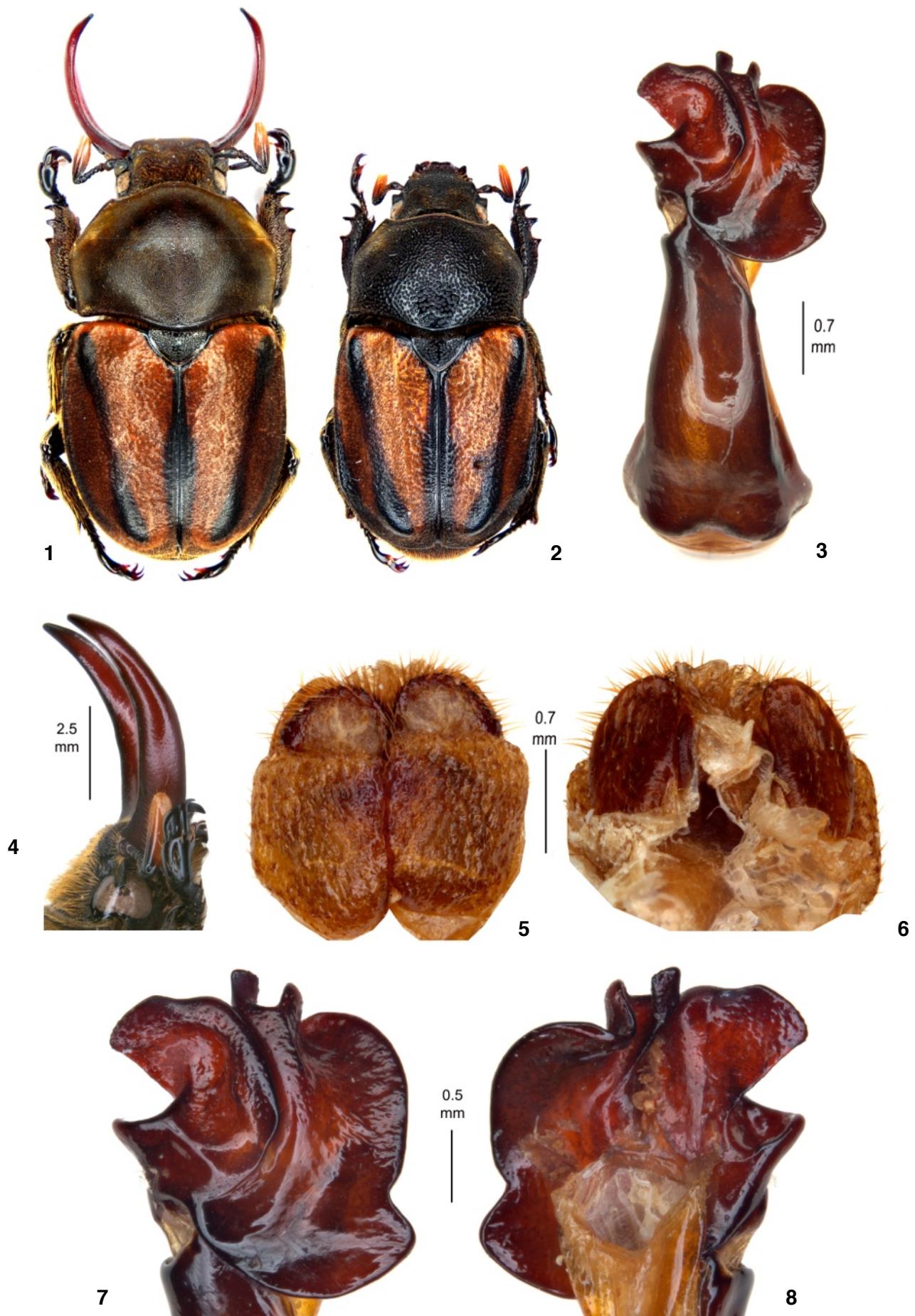
*vietnamicus* (Muramoto & Kobayashi, 2019): Quang Nam province

*yunnanus clermonti* (Benderitter, 1929): Lào Cai province

*yunnanus piaocensis* (Nagai, 2004): Cao Bang province

*zen* Muramoto, 2009: Nghe An province

*takuyai* (Muramoto, 2003) incertae sedis: Lam Dong province



**Fig. 1-8.** *Didrepanephorus dangvani* n. sp.

1. Holotype male habitus.
2. Paratype female habitus.
3. Aedeagus in dorsal view.
4. Mandibles of holotype male in lateral view.
5. Female *styli genitalis* in dorsal view.
6. Female *styli genitalis* in ventral view.
7. Parameres of holotype in dorsal view.
8. Parameres of holotype in ventral view.

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## Contribution of the authors<sup>1</sup>

Publisher correspondence. – GS

Writing the article. – GS, PP

Description of the new species. – GS, PP

Article proofreading. – GS, PP

Bibliographic work. – GS, PP

Material study. – GS, PP

Author of the figures. – GS

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## Résumé

Sabatinelli G. & Pham P.V., 2024. – Une nouvelle espèce du genre *Didrepanephorus* Wood-Mason, 1878 du Vietnam avec des notes sur le genre (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae Rutelinae). *Faunitaxys*, 12(36): 1–4.

*Didrepanephorus dangvani* n. sp. est décrite du Nord-Vietnam, illustrée et comparée aux espèces les plus proches. Un catalogue du genre *Didrepanephorus* Reitter, 1902 pour le Vietnam est également fourni.

Mots-clés. – Coleoptera, Scarabaeidae, Rutelinae, *Didrepanephorus*, *dangvani*, taxonomie, description, nouvelle espèce, Asie du Sud-Est, Vietnam.

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**Illustration de la couverture :**

*Didrepanephorus dangvani* n. sp.

Crédits :

**Guido Sabatinelli** : Fig. 1-8 & couverture

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