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A New Species of *Cicindela* from the
Solomon Islands
(Coleoptera, Cicindelidae)

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Cicindela plurigemmosa W. Horn, new species (fig. 1).

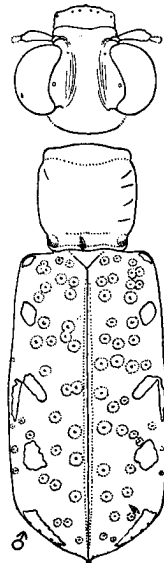


FIGURE 1.—*Cicindela plurigemmosa* W. Horn, new species.

Elytris totis violaceo-brunneo-purpureis; capitis et pronoti disco sordide viridi aeneis, lateribus coeruleo-viridescentibus; forma labri, capitis, pronoti, elytrorum valde gemmiferorum ut in figura adjacente; trochanteribus 4 anticis sine pilis fixatis; clipeo, fronte, vertice, pronoto nudis; genis et laterali pronoti

margine setis (valde fragilibus!) 1-5 ornatis, pronoto antice et postice et discoidaliter nudo.—L.ong. 7-7½ mm (sine labro). Types in the British Museum (2♂, 1♀) and in my collection (3♂ and 1♀).

Solomon Islands¹: Tulagi, caught in the jungle by H. T. Pagden, December 16-24, 1934, "Sasapi cutting".

This species belongs to group XIV of the Australian *Cicindelae* as given by me in Wytzman, Gen. Ins., Cicindelidae, 1908-1915, p. 317, and its closest relative is *C. Ribbei* Horn. Unfortunately I have only one specimen, a type, of *C. Ribbei* for comparison and I am uncertain as to whether it never has bristles on the pronotum (my specimen has none), or on the cheeks (my specimen seems to have one on the left cheek). If this is true, I would scarcely doubt that *C. plurigemmosa* is a new species. If, however, other specimens of *C. Ribbei* have bristles on the border of the pronotum and on the cheeks, I would not hesitate to treat *C. plurigemmosa* as a race of *C. Ribbei*. Comparing the male of *C. plurigemmosa* with that of *C. Ribbei*, I find that the labrum of the latter is just a little longer for it does not show the slight emargination on the anterior margin near the lateral edges. The whole surface of *C. Ribbei* is a dirty greenish-aeneous (the elytra are greenish only in the anterior half of the lateral border). The pattern and gemmae of the elytra are more or less identical; they seem to be more pronounced or more conspicuous on the brownish-purplish elytra of *C. plurigemmosa*, however, than on the dirty greenish-aeneous elytra of *C. Ribbei*. The female of *C. plurigemmosa* has an oblique, slightly shining space near the suture of the elytra, anterior to the middle (as is true in many females of the *Cicindelae*).

Because of the difficulties noted above, I briefly differentiate the new species from all other cited in Wytzman, Gen. Ins. Cicindelidae, p. 317. For most of the species there is little material on hand, in many cases uniques or only 2 or 3 specimens. Thus my conclusions may be proved wrong after more careful study of additional and fresh material.

The new species differs from *C. placida* Schaum, *C. delicata* Bat., *C. pupillata* Schaum, and *C. innocens* Horn as follows: longitudinal sculpture on the orbital plates much finer, size smaller, with few bristles on the cheeks, head and pronotum narrower, the borders of the pronotum less rounded (*C. placida* and *C. innocens* have a few bristles on the pronotal border, that of the other two species is naked), labrum shorter and yellow (never bluish), color pattern

¹In "Check List of the Cicindelidae of Oceania" (B. P. Bishop Mus., Occ. Papers, vol. XII, no. 6, 1936), the locality of this species is erroneously given as "New Hebrides".

and elytral gemmae different, the first segments of the antennae and the entire legs with a dark metallic coloration (in the four other species they are either yellow or with a slight metallic shine).

C. plurigemmosa differs from *C. Io* Horn by having longer elytra, by the color pattern and elytra gemmae, by the few bristles on its cheek, by having the bristles on the border of the pronotum not so restricted to the anterior corner, and by the metallic coloration of the first segment of the antennae and the legs. The female of *C. plurigemmosa* differs from that of *C. pupilligera* Chd. in that it does not have a triangular labrum, has few bristles on the cheeks, the first segments of the antennae and the legs dark metallic, the pronotum flatter, narrower, not constricted near the base, with a slight tuberosity at the lateral basal edges, the pattern and elytral gemmae different. *C. plurigemmosa* differs from the male of *C. excisilabris* Horn in having few bristles on the cheeks, the labrum not (slightly) emarginated in the middle of its anterior margin, a slight tuberosity at the lateral, basal edge of the pronotum, by the dark metallic coloration of the second to fourth segments of the antennae and the legs (not yellow with a slight metallic shine), and differing in color pattern and elytral gemmae. *C. plurigemmosa* differs from *C. aruana* Dokht. in having few bristles on the cheeks and on the border of the pronotum, by its flatter and more parallel pronotum which is rather convex, and more rounded laterally in *C. aruana*, and differs in color pattern and elytral gemmae. *C. plurigemmosa* differs from *C. declivis* Horn and *C. Loriae* Horn in its smaller size, by having few bristles on the cheeks (*C. Loriae* seems to have 1 or 2 bristles on the border of the pronotum; *C. declivis* is naked there), by its narrower head and prothorax, by its slightly finer longitudinal sculpture on the supra-orbital plates, by its more parallel prothorax, and in color pattern and elytral gemmae. *C. plurigemmosa* differs from *C. innocentior* Horn by the shorter labrum; by having few bristles on the cheek and the borders of the pronotum; by the dark metallic coloration of the antennae and legs; by the slightly more parallel pronotum with a small tuberosity at the lateral, basal corners, the color pattern and elytral gemmae. *C. plurigemmosa* differs from *C. denudata* Horn in the pilosity of the cheeks, pronotum, and most of the undersurface, by its less sculptured frons, narrower and flatter pronotum, and by the small tuberosity at its lateral basal corners, by the dark metallic coloration of the legs, and the color pattern and elytral gemmae. *C. plurigemmosa* differs from *C. Benningsevia* Horn by the labrum which in the male is not emarginated in the middle of the anterior margin, and in the female is evidently shorter, the male lacks the dilatation at the distal end of the third and fourth segments of the antennae, the cheeks and lateral borders of the pronotum are a little less sparingly pilosed, the narrower vertex and flatter more parallel pronotum which does not show any elevation anterior to the middle of the base. *C. plurigemmosa* has no nearer relative than *C. funerata* Boisd. from which it differs by its flatter, narrower and more parallel pronotum, and by the color pattern and elytral gemmae.