

A FOLIO OF

Genus Pachyrhynchus GERMAR
MODEL AND ITS MIMICS

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Cover: *Pachyrhynchus gemmatus* WATERHOUSE
1841 (left), *Doliops sp.* (right)

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Introduction

The Tribe *Pachyrhynchini* (Family Curculionidae, Subfamily Entiminae) is one of the highly specialized curculionid groups with the greatest diversity found in the Philippines. Present all over the country, it's spectacular scale markings, colors and peculiar form makes these flightless beetles attractive to collectors. However, it's varied forms and variations also poses a dilemma and a challenge to the intrepid entomologist who is brave enough to study these beautiful and flightless insects.

One outstanding aspect of this group is the mimetic relationships within members of the tribe (different genera), with other curculionid tribes, different families and, in very rare instances, different orders of insects inhabiting within the same locality.

Pachyrhynchines aren't poisonous but what they do have is the hardness and compact body that, for some insects might be beneficial as protection against predators. This is clearly illustrated between the genera *Pachyrhynchus*

(Curculionidae) and its usual mimic, *Doliops* and to some extent, *Paradoliops* (both, Cerambycidae). The latter two are softbodied and rarer than the former. To the untrained eye, it is easy to mistake *Doliops* as another *Pachyrhynchus* due to the similarities that are almost exact in terms of coloration, marking, size and, in the wild, habits.

Similarities between genera within the same or different curculionid tribes occurring in the same locality presents a more difficult situation.

Who is the mimic? Who is the model?
This, considering that based on
what has been collected, the species
concerned are both hardbodied.
Who benefits from the supposed
“mimicry?”

In the case of both genera
Pachyrhynchus and, most of the
time, drabber *Metapocyrtus*, each
can be abundant at one time or
another. However, it has been
observed that the former genus has
more “mimic” species than just the
latter.

Other curculionid genera from other
tribes that have been collected with
the same coloration and markings
with the *Pachyrhynchus*, but rarer,
are the following: *Alcidodes*,
Polycatus, and *Eupyrgops*.

The Images

Pachyrhynchus sp.



Metapocyrtus sp.

Pachyrhynchus congestus ssp.



Metapocyrtus
(*Metapocyrtus*) *proteus*
HELLER 1921

Pachyrhynchus congestus sp.



Metapocyrtus
(*Metapocyrtus*) *proteus*
HELLER 1921

Pachyrhynchus congestus PASCOE 1871



Eupyrgops sp.

Pachyrhynchus amabilis
SCHULTZE 1922



Pachyrhynchus amabilis
SCHULTZE 1922



Pachyrhynchus chamissoi
SCHULTZBE 1922



Pachyrhynchus gemmatus WATERHOUSE
1841



Doliops edithae
VIVES 2009

Paradoliops cabigasi
VIVES 2009

Doliops sp.

Doliops sp.



Pachyrhynchus sp.



Metapocyrtus sp.



Pachyrhynchus congestus ssp.



Metapocyrtus (metapocyrtus) proteus
HELLER 1921



Pachyrhynchus gemmatus
WATERHOUSE 1841

GENUS PACHYRHYNCHUS GERMAR



Doliops sp.

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This is just a sample.

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