Ambohitantelya yuripopovi gen. nov. et sp. nov., a new apterous Mezirinae from Madagascar (Hemiptera: Heteroptera: Aradidae) with unique metathoracic evaporatoria

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Abstract

In addition to the ten genera of apterous Mezirinae recorded to date from Madagascar, a new genus Ambohitantelya gen. nov. with uniquely formed metathoracic evaporatoria is erected for the A. yuripopovi sp. nov., which is described and illustrated.

Key words: Hemiptera, Heteroptera, Aradidae, Mezirinae, new genus, new species, evaporatoria, apterous, taxonomy, Madagascar

Introduction

The rich flat bug fauna of Madagascar comprises to date 10 apterous Mezirinae genera with 20 species (Heiss 2012, Heiss & Marchal 2012), all of them are endemic: Antsirabenus Heiss 2008 (2 sp.); Cervinotaptera Heiss & Marchal 2012 (1 sp.); Chlonocoris Usinger & Matsuda 1959 (3 sp.); Cimicomanes Kiritshenko 1959 (5 sp.); Classeyana Hoberlandt 1963 (1 sp.); Paulianum Hoberlandt 1957 (1 sp.); Pericartaptera Heiss 2009 (2 sp.); Ribesaptera Heiss 2011 (1 sp.); Robertiessa Hoberlandt 1963 (1 sp.); Tananarivea Drake 1957 (3 sp.).

Sifting forest litter in Ambohitantely Special Reserve brought to light four specimens which could not be placed into one of the above mentioned genera because of their unusual large and dorsally expanded evaporatoria, unknown so far in Madagascan Aradidae. They are described and illustrated below as Ambohitantelya gen. nov. and yuripopovi sp. nov.

Material and methods

The specimens upon this study is based are deposited and preserved in the collection of the Moravian Museum, Brno, Czech Republic (MMBC); and Tiroler Landesmuseum, collection E. Heiss, Innsbruck, Austria (CEHI).

Just as in Carventinae, so also in apterous Mezirinae, the body surface is frequently covered by an incrustation obscuring body structures and fusion lines. Therefore it was necessary to clean the specimens before examination.

Colour photographs were provided by Leica MSV266. SEM photographs were provided by SEM JEOL 6380 LV, without plating.

Measurements were taken with a micrometer eyepiece, 40 units = 1 mm.

When citing the text on the labels of a pin attached to the specimens / separates the lines and // different labels. Abbreviations used: deltg = dorsal external laterotergite (connexivum), mst = mediosternite; mtg = mediotergite, vltg = ventral laterotergite, pe-angle = posteroexterior angle (of deltg).