



## Review of the genus *Nepaletricha* Chandler (Diptera, Rangomaramidae), with description of new species from Thailand and Vietnam

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### Abstract

The genus *Nepaletricha* consists of the following species: *N. mystica* Chandler (Nepal), *N. furcata* **sp. n.** (Thailand and Vietnam) and *N. montana* **sp. n.** (Thailand). The previously unknown female characters are described. The placement of the genus is briefly reviewed and discussed.

**Key words:** Diptera, Sciaroidea, Rangomaramidae, *Nepaletricha*, new species, Oriental region, Thailand, Vietnam

### Introduction

Chandler (2002) founded the monotypic genus *Nepaletricha* for *N. mystica* Chandler from Nepal and no further records have appeared. *Nepaletricha* is one of the genera of Sciaroidea which have been difficult to assign to any existing family. The aim of the present work is to describe two additional Oriental species, to complete the morphological analysis and diagnostics of *Nepaletricha* and to briefly review and discuss its family assignment.

### Material and methods

The material from Thailand was collected and preserved in ethanol. We detached the abdomen from most of the specimens and macerated it in warm concentrated potassium hydroxide (KOH). We then detached the hypopygium beyond segment 8 or the tip of the female abdomen beyond segment 5 or 6. After washing in water and step-wise dehydration in alcohol, we placed the parts of the abdomen for a few seconds in clove oil (eugenol), after which we mounted them in “Euparal”, in many cases between two pieces of cover glass, which enables the specimen to be studied from both sides under a compound microscope. Such preparations are now attached to glass slides by a couple of strips of adhesive tape across their edges and are easily detached when needed. Other parts of the body have not been treated with potassium hydroxide, but after dehydration we mounted them as they were in “Euparal”. Many specimens are mounted as whole, even the hypopygium or the female terminalia attached. From some specimens we have detached the head so that it can be studied in frontal view. A few specimens are still preserved in alcohol. The specimens from Vietnam are dry and mounted on 0.15 mm minuten pins. Of these the abdomens of two males were detached and treated by potassium hydroxide; after washing in water these were placed in alcohol for study under a stereomicroscope. Later the abdomens were placed in glycerol in microvials, which are attached to the pins bearing the rest of the specimens. The head and abdomen of the male in PJC collection were detached and cleared in lactic acid;