



Waterfall-inhabiting Naucoridae (Hemiptera: Heteroptera) of southern India and Sri Lanka: *Pogonocaudina* Sites and Zettel, n. gen., and a review of *Diaphorocoris* with descriptions of two new species

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Abstract

A new genus of Naucoridae inhabiting a waterfall in Tamil Nadu state in southern India is described. *Pogonocaudina* Sites and Zettel NEW GENUS is diagnosed by a dense fringe of long hairs around the perimeter of the posterior abdominal segments, and by both males and females with a single segmented front tarsus with two pretarsal claws. Despite the lack of sexual dimorphism in the forelegs, this new genus is a member of the subfamily Laccocorinae, an assignment based on other characters consistent with this subfamily. Character states of this genus are compared with those of other Asian genera of Laccocorinae. The genus *Diaphorocoris* is reviewed and two new species are described here: *Diaphorocoris arunachalami* Sites and Zettel NEW SPECIES and *D. kiliyur* Sites and Zettel NEW SPECIES. Three species of *Diaphorocoris* are now known from southern India, and with one other species from Sri Lanka, a total of four species are now known in the genus. A taxonomic key is provided to distinguish all known waterfall-inhabiting Naucoridae in southern India and Sri Lanka.

Key words: *Pogonocaudina*, *Diaphorocoris*, new genus, new species, waterfall, Heteroptera, Naucoridae, Laccocorinae, India, Sri Lanka

Introduction

The family Naucoridae is represented worldwide by 36 known genera and 370 described species. These current figures are based in part on recent research in tropical Asia that has resulted in the discovery of several new genera. Specifically, the genus *Halmaheria*, which has attributes intermediate between those of Naucorinae and Cheirochelinae, was described from Indonesia (Zettel 2007); two species of *Nanonaucoris*, a new genus of small naucorids in the subfamily Naucorinae, were described from southern India (Zettel 2001); and six species of *Namtokocoris*, a new genus in the subfamily Laccocorinae, were described from the waterfalls of Indochina (Sites & Vitheepadit 2007).

The subfamily Laccocorinae originally was proposed by Stål (1876) as the division Laccocoraria and later elevated to the subfamily Laccocorinae by Montandon (1897b). Worldwide, this subfamily comprises nine described genera (Štys & Jansson 1988, Sites & Vitheepadit 2007) and 68 described species. Of these genera, *Temnocoris* is endemic and restricted to Madagascar, *Decarloa* to Hispaniola, *Interocoris* is known only from Mesoamerica, and *Aneurocoris* from Lake Tanganyika in tropical Africa. The remaining five genera (*Ctenipocoris*, *Diaphorocoris*, *Heleocoris*, *Laccocoris*, and *Namtokocoris*) are the only laccocorines recorded from India through Southeast Asia.

The genus *Diaphorocoris* is represented by only two described species, one each from Sri Lanka and southern India. No information has been published concerning the biology and ecology of this genus in the century that has elapsed since their original descriptions (Kirby 1891, Montandon 1908).