



## A new species of *Scolopocelis* Fieber (Hemiptera: Heteroptera: Anthocoridae: Scolopini) from the Korean Peninsula, with a key to the Palearctic species

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### Abstract

One new species of flower bug, *Scolopocelis koreanus* Jung & Yamada, **sp. nov.**, that inhabits shiitake mushroom farms, is described from Gangwon-do Province, South Korea. Diagnosis, description and biological notes of the new species are presented, along with a key to the species of *Scolopocelis* from the Palearctic Region.

**Key words:** *Scolopocelis*, new species, the Korean Peninsula, key to species, Palearctic

### Introduction

*Scolopocelis* Fieber, 1864 is a small genus in the tribe Scolopini (Hemiptera: Heteroptera: Anthocoridae). As other flower bugs that prey on small arthropods, their predaceous habits of *Scolopocelis* have attracted the attention of researchers who work in forest-ecosystems (Lattin 1999), especially as the predators of bark beetles and other tiny arthropods that occur under or between the barks of conifers or deciduous trees (cf., Carayon 1954a, 1956; Muralledharan & Ananthkrishnan 1974; Péricart 1996; Yamada & Hirowatari 2005). The genus is characterized by the body being elongated, flattened, and parallel-sided, the femur usually spinulate on the ventral surface, and the uradenia having an ampulla, a unique glandular opening on the male abdominal sternum IV (Carayon 1954b).

The genus contains 12 species distributed over the tropical and subtropical areas of the world and temperate zone in the Palearctic Region. In the eastern Asia, Yasunaga (2001) recorded *Scolopocelis pulchella* (Zetterstedt, 1838) and *S. parallela* (Motschulsky, 1863) from Hokkaido and the Ryukyus of Japan, respectively. The latter was known to occur also in Micronesia (southern Marianas and Palau), where it was collected under dead bark (Herring 1967). Additionally, Yamada & Hirowatari (2005) described two new species, *S. albodecussata* Yamada & Hirowatari, 2005 and *S. boninensis* Yamada & Hirowatari, 2005 from the subtropical regions of Japan, the Ryukyus and the Ogasawara Islands, respectively. In the Far East Russia, Kerzhner (1988) confirmed the occurrence of two species, *S. obscurella* (Zetterstedt, 1838) and *S. pulchella* in the province of Amur. Bu & Zheng (2001) recorded three species, *S. obscurella*, *S. parallela*, and *S. pulchella* from China. In our recent investigations, an undescribed species was found from the shiitake mushroom farms in Gangwon-do, Korea. This species is similar to *S. albodecussata*, but distinguishable from the latter as described below. Biological note of the new species and a key to the Palearctic species of the genus *Scolopocelis* are provided. Distributions of the species in the Palearctic Region are also given below.

All measurements in the text are given in millimeters. The adopted terms are mainly followed in Carayon (1972) and Muralledharan & Ananthkrishnan (1974). All type specimens are deposited in the Insect Collection of Seoul National University (SNU). Preparations of slide mounting specimens were followed in Jung *et al.* (2011). For comparison with the new species described below, one male specimen of *S. albodecussata* (collected from the Ryukyus, Japan) was examined in this study.