Platycleis galvagnii, a peculiar new bushcricket from Sardinia (Italy) (Insecta, Orthoptera, Tettigoniidae)

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Abstract

Platycleis galvagnii n. sp. from Sardinia (Italy) is described. In general habitus the new taxon is close to Platycleis sensu strictu, albeit very small in size. When looking at other characters the species does not seem to fit within one of the groups recognised within Platycleis s.l., but for the moment the species is placed in Platycleis s.s.. The species is characterised by a range of morphological and bioacoustic characters. Its real affiliations with other species within the Platycleis complex need to be established further. For the moment the species is known only from the type locality, Gennargentu mountain in the central part of Sardinia.

Key words: Platycleis galvagnii n. sp., bioacoustics, Gennargentu, Sardinia, Italia

Introduction


During orthopterological field expeditions in Sardinia in August 1999 and September 2002 we collected some specimens clearly belonging to Platycleis Fieber, 1853 s.l., but clearly differing in morphology and sound from other species. This species is described here as Platycleis galvagnii n. sp.

Material and methods

The collected specimens and related data are listed below. All the measurements were taken with a micrometric ocular on a stereomicroscope (Optech EMX-210-2).

Recordings were made with Tascam DA-P1 dat-recorder, with a Sennheiser microphone, module K6 with head ME40. The song files were sampled at 44.1 kHz and 16 bit and analysed with Bias Peak software. Also ultrasonic recordings were made through a batdetector (Petersson D240) with time expansion. This resulted in 8 bits 300kHz sampled fragments in the batdetector, played back with a 10 times lowered speed, with a frequency response of 1-12kHz (originally 10–120kHz).

The following abbreviations are used for the collections: MSNG: Museo civico di Storia Naturale G. Doria, Genoa, Italy; PFC: Paolo Fontana private collection, Isola Vicentina, Italy; FBC: Filippo Maria Buzzetti private collection, Arzignano, Italy; RKC: Roy M.J.C. Kleukers private collection, Leiden, The Netherlands.

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