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Article



Leucodellus Reuter, 1906 (Heteroptera: Miridae: Phylini): key to species, revised species composition and diagnosis

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Abstract

Leucodellus is redefined to include six species and an updated diagnosis is given for this phyline genus. Illustrated key and diagnoses for all species are provided. The genus *Leucophylus* Duwal, Yasunaga & Lee is synonymized with *Leucodellus* Reuter, 1906. *L. nathaliae* Josifov, 1974 is transferred to the genus *Compsidolon* Reuter, 1899.

Key words: taxonomy, key, synonym, revised combination

Introduction

The genus *Leucodellus* was erected by Reuter (1906) to accommodate the single species, *L. albidus*, described from three females collected during the Potanin's expedition to Sichuan (China) in 1893 (Obruchev 1953). According to the diagnosis provided by Reuter, *Leucodellus* is close to *Plagiognathus* Fieber, 1858 and *Icodema* Reuter, 1875, differing from both genera in the shorter first labial segment, length of tibial spines and shape of head. Since then, no new data on the genus have been published until the recent paper by Li & Liu (2007) on the genus *Leucodellus* from China.

Li & Liu (2007) redescribed the genus and type species based on both sexes, described one new species, synonymized the genus *Heterochlorillus* Putshkov, 1970 with *Leucodellus*, and transferred *Plagiognathus*. *pallescens* Zheng and Li, 1991 into it.

Duwal, Yasunaga & Lee (2010), evidently unaware of the publication by Li & Liu (2007) described the new monotypic genus *Leucophylus* from Nepal noting that the vesica of the new genus resembles that of *Heterochlorillus*.

The present paper provides revised generic assignments for *Leucodellus nathaliae* Josifov, 1974 and *Leucophylus variegatus* Duwal, Yasunaga & Lee, 2010, updated diagnosis and key to all species of the genus *Leucodellus*.

Material and methods

All specimens examined in the course of this study were assigned a unique specimen identifier (USI) and digitized in Planetary Biodiversity Inventory locality database. USI is printed as a matrix code label with an alphanumeric string and mounted on one pin with insect. USI numbers usually identify particular specimens. Their associated information can be obtained from the website of the Planetary Biodiversity Project on Plant Bugs (http:// research.amnh.org/pbi/heteropteraspeciespage/) and also can be accessed through the www.discoverlife.org website.

Dorsal habitus photos were made using a Nikon SMZ1500 stereomicroscope equipped with Nikon D-70 camera.