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A review of the taxonomic position of *Vesbius seyrigi* Villiers, 1970, with a description of two new species of *Peyrierocoris* Chłond & Junkiert, 2010 (Hemiptera: Heteroptera: Reduviidae: Harpactorinae)

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Abstract

Peyrierocoris seyrigi (Villiers, 1970) is redescribed and its taxonomic position is revised to accommodate *Vesbius seyrigi* Villiers, 1970, erroneously described under the generic name *Vesbius* Stål, 1865. Redescription and drawings of the dorsal habitus and characters of the male and female genitalia, as well as a drawing of the ovarian egg of *P. seyrigi* (Villiers, 1970), are given. Two new species, *P. gorczycai* sp. nov. and *P. herczeki* sp. nov., are described and illustrated with 21 figures.

Key words: Insecta, Hemiptera, Heteroptera, Reduviidae, Harpactorinae, *Peyrierocoris*, new synonym, new combination, new species, Madagascar

Introduction

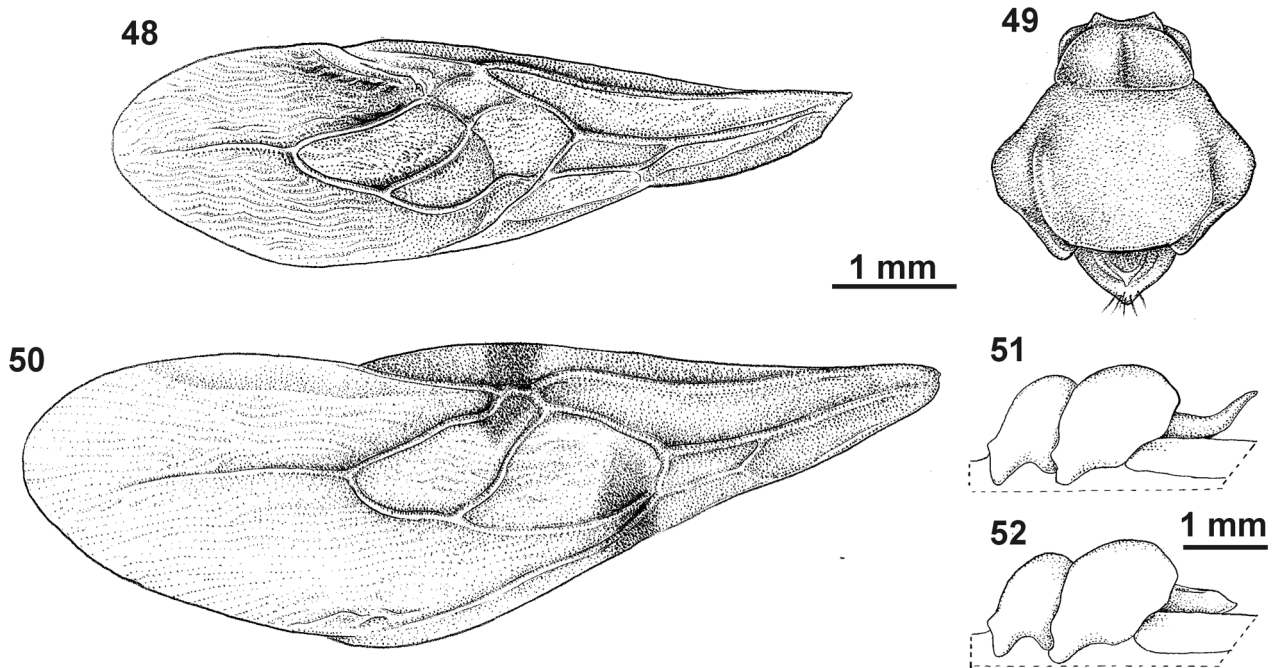
The subfamily Harpactorinae Amyot & Serville, 1843, with almost 300 genera and over 2000 species, is the largest subfamily in the family of assassin bugs (Reduviidae) (Maldonado Capriles, 1990). However, the representatives of this subfamily distributed in Madagascar have never been fully studied. There are only 23 genera of Harpactorinae recorded in Madagascar (Maldonado Capriles, 1990; Chłond & Junkiert, 2010; Chłond & Baňář, 2013) so far, and the newly described genus *Peyrierocoris* Chłond & Junkiert, 2010 belongs to a group of 11 genera distributed exclusively on the island.

Vesbius Stål, 1865 is a small genus with 16 species described so far. Almost all of the known species (except one) are distributed in South East Asia, and only *Vesbius seyrigi* described by Villiers in 1970 has been recorded from Madagascar. An examination of type specimens as well as numerous specimens deposited in European collections clearly shows that this species does not belong to *Vesbius* but to the *Peyrierocoris* Chłond & Junkiert, 2010 and the subgenus *Sicardicoris* Chłond & Guilbert, 2012; consequently, a new combination is proposed to accommodate *Vesbius seyrigi* Villiers, 1970.

Moreover, examination of unidentified materials from Madagascar deposited in the collection of the Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle, Paris, France, Národní muzeum, Praha, Czech Republic, and Koninklijk Museum voor Midden-Afrika, Tervuren, Belgium, revealed also specimens which belonged to two new species described in the present paper.

Material and methods

The type specimens are preserved in the collection of the Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle, Paris, France (MNHN). External structures of dry-mounted specimens were examined using a stereoscopic microscopes Olympus SZX9 and Leica MZ16. All drawings were made using a camera lucida. Dissected genitalia were boiled in 10% KOH for 5 minutes to remove soft tissue, rinsed in distilled water, and dissected under a stereoscopic



FIGURES 48–52. 48—*Vesbius purpureus* (Thunberg, 1783), hemelytra; 49—*Vesbius purpureus* (Thunberg, 1783), pronotum, dorsal view; 50—*Peyrierocoris* (S.) *seyrigi* (Villiers, 1970), hemelytra; 51—*Peyrierocoris* (S.) *gorczycai* **sp.nov.**, scutellum, lateral view. 52—*Peyrierocoris* (S.) *seyrigi* (Villiers, 1970), scutellum, lateral view.

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