Vietnamese Issidae (Hemiptera, Fulgoroidea): new taxa, new records and new distribution data

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Abstract

An updated list of Issidae known from Vietnam is provided. Two new species, one from the genus Darwallia Gnezdilov, 2010, and another one from a new genus are described from the Hòn Bà massif in Central Vietnam. A key to species of the genus Darwallia is provided. Gelastrella hainanensis Ran et Liang, 2006 is placed in synonymy under Thabena litaoensis Yang, 1994. This last taxon and the genus Gergithoides Schumacher, 1915 are recorded for the first time for Vietnamese fauna. New records in Vietnam are given for Tetrica philo Fennah, 1978 and Gergithus iguchii Matsumura, 1916.

Key words: Vietnam, Annamite Range, taxonomy, new genus, new species, new records, new synonymy

Introduction

Planthoppers of Vietnam remain very poorly known and studied. The main source of taxonomic information is the monograph by Fennah (1978) who provided the first general contribution to the Vietnamese fauna, but it mainly concerns the northern part of the country. Fennah (1978) listed totally 106 species and subspecies in 78 genera of 16 families of Fulgoroidea. Recent field collects, in collaboration with local authorities, allowed to report more than 200 planthopper species for Vietnam (FLOW: Bourgoin, 2014), however it is far to cover what should be the real diversity of this group in Vietnam.

This is particularly the case of the family Issidae Spinola, 1839 even if it started to attract recent attention with the descriptions of some new taxa (Constant & Pham, 2011; Gnezdilov & Constant, 2012; Gnezdilov, 2013a). To complete the previously 19 species inventoried in Vietnam, we describe here two new taxa of the tribe Issini Spinola, 1839: one new genus with a new species and another new species of recently erected genus Darwallia Gnezdilov, 2010. We also provide additional data on distribution for 4 other species (2 of them are new for Vietnam) collected during two recent field trips to the southern part of the Anamitic Range between Dalat and Nha Trang, centre of Vietnam, and from old materials deposited in the MNHN collections. With this study the Issidae of Vietnam count now 25 species in 14 genera.

The Annamite Range is a long mountain chain over 1100 km long covering about 23 millions hectares with highlights peaks over 2500 m. It extends along the border of Vietnam and Laos, running parallel to the Vietnamese coast on the East side of the Mekong River. It is mainly covered by rainforest and is home to a remarkable and highly endemic fauna. Two main spots were targeted: during a first field trip in 2008, the Bi-Doup mountain and its neighbouring Hòn-Giao mountain, both part of the Bi Doup Nui Ba National Park, one of the largest preserved area in Vietnam (66,067 ha) and in 2013, the Hòn-Bà massif (19,046 ha) a smaller National Reserve. The Hòn-Bà massif is situated at the eastern end of a long mountainous ridge of some 30 km starting on the east side of the Hòn-Giao mountain. Both sites are covered with primary and secondary forest usually absent at these altitudes (800–2000 m) due to strong anthropic pressures and belong to the Southern Annamites montane rain forests...
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