

Description of a new species belonging to the genus *Leofa* Distant (Hemiptera: Cicadellidae: Deltocephalinae: Stenometopiini) from India*

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Abstract

A new species, *Leofa mushroomi*, belonging to the genus *Leofa* Distant (Hemiptera: Cicadellidae: Deltocephalinae: Stenometopiini) from India is described and illustrated. A key to the Indian species of *Leofa* is included.

Key words: *Leofa mushroomi*, new species, *Leofa*, Stenometopiini, Deltocephalinae, Cicadellidae, Hemiptera

Introduction

The genus *Leofa* Distant includes brachypterous grass-feeding leafhoppers, which are stoutly built, small to medium sized, and with different shades of brown and black spots on exposed abdominal terga. Distant (1918) erected the genus *Leofa*, with *Leofa mysorensis* as its type species, and described five species: *L. mysorensis*, *L. sanguinalis*, *L. unicolor*, *L. affinis*, and *L. pedestris*. Pruthi (1930) described a new species, *L. parwala*. Viraktamath and Viraktamath (1992) described four new species: *L. truncata*, *L. neela*, *L. naga*, and *L. robusta*. They synonymised *L. affinis*, *L. unicolor*, *L. pedestris*, and *L. parwala* with *L. mysorensis*. Thus the genus *Leofa* so far contains five species, all from the Indian subcontinent. The new species, described in this paper, brings the total to six.

Specimens of the leafhopper described here were collected in Andhra Pradesh, India. Specimens were handled and prepared, and the male genitalia dissected, following the methods of Knight (1965). Terminology in the descriptions is that of Blocker and Triplehorn (1985). The scales of magnification, which are indicated on the right side of the figures, represents 0.1 mm.