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Notes on the subfamily Salyavatinae (Hemiptera: Reduviidae) from Vietnam, with the description of a new genus

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Abstract

The Vietnamese genera and species of the assassin bug subfamily Salyavatinae are revised. Five species in four genera are recognized, described or redescribed, illustrated, and keyed. One new monotypic genus, *Rhachicephala* **gen. nov.**, is established, with *R. dilatibia* **sp. nov** as the type species.

Key words: Reduviidae, Salyavatinae, Vietnam, new genus, new species, key

Introduction

Salyavatinae is a small subfamily in the family Reduviidae with about 100 known species in 15 genera worldwide (Distant 1904; Hsiao & Ren 1981; Maldonado-Capriles 1990; Putshkov & Putshkov 1985, 1996). The members of this subfamily can be easily distinguished from other reduviids by the following characters: body of medium size, somewhat slender and posteriorly gradually slightly widened, dull light brown and always mottled with pale spots; rostrum short and robust; head and pronotum sometimes with long spines; scutellum subtriangular and spinously produced apically; hemelytron without discal cell; apical portions of fore and mid tibiae generally with spongy furrow; fore tibiae compressed and dilated in general; fore tarsus two-segmented. The Salyavatinae occur in the tropical areas of the Ethiopian (7 genera), Oriental (8 genera) and Neotropical Regions (1 genus). Four species in three genera of the subfamily Salyavatinae have been known from Vietnam previously (Hsiao et al 1981; Putshkov & Putshkov 1996; Truong 2003). In a study of Vietnamese reduviids, an undescribed genus has been found and is described here.

Material and methods

Male genitalia were soaked in hot 10% potassium hydroxide solution for approximately five minutes to remove soft tissue, rinsed in distilled water, and dissected under a Motic binocular dissecting microscope. All drawings were traced with the aid of a camera lucida. Dissected genitalia were placed in vials with glycerin and pinned under the corresponding specimens. Morphological terminology mainly follows that of Lent and Wygodzinsky (1979). Measurements were obtained using a calibrated micrometer. Body length was measured from the apex of the head to the tip of the hemelytron or abdomen in resting position. Maximal width of the pronotum was measured across the humeral angles. The specimens examined in the present paper are pre-

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