



Revision of the Eurybrachidae (XII). The Oriental genus *Nicidus* Stål, 1858 (Hemiptera: Fulgoromorpha)

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Abstract

The Oriental genus *Nicidus* Stål, 1858 (Hemiptera, Fulgoromorpha, Eurybrachidae) is redescribed and reviewed. Male and female genitalia are illustrated and photos of habitus, distribution maps and biological data are provided with the description of the species. Two species are placed in the genus: *N. fusconebulosus* Stål, 1858 and *N. stali* Schmidt, 1911. An identification key to the species is proposed. Lectotypes are designated for *N. stali* and *Kandiana lewisi* Distant, 1892.

Key words: Eurybrachini, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Borneo

Introduction

This paper is the twelfth of a series intended to revise the family Eurybrachidae. It is the fourth one dealing with the Oriental fauna (Constant, 2006d, 2007a, b), the others dealing with the Australian (Constant, 2005c, 2006a, b, c) and Afrotropical faunas (Constant, 2004, 2005a, b, 2007c). The study starts with the necessary preliminary one-by-one revision and redefinition of the genera and is aimed at proposing a more natural classification for the family. This will also allow tentative understanding of the phylogeny and zoogeography of the family.

The genus *Nicidus* Stål, 1858 is one of the genera of the tribe Eurybrachini Schmidt, 1908 defined by the following main distinctive features: (1) clavus open, (2) claval veins not fused in clavus, (3) infra-ocular spine present. This tribe is restricted to the Oriental region and contains five genera (Schmidt, 1908; Metcalf, 1956): *Eurybrachys* Guérin-Méneville, 1834, *Messena* Stål, 1861, *Nicidus* Stål, 1858, *Purusha* Distant, 1906 and *Thessitus* Walker, 1862.

Stål (1858) created the genus *Nicidus* for a new species from Ceylon (presently Sri Lanka), *N. fusconebulosus* Stål, 1858. He stated that the genus is close to *Eurybrachys* Guérin-Méneville, 1834, but strongly differs in the shape of the head and tegmina. Distant (1892) described the genus *Kandiana* for one new species from Ceylon, *Kandiana lewisi* Distant, 1892. He stated that the genus is close to *Messena* Stål, 1861, but has tegmina long and narrow, much longer than the hind wings, and six spines on the hind tibiae. Melichar (1903) redescribed *Nicidus*, proposed *Kandiana* as a synonym and agreed with Distant's (1892) view that the genus is close to *Messena*. The genus was described again by Distant (1906) who also proposed a key to the Oriental genera of Eurybrachidae including *Nicidus* with the following diagnostic characters: (1) eyes spinose beneath, (2) wings not broader than tegmina, (3) face distinctly broader than pronotum, (4) tegmina very long and narrow, very much longer than wings, (5) apex of wings obtusely subangulate, not rounded, (6) hind tibiae with six spines. Schmidt (1908) placed *Nicidus* in the tribe Eurybrachini Schmidt, 1908, a view followed by Met-