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**Annotated check-list, generic key and new species of Old World Deltocephalini leafhoppers with nomenclatorial changes in the *Deltocephalus* group and other Deltocephalinae (Hemiptera, Auchenorrhyncha, Cicadellidae)**

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## Abstract

An annotated check-list and generic key to Old World members of the grassland leafhopper tribe Deltocephalini are provided. The *Deltocephalus* group of genera are discussed and one of the included genera, *Recilia* Edwards, is revised to include only two species, *coronifer* (Marshall) (= *coroniceps* Kirschbaum) and *raoi* (Dash & Viraktamath), **comb. nov.** (from *Deltocephalus* (*Recilia*)). All other species of *Recilia* are placed in *Maiestas* Distant, 1917, resulting in several new combinations (see species lists under *Maiestas*) and the following new junior synonyms of *Maiestas*: *Togacephalus* Matsumura 1940 **syn. nov.**, *Inazuma* Ishihara, 1953, **syn. nov.**, *Inemadara* Ishihara, 1953, **syn. nov.**, and *Insulanus* Linnavuori, 1960a, **syn. nov.**

The following additional new nomenclatorial changes are proposed (all new combinations from *Deltocephalus*): Athysanini: *Allophleps eques* (Jacobi), **comb. nov.**, *Bampurius melichari* (Distant), **comb. nov.**, *Monobazus fuscovarius* (Distant), **comb. nov.**, *Okaundua ornatula* (Melichar) **comb. nov.**; Paralimnini: *Wakaya angustus* (Melichar), **comb. nov.**, *Wakaya severa* (Melichar), **comb. nov.**, *Vilargus campanus* (Naudé), **comb. nov.**, *Platentomus aristida* (Cogan), **comb. nov.**; Stenometopiini: *Stirellus coloratus* (Distant), **comb. nov.**, *Stirellus laetus* (Melichar), **comb. nov.**, *Stirellus rufolineatus* (Melichar), **comb. nov.**, *Deltocephalus alacer* Stål, 1859, junior synonym of *Hecalus porrectus* (Walker, 1858), **syn. nov.**, *Thamnotettix prabha* Pruthi, 1930: 62, junior synonym of *Maiestas maculata* (Pruthi, 1930: 58-59), **syn. nov.** *Polyamia drepananiforma* Zhang & Duan, 2004, junior synonym of *Matsumuratettix hiroglyphicus* Matsumura, 1914, **syn. nov.**, *Scaphoideus seychellensis* Distant, 1917, junior synonym of *Maiestas vagans* (Distant, 1917), **syn. nov.**, *Recilia dolabra* Kramer, August 1962 and *R. jordanica* Dlabola, 1965, junior synonyms of *Maiestas angustisecta* (Linnavuori, 20th August 1962), **syn. nov.**, *Deltocephalus immaculatus* Melichar, 1914, status revised from *Deltocephalus porticus immaculatus* Melichar.

In addition, *Pingellus* Evans (1966) and *Occiplanocephalus* Evans (1942) are transferred from Deltocephalini to Athysanini (new placements) and three new species (*Maiestas dashi* **sp. nov.**, *M. knighti* **sp. nov.** and *Paramesodes iraniensis* **sp. nov.**) are described with figures provided for these and other species.

**Key words:** Nomenclature, taxonomy, morphology, *Recilia*, *Maiestas*, *Paramesodes*, identification, Percy Sladen Trust Expedition

## Introduction

Members of the leafhopper tribe Deltocephalini are some of the most abundant grassland leafhoppers throughout the World. In the New World 19 Neotropical genera were treated by Linnavuori (1959) and 18 and 25 Nearctic genera were treated by Oman (1949)<sup>1\*</sup> and Blocker *et al.* (1995), respectively. In the current work 16 Old World genera are recognised (see checklist) and a key provided for their separation. The tribe is distinguished only in the male by the fused aedeagus and connective (Figs 2h, 2j), linear connective (Fig. 3j), fully membranous Xth segment (Kamatani, 1999: 79), and usually long style basal articulating arm (Fig. 2f). In two other tribes that have the connective arms apically apposed (Paralimnini and Chiasmini), the arms are frequently more loop-shaped and the aedeagus and connective are not fused (see Fig. 54j). All three tribes have the clypellus parallel margined (Fig. 9b) or slightly tapered apically (Figs 25b, 54b) as opposed to being expanded apically in some other tribes.

There have been considerable differences of opinion in the Old World literature with regards to the definition of some Deltocephalini genera, hereafter referred to as the '*Deltocephalus* group'. In particular, *Recilia* Edwards has been treated either as a subgenus of *Deltocephalus* (Ribaut, 1952, Knight, 1975 and Dash & Viraktamath, 1998) or as a separate genus (Kramer, 1962, Kwon & Lee, 1979, Day & Fletcher, 1994 and Kamitani, 1999) and *Inemadara* Ishihara, *Insulanus* Linnavuori, *Inazuma* Ishihara and *Togacephalus*

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1. \* Oman (1949, fig. 1) placed the Nearctic Deltocephalinae into four un-named groups, two of these (with "Linear connective" and aedeagus either fused or separated from the connective) are equivalent to the Old World tribes Deltocephalini and Paralimnini respectively, although in the latter the connective is more 'racket' or 'v' shaped (Fig. 54j). Hamilton (1975) downgraded Deltocephalini to a subtribe but this has not generally been followed by other authors. See also Webb & Heller, 1990: 2-3.