



Two new species of the genus *Bhatia* (Hemiptera: Cicadellidae) from south India with new locality records of other species

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Abstract

Bhatia radhamaniae sp. nov. (Karnataka: Sirsi) and *Bhatia serrata* sp. nov. (Kerala: Nilambur) are described and illustrated. The genus *Bhatia* is redefined. A key to species of *Bhatia* from the Indian subcontinent is also provided. New locality records for *Bhatia distanti* Zhang & Webb, *Carvaka kumari* Viraktamath, *Indokutara conica* Viraktamath, *Kotabala adiveyyai* Viraktamath and *Parohinka longiseta* (Melichar) are given.

Key words: Homoptera, Auchenorrhyncha, morphology, distribution, identification

Introduction

The Oriental leafhopper genus *Bhatia* Distant belongs to the tribe Drabescini (Deltocephalinae). In their revision of the Old World Selenocephalinae (now treated as junior synonym of Deltocephalinae by Anufriev and Emeljanov (1988), Dietrich and Rakitov (2002) and Dietrich (2005)), Zhang and Webb (1996) dealt with eight species of *Bhatia* including two, *B. olivacea* (Melichar) and *B. distanti* Zhang & Webb, from the Indian subcontinent (Sri Lanka), of which the latter was later recorded from south India (Viraktamath & Srinivasa, 2006). During recent collections of insects under the ICAR Network Project on Insect Biosystematics, a series of specimens of the tribe Drabescini were collected, including two new species of *Bhatia* from Western Ghats region of south India. Using the key to genera of Paraboloponini (now considered junior synonym of Drabescini, see Dmitriev (2004)) of Viraktamath (1998) these species key to *Bhatia* with difficulty as they lack the truncate caudal margin of the male pygophore found in the other two species of the genus from the Indian subcontinent. Descriptions of the new species, together with locality records of the other recently collected Drabescini, are given here.

The institutions and their abbreviations used where the material studied is deposited are as follows.

BMNH The Natural History Museum, London, United Kingdom

IARI National Pusa Collection, Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi, India

UASB University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore, India

Genus *Bhatia* Distant

Bhatia Distant, 1908: 357; Zhang & Webb, 1996: 12.

Type species: *Eutettix olivacea* Melichar, by original designation.

Greenish ochraceous to brown, with dark brown irregular markings on head and thorax. Forewing smoky, with brown spots on apices of claval veins and clavus.