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Description of a new species of genus *Epidaus* Stål (Hemiptera: Reduviidae: Harpactorinae) from China, with a key to Chinese species

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Abstract

Epidaus insularis Zhang, Zhao, Cao & Cai, **sp. nov.** is described and illustrated from Hainan Province, China. A key to all eight Chinese species, including the new one, of the genus *Epidaus* Stål is provided.

Key words: *Epidaus*, taxonomy, China, new species, Reduviidae, key, distribution

Introduction

Epidaus Stål is a medium-sized genus of the reduviid subfamily Harpactorinae with 24 described species in the world (Maldonado-Capriles 1990, Truong *et al.* 2006). This genus was established by Stål (1859) with the Philippine species *Zelus transverses* Burmeister, 1835 as type species. The members of this genus can be easily distinguished by a combination of the following: (1) body elongate; (2) head slightly shorter than pronotum, and postocular part nearly twice as long as anteocular part; (3) antenna with a spine or tubercle behind its base; (4) pronotum with two spines or tubercles at middle of posterior part, lateral angles with spines or tubercles; (5) fore femora thicker than other femora, mid and hind femora nearly similarly thickened.

Most of the species in this genus are distributed in the Oriental Region except the two species in the Palaearctic Region. Seven species, *Epidaus atrispinus* Distant, *E. bicolor* Distant, *E. famulus* (Stål), *E. longispinus* Hsiao, *E. nebulo* (Stål), *E. sexspinus* Hsiao, and *E. tuberosus* Yang, have been reported from China (Yang 1940; China 1940; Hoffman 1944; Hsiao 1979; Hsiao & Ren 1981; Maldonado-Capriles 1990; Putshkov & Putshkov 1996). Our recent examination of Chinese reduviids from Hainan islands resulted in recognition of a new species of this genus herein described.

The biology of the species in this genus is poorly known. Some species can be attracted to lights.

Materials and methods

This study is based on the material preserved in the Entomological Museum of the China Agricultural University, Beijing, China (CAU). Male terminalia of the reduviids were soaked in hot 10% KOH solution for approximately 5 minutes to remove soft tissue, rinsed in distilled water, and dissected under a Motic binocular dissecting microscope. Dissected genitalia were placed in vials with glycerin and pinned under the corresponding specimens. All drawings were traced with the aid of a camera lucida. Measurements, in millimeters, were obtained using a calibrated micrometer. Morphological terminology mainly follows that of Lent and Wygodzinsky (1979).

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