Two new genera and two new species of Oriental dictyopharid planthoppers (Hemiptera: Fulgoromorpha: Dictyopharidae) from Sri Lanka and southern India

ZHI-SHUN SONG & AI-PING LIANG

Key Laboratory of Zoological Systematics and Evolution, Institute of Zoology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing 100101, China.
E-mail: songzs@ioz.ac.cn

Abstract

Two new Oriental dictyopharid genera are described from Sri Lanka and southern India, respectively. Truncatomeria gen. nov. is established based on a single known species from Sri Lanka. Its type species, Dictyophora [sic] viridistigma Kirby, 1891 was first described in Dictyophora and then assigned to Centromeria Stål by Distant (1906). However, it bears many different characters from other Centromeria species and should be transferred to a new genus. The second new genus, Paradictyopharina gen. nov. is established for two new species, P. parallela sp. nov. and P. spina sp. nov., both from southern India. The new genus is externally similar to Dictyopharina Melichar, but can be distinguished from the latter by the differences of its mesonotum, fore femora, hind tibiae and aedeagus. Photographs of the adults of all species are presented. Descriptions of the two genera and their included species are provided together with structural illustrations.

Key words: Fulgoroidea, new genus, new species, Oriental region

Introduction

The planthopper family Dictyopharidae is one of the largest families of 28 Fulgoromorpha families currently recognized, including nearly 760 described species in 159 genera (not 400 genera as stated by Song & Liang 2006a), widely distributed in most parts of the world, especially in the tropical regions such as South America, Oriental region and the East Indies (Metcalf 1946; Bourgoin 2008).

While reviewing Centromeria Stål, 1870 species in the Oriental region (Song & Liang, in prep.), we suggested that C. viridistigma (Kirby 1891) was placed incorrectly in the genus. The species was first described as Dictyophora by Kirby (1891), and then assigned to Centromeria by Distant (1906). It has been considered a Centromeria species for more than a century by reason of the body color and the frons with median carina very strongly produced, similar to Centromeria species. Based on examination of type material and morphological comparative studies, the species should be transferred to a new genus because it bears many different characters from true Centromeria species.

The authors have redescribed the genus Dictyopharina Melichar, 1903 in the Oriental region and added four new species from southern China and Southeast Asia (Song & Liang 2006a, b). While examining specimens identified as D. viridissima Melichar, 1903 from Sri Lanka and India, we found several specimens representing two new species in a new genus.

In the present paper, two new Oriental dictyopharid genera are described from Sri Lanka and southern India, respectively. The first new genus, Truncatomeria gen. nov. is established based on a single known species, Dictyophora [sic] viridistigma Kirby from Sri Lanka. The second new genus, Paradictyopharina gen. nov. is established for two new species, P. parallela sp. nov. and P. spina sp. nov., both from southern India.