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urn:lsid:zoobank.org:pub:E3B1756C-575E-47FD-8624-38AC10BA04B3

Revision of the African genus *Neomacrocoris* (Hemiptera: Heteroptera: Nepomorpha: Naucoridae)

ROBERT W. SITES & AARON Y. MBOGHO

Enns Entomology Museum, Division of Plant Sciences, University of Missouri, Columbia, Missouri 65211, U.S.A.

Email: sitesr@missouri.edu

Abstract

The genus *Neomacrocoris* is endemic to Africa and represented by 12 known species with scant mention in the literature. Presented here is an annotated list of the species summarizing the literature and providing available diagnostic information, illustrations, known repositories of types, and a taxonomic key. Also presented here are descriptions of four new species of *Neomacrocoris* from South Africa, Tanzania, and Uganda. *Macrocoris transvaalensis* Distant is transferred to *Neomacrocoris*. *N. handlirschi* var. *armatus* Poisson 1948 is synonymized with *N. handlirschi handlirschi* (Montandon 1909). Further, designated here are a neotype for *N. usambaricus* Montandon and lectotypes for *N. dubius* Poisson, *N. handlirschi* (Montandon), *N. hungerfordi* Poisson, *N. nanus* Poisson, *N. parviceps* (Montandon), and *N. transvaalensis*.

Key words: Nepomorpha, Naucoridae, *Neomacrocoris*, Africa, aquatic Heteroptera, faunistics, revision, new species, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda

Introduction

The aquatic bug family Naucoridae comprises five currently recognized subfamilies (Štys and Jansson 1988); the nominate subfamily Naucorinae comprises nine genera of questionable monotypy on six continents. Two of these genera, *Macrocoris* and *Neomacrocoris*, are endemic to the African continent.

Neomacrocoris was proposed by Montandon (1913) to include several species of *Macrocoris* that he considered not to belong to that genus. The known fauna of *Neomacrocoris* presently comprises 12 species with various ranges that extend from the Ivory Coast in West Africa, east to Sudan, and south to South Africa. Four of these species were described from 1895 to 1913 and the remainder more recently during the middle 1900s. The latter descriptions were mostly by Raymond Poisson in treatments of the aquatic Heteroptera fauna resulting from expeditions to various national parks and other areas in Africa.

Presented here is a revision of *Neomacrocoris* in which the scattered literature is brought together and summarized with an annotated list of the species, including descriptions of two new species from Tanzania, one from Uganda, and one from South Africa. *Macrocoris transvaalensis* Distant is transferred to *Neomacrocoris* and a lectotype designated. Lectotypes also are designated for *N. dubius* Poisson, *N. handlirschi* (Montandon), *N. hungerfordi* Poisson, *N. nanus* Poisson, and *N. parviceps* (Montandon), and a neotype for *N. usambaricus* Montandon. *N. handlirschi* var. *armatus* Poisson is synonymized with *N. handlirschi handlirschi* (Montandon).

Materials and methods

Specimens, including types, from various European, African, and American museums were examined (see Museum and Collection list below and Acknowledgments). In addition, recent extensive sampling throughout Tanzania and western Democratic Republic of Congo provided many fresh specimens of five species for examination. All of these recent Tanzanian and Congolese specimens were collected using aquatic nets to sweep through submerged vegetation along shorelines and bank undercuts of streams, ponds, and pools. Photographs of