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***Myrmicella*, a new genus of Harpactorinae (Hemiptera: Heteroptera: Reduviidae) from Madagascar**

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Abstract

Myrmicella verticospinosa **gen. et sp. nov.**, is described, based on four specimens (two males and two females) collected in south-west Madagascar (Zombitse-Vohibasia National Park and Isalo National Park). Three specimens have been collected by sifting the leaf litter, one female was collected using yellow pan traps. Genitalia of both sexes are described and illustrated.

Key words: Heteroptera, Reduviidae, Harpactorinae, Madagascar, new genus, new species, description, sifting, yellow pan traps

Introduction

The fauna of Reduviidae of Madagascar is very rich and diverse, and is associated with a high biodiversity and high level of endemism. Nevertheless, only some subfamilies of this family are well known or partially studied (Villiers 1950, 1964, 1968, 1971, 1975, 1979). Given that only 25 genera of subfamily Harpactorinae have been described in Madagascar so far (Maldonado Capriles, 1990; Chłond & Junkiert, 2010; Chłond & Guilbert, 2012), we can assume that many genera and species still remains undescribed. Fauna of leaf-litter reduviids of Madagascar is generally poorly known; many taxa will be described mainly from the subfamilies Ectrichiinae and Physoderinae. From examination of unidentified materials collected during sifting of leaf litter in Madagascar and deposited in the Collection of the Moravian Museum Brno, amazing micropterous specimens belonging to a new genus of Harpactorinae were found. In the present paper, a description of the new monotypic genus is provided as well as drawings of male and female genitalia. The distribution of a new species *M. verticospinosa* is also provided.

Material and methods

All specimens were collected during the Madagascan expedition January–February 2013; for details of the collecting method, see species description. Color photographs were made by a Leica MSV266. SEM photographs were provided by a SEM JEOL 6380 LV. External structures of dry-mounted specimens as well as male and female genitalia were examined using stereoscopic microscopes Olympus SZH10 and SZP 11 ZOOM. All drawings were made using a camera lucida. Female genitalia were boiled in 10% KOH for 5 minutes to remove soft tissue, rinsed in distilled water, and dissected under the stereoscopic microscope. Male genitalia were briefly macerated in 15% KOH, then removed to distilled water and subsequently to glycerol. Specimens are card-mounted, dissected genitalia are stored in PVC microvials with glycerol, attached on the pin with dissected specimen.

Under the term ‘dorsal ocular index’ we understand the ratio minimum width of vertex to maximum width of