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More than a century old '*Platycleis Kraussi* case' finally resolved (Tettigoniidae: Platycleidini)

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Abstract

In this paper we deal with a not well known orthopteran species described from Croatia—Krauss' bush-cricket, *Platycleis kraussi* Padewieth, 1900 with unknown type series. After systematic field studies the species was found only three kilometres from Padewieth's *locus typicus*, in Francikovac near Senj (Croatia). It was found to be the same as *Bicolorana kuntzeni* (Ramme, 1931), thus *B. kuntzeni* (Ramme, 1931) **syn. nov.** became a synonym of *Bicolorana kraussi* (Padewieth, 1900) **comb. nov.** which is moved into genus *Bicolorana* Zeuner, 1941. Since the type was lost a neotype of *B. kraussi* is designated and deposited in the Naturalis Biodiversity Center (Leiden, the Netherlands). Historical review of this species' taxonomy is given. An improved description is presented showing some variability of certain morphological characters. The morphology, morphometrics and bioacoustic data of the species are compared with those of the closely related *B. bicolor* (Philippi, 1830) and *Modestana modesta* (Fieber, 1853). *Vichetia helleri* **syn. nov.** is regarded a synonym of *Bicolorana bicolor*. The literature and new distribution data are gathered and presented.

Key words: Krauss' bush-cricket, Croatia, rediscovery, re-description, *Bicolorana*, neotype

Introduction

Krauss' bush-cricket, *Platycleis kraussi* Padewieth, 1900 was described by Croatian naturalist and natural goods trader Franjo Dobiaš (under pseudonym M. Padewieth—name and birth surname of his wife Matilda, respectively (Milošević 2001)) from Sveti Križ near Senj (settlement in Senjska Draga gorge) (Padewieth, 1900). The original description (Figure 1) is in German. Here, the original text from Padewieth (1900) is also given translated into English.

“[*Platycleis*] *Kraussi* m[ihi]. n[ova]. sp[ecies]. (syn: *P. Padewiethi* Krauss i[n] litt.) Sv. Križ
Platycleis Kraussi m. n. sp. is the closest species to *Plat. modesta*. ♂. The cerci are similarly forked, but they are wider towards apex and inner tooth is stronger and more horizontally placed than in *P. modesta*. The outer tooth is very dull. Last third of cerci is black—and *P. modesta* has entire cerci brownish. Wings are two times longer than in *P. modesta* and M-area of tegmina is dark with square markings, while *P. modesta* has triangular-shaped black markings and there is smaller number of them than in *P. Kraussi*. Lateral margins of paranota do not have clear white edges, but they are blurry.

In *P. Roeseli* cerci are forked behind the base, so every cercus looks longer and thicker and only the apex is dark coloured. Internal and outer teeth are very sharp. *P. Roeseli* has much longer tegmina and they are without black markings.

♀ *P. Kraussi* has ovipositor shorter than *P. modesta* and longer than *P. Roeseli*. The tegmina of the new species are longer than in the other two species.

It lives on humid grasslands and fields but not together with the other two species.