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New species of *Nothybus* Rondani, 1875 (Diptera: Nothybidae) from Vietnam with a key to Vietnamese species of the genus

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Abstract

This study is part of an ongoing series of studies on the Vietnamese cyclorrhaphous fauna. One new species from Vietnam, *Nothybus kuznetsovorum* sp.nov., is described and figured. A key to species of *Nothybus* is provided. Genital structures are described and figured.

Key words: Diptera, Nothybidae, *Nothybus*, new species

Introduction

Nothybidae Frey, 1927 is a monogeneric family containing a single genus, *Nothybus* Rondani, 1875, that is distributed in the Oriental region. The generic name *Nothybus* was proposed by Rondani (1875) for *N. longithorax* Rondani, 1875 from Borneo. Osten-Sacken (1882) redescribed and listed *Nothybus* as a genus of Tylidae (Micropezidae). They are medium-sized to large acalyprate flies, ranging from 5.5 mm to 14.0 mm in body size. The genus *Nothybus* includes 9 described species to date. *Nothybus longicollis*, the first described species of the genus, was described from Sarawak (Malaysian Borneo) by Walker (1856), who placed this new species in the genus *Cardiacephala* Macquart, 1843. Van der Wulp (1896) described *Nothybus biguttatus* from Java. Brunetti (1913) described *N. kempfi* from India in the genus *Psila*. Bezzi (1917) described *N. triguttatus* from the Philippines (Mindanao). Enderlein (1922) transferred *Psila kempfi* into the genus *Nothybus* and described two new species, *N. lineifer* and *N. sumatranus*, both from northeastern Sumatra. He also expressed doubt that the genus belongs to Tylidae. De Meijere (1924) described *N. decorus* from Sumatra. Frey (1927) wrote that the *Nothybus* position was doubtful and established for it the new family Nothybidae. Hennig (1936) treated *Nothybus* as a genus with unresolved status. Aczel (1955) erected Nothybidae as a “new” family, and also placed it in a new superfamily, Nothyboidea. He proposed the hypothesis that the nothybid flies are extant descendants of some ancestor of recent acalyprate flies. Frey (1958) described *N. acrobates* from Laos. Steyskal (1977) noted that the type locality of *N. acrobates* is possibly Laos or North Vietnam. The collector of the type material is Vitalis de Salvaza. We checked descriptions of other new species collected by him, and they were all from Laos. Steyskal (1977) included all nine described species in his Oriental catalogue and noted that *Nothybus longithorax* Rondani, 1875 is likely a synonym of *Nothybus longicollis* (Walker, 1856). In this study we treat these two species as separate. Nothybidae remains a family with uncertain position up to date, but formerly it was included in the superfamily Diopsoidea (McAlpine, 1989).

The Vietnamese fauna of the family includes four species. One of them is described in this paper as new. Two specimens of *N. kempfi* are known from North Vietnam (Papp et al., 2006). *Nothybus sumatranus* was reported for Vietnam by Paiero and Marshall (2014). *N. biguttatus* is reported for the first time for Vietnam.