

Linzer biol. Beitr.	30/2	601-604	31.12.1998
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A remarkable new *Timasius* DISTANT 1909 (Heteroptera: Hebridae) from Taiwan

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A b s t r a c t : *Timasius wangi* sp. n. is described from Taiwan. The new species belongs to the *T. distanti* species group, which is endemic to Taiwan. *Timasius wangi* sp.n. differs strongly from all congeners in the male genitalia.

K e y w o r d s : Heteroptera, Hebridae, *Timasius*, new species, Taiwan.

Introduction

ANDERSEN (1981) revised the genus *Timasius* DISTANT 1909, including all fifteen presently known species. The genus is distributed in the Oriental Realm, from India to Taiwan and Java, with a centre of diversity in the Southeast Asian mainland. Undescribed species are also known from Borneo (material in the Natural History Museum, Vienna), but the genus is apparently not present in the Philippine Islands. ANDERSEN (1981) divided the genus in six species groups; one of them, the *T. distanti* group, contains three species (*T. distanti*, *T. minamikawai*, *T. lundbladi*) endemic in Taiwan, which all were described by MIYAMOTO (1965).

Two series of a *Timasius* species were sent to the author by Mr. Liang-Jong Wang (Taipei). The new species differs essentially from all other *Timasius* species in the bizarre structures of the male genitalia (see comparative notes and Fig. 5). However, based on external characters (especially the depressions and posterior tooth of the buccula), the new species is included in the *T. distanti* species group.

***Timasius wangi* sp. n. (Figs. 1-5)**

T y p e m a t e r i a l : holotype (male): "TAIWAN: Taipei\ Wulai\ 11.6.1995\ leg. L.J. Wang" (in Natural History Museum Vienna); paratypes: 1 male, 5 females, same locality data; 2 males, 2 females "TAIWAN: Taipei\ Wulai, 12.VII.1996\ leg. L.J. Wang" (in Natural History Museum Vienna, Coll. L.J. Wang, and in author's collection).

D e s c r i p t i o n : a relative large species with broad abdomen; body length of males 3.37 - 3.42 mm, of females 3.41 - 3.50 mm; maximum width (at abdomen) of males 1.30 - 1.34 mm, of females 1.28 - 1.39 mm; width of pronotum of males 1.23 - 1.28 mm, of females 1.25 - 1.30 mm.

Colour: black; buccula yellowish, rarely brownish; antenna dark brown, first segment

lighter brown; legs brownish, femora yellowish, distally infuscated; tarsi darker than tibiae; wings black, with base and a small spot in the centre of the membrane (indistinct in one female) frosted bluish grey.

Structure: buccula very narrow, with two small (sometimes very indistinct), slightly elongate depressions; process of buccula small, toothlike (Fig. 1); eye width clearly shorter than interocular space (0.7 times); antenna 0.6 times body length in both sexes; paired carinae on pronotum very low, indistinct in posterior half; metanotal elevation rather short, with distinct median and marginal carinae, with weakly upcurved apex (Fig. 2); mesoscutellum and metanotal elevation together 0.7 times as long as pronotum.

Head, pronotum, mesoscutellum, metanotal elevation, and corium with scattered golden hairs; corium without rows of erect hairs along veins.

Male: tergite 7 with distinct emargination of hind margin (Fig. 3); sternites 3 - 7 with a large, shallow impression, this covered by an appressed golden pubescence; segment 8 very short, in situ forming a vertical step, with hirsute tumosities in posterolateral corners; pygophore (py) short, posteriorly with long bristles, with a large, spinelike, bristled process (pp) on left side; proctiger (pr) small, strongly asymmetrical, with a small process on left side, dorsal surface of this process with three short fused bristles; left paramere (lp) very long, lanceolate, with groups of long hairs medially and apically; right paramere (rp) small, lobelike, with a small tuft of bristles (Fig. 5).

Female: tergite 7 similar as in male (Fig. 4); sternites without impression; gonocoxae simple.

Comparative notes: *Timasius wangi* sp. n. differs from all other *Timasius* species in the structure of male genitalia (Fig. 5), especially in the long, spinelike process of the pygophore and the long, elongate left paramere; also the right paramere and the strongly asymmetrical proctiger are diagnostic. Females (which are not with certainty identifiable in *Timasius*) differ from *T. minamikawai* and *T. lundbladi* in larger size (3.41 - 3.50 mm versus 2.75 - 3.10 mm) and from *T. distanti* in the presence of a tooth on the posterior end of the buccula (Fig. 1; completely rounded in *T. distanti*). The emargination of the tergite 7, present in males and females of *T. wangi* sp. n. (Fig. 3, 4), is not described for any other species in Taiwan, and not present in two females provisionally identified as *T. minamikawai* and *T. lundbladi*.

Etymology: dedicated to Mr. Liang-Jong Wang, specialist on Dytiscidae (Coleoptera) and Odonata, enthusiastic researcher on various aquatic insects, and discoverer of this new species.

Acknowledgements

I am most grateful to Liang-Jong Wang (National Taiwan University, Taipei) for the possibility of studying his interesting material of Nepomorpha and Gerromorpha and for the exchange of type specimens. My thanks are also due to John T. Polhemus (Colorado Entomological Museum, Englewood) for a copy of Miyamoto's paper, and to Carl W. Schaefer (University of Connecticut, Storrs) for comments on the manuscript.

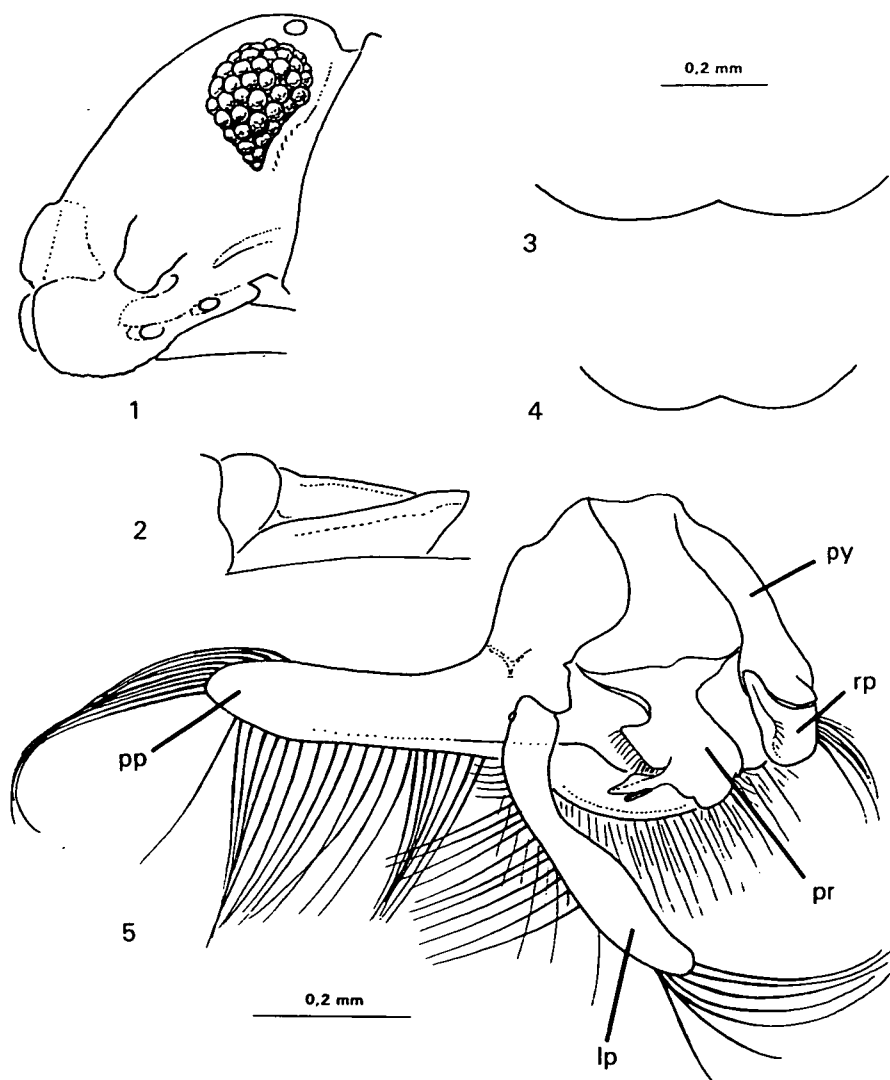
Zusammenfassung

Timasius wangi sp. n. aus Taiwan wird beschrieben. Die neue Art gehört in die Artengruppe des *T. distant*, welche in Taiwan endemisch ist. *Timasius wangi* sp. n. unterscheidet sich auffällig von allen Arten der Gattung durch die außergewöhnlichen männlichen Genitalorgane.

References

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Figs. 1-5: *Timasius wangi* sp. n., 1 - head, lateral view; 2 - mesoscutellum and metanotal elevation, lateral view; 3, 4 - hind margin of abdomen, dorsal view, in male (3) and female (4); 5 - male genitalia, dorsal view: lp - left paramere, pp - pygophore process, pr - proctiger, py - pygophore, rp - right paramere; in Figs. 1-4 pilosity omitted.

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Zeitschrift/Journal: [Linzer biologische Beiträge](#)

Jahr/Year: 1998

Band/Volume: [0030_2](#)

Autor(en)/Author(s): Zettel Herbert

Artikel/Article: [A remarkable new Timasius DISTANT 1909 \(Heteroptera: Hebridae\) from Taiwan. 601-604](#)