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The genus *Timasius* DISTANT 1909 (Heteroptera: Hebridae) in Borneo, with description of two new species

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A b s t r a c t : The genus *Timasius* DISTANT 1909 is represented in Borneo by two newly described species, *Timasius jaechi* sp. n. and *T. kodadai* sp. n., both from Sarawak, Malaysia. These two species form a hitherto unknown species group, which is here defined and named *Timasius jaechi* group.

K e y w o r d s : Heteroptera, Hebridae, *Timasius*, new species, new species group, Borneo, Sarawak, Malaysia.

Introduction

ANDERSEN (1981) has revised the genus *Timasius* DISTANT 1909 including fifteen species (ten of which new), which are distributed in the Oriental Region from India to Taiwan and Java. Since then, only one species from Taiwan has been added (ZETTEL 1998), but numerous undescribed species are located in museums and private collections. Because of their specialized habitat requirements and their agility, *Timasius* species are rarely collected. Most species are described after one or a few specimens only, and rather few distribution data are presently available. The centre of radiation is found on the Southeast Asian mainland, where most of the undescribed species occur (descriptions in preparation).

The present papers treats records of two undescribed species from Borneo to provide secured data for the presently prepared Fauna Malesiana Handbook. The first record of *Timasius* from Borneo has been presented by POLHEMUS & POLHEMUS (1990), who have listed the genus also for the Lesser Sunda Islands and Sulawesi, but the latter record is not included in the map (POLHEMUS & POLHEMUS 1990: fig. 1) and is therefore doubtful.

The species from Borneo cannot be well included in one of the species groups erected by ANDERSEN (1981). Therefore, a new species group, the *T. jaechi* group, is defined.

The type material is deposited in the Natural History Museum Vienna, Austria.

The *Timasius jaechi* group

D i a g n o s i s : Pronotum partly reddish brown; connexiva yellowish or reddish; buccula with two small ovate depressions, and with two teeth at posterior end; metanotal elevation rather long, triangular, with pointed tip, with some long setae; forewing with rows of decumbent setae along veins and with appressed pubescence restricted to distal part of corium; proctiger symmetrical, apically pointed, laterally without groups of stout, long setae; parameres simple, small, without short process.

Discussion: Both species, which are presently included in this group, resemble species of the *T. chinai* group (from Southeast Asia and Java) in several characters. However, the characteristic long and stout setae on the proctiger have been used as a synapomorphic character for the *T. livens*- and *T. chinai*-group by ANDERSEN (1981). It is here supposed that the absence of these hairs in species of the *T. jaechi* group is a plesiomorphic characteristic, and not a reduction. Further differences between the *T. chinai* group and the *T. jaechi* group are as follows: posterior depression of buccula circular in the *T. chinai* group, but ovate in the *T. jaechi* group; setae on hemelytral veins erect in the *T. chinai* group, but decumbent in the *T. jaechi* group; paramere with short process in the *T. chinai* group, which is lacking in the *T. jaechi* group.

Distribution: Borneo.

***Timasius jaechi* sp. n. (Figs. 1-4, 8, 9)**

Type locality: Malaysia, Borneo, Sarawak, Kelabit Highland, 5 km east of Bareo, 1000 m a.s.l.

Holotype (♂): "MALAYSIA: Sarawak\ Kelabit Highland\ 5 km E Bareo Pa Ukat\ 1000 m, 1.3.1993", "breiter Fluß [broad stream] leg. M. Jäch"; **paratype** (1♂): "MALAYSIA: Sarawak\ Kelabit Highland\ 1000-1200m, (14)\ Bareo - Arur Dalem", "26.2.-1.3.1993\ leg. M. Jäch".

Description of male (Fig. 1): Size: body length 2.90 - 2.95 mm, body width 1.25 mm.

Colour: dark brown; buccula yellow; posterior lobe of pronotum reddish brown or yellowish red; connexiva yellowish red; antenna yellowish brown; legs yellow; wings black, with base frosted bluish grey and with spot in centre of membrane yellow.

Structure: buccula with two depressions, anterior depression small and more roundish, posterior depression ovate; process of buccula with two teeth, ventral tooth acute and longer than dorsal tooth (Fig. 2); eye width clearly smaller than interocular space (0.6 times); antenna 0.52 times as long as body (Fig. 1); paired carinae on pronotum low; metanotal elevation rather short and broad, with distinct median and marginal carinae (Fig. 4), mesoscutellum and metanotal elevation combined 0.8 times as long as pronotum; metanotal elevation in lateral view not highly elevated, but directed posteriad, with stout tip (Fig. 3).

Head, pronotum, and mesoscutellum at most with a few golden setae; metanotal elevation with relatively short setae; corium with two rows of decumbent setae along thick veins (Fig. 3); apex of corium with a few appressed hairs.

Sternite 7 not impressed; segment 8 without long hairs at hind margin (Fig. 8); pygophore rather short; proctiger simple, with small pointed tip and with slender hairs; paramere small, without tooth, but with distinct rounded projection dorsally, and with short setae distally (Fig. 9).

Female: unknown.

Comparative notes: *Timasius jaechi* sp. n. is very closely related with *T. kodadai* sp. n.; for differences see comparative notes of this species.

Etymology: This species is dedicated to its discoverer Dr. Manfred A. Jäch, coleopterist in the Natural History Museum Vienna.

***Timasius kodadai* sp. n. (Figs. 5-7, 10)**

Type locality: Malaysia, Borneo, Sarawak, 25 km east of Kapit.

Holotype (♂) and **paratype** (1♂): "SARAWAK, III.1994/ Rumah Kebau anak muggot/ Ng sebong Baleh/ 25 km E Kapit, I.Kodada".

Description of male (Fig. 5): Size: body length 2.30 - 2.35 mm, width 0.95 - 1.00 mm.

Colour: very dark brown; buccula yellow; posterior lobe of pronotum reddish brown; connexiva yellowish red; antenna yellowish brown; legs yellow; wings black, base with large white marks, and spot in the centre of the membrane yellowish (Fig. 5).

Structure: buccula with two ovate depressions; process of buccula with two teeth, ventral tooth stouter and longer than dorsal tooth (Fig. 6); eye width clearly smaller than interocular space (0.75 times); antenna 0.57 times as long as body (Fig. 1); paired carinae on pronotum very low; metanotal elevation rather short and broad, with distinct median and marginal carinae (Fig. 5), mesoscutellum and metanotal elevation combined 0.8 times as long as pronotum; metanotal elevation in lateral view not highly elevated, but directed posteriad, with stout tip (Fig. 7).

Head, pronotum, and mesoscutellum with a few golden setae; metanotal elevation with short setae; corium with two rows of decumbent setae along thick veins (Fig. 7); apex of corium with a few appressed hairs.

Sternite 7 not impressed; segment 8 without long hairs at hind margin; pygophore rather short; proctiger simple, with small pointed tip and with simple, slender setae; paramere small and slender, without tooth, but with low rounded projection dorsally, and with short hairs distally (Fig. 10).

Female: unknown.

Comparative notes: *Timasius kodadai* sp. n. is similar to *T. jaechi* sp. n., but differs in smaller size, whitish marks on base of forewings (comp. Figs. 1 and 5), shorter interocular space, relatively longer antenna, and shape of parameres (comp. Figs. 9 and 10).

Etymology: This species is dedicated to our colleague Dr. Jan Kodada, coleopterist in the Comenius University, Bratislava.

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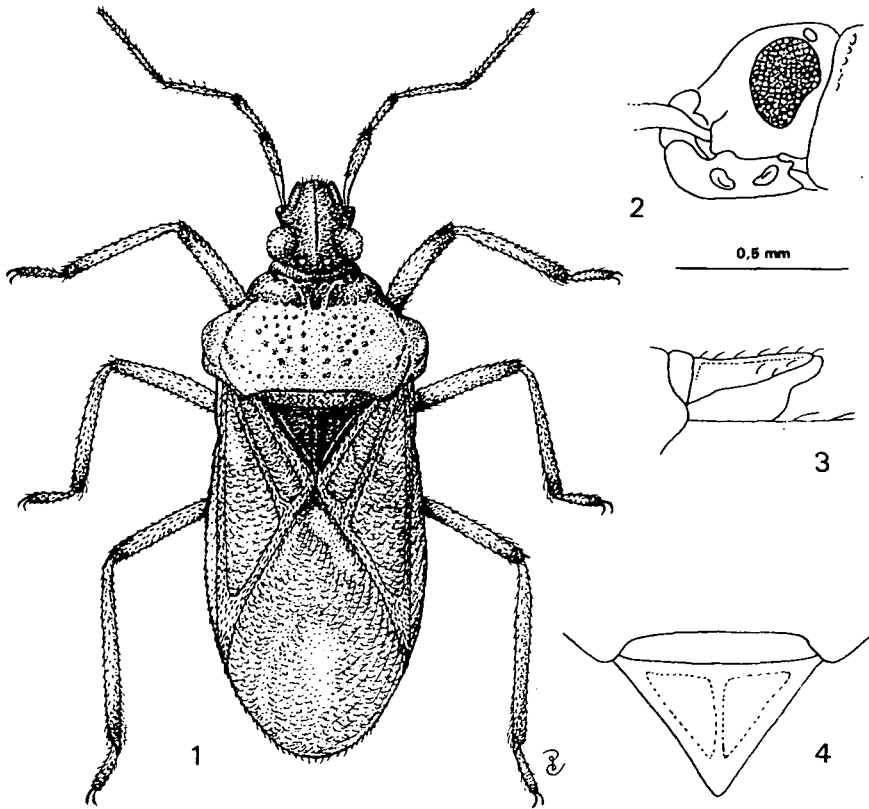
Zusammenfassung

Die Gattung *Timasius* DISTANT 1909 ist in Borneo durch zwei neu beschriebene Arten vertreten: *Timasius jaechi* sp. n. und *T. kodadai* sp. n., beide aus Sarawak, Malaysia. Diese beiden Spezies bilden eine bislang unbekannte Artengruppe, welche hier definiert und *Timasius jaechi*-Gruppe genannt wird.

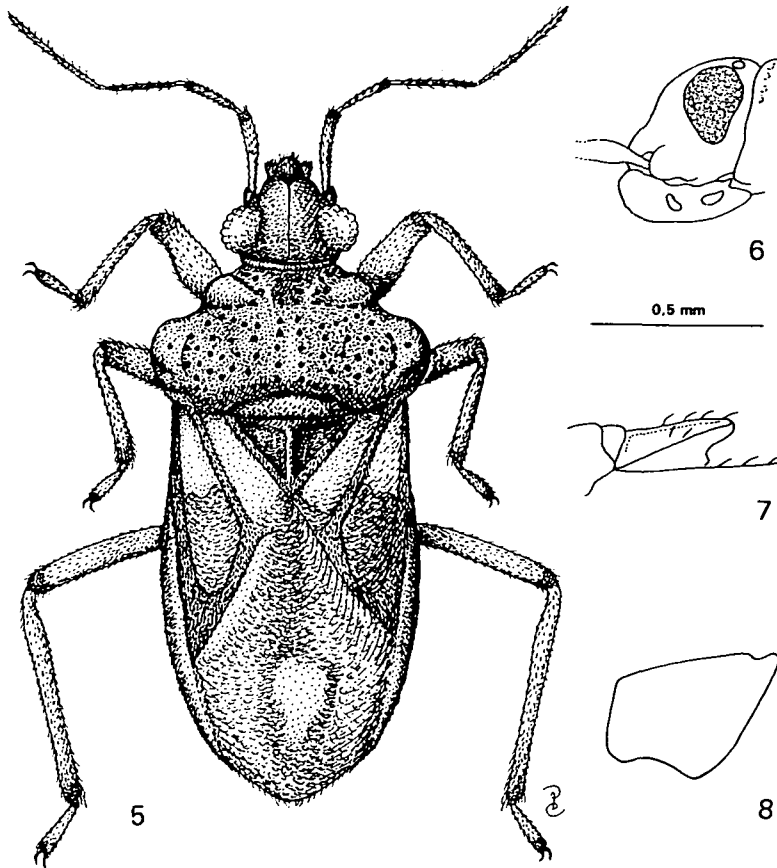
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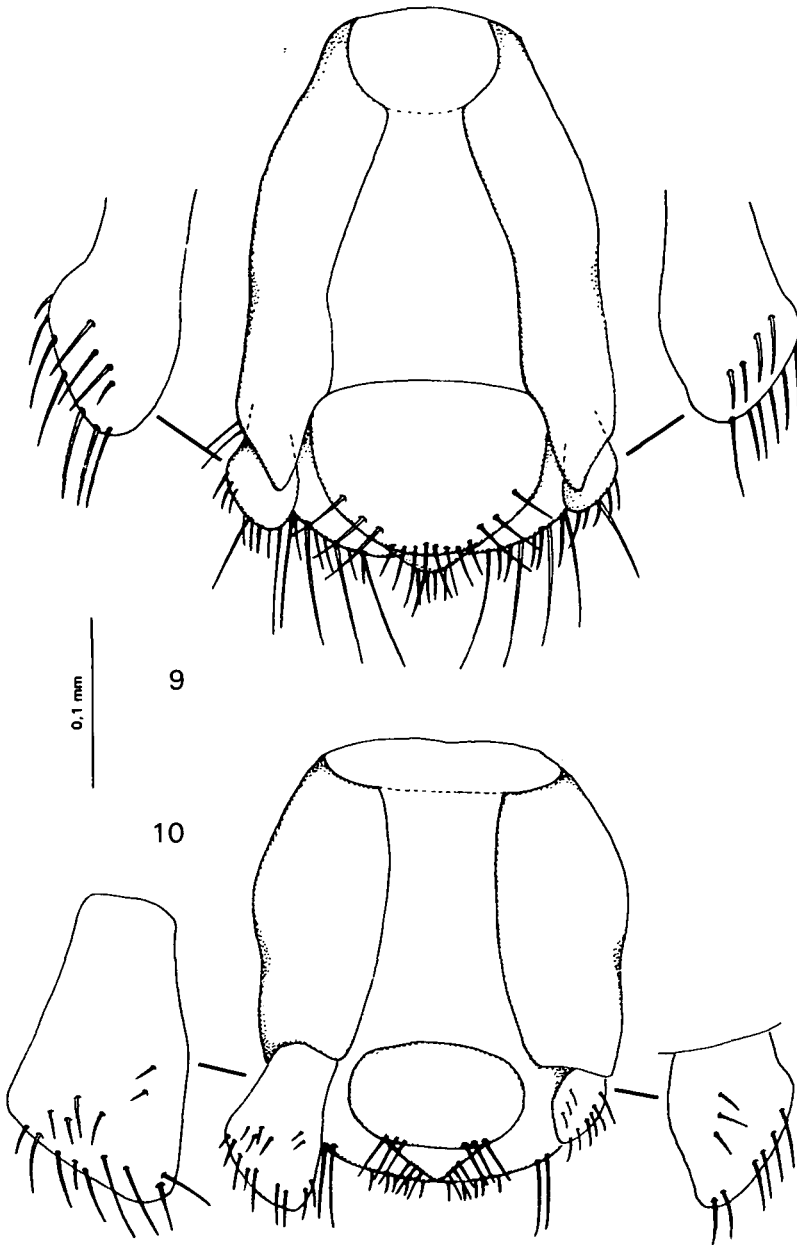


Figs. 1-4: *Timasius jaechi* sp. n., paratype, male: 1 – habitus (body length 2.9 mm); 2 – head, lateral view; 3 – mesoscutellum, metanotal elevation, and base of forewing (note decumbent hairs), lateral view; 4 – mesoscutellum and metanotal elevation, dorsal view.



Figs. 5-8: (5-7) *Timasius kodada* sp. n., paratype, male: 5 – habitus (body length 2.3 mm); 6 – head, lateral view; 7 – mesoscutellum, metanotal elevation, and base of forewing (note decumbent hairs), lateral view; 8 – *Timasius jaechi* sp. n., paratype, male abdominal segment 8, lateral view.

1201



Figs. 9-10: Male genitalia, dorsal view, of 9 – *Timasius jaechi* sp. n. and 10 – *T. kodadai* sp. n.: total view of pygophore, proctiger and parameres; and parameres dissected, with double magnification.

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