

Linzer biol. Beitr.	34/2	1531-1534	20.12.2002
---------------------	------	-----------	------------

Description of *Amemboa heissi* sp.n. (Heteroptera: Gerridae) from South Thailand

H. ZETTEL

Abstract: *Amemboa* (s.str.) *heissi* sp.n. from South Thailand is described and figured. The new species belongs to the *A. prostata* species group and is most closely related with *A. schwendingeri* ZETTEL & CHEN 1997 from North Thailand.

Key words: Gerridae, *Amemboa*, *Amemboa prostata* species group, new species, Thailand.

Introduction

The eotrechine genus *Amemboa* ESAKI 1925 presently contains twenty-eight species (POLHEMUS & ANDERSEN 1984, ZETTEL 1995, 1998, ZETTEL & CHEN 1996, 1997). Most of these small water striders are distributed in Indochina and on the Malay Peninsula. The diversity is especially high in Thailand - with twelve species recorded. A thirteenth species is here described. The last revision of *Amemboa* has been prepared by POLHEMUS & ANDERSEN (1984). ZETTEL & CHEN (1997) present a check-list of all species and subspecies, which occur in Thailand.

The author thanks Prof. DI Dr. Ernst Heiss (Innsbruck) for the donation of the type specimen. The new species is cordially dedicated to him.

Amemboa (s.str.) *heissi* sp.n. (Figs. 1-3)

Type material: Holotype (apterous male): "THAILAND: Phang Nga\ Khao Lak - Lamru NP\ Ton Pling waterfalls\ 26.3.2002, leg. E. Heiss", in the author's reference collection.

Description of apterous male: Measurements: Body length 4.0 mm; maximum body width at mesacetabula 1.27 mm; width of head at eyes 0.87 mm; length of second antennomere 0.74 mm; length of mesofemur 1.38 mm.

Ground colour yellowish to very light brownish; black dorsal colour pattern well developed, most similar with colour scheme figure 23 in POLHEMUS & ANDERSEN (1984), but medial stripes each with two short laterad directed rami, and sublateral stripe without mediad directed ramus; in ventral view with proacetabula, broad anterior-lateral stripes, short postero-lateral stripes, and narrow posterior-medial stripe on mesosternum, metasternum, sternites 2 - 7, and one narrow longitudinal stripe medially on segment 8 blackish; antenna blackish brown, segment 1 yellowish; legs mainly yellowish, but tarsi mainly brownish.

Ratio of lengths of antennomeres as 1.1 : 1 : 1.1 : 1.75; mesonotum medially 2.25 times as long as pronotum; lengths of leg segments in relation to mesofemur length (= 100): profemur 35, protibia 31, protarsus 4+8, mesotibia 65, mesotarsus 26+12, metafemur 88, metatibia 38, metatarsus 15+10; profemur with three distinct, narrow, black hair patches, one in basal fourth and two in distal half which separated by deep excavation; protibia with large tooth set with dark hairs at tip, inner face basally of tooth weakly concave, distally of tooth weakly sinuate and with dense black pubescence (Fig. 1); laterotergites 2 - 5 completely fused, only suture between laterotergites 4 and 5 medially (incompletely) developed.

Genitalia (Figs. 2-3): Pygophore long, low and slender, with long, narrow, and conspicuously hirsute apical part, which nearly parallel-sided in dorsal view; proctiger with long, hook-shaped lateral arms; lateral arm in lateral view broad basally, not widened subapically, and suddenly tapering apically, and in dorsal view strongly curved mediad, evenly narrowed distally, and terminating in nearly completely rounded apex, ventrally set with few stout bristles in distal part; dorsomedial part of proctiger set with long hairs basally, then bifid, forking off into second pair of arms; medial arm much shorter than lateral arm, not obviously tapering, laterally set with ventrad directed, stout bristles, apically with conspicuous tuft of stout, curved bristles; parameres strongly reduced, very small.

Female and macropterous morphs unknown.

Distribution: Thailand: Phang Nga Province.

Comparative notes: *Amemboa heissi* sp.n. belongs to a monophyletic group of the subgenus *Amemboa* s.str., which is very distinct in a bifid medial part of the proctiger and a slender apical part of the pygophore (Figs. 2, 3). This group contains *A. prostata* POLHEMUS & ANDERSEN 1984, *A. aquafrigida* ZETTEL & CHEN 1997, *A. schwendingeri* ZETTEL & CHEN 1997, and *A. heissi* sp.n. (all from Thailand) and is here named the *Amemboa prostata* group. *Amemboa heissi* sp.n. is closely related with *A. schwendingeri* from North Thailand and agrees with this species in the general structures of the foreleg and of the genitalia of the male. However, the basal hair tuft on the profemur is small in *A. heissi* sp.n. (Fig. 1), but broad in *A. schwendingeri*, and the base of the protibia is slightly broader and less concave in *A. heissi* sp.n. In the genitalia of the male of *A. heissi* sp.n., the lateral arms of the pygophore surpass the medial arms more widely and are apically not distinctly hooked (Fig. 3) like in *A. schwendingeri*. The ratios of the lengths of the antennomeres differ considerably. From *A. prostata*, which is described from South Thailand, *A. heissi* sp.n. can be easily distinguished by the presence of the proximal hair tuft on the profemur and the prominent tooth on the protibia of the male. POLHEMUS & ANDERSEN (1984) note for *A. prostata* that "the silvery hair patches on the propleura are much less extensive than in most other *Amemboa* species"; they are well developed in *A. heissi* sp.n.

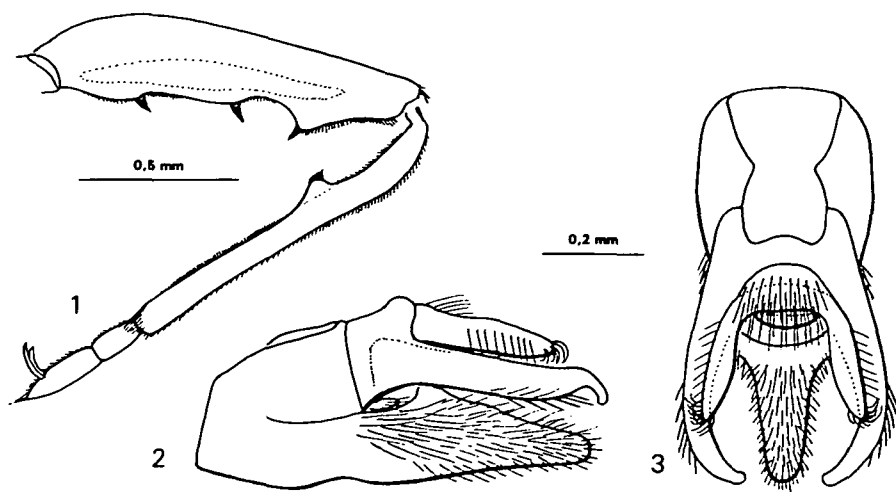
Zusammenfassung

Amemboa (s.str.) *heissi* sp.n. aus Südthailand wird beschrieben und in Details abgebildet. Die neue Art gehört in die hier benannte *A. prostata*-Artengruppe und ist *A. schwendingeri* ZETTEL & CHEN 1997 aus Nordthailand am ähnlichsten.

References

- POLHEMUS J.T. & N.M. ANDERSEN (1984): A revision of *Amemboa* ESAKI with notes on the phylogeny and ecological evolution of eotrechine water striders (Insecta, Hemiptera, Gerridae). — *Steenstrupia* 10(3): 65-111.
- ZETTEL H. (1995): Zwei neue Arten der Gattung *Amemboa* ESAKI, 1925, aus Borneo und Vietnam (Heteroptera: Gerridae). — *Annales Historico-Naturales Musei Nationalis Hungarici* 87: 63-66.
- ZETTEL H. (1998): Faunistical notes on *Amemboa* ESAKI (Heteroptera: Gerridae) from Laos and Viet Nam, with description of a new species. — *Acta zoologica Cracoviensia* 41(2): 169-172.
- ZETTEL H. & P.P. CHEN (1996): Beitrag zur Taxonomie und Faunistik der Gerridae Vietnams mit Neubeschreibungen der Gattung *Andersenius* gen.n. aus der Unterfamilie Ptilomerinae und weiterer Arten. — *Entomologische Abhandlungen Staatliches Museum für Tierkunde Dresden* 57(6): 149-182.
- ZETTEL H. & P.P. CHEN (1997): Three new taxa of *Amemboa* ESAKI, 1925, from Thailand and Viet Nam (Heteroptera: Gerridae). — *Annales Historico-Naturales Musei Nationalis Hungarici* 89: 93-101.

Author's address: Dr. Herbert ZETTEL
Natural History Museum Vienna
International Research Institute of Entomology
Burgring 7, A-1014 Vienna, Austria
herbert.zettel@nhm-wien.ac.at



Figs 1-3: *Amemboa* (s.str.) *heissi* sp.n., holotype, male: 1 – foreleg; 2 – genitalia, lateral aspect; 3 – genitalia, dorsal aspect.

ZOBODAT - www.zobodat.at

Zoologisch-Botanische Datenbank/Zoological-Botanical Database

Digitale Literatur/Digital Literature

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

Jahr/Year: 2002

Band/Volume: [0034_2](#)

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

Artikel/Article: [Description of Amemboa heissi sp.n. \(Heteroptera: Gerridae\) from South Thailand 1531-1534](#)