



A new species of Mesochrysopidae (Neuroptera) from the Lower Cretaceous Crato Formation of Brazil

Author: Nakamine, Hiroshi

Source: Palaeodiversity, 14(1) : 115-119

Published By: Stuttgart State Museum of Natural History

URL: <https://doi.org/10.18476/pale.v14.a4>

BioOne Complete (complete.BioOne.org) is a full-text database of 200 subscribed and open-access titles in the biological, ecological, and environmental sciences published by nonprofit societies, associations, museums, institutions, and presses.

Your use of this PDF, the BioOne Complete website, and all posted and associated content indicates your acceptance of BioOne's Terms of Use, available at www.bioone.org/terms-of-use.

Usage of BioOne Complete content is strictly limited to personal, educational, and non - commercial use. Commercial inquiries or rights and permissions requests should be directed to the individual publisher as copyright holder.

BioOne sees sustainable scholarly publishing as an inherently collaborative enterprise connecting authors, nonprofit publishers, academic institutions, research libraries, and research funders in the common goal of maximizing access to critical research.

A new species of Mesochrysopidae (Neuroptera) from the Lower Cretaceous Crato Formation of Brazil

HIROSHI NAKAMINE

Abstract

A new extinct species, *Karenina cuneiformis* sp. nov. (Neuroptera: Mesochrysopidae) is described from the Lower Cretaceous Crato Formation of northeastern Brazil. This new species is similar to *K. borschukewitzi* (NEL et al., 2005) and *K. longicollis* MAKARKIN & MENON, 2005, but differs from those by wing venation and possesses an apparently stout, cuneiform humeral veinlet in the forewing.

Key words: Mesochrysopidae, new species, Lower Cretaceous, Crato Formation, Araripe Basin, Brazil.

1. Introduction

Mesochrysopidae HANDLIRSCH, 1906 is an extinct Mesozoic family of Neuroptera, heretofore comprising 28 species in 16 genera and occurring from the Lower Jurassic to the Upper Cretaceous of Eurasia and South America (MAKARKIN & MENON 2005; MAKARKIN et al. 2012; YANG et al. 2012; LIU et al. 2016). This family has sometimes been treated as a subfamily (Mesochrysopinae) of Chrysopidae (e.g., ADAMS 1967; SCHLÜTER 1984; SÉMÉRIA & NEL 1990; MARTINS-NETO 2003; ENGEL et al. 2018); here, I follow the familial status of Mesochrysopidae based on taxonomic studies (MAKARKIN & MENON 2005; NEL et al. 2005; REN et al. 2010; YANG et al. 2012; LIU et al. 2016). The genus *Karenina* MARTINS-NETO, 1997 was originally placed in Ascalaphidae, but NEL et al. (2005) transferred it to Alloppteridae and MAKARKIN & MENON (2005) later synonymized the Alloppteridae with the Mesochrysopidae based on wing venation. The genus *Karenina* comprises five species from the Lower Cretaceous Crato Formation of Brazil: *K. breviptera* MARTINS-NETO, 1997, *K. borschukewitzi* (NEL et al., 2005), *K. cuneiformis* sp. nov. (herein), *K. leilana* MAKARKIN & MENON, 2005, and *K. longicollis* MAKARKIN & MENON, 2005.

This paper describes a new species from the Lower Cretaceous of the Crato Formation. This new species is the first one within the genus *Karenina* with an apparently stout, cuneiform humeral veinlet in the forewing.

2. Material and methods

The holotype is deposited in the Osaka Museum of Natural History (OMNH), Osaka City, Osaka, Japan, under the collection number of OMNH TI 530. The Crato Formation is considered to be late Aptian to late Albian in age (MAKARKIN & MENON 2005; MARTINS-NETO & RODRIGUES 2009).

The specimen was examined under a SMZ 800 stereomicroscope (Nikon Corporation, Tokyo, Japan), and photographed with a Canon EOS 80D (Canon, Tokyo, Japan) with an EF-S 60mm F2.8 Macro USM (Canon) plus Kenko Extension Tubes (KenkoTokina, Tokyo, Japan). All figures were prepared by using Adobe Photoshop 2021 and Adobe Illustrator 2021 (Adobe, San Jose, CA, USA).

Wing venation terminology generally follows BREITKREUZ et al. (2017). Venational abbreviations: A – Anal vein; A1 – first anal vein; Cu – Cubitus; CuA – Cubitus Anterior; CuP – Cubitus Posterior; hv – humeral veinlet; im – first intramedian cell; M – Media; MA – Media Anterior; MP – Media Posterior; R – Radius; RA – Radius Anterior; RP – Radius Posterior; Sc – Subcosta Posterior.

3. Systematic palaeontology

Order Neuroptera LINNAEUS, 1758

Family Mesochrysopidae HANDLIRSCH, 1906

Genus *Karenina* MARTINS-NETO, 1997

Type species: *Karenina breviptera* MARTINS-NETO, 1997: 74.

Species included: *K. breviptera* MARTINS-NETO, 1997, *K. borschukewitzi* (NEL et al., 2005), *K. cuneiformis* sp. nov. (herein), *K. leilana* MAKARKIN & MENON, 2005, and *K. longicollis* MAKARKIN & MENON, 2005, all from the Lower Cretaceous of the Crato Formation, Brazil.

Remarks: The genus *Karenina* is most similar to the genus *Kareninoides* YANG, MAKARKIN & REN, 2012. However, it can be distinguished from the following morphological characters: forewing elongate with hind margin strongly curved (forewing elongate with hind margin smoothly slightly curved in *Kareninoides*); hind wing length 0.6–0.8 of forewing (hind wing length 0.9 of forewing in *Kareninoides*); in hind wing, both Banksian lines not developed (well developed, long in *Kareninoides*) (YANG et al. 2012).

Karenina cuneiformis sp. nov.

Figs. 1–3

L S I D : urn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:5C651F5E-EE7C-46D0-96BB-BBEE3182EF6B

E t y m o l o g y : From Latin ‘*cuneiformis*’ meaning ‘cuneiform’, in reference to the wedge-shaped humeral veinlet in the forewing.

H o l o t y p e : OMNH TI 530 (part only), Osaka Museum of Natural History (OMNH), Osaka City, Osaka, Japan. A nearly completely preserved specimen in dorsal aspect.

L o c a l i t y a n d a g e : Nova Olinda Member, Crato Formation; Araripe Basin, Ceará State, northeastern Brazil. Late Aptian, Early Cretaceous.

D i a g n o s i s : Pronotum elongate, three times longer than wide. Forewing elongate, length/width ratio 3.3; humeral veinlet apparently stout and cuneiform; RP divided into nine branches. Hind wing long, 0.7 of forewing length; A1 with once branche.

D i f f e r e n t i a l d i a g n o s i s : The new species differs from *K. breviptera* by length of pronotum (6.2 mm in *K. cuneiformis* vs ca. 3 mm in *K. breviptera* MARTINS-NETO, 1997: pl. 2.E). *K. cuneiformis* can be distinguished from *K. borschukewitzi* by the number of branches of A1 and the number of cross veins between CuA and A1 of hind wing (onece and one crossvein in *K. cuneiformis*, twice and two crossveins in *K. borschukewitzi*). *K. cuneiformis* can be separated from *K. leilana* by length/width ratio of forewing (3.3 in *K. cuneiformis*, while 2.8 in *K. leilana*). Finally, *K. cuneiformis* can be distinguished from *K. longicollis* by numbers of RP branches of forewing (nine in *K. cuneiformis* whereas 12–13 in *K. longicollis*).

D e s c r i p t i o n : Sex unknown. Body, length 26 mm as preserved (measured from vertex to apex of abdomen). Head incompletely preserved. Antennae lost or invisible. Pronotum elongate, slightly widened at posterior portion, length 6.2 mm, 3.1 times longer than width. Mesothorax poorly preserved, large and rounded, 3 mm long and 3.8 mm wide. Metathorax poorly preserved, short, 1.4 mm long and 3 mm wide. Legs not entirely preserved. Foreleg with long femur and tibia, slender; both about 5 mm as preserved. Mid/hind leg with long tibia; 8 mm as preserved, claws distinct.

Forewing elongate-oval, rounded apex, 28 mm long, 8.4 mm wide (length/width ratio 3.3). Costal space narrow, composed of 35 cells, humeral veinlet stout and apparently cuneiform in shape with slightly semi cylindrical (Fig. 3b), all subcostal veinlets simple, pterostigma preserved. Sc fused with RA distad, veinlets of Sc + RA simple, three veinlets connected by crossveins. Subcostal space very narrow, crossvein not detected. Stem of RP straight, origin inclined at acute angle to RA. RA space (between RA and RP) broadest at proximal third, narrowed distad, with 20 (right wing) and 17 (left wing) cells. RP divided into nine zigzagged branches, forked only marginal forks. Radial crossveins numerous, forming irregular gradate series, partly reticulate. No crossvein between stem of RP and M. M basally fused with R nearly humeral veinlet, divided into MA and MP; MA arched, slightly zigzagged distally; MP slightly zigzagged. Basal crossvein m-cu located slightly distal to origin of M. Cu originated at wing base, divided into CuA and CuP at basal crossvein m-cu; CuA straight proximally, connecting stem of MP and first intramedian cell (im), strongly zigzagged distally with terminal branches; CuP relatively short, with terminal fork; two crossveins between CuA and CuP. Anal vein poorly preserved, two crossveins between CuP and A1.



Fig. 1. *Karenina cuneiformis* sp. nov., holotype, OMNH TI 530 (part). – Scale: 10 mm.

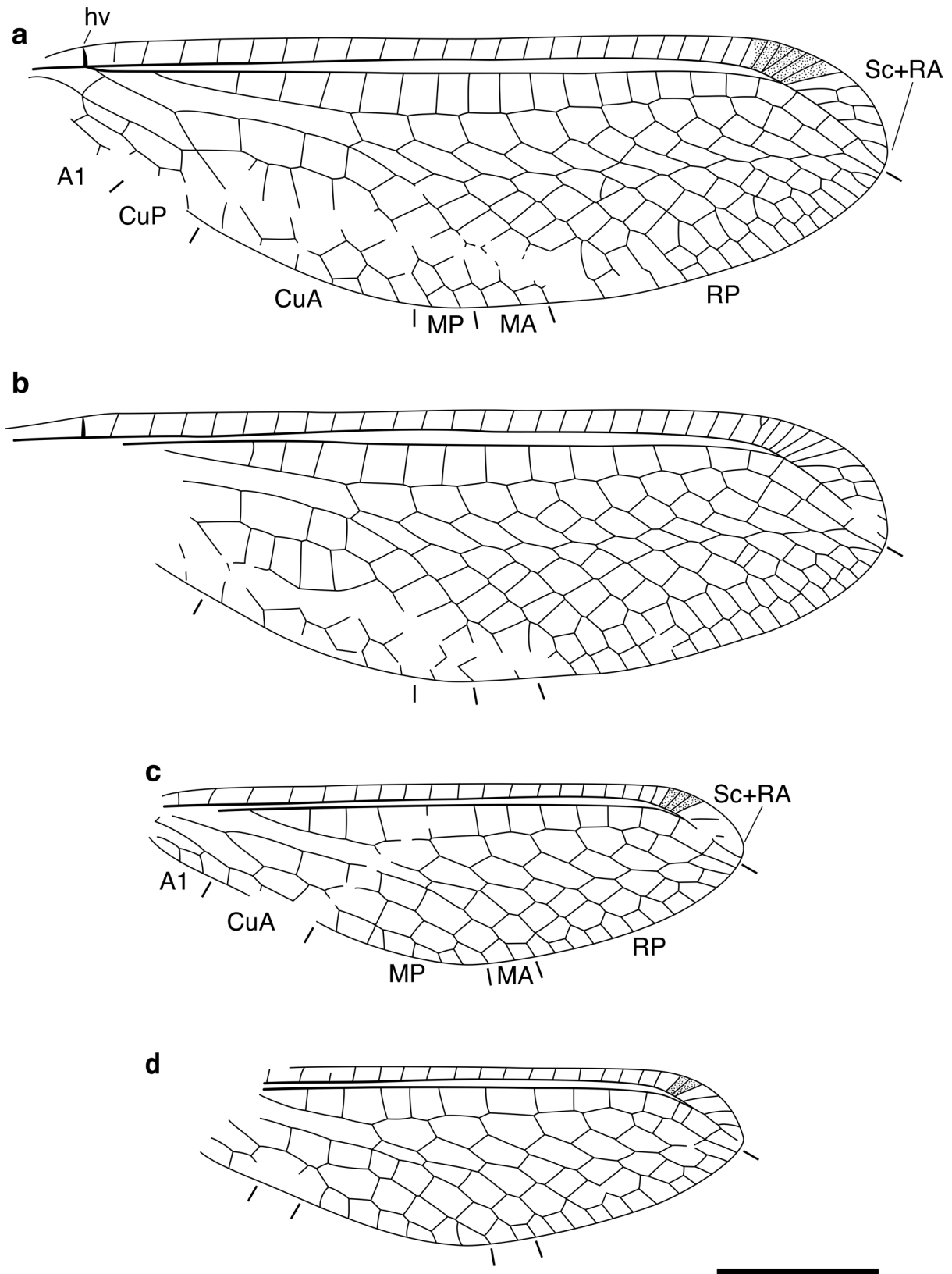


Fig. 2. *Karenina cuneiformis* sp. nov., wing venation of the holotype OMNH TI 530; **a:** right forewing; **b:** left forewing; **c:** right hind wing; **d:** left hind wing. – Scale: 5 mm, all wings to the same scale.

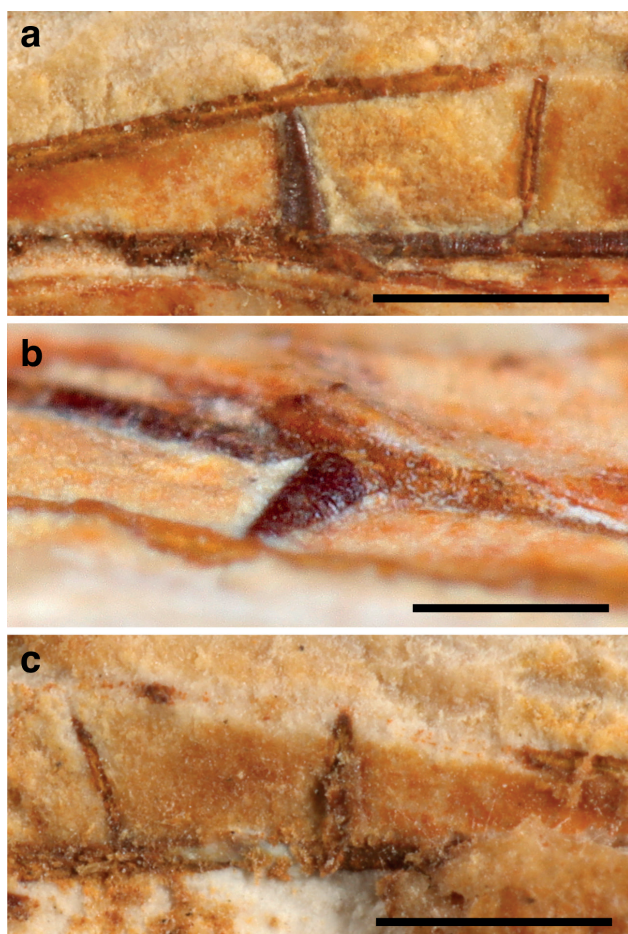


Fig. 3. *Karenina cuneiformis* sp. nov., humeral veinlet of the holotype OMNH TI 530; **a:** right forewing; **b:** anterodorsal view of right forewing; **c:** left forewing. – Scales: (a, c) 1.0 mm; (b) 0.5 mm.

Hind wing elongate-oval, sub-acute apex, 20 mm long, 5.7 mm wide (length/width ratio 3.5). Costal space narrowed, composed of 24 cells, all subcostal veinlets simple, pterostigma preserved. Sc fused with RA distad, veinlets of Sc + RA simple. Subcostal space very narrow, crossvein not detected. Stem of RP straight, origin inclined at acute angle to RA. RA space broadest at proximal third, narrowed distad, with 13 (right wing) and 14 (left wing) cells. RP divided into six zigzagged branches. Radial crossveins forming two regular gradate series in anterior area, whereas forming irregular gradate series in posterior area. No crossvein between stem of RP and M. M originated at wing base, divided into MA and MP; MA arched, slightly zigzagged distally; MP deeply forked, slightly zigzagged. Area between M and Cu with at least three crossveins, basal crossvein poorly preserved. CuA originated at wing base, almost straight. CuP absent. Only A1 preserved, forked terminally, at least one crossvein between CuA and A1.

4. Discussion

The most peculiar morphological character in *Karenina cuneiformis* sp. nov. is the apparently stout, cuneiform humeral veinlet of the forewing. All described Mesochrysopidae have simple (i.e., non-recurrent, unbranched) humeral veinlets (MAKARKIN et al. 2013: fig. 7), most of which are thin and crossvein-like. In all species of the genus *Karenina* except *K. cuneiformis* sp. nov. the humeral veinlet has been depicted as either thin and simple or the base of the forewing is not or poorly preserved and it cannot be detected. However, in a personal communication, Dr. MAKARKIN states: “The humeral veinlet in the holotype of *K. longicollis* is also stouter, but this fact was not mentioned in the paper of MAKARKIN & MENON (2005). However, this thickening of the humeral veinlet in *K. longicollis* appears to be slightly less developed than that in *K. cuneiformis* sp. nov.” Although the evolutionary background and the functional significance – if any – of a thick, wedge-shaped humeral veinlet such as that allegedly present in *K. cuneiformis* sp. nov. are unknown, the discovery of further diversity of the Mesochrysopidae might shed light on this matter.

Acknowledgements

I sincerely thank Mr. RYO SATO (Kankyo Kagaku Osaka Co., Japan), Mr. SATOSHI SHIMIZU and Mrs. HIROKO YAMAMOTO (Minoh Park Insect Museum, Japan) for their support throughout the course of this study. I am grateful to Dr. RIKIO MATSUMOTO (Osaka Museum of Natural History, Japan) and Mr. YŪSUKI KITAMURA (Ikeda Public Works Office, Osaka Prefectural Government, Japan) for their efforts in transferring the type specimen to the OMNH. My heartfelt thanks also go to Dr. ANDRÉ NEL (Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris, France), Dr. VLADIMIR MAKARKIN (Federal Scientific Center of the East Asia Terrestrial Biodiversity, Russia) and an anonymous reviewer for their very useful comments on the first version of this manuscript. Finally, the editorial work of Dr. GÜNTER SCHWEIGERT (Staatliches Museum für Naturkunde Stuttgart, Germany) is gratefully acknowledged.

5. References

- ADAMS, P. A. (1967): A review of the Mesochrysinæ and Nothochrysinæ (Neuroptera: Chrysopidae). – *Bulletin of the Museum of Comparative Zoology*, **135**: 215–238.
- BREITKREUZ, L. C. V., WINTERTON, S. L. & ENGEL, M. S. (2017): Wing tracheation in Chrysopidae and other Neuropterida (Insecta): A resolution of the confusion about vein fusion. – *American Museum Novitates*, **3890**: 1–44.
- ENGEL, M. S., WINTERTON, S. L. & BREITKREUZ, L. C. V. (2018): Phylogeny and evolution of Neuropterida: Where have wings of lace taken us? – *Annual Review of Entomology*, **63**: 531–551.
- HANDLIRSCH, A. (1906–1908): Die fossilen Insekten und die Phylogenie der rezenten Formen (2 volumes). – 1430 pp.; Leipzig (Engelmann).

- LINNAEUS, C. (1758): *Systema naturae per regna tria naturae secundum classes, ordines, genera, species, cum characteribus, differentiis, synonymis, locis*. Vol. 1, 10th ed. – 824 pp.; Holmiae (Salvius).
- LIU, X.-Y., ZHANG, W., WINTERTON, S. L., BREITKREUZ, L. C. V. & ENGEL, M. S. (2016): Early morphological specialization for insect-spider associations in Mesozoic lacewings. – *Current Biology*, **26**: 1590–1594.
- MAKARKIN, V. N. & MENON, F. (2005): New species of the Mesochrysidae (Insecta, Neuroptera) from the Crato Formation of Brazil (Lower Cretaceous), with taxonomic treatment of the family. – *Cretaceous Research*, **26**: 801–812.
- MAKARKIN, V. N., YANG, Q., PENG, Y.-Y. & REN, D. (2012): A comparative overview of the neuropteran assemblage of the Early Cretaceous Yixian Formation (China), with description of a new genus of Psychopsidae (Insecta: Neuroptera). – *Cretaceous Research*, **35**: 57–68.
- MAKARKIN, V. N., YANG, Q., SHI, C. & REN, D. (2013): The presence of the recurrent veinlet in the Middle Jurassic Nymphidae (Neuroptera): a unique character condition in Myrmeleontoidea. – *ZooKeys*, **325**: 1–20.
- MARTINS-NETO, R. G. (1997): Neurópteros (Insecta, Planipennia) da Formação Santana (Cretáceo Inferior), Bacia do Araripe, nordeste do Brasil. X – Descrição de novos táxons (Chrysopidae, Babinskaiidae, Myrmeleontidae, Ascalaphidae e Psychopsidae). – *Revista da Universidade de Guarulhos, Série Ciências Exatas e Tecnológicas*, **2**: 68–83.
- MARTINS-NETO, R. G. (2003): The Santana Formation paleoentomofauna reviewed. Part I – Neuropteroida (Neuroptera and Raphidioptera): systematic and phylogeny, with description of new taxa. – *Acta Geologica Leopoldensia*, **25**: 35–66.
- MARTINS-NETO, R. G. & RODRIGUES, V. Z. (2009): New Neuroptera (Insecta, Osmylidae and Mesochrysidae) from the Santana Formation, Lower Cretaceous of northeast Brazil. – *Gaea, Journal of Geosciences*, **5**: 15–20.
- NEL, A., DELCLÓS, X. & HUTIN, A. (2005): Mesozoic chrysopid-like Planipennia: a phylogenetic approach (Insecta: Neuroptera). – *Annales de la Société Entomologique de France*, **41**: 29–68.
- REN, D., MAKARKIN, V. N. & YANG, Q. (2010): A new fossil genus of Mesochrysidae (Neuroptera) from the Early Cretaceous Yixian Formation of China. – *Zootaxa*, **2523**: 50–56.
- SCHLÜTER, T. (1984): Phylogeny of Chrysopidae. – In: CANARD, M., SÉMÉRIA, Y. & NEW, T. R. (eds.): *Biology of Chrysopidae*: 1–8; Dordrecht (Springer).
- SÉMÉRIA, Y. & NEL, A. (1990): *Paleochrysopa monteilsensis* gen. et sp. nov., a new fossil of Chrysopidae from the Upper Eocene Formation of Monteils (France), with a review of the known chrysopid fossils (Insecta: Neuroptera). – In: MANSELL, M. W. & ASPÖCK, H. (eds.): *Advances in Neuropterology*. – *Proceedings of the 3rd International Symposium on Neuropterology*: 27–32; Pretoria (South African Department of Agricultural Development).
- YANG, Q., MAKARKIN, V. N. & REN, D. (2012): New fossil Mesochrysidae (Neuroptera) from the Mesozoic of China. – *Zootaxa*, **3597**: 1–14.

Address of the author:

HIROSHI NAKAMINE, Minoh Park Insect Museum, Minoh Park 1-18, Minoh City, Osaka 562-0002, Japan;
e-mail: nakamine.konchu@osaka.email.ne.jp
ORCID ID: HIROSHI NAKAMINE (orcid.org/0000-0002-4640-2203)

Manuscript received: 16 November 2020, revised version accepted: 07 January 2021.

ZOBODAT - www.zobodat.at

Zoologisch-Botanische Datenbank/Zoological-Botanical Database

Digitale Literatur/Digital Literature

Zeitschrift/Journal: [Palaeodiversity](#)

Jahr/Year: 2021

Band/Volume: [14](#)

Autor(en)/Author(s): Nakamine Hiroshi

Artikel/Article: [A new species of Mesochrysopidae \(Neuroptera\) from the Lower Cretaceous Crato Formation of Brazil 115-119](#)