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Notes on some Dermaptera (Insecta) with the description of a new species from India

by G.K. Srivastava

Abstract: 12 specimens comprising 4 species (excluding 1 determined upto generic level since represented by female only) belonging to 3 genera are dealt with from India with the exception of 1 species from Sumatra. Of these, *Haplodiplatys brancuccii* n. sp. is described from India.

The present study is based on a small collection of Dermaptera comprising 3 species from India and 1 from Sumatra including one new to Science from India. Further, one specimen from India could be identified upto generic level only since it is represented by a female.

I am thankful to the Director of the Zoological Survey of India, Calcutta, for providing necessary facilities and Dr M. Brancucci of Natural History Museum, Basel (Switzerland) for placing this interesting collection at my disposal and very kindly arranging for the publication of this paper.

PYGIDICRANIDAE Diplatyinae

Haplodiplatys brancuccii n. sp.

Figs 1–4.

♂: General colour smoky grey, head somewhat darker, black. Antennae, especially basal segment, pronotum and legs lighter in colour. Elytra, wings, abdomen and forceps finely pubescent. Head and pronotum on borders and legs with a few long hairs.

Head weakly transverse, smooth. Frons convex. Occiput in middle depressed. Area behind eyes raised. Sutures obsolete. Post-ocular carina wanting. Hind margin broadly concave. Eyes prominent, about twice as long as the post-ocular length. Antennae (partly broken) 17-segmented or more, basal segment shorter than the distance between antennal bases, gently expanded apically; 2nd transverse; 3rd long and slender; 4th slightly shorter than preceding; 5th almost equal to 3rd but stouter, remaining gradually increasing in length and thinning.

Pronotum rounded, contracted posteriorly. Pubescence very

small, prozona convex and metazona depressed, median sulcus faint but complete.

Elytra and wings well developed, former with axillary angle weak, thus showing a large triangular scutellum.

Legs normal, tarsi of left leg with 2nd segment undeveloped and on the right side normal.

Abdomen long, slender, parallel sided. Penultimate sternite bisinuate posteriorly, median lobe obtusely triangular, lateral sinuations broad and shallow, postero-lateral angle obtusely produced but feebly. Ultimate tergite weakly transverse, convex above, sloping backwards, gently contracted posteriorly and oblique laterally; hind margin trisinate. Forceps with branches contiguous, depressed, straight, tapering apically; tip gently hooked and pointed; basally on the upper side, with a faint triangular depression and an oblique, triangular ridge; internally finely serrated.

Genitalia as in figure 4.

Length: body: 10 mm; forceps: 1 mm.

♀: Unknown.

Type: Holotype ♂ (NHM-Basel) (apical half of right branch of forceps missing; genitalia mounted between two coverslips and pinned with the specimen): India, Uttar Pradesh, Gangani, 1250 m, 13.–20. VI. 1982, M. Brancucci.

With HINCKS (1955) and STEINMANN'S (1974) keys this species comes close to *Haplodiplatys rufescens* (Kirby) but differs from it by the shape of the posterior margin of penultimate sternite in being bisinuate with a median lobe obtusely triangular and distinctive parameres; virga and distal lobes shorter, the latter with characteristically bent chitinous rod at base.

Diplatys sp.

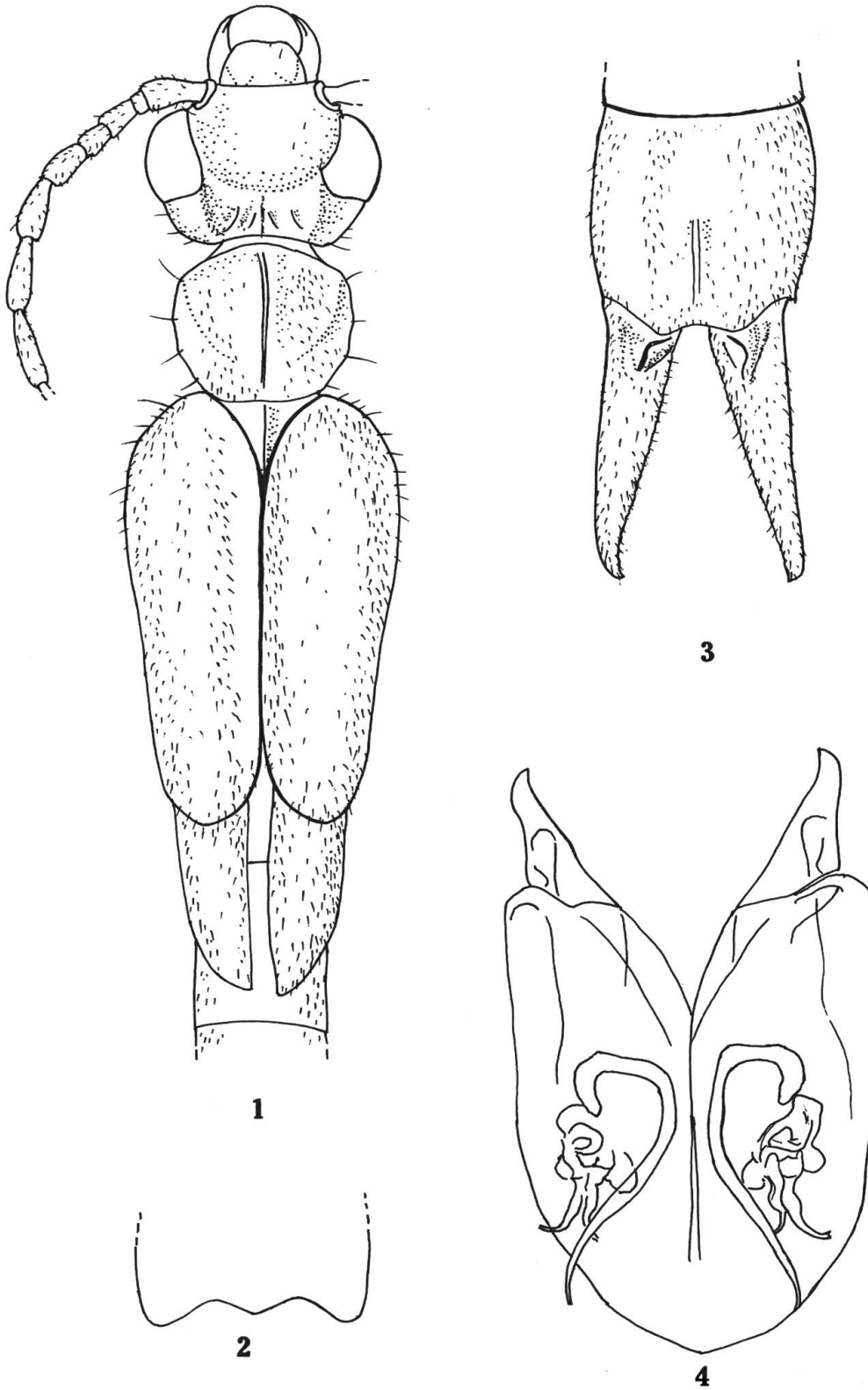
Material: India: U.P., Chaubattia, 1900–2100 m, 25. V. 1981, M. Brancucci (1 ♀).

LABIDURIDAE

Labidurinae

Labidura riparia Pallas

Labidura riparia PALLAS, 1773, Reise Russ. Reichs 2: 727 (Sex ?, shores of Irtysh River, Western Siberia – location Unknown).



Figs 1-4: *Haplodiplatys brancuccii* n. sp., holotype ♂: 1, Anterior portion of body, without legs and antennae of right side. 2, Posterior margin of penultimate sternite. 3, Ultimate tergite and forceps. 4, Genitalia.

Material: India: U.P., Gangani, 1200 m, 13.–20.VI.1981, M. Brancucci (1♂).

Distribution: World-wide.

APACHYIDAE

Apachyinae

Apachyus chartaceus (Haan)

Forficula (Apachya) chartacea HAAN, 1842, Verh. nat. Ges. nederl. Overg. Bezeit: 239, pl.23, fig.7 (♂, ♀; Sumatra – Leiden Mus.).

Material: Sumatra, Dalok Merangir, 3.VI.–24.IX.1977, Dr E. Diehl (1 ♀).

Distribution: Sumatra, Java and Borneo (Sarawak).

FORFICULIDAE

Anechurinae

Anechura zubovskii Semenov

Anechura zubovskii SEMENOV, 1901, Hor. Soc. Ent. Ross. 35: 188 (♂, ♀; Valley of river Drass elev. 9000–11,000 ft., Ladakh, Kashmir – Syntypes at Leningrad Mus.).

Material: India, Kashmir, Ladakh, Zojila-Pass, 3000–3300 m, 18.VII.1976, W. Wittmer (3 ♀, 2 nymphs). Sikkim: Dalapchand, 850 m, 15.IV.1977, Bhakta B. (2 ♀).

Distribution: India (Himalayas).

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- STEINMANN, H. (1974): *New Generical classification of the species group of Diplatys Serville (Dermaptera, Pygidicranidae)*. Acta Zool. Acad. Sci. Hung. 20(1–2): 187–205.

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