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To the knowledge of Oriental Lycidae (Coleoptera). Remarks on Lycidae of Himalaya

by S. Kasantsev

Abstract: 14 new species: *Lycostomus darjeelensis*, *L. delicius*, *L. delectus*, *Plateros exsanguis*, *P. slipinskyi*, *P. cinereus*, *P. macrosuturalis*, *P. nepalensis*, *P. brancuccii*, *P. wittmerianus*, *P. laterculus*, *P. demissus*, *P. bhaktai*, *P. dentifer*, –are described from the Himalaya. *Lycostomus praeustus* F., *L. nigripes* F., *L. analis* Dalm., *L. similis* Hope, *L. patruelis* Bourg., *L. elongatulus* Bourg., *L. ambiguus* Waterh., *L. restitutus* Bourg., *L. thoracicus* Waterh., *L. striatus* Waterh., *L. auriculatus* Fairm., *L. stvensi* Kleine, *L. decorus* Kleine, *Plateros carbonarius* Waterh., *P. indianus* Gorh., *P. rubripennis* Pic, *P. suturalis* Pic, *Ditoneces obscurus* Waterh., *D. nilgirensis* Gorh., *D. longeflabellatus* Pic, *D. assamensis* Pic, *D. brevehumeralis* Pic and *Platerodrilus indicus* Wittmer are illustrated. *Lycostomus acutecostatus* Fairm., *L. orientalis* Kleine (= *L. ambiguus* Waterh.), *Lycostomus moricii* Fairm., *L. rufiventris* Waterh. (= *L. analis* Dalm.) *L. lateritius* Gorh., *L. cardinalis* Kleine, *L. legitimus* Kleine (= *L. praeustus* F.), *Plateros sikki-manus* Kleine (= *P. harmandi* Bourg), *Ditoneces tolerabilis* Kleine (= *D. assamensis* Pic) are synonymized.

Key words: Coleoptera Lycidae Himalaya – *Lycostomus*, *Plateros*, *Ditoneces*, *Platerodrilus* – taxonomy – new species.

This study on Himalayan Lycidae has become possible only after a considerable number of types had been received through the courtesy of Mrs. E.R.Peacock (British Museum, London), Dr. J. J. Menier (Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris) and Dr. A. Slipinsky (Zoological Institute, Warsaw) to whom I wish to express my sincere gratitude.

My special thanks are due to Dr. W. Wittmer and Dr. M. Brancucci who enabled me to work with the ample Lycid material of the Basel Natural History Museum on which the present study is chiefly based and to Dr. L. Medvedev, Moscow, for his valuable comments.

Over 1500 specimens were examined. 12 species new to science were discovered in the material of the Basel Museum and 2 new species among the paratypes from the Polish Zoological Institute.

The study has revealed the necessity of introducing some changes in taxonomy. At the same time the types of some of the old species examined are illustrated.

The following abbreviations are used in the paper:

BM = British Museum, London

MP = Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris

NHMB = Natural History Museum, Basel

ZIL = Zoological Institute, Leningrad

ZIW = Zoological Institute, Warsaw

ICM = Institute of Animal Morphology and Ecology, Insect Centre,
Moscow

Lycostomus praeustus Fabricius

Figs. 1A, 1B.

Lycus praeustus FABRICIUS, 1972, Ent. Syst. I:107.

Lycostomus cardinalis KLEINE, 1926, Soc. Ent. XLI, No. 2:6, **n. syn.**

Lycostomus legitimus KLEINE, 1939, Sb. ent. mus. Praze 17:19, **n. syn.**

Lycostomus lateritius GORHAM, 1895, Ann. Soc. Ent. Belg:299, **n. syn.** (?).

Material: ♂, Rajmahal, Bengal, 31.07.07, «*L. praeustus* F.»; ♀, Wagra-Karour, env. de Bellary, Chaper & de Morgan 1883 (coll. Bourgeois, MP); ♂, W Almora, Kumaon U.P., June 1918, H.G.C., «H. G. Champion Coll., (BM) 1953-156», «*Lycostomus lateritius* Gorch., Kleine det.»; 2♀, C Almora Divn., Kumaon U. P., July 1921, H.G.C., «H. G. Champion Coll. (BM) 1953-156», «*Lycostomus lateritius* Gorch.»; ♀, «Type», Dehra Dun, U. P., G. D. Bhasin, VII, 1923, India (BM), 1927-38, «*Lycostomus cardinalis* Kln. Typus 1925» (BM) ♂ and 2♀ (Holo- and Paratypes), Simla, G. M. C., VII.09 «*L. legitimus*» (ZIW); E Nepal: Mechi, Dobhan-Phulvari, 800-1200 m, 8.VI.1985, M. Brancucci; Koshi, Thaklung, Simraghat, 1500-500 m, 11.VI.1985, M. Brancucci; Koshi, Simraghat-Lumbaghat, 450 m, 14.VI.1985, M. Brancucci; Arun V., Arun R., Tumlingtar, 450 m, 26.V.1988, M. Brancucci; W Nepal: Dhawalagiri, Kali-G, Kopchepani, 1600 m, 18.VI.1986, C. Holzschuh; India, U. P.: Kharidy, 1300 m, 17.VI.1981, M. Brancucci; Barkot, 1100-1200 m, 5-12.VI.1981, M. Brancucci; Gangani, 1250 m, 13-20.VI.1981, M. Brancucci; Darjeeling: Sindepung, 23.IV.1987, B. Bhakta; Jammu; Kistwar, 1550 m, 5.VII.1980, W. Wittmer; Thatri, 1000 m, 3.VII.1980, W. Wittmer (NHMB and ICM).

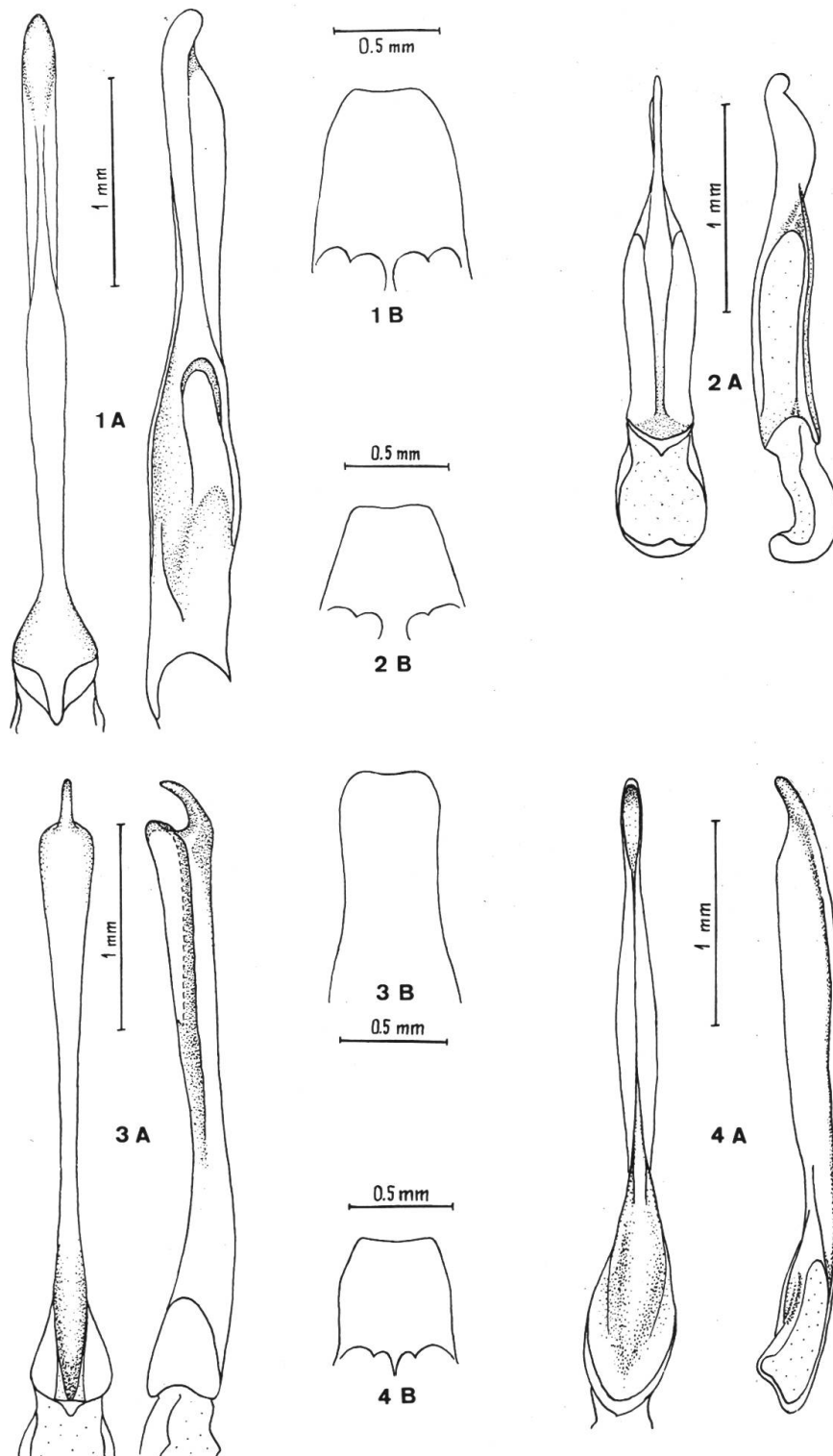
This species exists with a black stripe at the apex of each elytron and without it with all the intermediate forms present. *Lycostomus legitimus*, the types of which have been studied, does not differ but by the absence of the above mentioned stripe. The same can be referred to *L. cardinalis*. Several specimens from the British Museum agreeing with the description of and identified as *L. lateritius* must be attributed to *L. praeustus*. Therefore given the fact that the type of *L. lateritius* is not available the taxon should probably be regarded as a synonym of *L. praeustus*.

Lycostomus nigripes Fabricius

Figs. 2A, 2B.

Pyrochroa nigripes FABRICIUS, 1787, Mant. Ins, I, 163.

Material: ♂, Cambodge, Harmand, 1875, «*L. nigripes*» (coll. Bourgeois, MP); Assam: Kaziranga, 75 m, 7-9.VI.1975, W. Wittmer; Bhutan: Sarbhang, 300 m, 31.VIII.1981, Bhakta B.; Darjeeling: Samthar, 28.VII.1985, B. Bhakta; E Nepal: Arun, Lamobagar, Hedangna 1400-800 m, 15.VI.1983, M. Brancucci (NHMB and ICM).



Figs 1A-4B: 1, *Lycostomus praeustus* Fabricius ♂. 2, *L. nigripes* Fabricius ♂. 3, *L. similis* Hope ♂. 4, *L. patruelis* Bourgeois ♂.
 A = aedeagus, B = rostrum.

Lycostomus similis Hope

Figs. 3A, 3B.

Lycus similis HOPE, 1831, in Gray, Zool. Miscell. 26.

Material: E Nepal: Arun V., Arun R., Tumlingtar, 450 m, 26.V.1983, M. Brancucci; Arun V., Arunthan, Chichila, 1300-1500 m, 29.V.1983, M. Brancucci; Num, 1550 m, 5-6.V.1983, M. Brancucci; Arun V., Lamobagar Gola, 1400 m, 8-14.VI.1983, M. Brancucci; India, U. P.: Bhimtal, 1400 m, 1-15.V.1978, W. Wittmer; Dehra Dun, 2000 m, Mussorie, 1-4.VI.1981, C. Holzschuh (NHMB and ICM).

Lycostomus patruelis Bourgeois, n. stat.

Figs. 4A, 4B.

Lycostomus patruelis BOURGEOIS, 1883, An. Mus. Civ. Genov. XVIII:675.
Lycostomus suturalis var. *patruelis* BOURGEOIS, 1885, Ann. Soc. Ent. Fr. (6) 5:73.

Material: ♂, Darjiling, Harmand, 1890, «*Lycostomus suturalis* Rdtb. var. *patruelis* Bourg., Bourgeois det. 1901» (coll. Bourgeois, MP).

This species is definitely distinct from *L. similis* Hope to which it has been considered synonymous since Bourgeois placed it as a variation of *L. suturalis* Redtenbacher and the latter in its turn was put in synonymy with *L. similis*. I have not been able to see the type of *L. suturalis* but it seems that it might not be a synonym of *L. similis*.

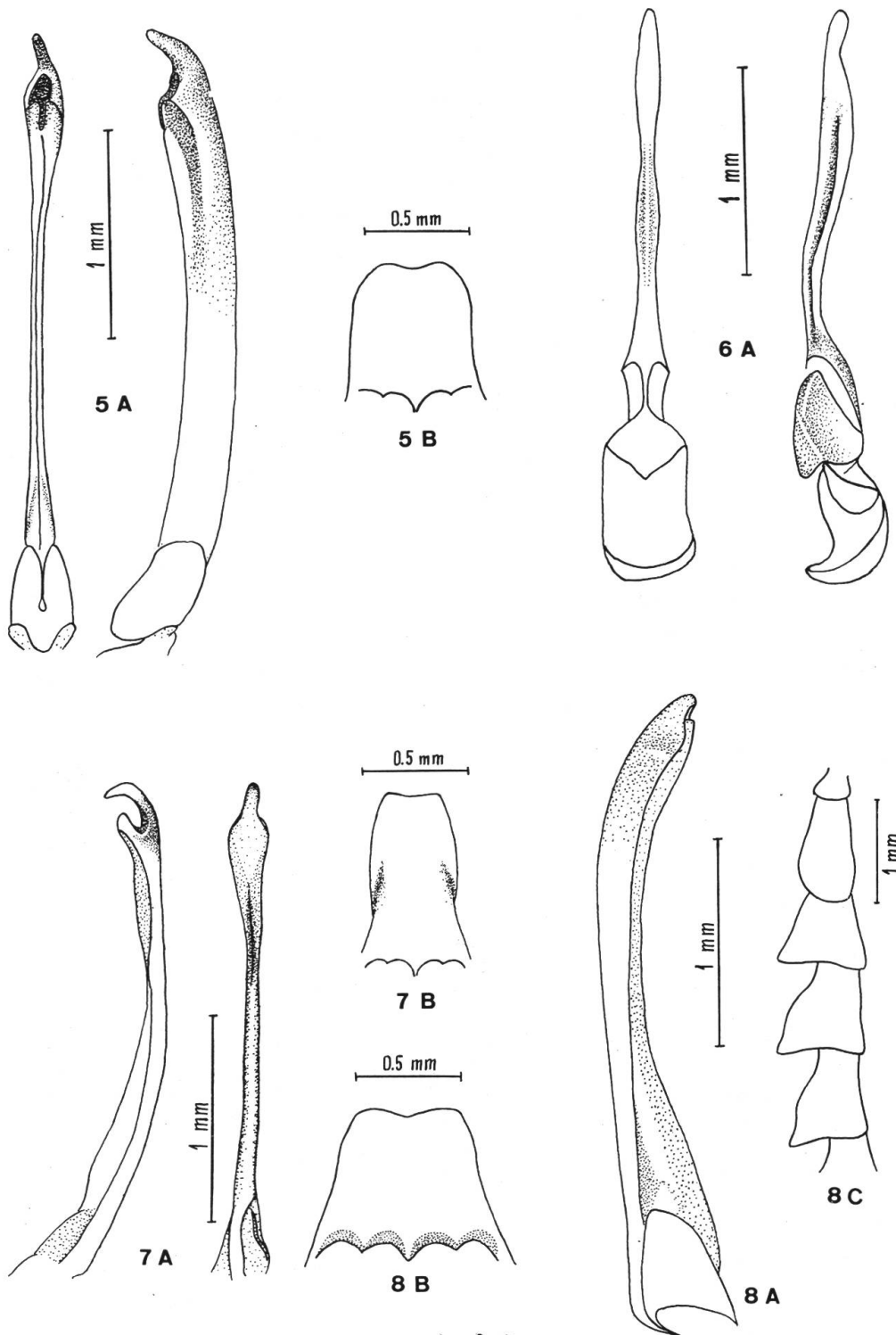
Lycostomus ambiguus C. O. Waterhouse

Figs. 5A, 5B.

Lycostomus ambiguus C. O. WATERHOUSE, 1879, Ill. Typ. Spec. Col. I:11.
Lycostomus acutecostatus FAIRMAIRE, 1891, Compt. Rend. Soc. Ent. Belg. XXXV, LXXXIX, n.syn.
Lycostomus orientalis KLEINE, 1930, Stett. Ent. Zeit. LXXXI:94, n.syn.

Material: ♂, Himalaya, «comp. au Type», «*Lycostomus ambiguus* C. O. Waterh.» (coll. Bourgeois, MP); ♂, «*Lycostomus acutecostatus* Fairm., Kashmir» (Holotype, coll. Fairmaire, MP); ♂, Kashmir, 7500 ft, Yusimarg, 6-15 Aug. 1923, Fletcher coll., «*Lycostomus orientalis* Kln.» (Paratype, ZIW); Pakistan: Chikar, Kashmir, 6000-7000', 17.VI.1971, C. Baroni Urbani; Kagan-Tal, Umb. Shogran, 2300-3000 m, 24-25.VII.1982, Erber & Heintz; Swat., Mian-dam, 1800-2300 m, 3.VI.1978, W. Wittmer; Kawas, Khagan, 1450-1800 m, 14.VI.1977, Wittmer & Brancucci; Sari b.Shogran, 2750-2900 m, 28.VI.1979, W. Wittmer; Sharan, 2400-2700 m, 1-2.VII.1979, W. Wittmer; Naran, Kagan V., 2670-2750 m, 3-5.VII.1979, W. Wittmer; Kashmir: Yus-marg, 2300-2400 m, 5.VII.1976, W. Wittmer; Daksum, 2400-2700 m, 9-13.VII.1976, W. Wittmer (NHMB and ICM); Kashmir, Rost (ZIL).

Lycostomus acutecostatus and *L. orientalis* the types of which have been studied show no differences with *L. ambiguus* and consequently are regarded synonyms of the latter.



Figs 5A-8C: 5, *Lycostomus ambiguus* Waterhouse ♂. 6, *L. elongatulus* Bourgeois ♂. 7, *L. stevensi* Kleine ♂. 8, *L. decorus* Kleine ♂.
 A = aedeagus, B = rostrum, C = basal joints of antennae.

Lycostomus purpureivestis Gorham

Lycostomus purpureivestis GORHAM, 1895, Ann. Soc. Ent. Belg. 39:299.

Material: Kashmir, Rost (ZIL); Jammu; Jourdu, 2150-2400 m, 16.VII. 1980, W. Wittmer; Sonder, 2000-2300 m, 9.VII.1980, W. Wittmer; Jourdu-Sardanda, 2350 m, 17.VII.1980, W. Wittmer; Sirashi-Hanzal, 1700-2100 m, 8.VII.1980, W. Wittmer; Kashmir: E Kala-Sonder, 1700-2100 m, 8.VII.1980, R. Aspöck; Hanzal-Jourdu, 2100 m, 14.VII.1980, W. Wittmer; Daksum, 2400-2700 m, 9-13.VII.1980, W. Wittmer; Inchan, 2500-2800 m, 19.VII.1980, W. Wittmer; Waniaram b., Kangan, 2050-2700 m, 25.VII.1980, W. Wittmer (NHMB and ICM).

Very similar to *L. ambiguus* in male genitalia which is only slightly thicker. The coloration of prothorax seems to be the only external character separating the two species.

Lycostomus elongatulus Bourgeois

Fig. 6A.

Lycostomus elongatulus BOURGEOIS, 1885, Ann. Soc. Ent. Fr. (6)5:73.

Material: ♂, Birma, Dr. Dohrn, «*Lycostomus elongatulus* ♂ Bourg.» (Lectotype, hereby designated, coll. Bourgeois, MP).

Lycostomus stevensi Kleine

Figs. 7A, 7B.

Lycostomus Stevensi KLEINE, 1929, Ind. For. Rec. XIII, 6:225.

Material: ♂, «Paratype», Dejoo, Upper Assam, 6.VII.1910, H. Stevens (ZIW).

Lycostomus decorus Kleine

Figs. 8A, 8B, 8C.

Lycostomus decorus KLEINE, Ind. For. Rec. (N.S.), 1, 193:77.

Material: ♂, Holotype, Chakhata, Holdvani U.P., B.M. Bhatia, 4.V.1930, India, B.M. 1931-84, «Type», «*Lycostomus decorus* Kln. det. Typus» (BM).

Lycostomus analis Dalman

Figs. 9A, 9B.

Lycus analis DALMAN, 1817, in Schönh. Syn. Ins. III, App.: 30.

Metriorrhynchus moricii FAIRMAIRE, 1878, Ann. Soc. Ent. Fr. (5) VIII, 272, n.syn.

Lycostomus rufiventris C.O WATERHOUSE, 1879, Ill. Typ. Spec. Col. I:12, n.syn. (?)

Material: ♂, Cochinchine, Amiral Vignes 1898, «*Lycostomus analis* Dalm. Bourgeois det. 1901»; ♂, Birma, «*Lycostomus rufiventris* C.O. Waterh.» (coll. Bourgeois, MP); ♂, «*Porrostoma* (!) *Moricii* Fairm., Cochinchine» (Holotype, coll. Fairmaire, MP).

L. moricii the type of which has been studied is not separable from *L. analis*. *L. rufiventris* from Bourgeois collection differs from *L. analis* only in having a dark spot on the disc of the pronotum and probably is nothing but a colour variation of the same taxon.

***Lycostomus thoracicus* C.O. Waterhouse** Fig. 10A.

Lycostomus thoracicus C.O. WATERHOUSE, 1879, Ill. Typ. Spec. Col. I:16.

Material: ♂, Himalaya, «*Lycostomus thoracicus*»; ♂, Ind. or. (coll. Bourgeois, MP).

***Lycostomus restitutus* Bourgeois** Figs. 11A, 11B.

Lycostomus restitutus BOURGEOIS, 1885, Ann. Soc. Ent. Fr. (6) V:75.

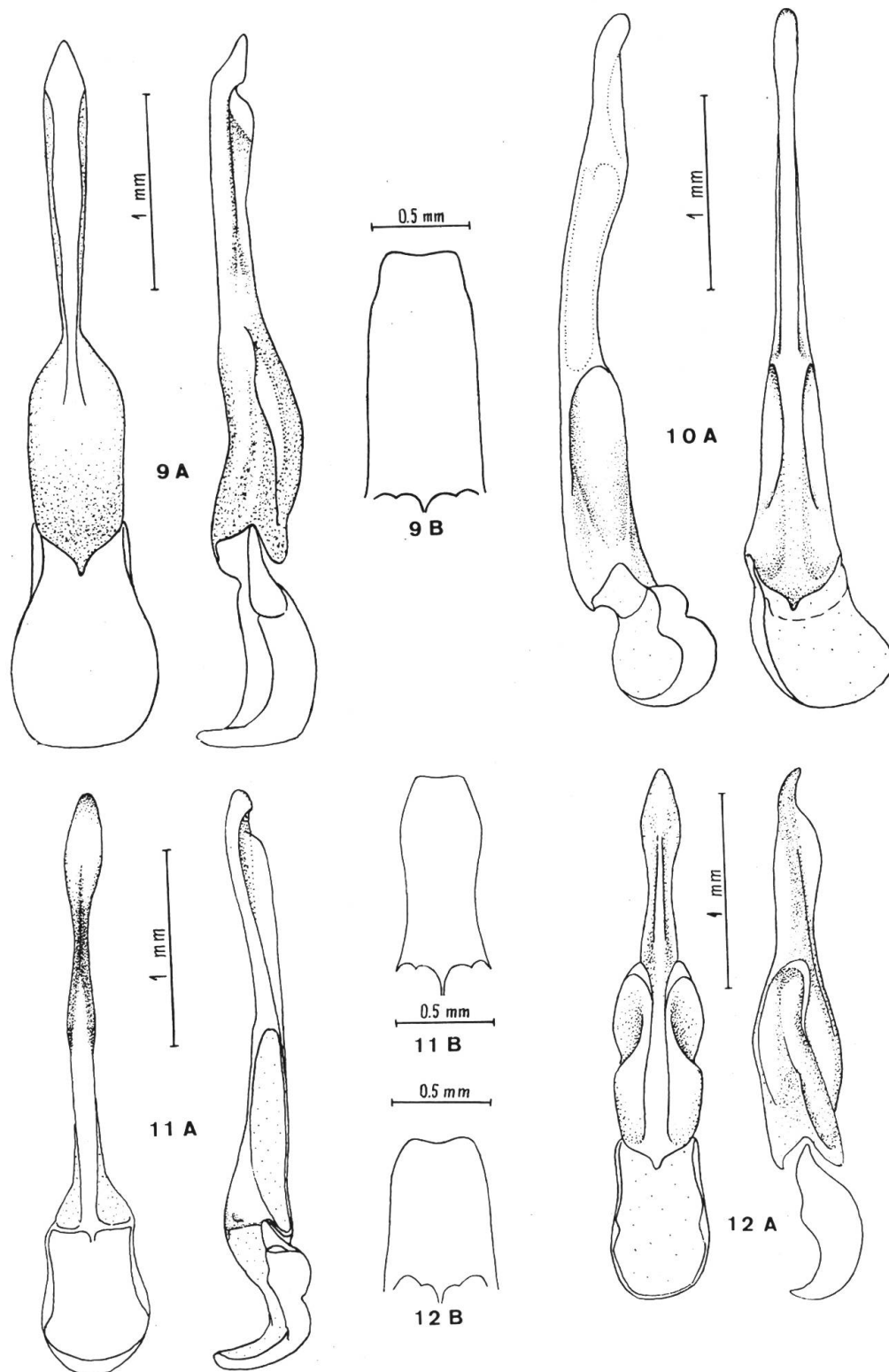
Material: ♂, Ind. or., coll. E. Brown, «*Lycostomus restitutus* Bourg.» (Lectotype, hereby designated, coll. Bourgeois, MP); ♀, Ind. bor., coll. E. Brown, «*Lycostomus restitutus* Bourg.» (Paralectotype, hereby designated, coll. Bourgeois, MP); W Nepal: Dhawalagiri, Kali-G, Khola, Kopchepani, 1600 m, 18.VI.1986, C. Holzschuh; Kali, Gandaki, Kopchepani, 1500-1600 m, 21.V.1984, Bhakta B.: Dhawalagiri, Mustang D., Kali-G, Khola, Kalopani, 2500-2800 m, 21-25.VI.1986, C. Holzschuh; C Nepal: Kathmandu V., Balaju, 1400 m, 20.V.1983, M. Brancucci; Kathmandu V., Godavari, 1500 m, 10-12.VI.1984; E Nepal: Lamobagar Gao, 1400 m, 28-31.V.1980, W. Wittmer; Namche Bazar, 3200 m, Khumba, 3.VI.1979, Bhakta B., Arun V., Lamobagar Gola, 1400 m, 9-14.VI.1983, M. Brancucci; Arun V., Num-Hedangna, 1500-800-1100 m, 7.VI.1983, M. Brancucci; Chichila-Pangma, 1900-1200 m, 18.VI.1980, W. Wittmer; Bhandar, 2100 m, 21.V.1979, B. Bhakta; Jammu: Palmar-Ekala, 1700 m, 7.VII.1980, W. Wittmer; India, U.P.: Barkot, 1100-1200 m, 5-12.VI.1981, M. Brancucci; Bhimtal, 1400 m, V-VI.1978, F. Smetaček; Bhimtal, 1-15.V.1978, W. Wittmer; Gangani, 1250 m, 13-20.VI.1981, M. Brancucci; Sattal, 1400 m, 21.V.1981, M. Brancucci; Karidy, 1300 m, 17.VI.1981, M. Brancucci; Darjeeling: Tista, 18.IV.1987, Bhakta B.; Shamalbung, 1200 m, (KPG), 9.IV.1986, Ch. J. Rai; Renok, 7-11.IV.1987, Ch.J.Rai; Dumra, 700 m, 23.IV.1984, Bhakta B.

***Lycostomus singularis* C.O. Waterhouse** Figs. 12A, 12B.

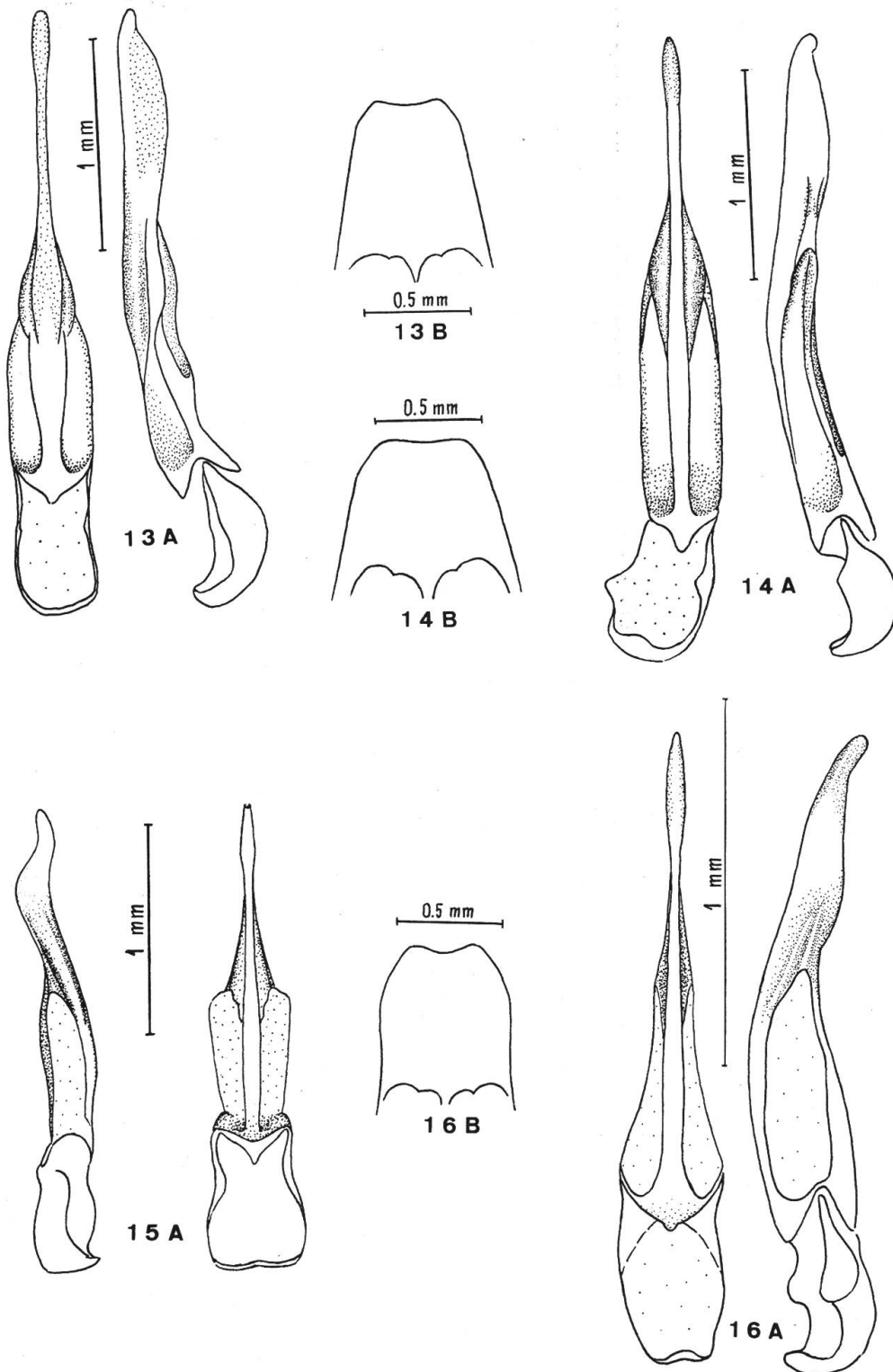
Lycostomus singularis C.O. WATERHOUSE, 1879, Ill. Typ. Spec. Col. I:12.

Material: ♀, «Type», S India, «*Lycostomus singularis* (Type) C. C. Waterh.»; ♂♀, Nilgiri Hills, G. F. Hampson, 94-89 (BM).

The type of *L. singularis* is a female from «South India». The sketches presented are taken of a male specimen from Nilgiri Hills belonging to the British Museum which corresponds to the Type and had been identified as *L. singularis*.



Figs 9A-12B: 9, *Lycostomus analis* Dalman ♂. 10, *L. thoracicus* Waterhouse ♂. 11, *L. restitutus* Bourgeois ♂. 12, *L. singularis* Waterhouse ♂. A = aedeagus, B = rostrum.



Figs 13A-16B: 13, *Lycostomus honestus* Bourgeois ♂. 14, *L. striatus* Waterhouse ♂. 15, *L. auriculatus* Fairmaire ♂. 16, *L. darjeelensis* n. sp. ♂. A = aedeagus, B = rostrum.

Lycostomus honestus Bourgeois

Figs. 13A, 13B.

Lycostomus modestus C.O. WATERHOUSE, 1879, Ill. Typ. Spec. Col. I:11.*Lycostomus honestus* BOURGEOIS, 1885, Ann. Soc. Ent. Fr. (6-V): 73.

Material: ♂, «Type», «Syntype», «*modestus* (Type) C. Waterh.»; «*honestus* Bourg.» (BM); ♂, Chamba; ♀, H(imalaya), «*Lycocerus* (!) *honestus* Bg. *modestus* Wat. Simla» (MP).

Lycostomus striatus C.O. Waterhouse

Figs. 14A, 14B.

Lycostomus striatus C.O. WATERHOUSE; 1879, Ill. Typ. Spec. Col. I:15.

Material: ♀, «Type», «Syntype», McClelland, «60-15, E.I.C.», *Lycostomus striatus* (Type) C. Waterh.»; ♂, «Syntype», McClelland, «60-15, E.I.C.» (BM).

Lycostomus auriculatus Fairmaire

Fig. 15A.

Lycostomus auriculatus FAIRMAIRE, 1891, Ann. Comp. Rend. Soc. Ent. Belg. XXXV:XC.

Material. ♂, «*Lycostomus auriculatus* Fairm. K(ashmir) (Lectotype, hereby designated, coll. Fairmaire, MP)

Lycostomus darjeelensis n.sp.

Figs. 16A, 16B.

Black; second antennal joint brownish; lateral margins of pronotum and elytra except scutellar infuscated spot brick red with short reddish pubescence.

♂. Rostrum rather short; head almost flat behind antennal prominence; eyes small (the diameter twice as short as the distance between them); maxillary palpi slender, the last joint obconical and subequal in length to second; antennae about half as long as the body, slightly dentate, third joint the longest, equal to fifth and sixth taken together.

Pronotum square with glabrous shining disc with very fine vestiture, its lateral margins considerably raised and hind angles slightly produced laterally. Scutellum elongate, parallel-sided, slightly emarginate at apex.

Elytra widest behind the middle with uneven double rows of reticulate cells between moderately raised costae. Penultimate abdominal sternite semicircularly emarginate.

Aedeagus: Fig. 16A.

♀. Similar to male, but antennae shorter.

Length: 10.5-12.0 mm.

Types: ♂, Holotype, Darjeeling, Tista V., 300 m, 11.III.1986, B. Bhakta (NHMB); ♂ and ♀, Paratypes, same label (NHMB and ICM).

The new species is similar in appearance to *L. honestus* Bourg. from

which it can be distinguished by glabrous shining pronotum, its more narrow red lateral margins, the shape of the aedeagus, etc.

Lycostomus delicuus n.sp.

Figs. 17A, 17B.

Dark brown; pronotum except the discal part and elytra except scutellar infuscation rufous, with short reddish pubescence.

♂. Rostrum comparatively short; head distinctly impressed behind antennal prominence; eyes rather small (ratio of the radius to the distance between the eyes 0.8:2.2); maxillary palpi slender, with third joint the widest and fourth conical and equal to second; third antennal joint the longest, first and second combined not longer than two thirds of third.

Pronotum slightly wider than long with hind angles remarkably produced laterally; lateral margins considerably raised, especially in the basal half. Scutellum parallel-sided, slightly emarginate at apex.

Elytra widest behind the middle, costae not prominent, the interstices with traces of double rows of reticulate cells, third costa uneven in the humeral third, fourth interstice the widest. Penultimate abdominal sternite twice as wide as long, moderately sinuate; the free part of the last sternite twice as long as wide.

♀. Unknown.

Length: 9.9 mm.

Holotype ♂ (NHMB), Darjeeling, Pedong, 12.VII.1981, Bhakta B.

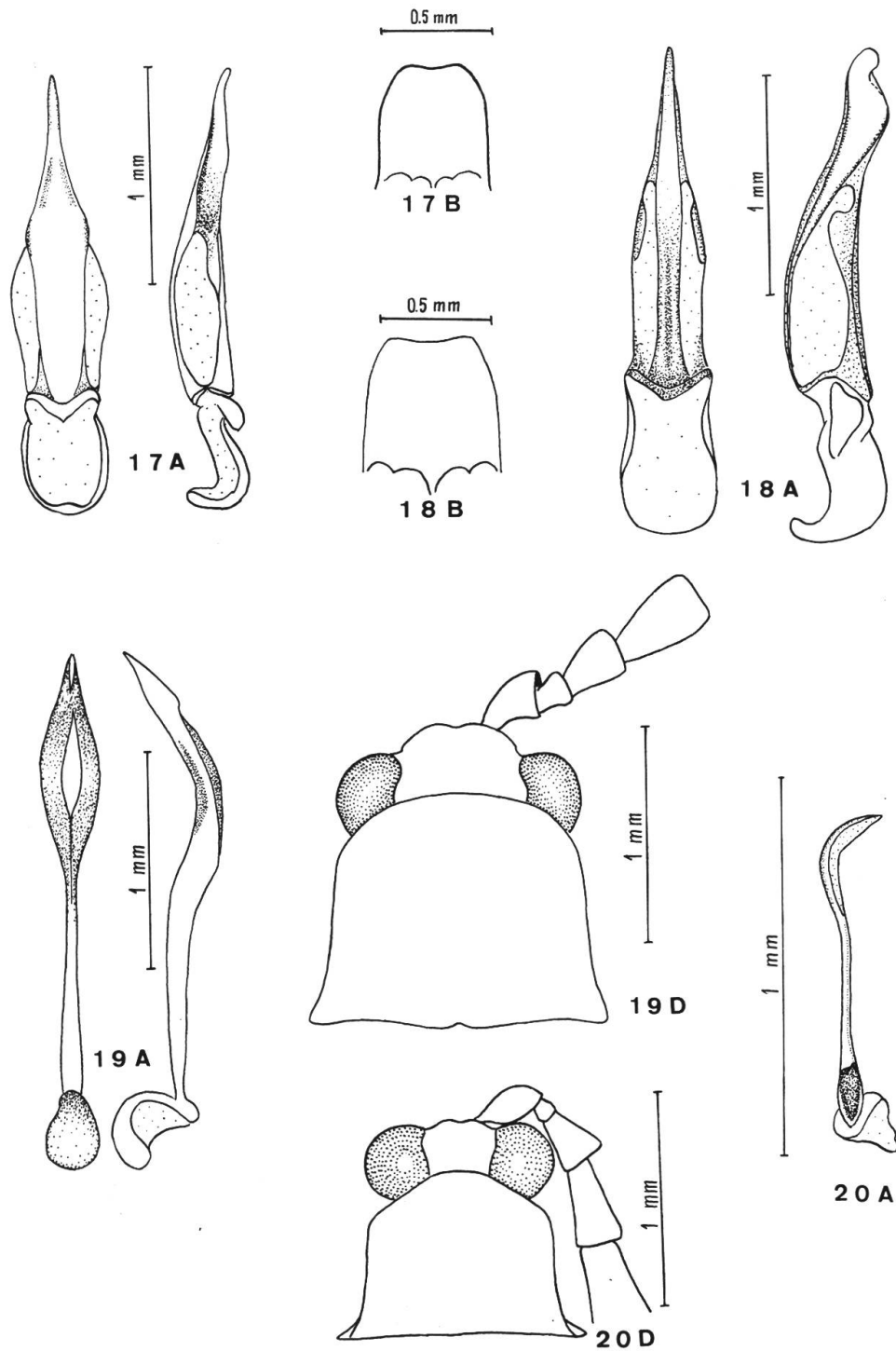
This species belongs to the *honestus-auriculatus* group. In addition to the shape of the aedeagus *L. delicuus* can be distinguished from *L. honestus* and *L. auriculatus* by more acutely produced hind angles of the pronotum. From *L. honestus* it can also be separated by broader rufous lateral margins of the pronotum.

Lycostomus delectus n.sp.

Figs. 18A, 18b.

Dark brown; pronotum except the vague discal spot and elytra except the suture in the basal quarter rufous; femora except apical parts, three basal antennal joints, lateral margins of abdomen fulvous; upper side with short dense reddish pubescence.

♂. Rostrum comparatively short (Fig. 18B); head almost flat behind antennal prominence; eyes small (the radius three times less than the distance between the eyes); maxillary palpi slender, the last joint obconic, as wide as third and as long as second; third antennal joint the longest, considerably longer than fourth, joints 7-9 distinctly dentate, joints 4-6 with blunt apical angle.



Figs 17A-20D: 17, *Lycostomus delicus* n. sp. ♂. 18, *L. delectus* n. sp. ♂. 19, *Plateoros carbonarius* Waterhouse ♂. 20, *P. exsanguis* n. sp. ♂. A = aedeagus, B = rostrum, D = front part of the body.

Pronotum flat, slightly wider than long, with prominent hind angles considerably produced laterally and noticeable front angles. Scutellum slightly longer than wide, nearly parallel-sided, with a small excavation at apex.

Elytra widest behind the middle with first, second and fourth costae prominent and third evidently weaker but well shaped almost to humeri, the interstices with uneven reticulation not forming rows of cells.

Aedeagus: Fig. 18A.

♀. Similar to male but elytra with shorter pubescence, antennal joints 3-11 relatively shorter and legs completely dark brown.

Length: 12.5-13.5 mm.

Types: Holo- and Allotype ♂ and ♀ (NHMB), Sikkim: Diukchu, 10.IX.1977, Bhakta B.; ♂, Paratype, Darjeeling, Peding, 800-1200 m, 15.VIII.1978 (ICM).

L. delectus n.sp. is close to *L. delicuus* n.sp. but is readily distinguishable by the flat pronotum, stout antennae, different reticulation of elytra, the shape of the aedeagus, etc.

Plateros carbonarius C.O. Waterhouse Figs. 19A, 19D.

Plateros carbonarius C.O. WATERHOUSE, 1879, Ill. Typ. Spec. Col. I:28.

Material: ♂, «Type», «*Entodaphius carbonarius* (Type) C. Waterh.» (BM).

Plateros exsanguis n.sp. Figs. 20A, 20D.

Dark brown; narrow borders of pronotum, trochanters and the base of femora yellowish.

♂. Head slightly impressed behind antennal prominence; eyes rather large, the radius equal to the distance between them (Fig. 20D); antennal joint 2 small, 4 times shorter than joint 3, the latter only slightly shorter than joint 4.

Pronotum shining, slightly wider than long, with acute produced laterally hind angles (Fig. 20D) and scarce pubescence. Scutellum square, slightly impressed, parallel-sided, emarginate at apex.

Elytra long (4 times longer than wide at the shoulders and 6 times as long as pronotum), narrow (at the shoulders not wider than pronotum) with 4 moderately elevated costae and distinct double rows of cells between them, with relatively long dark pubescence. Legs long and slender, femora and tibiae subequal in width. Abdomen moderately shining, with dark pubescence.

Aedeagus: Fig. 20A.

♀. Unknown.

Length: 4.8 mm.

Types: Holotype ♂ (ZIW) Tenasserim, Javoy, Doherty, «*Plateros birmanicus* Kleine», «Paratype No. 738».

The specimen indicated as a paratype of *Plateros birmanicus* actually turned out to be a new species. It resembles *P. carbonarius* Waterh. but is more slender, with bigger eyes.

***Plateros slipinskyi* n.sp**

Figs. 21A, 21D.

Unicolorously dark brown.

♂. Head almost flat, only very slightly impressed behind antennal prominence; eyes rather small (Fig. 21D); second antennal joint very short, third much longer and only slightly shorter than fourth.

Pronotum wider than long (Fig. 21D). Scutellum transverse, convex at apex.

Elytra comparatively broad (only 3 times longer than wide at the shoulders) with first, second and third costae strongly elevated at the base. Legs rather short, femora considerably (1.5 times) wider than tibiae.

Aedeagus: Fig. 21A.

♀. Unknown. (There is a possibility that females of this species might be found in typical series of «*Plateros birmanicus*» in the British Museum).

Length: 4.7 mm.

Types: Holotype ♂ (ZIW), Assam: Patkai Mts., Doherty, «Paratype No. 739» (*Plateros birmanicus* Kleine).

This is another case when a paratype of *Plateros birmanicus* appears to be a different species. It is easily distinguishable by much less dentate antennae, the shape of the aedeagus and other characters. The species is named after Dr. A. Slipinsky through whose courtesy I have been able to study this specimen along with many others from R. Kleine's collection.

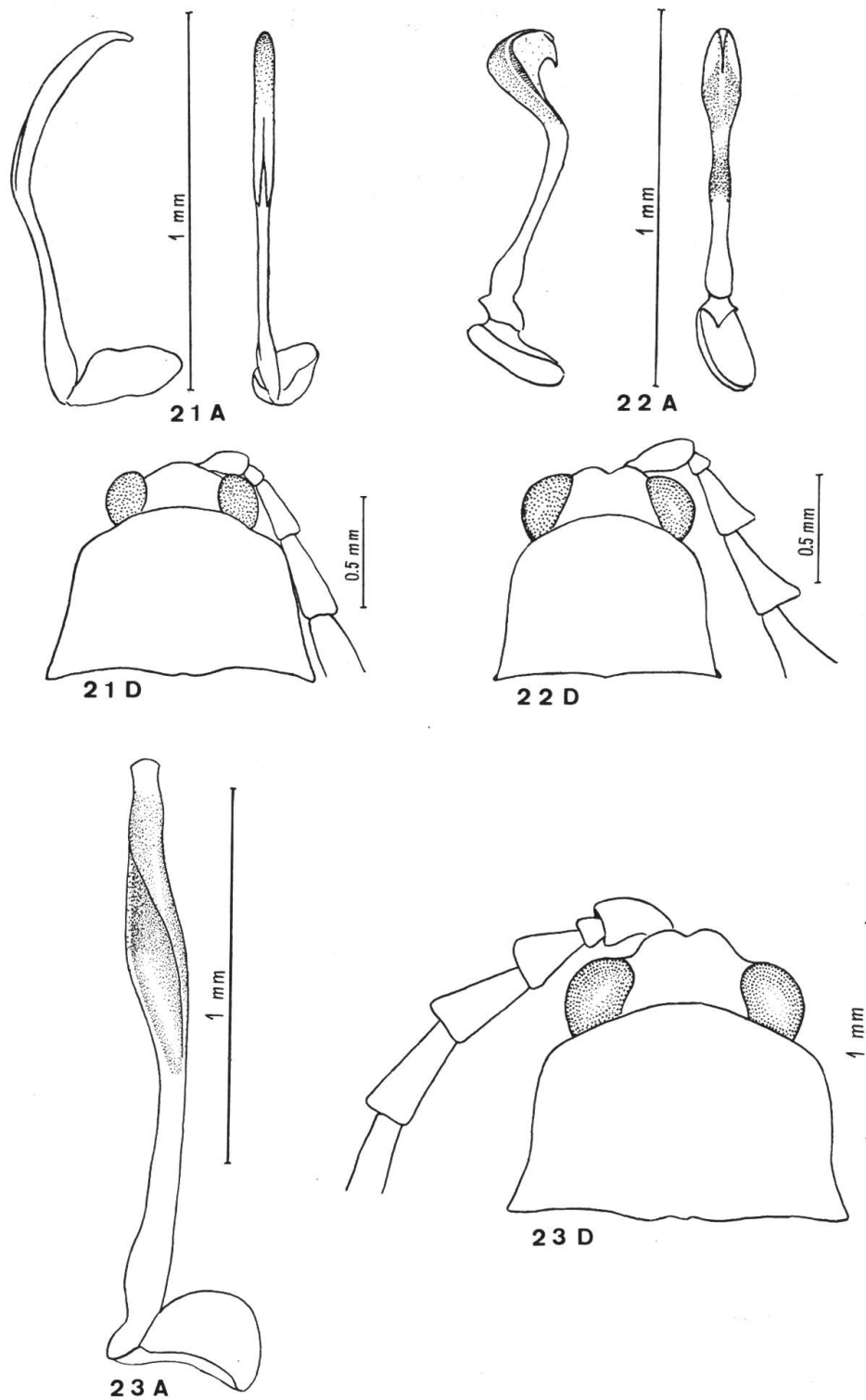
***Plateros cinereus* n.sp.**

Figs. 22A, 22D.

Black with greyish pubescence; lateral margins and hind angles of pronotum brownish.

♂. Head slightly impressed behind antennal prominence; eyes moderately big (Fig. 22D); antennae from joint 3 dentate, with long erect pubescence.

Pronotum transverse, almost parallel-sided, with hind angles emerging laterally (Fig. 22D). Scutellum small, parallel-sided, broadly emarginate at apex.



Figs 21A-23D: 21, *Plateros slipinskyi* n. sp. ♂. 22, *P. cinereus* n. sp. ♂. 23, *P. indianus* Gorham ♂.
 A = aedeagus, D = front part of the body.

Elytra long (5 times as long as pronotum), parallel-sided, with primary costae distinctly more elevated than secondary ones and even rows of well pronounced cells between them, with dark subinclined pubescence.

Legs moderately long, femora and tibiae nearly straight and subequal in width.

Aedeagus: Fig. 22A.

♀. Similar to male, but antennae less dentate. Eyes as large as in male.

Length: 4.4-4.6 mm.

Types: Holotype (NHMB) O Nepal: Num-Hedangna, 1500-750-1100 m, 1980, W. Wittmer; ♂, Allotype (NHMB), O Nepal, Lamobagar Gao, 1100 m, 28-31.V.1980, W. Wittmer; ♂, Paratype, Pokhara, 820 m, 15-11.VI.1976, W. Wittmer, C. Baroni Urbani (ICM).

It is another species of black *Plateros* which can be distinguished only by the shape of male genitalia.

Plateros indianus Gorham

Figs. 23A, 23D.

Plateros indianus GORHAM, 1903, Ann. Soc. Ent. Belg. XCVII:324.

Material: ♀, «Gorham. Type», Nilgiri Hills, Andrewes Bequest B.M. 1922-221, «*Plateros indianus* Gorh.»; ♂♀, Nilgiri Hills, «Syntype», «*Plateros indianus* Gorh.»; 2♂♀, Nilgiri Hills, S India, T. V. Cambell, Ex Coll. E. A. Butler, B.M. 1926-171 (BM).

Plateros rubripennis Pic

Figs. 24A, 24D.

Plateros rubripennis PIC, 1919, Mélanges 30:21.

Material: ♂ (Holotype), Chambaganor, Madura, Inde, «*Plateros rubripennis* Pic», «Type»; ♀, Koduland, 2000 m, «*Plateros indianus*» (Pic's handwirting) (MP).

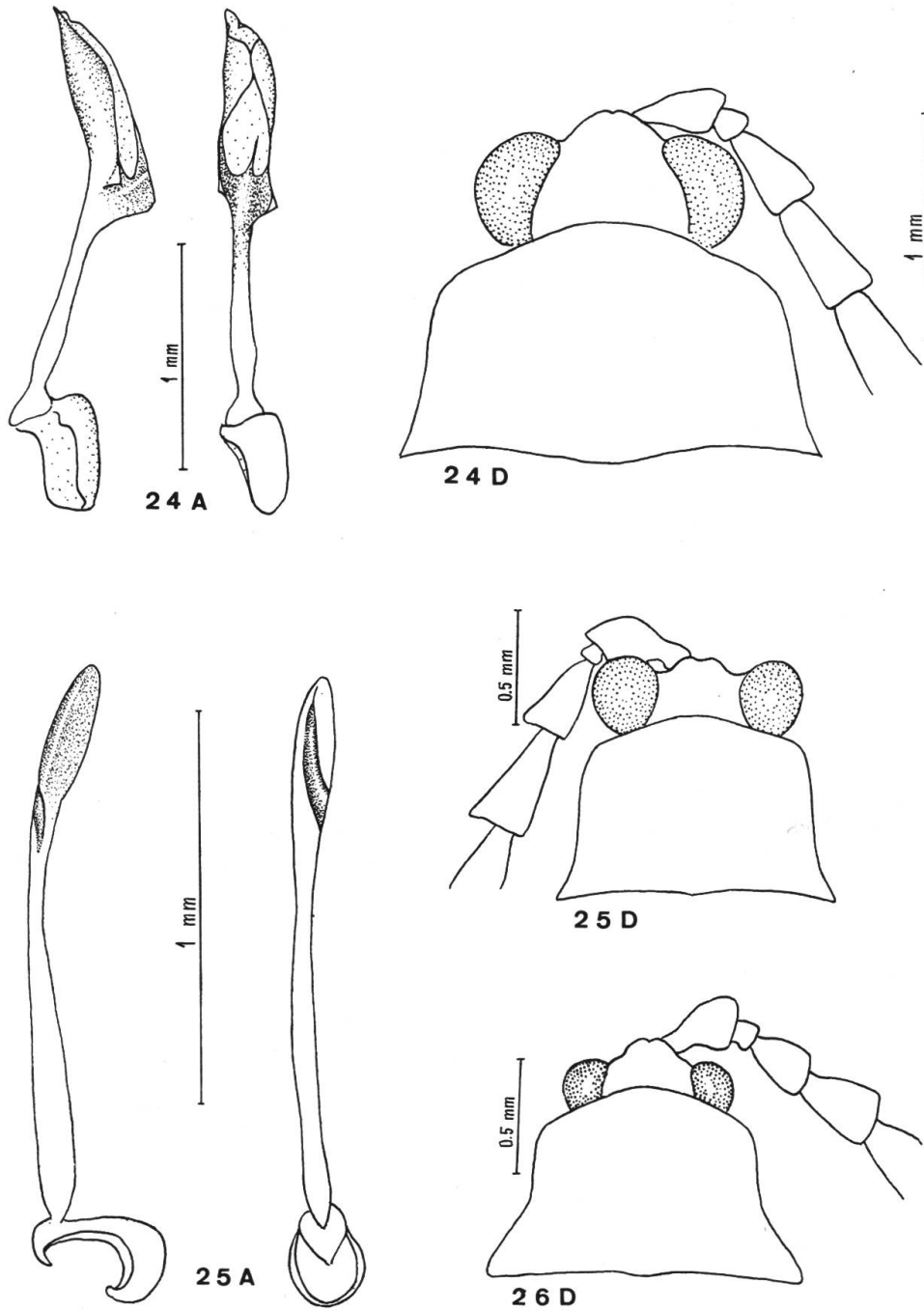
Plateros harmandi Bourgeois

Plateros harmandi BOURGEOIS, 1902, Bull. Mus. Paris VIII:92.

Plateros sikkimanus KLEINE, 1928, Ind. For. Rec. 6:240, Pl. II, fig. 52, n.syn.

Material: ♂♀ (Lectotype and Paralectotype, hereby designated), Darjiling, Harmand, 1890, «Type», «*Plateros (Planeteros) Harmandi* Bourg. det. 1902 (MP); Bhutan, Thang, VII, 1970, Kunzang; Darjeeling, Chittray, Lalimp. 300 m, 8.V.1987, Ch. J. Rai (NHMB and ICM).

Comparing the male genitalia of *P. harmandi* with *P. sikkimanus* demonstrated the identity of the two species which externally can hardly be distinguishable from *P. cimicoides* Kleine.



Figs 24A-26D: 24, *Plateros rubripennis* Pic ♂. 25, *P. suturalis* Pic ♂. 26, *P. suturalis* Pic ♀.

A = aedeagus, D = front part of the body.

Plateros suturalis Pic

Figs. 25A, 25D, 26D.

Plateros suturalis PIC, 1919, Mélanges 30: 21.

Material: ♀ (Lectotype, hereby designated), Sikkim, «*Pl. suturalis* Pic», «Type» (MP); ♀; India, Simla, VII.1980, W. Heinz (NHMB); 2♂, India U.P., Chaurangi, 23.V.1978, W. Wittmer (NHMB and ICM).

The type of *P. suturalis* is a female. In the material of the Basel Museum a female and a couple of males were found that agree with the type specimen.

Plateros macrosuturalis n.sp.

Figs. 27A, 27D, 28D.

Dark brown; elytra yellowish with discal part broadly darkened from base to about two thirds; the borders of the dark stripes distinct; the lighter part of elytra with yellowish, the darker with greyish pubescence.

♂. Head distinctly impressed behind antennal prominence: eyes rather small (Fig. 27D); apical joint of maxillary palpi the widest, securiform; antennae three fourths as long as the body, joints 3-11 subequal in length with dark erect pubescence, second joint 5 times shorter than third (Fig. 27D).

Pronotum transverse, with anterior margin slightly arcuate and hind angles moderately produced laterally (fig. 27D). Scutellum square, parallel-sided, nearly straight at apex.

Elytra rather long (4 times longer than wide at the shoulders and 6 times as long as pronotum), slightly widening posteriorly with equally developed primary costae and uneven double rows of reticulate cells between them; vestiture rather short and dense. Legs long and slender, femora and tibiae straight and subequal in length, only middle femora slightly shorter than middle tibiae, femora slightly stouter than tibiae.

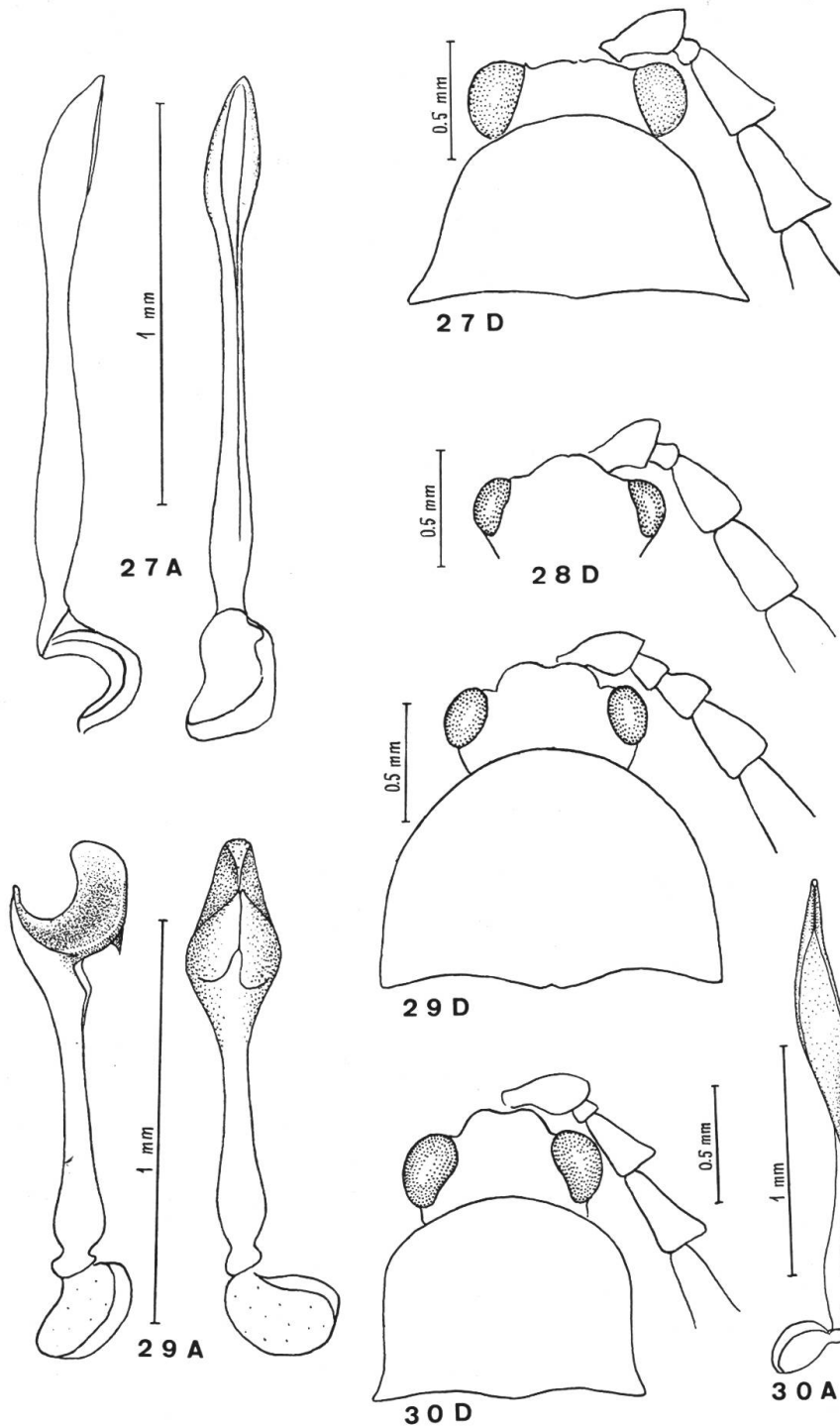
Aedeagus long and nearly straight (fig. 27A).

♀. Similar to male, but antennae less dentate and eyes smaller (Fig. 28D).

Length: 5.2-6.0 mm.

Types: Holo-, Allo- and paratypes ♂♀ (NHMB), Nepal: Phulchoki, 2600 m, 11-14.VI.1976. W. Wittmer, C. Baroni Urbani; paratypes: Kathmandu V., Godawari, 1500 m, 22-25.VI.1983, M. Brancucci: O Nepal, Neentale, 30.V.1979, Bhakta B.Ch.: O Nepal, Sheopuri, N Kathmandu, 1800-2500 m, 27.VI.1980, W. Wittmer (NHMB and ICM).

Beside the shape of the male genitalia this species can be separated from *P. suturalis* by a broader infuscated elytral stripe and smaller eyes.



Figs 27A-30D: 27, *Plateros macrosuturalis* n. sp. ♂. 28, *P. macrosuturalis* n. sp. ♀. 29, *P. nepalensis* n. sp. ♂. 30, *P. brancuccii* n. sp. ♂.
 A = aedeagus, D = front part of the body.

Plateros nepalensis n.sp.

Figs. 29A, 29D.

Black; elytra except long dark discal stripes narrowing posteriorly orange-brown with yellowish pubescence; lateral margins of pronotum sometimes narrowly red-brown.

♂. Head moderately transversely impressed behind antennal prominence; eyes comparatively small (Fig. 29D); apical joint of maxillary palpi obconic, only twice as long as third; antennae short and stout, half as long as the body, third joint twice as long as second and twice as short as fourth, vestiture of joints 4-11 dark, erect and moderately long, of joints 1-3 long and decumbent.

Pronotum transverse, semielliptic, distinctly bisinuate basally, with hind angles not produced laterally (Fig. 29D), as wide as elytra at the shoulders. Scutellum square, parallel-sided, slightly emarginate at apex.

Elytra short (3 times longer than wide at the shoulders) with moderately elevated primary costae, of which only third (humeral) distinctly more developed throughout, and double rows of feeble cells between them, with very short and sparse pubescence on the disc and somewhat longer and denser vestiture at suture, lateral margins and humeral costae basally. Legs rather short and stout, tibiae curved, slightly shorter than femora.

Aedeagus: Fig. 29A.

♀. Similar to male but antennae shorter and stouter. Eyes nearly as large as in male.

Length: 4.6-5.2 mm.

Types: Holotype ♂ (NHMB), E Nepal: Arun V., Lamobagar Gola, 1400 m, 8-14.VI.1983, M. Brancucci; Paratypes: Lamobagar Gao, 1400 m, 28-31.V.1980, W. Wittmer; Hatiya-Lamobagar Gao, 1550-1000 m, 2.VI.1980, W. Wittmer; Lamobagar Gao-Hedangna, 1000-1500-1100 m, 4.VI.1980, W. Wittmer; Hedangna-Shedawa, 1000-800-1700 m, 5.VI.1980, W. Wittmer; Arun V., Hedangna, Lamobagar, 1100-1400 m, 8.VI.1983, M. Brancucci; Arun V., Lamobagar Gola, 1400 m, 8-14.VI.1983, M. Brancucci; Arun V., Lamobagar, Hadangna (Arun), 1400-800 m, 15.VI.1983, M. Brancucci; Arun V., Arun R. – Num, 800-1500 m, 17.VI.1983, M. Brancucci (NHMB and ICM).

This species is readily separated from other *Plateros* species by the shape of the pronotum, characteristic coloration of elytra and the shape of the aedeagus.

Plateros brancuccii n.sp.

Figs. 30A, 30D.

Dark brown; mouth parts and elytra except basal longitudinal stripes fulvous with yellowish pubescence.

♂. Head slightly impressed behind antennal prominence; eyes rather small (Fig. 30D); apical joint of maxillary palpi securiform, much wider than preceding; antennae slender, dentate, two thirds as long as the body, second joint 3 times shorter than third, third slightly shorter than fourth (Fig. 30D) with long erect pubescence.

Pronotum transverse, glabrous, shining, nearly parallel-sided, with scarce decumbent pubescence, hind angles small, produced laterally (Fig. 30D). Scutellum square, parallel-sided, nearly straight at apex.

Elytra rather long (3.5 times longer than wide at the shoulders and 6 times longer than pronotum) with moderately elevated costae and even double rows of cells in the interstices.

Legs slender, tibiae feebly curved. Aedeagus resembling a twisted leaf (Fig. 30A).

♀. Similar to male, but antennae nearly filiform with shorter vestiture.

Length: 5.0-6.0 mm.

Types: Holotype ♂ and Allotype ♀ (NHMB), Nepal: Godavari, 1500 m, 23.V.1983, M. Brancucci, India: Darjeeling, Anbegh Kaman, 1-4.IV.1987, Ch. J. Rai; Paratypes: ♂, W Nepal: Modi Khola, Pothana, 1900 m, 5-7.V.1984, C. Holzschuh (ICM); ♂, Nepal, Chandan Bari, 3350 m, 22.VI.1978, Bhakta B. Ch. (NHMB).

This species has a remarkable twisted aedeagus by which it is easily distinguished from all other *Plateros* of the same habitus. The female described as the Allotype had a penis inserted. The specimen from Chandan Bari, Nepal, captured at an altitude of 3350 m, has dark red elytra which are lighter laterally and at the suture and covered with red pubescence.

Plateros wittmerianus n.sp.

Figs. 31A, 31D.

Dark brown; anterior and posterior margins of pronotum narrowly, lateral margins broader and elytra except vague basal stripes fulvous with reddish pubescence.

♀. Head nearly flat behind antennal prominence; eyes rather small (Fig. 31D); apical joint of maxillary palpi securiform, as wide as preceding; antennae slender (Fig. 31D), second joint 2.5 times shorter than third, third 1.5 times shorter than fourth, length of joints 4-11 slightly increasing towards apex, joints 4-9 dentate; vestiture long and erect.

Pronotum slightly transverse, bisinuate basally, with moderately produced hind angles (Fig. 31D). Scutellum square, parallel-sided, nearly straight at apex.

Elytra rather long (3.5 times longer than wide at the shoulders and over 5 times longer than pronotum) with moderately elevated costae and even double rows of cells in between; vestiture dense, partly hiding the reticulation. Legs slender, tibiae nearly straight.

Aedeagus sail-shaped (Fig. 31A).

♀. Unknown.

Length: 4.8 mm.

Types: Holotype ♂ (NHMB), O Nepal: Mure-Num, 1900-1500 m, 25.V.1980, W. Wittmer.

This species has a peculiar sail-shaped aedeagus by which it is separated from all other species of the region in question. Externally resembles *P. brancuccii* n.sp.

Plateros laterculus n.sp.

Figs. 32A, 32D.

Dark brown; second antennal joint brownish; elytra except dark basal stripes brick red with reddish, dark stripes with dark pubescence.

♂. Head slightly flat behind antennal prominence; eyes rather small (Fig. 32D); apical joint of maxillary palpi slightly securiform, wider than preceding; antennae nearly filiform, two thirds as long as the body, second joint twice as long as third, third 1.5 times shorter than fourth (Fig. 32D), joints 4-9 feebly dentate and slightly increasing in length towards apex, joints 3-11 with comparatively short sparse erect pubescence.

Pronotum transverse, nearly parallel-sided, with small hind angles produced laterally (Fig. 32D). Scutellum square, parallel-sided, straight at apex.

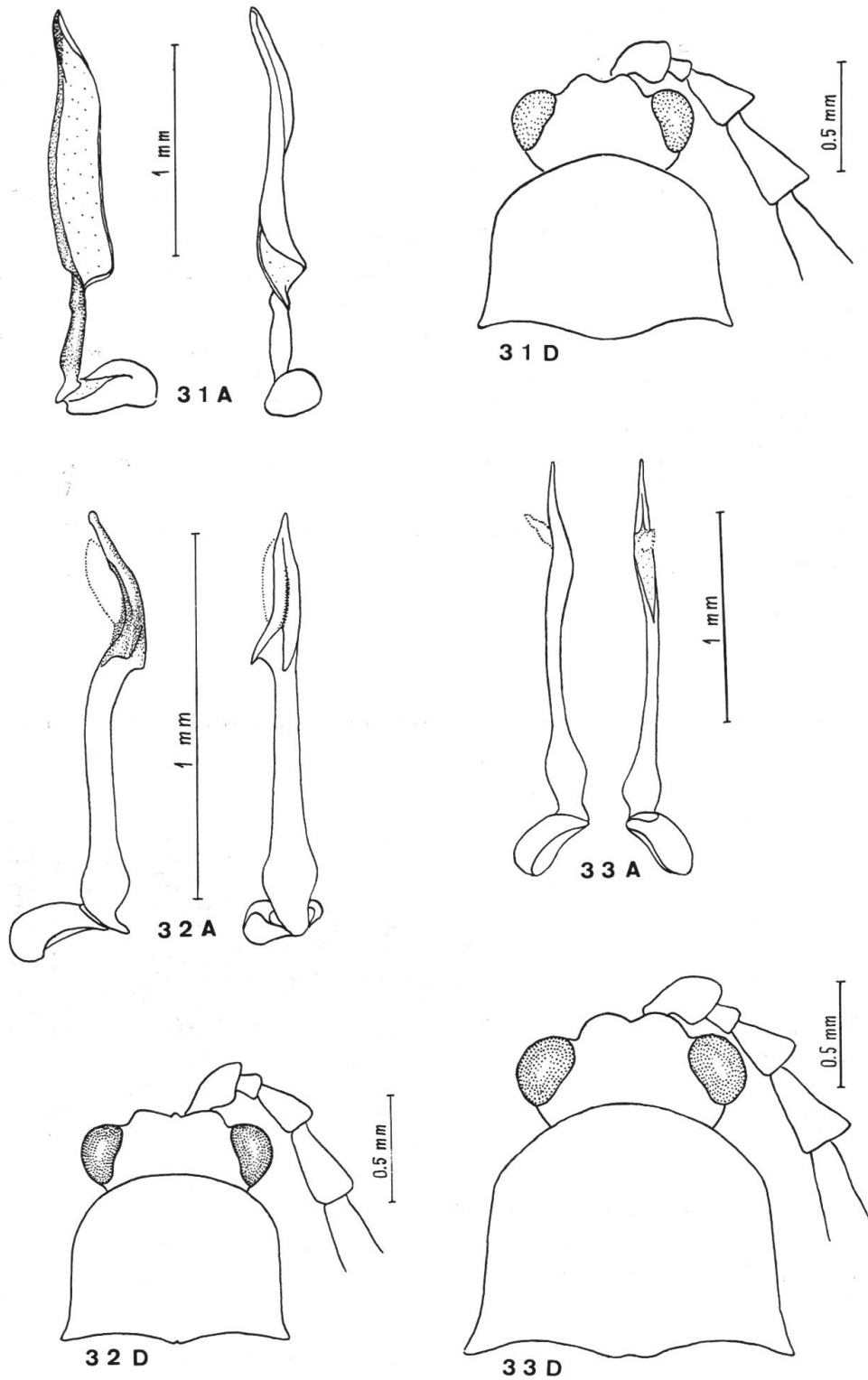
Elytra moderately long (almost 4 times longer than wide at the shoulders and 5 times as long as pronotum), parallel-sided, with moderately elevated costae (the humeral one not stronger than the others) and double rows of cells in the interstices; vestiture short and dense, partly hiding the reticulation. Penultimate abdominal sternite broadly semielliptically emarginate. Legs slender, with tibiae slightly curved.

Aedeagus nearly straight bearing a pair of teeth (Fig. 32A).

♀. Unknown.

Length: 5.0 mm.

Types: Holo- and Paratype 2 ♂ (NHMB and ICM), Nepal: Godavari, 10.VI.1976, W. Wittmer, C. Baroni.



Figs 31A-33D: 31, *Plateros wittmerianus* n. sp. ♂. 32, *P. laterculus* n. sp. ♂. 33, *P. demissus* n. sp. ♂.
 A = aedeagus, D = front part of the body.

This species evidently has close ties with *P. latevittatus* Nakane but differs in the shape of the hind angles of the pronotum, much longer third antennal joint, coloration of the elytra and the aedeagus which is much more robust.

Plateros demissus n.sp.

Figs. 33A, 33D.

Dark brown; second antennal joint and narrow margins of pronotum brownish; elytra except basal longitudinal stripes red with reddish pubescence.

♂. Head slightly impressed behind antennal prominence; eyes small (Fig. 33D); maxillary palpi slender and short, with apical joint securiform, broader than preceding; antennae slender, joints 3-10 dentate, second twice as short as third, third 1.4 times shorter than fourth (Fig. 33D).

Pronotum slightly transverse, nearly parallel-sided, with small hind angles produced laterally (Fig. 33D). Scutellum square, nearly parallel-sided, straight at apex.

Elytra 4 times as long as wide at the shoulders, with moderately elevated costae and distinct double rows of cells in the interstices; vestiture short, moderately dense and decumbent. Legs comparatively short and stout, front femora more than twice as broad as front tibiae.

Aedeagus very thin and straight (Fig. 33A).

♀. Similar to male, but eyes smaller and antennae shorter and filiform.

Length: 5.3-6.5 mm.

Types: Holotype ♂ (NHMB) India: Darjeeling: Sherpa Gau nr., Kalimpong, 1380 m, 8.V.1977, Bhakta B.; Paratypes: Bhalukope, 700 m (KPG), 17.IV.1986, Ch. J. Rai; Monbote, 985 m, 12.IV.1984, Ch. J. Rai; Ringkabong, 890 m, 16.IV.1984, Bhakta B.; Lower Bombusty, 1000 m (KPG), 18.IV.1984, Ch. J. Rai; Sayking, 6-9.V.1987, Bhakta B.; Lopchu, 9.V.1975, W. Wittmer; Kalimpong, Dumra, 700 m, 22.IV.1984 (NHMB and ICM).

This species with red-brown elytra slightly infuscated in the scutellar area is only separable by the shape of the aedeagus.

Plateros bhaktai n.sp.

Figs. 34A, 34D.

Black; mouth parts and elytra except at base fulvous.

♂. Head small, flat behind antennal prominence; eyes moderately large (Fig. 34D); maxillary palpi slender and filiform, terminal joint obconic and compressed apically, third joint slightly longer than wide: an-

tennae slightly more than half as long as the body, fourth joint as long as second and third taken together, joints 4-11 subequal in length, joints 4-7 slightly dentate; vestiture comparatively short and erect.

Pronotum transverse, glabrous, with hind angles acutely produced laterally (Fig. 34D). Scutellum square, parallel-sided, slightly rounded and emarginate apically.

Elytra long (4 times longer than wide at the shoulders and 6 times as long as pronotum) widening posteriorly, with primary costae not differing considerably from secondary ones and regular rows of cells between them, the dark basal infuscation prolonged posteriorly along the suture covered with short dark, the rest with fulvous pubescence. Legs slender, tibiae only slightly curved.

Aedeagus: Fig 34A.

♀. Unknown.

Length: 6.5 mm.

Types: Holotype ♂ (NHMB), Nepal: Chandan Bari, 3350 m, 22.VI.1978, Bhakta B. Ch.; ♂ (Paratype), Nepal, Manigow, 1200-1900 m, 10.VI.1978, Bhakta B. Ch. (ICM).

This species can be placed near *P. cimicoides* Kleine because of similarity of the type of male genitalia and external characters. The difference is in the shape of the aedeagus which is more hooked at apex in the new species and the basal infuscation which is less dissected by the fulvous suture. The paratype is partly destroyed: it lacks part of pronotum, greatest part of antennae, etc.

Plateros dentifer n.sp.

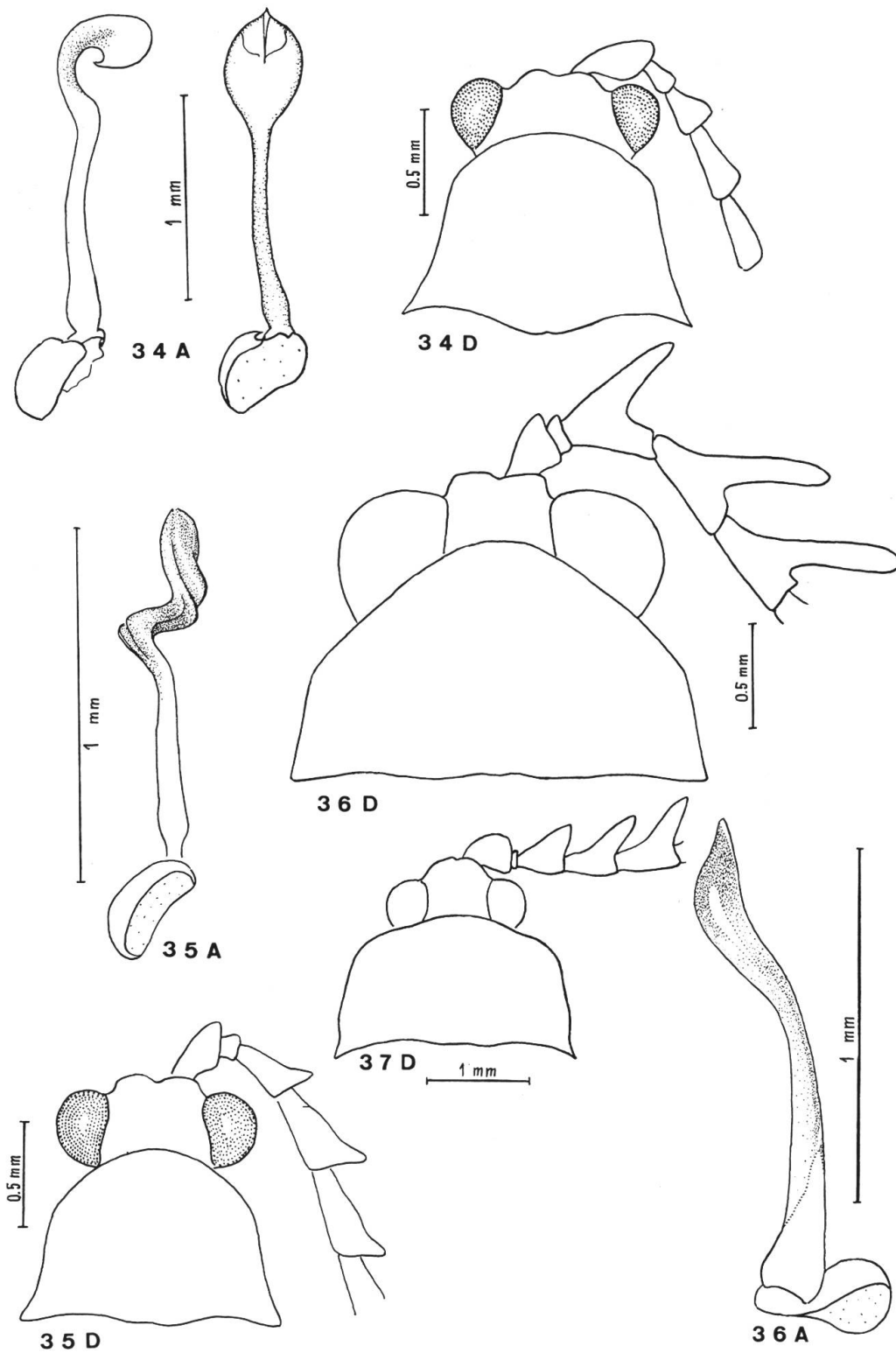
Figs. 35A, 35D.

Dark brown; mouth parts fulvous; elytra dark red with lighter margins and infuscated base, with short sparse reddish pubescence.

♂. Head nearly flat behind antennal prominence; eyes rather large (Fig. 35D); with the distance between them 1.5 times as much as the radius; apical joint of maxillary palpi securiform, only slightly longer than wide; antennae slender, long (three fourths as long as the body) with second joint 2.5 times shorter than third and third slightly shorter than fourth (Fig. 35D), joints 3-10 dentate, joints 4-11 subequal in length, with comparatively short and erect pubescence.

Pronotum slightly transverse, semielliptical, with small hind angles slightly produced laterally (Fig. 35D). Scutellum square, parallel-sided, emarginate at apex.

Elytra 3 times longer than wide at the shoulders and 7 times as long as pronotum, parallel-sided, shining, with moderately elevated primary



Figs 34A-37D: 34, *Plateros bhaktai* n. sp. ♂. 35, *P. dentifer* n. sp. ♂. 36, *Ditoneces obscurus* Waterhouse ♂. 37, *D. obscurus* Waterhouse ♀.
A = aedeagus, D = front part of the body.

costae and even double rows of cells in the interstices. Legs long and slender, tibiae nearly straight.

Aedeagus curved (fig. 35A).

♀. Unknown.

Length: 5.8 mm.

Types: Holotype ♂ (NHMB), Distr. Darjeeling: Chim-Khong (Ghum), 2200 m, 4.VI.1975, W. Wittmer; Paratype ♂, same label (ICM).

Ditoneces obscurus C.O. Waterhouse Figs. 36A, 36D, 37D.

Ditoneces obscurus C.O. WATERHOUSE, 1880, Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist. (5), V:213.

Material: ♀, «Type», «Ind. Mus. 79.64», «*Ditoneces obscurus* (Type) C. Waterh.»; ♂, Penang (Lamb.), Pascoe Coll.. 93-60, «*Ditoneces obscurus*» (BM).

The Holotype of *D. obscurus* is a female. The male from Penang though identified as *D. obscurus* can be attributed to this species with a certain degree of doubt. Therefore we accompany the sketch of male genitalia taken of that male with an illustration of the female type.

Ditoneces nilgirensis Gorham Figs. 38A, 38D.

Ditoneces nilgirensis GORHAM, 1903, Ann. Soc. Ent. Belg. XLII:323.

Material: ♂, «Type», Nilgiri Hills, Brit. Mus. 1923-320, «*Ditoneces nilgirensis* Gorh.»; ♀, «Syntype», Nilgiri Hills, «*Ditoneces nilgirensis* ♀ Gorh.» (BM).

Ditoneces longeflabellatus Pic Figs. 39A, 39C, 39D.

Ditoneces longeflabellatus PIC, 1928, Mélanges, 51:15.

Material: ♂ (lectotype, hereby designated), Kodulland, 2000 m, Indes, «*Ditoneces longeflabellatus* sp.n.» (MP).

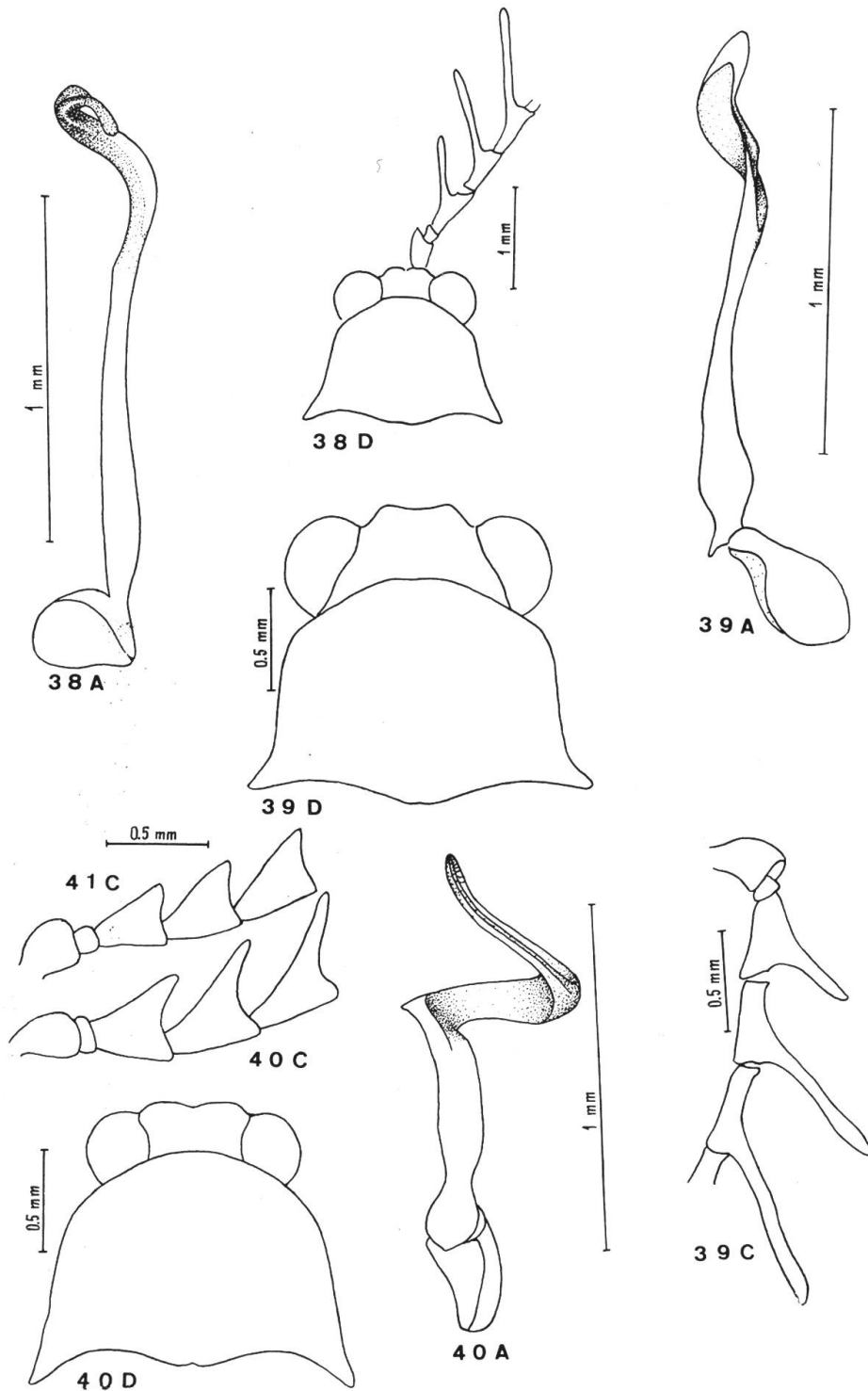
Ditoneces assamensis Pic Figs. 40A, 40C, 40D, 41C.

Ditoneces assamensis PIC, 1928, Mélanges 51:15.

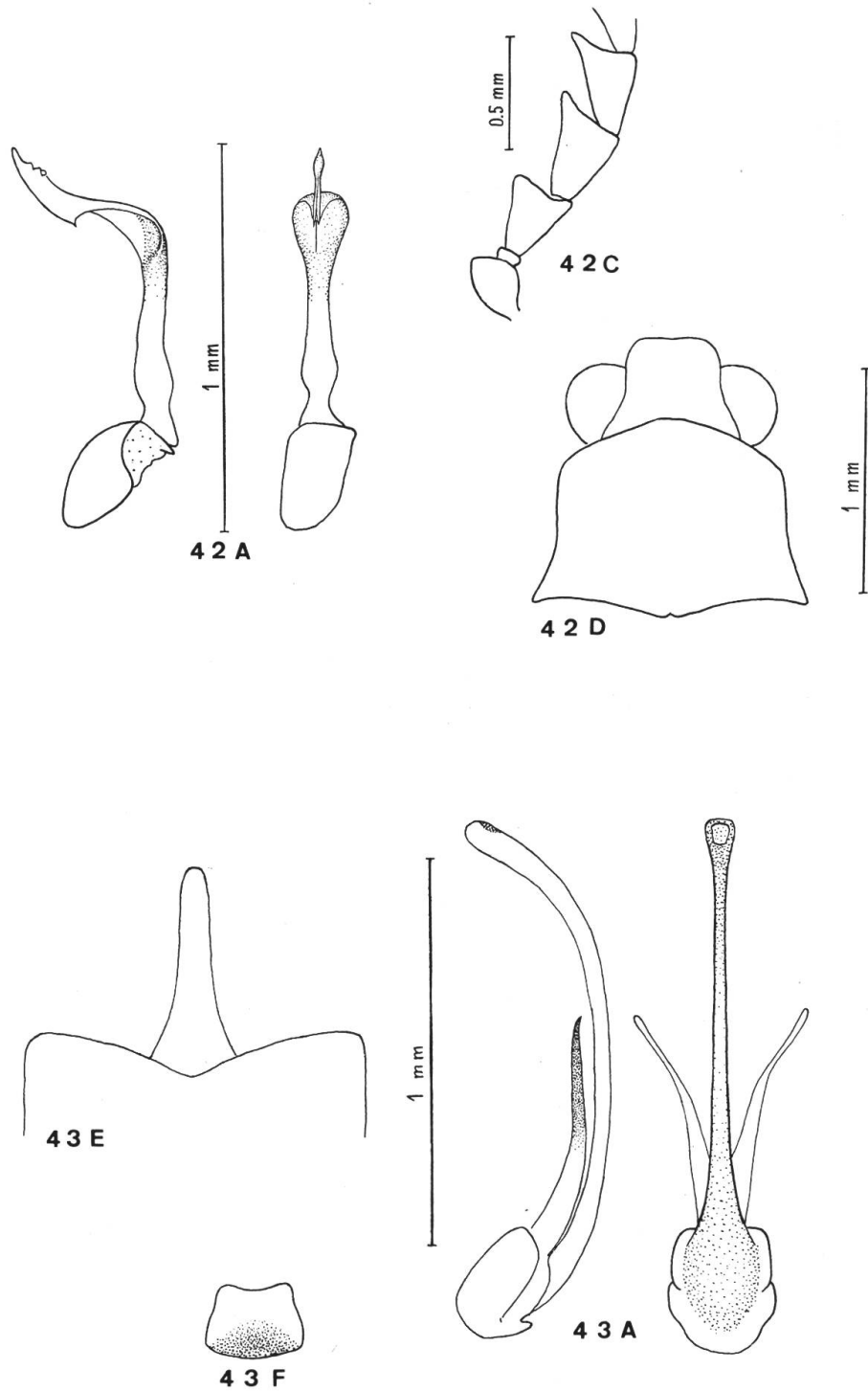
Ditoneces tolerabilis KLEINE, 1939, Ark. Zool. 31:16, **n.syn.**

Material: ♂♀ (Lecto- and Paralectotype, hereby designated), Assam, Fowler, «*Ditoneces assamensis* Pic» (MP); ♂, S Shan States, Burma, 1500 m, Taunggyi, 1.VIII.22.IX.1934, Malaise, «Paratype», «*Ditoneces tolerabilis* Kln, det. 1939»; ♂, Siam, at light, 300 m, (ZIW).

The type specimen of *D. assamensis* has no difference with *D. tolerabilis* Kleine a paratype of which has also been examined.



Figs 38A-41C: 38, *Ditoneces nilgirensis* Gorham ♂. 39, *D. longiflabellatus* Pic ♂. 40, *D. assamensis* Pic ♂. 41, *D. assamensis* Pic ♀. A = aedeagus, C = basal joints of antennae, D = front part of the body.



Figs 42A-43F: 42, *Ditoneces brevehumeralis* Pic ♂. 43, *Platerodrilus indicus* Wittmer. ♂.
 A = aedeagus, C = basal joints of antennae, D = front part of the body, E = last sternite, F = upper lip.

Ditoneces brevehumeralis Pic

Figs. 42A, 42C, 42D.

Ditoneces brevehumeralis PIC, 1928, *Mélanges* 51:16.

Material: ♂, India (Lectotype, hereby designated, MP); ♂, Darjeeling, Shepkola (P.O. Ryang), 150 m, 25. 1976, W. Wittmer (NHMB).

The specimen designated as the Lectotype stood in Pic's collection beside a female specimen with a *D. brevehumeralis* identification label and agreed with it. As both evidently belong to the series upon which the description was based the female specimen is designated as a Paralectotype.

Platerodrilus indicus Wittmer

Figs. 43A-F.

Platerodrilus indicus WITTMER, 1966, *Mitt. Schweiz. Ent. Ges.* 38:229.

In completion of Wittmer's description, figs 43A-F are added.

Material: ♂, Holotype, Tisla River, Darjeeling, 14.X.1918, N. Stevens (BM); Paratypes: ♂, Gopaldhara, Darjeeling, 18.X.1918, N. Stevens (NHMB); 2♂, East Nepal, Dharapani, 1000 m, Dhankuta Dist., 4.XI.1979, M. Tomokuni (coll. Satô and ICM); ♂, Nepal, Sangridara, Dhankuta, 1350 m, 4.XI.1979, M. Satô (coll. Satô).

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