

## ***Brachyrhynchus triangulus* Bergrot, 1889 (HEMIPTERA: ARADIDAE), A NEW RECORD FROM INDIA**

**Kailash Chandra<sup>1\*</sup> and Sandeep Kushwaha<sup>2</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>Zoological Survey of India, M Block, New Alipore Kolkata, West Bengal, India

<sup>2</sup>Zoological Survey of India, Central Zone Regional Centre, Scheme No. 5, Plot No. 168-169, Vijay Nagar, Jabalpur-482 002 Madhya Pradesh (India)

\*Email: kailash611@rediffmail.com

### **Abstract**

Present study deals with the report of the species *Brachyrhynchus triangulus* Bergroth, 1889 belonging to family Aradidae and order Hemiptera from Andaman and Nicobar Islands, a new addition to the fauna of India.

**Keywords:** *Brachyrhynchus triangulus*, Aradidae, Hemiptera, Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

### **Introduction**

Aradidae are commonly known as flat bug due to their extremely flattened body. Insects of this family are cryptic and their economic importance not much known. Some of them are mycophagous and some are attracted by bark beetle pheromones.

Genus *Brachyrhynchus* (Laporte, 1832) belongs to subfamily Mezirinae characterized by granulated body, sulcation on sternum, short rostrum, well developed metathoracic scent gland. It is the largest subfamily of Aradidae and comprise 119 genera and 308 species distributed globally (Schuh and Slater, 1995). *Brachyrhynchus triangulus* Bergroth is previously reported from Myanmar, Sri Lanka and Malaysia (Distant, 1902). Ten species of this genus were known throughout the world (Blot, 1965) and Kormilev (1973). Hitherto, only three species viz. *Brachyrhynchus feanus* Bergroth 1889, *Brachyrhynchus membranaceus* (Fabricius, 1803) and *Brachyrhynchus undulates*, Bergroth 1889 (Distant, 1902) were known and the present one is the fourth record from India.

### **Material and Methods**

While undertaking the surveys of various parts of Andaman and Nicobar islands, for the inventorisation of insect fauna, two interesting specimens of Aradidae were collected by the first author, have been identified *Brachyrhynchus triangulus* Bergroth, a new record to the family Aradidae fauna from these islands, one of the

specimen was collected at day time from tree bark and other one at night time. Identified specimen was pinned and added to the National Zoological Collection of Hemiptera section in Zoological survey of India, Kolkata. Analysis and photography was done by a Leica Stereo zoom Microscope (Leica M205A).

### **Systematic account**

Order: Hemiptera

Infraorder: Pentatomorpha

Superfamily: Aradoidea

Family: Aradidae

Subfamily: Mezirinae

***Brachyrhynchus triangulus* Bergroth, 1889 (Fig. 1 & 2)**

Fig. 1



*Brachyrhynchus triangulus* Bergroth, 1889 dorsal side

Fig. 2



*Brachyrhynchus triangulus* Bergroth, 1889  
ventral side

1889. *Brachyrhynchus triangulus* Bergroth, 1889,  
*Ann. Mus. Civ. Gen.* XXVII: 736.

1902. *Brachyrhynchus triangulus* Distant *Fauna Brit.*  
*India, Rhynchota*, II: 160-163.

*Material examined:* Andaman and Nicobar Islands,  
Andaman, South Andaman, Chidiyatapu, 23.I.1992  
(1ex.), coll. K. Chandra and party; Nicobar, Pulo-Milow,  
30.III.1992 (1ex.), coll. K. Chandra.

*Diagnostic character:* Body above piceous, body  
granulate, abdomen brown and piceous, antenna 1<sup>st</sup>,  
2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> joint sub equal in length and piceous; fourth  
joint shortest and conical shape; pronotum very narrow  
and anterior portion with 4 large tubercles; anterior lateral  
margin sinuate, scutellum triangular and granulated,  
corium longer than scutellum, lateral margin of 6<sup>th</sup>  
abdominal segment sinuate and excavated.

*Distribution:* India (Andaman and Nicobar Islands),  
Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Australia, Vietnam and China.

## Result

The report of *Brachyrhynchus triangulus* Bergroth from Andaman and Nicobar Island is new addition to the family Aradidae fauna of India. The finding of such rare bug species from these Islands show that the area is very rich in biodiversity and many more species are expected, if further extensive and intensive surveys are undertaken.

## Acknowledgment

The authors are thankful to Officer-in-Charge, and staff of Hemiptera Section, HQs, Zoological Survey of India, Kolkata for the support.

## References

- Distant W L (1902). *The Fauna of British India including Ceylon and Burma, Rhynchota: Heteroptera* Vol. II: Published by Taylor and Francis, London: 156-165.
- Blöte HG (1965). Catalogue of the Aradidae in the Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, *Zoologische Verhandelingen* 75: 1-39.
- Kormilev N A (1973). Aradidae from the Oriental region and south pacific (Hemiptera Heteroptera), *Pacific Insects*, 15 (1): 67-83.
- Schuh, R T & J A Slater. (1995). *True Bugs of the World (Hemiptera: Heteroptera). Classification and Natural History*. Cornell University Press, Ithaca, London. 336 pp.

**Publish With Us**

**<http://www.asapb.org/journal.html>**