

Report of *Bredenbachius pictus* Distant (Hemiptera: Tingidae) from Andaman and Nicobar Islands, a new record to India

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Abstract

The identification of *Bredenbachius pictus* Distant (Family Tingidae), belonging to order Hemiptera reported from Andaman and Nicobar Islands is new additions to the Indian fauna.

Keywords: New record, Tingidae, Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

Introduction

The Andaman and Nicobar Archipelago form a chain of more than 500 islands and islets situated in the southeastern part of the Bay of Bengal in the Indian Ocean. The tropical rain forests of these islands are surprisingly very rich with a unique diversity of animal life and many areas are still unexplored. While undertaking the surveys of various parts of Andaman and Nicobar islands, for the inventorisation of insect fauna, interesting specimen of the family Tingidae pertaining to suborder Heteroptera was collected by the first author. They are mostly ornamental pests (Schuh and Slater, 1995) and commonly known as lace bugs. Five species of Genus *Bredenbachius* are known globally (Distant, 1910), while *B. delineatus*, *B. annandalei* and *B. humeralis* are reported from India.

Present study revealed the identification of viz., *Bredenbachius pictus* Distant (Family Tingidae), from Andaman and Nicobar Islands, is a new addition to the Indian fauna. Morphology of bugs were studied by Leica microscope M205-A and identified with the help of available literature in Zoological Survey of India. The finding of such rare bugs species from these Islands show that this area is very rich and many more such species are expected, if further extensive and intensive surveys are undertaken.

Material and Methods

While undertaking the surveys of various parts of Andaman and Nicobar islands, for the inventorisation

of insect fauna, an interesting specimen of Tingidae was also collected by the first author, which was later identified as *Bredenbachius pictus* Distant, 1902 a new record to the Family Tingidae fauna from these islands. Identified specimen was pinned and added to the National Zoological Collection of Hemiptera section in Zoological survey of India, Kolkata. Morphological study was done by a Leica Stereo zoom Microscope (Leica M205A).

Systematic account

Order: Hemiptera

Suborder: Heteropteroidea

Superfamily: Tingoidea

Family: Tingidae



Bredenbachius pictus Distant, 1902 (Fig. 1)

1902. *Bredenbachius pictus* Distant, *Fauna Brit. India, Rhynchota*, II: 139-140.

Material examined: Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Nicobar, Pulo-Milow, 30.III.1992 (1ex.), coll. K. Chandra, from the tree bark.

Diagnostic character: Body punctate, head and antennae ochraceous, pronotum castaneous, elytra creamy white, body beneath piceous, legs ochraceous, elytra reticulate, apical joint of antennae with hairs. (Length; 3 mm)

Distribution: India (Andaman and Nicobar Islands)
Elsewhere: Myanmar.

Results

This report of *Bredenbachius pictus* Distant belonging to the family Tingidae from Andaman and Nicobar Island, is a new addition to the fauna of India.

Acknowledgment

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