

ON A NEW GENUS AND THREE NEW SPECIES OF ORIENTAL MIRIDAE (HEMIPTERA)¹

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(With 12 text - figures)

The present paper deals with the descriptions of a new genus and three new species of Miridae (Hemiptera) from the collection of the British Museum of Natural History, London.

The specimens were collected in South India and Burma and kindly loaned for study by my colleague William R. Dolling. Holotypes are deposited in the British Museum of Natural History.

Illustrations in the text were made by Luiz Antonio Alves Costa and Paulo Roberto Nascimento under the author's supervision.

Malacocoris indicus, n. sp.

(Figs. 1 - 4)

Characterized by its size, by the color of the body and by the structure of the male genitalia.

Male: Length 5.0 mm, width 1.3 mm. *Head*: Length 0.4 mm, width 0.5 mm, vertex 0.28 mm. *Antenna*: Segment I, length 0.5 mm; II, 1.7 mm; III, 2.0 mm; IV, 0.4 mm. *Pronotum*: Length 0.5 mm, width at base 1.0 mm. *Cuneus*: Length 0.28 mm, width at base 0.16 mm (holotype).

General coloration pale yellow to ochraceous with green areas; inner claval commissure very finely fuscous, corium level with apex of clavus

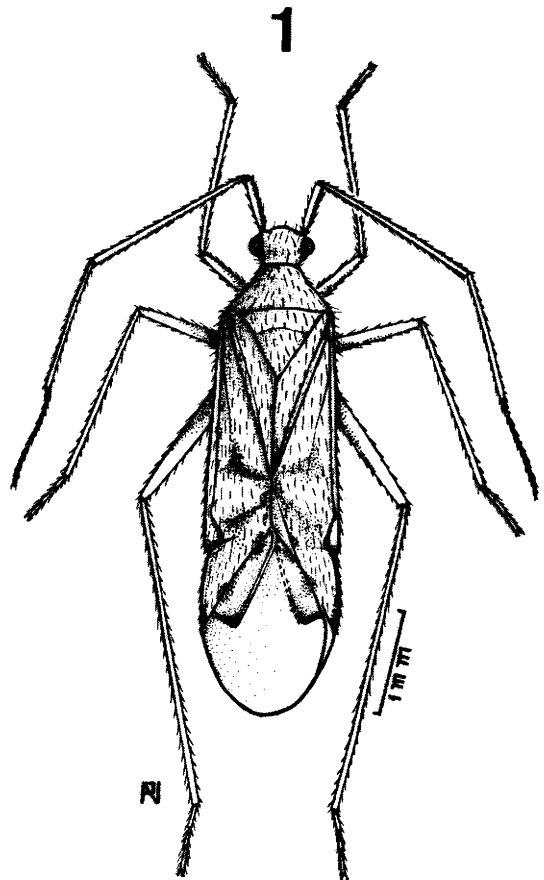
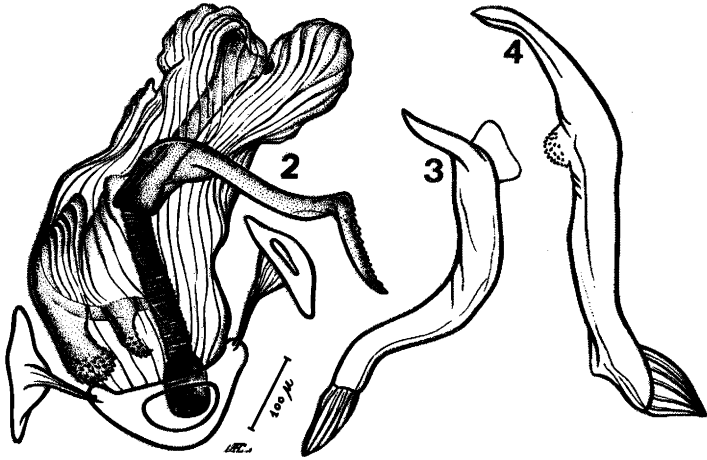


Fig. 1 – *Malacocoris indicus* n. sp., male, holotype.

¹ Received February, 25, 1981.

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Malacocoris indicus n.sp.: Fig. 2 - Penis; Fig. 3 - Left paramere; Fig. 4 - Right paramere.

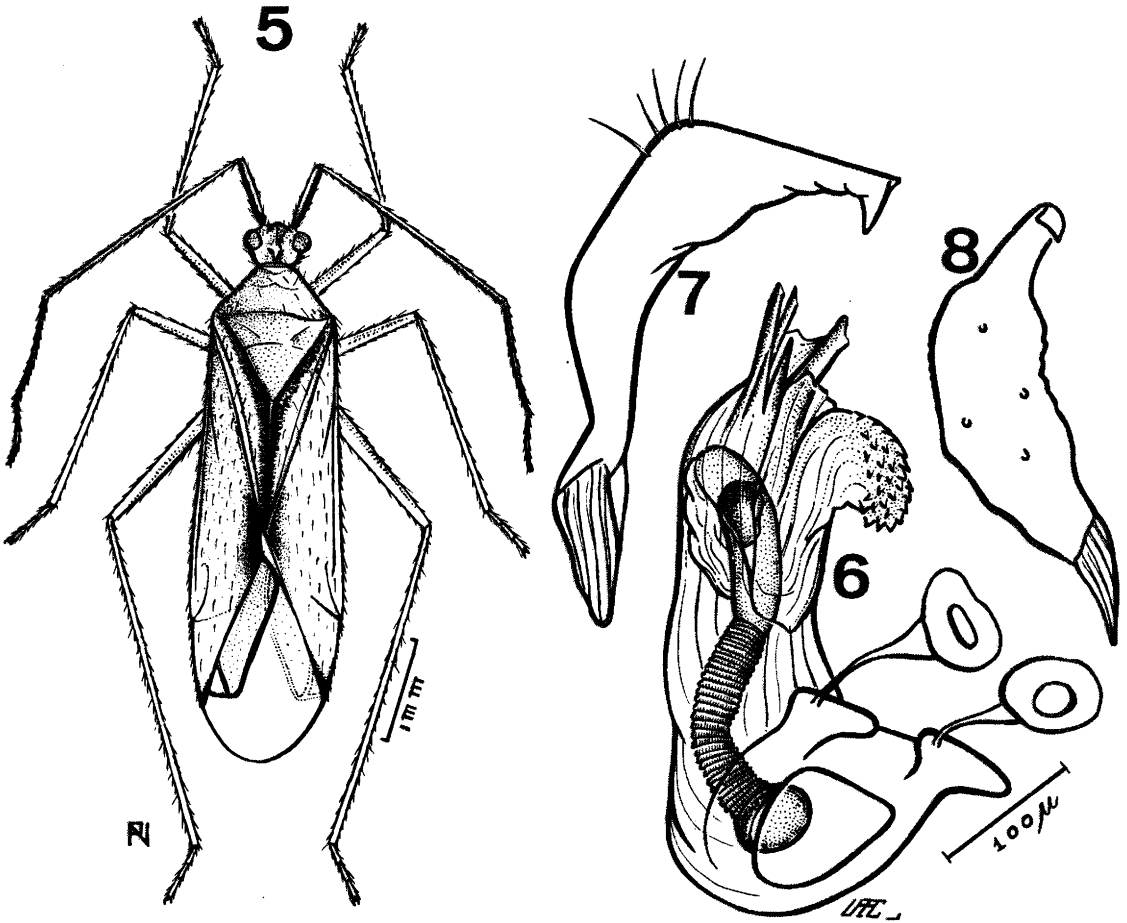


Fig. 5 - *Malacocoris elongatus* n. sp., male, holotype *Malacocoris elongatus* n.sp.: Fig 6 - Penis; Fig. 7 - Left paramere; Fig. 8 - Right paramere.

and apically, cells and nervures of membrane, outer margin of cuneus greenish; remaining portions of body, legs and antennae pale yellow.

Body elongate, vertex smooth, cuneus about as long as wide at base, rostrum reaching beyond apex of hind coxae, first antennal segment about as long as width of head, legs long and slender.

Genitalia: Penis (Fig. 2) with a long and characteristic spiculum, lobes with spines apically. Left paramere (Fig. 3) falciform, slender towards apex. Right paramere (Fig. 4) with a spine tubercle slightly beyond middle.

Female: General coloration, morphological characteristics and dimensions equal to male.

Holotype: male, Kodai Kanal, S. India, T. V. Campbell, Brit. Mus. 1926-171, in the collection of the British Museum of Natural History, London (mounted on card on right side - a paratype on left side). *Paratypes*: One female and three males, same data as holotype.

This species differs from *Malacocoris chorizans* (Panzer, 1794) by the color of the body, especially of the antennae and by the structure of the male genitalia.

Etymology: The trivial name is allusive to the Republic of India.

Malacocoris Elongatus, n. sp.

(Figs. 5 - 8)

Characterized by its size, by the color of the body and by the structure of the male genitalia.

Male: Length 5.6 mm. width 1.3 mm. *Head*: Length 0.4 mm, width 0.6 mm, vertex 0.24 mm. *Antenna*: Segment I, length 0.6 mm; II, 2.3 mm; II-IV, mutilated. *Pronotum*: Length 0.5 mm, width at base 1.1 mm. *Cuneus*: Length 1.00 mm, width at base 0.40 mm (holotype).

General coloration pale yellow to ochraceous with reddish and greenish areas; head and pronotum pale yellow, segment I of antenna externally and segment II towards apex reddish, a longitudinal fascia behind eye following lateral margins of pronotum to humeral angles reddish; scutellum and center of disc on both sides tending to lemon or lutescent; hemelytra ochraceous, inner margin of clavus, corial commissure, nervures of membrane and apex of cuneus reddish, corium and clavus mostly greenish, cuneus pale yellow, greenish at base; membrane pale fuscous, translucent.

Underside of body, apex of hind femur and base of hind tibia reddish.

Body elongate, vertex sulcate, cuneus more than twice as long as wide at base, rostrum reaching middle coxae, segment I of antenna about as long as width of vertex, legs long and slender.

Genitalia: Penis (Fig. 6) with four spiculi and a lobe with spines. Left paramere (Fig. 7) curved, with a characteristic apex. Right paramere simple, slender (Fig. 8).

Female: Unknown.

Holotype: Male, BURMA, Mishmi Hills, Minutang, 3,900 ft, 14. II. 1935, M. Strele, in the collection of the British Museum of Natural History, London.

Differs from *Malacocoris indicus* n. sp. and *Malacocoris chlorizans* (Panzer) by the color of the first antennal segment and by the structure of the male genitalia.

Etymology: The trivial name is being given in allusion to the noticeably elongate body.

Microoculis n. gen.

Dicyphinae, Dicyphini. Body very elongate, smooth, covered by setiform, recumbent pubescence. Head about as long as wide, slightly enlarged posteriorly, front prominent, rounded in front, projecting over base of clypeus, eyes very small, placed at middle of head, vertex smooth, neck fairly long and wide, its length approximately same as anterior portion of eyes; antenna cylindrical, segment I about as long as length of head, segment II two and half times as long as I, segments III and IV slender, pubescence fine, recumbent, approximately as long as width of segments, clypeus prominent, lorum and jugum small, gula well developed, rostrum reaching apex of middle coxae.

Pronotum trapezoidal, calli large, fused at middle, reaching lateral margins, separated from disc by a distinct furrow, collar distinct, lateral margins slightly carinate, humeral angles rounded, hind margin concave; mesoscutum largely exposed, scutellum small, plane.

Hemelytra with cuneus about three times as long as wide at base, embolium narrow throughout, membrane biareolate. Legs long and slender, especially the hind pair.

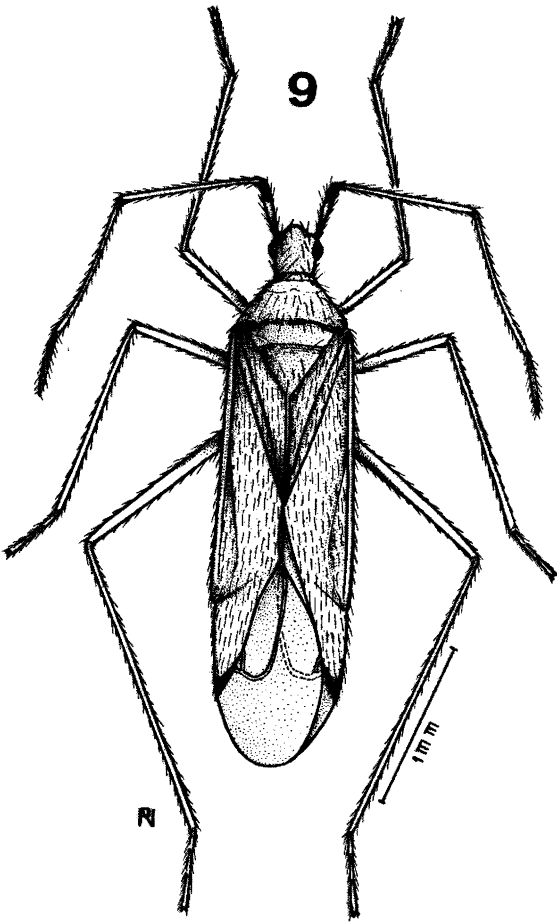


Fig. 9 - *Microoculis nilgiriensis* n.sp., female, holotype.

Type species of genus: *Microoculis nilgiriensis* n.sp.

This genus differs from others in the tribe by the very small eyes, placed slightly beyond the middle of head.

Microoculis nilgiriensis, n. sp.

(Figs. 9 - 12)

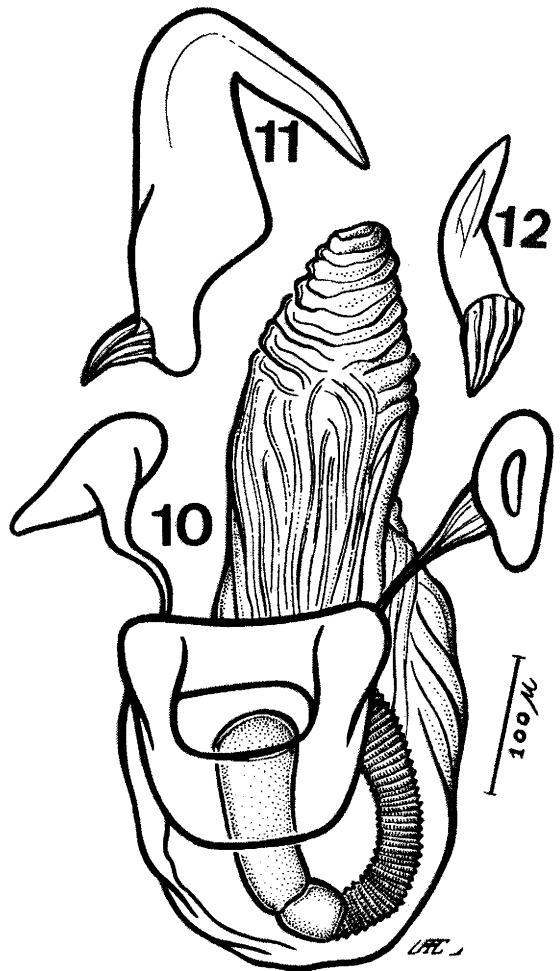
Characterized by its color and by the structure of the male genitalia.

Male: Length 3.4 mm, width 1.0 mm. *Head*: Length 0.4 mm, width 4.0 mm, vertex 0.28 mm. *Antenna*: Segment I, length 0.3 mm; II, 1.2 mm; III, 0.9 mm; IV, 0.5 mm. *Pronotum*: Length 0.4 mm, width at base 0.8 mm. *Cuneus*: Length 0.56 mm, width at base 0.20 mm (holotype).

General coloration pale greenish with brown to black areas; eyes brown, segment I of antenna dark brown to black at base and apex or the whole segment (paler at middle); head, pronotum and scutellum citrine to lutescent; hemelytra pale greenish, apex of embolium, apex of cuneus greenish; membrane pale fuscous, nervures fuscous. Underside of body citrine to lutescent.

Genitalia: Penis (Fig. 10) of the Dicyphini type, without sclerotized spiculi, theca reduced. Left paramere (Fig. 11) falciform, enlarged sub-basally. Right paramere (Fig. 12) small, elongate.

Female: Similar to male in size, general aspect and coloration.



Microoculis nilgiriensis n.sp.: Fig. 10 - Penis; Fig. 11 - Left paramere; Fig. 12 - Right paramere.

Holotype: Female, Dudabetta Hill (an illegible work – Odocarumd (?), Nilgiri Hills, S. INDIA, 7800 ft, T. V. Campbell, in the collection of the British Museum of Natural History, London. The holotype is the upper right specimen mounted on a card with three other paratypes. *Paratypes*: three females, same data as type and two males, Kodai Kanal, S. India, T. V. Campbell, BM 1926-171.

Etymology: The trivial name is allusive to the Nilgiri Hills where many species of mirids from S. India have been collected.

SUMMARY

This work comprises the description of a new genus and three new species of Miridae

(Hemiptera) from Asia, as follows: *Malacocoris indicus* n.sp., from Kodai Kanal, S. India; *M. elongatus* n.sp., from Minutang, Burma and *Microoculis* n.gen., *M. nilgiriensis* n.sp., from Nilgiri Hills, S. India. Illustrations of the insects and male genitalia are included.

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