

SHORT COMMUNICATIONS

DESCRIPTION OF *COELICCIA FURCATA* SPEC. NOV.
FROM UPPER BURMA (ZYGOPTERA: PLATYCNEMIDIDAE)

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C. furcata sp. n. (holotype ♂: Nam Tamai Valley, Upper Burma; deposited in BMNH) is described and illustrated.

INTRODUCTION

ASAHINA (1984a, 1984b, 1985) has recently increased the knowledge of the oriental genus *Coeliccia* Kirby by describing several new species from Assam and Thailand. A further new species from the mountains of Upper Burma is described here. This very dark species differs strikingly from all known continental species of *Coeliccia* by the peculiar branched structure of the superior appendages.

DESCRIPTION

COELICCIA FURCATA SP. N.

Figures 1-3

Material — **Holotype**: ♂, Upper Burma, Nam Tamai Valley, altitude 3500 ft, lat. N 27° 48' and long. E. 97° 48', 12-IX-1938, collected by R. Kaulback. Holotype in the collection of British Museum (Nat. Hist.) (B.M. 1938-741).

Male: Head. — Labrum and clypeus shining black. Base of mandibles and genae blue. Frons and vertex mat black with narrow pale marks laterally to the lateral ocelli, and two tiny pale spots posterior to the median ocellus. A pair of small oblong blue postocular spots. Rear of head black.

Prothorax. — Black, with blue spot on side of the median lobe. Hind margin of the posterior lobe nearly straight in the middle.

Synthorax. — Largely black (Fig. 1), with very narrow blue antehumeral stripe not quite extending to the dorsal carina. A blue stripe crossing the spiracle and a broader blue stripe covering most of metepimeron. A small blue mark in the posteroventral corner of metinfraepisternum. Synthorax below black.

Legs. — Black, with small blue mark in coxa, trochanter and base of femur.

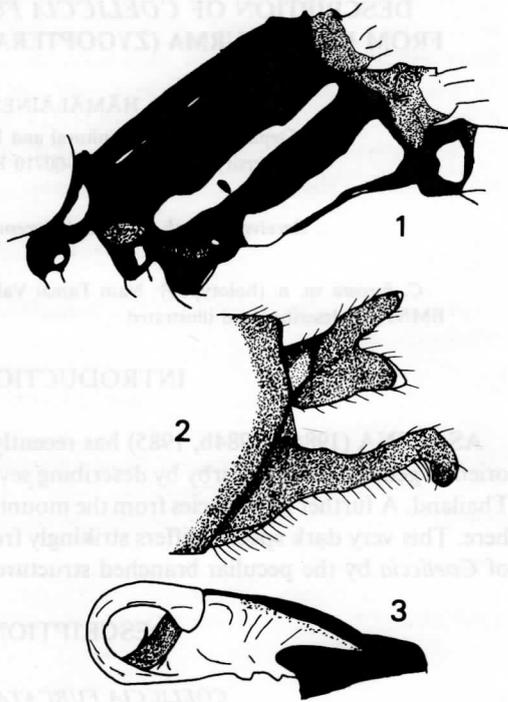
Wings. — Hyaline, venation black. IR_3 arises from subnode, $R_4 + 5$ proximal to it. Three postquadrangular antenodal (discal) cells in all wings. Costal side of quadrangle $2/3$ of the length of anal side in fore wing and $4/5$ in hind wing. Ac situated at midway between Ax_1 and Ax_2 . Ab arises immediately proximad to the level of Ac. Medioanal link broken in all wings. 22-23 postnodals in fore wing, 20-21 in hind wing. Pterostigma quite long, covering $1\frac{1}{2} - 2\frac{1}{3}$ cells; dark brown, framed with black.

Abdomen. — Largely black, with blue lunule on side of segment 1 and a small ventrolateral blue mark in the distal half of segment 2. Ventral sutures very narrowly bluish and intersegmental rings obscurely bluish on sides. Superior appendages as long as segment 10, deeply branched at apex (Fig. 2); the lower branch broader and shorter, pointing obliquely outwards. Inferior appendages longer than superiors, of typical pincer-like form. Appendages largely black, only the sides and tips of branches in superior pair and the inner side of the base of inferior pair blue.

Penile organ simple, third segment without filaments (Fig. 3).

Measurements. — Abdomen (incl. appendages) 40 mm, hind wing 28 mm.

Female unknown.



Figs 1-3. *Coeliccia furcata* sp. n., holotype ♂: (1) thorax; — (2) anal appendages; — (3) penile organ.

DISCUSSION

In his revision of *Coeliccia*-species LAIDLAW (1932) grouped the species according to venational characters. Since these are variable to some extent, the new species can not yet be placed to any of the groups due to the paucity of material. Since Laidlaw's revision the number of known species in the genus has doubled. A new grouping of the species based on combination of different characters is necessary.

The structure of the penile organ of the new species somewhat resembles those of *C. loogali* Laidlaw and *C. doisuthepensis* Asahina, which all lack filaments or other paired structures in the third segment. However, the terminal lobe in *C. furcata* is not bilobed as it is in *C. loogali*, and unlike in *C. doisuthepensis* it is without a horned head (cf. ASAHINA 1984b).

The branched structure of the superior anal appendages of the new species is unique among the known mainland-Asiatic species of *Coeliccia*.

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