



Notes on the genus *Conocephalus* (Orthoptera: Tettigoniidae; Conocephalinae; Conocephalini) from India and description of two new species

RAJENDRA NAGAR & R. SWAMINATHAN

*ICAR Network Project on Insect Biosystematics, Department of Entomology, Rajasthan College of Agriculture, Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture and Technology, Udaipur, Rajasthan-313001 India.**E-mail: udaiswami57@gmail.com; rajendranagar86@gmail.com*

Table of contents

Abstract	1
Introduction	1
Material and methods	2
Key to the subgenera of <i>Conocephalus</i> from India	2
<i>Conocephalus</i> (<i>Xiphidion</i>) <i>decaspinosus</i> sp. nov.	2
<i>Conocephalus</i> (<i>Anisoptera</i>) <i>kwaisiphaiensis</i> sp. nov.	7
<i>Conocephalus</i> (<i>Anisoptera</i>) <i>maculatus</i> (Le Gouillou, 1841)	12
<i>Conocephalus</i> (<i>Anisoptera</i>) <i>concolor peneri</i> Harz, 1970	19
<i>Conocephalus</i> (<i>Anisoptera</i>) <i>longipennis</i> (De Haan, 1842)	23
<i>Conocephalus</i> (<i>Anisoptera</i>) <i>melaenus</i> (De Haan, 1842)	28
<i>Conocephalus</i> (<i>Conocephalus</i>) <i>bambusanus</i> Ingrish, 1990	32
<i>Conocephalus</i> (<i>Megalotheca</i>) <i>vaginalis</i> (Karny, 1907)	36
Acknowledgments	40
Literature cited	40

Abstract

The present paper describes two new species of *Conocephalus*: *Conocephalus decaspinosus* **sp. nov.** and *C. kwaisiphaiensis* **sp. nov.**, as additions to the previously known species of the genus; among these, two species have been reported for the first time from India, viz., *C. concolor peneri* and *C. vaginalis*. The key morphological characters of the head, pronotum, cerci, spines on the fore tibiae, hind femora, stridulatory file and the ovipositor have been illustrated with suitable line drawings to distinguish the reported new species. The distribution map of the species in India has been provided with a key to the subgenera.

Key words: Orthoptera, Conocephalinae, *Conocephalus*, new species, new record, India

Introduction

Tettigoniids of the subfamily Conocephalinae are characterized by their head forming a pointed or rounded cone that projects beyond the basal segments of the antennae. Most species occur in brown and green forms, are well camouflaged and widely distributed in the tropical and subtropical parts of the world. *Conocephalus* (Tribe: Conocephalini) is usually less than 25mm in length (some up to 27mm), slender, with wings usually not extending beyond the tip of abdomen and the ovipositor being from straight to slightly curved. Many members of this tribe have strong mandibles for seed feeding and, in some cases, predation. According to Orthoptera Species File (Eades *et al.*, 2016) eight subgenera are recognized comprising 151 species world over. In the Indian subcontinent, the genus *Conocephalus* Thunberg (1815) is well represented including seven species *C. honorei*, *C. longipennis*, *C. maculatus*, *C. melaenus*, *C. laetus*, *C. bambusanus* and *C. bispinatus* (Ingrisch and Shishodia, 2000; Shishodia *et*