

A note on Agraeciini species (Orthoptera: Tettigoniidae: Conocephalinae) in India

RAJENDRA NAGAR, TATIANA SWAMINATHAN & 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

Abstract

The present paper re-describes three known species of the tribe Agraeciini (Tettigoniidae: Conocephalinae), as well as recording *Palaeoagraecia brunnea* Ingrisch, 1998 for the first time from India. These descriptions hold to be useful in the identification of Indian agraeciine species. The important morphological characters of the head, pronotum, cerci, spines on the fore tibiae, hind femora and the ovipositor have been illustrated with suitable line drawings to distinguish the newly reported species.

Key words: Orthoptera, Conocephalinae, Agraeciini, new record, India

Introduction

Ingrisch (1998) reviewed the taxonomy of Agraeciini (Orthoptera: Tettigoniidae: Conocephalinae) from South East Asia. Collections from the region indicate that species richness of Agraeciini needs to be further explored (Ingrisch, 1998; 2009; 2015; Naskrecki & Rentz, 2010; Gorochoy, 2011; Ingrisch and Tan, 2012; 2015). Descriptions here include: *Lichnofugia* Ingrisch, *Paragraecia* Karny and *Peracca* Griffini, three species from Singapore and one from Peninsular Malaysia (Tan, 2012). Likewise, we include re-description of some known species: female of *Liara alata* Ingrisch, 1998 and the male of *Paragraecia gracilis* Ingrisch, 1998. Recent records from India permit the description of *Lichnofugia cornuata* Ingrisch, 1998 and *Anelytra* (*Anelytra*) *eunigrifrons* Ingrisch, 1998 a member of the tribe Agraeciini (Hajong, 2014; Nagar *et al.*, 2015).

In members of the tribe Agraeciini, the fore tibia is usually quadrate; but the angles can be angular or rounded. The tribe Agraeciini, according to the diagnosis by Ingrisch (1998), is represented in New Guinea and the Bismarck Archipelago by 117 species, making it the most speciose group of the Tettigoniidae in the region. The Conocephalinae are currently subdivided into seven tribes (Eades & Otte, 2016): tribe Agraeciini Redtenbacher, 1891 (55 genera); Armadillagraeciini Rentz, Su & Ueshima, 2012 (3 genera); Cestrophorini Gorochoy, 2015 (2 genera); Coniungopterini Rentz & Gurney, 1985 (3 genera); Conocephalini Burmeister, 1838 (14 genera, 1 subtribe, 7 genera); Copiphorini Karny, 1912 (52 genera); Euconchophorini Gorochoy, 1988 (5 genera); five subtribes Agraeciina Redtenbacher, 1891 (4 genera); Eumegalodontina Brongniart, 1892 (2 genera); Liarina Ingrisch, 1998 (26 genera, 7 subgenera); Oxyllakina Ingrisch, 1998 (8 genera); Salomonina Brongniart, 1897 (9 genera) and 5 other genera. The present paper includes the description of three species in the tribe Agraeciini.

Material and methods

The species described were field collected in survey and collection trips during 2012 to 2015 from the states of Kerala, Karnataka and Manipur in India under the ICAR Network Project on Insect Biosystematics, Department of Entomology, Rajasthan College of Agriculture, Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture and Technology, Udaipur, Rajasthan. Specimens of certain species were taken on loan for study from the Project Centres at