

**REMAUDIHEREANA FLAVIPES (MOTSCHULSKY, 1863)  
(HEMIPTERA: LYGAEIDAE) FROM GREAT NICOBAR  
BIOSPHERE RESERVE, A NEW RECORD TO INDIA**

**Kailash Chandra\* and Sandeep Kushwaha**

\* Zoological Survey of India, M Block, New Alipore Kolkata, West Bengal, INDIA. E-mail: kailash611@rediffmail.com

**[Chandra, K. & Kushwaha, S. 2017. *Remaudiereana flavipes* (Motschulsky, 1863) (Hemiptera: Lygaeidae) from Great Nicobar Biosphere Reserve, a new record to India. Munis Entomology & Zoology, 12 (2): 609-611]**

**ABSTRACT:** Present study deals with the report of the species *Remaudiereana flavipes* (Motschulsky, 1863), belonging to family Lygaeidae of order Hemiptera from Andaman and Nicobar Islands, a new addition to the fauna of India.

**KEY WORDS:** *Remaudiereana flavipes*, Lygaeidae, Hemiptera, Andaman and Nicobar Islands

Andaman and Nicobar Islands are a group of more than 500 islands and islets are located in Bay of Bengal. The tropical rain forests of these islands have very rich and unique diversity of animal life. Great Nicobar Biosphere Reserve is blessed with perennial rivers and seasonal rainfall, and evergreen rain forests make the area favourable for supporting huge biota. Due to its diverse habitats and isolation from other land mass (may be connected under seawater), high degree of endemism is observed here. Lygaeidae is one of the large and diverse families of order Hemiptera, representatives often referred as seed bugs. The family is characterized by the presence of Ocelli, except in brachypterous form, bucculae well developed, antennae located through middle of eye. There are about 500 genera and 4000 species known worldwide of this family (Slater, 1964). The Myodochini, with 56 genera and more than 260 species, is the largest tribe in the lygaeidae subfamily Rhyparochrominae. Members occur in all six major zoogeographic regions and representatives also are known from several remote Pacific Oceanic islands (Harrington, 1980). All members of the tribe whose feeding habits are known are seed-predators. In fact, except for the blood-feeding tribe Cleradini, this specialized phytophagous habit is characteristic for the subfamily (Sweet, 1964).

#### **METHODOLOGY**

In order to draw the faunal profile of GPNBR, faunistic surveys were undertaken by the Research Scholars of GPNBR Project, Zoological Survey of India, for the project entitled "Studies on the Faunal Diversity of Great Nicobar Biosphere Reserve" funded by MOEF, Government of India. The Hemiptera fauna were collected by using various methods such as sweeping from vegetation by insect net, hand picking under stones, leaf axils, loose bark, with the help forceps. Night collections were also carried out on a spread white thick cloth illuminated with mercury bulb, which attracts more insects than the ordinary incandescent bulbs. The specimens were studied under Leica Stereo Zoom Microscope (M205 A). Identification was done by literature concerning the group viz. Distant (1902), (Chandra, 1997), various state fauna series of ZSI and other authentic literature.

## RESULTS

### Systematic account

Order: Hemiptera  
 Suborder: Heteropteroidea  
 Infraorder: Pentatomorpha  
 Superfamily: Lygaeoidea  
 Family: Lygaeidae  
 Subfamily: Rhyparochrominae

### *Remaudiereana flavipes* (Motschulsky, 1863)

1863. *Pamera flavipes* Motschulsky, Bull. Soc. Nat. Mosc.: 80.

1902. *Pamera favipes* Distant, Fauna Br. India, Heteroptera, II: 51-55.

1954. *Remaudiereana flavipes* Hoberlandt, Contribution a l'etude de la zone d'inondation du Niger (Mission G. Remaudiere) XI. Hemipteres-Heteropteres. Bull. Inst. Francais Afrique Noire, 16: 917-934.

**Material examined:** GNBR, Nicobar, GNBR watch tower govind, 04.X.2010, (1ex.), Coll. E.E. Jahamalar.

**Diagnostic character:** Head, pronotum and scutellum dark brown, antennae four jointed light brown, apical joint pale in color at apex, corium light pale brown and punctured abdomen dark brown, legs light brown. Lateral margin of pronotum lobe rounded. Collar ring like brown in colour and impunctate anterior tibia spied. Eyes dark brown in colour.

**Distribution:** India (Andaman and Nicobar Islands), Myanmar, Indonesia, Senegal and China.

## DISCUSSION

*Remaudiereana* is one of four Old World, phallic Type I genera with narrow ring like, completely impunctate collars. A robust, sub-ovoid body form and a large spine mid length on the curving male fore tibia serve to further identify members of the genus *Remaudiereana* (Malipatil, 1978).

This study about the *Remaudiereana flavipes* (Motschulsky, 1863) will add a new record to the lygaeidae fauna of India and will also enrich the information on fauna of Andaman and Nicobar Island. The finding of such rare bug 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.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The authors are thankful to Officer in charge and staff of Hemiptera section, Zoological Survey of India, Kolkata for providing necessary facilities.

## LITERATURE CITED

- Chandra, K. 1997. Hemiptera of Great Nicobar Biosphere Reserve, Journal of the Andaman Science Association, 13 (1 & 2): 102-103.
- Distant, W. L. 1910. The Fauna of British India including Ceylon and Burma, Rhynchota: Heteroptera Vol. V: Published by Taylor and Francis, London: 42-362.
- Harrington, B. J. 1980. A generic level revision and cladistic analysis of the myodochini of the world (Hemiptera, Lygaeidae, Rhyparochrominae). Bulletin of the american museum of natural history, 167 (2): 45-116.
- Malipatil, M. B. 1978. Revision of the Myodochini (Hemiptera: Lygaeidae: Rhyparochrominae) of the Australian region. Australian Jour. Zool. Suppl. ser., 56: 1-178.
- Slater, J. A. 1964. A catalogue of the Lygaeidae of the world. University of Connecticut, Storrs. Vol. 2.
- Sweet, M. H. 1964. The biology and ecology of the Rhyparochrominae of New England. Parts I and II. Entomol. Amer., 43: 1-201.



Dorsal view



Ventral view

Figure 1. *Remaudiereana flavipes* (Motschulsky, 1863).