

## NEW RECORD OF *PHALANTUS FEANUS* DISTANT (HEMIPTERA: REDUVIIDAE: PEIRATINAE) FROM INDIA

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**ABSTRACT:** A species of *Phalantus* Stål, 1863, *Phalantus feanus* Distant, was recorded for the first time from India. The species was redescribed with morphological measurements, additional taxonomic details and illustrations.

**KEY WORDS:** Reduviidae, Peiratinae, *Phalantus feanus*, India, new record

The genus, *Phalantus*, belonging to the subfamily Peiratinae of the family Reduviidae was erected by Stål in 1863 for the species *Phalantus geniculatus* Stål from Hong Kong. It currently contains about eight species distributing in the Central Africa, Zaire, Mozambique, Ethiopia, Sudan, Zambesi, Madagascar, India, China, Japan, Myanmar and Russia (Maldonado, 1990). Prior to study, only one species *viz.* *Phalantus geniculatus* Stål was recorded from India. Distant (1904) and Maldonado (1990) mentioned that the species, *Phalantus feanus* Distant, was recorded from Myanmar. During the study of the collections made by different survey parties of 'CAMPA Project' from Chhattisgarh, the species *Phalantus feanus* Distant has been identified and recorded for the first time from India as a second species under this genus.

### MATERIAL AND METHODS

This study is based on the sample collected in field surveys from Sundarban, West Bengal (India). The specimen is deposited in the National Zoological Collection of Zoological Survey of India, Hemiptera Section, Kolkata. Morphological measurement and images of the species were taken with a Leica (M 205A) stereo microscope using the proprietary software (Leica application suite, V3.8). All measurements are in millimetres.

### OBSERVATION AND RESULTS

#### *Phalantus* Stål, 1863

1863. *Phalantus* Stål, Ann. Soc. Ent. Fr., p. 57.

**Type species:** *Phalantus geniculatus* Stål, 1863 : By monotypy.

**Distribution:** Ethiopian and Oriental region.

#### *Phalantus feanus* Distant, 1903 (Figs. 1-5)

1903. *Phalantus feanus* Distant, Ann. Soc. Ent. Belg., p. 61.

1904. *Phalantus feanus*, Distant, Fauna Brit. India, Rhynchota, 2: 290.

1990. *Phalantus feanus*, Maldonado, Carribbean J. Sci. (special ed.), p. 367.

**Material examined:** 1♀, INDIA: West Bengal: Sunderban: South 24 Parganas District: Gosaba: Pakhiralay, 9.X.2015, Coll. B. Mitra and party (Lat.: 22.165234°, Long.: 88.807914°).

**Redescription:** Macropterous; medium-sized.

**Color:** General color blackish; first, third and fourth segments of antennae, rostrum, prosternum and legs yellowish brown; second segment of antennae and apex of first segment dull chestnut brown; apices of femora and bases of tibia black (Fig. 1).

**Structure:**

**Head:** Head broad, stout, shorter than pronotum (0.70: 1.00), anteocular region longer than postocular region (1.00: 0.63), eyes longer than broad (Fig. 2); antennae four-segmented, second segment longest, relative length of antennal segments: I (0.95) : II (2.03) : III (1.50) : IV (1.86) = 0.46: 1.00: 0.73: 0.91; rostrum stout, second segment longest, apical segment shortest, relative length of rostral segments: I (0.67) : II (0.73) : III (0.32) = 0.91: 1.00: 0.43 (Fig. 3).

**Thorax:** Pronotum transversely constricted behind middle, anterior lobe with a fine central linear sulcation, posterior lobe finely granulate and shorter than anterior lobe (1.00: 0.69) (Fig. 2); sternum finely granulate; scutellum very finely granulate with its apex produced and broader than long (1.00: 0.87); legs moderately long, pilose, fore femora incrassated, amplified, finely spinous beneath (Fig. 3), fore tibiae slightly shorter than femora, cylindrical and strongly curved, apically truncate, provided beneath with a short apical spongy furrow (Fig. 3), middle femora about as long as tibiae, hind tibiae longer than femora, tarsi three-jointed, posterior tarsi with second joint little longer than third (Fig. 5); hemelytra longer than broad and not reaching the apex of abdomen.

**Abdomen:** Abdomen smooth, pilose and longer than broad (1.00: 0.60); female genital segments as in figure 4.

**Measurements** [in mm, ♀ (n=1)]. Body length 12.04; head length 1.66, width across eye 1.19; length of anteocular region 1.02, postocular region 0.64; length of antennae 4.58, lengths of antennal segments I: 0.95, II: 2.03, III: 1.50, and IV: 1.86, relative length of antennal segments: I: II: III: IV= 0.46: 1.00: 0.73: 0.96; rostral length 1.72, length of rostral segments I: 0.67, II: 0.73 and III: 0.32, relative length of rostral segments: I: II: III= 0.91: 1.00: 0.43; length of pronotum 2.37; length of anterior pronotal lobe 1.40, posterior pronotal lobe 0.97, width of anterior pronotal lobe 2.43, posterior pronotal lobe 3.32; length of scutellum 1.61, width of scutellum 1.85; length of abdomen 5.87, width of abdomen 3.55; length of forecoxa: 1.32, trochanter: 0.72, femur: 2.36, tibia: 2.30, tarsus: 0.86, claws: 0.20; midcoxa: 0.75, trochanter: 0.79, femur: 2.45, tibia: 2.48, tarsus: 1.22, claw: 0.35; hindcoxa: 0.88, trochanter: 0.82, femur: 3.47, tibia: 3.87, tarsus: 1.89, claw: 0.34.

**Distribution:** INDIA: West Bengal. Elsewhere: Myanmar.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Fig. 1



Fig. 2



Fig. 3



Fig. 4



Fig. 5

Figures 1-5. *Phalantus feanus* Distant. 1. Dorsal view of female; 2. head and pronotum, dorsal view; 3. rostrum and forelegs, ventral view; 4. abdominal tip of female, ventral view; 5. posterior tarsi; Scale line = 1 mm. LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS USED: VII: 7<sup>th</sup> segment, Gc 8: Gonocoxite 8, Gp 9: Gonapophyses 9.