

## THREE NEW RECORDS OF REDUVIIDAE (HEMIPTERA: HEMIPTERA) FROM PUNJAB, INDIA

**Paramita Mukherjee\* and M. E. Hassan\***

\* Zoological Survey of India, 'M' Block, New Alipore, Kolkata-700053, INDIA. E-mails: paramitamukho@gmail.com; chtashamulhassan@gmail.com

**[Mukherjee, P. & Hassan, M. E. 2016. Three new records of Reduviidae (Heteroptera: Hemiptera) from Punjab, India. Munis Entomology & Zoology, 11 (1): 260-262]**

**ABSTRACT:** The paper deals with new record of three species *viz.* *Catamiarus brevipennis* (Serville), *Rhynocoris marginatus* (Fabricius) and *Sycanus collaris* (Fabricius) from the state of Punjab, India. Key to the different taxa and distributions of each species in India and abroad have been included.

**KEY WORDS:** Hemiptera, Reduviidae, Punjab.

The family Reduviidae is the largest and the most diverse group of true bugs. It belongs to the Superfamily Reduivoidea of the Suborder Heteroptera of the Order Hemiptera under the Division Exopterygota of Class Insecta. They are commonly known as "assassin bugs" and occurs throughout the world but mostly common in tropical ecosystem. There are about 6878 described species and subspecies under 981 genera belonging to 25 subfamilies of the family Reduviidae recorded from the world (Henry, 2009). Of which, 465 species under 144 genera belonging to 14 subfamilies are recorded from India (Biswas & Mitra, 2011). Reduviid predators are polyphagous and feed on wide array of preys. Some of them are blood suckers and transmit various diseases to man and animals.

A total of 5 species under 4 genera belonging to 3 subfamilies *viz.* *Acanthaspis flavipes* Stal of Reduviinae, *Ectomocoris cordatus* (Wolff), *Ectomocoris tibialis* Distant, *Lestomerus sanctus* (Fabricius) of Peiratinae and *Rhynocoris reuteri* (Distant) of Harpactorinae are so far recorded from Sind, Punjab (Distant, 1904, 1910; Ambrose, 2006). Present study presents three new records from the state of Punjab *viz.* *Catamiarus brevipennis* (Serville) of Peiratinae, *Rhynocoris marginatus* (Fabricius) and *Sycanus collaris* (Fabricius) of Harpactorinae. The keys to the subfamily, genera and distribution of species in India and abroad are also included.

### MATERIALS AND METHODS

The present study is based on the materials collected by different survey parties of Zoological Survey of India during field surveys from Punjab (1963-1964). The specimens are deposited in the National Zoological Collection of Zoological Survey of India, Hemiptera Section, Kolkata. Photographs and measurements of the species were taken with the aid of Leica M 205A. All measurements are in millimetres.

### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION SYSTEMATIC ACCOUNT

#### Key to the subfamilies of the family Reduviidae

1. Hemelytra with a quadrangular areolet or cell at interior area of corium near base of membrane.....HARPACTORINAE
- Hemelytra without a quadrangular areolet or cell at interior area of corium near base of membrane.....PEIRATINAE

Suborder **HETEROPTERA**  
 Infraorder **CIMICOMORPHA**  
 Family **REDUVIIDAE**  
 Subfamily I. **HARPACTORINAE**

**Key to the genera of the subfamily Harpactorinae**

1. Head oblong or moderately elongate, pronotum may or may not be armed.....  
 .....*Rhynocoris* Kolenati  
 -. Head long and slender, pronotum unarmed.....*Sycanus* Amyot & Serville

**Genus 1. *Rhynocoris* Kolenati, 1857**

1857. *Rhynocoris* Kolenati, Fascia Bulletin Moscou, 29: 419-502.

***Rhynocoris marginatus* (Fabricius, 1794) (Fig. 1)**

1794. *Reduvius marginatus* Fabricius, Ent. Syst., 4: 196.

1904. *Harpactor marginatus*: Distant, Fauna of Brit. India, Rhynchota, 2: 332.

2006. *Rhynocoris marginatus*: Ambrose, Zoos' Print Journ., 21 (9): 11.

**Material examined:** 5exs., INDIA: Punjab: Nangal, Rupnagar District: a patch of land near Sutlej Sadan, 22.I.1964, coll. T.D. Soota; 8exs., Rupnagar District, Nangal, a patch of land near the left side of the road to Bhakra near checkpost, 21.I.1964, coll. T.D. Soota; 8exs., Ambala District, NalaGarh, 18.I.1964, coll. T.D. Soota; 3exs., Pathankot District, Pathankot, 11.II.1970, coll. Asket Singh; 11exs., Rupnagar District, on the bank of canal road side fields near Nangal Dam, 23.I.1964, coll. T.D. Soota; 1ex., Rupnagar District, on the road fields about 2 miles from Rupar bus stand to Chandigarh, 17.I.1964, coll. T.D. Soota; 1ex., Rupnagar District, Chamkaur Sahib, 16.I.1964, coll. T.D. Soota; 1ex., Rupnagar District, Nangal, a patch of land near Sutlej Sadan, 21.I.1964, coll. T.D. Soota; 2exs., Jhelam District, Choa, 10 miles from Khewra Salt Range, 15-21.X.1930, coll. S.L. Hora and H.S. Pruthi.

**Diagnostic character:** Body blood reddish; scutellum, inner area of membrane, eyes, antennae, apical two thirds of tibiae, abdomen beneath violaceous black; pronotum with the anterior lobe sculptured, the posterior lobe wrinkled; first joint of antennae almost equal in length to anterior femora; corium wrinkled, the transverse cell near base of membrane with blood reddish margin; disc of sternum, coxae, trochanters and anterior lobe of pronotum reddish brownish yellow.

**Length:** 19.50-20 mm.

**Distribution:** India: Punjab (Ambala, Jhelam, Pathankot, Rupnagar), Chhattisgarh, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Delhi, Uttarakhand.

**Elsewhere:** China, Sri Lanka.

**Genus 2. *Sycanus* Amyot & Serville, 1843**

1843. *Sycanus* Amyot & Serville, Hem.: 360.

***Sycanus collaris* (Fabricius, 1785) (Fig. 2)**

1785. *Reduvius collaris* Fabricius, Spec. Ins., 2: 380.

1904. *Sycanus collaris*: Distant, Fauna Brit. India, Rhynchota, 2: 351.

2006. *Sycanus collaris*: Ambrose, Zoos' Print Journ., 21 (9): 14.

**Material examined:** 4exs., INDIA: Punjab: Gurdaspur District: Pathankot forest division: Noorpur forest range, 20.VI.1963, coll. R.K. Bhatnagar.

**Diagnostic character:** Body black in colour; pronotum piceous; apical half of corium excluding apical angle and basal half of membrane reddish brown; membrane bronzy; antennae black, basal and subapical annulations to first joint, subbasal annulation to second joint and apex of rostrum reddish brown; head about as long as pronotum and scutellum together; first joint of antennae subequal to anterior femora; scutellar spine long, obliquely erect, apex bifid; abdomen strongly dilated on each side especially at third and fourth segments, posterior angles of second and third segments acute.

**Length:** 22-25 mm.

**Distribution:** India: Punjab (Gurdaspur), Chhattisgarh, Tamil Nadu, Assam, West Bengal, Meghalaya.

**Elsewhere:** China, Malaysia, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand.

Subfamily II. **PEIRATINAE**

**Genus 3. *Catamiarus* Amyot & Serville, 1843**

1843. *Catamiarus* Amyot & Serville, Hem.: 323.

***Catamarius brevipennis* (Serville, 1831) (Fig. 3)**

1831. *Pirates brevipennis* Serv., Ann. Sc. Nat., 23: 217.

1904. *Catamarius brevipennis*: Distant, Fauna Brit. India, Rhynchota, 2: 302.

2006. *Catamarius brevipennis*: Ambrose, Zoos' Print Journ., 21 (9): 15.

**Material examined:** 36exs., INDIA: Rupnagar District: Nangal : a patch of land near Sutlej Sadan, 21.I.1964, coll. T.D. Soota; 4exs., Rupnagar District, Nangal, a patch of land near the left side of the road to Bhakra near checkpost, 25.I.1964, coll. T.D. Soota; 18exs., Rupnagar District, Nangal, a patch of land near Sutlej Sadan, 22.I.1964, coll. T.D. Soota.

**Diagnostic character:** Body black; a large rounded spot adjoining to the apex of the clavus and a very large discal spot to membrane brownish yellow; antennae hairy; head with the lateral margin hirsute; legs and margins of the body with long hair or hirsute.

**Length:** 20-26 mm.

**Distribution:** India: Punjab (Rupnagar), Chhattisgarh, Uttaranchal, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka.

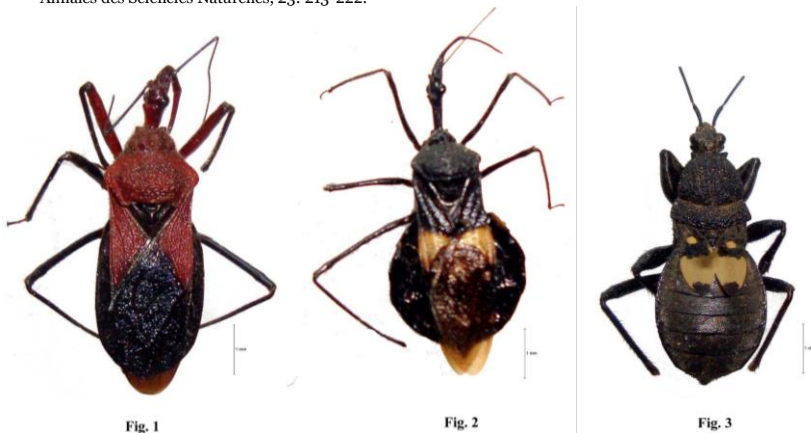
This paper presents three new records *viz.* *Catamarius brevipennis* (Serville), *Rhynocoris marginatus* (Fabricius) and *Sycanus collaris* (Fabricius) of the family Reduviidae from the state of Punjab, India. Paper also deals with key to the subfamilies, genera and distribution of species in India and abroad.

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Figures 1-3. 1. *Rhynocoris marginatus* (Fabricius); 2. *Sycanus collaris* (Fabricius); 3. *Catamarius brevipennis* (Serville).