

First record of the genus *Platerus* Distant (Heteroptera: Reduviidae: Harpactorinae) from China, with the description of a third species of the genus

PING ZHAO¹, CHUNWANG YANG² & WANZHI CAI^{1*}

¹Department of Entomology, China Agricultural University, Yuanmingyuan West Road, Beijing 100094, China.

²Animal Department, Tianjin Natural History Museum, Machang Road, Tianjin 30074, China.

*Corresponding author

Abstract

Platerus Distant, 1903 and *Platerus pilcheri* Distant, 1903 are reported for the first time from China. The female of *Platerus pilcheri* and *Platerus tenuicarpus* Zhao, Yang & Cai, **sp. nov.**, is described and illustrated. A key to the three species of the genus is provided. The diagnostic characters of the genus are modified.

Key words: *Platerus*, *Platerus pilcheri*, China, Tibet, new record, new species, Reduviidae, Harpactorinae, key

Introduction

Platerus Distant, a small genus in the reduviid subfamily Harpactorinae, was established in 1903 with *Platerus pilcheri* Distant as type species. Livingstone and Ravichandran (1991) described the second species, *Platerus bhavanii*, from southern India. In an examination of Chinese reduviid materials, we found one female identifiable as *Platerus pilcheri* Distant, originally described based on one male from Sikkim (Distant 1903), and an undescribed species, the third species of this genus, *Platerus tenuicarpus* Zhao, Yang & Cai, **sp. nov.**, collected by Dakang Zhou from Tibet. This genus is most similar to *Epidaurus* Stål, but the latter lacks a long oblique suberect spine posterior to the antenna.