

***Fistulococcus*, a new genus of soft scale insect (Sternorrhyncha, Coccidae) proposed for two new species from Hong Kong and Papua New Guinea**

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ABSTRACT

A new genus, *Fistulococcus* Hodgson & Martin is introduced, to accommodate two new species of soft scale insect. All stages (except the pupa) of the type species, *F. pokfulamensis* from *Gnetum luofuense* (Gnetaceae) in Hong Kong, are described. All female stages, and the second-instar male, are described for *F. intsiae* from *Intsia bijuga* (Fabaceae, Caesalpinioideae) in Papua New Guinea. The structure of the dorsal chambered ducts is discussed in relation to the types of wax secreted. The relationship of Coccidae with plants in the Gymnospermae is discussed, as part of the account of *F. pokfulamensis*.

Key words: Sternorrhyncha, Paralecaniini, Oriental, Austro-oriental, chambered ducts, wax, Gymnospermae, Gnetales, Dipterocarpaceae

INTRODUCTION

Scale insects or Coccoidea are sap-sucking insects related to the Psylloidea (jumping plant lice), Aphidoidea (aphids), and Aleyrodoidea (whiteflies). These four superfamilies collectively comprise the hemipterous suborder Sternorrhyncha, a group characterised by the labium apparently arising from the prosternum. The superfamily Coccoidea embraces at least 20 families, of which the Coccidae (soft scales) is the third largest, with about 1200 described species (Ben-Dov, 1993). The Coccoidea have a worldwide distribution but are most abundant in the tropics and subtropics. Many coccoid species are significant pests of agriculture and horticulture, directly weakening their host plants through sap loss, and often also hindering photosynthesis when sooty moulds develop on leaf surfaces soiled