



Revision of the genus *Ariptyelus* Matsumura (Hemiptera: Cercopoidea: Aphrophoridae)

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Abstract

The genus *Ariptyelus* Matsumura, comprising 3 species, is reviewed. Two species, *A. arisanus* (Matsumura, 1942) and *A. auropilosus* (Matsumura, 1907) are redescribed. *Ariptyelus arisanus* is recorded only from Taiwan. *A. auropilosus*, previously known from Taiwan and China (Xizang, Sichuan, Yunnan, and Fujian) is newly recorded from Philippines, Indonesia, and Hainan, and Lutao and Orchid Islands. One new species from India and Nepal, *A. subauropilosus* **sp. nov.**, is described. The diagnostic characters of the genera *Ariptyelus* and *Peuceptyelus* and the characters distinguishing the 3 species of *Ariptyelus* are presented.

Key words: spittlebug, taxonomy, distribution, morphology, identification

Introduction

The genus *Ariptyelus* was erected by Matsumura (1940) to include the species *Aphrophora auropilosus* Matsumura, 1907 from Taiwan. According to the original description, *Ariptyelus* is similar to *Peuceptyelus*, but may be distinguished as follows: the vertex at the anterior margin with no transverse furrow; tylus at lateral sides ridged, with no furrow on the anterior edge, being much broader at apex than on the hind margin, the disc scarcely depressed, and frons much less tumid, in the middle longitudinally flattened (Matsumura, 1940). Afterward Matsumura (1942: 47–48) added 2 species from Taiwan, *Ariptyelus kikuchii* and *A. shokanus*. Liang (1998) treated both species as synonyms of *A. auropilosus* and transferred the species *Toroptyelus arisanus* Matsumura, 1942 to the genus *Ariptyelus*. Therefore, prior to our study the genus *Ariptyelus* included 2 valid species.

The distribution records of some auchenorrhynchan species in Taiwan and Japan are somewhat doubtful because of mistakes in the catalogues of Cercopoidea by Metcalf (1960, 1961, 1962), as discussed by Shih and Yang (2002b, 2005). Moreover, recent work on the Oriental and Palaearctic faunas by some authors (China, 1951; Nast, 1972; Kwon and Lee, 1979; Komatsu, 1997; Liang, 1998; Shih and Yang, 2002a, b, 2005) have revealed that the taxonomy of cercopid species of Taiwan and adjacent regions needs to be reviewed.

For the above reasons, we examined a large number of specimens of the genus *Ariptyelus* from Taiwan, India, China, Nepal, Philippines, and Indonesia. The redefinition of the *Ariptyelus* and a key to 3 known species are given, including diagnosis of the male genitalia. Study of the genitalia revealed a new species, *A. subauropilosus* from India and Nepal, which is very similar to *A. auropilosus*. The species descriptions,