



## *Sycanus aurantiacus* (Hemiptera: Heteroptera: Reduviidae), a new harpactorine species from Bali, Indonesia, with brief notes on its biology

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### Abstract

A new species, *Sycanus aurantiacus*, of the assassin bug subfamily Harpactorinae is described on the basis of specimens collected from Bali, Indonesia. This species is distinguished from the other species of *Sycanus* by its antennal segment I having two orange annulations; the posterior pronotal lobe being weakly tumid in the middle near the posterior margin; the scutellar spine being erect, short, and rounded at the apex; each femur having two incomplete orange annulations; the hemelytral corium being blackish with the veins yellow to yellowish brown; and the abdominal laterotergites being weakly extended dorsad. This species is notable because it feeds on some serious lepidopteran pests of cabbage.

**Key words:** Reduviidae, Harpactorinae, *Sycanus*, new species, Bali, Indonesia

### Introduction

*Sycanus* Amyot et Serville, 1843 is a large genus of the reduviid subfamily Harpactorinae, comprising 74 species from the Oriental Region, with the single exception of *S. harpactoides* Signoret, 1960 from Madagascar (cf. Maldonado Capriles 1990; Ishikawa & Tomokuni 2004). The genus is recognized among its related genera by the following combination of character states: the body elongate elliptical and thickened; the head about three times as long as the width across the eyes and usually more than 1.3 times as long as the pronotum; the anteculus shorter than the postoculus; the posterior pronotal lobe punctuate and rugose, lacking spine on the disc; the scutellum with a tubercle or erect spine at the apex; and the abdominal laterotergites more or less extended dorsad or dorsolaterad.

The Indonesian fauna is represented so far by only 11 species, from Sumatra, Java, Lombok, Sulawesi, and Waigeo Island (cf. Maldonado Capriles 1990) despite the great size of this country. As for Bali, no record has been associated with *Sycanus*. In the course of the field surveys on crop insect pests and their natural enemies, under the project of “Development of New Bio-Agents for Alternative Farming System” conducted by Tokyo University of Agriculture in collaboration with Udayana University since 2004, one species of *Sycanus* has been detected from cabbage fields at more than 1,000 m altitude, in Bali. After detailed examination of its morphology, we recognized this assassin bug to be undescribed. Additionally, we discovered the preferred prey of this species (some lepidopteran serious pests of cabbage and other arthropods) through field observations. Thus this new species could be useful in biological control.