



## Taxonomic notes on *Amemboa lyra* Paiva and *Amemboa riparia* Polhemus & Andersen (Hemiptera: Heteroptera: Gerridae)

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### Abstract

*Amemboa riparia* Polhemus & Andersen, 1984 was recognised as junior synonym of *Amemboa lyra* (Paiva, 1918) by Zettel & Chen (1996). After examination of a series of *Amemboa* specimens from Myanmar, we now determine that these two names are not synonymous and thus re-establish *Amemboa riparia*. These species can be separated from each other by the structures of the male's fore leg, and the apical part of the pygophore.

**Key words:** Gerridae, *Amemboa*, synonym

### Introduction

*Amemboa lyra* was first described as *Onychotrechus lyra* by Paiva (1918) from southern Shan State, Myanmar. The type material of this species was supposedly deposited in the Zoological Survey of India, but authors of subsequent studies, e.g., Polhemus & Andersen (1984), Zettel & Chen (1996), were not successful in locating the type material. Polhemus & Andersen (1984) revised the genus *Amemboa*, transferred *Onychotrechus lyra* to *Amemboa*, and described *Amemboa riparia*, which is closely related to *A. lyra*. Zettel & Chen (1996) while reviewing the gerrid fauna of Vietnam, treated *Amemboa riparia* Polhemus & Andersen, 1984 as a junior synonym of *A. lyra* (Paiva, 1918), after examination of a population from northwestern Thailand with variable foreleg structures (see Remarks for *A. riparia* below).

After examination of a series of *Amemboa* specimens from Myanmar, in localities close to the type locality of *A. lyra*, we now determine that these two names are not synonymous and thus re-establish *Amemboa riparia*.

**Materials & Methods.** The materials examined in this study are deposited in the following collections: John T. Polhemus Collection, USA (JTPC); Natural History Museum, Vienna, Austria (NHMW); Zoological Museum, University of Copenhagen, Denmark (ZMUC); Zoological Reference Collection, Raffles Museum of Biodiversity Research, Singapore (ZRC) and Zoological Museum, Hanoi University of Science, Vietnam (ZMHU). Illustrations were made with the help of a Camera Lucida attached to a Nikon SMZ800 stereo-microscopes. All measurements are given in millimeters.

### Taxonomy

#### *Amemboa lyra* (Paiva, 1918)

(Figs. 1, 2)

*Onychotrechus lyra* Paiva, 1918: 24–25, pl. 8:3 (type locality: Taung-gya, Southern Shan State, Myanmar).

*Amemboa* (s.str.) *lyra* (Paiva); Polhemus & Andersen, 1984: 90, Figs. 65, 73–75 (systematics, transferred *Onychotrechus lyra* to *Amemboa*); Zettel & Chen, 1996: 156–157 (synonymized *Amemboa riparia* with *Amemboa lyra*).