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# ZOOTAXA

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**New species in the genus *Thagria* Melichar from the Oriental and Australian regions, with a revised key to genera and species and a synoptic catalogue of the genus (Hemiptera: Cicadellidae: Coelidiinae)**

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## Table of contents

Abstract	4
Introduction	4
Taxonomy	4
Results	5
Intra-interspecific variation	5
Morphology of the dorsal connective	7
Problematic species	7
Distribution	7
Key to the genera of Thagriini (males)	24
Key to species of <i>Tahara</i> (males)	25
Key to species of <i>Thagria</i> (males)	25
(1) Key to 2 species of <i>Thagria</i> from Cambodia and Thailand	25
(2) Key to 4 species of <i>Thagria</i> from Japan, China, Taiwan and South Korea	25
(3) Key to 7 species of <i>Thagria</i> from Myanmar, China, India, Laos, Thailand, Tibet and Vietnam	26
(4) Key to the 13 species of <i>Thagria</i> from India, Sri Lanka, China, Laos, Myanmar, Vietnam, Tibet and Thailand	26
(5) Key to 17 species of <i>Thagria</i> from the Philippines, Malaysia and Vietnam	27
(6) Key to 22 species of <i>Thagria</i> from Laos, China, India, Myanmar, Vietnam, Tibet and Thailand	28
(7) Key to 23 species of <i>Thagria</i> from Vietnam China, India, Indonesia, Philippines, Laos, Malayasia, Myanmar, Tibet and Thailand	29
(8) Key to 32 species of <i>Thagria</i> in Indonesia, Malaysia; Papua New Guinea and Philippines	30
(9) Key to 39 species of <i>Thagria</i> from Thailand, India, China, Laos, Myanmar, Philippines and Vietnam	32
(10) Key to 38 species of <i>Thagria</i> from Malaysia, Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam	34
(11) Key to 41 species of <i>ThagriaThagria</i> from Papua New Guinea; Fiji Isl.; Solomon Isl., Vanuatu, Indonesia and Malaysia	36
(12) Key to 51 species of <i>Thagria</i> from China, Bhutan, Taiwan, India, Japan, Laos, Myanmar, Nepal Vietnam and Thailand	38
Description of species	41
<i>Thagria aenigmatis</i> , sp. nov.	41
<i>Thagria asperitas</i> , sp. nov.	44
<i>Thagria biretrorsa</i> , sp. nov.	44
<i>Thagria colorata</i> , sp. nov.	47
<i>Thagria coniunctionis</i> , sp. nov.	49
<i>Thagria constanti</i> , sp. nov.	49
<i>Thagria fidelitas</i> , sp. nov.	52
<i>Thagria freytagi</i> , sp. nov.	54
<i>Thagria intorta</i> , sp. nov.	54
<i>Thagria iuxta</i> , sp. nov.	57
<i>Thagria lobata</i> , sp. nov.	60
<i>Thagria longicatilla</i> , sp. nov.	60
<i>Thagria malenovskiyi</i> , sp. nov.	63
<i>Thagria oldfieldi</i> , sp. nov.	63
<i>Thagria paraunca</i> , sp. nov.	66
<i>Thagria quadrimaculata</i> , sp. nov.	66
<i>Thagria quadrispinosa</i> , sp. nov.	69
<i>Thagria trimaculata</i> , sp. nov.	71
<i>Thagria unibasispinosa</i> , sp. nov.	71
<i>Thagria unica</i> , sp. nov.	74
<i>Thagria viraktamathi</i> , sp. nov.	75
Synoptic catalogue of the genus <i>Thagria</i> (Coelidiinae: Thagriini)	78
Acknowledgements	104
References	105

## Abstract

The following 21 new species of *Thagria* from the Oriental and Australian regions are described, illustrated and photographed: *T. aenigmatis*, **sp. nov.**, *T. asperitas* **sp. nov.**, *T. biretrorsa* **sp. nov.**, *T. colorata*, **sp. nov.**, *T. coniunctionis*, **sp. nov.**, *T. constanti*, **sp. nov.**, *T. fidelitas* **sp. nov.**, *T. freytagi* **sp. nov.**, *T. intorta* **sp. nov.**, *T. iuxta*, **sp. nov.**, *T. lobata* **sp. nov.**, *T. longicatilla* **sp. nov.**, *T. malenovskyi* **sp. nov.**, *T. oldfieldi*, **sp. nov.**, *T. paraunca*, **sp. nov.**, *T. quadrimaculata*, **sp. nov.**, *T. quadrispinosa* **sp. nov.**, *T. trimaculata* **sp. nov.**, *T. unibasispinosa*, **sp. nov.**; *T. unica* **sp. nov.** and *T. viraktamathi*, **sp. nov.** *Thagria bidentata* Xu & Kuoh 1998, preoccupied by *Thagria bidentata* Nielson 1982 is renamed herein *Thagria xui* **nom. nov.** *Thagria multicalcara* Nielson is suppressed junior synonym of *Coelidia inscripta* Walker. *Thagria hongdoensis* Kwon & Lee is suppressed junior synonym of resurrected *Coelidia satsumensis* Matsumura. Cambodia is a new record for *T. longistyla* Freytag. Laos is a new record for *T. acrodens* Freytag, *T. bouardi* Nielson, *T. emeiensis* Zhang, *T. fuscocutis* Zhang, *T. janssoni* Nielson, *T. obriena* Nielson and *T. ungulata* Nielson. Vietnam is a new record for *T. grandis* Nielson and *T. marissae* Nielson. Intra-inter specific variation involving 6 closely related species (*melichari* species complex) in Southeast Asia is discussed. Morphology and taxonomic value of the dorsal connective, revised key to species and genera in Thagriini and an updated synoptic catalogue of the genus are also presented. Problematical species in the genus *Thagria* are reviewed. Distribution of 235 known species and the relationship between clypellus configuration and geographical origin are given.

**Key words:** Leafhoppers, taxonomy, dorsal connective, clypellus, homonymy, synonymy, intra-interspecific variation, endemism

## Introduction

*Thagria* is the largest genus of leafhoppers in the subfamily Coelidiinae, occupying the Oriental and Australian regions with extension into the southern and eastern Palearctic realm. Diversity is highest in the Oriental region where 73% of the known species occur. Approximately 25% inhabit the Australian region (although none are known from Australia, Tasmania or New Zealand). The remaining species occupy the Palearctic region. The group shares the tribe Thagriini with 1 small genus, *Tahara* Nielson, known only from 2 species from the Australian region on the island of New Guinea (Indonesia (Irian) and Papua New Guinea).

In this paper, 21 new species are described, illustrated and photographed. Taxonomy and diagnostic features of the two genera of Thagriini, are reviewed. A species complex is recognized for the following 6 species: *aenigmatis*, **sp. nov.**, *bicurta* Freytag, *expanda* Freytag, *melichari* Nielson, *serrastyla* Nielson and *viraktamathi*, **sp. nov.** Morphology of the dorsal connective and its taxonomic value in *Thagria* are presented for the first time. The current status of 5 problematic species is reviewed. Detailed data on distribution are provided for the first time for 235 known species. New records for 10 species are cited and a new name, *Thagria xui* Nielson, is proposed for *Thagria bidentata* Xu & Kuoh 1998 nec *Thagria bidentata* Nielson 1982. A revised key to males of all known species, augmented by distribution records, is provided for more expedient identification of specimens of this very large assemblage. An updated synoptic catalogue of the genus treating all known valid species is also presented.

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Photos were taken with a columnar attached Infinity I camera mounted on Olympus SZ-61 stereo microscope. All illustrations were drawn at 40X magnification except where noted.

## Taxonomy

In my previous revision of the subfamily Coelidiinae, tribe Thagriini, 12 of 25 genera previously assigned to the