



Type specimens of Heteroptera (Insecta: Hemiptera) collected from North Korea and adjacent regions deposited at Insect Collections of Chungnam National University (CNU) in Daejeon, Republic of Korea

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Abstract

A list of type specimens of Heteroptera (Insecta: Hemiptera) collected from North Korea (mostly by the late Dr. Michail Josifov, Sofia, Bulgaria) acquired earlier by E. Heiss, now donated to and deposited in the insect collections of Chungnam National University (CNU), Daejeon, Korea, is presented. A total of 31 holotypes and 694 paratypes of 41 species and 1 subspecies in 6 families and 9 subfamilies are presented: Miridae (Deraeocorinae, Mirinae, Orthotylinae, Phylinae), Tingidae (Tinginae), Piesmatidae (Piesmatinae), Berytidae (Metacanthinae), Cymidae (Cyminae), Pentatomidae (Asopinae).

Key words: type specimens, North Korea, true bugs, CNU

Introduction

Because of the political post World-War-II situation, North Korea was inaccessible for scientists and citizens of Western oriented countries except for those then belonging to the so called “Communist Block”. This enabled Dr. Michail Josifov, entomologist at the Zoological Institute, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Sofia, Bulgaria to undertake field trips to communist member countries e.g. Mozambique, Vietnam, North Korea, and Central Asian countries.

His first trip for collecting Heteroptera to North Korea started in 1970, followed by travels 1974, 1975, 1977 and 1987. During these expeditions M. Josifov assembled rich material of new taxa, which he described and published (e.g., Josifov, 1975; 1976; 1978; 1979; 1982; 1983a; 1983b; 1992) and together with I.M. Kerzhner (St Petersburg) (e.g., Josifov & Kerzhner, 1978; 1984).

The economic crisis in Bulgaria and uncertain storage and preservation opportunities forced M. Josifov 2003–2004 to offer his private collection of North Korean Heteroptera, which was then purchased by E. Heiss.

As this valuable material, which is essential for comparative taxonomical and faunistic studies of the whole Far Eastern Region and in particular for South Korea, should be accessible for scientific researchers and students in that area, E. Heiss decided 2013 to donate this collection to the first author (SJ) at the insect collections in Chungnam National University (CNU), Daejeon, Korea, where it is now deposited.

Among the type specimens are also paratypes of 3 taxa (*Teratocoris depressus*, *Blepharidopterus ulmicola*, *Mecommopsis cruciata*) described by I.M. Kerzhner (Kerzhner, 1977; 1979) from Kurile Islands, Mongolia and Kunastir Island, respectively.