



<http://dx.doi.org/10.11646/zootaxa.3990.3.9>

<http://zoobank.org/urn:lsid:zoobank.org:pub:E3045A70-F83A-4CAA-811D-B96214600E42>

### A new species from the genus *Gorochovitettix* (Tetrigidae: Metrodorinae) from Thailand

MING KAI TAN<sup>1</sup> & TAKSIN ARTCHAWAKOM<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Biological Sciences, National University of Singapore, 14 Science Drive 4, Singapore 117543, Republic of Singapore. E-mail: orthoptera.mingkai@gmail.com

<sup>2</sup>Sakaerat Environmental Research Station, Thailand Institute of Scientific and Technological Research, Wang Nam Khieo District, Nakhon Ratchasima Province 30370, Thailand. E-mail: sakaerat@tistr.or.th

#### Abstract

A new species of pygmy grasshopper from the genus *Gorochovitettix* is described: *Gorochovitettix khaosung* sp. n. from Sakaerat Biosphere Reserve, Thailand. This represents the second species from the genus and the first record of the genus outside Vietnam.

**Key words:** pygmy grasshoppers, groundhoppers, *Gorochovitettix khaosung*, Sakaerat

#### Introduction

Tetrigidae (Insecta: Orthoptera), often refer to as pygmy grasshoppers or groundhoppers, have interesting biology. They are known to be limno-terrestrial (species that require an aqueous matrix in strictly terrestrial habitats (Balian et al., 2008) and may feed on aquatic algae and mosses (Amédégnato & Devriese, 2008). The pygmy grasshoppers are also very diverse (about 1,750 species worldwide) but remained relatively poorly studied in Southeast Asia (Tumbrinck, 2014). Nevertheless, recent studies had led to the discovery of numerous new species and genera from the region (eg. Storozhenko, 2013a, 2013b; Storozhenko & Dawwrueng, 2014).

The genus *Gorochovitettix* (Tetrigidae: Metrodorinae) was erected only recently in 2015 for a single species (*Gorochovitettix kannackiensis* Storozhenko & Pushkar, 2015) described from Vietnam (see Storozhenko & Pushkar, 2015). This genus is different from other Tetrigidae by the widened frontal ridge or scutellum and leaf-like carinae on the laterally compressed fore and mid femora.

Given the vast area and diverse biodiversity in Southeast Asia, more new species from the genus of pygmy grasshopper are expected to be discovered. Indeed, when a faunistic survey of the orthopterans in Thailand's UNESCO Sakaerat Biosphere Reserve was recently conducted, a new species of *Gorochovitettix* pygmy grasshopper was discovered and is described here: *Gorochovitettix khaosung* sp. n.

#### Material and methods

Opportunistic collection, sweep-netting and light-trapping were carried out by MKT in Sakaerat Biosphere Reserve, Thailand in 2014. Photographic images were made using the Visionary Digital System. Specimens were preserved by drying and pinning.

Morphological measurements and counts were done on pinned specimens. Images of characters were taken using VD System and measurements were made on computer software Adobe Photoshop. The following measurements following terminology by Tumbrinck (2014) were made:

PL = pronotum length

PW = pronotum width

PH = pronotum height