

On taxonomy and distribution of some Palaearctic and Oriental Largidae and Pyrrhocoridae (Heteroptera)

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The following new synonymies, new combinations and changes of rank or status are established: LARGIDAE: *Physopelta* Amyot & Serville, 1843 = *Neophysopelta* Ahmad & Abbas, 1987; *Physopelta typica* (Distant, 1903), sp. dist. (not syn. of *Ph. villosa* Bredd.); PYRRHOCORIDAE: *Aderrhis lugubris* (Distant, 1903), comb. n., *A. erebus* (Distant, 1909), comb. n., *A. pakistanensis* (Ahmad & Abbas, 1986) comb. n. (all from *Dermatinus*); *Dindymus sanguineus* (Fabricius, 1794), sp. dist. (not syn. of *D. rubiginosus* F.); *Dysdercus* subg. *Leptophthalmus* Stål, 1870, stat. n. (= *Megadysdercus* Breddin, 1900); *Dysdercus fuscumaculatus* Stål, 1863 = *D. mesiostigma* Distant, 1888 = *D. monostigma* Kirby, 1891; *D. micropygus* Breddin, 1909, sp. dist. (not syn. of *D. koenigii* F.) = *D. similis* Freeman, 1947; *Melamphaus faber* (Fabricius, 1787) = *M. komodoensis* Kiritshenko, 1963; *Pyrrhocoris apterus* (Linnaeus, 1758) = *P. pseudoapterus* Ahmad & Perveen, 1986; *Pyrrhocoris sibiricus* Kuschakewitsch, 1866 = *Dermatinus reticulatus* Signoret, 1881 = *Scantius formosanus* Bergroth, 1914; *Scantius forsteri* (Fabricius, 1781) = *S. pallens* Distant, 1903 = *S. coriaceus* Distant, 1911 = *S. neopallens* Ahmad & Abbas, 1986 = *S. distanti* Ahmad & Zaidi, 1989; *S. obscurus* Distant, 1901 = *S. pseudobscurus* Ahmad & Zaidi, 1989. *Ascopocoris* nom. n. is proposed for *Ascopus* Hsiao, 1964 (nom. praecoc.). Some lectotypes designations and new records are included.

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This paper is mainly a by-product of preparation of chapters on Largidae and Pyrrhocoridae for the "Catalogue of the Heteroptera of the Palaearctic Region". The following abbreviations are used for collections: DEI – Deutsches Entomologisches Institut, Eberswalde, Germany; HNHM – Hungarian Natural History Museum, Budapest; MM – Moravian Museum, Brno, Czech Republic; ZIN – Zoological Institute, Russian Academy of Sciences, St.Petersburg, Russia.

Family LARGIDAE

Macrocheraia grandis (Gray, 1832)

Lygaeus grandis Gray, 1832: 242.

Macroceroea longicornis Spinola, 1837: 177.

Spinola (1837) described *M. longicornis* from one male ("la mâle m'a été envoyé par

M. Buquet"). In the collection of M. Spinola (Casale, 1982: 68 and photograph on p. 15), there are 2 ♂ and 2 ♀ with a place label "*Macrocheraia longicornis* Lefebvre, Java, Buquet". The male on the right is apparently the holotype of *M. longicornis* as it is the only specimen having the 4th antennal segment preserved (Spinola gave the length of this segment), and the small additional label "India, Buquet" seen at the photograph apparently refers to this specimen.

Physopelta Amyot & Serville, 1843

Physopelta Amyot & Serville, 1843: 271. Type species by subsequent designation (Hussey, 1929: 28): *Physopelta erythrocephala* Amyot & Serville, 1843 (= *Cimex albofasciatus* De Geer, 1773).

Neophysopelta Ahmad & Abbas, 1987: 132, 134, syn. n. Type species by monotypy: *Cimex slanbuschii* Fabricius, 1787.

Ahmad & Abbas (1987) examined two of the about 30 species of the genus *Physopelta*: *Ph. gutta* (Burmeister, 1834) and *Ph. slanbuschii* (Fabricius, 1787). The remaining species, including *Ph. albofasciata* (De Geer, 1773), the type species of *Physopelta*, were not examined. Based on differences of the two examined species, Ahmad & Abbas established for *Ph. slanbuschii* a new genus *Neophysopelta* distinguished by the bright red coloration, shorter antennal segment I (about as long as head), presence of black stiff hairs on body (on head and margins of pronotum), spermatheca with long coiled duct and slightly different shape of paramere. Examination of several species additional to those examined by Ahmad and Abbas shows that all mentioned characters are variable within the genus. As noted by Stehlik (1965b), despite diversity of the species included in *Physopelta*, it is difficult to divide it into natural groups. We consider that splitting of the genus is premature and place *Neophysopelta* in synonymy with *Physopelta*.

Physopelta (Physopelta) parviceps Blöte, 1931

Physopelta parviceps Blöte, 1931: 100.

Ph. parviceps was described from Japan. Examination of specimens from Japan and Taiwan, some of which were examined by J.S. in MM and the other kindly sent to I.M.K. by Dr M. Tomokuni (Tokyo), shows that records of *Ph. cincticollis* Stål from these countries should be referred to *Ph. parviceps*. *Ph. parviceps* differs from *Ph. cincticollis* in the narrower vertex, longer and slenderer antennae and tibiae, noticeably slender 2nd antennal segment slightly clavate at apex only (in *Ph. cincticollis*, 2nd segment shorter, more stout, and evenly thickened), red base of clavus and corium (in *Ph. cincticollis*, black), smaller black spot on corium, and dark red legs (in *Ph. cincticollis*, black).

Physopelta subg. Delacampius Distant, 1903, stat. n.

Delacampius Distant, 1903b: 252. Type species by use of "typicus": *Delacampius typicus* Distant, 1903.

Taeuber (1927: 179) and Blöte (1931: 101) suspected that *Delacampius* is merely a subgenus of *Physopelta*. Stehlik (1965b: 288) synonymized these genera, because the dis-

tinguishing character of *Delacampius* given by Blöte ("the anterior area [of pronotum] is separated from the lateral edge by a row of very coarse points") is found also in some large species (*Ph. quadriguttata* Bergroth, *Ph. cincticollis* Stål, etc., as well as species from Africa and Madagascar). However, detailed analysis, including the character of antennae not mentioned till now, shows that *Delacampius* should be considered as a subgenus. It may be differentiated from the nominotypical subgenus by the following combination of characters.

Small species, up to 9 mm; strongly pilose. Paranota in their middle much more constricted. Clavus with four rows of punctures only (in *Physopelta* s. str., punctures in distal part of clavus numerous and irregular). Posterior lobe of pronotum very coarsely punctured. 3rd antennal segment short, 4th segment rather thick, twice as long as 3rd. Sometimes brachypterous (*Physopelta* s. str. always macropterous). Distribution: Oriental Region and N Australia.

The following species belong to this subgenus: *Ph. typica* (Distant), *Ph. militaris* (Distant), *Ph. seria* Breddin, *Ph. villosa* Breddin, *Ph. flavipes* Taeuber, *Ph. hirta* (Blöte).

Physopelta (Delacampius) typica

(Distant; 1903), sp. dist.

Delacampius typicus Distant, 1903b: 253.

Blöte (1931: 101) placed *D. typicus* described from Malaysia in synonymy with *Physopelta villosa* Breddin, 1901 from Sumatra. Comparison by J.S. of specimens of *Ph. typica* from Malaysia with specimens of *Ph. villosa* from Sumatra and Philippines shows that these species are distinct: *Ph. typica* is smaller, with more convex lateral margin of corium, it differs also in the punctuation of clavus and length of antennal segments.

Family PYRRHOCORIDAE

Aderrhis lugubris (Distant, 1903), comb. n.

Dermatinus lugubris Distant, 1903a: 115.

Material examined (ZIN). **India:** 1 ♀, Chikkaballapura [= Chik Ballapur], T.V. C[ampbell], identified as "*Dermatinus lugubris* Dist."

Stehlik (1965a: 241) noted under the genus *Aderrhis*: "I found that it will be necessary to transfer most of the species of the genus *Dermatinus* Stål to this genus. With certainty,

the genus *Dermatinus* comprises *D. lugens* Stål (type by monotypy) and *D. limbifer* Stål". Ahmad & Mohammad (1967) apparently confused *D. lugens* Stål with *D. lugubris* Dist. and ascribed to Stehlik the opinion that *D. lugubris* refers to *Dermatinus*. Actually, *D. lugubris* and the two closely related Asian species (see below) refer to *Aderrhis*. *D. lugubris* is distributed in India.

Aderrhis erebus (Distant, 1903), comb. n.

Dermatinus erebus Distant, 1909: 360.

This species is recorded from India and Sri Lanka.

Aderrhis pakistanensis (Ahmad & Abbas, 1986), comb. n.

Dermatinus pakistanensis Ahmad & Abbas, 1986: 71; Ahmad & Mohammad, 1997: 329.

Material examined (ZIN). Afghanistan (new record): 1 ♂, Jelalabad, Kabul River, 18.XII.1970 (O.N. Kabakov).

The species was described from Pakistan (Baluchistan).

Ascopocoris nom. n.

Ascopus Hsiao, 1964: 402, 405 (junior homonym of *Ascopus* Marshall, 1951, Coleoptera). Type species by original designation: *Ascopus rufus* Hsiao, 1964.

As the name *Ascopus* Hsiao is a junior homonym, it must be replaced.

Dindymus rubiginosus (Fabricius, 1787)

Cimex rubiginosus Fabricius, 1787: 301.

Dindymus rubiginosus var. *geniculatus* Breddin, 1901b: 19, 82.

Lectotype of *Dindymus rubiginosus* var. *geniculatus* Breddin, 1901 (designated here; DEI): male, pinned, labelled "Nord-Celebes, Toli-Toli, Nov.-Dez. 1895, H. Fruhstorfer", "coll. Breddin"; paralectotypes: 3 females, as lectotype, but one of them with additional label "var. *geniculatus*" handwritten by Breddin. The structure of the male genitalia does not differ from that of males from Vietnam.

Dindymus sanguineus (Fabricius, 1794), sp. dist.

Lygaeus sanguineus Fabricius, 1794: 155.

Contrary to Bergroth (1914) and later authors, this is a separate species, not a va-

riety or subspecies of *D. rubiginosus*. The two species can be easily distinguished by the coloration of the ventral side of thorax: in *D. rubiginosus*, hind margins of all thoracic segments, including the covers of coxae behind and before the coxal slit, are white; in *D. sanguineus*, only the hind margin of the metathorax is white. In *D. rubiginosus*, the middle part of the distal margin of pygophore is almost vertical, margins with larger denticles; in *D. sanguineus*, the distal margin of pygophore almost horizontal, in the middle archedly curved, with small black denticles. The distribution ranges of the two species are widely overlapping.

Dysdercus subg. **Leptophthalmus** Stål, 1870, stat. n.

Leptophthalmus Stål, 1870: 103, 124 (as genus). Type species by monotypy: *Dysdercus fuscomaculatus* Stål, 1863.

Megadysdercus Breddin, 1900: 162 (as subgenus of *Dysdercus*) (syn. Schmidt, 1932: 278). Type species by monotypy: *Dysdercus mesiostigma* Distant, 1888 (= *Dysdercus fuscomaculatus* Stål, 1863).

Schmidt (1932) placed *Megadysdercus* in synonymy with *Leptophthalmus* considered by him as a genus. This synonymy remained unnoticed by other authors who considered *Megadysdercus* merely as a species group (Freeman, 1947) or a subgenus of *Dysdercus* (Stehlik, 1965b; Doesburg, 1968). Following to this general opinion, *Leptophthalmus* is given here subgeneric rank.

Dysdercus (Leptophthalmus) fuscomaculatus Stål, 1863

Dysdercus fuscomaculatus Stål, 1863: 402.

Dysdercus mesiostigma Distant, 1888: 484, syn. n.

Dysdercus monostigma Kirby, 1891: 104, syn. n.

Material examined (ZIN). 10 specimens from Indonesia.

Comparison of the original description of *D. fuscomaculatus* with detailed description of *D. mesiostigma* by Freeman (1947) shows that they are conspecific. Freeman (1947) listed examined specimens of *D. mesiostigma* from Amoy (type locality of *D. fuscomaculatus*).

Kirby (1891) described *Dysdercus monostigma* in the following sentence: "[*Dindymus sita* sp. n.] much resembles a species from Hong Kong, Philippines, Dorey &c., ticketed *Dysdercus monostigma* by Walker; but all the specimens of the latter species are

much longer and narrower, with the antennae black, or with penultimate segment, and sometimes also the basal ones, inclining to red; and there is generally a black line at the base of scutellum". Hussey (1929) considered *D. monostigma* as a nomen nudum ("Without description"), but actually a short description was given and it fits *D. fuscomaculatus*. It is possible that the respective specimens were actually labelled by Distant as "*mesio stigma*" (not as *monostigma*) or that Distant used Walker's manuscript name, but slightly changed it when he described his species. An additional proof for synonymy is the fact that specimens from Hong Kong and Dorey (as Dore), presumably those examined by Kirby, were listed by Freeman (1947) under *D. mesio stigma* in the examined material from the British Museum.

Dysdercus (Leptophthalmus) philippinus
Herrich-Schaeffer, 1850

Judging by the accompanying photographs (Takara, 1957; Yasunaga et al., 1993), the records of this species from Japan (Ryukyu Islands) and Taiwan are based on misidentifications of *D. decussatus*.

Dysdercus (Paradysdercus) koenigii
(Fabricius, 1775)

Material examined (ZIN). About 100 specimens from India and Afghanistan.

Kiritshenko (1963a) recorded "*Dysdercus melanopygus* Bredd." from Afghanistan. No such name was given by Breddin. Examination of the respective specimens and additional material shows that the species occurring in Afghanistan is actually *D. koenigii*.

Dysdercus (Paradysdercus) micropygus
Breddin, 1909, sp. dist.

Dysdercus micropygus Breddin, 1909: 299.
Dysdercus similis Freeman, 1947: 405, **syn. n.**

Material examined. 13 specimens from India and Sri Lanka in ZIN and 3 type specimens of *D. micropygus* from Sri Lanka in DEI (see below).

Breddin (1909) described *D. micropygus* from Sri Lanka. Bergroth (1914: 355) placed this name in synonymy with *D. koenigii* (Fabricius, 1775). As characters given by Breddin (small size; head more red than the remainder of dorsum) agreed with the subsequently described *D. similis* from S India

and Sri Lanka, I.M.K. examined the lectotype of *D. micropygus* designated by Gaedike (1971), a male from Anuradhapura, and two paralectotypes, females from Anuradhapura and Weligama (DEI). Their examination shows that *D. micropygus* is not a junior synonym of *D. koenigii*, but a senior synonym of *D. similis*.

Dysdercus (Paradysdercus) poecilus
(Herrich-Schaeffer, 1843)

Pyrrhocoris poecilus Herrich-Schaeffer, 1843: 17.
Dysdercus poecilus var. *semifuscus* Breddin, 1901a: 85.

Lectotype of *Dysdercus poecilus* var. *semifuscus* Breddin, 1901 (designated here; DEI): male, carded, labelled "Iolo" [handwritten by Breddin], "coll. Breddin", "Taeuber det."; paralectotype (DEI): male, carded, labelled "Palawan" [handwritten by Breddin], "Coll. Breddin", "Taeuber", "*Dysdercus poecilus* H.-S. v. *semifuscus* Bredd." [handwritten, probably by Taeuber]. There is a third specimen from Breddin's collection labelled "Borneo" (not in Breddin's handwriting). Probably it does not belong to the type series because for the single specimen from Borneo mentioned in the original description the locality was given precisely (Kina Balu). The types of another variety, var. *simplex* Breddin, 1901, were not found in DEI (R. Gaedike, pers. comm.).

Euscopus chinensis Blöte, 1932

Material examined (HNHM). Taiwan (new record): 1 ♂, 7 ♀, Fuhosho, Chip Chip and Polisha (Sauter).

Melamphaus faber (Fabricius, 1787)

Cimex faber Fabricius, 1787: 297.
Melamphaus komodoensis Kiritshenko, 1963b: 63, **syn. n.**

Material examined (ZIN). Indonesia: 1 ♂, 1 ♀, Komodo Is., 1962 (Darevsky), syntypes of *M. komodoensis*; 2 ♀, Java, Bohor, botanical garden, 5.V.1960 (Krivolutskaya); 1 ♂, 2 ♀, on ship, 200 mi. S of Sumatra, 21.IX.1959 (Ivanov); Philippines: 1 ♀, Palawan, 1898, Doherty, ex coll. Fruhstorfer.

Lectotype of *M. komodoensis* (designated here): ♂, pinned, labels "Ins. Komodo, 1962, Darevsky" [handwritten by Kiritshenko], "*Melamphaus komodoensis* [sic] Kir. [handwritten by Kiritshenko] Kiritshenko det. [printed]". Paralectotype: 1 ♀, as lectotype, but 2.VIII.1962.

The types of *M. komodoensis* belong to the dark form of the species (var. *c*) as described by Distant (1903). As shown by Schmidt (1932), it is the typical form of the species.

Pyrrhocoris apterus (Linnaeus, 1758)

Cimex apterus Linnaeus, 1758: 447.

Pyrrhocoris sordidus Jakovlev, 1880: 160 (syn. Kiritshenko, 1912: 205).

Pyrrhocoris pseudoapterus Ahmad & Perveen, 1986a: 77, **syn. n.**

Material examined (ZIN): several thousands of specimens.

P. sordidus was described from several specimens from Iran (Shahkuh). Lectotype (designated here; ZIN): brachypterous ♂, carded, labelled with golden square, "Shaku" (in Russian; handwritten by Jakovlev), golden circle, "*Pyrrhocoris sordidus* Jak. (handwritten by Kiritshenko) B. Jakowlew det.". Paralectotypes (ZIN): 2 brachypterous ♀, one carded, the other pinned, labelled with "Shaku" (in Russian; handwritten by Jakovlev), golden circle (in the pinned specimen also a golden square), "c[ollection of] V. Jakovlev".

P. pseudoapterus was described from Iraq and Iran. It was distinguished from *P. apterus* mainly by the slightly concave hind margin of the male genital segment. Examination of large series of *P. apterus* from various countries, including several dozens of males from Iraq and Iran, shows that this character is individually variable. Some specimens (not only from Iraq and Iran) have a more or less distinct minute concavity at the hind margin of the genital segment, whereas the other, from the same localities, have no trace of concavity. We place therefore *P. pseudoapterus* in synonymy with *P. apterus*.

Pyrrhocoris fuscopunctatus Stål, 1858

The species is recorded here for the first time from China: 1 ♂, Qinghai, northern slope of Burhan Budai Shan, Khatu Valley, end of June – beginning of July 1901, Kozlov leg. (ZIN).

Pyrrhocoris sibiricus Kuschakewitsch, 1866

Pyrrhocoris sibiricus Kuschakewitsch, 1866: 98.

Pyrrhocoris fieberi Kuschakewitsch, 1866: 97 (syn. Josifov & Kerzhner, 1978: 155).

Pyrrhocoris dispar Jakovlev, 1880: 161 (syn. Horváth, 1889: 326).

Dermatinus reticulatus Signoret, 1881: 46, **syn. n.**
Scantius formosanus Bergroth, 1914: 356, **syn. n.**

Material examined (ZIN): about 700 specimens from Russia, Mongolia, China, Taiwan, Korea and Japan.

Kuschakewitsch (1866) described *P. sibiricus* from several specimens collected at Kyakhta, Transbaikal. He mentioned also that he examined a larva of this species which was smaller and darker than imago. In the ZIN, there are 2 specimens from the collection of Kuschakewitsch. As lectotype is designated here a macropterous female without antennae and most legs, pinned, labelled with a golden circle and printed label "c[ollection of] Kuschakewitsch" (in Russian). The other specimen (paralectotype) is a brachypterous female in good condition (except antennal segments 2-4 are missing) mounted and labelled as the lectotype but with additional label "Kiachta" (handwritten by pencil at rosa paper). It is apparently the specimen mentioned by Kuschakewitsch as a larva. It is not conspecific with the lectotype and belongs to *P. fuscopunctatus* Stål, 1858.

P. fieberi was described from (apparently one) male from Amur. No type specimens are found in ZIN. Apparently they are lost.

P. dispar was described from Japan. Lectotype (designated here; ZIN): subbrachypterous female with antennae and legs partly missing, pinned, labelled with golden circle, "Japan (in Russian), *sibiricus* Kusch." (handwritten by Jakovlev), "*Pyrrhocoris dispar* Jak. (handwritten by Kiritshenko) B. Jakowlew det. (printed)", "*Pyrrhocoris tibialis* Stål (handwritten by Kiritshenko) B. Jakowlew det. (printed)", "c[ollection of] B. Jakovlev" (in Russian, printed).

D. reticulatus was described from "China" and placed by subsequent authors in *Pyrrhocoris* or *Scantius*. The original description fits well *P. sibiricus*.

S. formosanus was described from 1 ♂ and 1 ♀ from Formosa (= Taiwan) and compared with *D. reticulatus*. The types kept in DEI were examined by I.M.K. Lectotype (designated here): subbrachypterous male, pinned, labelled "Anping, Formosa, H. Sauter, 1911", "7.V", "TYPUS" [red label], "Bergroth det.", "Syntypus" [red label]; paralectotype: subbrachypterous female, pinned, labelled "Anping, Formosa, H. Sauter, VI.11", "Bergroth det.", "TYPUS" [red label], "*Scantius formosanus* Berg. – Typ." [handwritten by Bergroth], "Syntypus" [red

label]. Both specimens are extremely small (length 6.8 mm, the range of variability in the species is 6.8-11.0 mm). An additional specimen from Taiwan, a subbrachypterous male labelled "Formose", "Clermont Vend." is kept in ZIN, it is 7.5 mm long.

Pyrrhopeplus carduelis (Stål, 1863)

Material examined (HNHM). **Taiwan** (new record): 1 ♀, Kosempo, VII.1909 (Sauter).

Scantius forsteri (Fabricius, 1781)

Cimex forsteri Fabricius, 1781: 368.

Scantius volucris Gerstaecker, 1873: 413 (syn. Distant, 1911: 98, suspected; Stehlik, 1965a: 246).

Scantius pallens Distant, 1903a: 117, **syn. n.**

Scantius coriaceus Distant, 1911: 99, **syn. n.**

Scantius neopallens Ahmad & Abbas, 1986: 77, **syn. n.**

Scantius distantii Ahmad & Zaidi, 1989: 156, 160, **syn. n.**

Material examined (ZIN): about 180 specimens from tropical Africa, Egypt, Yemen, Israel, Iran (including a large series from Bushir), Pakistan (Rawalpindi, 1 ♀) and India (Chik Ballapur, 1 ♀; New Delhi, 1 ♀). Additional material, including specimens from Nepal (new record) was examined by J.S.

S. forsteri is a widely distributed and very variable species. Its variability in the Afrotropical Region was discussed by Stehlik (1965a) who placed *S. volucris* from East Africa in synonymy with *S. forsteri*. The specimens from Egypt, Near East, Arabian Peninsula, Iraq, Iran and Pakistan are usually relatively large and with larger red areas, as characteristic for specimens from semiarid habitats, those from Central and Southern India are on average smaller and darker. Distant (1903a) first identified specimens from India as *S. volucris*, then (1911) as *S. forsteri*; he suspected that *S. volucris* is a synonym of *S. forsteri*, and his suspicion was confirmed by Stehlik (1965a). Distant described paler specimens from Pakistan (Sind) as *S. pallens* and a dark specimen from India as *S. coriaceus*. *S. pallens* was subsequently recorded from N India and S Iran (Bushir) by Lefroy (1909) and Blöte (1931) respectively. The paler form was described again from Pakistan (Baluchistan) as *S. neopallens* Ahmad & Abbas, 1986. An additional new species, *S. distantii*, was described by Ahmad & Zaidi (1989) from Pakistan and India proceeding from an obscure statement by Blöte and erroneous measurements made by them on specimens from Africa identified as *S. volucris*. Examination of large material shows that Distant and Ah-

mad with coauthors overestimated minor differences in coloration and proportions as characterizing separate species. It can be also suspected that some measurements by Ahmad & Zaidi are unexact. So, these authors stated that in the examined two males of *S. volucris* collected by C. Cooke and kept in the American Museum of Natural History the 2nd antennal segment is as long as 3rd and body length equals 11 mm. Dr R.T. Schuh of the above museum informed us that there are four males collected by Cooke in Zanzibar and identified as *S. volucris* by Hussey; their length is 9 mm and the 2nd antennal segment is 1.6 times as long as 3rd.

Scantius obscurus Distant, 1901

Scantius obscurus Distant, 1901: 589.

Scantius pseudobscurus Ahmad & Zaidi, 1989: 156, 168, **syn. n.**

Material examined (ZIN). **Sri Lanka**: 2 ♂, 3 ♀, Nat. Park Wilpattu, Talawila, 13 km W Maradanmaduwa, 7-9.X.1982 (Medvedev & Zaitzev); 1 ♀, 8 km SW of Anuradhapura, 10.X.1982 (Medvedev).

This species, endemic to Sri Lanka, is very closely related to *S. forsteri* from which it differs in the uniformly castaneous to black body; no differences are found in the structure of the male genitalia. Ahmad & Zaidi (1989) indicated that the holotype of *S. pseudobscurus* is in the U.S. National Museum, Washington, DC, but it is not found here (Th.J. Henry, pers. comm.).

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