

On the taxonomic position of the genus *Siebererella* (Homoptera: Fulgoroidea: Achilidae)

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Siebererella Schmidt, 1926 is placed in synonymy under *Errada* Walker, 1870 and transferred from the Issidae to the Achilidae.

Key words: Homoptera, Fulgoroidea, Achilidae, Rhotalini, *Errada*, *Siebererella*, new synonymy, new combination

INTRODUCTION

Siebererella Schmidt, 1926 was described as monotypical genus with the type species, *Siebererella backhoffi* Schmidt, 1926, in the family Tropiduchidae (Schmidt, 1926). Schmidt stated in his paper that *Siebererella* is closely related to the genus *Rhotala* Walker, 1857 which was erected in the “subtribe Cixioides” (Walker, 1857). Later on Fennah (1982) has transferred the *Siebererella* to the family Issidae with no argumentation. Our examination of the photos of syntypes of *S. backhoffi* from the Museum and Institute of Zoology of Polish Academy of Sciences (Warszawa, Poland) shows that *S. backhoffi* belongs to the tribe Rhotalini Fennah, 1950 of the family Achilidae. Initially the tribe Rhotalini was erected only for the genus *Rhotala* (Fennah, 1950). According to our study the genus *Siebererella* is closely related to the genera *Chiotasa* Melichar, 1914 and *Hebrotasa* Melichar, 1914. Two last genera and *Rhotala* were placed by Melichar (1914) in the family Tropiduchidae. Noteworthy that Metcalf (1954) has placed *Siebererella*, *Chiotasa*, and *Hebrotasa* in a row in his catalogue of world Tropiduchidae. Finally Fennah (1982) has transferred *Chiotasa* and *Hebrotasa* from the Tropiduchidae to the Achilidae.

The genus *Siebererella* is placed in the tribe Rhotalini according to characteristic 3-branchy cubitus anterior of fore wing and

special venation of postclaval part of fore wing membrane, with hind branch of cubitus anterior running at acute angle to hind margin of the wing (Fig. 1) (Emeljanov, 2005). *Siebererella* Schmidt, 1926 is placed in synonymy under *Errada* Walker, 1870 according to the shape of metope.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The present paper is based on a study of two specimens from the collection of the Museum and Institute of Zoology of Polish Academy of Sciences, Warszawa, Poland (ZMPA).

TAXONOMY

Family ACHILIDAE Stål, 1866

Tribe Rhotalini Fennah, 1950

Genus *Errada* Walker, 1870

Errada Walker, 1870: 116. Type species *Errada funesta* Walker, 1870.

Siebererella Schmidt, 1926: 233, new synonym. Type species *Siebererella backhoffi* Schmidt, 1926.

***Errada backhoffi* (Schmidt, 1926), new combination** (Fig. 1)

Siebererella backhoffi Schmidt, 1926: 234.

Material examined. Syntypes (after photos only). Male & female; **Indonesia**, *Buru*, Station 17; 1921; coll. L.J. Toxopeus; ZMPA.

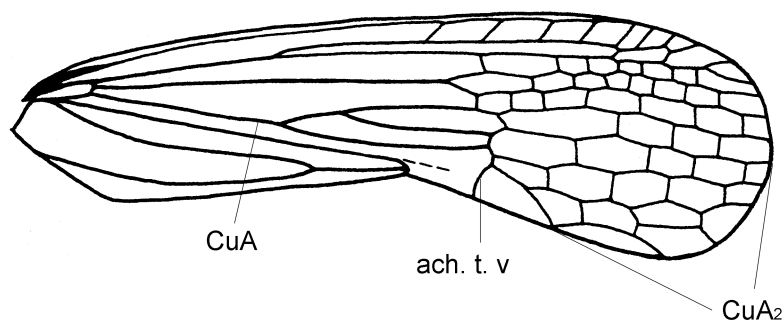


Fig. 1. *Errada backhoffi* (Schmidt, 1926), syntype, fore wing in dorsal view. CuA, cubitus anterior; CuA₂, second branch of cubitus anterior; ach. t. v., “achilid” transverse vein.

Note. *Errada backhoffi* differs from other species of the genus by second branch of cubitus anterior with small number of branches behind of “achilid” transverse vein on fore wing membrane (Fig. 1).

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