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The female of *Lipotactes khmericus* GOROCHOV 1998 (Lipotactinae: Tettigoniidae: Ensifera)

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Abstract

The hitherto unknown female of *Lipotactes khmericus* (GOROCHOV 1998) is described and the occurrence of this species proved in Thailand for the first time.

Key words: taxonomy, *Lipotactes khmericus*, female, description, new record, Thailand.

Summary

Das bisher unbekannte Weibchen von *Lipotactes khmericus* (GOROCHOV 1998) wird beschrieben und die Art erstmals für Thailand nachgewiesen.

Introduction

Until quite recently, the genus *Lipotactes* BRUNNER VON WATTENWYL 1898 was represented by four species in Thailand (EADES, & OTTE, INGRISCH, 1995). Here, we describe the hitherto unknown female of *L. khmericus* (GOROCHOV 1998) and prove the occurrence of this species in Thailand for the first time. The male of *L. khmericus* was collected by GOROCHOV (1998) in Cambodia (province Rattanakiri).

Acknowledgements

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Material and Method

Material: 2 ♂♂, 1 ♀. Collection site: clearings in a Moist Tropical Rainforest at Khao Sabap, province Chanthaburi, Thailand, 09.09.2008.

All morphological structures were recorded with a video camera (Sony CCD-Iris) and processed by Pinnacle PCTV Vision.

The material is preserved in alcohol and deposited in the collection of the Museum of Natural History, Vienna (Naturhistorisches Museum Wien).

Results

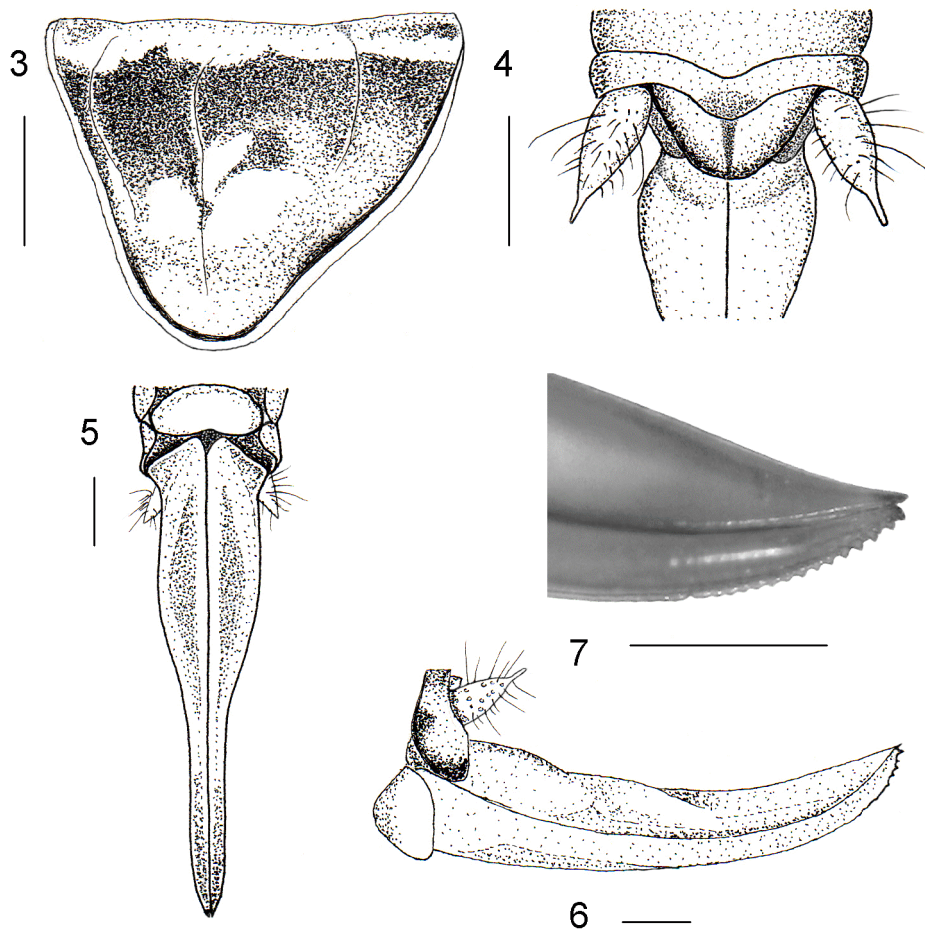
We assigned the female to *L. khmericus* because both sexes concur in their general appearance (figs.1, 2) and all specimens were collected together at the same site and time.



Fig. 1. *Lipotactes khmericus* (GOROCHOV 1998) ♂



Fig. 2. *Lipotactes khmericus* (GOROCHOV 1998) ♀



Figs. 3-7 *Lipotactes khmericus* (GOROCHOV 1998) ♀ – 3) Pronotum in lateral view; 4) Ultimate segments in dorsal view; 5) Subgenital plate and ovipositor in ventral view; 6) Ovipositor in lateral view; 7) Apex of the ovipositor. – All scale bars = 1mm.

Moreover, the occurrence of the species in southeast Thailand, which is biologically very similar to the adjacent parts of Cambodia, was to be expected.

Description of the female:

The general characters of the genus *Lipotactes* are presented in INGRISCH (1995). In the female *L. khmericus* the fastigium verticis is narrow, declining. Thoracic auditory spiracle smaller than the first stigma. Pronotum relatively long, sulci inconspicuous; margins of the lateral lobes distinct (fig. 3). Tegmina reduced to minute scales. Posterior margin of terminal tergite medially convex, epiproct triangular, cerci conical, distinctly tapering towards the apex (fig. 4). Subgenital plate broad, lateral margins rounded, posterior margin faintly concave in the middle (fig. 5). Ovipositor with dorsal margin smooth, ventral margin apically denticulate (figs. 6, 7).

Colouration in vivo:

General colour brown, vertex with 4 dark-brown stripes. Frons light-brown with 2 dark-brown stripes and 2 dark-brown spots. Scapus and pedicellus light-brown with dark-brown spots. Flagella dark-brown with irregular small whitish spots. Pronotum chestnut, lateral lobes dorsally with a dark-brown zone. Thoracic pleura grey, distally with dark-brown stripes, tergites medially with a broad light-brown zone, laterally bordered with broad dark-brown zones. Thoracic- and abdominal sternites whitish-grey. Pro- and mesofemora and -tibiae with dark-brown spots, metafemora with distinct dark-brown zones and spots on the hind margin. Metatibiae and tarsi of all legs dark-brown. Ovipositor chestnut, cerci grey, subgenital plate whitish.

Colouration ex alcohol:

Altogether paler than in vivo; the light-brown parts are ochre, the dark-brown markings only slightly brightened.

Diagnosis:

In the description of *L. khmericus*, GOROCHOV (1998) emphasizes the similarities with *L. ingrischi* (GOROCHOV 1996), of which both sexes are known; this result also applies to the female of *L. khmericus*. A conspicuous difference between the females of the two species concerns the shape of the ovipositor: in *L. ingrischi* the dorsal margin is apically straight and the denticulated part of the lower valva is more extended.

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