Ann. Naturhist. Mus. Wien	97 B	155 - 158	Wien, November 1995

A new species of *Metrocoris* MAYR from Yunnan, China

(Insecta: Heteroptera: Gerridae)

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Abstract

Metrocoris schillhammeri sp.n. is newly described as found in Yunnan Province, SW-China. It belongs to the *M. compar*-group and is closely related with *M. hirtus* CHEN & NIESER.

Key words: Gerridae, *Metrocoris*, new species, China.

Zusammenfassung

Metrocoris schillhammeri sp.n. wird aus der Provinz Yunnan in SW-China neu beschrieben. Sie gehört in die *M. compar*-Gruppe und ist mit *M. hirtus* CHEN & NIESER am nächsten verwandt.

Introduction

POLHEMUS (1990) and CHEN & NIESER (1993) recently revised the genus *Metrocoris* MAYR taxonomically. CHEN (1994) reported three new species from eastern and southern China. Fifty-two species are known including the one described here. More new *Metrocoris* species can be expected to be found after exhaustive collecting, which will give a better understanding of this genus including its cladistic and geographical analysis.

Its morphological structures place the new species in the *M. compar*-group. Species of this group are characterized by their dark body colour, slender fore femora, dense pilosity and small parameres. All species of the *M. compar*-group occur in cold mountain areas.

Acknowledgements

My sincere gratitude to the Österreichischer Akademischer Austauschdienst for the financial support of research work in the Naturhistorisches Museum, Vienna. My thanks are also due to Mr. W. Zelenka (Vienna) for making the excellent painting of Fig. 1.

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Metrocoris schillhammeri sp.n.

Holotype, macropterous ♂, and **allotype**, macropterous ♀: "CHINA: NW-Yunnan/10 km SW Lijiang/ 2500 m, 5.7.1994/ leg. Schillhammer (13)", deposited in the Naturhistorisches Museum, Vienna.

Description:

Size: Macropterous ♂, length 4.6 mm, width 2.35 mm; macropterous ♀, length 4.6 mm, width 2.45 mm.

Colour: Interocular dark mark broad, arrow-head shaped, bifid posteriorly, posterior part connected with dark margins along eyes. Dark marks of pronotum essentially Fig. 1: lateral dark stripes broader than the yellowish part, slightly separated from median dark stripe; lateral margin between anterior angle and humeri totally dark. Fore femur yellowish with dark stripes on dorsal, ventral and internal faces, external face pale; only the internal dark stripe connected with apical dark ring. Abdomen brownish dorsally, tergites including connnexiva brownish, yellowish apically, segment VIII (♂) pale with a large square dark mark basally. Thoracic venter yellowish, with two dark stripes (Fig. 4). Abdominal sterna dark, pale apically.

Structural characters (measurements in mm): Head width 1.50 (♂), 1.52 (♀), width of an eye slightly larger than its posterior width, 0.40 and 0.35 respectively. Posterior half of eye covering anterior 2/5 of propleura; interoculus 0.7 (♂) or 0.6 (♀). Length of antennae 4.45 (2.20, 1.00, 0.85 0.40) in male, 4.33 (1.95, 0.80, 0.88, 0.70) in female. Pronotum not bulbous in male, apex pointed, median length of pronotum 3.15 (♂) or 3.65 (♀), humeral width 2.35 (♂) or 2.45 (♀), distance between anterior angle and humeri along lateral margin 1.20 in both sexes, lateral length between humeri and posterior apex 2.75. Male fore femur (Fig. 2) slender, dorsally curved, ratio length/width about 6.8, ventral face unarmed, with a median sharp indentation; fore tibia not modified. Female fore femur slender (Fig. 3), ratio length/width about 8.0. Length of middle and hind femora equal in length, 6.10 (♂) or 6.20 (♀) respectively. Length of hind trochanter 0.60 (♂) or 0.70 (♀). Inner face of female hind coxa and trochanter with long dark pilosity. Measurements of tibiae and tarsi:

		tibia	tarsus 1	tarsus 2			tibia	tarsus 1	tarsus 2
♂:	fore leg:	1.90	0.10	0.75	♀:	fore leg:	2.10	0.12	0.80
	mid leg:	4.10	1.50	0.40		mid leg:	4.40	2.00	0.42
	hind leg:	3.40	0.40	0.40		hind leg:	3.50	0.50	0.40

Male terminalia: Segment VIII more or less square. Pygophore in ventral view subovate, in lateral view slightly raised posteriorly; proctiger elongate. Paramere (Fig. 7) short and slightly curved, distal part extending beyond genital segments; apex sharp, curved laterally. Endosoma (Fig. 6): dorsal sclerite long and recurved posteriorly, apical accessory sclerite absent, lateral sclerite straight, ventral sclerite long.

Female terminalia: Abdominal sternum VII large, about as long as length of preceding abdominal sterna together, laterally constricted and with smooth caudal margin, apical 1/3 forming a lobe, which is curved upward, completely covering apex of abdomen in ventral view (Fig. 5).

Apterous form unknown.

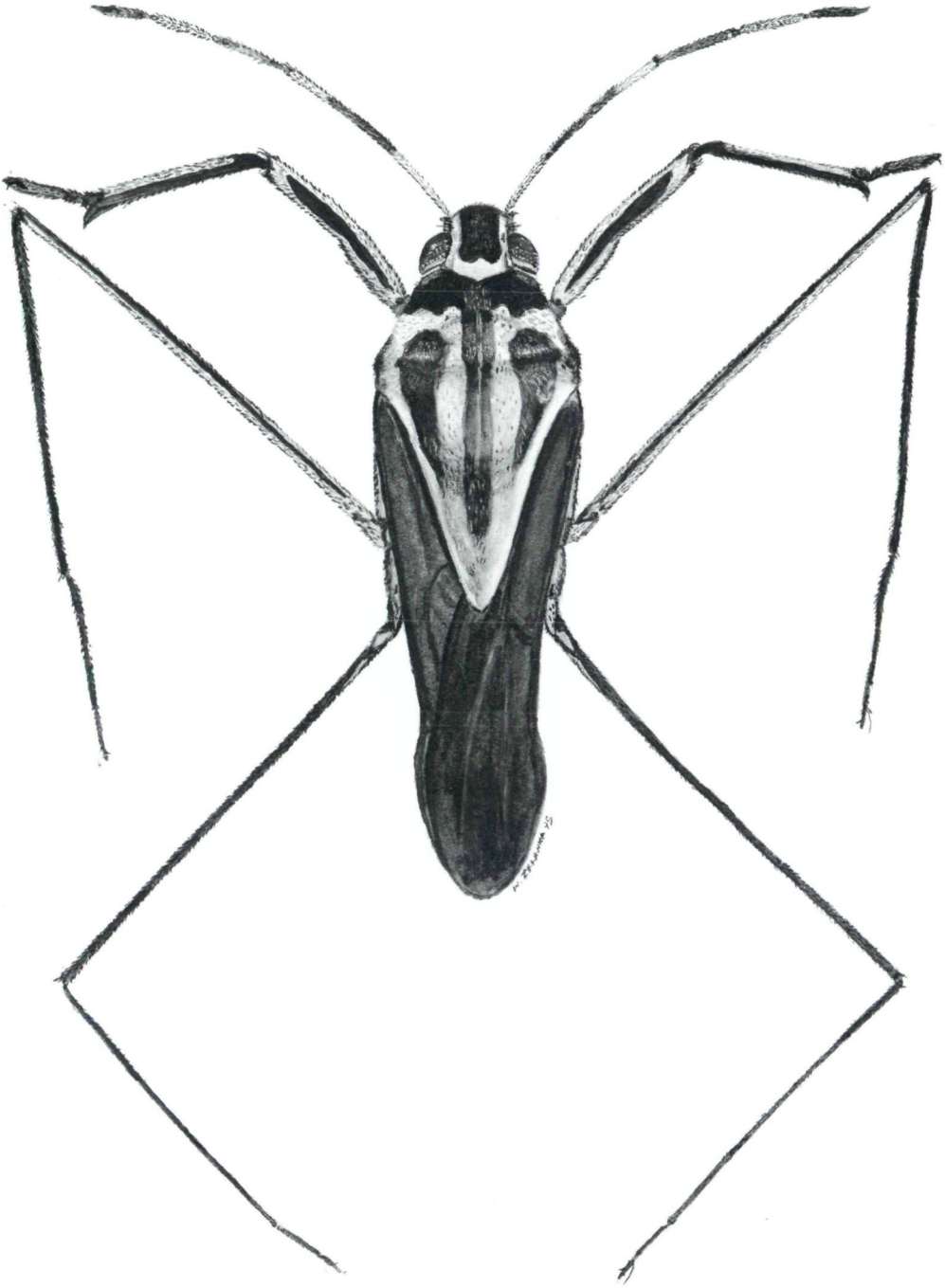

Fig. 1: *Metrocoris schillhammeri* sp.n., holotype, ♂.

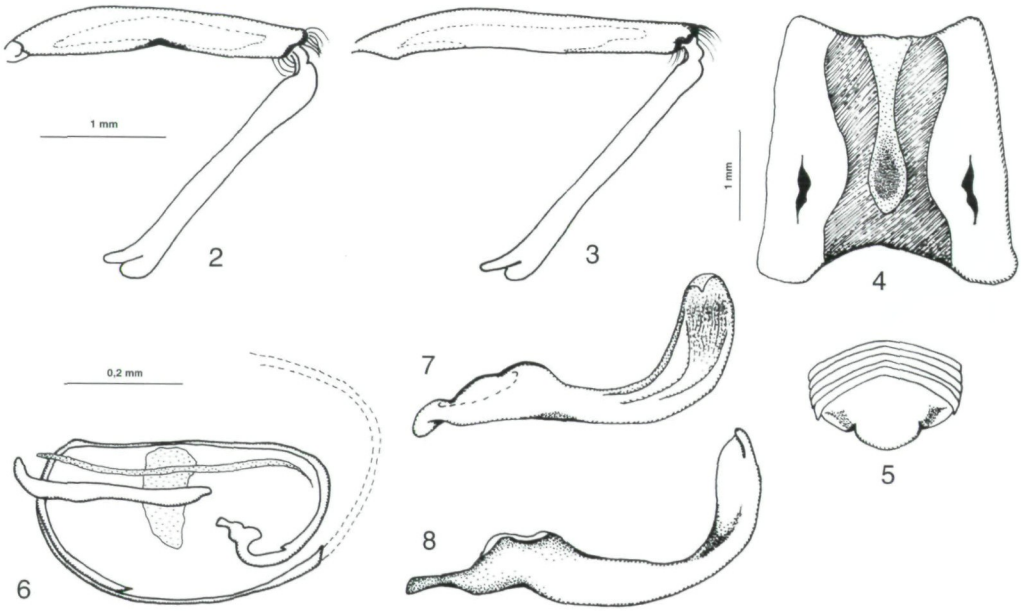

Fig. 2 - 7: *Metrocoris schillhammeri* sp.n. (2, 6, 7: ♂; 3 - 5: ♀): (2, 3) fore femur and fore tibia, (4) mesosternum, (5) abdominal sternites, (6) endosoma, (7) left paramere, lateral view.
Fig. 8: *Metrocoris hirtus*, left paramere, lateral view.

Comparative notes: This species is similar to *M. hirtus* CHEN & NIESER, 1993, which is reported from Sichuan Province, SW China. The two species share the same colour pattern and a long dark pilosity on female hind coxae and trochanters. But the male fore femora and parameres present diagnostic characters: Inner face of male fore femur without a small apical tooth, but with a distinct indentation in the middle of its ventral margin (Fig. 2) in *M. schillhammeri* sp.n., and with an apical tooth but completely straight in *M. hirtus*. The paramere of *M. hirtus* with a blunt apex, inner face with a small projection pointing forward (Fig. 8), while in *M. schillhammeri* sp.n. with a sharp apex but curved laterally (Fig. 7).

Distribution: Li-jiang County, NW of Yunnan Province, SW-China.

Etymology: Species named after Mr. Harald Schillhammer (Naturhistorisches Museum, Vienna), who collected this species, for his enthusiasm to Oriental insect fauna and active field collecting trips to China.

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