

# Notes on Colobathristidae from Borneo and Java in the collections of the Museum of Natural History in Basle (Hemiptera)

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**Notes on Colobathristidae  
from Borneo and Java in the collections  
of the Museum of Natural History  
in Basle (Hemiptera)**

by

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Buenos Aires

I wish to express my gratitude to Prof. Dr. EDWARD HANDSCHIN for the privilege to study the specimens of *Colobathristidae* belonging to the collections of the Museum of Natural History in Basle, Switzerland. The set of *Colobathristidae* received for identification contained only six specimens, one from East Borneo and five from West Java, all collected by Mrs. M. E. WALSH in the years 1937 and 1938. The specimen from Borneo and three specimens from Java belong to the rare genus *Symphylax* HORVATH, 1904, representing two new species. HORVATH in the original description gives as one of the generical characters "rostrum coxas posticas attingens vel fere attingens..."; both new species have the rostrum far shorter, almost reaching or reaching the middle coxae, but as all other important generical characters in the new species are identical with the original description, they should belong to this genus. In consequence, the following modification should be introduced among the generical characters of the genus *Symphylax*: "rostrum coxas medias attingens vel superans..."

It is a pleasure to dedicate the new species from Borneo to Prof. Dr. EDWARD HANDSCHIN, and name it *Symphylax handschini* sp. n., and the species from Java to the collector Mrs. M. E. WALSH, who has collected, in Indonesia, very interesting material in Hemiptera, and name it *S. walshi* sp. n.

The last two specimens from West Java run in my key for the oriental and australian genera of *Colobathristidae*<sup>1</sup> to the genus *Elopura* HORVATH, 1922, but cannot belong to it, because the head is very short, almost vertical in front before the antennae; ocelli are subcontiguous, four times more distant from the eyes than from each other; rostrum is shorter, only reaching the front coxae; the median depression of the fore lobe of the pronotum is wanting; the hemelytrae are distinctly wider than the abdomen; the second and third (visible) sternites are "connata" (the unique case among *Colobathristidae*, the genus *Narcegaster* HORVATH, 1904, also has two sternites "connata", but they are the third and the fourth visible segments) etc. Therefore, these two specimens should belong to a new genus, which I propose to name *Paraelopura* g. n., and the new species *P. tipuliformis* sp. n.

### SYMPHYLAX HORVATH, 1904

1904, *Symphylax* HORVATH, Ann. Mus. Nat. Hung.; II: 142.

1910, *Symphylax* BERGRÖTH, Ann. Soc. Ent. Belg.; LIV: 303, (note).

#### 1. *Symphylax handschini* sp. n.

♂, ocraceous, the tip of the rostrum, gula, the hind border of the head dorsally, the fore lobe of pronotum, two (1+1) stains on the humeral angles, the base of the scutellum, prosternum, the fore lobe of the propleuron, the fore border of the mesopleuron, and the scent gland openings are black or blackish; the base of the hemelytrae, the second antennal joint with exception of the base, the third and the fourth antennal joints, and the third tarsal joint are reddish brown to piceous; meso- and metasternum, mesopleuron excepting the fore border, and the metapleuron, are slategrey. Connexivum and acetabulae are whitish yellow; abdomen orange anteriorly and yellow-brown or reddish-brown posteriorly.

Head is transverse, slightly convex in front, two times wider than long (as seen from above) (40:19); clypeus almost vertical, gula horizontal, facial angle rectangular; antennae very long, one and a half times longer than the body (157:103); the proportions of the antennal joints (1-4) are: 62:71:83:97. Rostrum almost reaches the middle coxae; the proportions of the rostral joints (1-4) are: 12:9:10:19. Eyes are globose, prominent, but not pedunculated; ocelli

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<sup>1</sup> N. A. KORMILEV, *Colobathristidae* from Philippine Islands and Australia in the collections of U. S. National Museum; Proc. U. S. N. M. (in printing).

are two and a half times more distant from the eyes than from each other ( $7\frac{1}{2} : 3$ ); the head is without punctation, and with a fine whitish tomento.

Pronotum is distinctly separated into two lobes, depressed from above between the lobes and constricted laterally. The fore lobe shows a narrow, but distinct collum; transversally and longitudinally, inflated, convex; slightly depressed anteriorly in the middle; laterally (lateral borders) convex; very finely punctated and with fine, whitish tomento. The hind lobe is one and a half times longer than the fore lobe (21 : 14), and as broad as the latter; on the disk, nearly flat, slightly convex; the hind part of the lobe strongly declives backwards; lateral borders almost straight, hind border cut out in the middle; with coarsely testaceous punctation, but without tomento.

Scutellum small, one and a half times wider than long (14 : 9); elevated near the spine, which is broken, and finely punctated.

Hemelytrae are a little wider than the abdomen anteriorly, as wide as abdomen posteriorly, reaching the middle of the 7th tergite; hyaline with yellow or testaceous veins.

Pro- and mesosternum without punctation; metasternum with dispersed fine punctation. Propleuron divided into two lobes as the pronotum, with similar surface; the mesopleuron, excepting the black fore border, and the metapleuron are coarsely punctated.

Abdomen, ventrally, with fine and scarce whitish tomento, and long and fine sensorial bristles; the 8th sternite of the male is obtusely angulated apically, and with a small dentiform tip; the 4th sternite is longer than 3d or 5th-7th together.

Legs long and slender; fore femora with subapical tooth; the proportions of the tarsal joints on the posterior tarsi (1-3) are : 27 : 4 : 6.

♂, total length 7,9 mm.; width of pronotum 1,2 mm.; width of abdomen 1,4 mm.

*Holotype*: ♂, East Borneo, Pelawan Besar — M. E. WALSH col. 8.6.37. Deposited in the collections of the Museum of Natural History in Basle.

The new species is allied to *Symphylax picticollis* HORVATH, 1904, but differs from it by the far shorter rostrum, not reaching the middle coxae, by the fourth antennal joint only a little longer than the third, the coloration somewhat different, etc.

## 2. *Symphylax walshi* sp. n.

In general is similar to the preceding species, but the body is more slender, the head twice wider than long (36 : 18), without punctation, but with fine whitish tomento; the proportions of antennal joints and the coloration are somewhat different.

♂, ocraceous, the fore lobe of the pronotum, the fore lobe of the propleuron, and the prosternum, excepting the collum, are black; meso- and metasternum, meso- and metapleuron are slate-grey; the third antennal joint (and also the fourth?), gula, collum, scutellum, the base of the corium, the base of the abdomen, the scent-gland openings, and the third tarsal joint are testaceous, sometimes infuscated; acetabulae and connexivum whitish yellow; hemelytrae hyaline with yellow veins; punctation concolorous.

Proportions of the antennal joints (1-3) are : 53 : 70 : 66 : -, the fourth is wanting; proportions of the rostral joints (1-4) are : 11 : 8 : 11 : 20. Ocelli twice as distant from the eyes as from each other.

Pronotum is similar to preceding species, but the collum is more distinctly separated; the hind lobe is without blackish humeral stains and with concolorous punctation. Scutellum testaceous, the base of the spine whitish (the rest is broken off).

Hemelytrae, almost reaching the hind border of the 7th tergite, are anteriorly wider than the abdomen, posteriorly of the same width as the latter. Genital segments similar to the preceding species. Proportions of the tarsal joints (1-3) are : 25 : 4 : 7.

♀, is similar to the male, but somewhat larger. The proportions of the antennal joints (1-4) are : 52 : 66 : 62 : 97. The genital segments are slightly prominent.

Total length ♂-7,8 mm. ♀-8,6 mm.; width of pronotum ♂-1,2 mm. ♀-1,3 mm.; width of abdomen ♂-1,25 mm. ♀-1,3 mm.

*Holotype* ♂, West Java, Gg. Gede Lebak Sive — M. E. WALSH col. 14.5.1938; deposited in the collections of Museum of Natural History in Basle.

*Allotype* ♀, collected with the holotype; in the same collection.

*Paratype* ♂, (without head), West Java, Gg. Gede Lebak Sive — M. E. WALSH col. 20.11.1937; in the same collection.

The new species is allied to *S. handschini* sp. n., but differs from it by more slender body, the third antennal joint a little shorter than the second, and the fourth one and a half times longer than the third; the rostrum slightly longer, reaching the middle coxae; coloration rather similar to *S. picticollis* var. *blandus* HORV., but the rostrum is distinctly shorter, and the third antennal joint shorter than the second.

## PARAELOPURA g. n.

Body elongate, tipuliform; head short, transverse, almost vertical in front; gula horizontal; facial angle rectangular; infraocular carinae wanting; antennae slender, longer than body (at least in the male), the second joint is longer than the first and than the third, the fourth being the longest; rostrum short, not reaching the middle coxae, the fourth joint a little longer than the third; eyes globose but not pedunculated;

ocelli located near the hind border of the head, subcontiguous, far more distant from the eyes than from each other; a single sulcus runs before the ocelli.

Pronotum distinctly divided into two lobes; the fore lobe, finely punctated, convergent anteriorly, and with a distinct collum; the hind lobe twice as long as the fore lobe, and coarsely punctated; anteriorly raised till the interhumeral line, then declivous towards the scutellum; hind angles a little prominent. Scutellum transversal, and with a long erect spine, longer than the scutellum. Hemelytrae broader but shorter than the abdomen; veins form a big triangular cellula.

Sternum smooth; the meso- and metasternum somewhat inflated; the scent gland openings placed before the hind acetabula.

Propleura divided into two lobes similarly to the pronotum, and similarly punctured. Meso- and metapleuron finely punctated. Abdomen in both sexes is dilated in the middle, and then dilated a second time apically. The genital segments in both sexes slightly prominent. The third and the fourth sternites are « connata ». The fore femora with anteapical spine; tibiae unarmed, but with fine bristles. The first tarsal segment far the longest.

*Genotype* : *Paraelopura tipuliformis* sp. n.

### 3. *Paraelopura tipuliformis* sp. n.

♂, yellow; antennae, femora apically, tibiae, the two first tarsal joints, and the scent gland openings are yellow brown; the fine spines on the first antennal joint, the apex of the scutellar spine, the tip of the rostrum, and the third tarsal joint, testaceous; eyes reddish brown; ocelli carmin red; abdomen laterally (with the connexivum), and the hemelytrae, greenish; the veins of the latter yellow or testaceous.

Head wider across the eyes than long (31 : 18); tylus vertical; antennae a little longer than body (164 : 141); the first antennal joint the stoutest and with small spines or denticles, mostly inferiorly. The proportions of the antennal joints (1-4) are : 65 : 83 : 71 : 104. Rostrum almost reaching the middle of the mesosternum; the proportions of the rostral joints (1-4) are : 10 : 9 : 8 : 9. Ocelli four times more distant from the eyes than from each other. The head covered with fine whitish tomento.

The fore lobe of the pronotum almost twice as wide as long (28 : 15); lateral borders slightly convex; covered with a fine whitish tomento. The hind lobe a little wider than long (35 : 32); lateral borders parallel; hind border slightly cut out; without tomento. Scutellum wider than long (16 : 11); transversally depressed anteriorly and rounded posteriorly; the scutellar spine is fine, long, erect, and placed on the posterior border of the scutellum.



Hemelytrae reach to the hind border of the fifth tergite.

Prosternum smooth, transversally carinated on the hind border before the fore coxae, and projecting between the latter as a fine longitudinal carena. Mesosternum posteriorly truncated and with a fine longitudinal carena between the middle coxae. Metasternum posteriorly, before the hind coxae, produced into a transverse, almost horizontal ridge. Proportions of the tarsal joints (1-3) are : 35 : 4 : 7 (the measures taken on the hind tarsi from below).

♀, similar to the male, but a little larger. The proportions of the antennal joints (1-4) are : 64 : 88 : 72 : - (the fourth is wanting); the proportions of the rostral joints (1-4) are : 10 : 8 : 8 : 10. The genital segments slightly project backwards.

Total length ♂-10,8 mm. ♀-12,0 mm. ; width of pronotum ♂-1,2 mm. ♀-1,3 mm. ; width of abdomen ♂-1,1 mm ♀-1,2 mm.

*Holotype* : ♂, West Java, Gede Lebak Sive Mts. - M. E. WALSH col. 14.5.1938 ; deposited in the collections of the Museum of Natural History in Basle.

*Allotype* : ♀, collected with the holotype ; in the same collection.

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