

NOTES ON THE TYPE OF *CRANOPYGIA PLUTO* HEBARD (INSECTA : DERMAPTERA)

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INTRODUCTION

Cranopygia pluto was described on a Male from Myanmar by Hebard (1923) but without giving details of genitalia. At that time the concepts of genitalia was not well established, for the discrimination of species in Pygidicranoidea. For this reason the taxonomic position of this species remained in doubt (Hincks, 1959 and Srivastava, 1993).

The Type Male is examined and the genitalia described for the first time. It comes close to members of *Cranopygia* (Cumingi—Group) on the basis of parameres but differs in having the virga long, thin and forming coils apically. Shape of penultimate sternite and forceps is also distinctive.

I am thankful to the Director, Zoological Survey of India, Calcutta for providing necessary facilities. My sincere thanks are also due to Dr. Daniell Otte, Chairman, Department of Entomology, Philadelphia Academy of Sciences, Philadelphia, PA, U.S.A. for placing at my disposal the above 'Type' specimen for study.

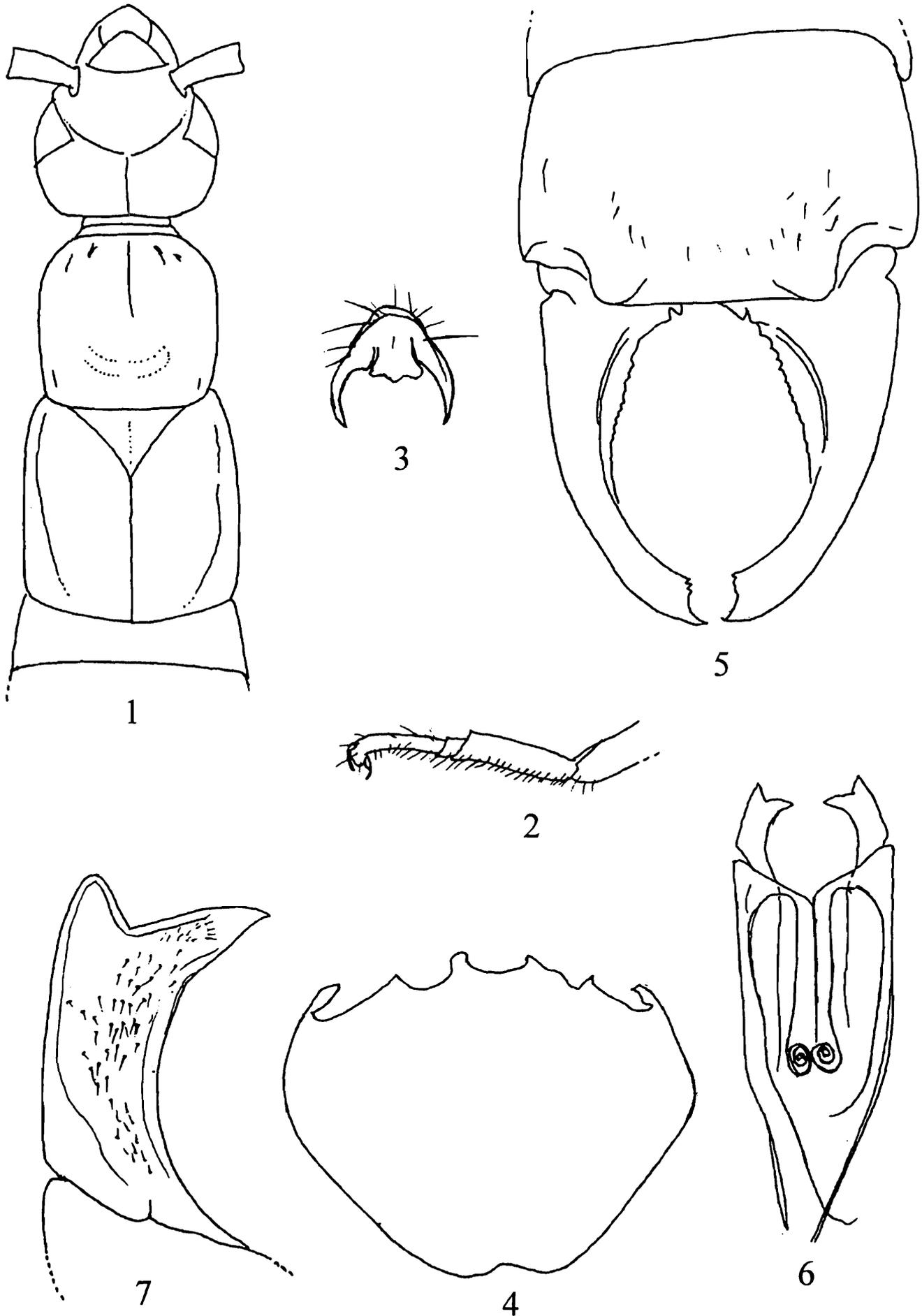
Cranopygia pluto Hebard

(Figs. 1-7)

1923. *Cranopygia pluto* Hebard, *Mem. Dep. Agric. India ent. Serv.*, 7 : 200, pl. xx, fig. 18 (Type Male; Chin Hills, Burma, 1909 (Venning), Hebard Collection Type No. 775).
1959. *Cranopygia pluto*; Hincks, *syst. Mono. Dermaptera*, 2 : 107.
1976. *Cranopygia pluto*; Srivastava, *Rec. zool. Surv. India, Occ. Pap.*, 2 : 7.
1986. *Cranopygia pluto*; Steinmann, *Das Tierreich*, 102 : 265.
1985. *Cranopygia pluto*; Sakai, 1985, *Dermapterorum Cat.*, XVI-XVIII : 777 (Photograph of Type Male).
1993. *Cranopygia? Pluto*; Srivastava, *Rec. zool. Surv. India*, 92(1-4) (1992) : 44.

Material examined : Type Male labelled as : (i) Chin Hills, Burma, Venning 1909—white handwritten label and (ii) *Cranopygia pluto* Hebard 775 TYPE—pink label all in the hand of

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Figs. 1-7. *Cranopygia pluto* Hebard, Type Male, 1. Anterior portion of body, without legs; 2. Hind tarsi; 3. Claw; 4. Penultimate sternite; 5. Ultimate tergite and forceps; 6. Genitalia; 7. Left paramere, enlarged.

Hebard except the word 'Type' which is printed; genitalia mounted between two coverslips and pinned with the specimen (Philadelphia Academy of Sciences).

<i>Measurements</i> : (in mm) :	<i>Holotype</i> <i>Male</i>
Length of body	27.5
Length of forceps	6.9
Length of pronotum	3.5
Length of eye	1.2
Post ocular length	1.0
Length of 1st antennal segment	1.1
Distance between scapi	1.5

(Difference in the length of body may be due to repair in body parts subsequently).

General colour dark brownish black, head somewhat yellowish brown in the middle; pronotum feebly yellowish on sides; legs clear yellow.

Head smooth, sutures faint. Pronotum slightly longer than broad, sides straight, depressed and parallel sided, hind margin subtruncate, median sulcus distinct; prozona and metazona moderately raised, demarcated by a transverse depression. Elytra abbreviated, meeting along the middle line, a triangular scutellum visible. Wings not visible. Legs with femora compressed and carinate; hind metatarsus slightly longer than the combined length of meso- and protarsus; claw with an arolium which is triangular in shape and produced into three small lobes posteriorly. Abdomen covered with fine pubescence, gradually enlarging posteriorly, finely punctulate. Penultimate sternite narrowed posteriorly with slight emargination in middle of posterior margin. Ultimate tergite transverse, rugulose, faintly tumid above roots of forceps. Pygidium concealed. Forceps heavy, strongly incurved, tapering apically internally at base with a dorsal and ventral large teeth, inner ventral margin projecting and provided with a series of minute tubercles, at a little before apex a short tooth followed by several minute ones present. Genitalia with virga long, thin and coiled apically.

Remarks : This species is known by Type Male and the genitalia is figured here for the first time which is quite characteristic in having long and thin virga, coiled apically.

(Type appears to be not in a very good condition; except right basal antennal segment rest are missing; middle and hind leg on the right side are present and rest are missing).

REFERENCES

- Hebard, M. 1923. Studies in Indian Dermaptera. *Mem. Dep. Agric. India ent. Ser.*, 7 : 195-242, pls. 19-21.
- Hincks, W. D. 1959. A Systematic Monograph of Dermaptera of the world based upon the material in British Museum (Natural History), Pt. II, Pygidicranidae excluding Diplatyinae, 218 pp, 214 figs., London, British Museum (Natural History).
- Srivastava, G. K. 1993. Taxonomic status of certain genera of Pygidicranidae (Dermaptera). *Rec. zool. Surv. India*, 92(1-4) (1992) : 41-52.