

Short Communication

**NEW RECORD OF *ANOPLOMUS FLEXUOSUS* BEZZI (TEPHRITIDAE :
DIPTERA : INSECTA) FROM SOUTHERN INDIA WITH NOTES ON
THE SYSTEMATICS OF THE GENUS *ANOPLOMUS* BEZZI**

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INTRODUCTION

Anoplomus flexuosus Bezzi (Tephritidae : Diptera : Insecta) is known to occur in India, Indonesia and the Philippines (Bezzi, 1913; Macquart, 1843; Hardy, 1974). In India, the species is so far reported from Sikkim, West Bengal (Bezzi, *op. cit.*), Kumaon (Mishra, 1920; Mathur & Singh, 1959) and Arunachal Pradesh (Radhakrishnan, 1984) only.

While exploring the fruit fly fauna of Calicut district, Kerala, the authors could collect 5 specimens of *Anoplomus flexuosus* Bezzi, the details of which are presented below. This is the first report of the species from Southern India. Besides, the current systematic position of the genus *Anoplomus* Bezzi is discussed.

***Anoplomus flexuosus* Bezzi**

(Fig. 1)

1913. *Anoplomus flexuosus* Bezzi, Replacement name for *Tephritis fasciventris* Macquart 1848 : 225, misidentification. Not *fasciventris* Macquart, 1843. Type-locality : Java.

1882. *Trypeta cassandra* Osten Sacken, 228. Type-locality : Philippines.

Material examined : 2 Males, 2 Females, Thusharagiri, Kerala, India 3.vi.2003, C. Radhakrishnan & Party; 1 Male, Thusharagiri, Kerala, India, 13.vi.2003, C. Radhakrishnan & Party.

Diagnosis : Arista plumose; 1st flagellomere slightly pointed at apex above; scutellum inflated, convex dorsally; humeral bristles absent; thorax polished black except for yellow-white humeri and continuous yellow-white mark on each side over most of mesopleuron; also scutellum, metapleuron and pleurotergon yellow-white except for the narrow black base and the three shining black apical spots on scutellum; dorsocentral bristles situated above opposite supraalars; mid and hind femora broadly brown to black at apices; second costal cell dark-brown except for a small subhyaline spot near base; wings rounded apically.

Systematic Notes on the Genus *Anoplomus* Bezzi

Hardy (1973) while describing two new species namely, *Anoplomus nigrifemoratus* (from Laos) and *Anoplomus rufipes* (from Thailand and Laos), mentioned the genus *Anoplomus* Bezzi as being a borderline "Ceratitini", though he retained it under the tribe Trypetini of the subfamily Trypetinae. However, he felt that the genus would probably fit best in the tribe Gastrozonini of the subfamily Trypetinae. Hardy (1974) further emphasized that he found no logical reason for not treating the genus under Gastrozonini and transferred the genus to the tribe Gastrozonini, though the genus had previously been placed under Ceratininae of Hering and other authors. However, Hardy (1988) reducing the status of the tribe Gastrozonini placed *Anoplomus* Bezzi in the subtribe Gastrozonina under the tribe Acanthonevrini of Trypetinae.

Hancock (1986) while discussing the classification of the Trypetinae of the Afro-tropical Region stated that, true Gastrozonini appeared to belong to Ceratitinae and that since the Ceratitinae appeared to be allied to the Dacinae, its inclusion within the Trypetinae as surmised by Hardy (*op. cit.*) would result in a polyphyletic classification. Hancock (1991) while revising the tribal classification of various genera of Trypetinae and Ceratitinae, included the genus *Anoplomus* Bezzi in the tribe Gastrozonini under the subfamily Ceratitinae.

Based on characters which are typically present in each group and relying upon evident relationship, White and Elson-Haris (1992) reduced the tribe Gastrozonini to subtribe Gastrozonina and placed it under the tribe Ceratinini of the subfamily Dacinae. Drew and Hancock (1999) do not however, consider the current evidence significant enough for the inclusion of the taxa Ceratitidini (= Ceratitini) and Gastrozonini in the broader subfamily Dacinae.

According to Norrbom (2000), currently the subfamily Dacinae is divisible into three tribes, Ceratitidini, Dacini and Gastrozonini and accordingly, he placed the genus *Anoplomus* Bezzi under the tribe Gastrozonini of the subfamily Dacinae.

Based on the characters of the specimens studied and on an evaluation of their affinities, the authors agree in retaining *Anoplomus* Bezzi under the tribe Gastrozonini in the subfamily Dacinae as done by Norrbom (2000).

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