

New data on *Griphophanes* nom. nov. from South Thailand (Diptera, Dolichopodidae)

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Abstract

Griphophanes, a new name is given to *Griphomyia* GROOTAERT & MEUFFELS, 1997, because the latter name was pre-occupied by *Griphomyia* HARDY, 1987. *Gr. gravicaudatus* (GROOTAERT & MEUFFELS, 1997) was observed in various new localities in South Thailand.

GROOTAERT & MEUFFELS (1997) described the genus *Griphomyia*, a monotypical genus, with *Gr. gravicaudata* as type species. However it appeared that the name *Griphomyia* was used already for a tephritid fly (HARDY, 1987). Therefore we propose here the new name *Griphophanes* to replace *Griphomyia* GROOTAERT & MEUFFELS, 1997. The name *Griphophanes* is deduced from the Greek: griphos: riddle and phainesthai: to look like: thus meaning looking like a mysterious creature.

The material examined in the original description was collected in Tap Put (= cited as Ao Luk), Sa Nangmanora (both localities in Phang-Nga prov.) and at the Bok Kai water falls (Ranong prov.). Numerous new material was collected by the first author in South Thailand in October 1997 at the end of the rain season and in the beginning of May 1998 at the end of the dry season. The collections in May were made before the monsoon started, which was unusually late in 1998 in that area.

Material examined:

Phang-Nga province: Manghora (= Sa Nangmanora, park and water falls in a primary rain forest), 23.X.1997, 38 males, 19 females (sample n° 97103: gravel beds and rocks, up hill; unperturbed area), 11 males, 2 females (n° 97104: mud and gravel beds halfway hill); 5.V.1998, 1 male, 1 female (n° 98001: down water falls, perturbed area), 3 males, 6 females (n° 98002: half way up hill; medium perturbed), 15 males, 25 females (n° 98003: rocks in and around river up hill; unperturbed area), 11 males, 16 females (n° 98004: mud flats and gravel beds half way; little perturbed by human activity). Tap Put, 5.V.1998, 1 female (n° 98008: along dry bed of a narrow brook in primary rain forest). Lamru, 6.V.1998, 6 males, 17 females (n° 98016: primary rain forest), 46 males, 16

females (n° 98017: rocks around pools in river up hill water fall). Tone Chongfah, 7.V.1998, 2 males, 3 females (n° 98029: small pools in primary rain forest).

Distribution:

At the moment the species is only known from South Thailand where it is not widespread (only 5 localities mainly in the Phang-Nga and Ranong provinces), but locally it can be very abundant.

Bionomics:

Gr. gravicaudatus seems to be confined to the borders of small pools near and along torrents or brooks where it is mainly found on the banks of gravel and on the mosses covering the boulders and rocks. It was only observed in shaded areas, never in full sunlight and until now only in primary as well as secondary rain forests.

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References

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