A NEW SPECIES OF CORANUS CURTIS FROM SOUTH INDIA (INSECTA - REDUVIIDAE - HARPACTORINAE)\(^1\)

DUNSTON P. AMBROSE AND K. SAHAYARAJ\(^2\)

(With sixteen text - figures)

Distant (1902) described six species of Coranus Curtis in his Fauna of British India. Capriles (1990) listed six species of Coranus, namely C. militaria Distant; C. niger (Rambur); C. siva (Kirkaldy); C. spiniscutis Reuter; C. vitellinus Distant and C. wolffi Lethierry and Severin (Reduvius aegyptius Wolff) from Indian faunal limits. Ambrose (1980) redescribed Coranus vitellinus Distant and Ambrose & Vennison (1989) described a new species Coranus sosaii from South India. In the present paper a new species of Coranus is described and illustrated.

Coranus nodulosus sp. nov. (Figs. 1-16)

Total length 8.72 mm; width across compound eyes 1.0 mm; across prothorax 1.94 mm and across the abdomen 2.86 mm (Fig. 1). Piceous; antennae (except 4th segment), tibiae, tarsi, brown, connexival spots, interior corium fuscenscent; head, thorax and abdomen above and beneath bear stramiens fine hairs; head oblong and bulbous, 1.92 mm long and 1.0 mm broad; transverse behind eyes, nodulose antecocular portion twice as long as slightly raised postocular portion, ocelli one on each side located just behind the compound eyes (Figs. 1-3); antennae 3.96 mm long, five segmented antennae inserted just in front of the compound eyes, scape the shortest and not passing the apex of the head, third flagellar segment the longest (Figs. 1, 5); rostrum slightly curved; basal and medial segments almost equal and 3rd segment the shortest; rostral tip touching the prosternal groove (Fig. 4).

Pronotum 2.2 mm long and 1.94 mm broad, unicolourous, nodulose, transversely divided just before middle, longitudinally impressed; anteriolateral angles of the pronotum obuse and posterolateral angles of pronotum rounded (Figs. 1-3). Scutellum triangular with an erect conical tubercle; fore femora slightly incassated and swollen, mid femora the shortest and hind femora the longest; tarsi 3 segmented, 1st segment the shortest and 3rd the longest; tibiae devoid of tibial pads but with tibial combs (Figs. 1, 5-7); hemelytra 4.96 mm long and 1.83 mm broad, slightly passing the abdominal apex, venation of hemelytra and hind wings as in figures 1, 8 and 9. Abdomen 4.80 mm long and 2.86 mm broad, nodulose segmental sutures prominent; elongately oval, connexivum narrow and spotted (Figs. 1, 9). Last abdominal segment bears a pair of conspicuous piccous spots. Genitalia as in Figs. 11-16.

Female has longer antecocular (1.14 mm) and postocular areas (0.89 mm), distance between the eyes (0.56 mm), antennae (4.13 mm), rostrum (2.12 mm), fore, mid and hind legs (1.85, 1.73 and 2.68 mm, respectively), longer abdomen (5.42 mm) and...

---

1 Accepted July 1993.
2 Entomology Research Unit, Department of Zoology, St. Xavier's College, Palayankottai 627 002, India.
Figs. 3-11. *Coranus nodulosus* sp. nov. (Male): 3. head and pronotum lateral view; 4. head and pronotum; 5. antenna; 6-8. fore, mid and hind legs; 9. abdomen dorsal aspect; 10. hemelytra; 11. hind wing.
Figs. 12-16. Coranus nodulosus sp. nov.

hemelytra (5.68 mm) and broader abdomen (3.34 mm) and hemelytra (2.10 mm).

**Type information**: Holotype: Male collected from a cotton field at Sivanthipatti, Nellai Kattabomman district, Tamil Nadu, India (altitude 125.33 ± 2.87 m, 8°30' N, 77°47' E) by Sahayaraj on 4. iii. 1990. The holotype is deposited in the Insect collection (No. 7), Entomology Research Unit, St. Xavier’s College, Palayankottai, India. The allotype and paratypes (one male and two females) were collected from cotton fields in and around Sivanthipatti by Sahayaraj on 25. iii. 1990.

**Affinity**: C. nodulosus sp. nov. is closely related to C. soosaii in having five segmented antenna and scape and 3rd flagellar segment as the shortest and the longest antennal segments, respectively; slightly curved rostrum, with almost equal first and second segments and third the shortest segment; pronotum transversely divided before the middle; scutellum triangular.

However, C. nodulosus sp. nov. can be easily differentiated from C. soosaii by the slightly raised postocular area, unicolourous pronotum, pale brown corium and brown tibiae; oblong head, longer anteocular (twice as postocular), nodulosus head, prosternum and abdomen.

**Etymology**: The species is named C. nodulosus from its nodulose appearance.

**Acknowledgements**

We are grateful to Rev. Fr. Dr. S. Ignacimuthu, S.J., Principal and Rev. Fr. Stephen T. de Souza, S.J., Professor & Head, Department of Zoology, St. Xavier’s College (Autonomous), Palayankottai for facilities. The financial assistance from Ministry of Environment & Forest, New Delhi is gratefully acknowledged.

**References**


