

ON THE IDENTITY AND SYSTEMATIC POSITION  
OF HYSTEROPTERUM PICTIFRONS MELICHAR, 1906  
(HOMOPTERA: CICADINA, ISSIDAE)

V. M. GNEZDILOV

*Zoological Institute, Russian Academy of Sciences  
Universitetskaya nab.1, 199034, St. Petersburg, Russia, E-mail: hemipt@zin.ru*

*Bubastia pictifrons* (MELICHAR, 1906), comb. n. (= *kulikiana* LOGVINENKO, 1977, syn. n.) is redescribed and its lectotype is designated. *Verticisium* DLABOLA, 1979 is placed in synonymy with *Tautoprosopa* EMELJANOV, 1978, stat. n. With 8 figures.

Key words: *Hysteropterum pictifrons*, *Verticisium*, *Bubastia*, *Tautoprosopa*, Homoptera, Cicadina, Issidae, stat. n., comb. n., syn. n., lectotype

INTRODUCTION

Up to now the species name *Hysteropterum pictifrons* MELICHAR, 1906 was applied incorrectly to *Tautoprosopa transcaspia* EMELJANOV, 1978 (LINNAVUORI 1952, DLABOLA 1979). In course of the present study the type specimens of *H. pictifrons* were examined. According to its external characters and structure of genitalia, this species should be placed in the genus *Bubastia* EMELJANOV, 1975. The genus *Verticisium* DLABOLA, 1979 is placed in synonymy with the genus *Tautoprosopa* EMELJANOV, 1978.

This study is based on specimens deposited in the following collections: HNHM – Hungarian Natural History Museum, Budapest, Hungary; ZIN – Zoological Institute, Russian Academy of Sciences, St. Petersburg, Russia.

*Bubastia pictifrons* (MELICHAR, 1906), **comb. n.**  
(Figs 1–8)

*Hysteropterum pictifrons* MELICHAR, 1906: 140 (non LINNAVUORI, 1952; DLABOLA, 1979, 1982).  
*Bubastia kulikiana* LOGVINENKO, 1977: 63–64, Fig. 3, **syn. n.**

Lectotype of *H. pictifrons* (designated here to fix the application of the species name), male, HNHM, “Armenia / Kulp” (hand written), “*Hysteropterum pictifrons* Mel.” (written by HORVÁTH), “*Hysteropterum pictifrons* Mel. det. Horváth” (hand written), “Coll. Horváth”.

Paralectotypes. HNHM: 2 females, “Armenia / Kulp”, “*Hysteropterum pictifrons* Mel. det. Horváth” (hand written), “Coll. Horváth”; 2 males, 1 female, “Armenia / Kulp”, “*pictifrons* Mel.”

(with red underline) Coll. Horváth" (species name written by HORVÁTH), "*Hysteropterum pictifrons* Mel. det. Horváth" (museum label), "Coll. Horváth".

Additional material examined. ZIN: Armenia: 4 males, Yerevan, 3. and 14.VIII.1935, leg. M. E. Ter-Minassian and A. A. Richter; 2 males, 1 female, Dzhrvezh near Yerevan, 23.IX.1956, leg. V. A. Triapitzin; 5 males, 11 females, Alaverdsky Distr., Lori, pr. Achtala 28. and 30.VIII.1923 (collector's name not given).

*Description.* Coryphe transverse, its anterior margin straight, hind margin concave. Metope with median and sublateral keels. Median keel continued on clypeus. Sublateral keels weakened in distal part of metope. Fore wings without hypocostal lobe; R bifurcate; M trifurcate; CuA not branched. Hind wings vestigial. Hind tibia with 2 lateral teeth; its apex with 8–10 setae. First segment of hind tarsus with 4 apical setae.

General coloration yellowish brown. Dark brown stripes and spots sometimes present on fore wings and legs.

Male. Anal tube (X segment) elongate, broadened in distal part and widely rounded at apex. Anal column (XI segment) short. Penis slender, slightly curved (lateral view). Phallobase with lateral serrate lobes distally. Ventral lobe of phallobase elongate and enlarged distally. Aedeagus with 2 pointed hooks half as long as phallobase. Hind margin of stylus concave. Apical tooth of stylus beak-shaped, bent ventrad; subapical tooth flattened.

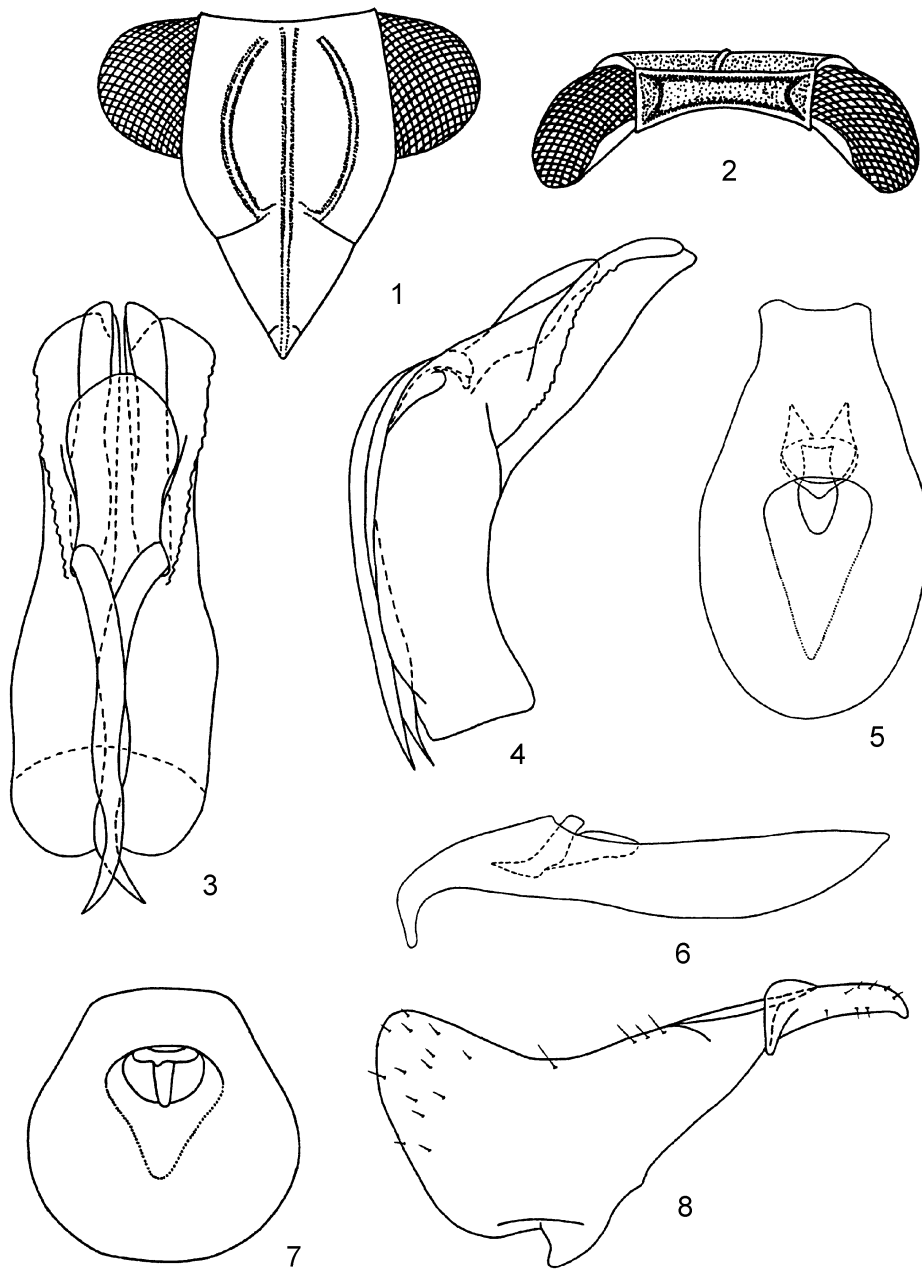
Female. Anal tube strongly widened (dorsal view). Anal column short.

Body length. Male: 3.1–3.4 mm; female: 3.4–3.8 mm.

Distribution. S Armenia and E Turkey (Kulp).

*Comparison.* Based on the structure of the male genitalia, *B. pictifrons* is closely related to *B. midica* LOGVINENKO, 1975 from the Nakhichevan Republic and other regions of Azerbaijan, and to *B. karabachica* LOGVINENKO, 1975 from the Karabakh Range in Azerbaijan (LOGVINENKO 1975). The synonymy of *B. kulikiana* LOGVINENKO, 1977, described from environs of Yerevan, is based on examination of the original description.

*Discussion.* MELICHAR (1906: 140) described *Hysteropterum pictifrons* from Armenia and stated that a pair of specimens is deposited in the Hungarian Natural History Museum. For the first time *H. pictifrons* was used by HORVÁTH (1899) as nomen nudum for specimens collected in Kulp (Turkey). Probably, HORVÁTH gave the material of the new species from Kulp to MELICHAR for description and MELICHAR retained the species name proposed by HORVÁTH in 1899. MELICHAR described the coloration of fore wings as follows: "Deckflügel beim ♂ bräunlichgelb, beim ♀ häufig mit schwarzer Zeichnung". The use of the word "häufig" [often] shows that he examined at least 3 females, and in fact, of the 3 females from HNHM two have a black pattern. I suspect therefore that the material examined by MELICHAR comprised 3 pairs (not one), which corresponds to the number of specimens in HNHM. I consider all 6 specimens deposited in Budapest as type specimens of *H. pictifrons*.



**Figs 1–8.** *Bubastia pictifrons* (MELICHAR), male (lectotype) and female (paralectotype): 1 = male head (ventral view), 2 = male head (dorsal view), 3 = penis (ventral view), 4 = penis (lateral view), 5 = male anal tube (dorsal view), 6 = male anal tube (lateral view), 7 = female anal tube (dorsal view), 8 = stylus (ventral view)

Genus *Tautoprosopa* EMELJANOV, 1978, **stat. n.**

*Tautoprosopa* EMELJANOV, 1978: 332 (as subgenus of *Brachyprosopa* KUSNETZOV, 1928). Type species: *Brachyprosopa transcaspia* EMELJANOV, 1978. *Verticisium* DLABOLA, 1979: 281–282, **syn. n.**

Type species now fixed (under Article 70.3 of the Code) as *Tautoprosopa transcaspia* EMELJANOV, 1978, misidentified as *Hysteropterum pictifrons* MELICHAR, 1906 in the original designation by DLABOLA (1979).

Comparison of the type material of *Tautoprosopa transcaspia* EMELJANOV, 1978 with the description and figures in the paper by DLABOLA (1979) shows that DLABOLA had to do with this species, and not with *Hysteropterum pictifrons* MELICHAR, 1906.

*Tautoprosopa transcaspia* EMELJANOV, 1978

*Brachyprosopa (Tautoprosopa) transcaspia* EMELJANOV, 1978: 332, Fig. 33.

*Hysteropterum pictifrons* (non MELICHAR, 1906): LINNAVUORI, 1952: 191, Fig. 4, F–J.

*Verticisium pictifrons* (non MELICHAR, 1906): DLABOLA, 1979: 282–283, Figs 103–110.

Material examined. ZIN: male (holotype); 9 males and 3 females (paratypes).

Distribution. SW Kazakhstan, W Turkmenia, N Iran (Mazandaran).

*Discussion.* LINNAVUORI (1952) based on examination of material from “Transcaspia” misidentified *T. transcaspia* EM. as *H. pictifrons* MEL. DLABOLA (1979) based on figures of *H. pictifrons* (non MELICHAR, 1906) in the paper by LINNAVUORI recorded this species from North Iran.

*Latilica maculipes* (Melichar, 1906)

*Hysteropterum maculipes* MELICHAR, 1906: 141.

*Dalmatium pictifrons* (non MELICHAR, 1906): DLABOLA, 1982: 157.

As a result of a *lapsus calami*, DLABOLA (1982) used the name *Hysteropterum pictifrons* MELICHAR, 1906 instead of *H. maculipes* MELICHAR, 1906. *Dalmatium* DLABOLA, 1980 is a junior synonym of *Latilica* EMELJANOV, 1971 (see EMELJANOV 2001). Dlabola (1982) actually synonymized *H. issifrons* BERGEVIN, 1918 and *H. oertzeni* MATSUMURA, 1910 with *H. maculipes*, not with *H. pictifrons*.

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