

Juhan VILBASTE

ON SOME SPECIES OF HOMOPTERA CICADINEA DESCRIBED BY V. MOTSCHULSKY

Among the numerous insect species described by the well-known Russian entomologist V. Motschulsky (1810—1871), there are also more than 45 species belonging to various groups of Homoptera Cicadinea. Most of them were recognized by later authors due to the fact that some other explorers (Melichar, 1903; Distant, 1908, 1916; various Japanese authors, etc.) had also collected materials in the same localities (Ceylon, Japan).

Cicadinea in the collection of V. Motschulsky were not revised or were revised only partly. The collection became accessible to the investigators only in 1911 when it was handed over to the Zoological Museum of Moscow State University. But by this time the collection was in a completely unsuitable condition: the representatives of some groups, including Homoptera Cicadinea, had been badly damaged (Zhelochovtsev, Zimina, 1968).

By courtesy of Prof. A. Zhelokhovtsev the present author had an opportunity to investigate the remains of the above-mentioned collection. All the preserved type specimens (marked, apart from a yellow label indicating the name and abbreviated locality, also with a small white label "type") were taken from the badly preserved and dusty cardboard collection boxes apparently by Prof. A. Kiritschenko during his revision of V. Motschulsky's Heteroptera (1915) and are kept now in a small wooden box. Later some Cicadinea species were investigated by Prof. A. Zakhvatkin, as they bear labels written in his handwriting. One species was revised and correspondingly marked by Dr. M. S. K. Ghauri (British Museum of Natural History, London) in 1969, whereas on four species (*Conometopius inspiratus*, *Thamnotettix subrufa*, *Th. maculifrons* and *Th. nigrobimaculatus*) there are notes in the literature (Dworakowska, 1969, 1970, 1972a, 1972b) that they were investigated at I. Dworakowska's request by G. Anufriev, but they are not correspondingly labelled.

The species below are given in the order of modern nomenclature. The valid names are given bold-faced.

CICADELLIDAE

Ulopinae

Idiocerus ? *subopacus* (1859b, p. 110). V. Motschulsky has placed this species into the genus *Idiocerus* with a question mark. Already the description (thickly punctated body and base of fore wing, semilunately excised head, etc.) indicate that the placing is not correct.

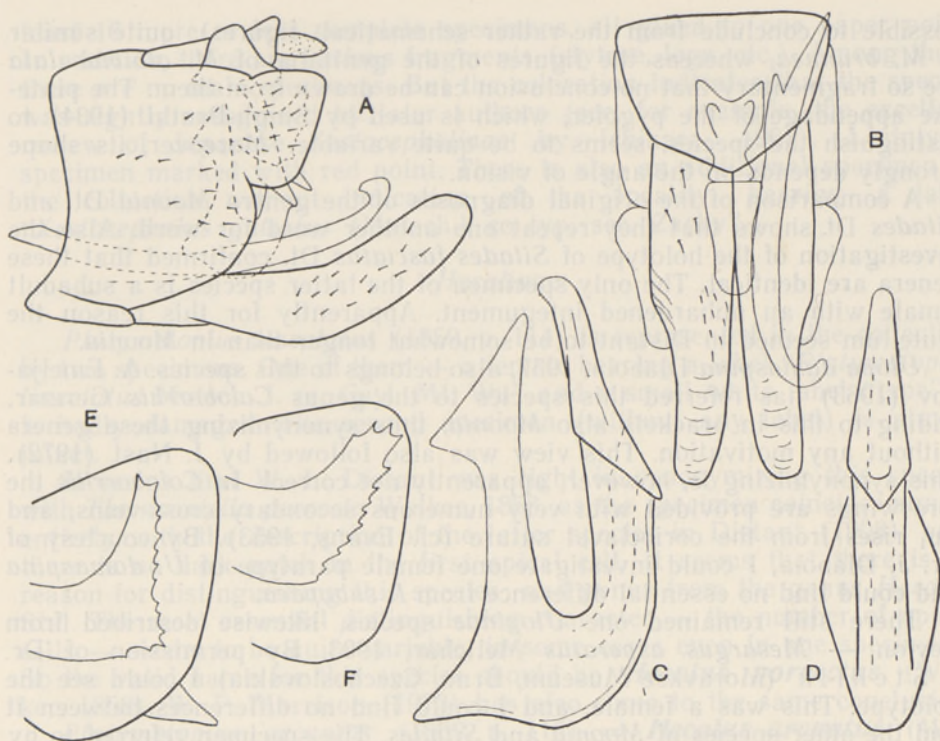


Fig. 1. *Mesargus subopacus* (Mt.). ♂ (from the original series of *Moonia brunnea* Dt.): A — genital segment, lateral view (enlargement 52 X); B — genital valve and plates (52 X); C — aedeagus, lateral view (112 X); D — aedeagus, caudal view (112 X); E — side lobe of pygofer, median view (112 X); F — same, another specimen (from original series of *M. albivitta* Dt.) (112 X).

The well preserved female (holotype!)* showed clearly that it is a representative of the subfamily *Ulopinae* (there exists a clear subgenal suture) and it was placed provisionally into the genus *Moonia* Dt. To compare V. Motschulsky's species with the species described by W. L. Distant (1908, 1916), the present author has investigated some specimens from a type series of 4 species* of this genus, including also males of two species (*M. brunnea* and *M. albivitta*). In the genitalia of the two latter species I could find no essential differences. Afterwards when I had compared the females of all the available species, I came to the conclusion that all these "species" were colour varieties of one quite variable species. This conclusion is also supported by the fact that most species were found in South India (in Chikkaballapura and Kodaikanal) in a small number of localities situated quite near to one another. Kodaikanal is even the only locality for four species. The genitalia drawn from a male from the original series of *Moonia brunnea*, are given in Fig. 1 A—F. B. Datta (1973) has figured the genitalia of *M. sancita* (type species of the genus) and *M. albimaculata*. The figures of the first species are (so far as it is

* The specimen was already revised by A. Zakhvatkin, as it bears an additional label "*Macrometopius* (= *Macropsis* Sign.) *subopacus* Motsch." written in Zakhvatkin's hand. This author has erroneously placed the species into the subfamily *Ledridae* (tribe *Thymbrini*).

* For them and also for the holotype of *Sitades fasciatus* Dt. I am greatly indebted to Dr. J. W. Knight of the British Museum of Natural History, London.

possible to conclude from the rather schematical figures) quite similar to *M. brunnea*, whereas the figures of the genitalia of *M. albimaculata* are so fragmentary that no conclusion can be drawn from them. The plate-like appendage of the pygofer, which is used by Singh-Pruthi (1934) to distinguish the species, seems to be quite variable. Moreover, its shape strongly depends on the angle of vision.

A comparison of the original diagnoses of the genera *Moonia* Dt. and *Sitades* Dt. shows that they repeat one another word for word. Also the investigation of the holotype of *Sitades fasciatus* Dt. confirmed that these genera are identical. The only specimen of the latter species is a subadult female with an unhardened integument. Apparently for this reason the scutellum seemed to Distant to be somewhat longer than in *Moonia*.

Ulopa damaspina Dlabola, 1957, also belongs to this species. A. Emeljanov (1963) has referred this species to the genus *Coloborrhis* Germar, adding to this in brackets also *Moonia*, thus synonymizing these genera without any motivation. This view was also followed by J. Nast (1972). This synonymizing is, however, apparently not correct. In *Coloborrhis* the fore wings are provided with very numerous secondary cross-veins, and Cu_1 rises from the corioclaval suture (cf. Evans, 1953). By courtesy of Dr. J. Dlabola, I could investigate one female paratype of *U. damaspina* and could find no essential difference from *I. subopaca*.

There still remained one *Ulopinæ* species, likewise described from Ceylon — *Mesargus asperatus* Melichar, 1903. By permission of Dr. J. Stehlik (Moravské Museum, Brno, Czechoslovakia) I could see the holotype. This was a female, and I could find no differences between it and the other species of *Moonia* and *Sitades*. The specimen referred to by L. Melichar (1913) as *Idiocerus subopacus* belongs to the "real" *Idiocerinae*.

Thus the rather confused synonymy of the treated species is:

Mesargus, Melichar, 1903

Type species: *Mesargus asperatus* Melichar 1903, by original designation
= *Moonia*, Distant, 1908

Type species: *Moonia sancita* Distant, 1908, by original designation
= *Sitades* Distant, 1916

Type species: *Sitades fasciatus* Distant, 1916, by original designation

subopacus (Motschulsky, 1859) [*Idiocerus*]

= *asperatus* Melichar, 1903

= *sancita* (Distant, 1908) [*Moonia*]

= *albimaculata* (Distant, 1916) [*Moonia*]

= *capitata* (Distant, 1916) [*Moonia*]

= *brunnea* (Distant, 1916) [*Moonia*]

= *variabilis* (Distant, 1916) [*Moonia*]

= *diversa* (Distant, 1916) [*Moonia*]

= *albivitta* (Distant, 1916) [*Moonia*]

= *fasciata* (Distant, 1916) [*Sitades*]

= *damaspina* (Dlabola, 1957) [*Ulopa*]

The present author has not been able to investigate the remaining species described in the genus *Moonia* (*guttulinervis* Kt., 1933; *lata* Kt., 1933; *naevia* Jc., 1944; *sumatrana* Schm., 1926). It is possible that some of them are also identical with the species treated above.

Xestocephalinae

Deltocephalus guttatus (1859, p. 113) = *Xestocephalus guttatus* (Motschulsky, 1859). This species is represented in the collection by at

least 16 more or less complete specimens, all glued to one paper point. In addition, there are various fragments (elytrae, legs, etc.). Among those there are no male specimens. But the coloration indicates that the species was rightly recognized by later authors (see, for example, the excellent review of Japanese *Xestocephalinae* by Ishihara, 1961). Lectotype: specimen marked with red point. There is also an additional specimen in the collection without indication of the locality, bearing a label "*Xestocephalus guttatus* (Motsch.) co typ. sec. Zachv".

Hecalinae

Platymetopius lineolatus (1859, p. 114) is represented in the collection by two specimens. One of them — a female bearing a label "*Platymetopius lineolatus* Motsch. I. or. Ceyl. Mt. Wu" and a small white label "type" — is badly damaged. The second specimen (without any label) is almost intact.

It seems that W. L. Distant was right in synonymizing this species with *Thomsoniella porrecta* Walker, 1858, as the specimen coincides almost entirely with the description of the latter species in Distant (1908), only there is no dark patch in the first apical cell. It seems that there is no reason for distinguishing this species and genus from the genus *Hecalus* Stal. The most essential distinguishing character — the number of apical cells — seems to be quite variable, in some cases even in one specimen*. So the valid name for this species should be *Hecalus porrectus* (Walker, 1858). W. P. Morrison (1973) has also come to the same conclusion.

Platymetopius arcuatus (1859, p. 115) = *Hecalus arcuatus* (Motschulsky, 1859). There are two specimens in the collection. One of them, carrying a label "*Platymetopius arcuatus* Mt. I. or. Ceyl. Mt. W." and a small label "Type", is somewhat damaged (without abdomen, fore body is empty, right fore wing partly missing, etc.), whereas the other specimen, male, is almost intact. The species is the same one, later described by S. Matsumura (1912) as *Parabolocratus centralis* (cf. also Ishihara, 1959). Figures of the genitalia of this species are also presented by B. Datta (1972) (under the name *Parabolocratus arcuatus*) and by W. P. Morrison (1973).

Cicadellinae

Deltocephalus semifuscus (1866, p. 186) is represented in the collection by one partly damaged specimen. According to its size, proportions of the body and the black pattern of the head, it is identical with *Epiacanthus stramineus* (Motschulsky, 1861)**, only the ground colour is pale brownish. Apparently V. Motschulsky's specimen was unusually coloured, or it became darkened after death.

Typhlocybinæ

Conometopius inspiratus (1863, p. 104) = *Motschulskyia inspirata* (Motschulsky, 1863). One female labelled "*Conometopius inspiratus* Motsch., I. or. Ceyl. Mt. Pad" and a small white "Type" are in the collec-

* It is very interesting to note that Z. P. Metcalf (1967) placed the genus *Thomsoniella* in the subfamily *Euscelinae*, and according to him, it contains besides the type species *T. arcuata* (Mt.) (which is clearly a *Hecalus*), *T. lineolatus* (= *H. porrectus* Wk.) and also *T. rubrolineata* (which is identical with *Stymphalus rubrolineatus* (St.)), see below).

** *Deltocephalus stramineus* (1861, p. 24) is represented by some fragments only.

tion. The species is described and figured in detail by I. Dworakowska (1969). She has also stated that the specimen was studied for her by G. Anufriev, but it is not marked correspondingly.

Typhlocyba maculifrons (1863, p. 103) = *Empoascanara maculifrons* (Motschulsky, 1863). There are two intact specimens in the collection labelled "*Typhlocyba maculifrons* Motsch. I. or. Ceyl. Colo." and a small white label "Type". The species is described and figured in detail by I. Dworakowska (1972). The specimen also bears an additional label "*Thamnotettix maculifrons* Motsch. M. S. K. Ghauri det. 1969."

Thamnotettix nigrobimaculata (1863, p. 101—102) = *Empoascanara nigrobimaculata* (Motschulsky, 1863). There is one male specimen with a removed abdomen, according to I. Dworakowska (1970), investigated by G. Anufriev. The former author (l. s.) has also figured the male genitalia.

Thamnotettix fumosa (1863, p. 101). The species is represented in the collection by an almost intact female specimen. Already the original description indicates that it is probably identical with *Thaia subrufa* (Motschulsky, 1863) (= *Thamnotettix* s.)*, as their descriptions follow each other almost word for word. The most essential difference should be the ground colour, which in *subrufa* should be "rufo-testacea" in *fumosa* "testaceo-subfuscus". The present author has seen a quite differently coloured specimen of this species.

To the same species belongs apparently also *Deltocephalus ? transparripennis* (1963, p. 100), of which there is one specimen without an abdomen in the collection. It is only somewhat lighter and the head is somewhat more pointed. It coincides well in the measurements of the head and in other structural characters. The length of the whole insect is about 3 mm (not $\frac{4}{5}$ linea or 2.0 mm) as stated in the original diagnosis.

Diomma ochracea (Motschulsky, 1963, p. 102). There are one fore wing on a point labelled "*Diomma ochracea* Motsch. I. or. Ceyl. Mt. Pat." and a small white "Type" and a label on which is drawn the head of the insect and written "ocelles zu le clypeus". Another specimen is an almost intact female.

The pattern of the head and the fore wing coincides with those of *Zyginoides (Bunyipia) nunae* Dworakowska, 1972. Only the specimen is somewhat smaller (2.7 mm) and the head is more pointed.* If the synonymization is correct, *Diomma* (which was incorrectly synonymized with *Eupteryx* Ct. by Melichar, 1903) is an older name for *Zyginoides* Matsumura, 1932, n. syn., which thus falls into a subgeneric rank. *Diomma* s. str. is synonymic with the subgenus *Bunyipia* Dworakowska, 1972, n. syn.

Deltocephalinae

Deltocephalus rubrolineatus (1863, p. 98—99). As the median part of the underside of the head is preserved, it could be established that this species is identical with *Stymphalus rubrolineatus* (Stål, 1855) (n. syn.) described some years earlier.

Pediopsis nigromaculatus (1859, p. 111). The name of this species has for a long time been treated as a synonym of *Nephotettix apicalis*,

* *T. subrufa* (Motschulsky, 1863, p. 100) is represented in the collection only by some fragmentary wings.

* Apparently I. Dworakowska (l. c.) has figured a male specimen. As known, in many Typhlocybiids the head of a female is more pointed.

although the descriptions of both species are rather different. Due to the fact that the types of both species have been destroyed, M. S. K. Ghauri (1971) has treated them as *nomina dubia* in his excellent monograph of the genus.

In the collection, however, some fragments of *P. nigromaculatus* have been preserved, among them also two fragments of fore wings, the end of a female abdomen and three fragments of the thorax with legs.

The fragments of the fore wing clearly indicate that it is the species described by M. S. K. Ghauri (1971) as *Nephotettix nigropictus* (Stål, 1870): the discal spot touches claval suture and the scutellar margin and the fore part of the commissural margin are darkened. These characters are clearly mentioned also in the original description ("elytrorum margine circa scutellum, sutura antice, macule quadrata medio ad nerva dilatata...", etc.). As the designation given by V. Motschulsky is older, the correct name should be *Nephotettix nigromaculatus* (Motschulsky, 1859). For further synonymy see M. S. K. Ghauri (1971) under *N. nigropictus* (St.).

Pediopsis apicalis (1859, p. 110) = *Nephotettix apicalis* (Motschulsky, 1859). This species is not represented in the collection. But a careful comparison of its original description with that of *P. nigromaculatus* indicates that these species are in no case identical. From the description one can conclude that of the 5 species found in Ceylon it can be only a female with a dark tip of the fore wing of the species described by M. S. K. Ghauri (1971) as *Nephotettix virescens* (Dt.). In favour of this conclusion incidentally speak following features noted in the original description: frons has in the under part four black cross lines, the under side of the insect is greyish ochreous. The size is also suitable ($2\frac{1}{5}$ linea = appr. 5.5 mm).

Deltocephalus dorsalis (1859, p. 114) = *Recilia dorsalis* (Motschulsky, 1859). There are three female specimens mounted on one piece of cardboard in the collection labelled "*Deltocephalus dorsalis* Motsch. l. or. Ceyl. Colom". The species has been rightly recognized by all later authors, beginning with L. Melichar (1903). Lectotype: female on the right side in the fore row, marked also with a red point on the label.

Deltocephalus stigmaticus (1859, p. 113). This is the only species described by V. Motschulsky from Europe. The only specimen is unfortunately a female. But its size, the flat upper side of the head, and also the articulation lobe of the first valvula (cf. Greene, 1971) coincides with those of *Psammotettix alienus* (Dahlbom, 1850) **n. syn.**

Jassus ? curtulus (1863, p. 98). There are one male (designated as lectotype) and three females in the collection. This species is beyond doubt identical with the one described by L. Melichar (1903), likewise from Ceylon *Deltocephalus oneratus* Ml. 1903 **n. syn.** But as it differs from all genera known to the present author in its structural characters, a new genus is hereby described for it:

Oneratulus n. gen. The head is as wide as the pronotum or slightly wider, and in the middle distinctly longer than the pronotum. Face is relatively strongly arched, frons is somewhat longer than wide. Anteclypeus narrows slightly downwards. Ocelli small, less than their diameter apart from the eye. Fore wings obliquely cut at the tip. They are somewhat shorter than abdomen, so that the tip of abdomen is clearly seen from above (see also the figure in Distant, 1908). MCu subapicale is present.

Male genitalia (Fig. 2 A—H): Pygofer lobe shorter than plates, with only few (4) macrochaets, which lie on a separate lobe. On the inner side of the pygofer lobe there is a toothed appendage. Subgenital plate triangular, with concave sides. Plates as long as subgenital plate, narrow,

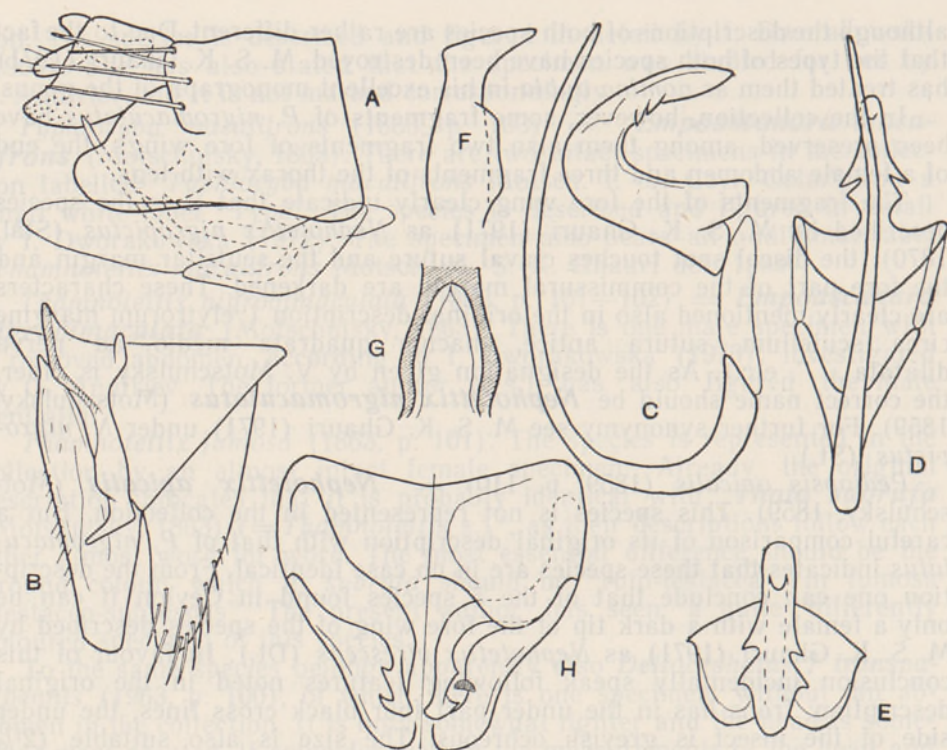


Fig. 2. *Oneratulus curtulus* (Mt.) ♂: A — genital segment, lateral view (82 ×); B — genital valve and plates (82 ×); C — aedeagus, lateral view (150 ×); D — aedeagus, caudo-ventral view (150 ×); E — tip of aedeagus, caudal view (150 ×); F — style, ventral view (150 ×); G — connective (112 ×); H — pygofer with appendages, left ventral, right dorsal view (50 ×).

with somewhat obliquely cut tips. Stylus sharp-pointed. Connective of U-type. Aedeagus small, finger-like, toothed, with very long unpaired appendage attached to its base.

Female genitalia: Pygofer is almost as long as the remaining abdomen. Hind margin of VII sternite somewhat protruding in the middle. The tip of ovipositor protrudes at great length behind the tip of pygofer.

Type of the genus: *Jassus? curtulus* Motschulsky, 1863.
Meenoplidae

Livilla? nervosa (1863, p. 114—115) = *Nisia nervosa* (Motschulsky, 1863) n. comb. = *Nisia atrovenosa* (Lethierry, 1888) n. syn. This species is represented in the collection by three complete specimens on one paper point. V. Motschulsky has connected this species with *Psyllinea* genus *Livilla* (although with a question mark). Already the figure in his work shows a characteristic shape and coloration of this widely distributed oriental and mediterranean species. Lectotype: the fore specimen on the point (marked also with a red point): Labels: "*Livilla nervosa* Motch. I. or. Ceyl. Mt. K." and a white label "Type".

Besides the species treated before, there are 4 more species in the collection, which, however, are represented only by some minor fragments: *Tettigonia atramentaria* (1859, p. 503), *Jassus fusconervosus* (1863, p. 97), *Jassus latruncularius*, (1859, l. 111), *Deltocephalus variegatus*

(1859, p. 112). The two first species have been recognized by later investigators as *Kolla atramentaria* (cf. Ishihara, 1971) and *Exitianus fusconervosus* (Ross, 1968)* respectively, whereas the right status of the two remaining ones remains still unclear.

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* The present author is of the opinion that the strict observance of the type specimen concept, especially in older species, is not justified. In the previous decade some investigators have rejected older names in favour of younger ones due to the fact that the corresponding type specimens have been lost. So also Ross (l.c.) has rejected V. Motschulsky's *fusconervosus* in favour of *Athysanus indicus* Distant, regardless of the fact, as he himself states, that so far only one species had been recorded from Ceylon. The situation was analogical with two *Nephotettix* species (see above).

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MÖNEDEST V. MOTSCHULSKY POOLT KIRJELDATUD TIRDILIIKIDEST

Resüme

Autor revideeris Moskva RÜ Zooloogia Muuseumis oleva V. Motschulsky kogu säilinud materjale. Liigid on esitatud kaasaegse süsteemi järgi. Lõigu alguses on antud nimetus V. Motschulsky järgi, poolpaksult aga liikide kehtivad nimetused. Uute sünonüümide tähis on *n. syn.*, uute kombinatsioonide tähis *n. comb.* On antud liikide *Mesargus subopacus* (Mt.) ja *Oneratulus curtulus* (Mt.) isaste genitaalide joonised. Viimati nimetatud perekond on teadusele kirjeldatud uuena.

Eesti NSV Teaduste Akadeemia
Zooloogia ja Botaanika Instituut

Toimetusse saanud
14. VI 1974

Юхан ВИЛЬБАСТЕ

О НЕКОТОРЫХ ВИДАХ ЦИКАДОВЫХ, ОПИСАННЫХ В. МОЧУЛЬСКИМ

Резюме

Проведена ревизия остатков коллекции цикадовых В. Мочульского, хранящихся в Зоологическом музее МГУ. Виды приведены в порядке современной системы. В начале абзаца дано название вида по В. Мочульскому, названия, используемые в настоящее время, даны жирным шрифтом. Приведены рисунки гениталей самцов видов *Mesargus subopacus* (Mt.) и *Oneratulus curtulus* (Mt.). Род *Oneratulus* описан как новый для науки.

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