

# **Magaella picta, a new genus and species from Palawan (Orthoptera, Acridoidea, Catantopinae)**

by

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## **Magaella gen. nov.**

Small. Integument slightly pilose; face, marginal areas of the pronotum, meso- and metathorax and abdominal tergites weakly pitted. Head comparatively large. Antennae filiform, reaching almost the middle of the hind femur; segments up to four times as long as wide. Interocular distance slightly more than half the width of the base of the fastigium verticis. Occiput and vertex convex, interocular area strongly sloping. Fastigium verticis at a lower level and distinctly marked off from the interocular area of the vertex; in profile slightly sloping; from above roughly trapezoid, about twice as wide as long, in the middle slightly longitudinally sulcate, margins rounded and passing gradually over into the frontal ridge. Face, in profile, straight and rather reclinate, transversely convex. Frontal ridge between the antennae slightly projecting, not sulcate, and as wide as the apex of the fastigium verticis; at and below the median ocellus scarcely distinct and very weakly sulcate; near the clypeal margin indistinct. Lateral margins of the face distinct and divergent, but without a raised keel. Eyes ovoid, hemispherical, along the anterior and dorsal margins strongly prominent. Cheek below the eye, about one fourth of the vertical diameter of the eye. Mouthparts comparatively large.

Pronotum shorter and narrower than the head, cylindrical, without keels. Dorsum with the anterior margin rounded, the posterior margin widely concave. Four weak sulci, the second one present on the dorsum only. The fourth (typical) sulcus situated at  $\frac{4}{5}$  of the length of the middle of the dorsum. Distances between the anterior margin and the first sulcus, the first and second sulci, the third and fourth sulci, and the fourth sulcus and the posterior margin about equal; the distance between the second and third sulci being about half as long. Lateral lobe as long as high; lower margin with the lowest point at the level of the fourth sulcus, from here widely rounded posteriorly, and straight and directed obliquely upwards anteriorly; lower anterior angle straight and strongly slanting upwards anteriorly; lower posterior angle widely rounded, passing over into the posterior margin which is straight and vertical. Prosternal tubercle transverse, lamellate, apical margin damaged in the available specimen. Mesosternal lobes a little wider than long, inner margins strongly convex, interspace narrower than a lobe. Metasternal interspace small, triangular.

Elytron short, lateral, reaching the hind margin of the first abdominal tergite, two and half times as long as wide, anterior and posterior margins almost straight, both slightly diverging towards the truncate apex, where the elytron is the widest; surface strongly pitted, without distinct venation. Hind wing vestigial. Tympanum large, open, almost circular, anterior margin level with the body surface, the posterior margin slightly deeper.

Legs slender. Hind femur attenuate apically, outer side convex, keels almost smooth, the upper keel terminating apically into a small and obtuse point. Lower kneelobes triangular, not spined. Hind tibia with the margins obtuse, nine inner and seven outer spines, the apical outer and inner spines included. Hind tarsus just exceeding the middle of the hind tibia, the third segment slightly the longest, the first and second segments of equal length.

Abdominal tergites with a weak median keel, the sternites smooth.

♂. Hind margin of the last abdominal tergite straight, with a pair of well-separated, small and rounded furculae in the middle. Supra-anal plate roughly triangular, almost as long as wide; slightly impressed, at the base in the middle and near the apex laterally; apex narrowly parabolic. Cerci short, straight, triangular, compressed laterally, reaching just beyond the tip of the supra-anal plate. Subgenital plate short, conical, apex subacute.

♀. Unknown.

Type-species: *Magaella picta* spec. nov.

Preliminarily, the genus may be allocated in the subfamily Catantopinae (s.l.). *Magaella* comes near *Maga* I. Bolívar, 1918. It differs from the latter genus in smoother integument of head and thorax, less developed und sulcated frontal ridge, lateral facial keels not raised, fastigium verticis nearly not sulcated, and presence of furculae at the hind margin of the last abdominal tergite in the male. Differences with the genera *Paramaga* C. Willemse, 1933, *Bacuita* Strand, 1932, *Maculacris* C. Willemse, 1932, and others are more conspicuous.

***Magaella picta* spec. nov.**

(Fig. 1-8)

Material studied: 1 ♂ (holotype), labelled: P. Princesa Palawan Baker, 3832. Deposited in the collection of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia.

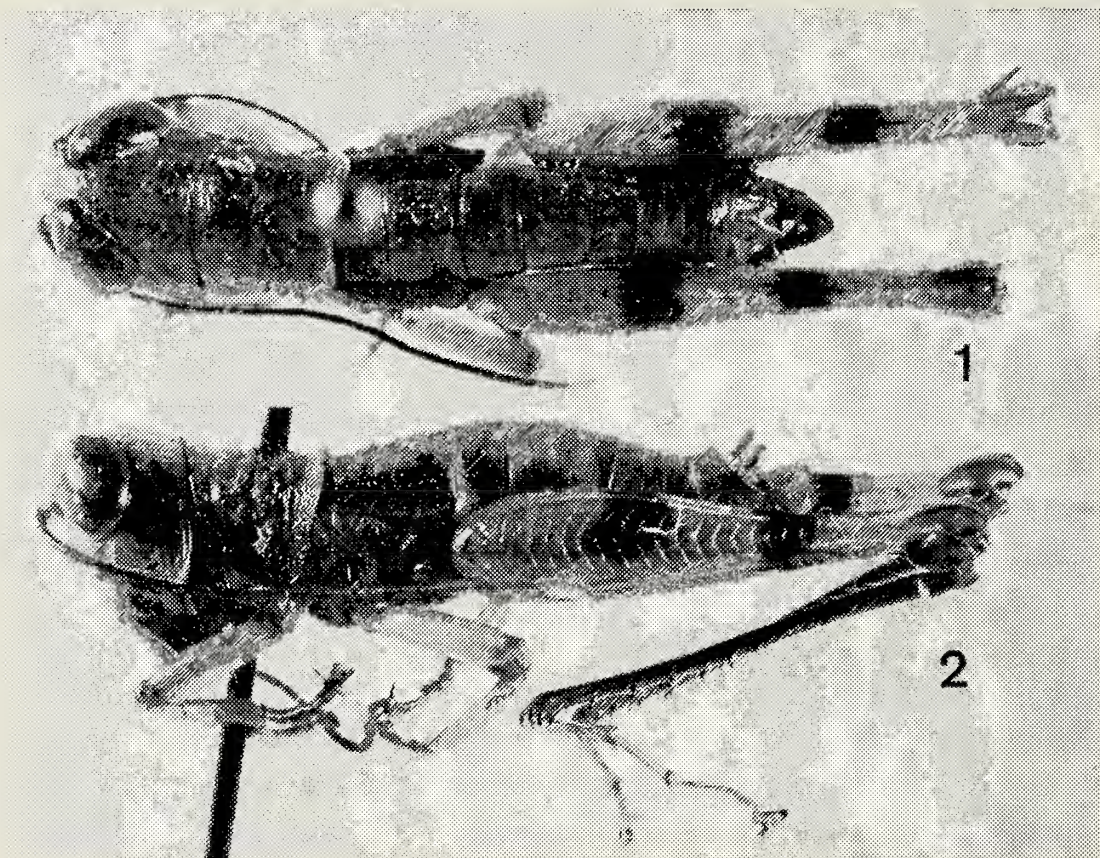


Fig. 1-2. *Magaella picta* gen. et spec. nov., male (holotype).

## Description

♂. External morphology as described above.

Phallic complex (abbreviations as used in Fig. 3-8, in parenthesis). Epiphallus (Eph) bridge-shaped, undivided, downcurved laterally, and, near the middle, with a pair of small, finger-shaped lophi, and short, incurved ancorae. Ectophallic membrane (Ectm) with a ventral sclerite (Scl) and a knob-like dorsal lobe, placed

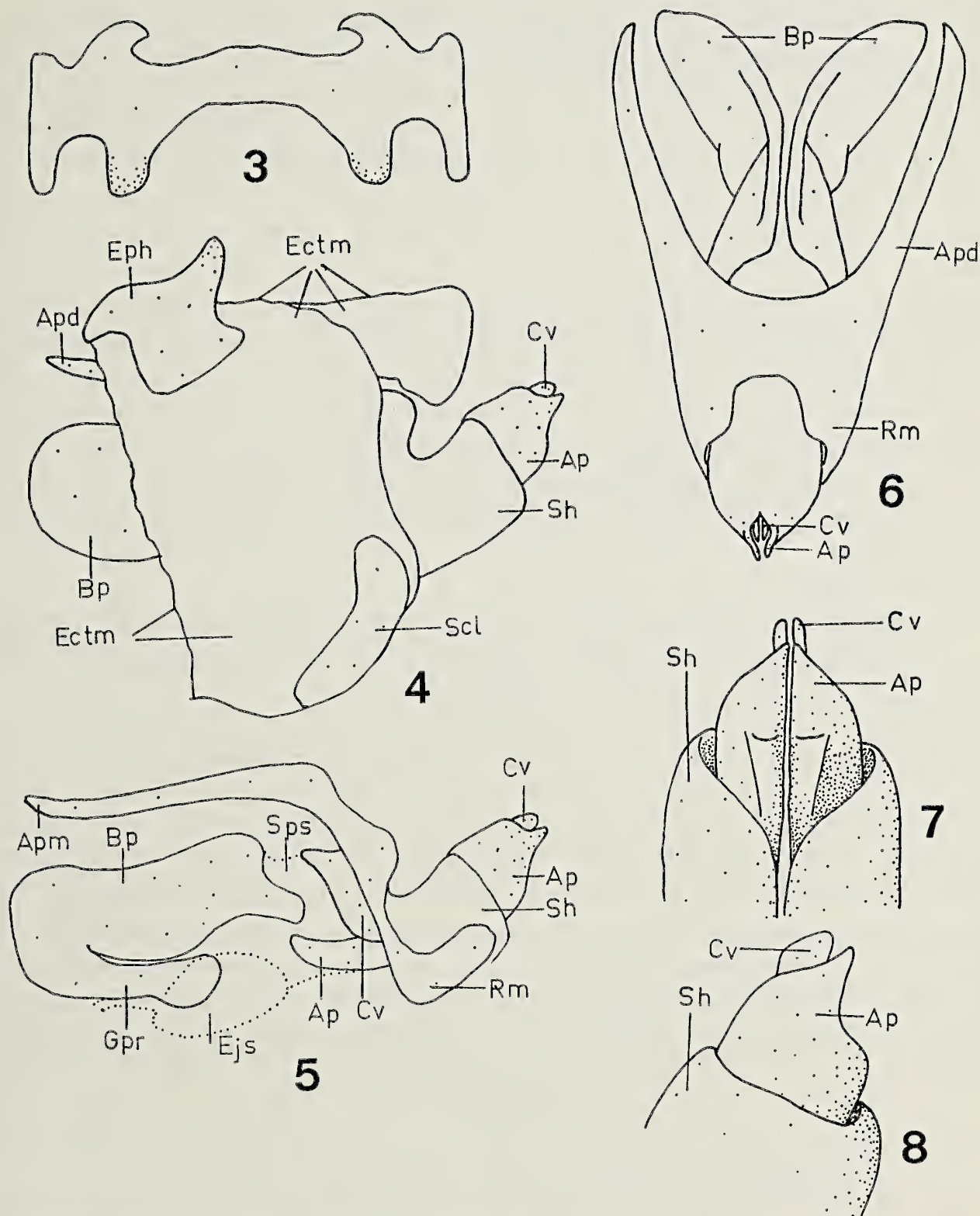


Fig. 3-8. Phallic complex of *Magaella picta* gen. et spec. nov., holotype (for abbreviations see description): 3, epiphallus, dorsal view; 4, phallic complex, lateral view; 5, the same, ectophallic membrane and epiphallus removed; 6, the same, dorsal view; 7, apex of phallus, ventro-posterior view; 8, the same, lateral view.

above the cingular zygoma. Cingulum with U-shaped zygoma (Zyg) and apodemes (Apd); cingular rami (Rm) narrow, strongly widening ventro-posteriorly and merging with the sheath of the penis (Sh). Below the zygoma, the arch and bridge of the cingulum, from which arises a pair of straight, dorso-posteriorly directed, cingular valves (Cv). Penis valves divided into a basal (Bp) and an apical (Ap) part; the basal part with a gonopore process (Gpr). Endophallic sacs (Ejs, Sps) as usual. Tip of the apical penis valves and the cingular valves enclosed basally by a collar-shaped sheath of penis, shape as in Fig. 7-8.

Colouration yellowish brown. Antennae brown in the middle, apical segments and the scape yellowish. Head of general colour, except for the apical part of the mandibles and a fascia behind the eye, which are blackish brown. Pronotum reddish, the lower third part of the lateral lobe black. Episternum and pleurae of general colour, except for the blackish lower part of the second episternum. Pro-, meso- and metasterna brown. Elytron blackish brown, the very anterior margin yellowish brown. Abdomen, fore and middle legs of general colour. Hind femur yellowish, with two blackish brown fasciae, the lower inner marginal area bluish black and the distal third part red. The proximal fascia is incomplete, placed where the basal third part of the hind femur passes over into the middle third one, and covering the dorsal side and the upper part of the outer side; on the latter directed ventro-anteriorly. The distal fascia is narrower but complete, and placed where the middle third part of the hind femur merges with the red distal third part. Hind knee pale blue, crescents red. Hind tibia bluish black, spines of similar colour with the tips black. Hind tarsus pale blue from above, pale brown from below.

♀. Unknown.

Measurements (length and width in mm) ♂ (holotype): l. of body 14.8; l. of pronotum 2.6; l. of elytron 2.4; w. of elytron 1.0; l. of hind femur 10.0; l. of hind tibia 8.9; l. hind tarsus 4.9; l. of antenna 11.3.

**Discussion.** As mentioned above, *Magaella* comes near *Maga*. Three species of the latter genus have been described, all from the Philippine Islands. I have before me two males of *Maga dichroa* I. Bolívar, 1918. They are labelled: Dagami, Leyte, Mt. Lobi 29.VII.1945, E. R. Helwig, and are deposited in the collection of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia. The phallic complex of the latter species is distinct from that in *Magaella picta* as follows: the lophi of the epiphallus are compressed transversely and extend more laterally, the cingular rami have latero-posterior expansions covering the lateral sides of the apex of phallus, a distinct sheath of penis is lacking and the apex of phallus is quite different.

### References

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