

SHORT COMMUNICATIONS

**GOMPHUS SCHMIDTI ASAHINA, 1956 VERSUS GOMPHUS CHANCAE
BARTENEV, 1956 (ANISOPTERA: GOMPHIDAE)**

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G. chancae Bartenev, 1956 is shown a junior synonym of *G. schmidti* Asahina, 1956. Figs from the original descriptions of the 2 taxa are included.

In 1956 I described a new *Gomphus* species, taken in North Manchuria, as cited below:

Gomphus schmidti ASAHINA, 1956

Kontyu 24(3): 155-156, pl. 13 figs 1-7 (♂ abd. pattern, acc. gen., app. caud.; ♀ thoracic & abd. pattern, occipital process, val. vulvae). "Holotype ♂: Fularki nr Tsitsihar (Lungkiang), West Manchuria, I-VII-1943; — Allotype ♀: the same locality & date; — Paratypes: 6 ♂, 13 ♀, Fularki; 1 ♂, 1 ♀, Harbin".

The publication date of this issue, as specified on the cover, was August 5, 1956.

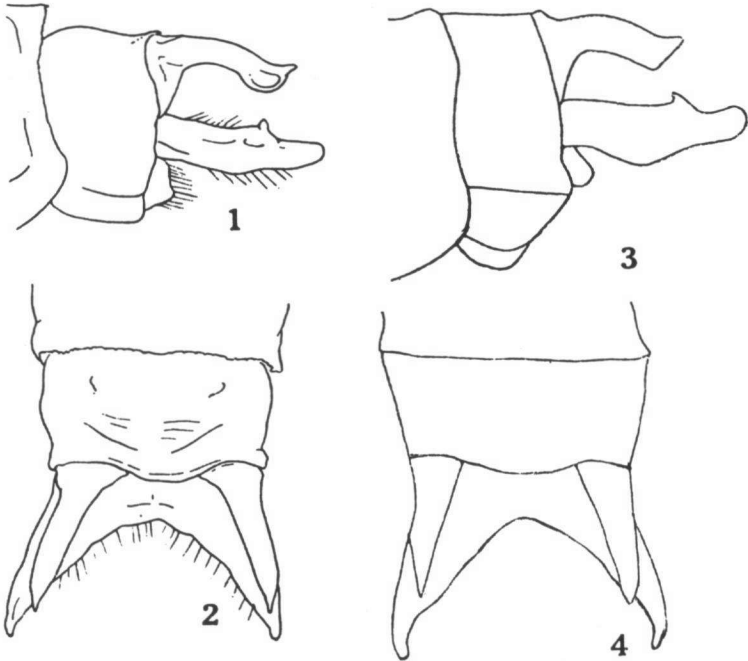
However, through the kindness of Dr B.F. Belyshev, I received, on April 30, 1957, a reprint of the late Dr A.N. Bartenev's publication, titled (in Russian): "Materialy po odonatologicheskoy faune (Insecta, Odonata) Dal'nego Vostoka" [= Materials on the odonate fauna (Insecta, Odonata) of the Far East], which has appeared in *Trudy dal'nevostochnoga Filiala Akademii Nauk Soyuzo SSR* (Zool.) 3(6): 201-238, Vladivostok, 1956.

In this posthumously published paper, the late Professor Bartenev (born: Nov. 12, 1882, deceased: July 16, 1946) described a new species as follows:

Gomphus chancae BARTENEV, 1956

Trudy dal'nevost. Fil. Akad. Nauk SSSR (Zool.) 3(6): 209-210, 229-230, fig. 1 ("chankae" [!]; ♂ app. caud., dorsal) fig. 2 ("chankae" [!]; app. caud., lateral), fig. 3 ("chankae" [!]; ♂ app. caud., ventral). "Hanka Lake, Astrahanka village, 22.VI.1932, ♂, semiadult".

Since the description and figures of both *schmidti* Asahina and *chancae* Bartenev are quite identical, I believe these are the same species (cf. Figs 1-4). In this case, however, according to Article 21 of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature, 3rd ed., p. 43, it is possible that Bartenev's description



Figs 1-4. Male caudal appendages: (1-2) *Gomphus schmidti* Asahina (from ASAHINA, 1956); — (3-4) *G. chancae* Bartenev (from BARTENEV, 1956).

falls under the case of "Date incomplete", or "Date not specified". Consequently, the date of publication of Bartenev's species may fall down to December 31, 1956!

In this connection, I have tried to clarify the actual publication date of the issue concerned. Professor B. Kiauta (S.I.O. Central Office, Bilthoven) has kindly cooperated in various ways.

The publications date is indicated neither on the cover of the journal, nor on the reprint. By checking the last page of the journal, Vol. 3, No. 6, we found that the manuscript of this issue was "assembled on 21.XII.1955" and it was "approved for printing on 13.VII.1956". Thus, the issue must have been printed and distributed after the latter date. As a rule, 23 days are too short to complete the printing, proof-reading and the mailing, therefore this issue could certainly not have been published before August 5, 1956. Through the cooperation of Mr S. Brooks (BMNH, London) it was ascertained that a copy of this issue arrived in the British Museum Library on January 24, 1958.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

In confirming this synonymic note my grateful acknowledgements are due to Professor B. KIAUTA and Mr STEPHEN BROOKS.

REFERENCES

- ASAHINA, S., 1956. A new *Gomphus* from Manchuria (Odonata, Gomphidae). *Kontyu* 24(3): 155-156, pl. 13 excl.
- BARTENEV, A.N., 1956. Materialy po odonatologicheskoy faune (Insecta, Odonata) Dal'nego Vostoka. *Trudy dal'nevost. Fil. Akad. Nauk SSSR (Zool.)* 3(6): 201-238. — [Russian].