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RHIPIDOLESTES BASTIAANI SPEC. NOV., A NEW DAMSELFLY FROM SHAANXI, CHINA (ZYGOPTERA: MEGAPODAGRIONIDAE)

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The new sp. is described and figured from 2 ♂ (holotype ♂: Zhen ping to Hua ping, Shaanxi, China, alt. 1200 m, 22-VII-1986; paratype ♂ from same locality and date. Deposited at Hanzhong Teachers' College, Hanzhong, Shaanxi, China).

INTRODUCTION

Eight species and 1 subspecies were listed for this genus in 1984 (DAVIES & TOBIN). In a very recent update and review of *Rhipidolestes* by WILSON (1997) 11 species are listed, including one new species described in that paper; there are also 2 subspecies of *R. aculeatus* in Japan and its offshore islands and Taiwan. The total is raised to 12 species by the new species we now describe from Shaanxi. The genus is restricted to Burma, through southern China to the E Asia coast and the offshore islands (HAMADA & INOUE, 1985). Our new species *R. bastiaani* is most closely related to *R. malaisei* Lieftinck from NE Burma (LIEFTINCK, 1948), the most westerly species known; the differences are mainly in the shapes of the baso-dorsal tubercle on segment 9 and of the anal appendages.

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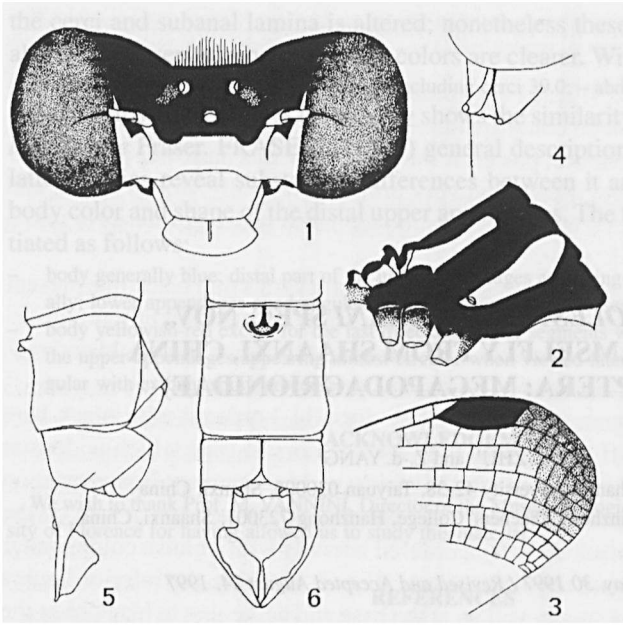
Figures 1-6

M a t e r i a l. – Holotype ♂ and paratype ♂, Zheng ping to Hua ping, Shaanxi, China, alt. 1200 m, 22-VII-1986; deposited at Hanzhong Teachers' College, Hanzhong, Shaanxi, China.



Figs 1-6. *Rhipidolestes bastiaani* sp. n., ♂, Shaanxi: (1): head; – (2) thorax, left lateral view; – (3) distal part of wing; – (4) base of abdominal segment 9, right dorsal view; – (5) segments 9 and 10 showing appendages, left view; – (6) same, dorsal view.

Etymology. – We name this species in honour of Professor Dr Bastiaan Kiauta, in recognition of his friendship.

MALE. – Head (Fig. 1). – Black, labium brownish-yellow, the entire anterior surface as far up as the basal segments of the antennae 'salmon'-pink, this colour prolonged up and along the eye margin. There is a pair of obscure oblique spots outside the ocellus.

Thorax (Fig. 2). – Black, marked with cream coloured stripes; prothorax bordered with a pair of complete dorso-lateral stripes; pterothorax with a pair of broader stripes, incomplete below and a streak along the upper portion of the lateral-ventral carina. Legs entirely salmon-orange, coxae brownish. Wings hyaline, tips beyond the pterostigma with a smoky-brown filling the apices. Pterostigma blackish-brown between black nervures, covering 3.5 cells (Fig. 3), postnodal index 26:24 / 23:22; (27:27 / 27:25 in paratype).

Abdomen. – Black, slightly shining metallic blue on basal segments; segment 9 with a small subrectangular basodorsal tubercle which is directed obliquely upward and backward with a 'V'-shaped apical incision forming two subconical blunt protuberances which are coloured yellowish interiorly (Fig. 4).

Anal appendages black, shaped as in Figures 5 and 6, inner lobes of superior appendages are directed obliquely downwards so as to form a triangle as seen from the lateral view; inferior appendages simple and rounded.

Measurements (in mm). – Total length including anal appendages 47, adomen 38, forewing 32 and hindwing 32.

DISCUSSION

R. bastiaani sp. n. is similar to *R. malaisei* Lieft., from which it differs as follows:

bastiaani	*malaisei*
– Vertex with an obscure oblique spot outside the ocelli (Fig. 1)	– No spot outside the ocelli
– Occiput without lustre	– Occiput with lustre
– Tubercle on segment 9 with V-shaped incision forming 2 protuberances (Fig. 4)	– Tubercle on segment 9 not incised
– Anal appendages (Figs 5, 6) superiors with inner lobes obliquely down to form triangle from lateral view	– Inner lobes of superiors level
– Inferiors simple and rounded	– Inferiors with 2 long, acute dorsal spines

Obvious are also differences in the superior caudal appendages, when compared with *R. janetae* Wilson, and *R. jucundus* Lieft. (cf. LIEFTINCK, 1948; WILSON, 1997).

The continental Chinese *R. apicatus* Navas, *R. nectans* (Needh.), *R. rubripes* (Navas) and *R. truncatidens* Schmidt have entirely dark faces (cf. LIEFTINCK, 1948), while *R. bastiaani* sp. n. has a 'salmon' coloured face. Obvious differences with the Taiwanese *R. aculeatus* Ris may include the conical projection on the dorsum of the 9th abdominal segment and the structure of the inferior appendages.

From a biogeographical standpoint, the record of a *Rhipidolestes* from such a northerly location is interesting. Shaanxi is far from the subtropics where most of the other congeners have been found, therefore the record of the new species is by far the most northerly for the genus.

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