

**NOTES ON TWO CHINESE AESHNID
SPECIMENS IN THE COLLECTION OF
THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA (ANISO-
PTERA)**

In September 1963 I had an opportunity to visit the University of Florida, Gainesville, and through the kind offices of Prof. M. Westfall, Jr. I was fortunate to borrow two Chinese aeshnid specimens from the collection of the Entomology Department for a closer examination. The printed title on the card in the envelope tells these specimens have come from the collection of the

California Academy of Sciences.

Anax n. nigrofasciatus Oguma

1 ♂ "Hangchow, China, V-25-23", "Presented by E.C. Van Dyke Collector"; "Anax nigrofasciata", "not send (?)".

In the 1960-s, *A. nigrofasciatus* from the Chinese area had been a rather problematical insect, very scarce in numbers, and with a very limited distribution (cf. J.D. NEEDHAM, 1930, *Zool. sin.* 1(1), 344+11 pp., 20 pls; S. ASAHINA, 1961, *Tombo* 4: 1-17; — 1962, *Jap. J. Zool.* 13: 249-255). Even after my recent revision (S. ASAHINA, 1983, *New Entomol.* 32: 1-6) the Chinese material was still rare, being restricted to the eastern provinces on the East China Sea. The present male specimen was taken from Hangchow, Chekiang Province, on the coast of Hangchow Bay, a noted sightseeing place. It is not known whether or not this specimen was checked by and included in NEEDHAM's 1930 Manual (cf. above). The specimen is well characterized by a number of morphological features (cf. ASAHINA, 1983, as above), and is definitely referable to the nominate form.

Aeschnophlebia anisoptera Selys

1 ♀ "Soochow, China, IV-28-23"; "Presented by E.C. Van Dyke Collector"; "Aeschnophlebia longistigma ♂".

Unfortunately, the apices of the superior appendages are broken. This is nothing but an *A. anisoptera* male, easily identified by its dark-striped body pattern. In NEEDHAM's Manual (1930, pp. 85-87; cf. above) only *A. longistigma* and "*A. kolthoffi* Sjöstedt" were included; the latter being, I believe, a synonym of the former. Under *A. longistigma* NEEDHAM mentioned (p. 86) "...two males collected in Nanking by E.C. Van Dyke (California Academy of Sciences)...". Consequently, the present specimen must be one of the two, since the label, bearing the erroneous identification, mentioned above, appears to be Needham's handwriting, although there is the problem that Van Dyke's label says that it was taken at Soochow which, however, is a well known sightseeing site near Nanking. Anyway, the present record of *A. anisoptera* seems to be the first of this species from Chinese territory.

We have in Japan both species, which breed in stagnant waters in lowland swamps and

ponds. The same is believed to be true in the mainland of China. During the recent economic development of Japan the habitats of the two species, in particular those of *A. anisoptera*, have been drastically destroyed by reclamation and heavy pesticide application. We suppose the same may have happened in China, so we are afraid the presence of the two species in China will be greatly affected by the same reason.

Sincere thanks are expressed to Professor M.J. WESTFALL, Jr, who has generously allowed me to keep the two valuable specimens.

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