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NEW RECORDS OF ODONATA FROM VIETNAM

In spring 2003, the authors travelled jointly to several sites in northern Vietnam for the purpose of collecting Odonata. Thereafter the second author has surveyed dragonflies also in other parts of Vietnam, e.g. in "Cat Tien National Park" in Dong Nai province in the South. Our material includes seven species not previously recorded from Vietnam. These taxa are listed below.

Based on a literature survey, S. TSUDA (2000, *A distributional list of world Odonata*, Tsuda, Osaka) enumerated ca 200 odonate species from Vietnam. However, the list includes a few obvious misidentifications, part of them properly marked with a question mark. Several recorded Vietnamese species, e.g. *Dysphaea gloriosa* Fraser (see S. ASAHINA, 1969, *Jap. J. Zool.* 16[1]: 1-18, pl. 1 excl.) etc., are missing from Tsuda's list. M. HÄMÄLÄINEN (2004, *Int. J. Odonatol.* 7[2]: 295-304) noted that at least 10 more species have been added to the regional faunal list after the year 2000, including several new species. He also presented a brief history of odonate research in Vietnam and estimated that in the future the total number of Vietnamese odonate species will exceed 250. Our list below shows that even common and widely distributed SE Asian species have remained unrecorded in Vietnam. Further surveys will undoubtedly reveal many more of them, in addition to new and rare species.

- *Prodasineura coerulescens* (Fraser) – 1 ♂, 14-V-2003, Cat Tien National Park, Dong Nai prov. – This small damselfly was found at a very clean stream in the primary forest. A rare species, earlier known only from Thailand.
- *Agriocnemis pygmaea* (Rambur) – 1 ♂, 9-IV-2003, Hanoi city. – It was found at the shore of a polluted pond in the city, together with its congener *A. f. femina*. Common species in the East Asian region. We suppose that it is widely distributed in Vietnam.
- *Ceriatagrion azureum* (Selys) – 3 ♂, 14-IV-2003, Pa Khoang, East of Dien Bien Phu, Lai Chau prov. – The specimens were found at a rice field. "Pa Khoang" is an interesting sub-montane area, consisting of a small village around a big artificial dam, with many rice fields and a clear stream, where many common lowland Odonata, including several species of Gomphidae, were observed.
- *Epophthalmia e. elegans* (Brauer) – 3 ♂, 14-IV-2003, Pa Khoang, East of Dien Bien Phu, Lai Chau prov.; 1 ♂, 15-IV-2003, Dien Bien Phu, Lai Chau prov. – Recently recorded by N. YOKOI (2000, *Gekkan-Mushi* 356: 18-22) from Laos, for the first time from the Indochina peninsula. Due to the establishment of large dams, this species might begin advancing to the southern countries. In Pa Khoang we caught the specimens around the big artificial dam and at slowly moving running water nearby; in Dien Bien Phu city a specimen was found at a polluted pond. With this species *Ictinogomphus pertinax* and *Pseudothemis zonata* could be found.
- *Acisoma p. panorpoides* Rambur – 3 ♂, 14-IV-2003, Pa Khoang, East of Dien Bien Phu, Lai Chau prov. – The specimens were found at a shallow marsh, along with *Copera ciliata* and *Ischnura rufostigma*. Common species in South East Asia.
- *Hylaeothemis clementia* Ris – 1 ♂, 2 ♀, 14-IV-2003, Pa Khoang, East of Dien Bien Phu, Lai Chau prov. – The habitat was at the edge of a humid and dark secondary forest,

mixed with cultivated *Musa* sp. The ground was muddy and covered with short weeds, where a small clear water runs by. Both tender and mature specimens were seen at the same site. A mature female was found at a dry open field a some distance away. *H. clementia* is a rare and local libellulid. So far, only few specimens have been reported from Borneo Island, Thailand, and Laos.

— *Tetrathemis irregularis hyalina* Kirby — 1 ♂, 14-V-2003, Cat Tien National Park, Dong Nai

prov. — This is a beautiful, small libellulid dragonfly, inhabitant of primary and secondary forests with bamboo trees. In Cat Tien National Park, they flew slowly and could be found perching on small aquatic plants under bamboo branches in the dry season.

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