

**A new species of the genus *Phytocoris*
(Hemiptera: Heteroptera: Miridae)
from southern Iran**

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Abstract. A new species of the family Miridae, *Phytocoris* (*Compsocerochoris*) *stysi* sp. nov., is described from the Khuzestan province in southern Iran.

Key words. Heteroptera, Miridae, Mirinae, *Phytocoris*, taxonomy, Iran

Introduction

Phytocoris Fallén, 1814, is one of the most speciose genera of the family Miridae. In the fauna of Iran, *Phytocoris* is represented by six subgenera and 52 species, 39 of which are endemic (KERZHNER & JOSIFOV 1999; HEISS & LINNAVUORI 2002; LINNAVUORI 1999, 2000a,b, 2006, 2007; LINNAVUORI & MODARRES 1999). In this paper, I describe an additional species, *Phytocoris* (*Compsocerochoris*) *stysi* sp. nov., found in the Khuzestan province in southern Iran. It is the tenth representative of the subgenus *Compsocerochoris* Reuter, 1876, in the Iranian fauna (LINNAVUORI 1999, 2006).

Taxonomy

***Phytocoris* (*Compsocerochoris*) *stysi* sp. nov.**

(Figs. 1-2)

Type material. HOLOTYPE: ♂, IRAN: KHUZESTAN: near Lali, 6.-8.v.2007, R. Linnavuori lgt. PARATYPES: 4 ♂♂ 1 ♀, the same data as holotype; 1 ♂ 1 ♀, Zeydoon, 26.-28.iv.2007, R. Linnavuori lgt. All types are currently deposited in the collection of R. E. Linnavuori, Raisio, Finland. The holotype will be deposited in the National Museums and Galleries of Wales, Cardiff, Great Britain.

Description. Both sexes macropterous; body parallel-sided; total length 6.0-6.5 mm.

Colouration. Yellow ochraceous with abundant brownish pattern. Basal margin of vertex, longitudinal median stripe and lateral arcs on frons reddish, median basal spot on tylus and spots on genae and lora blackish brown; eyes greyish. Antennal segment 1 whitish yellow

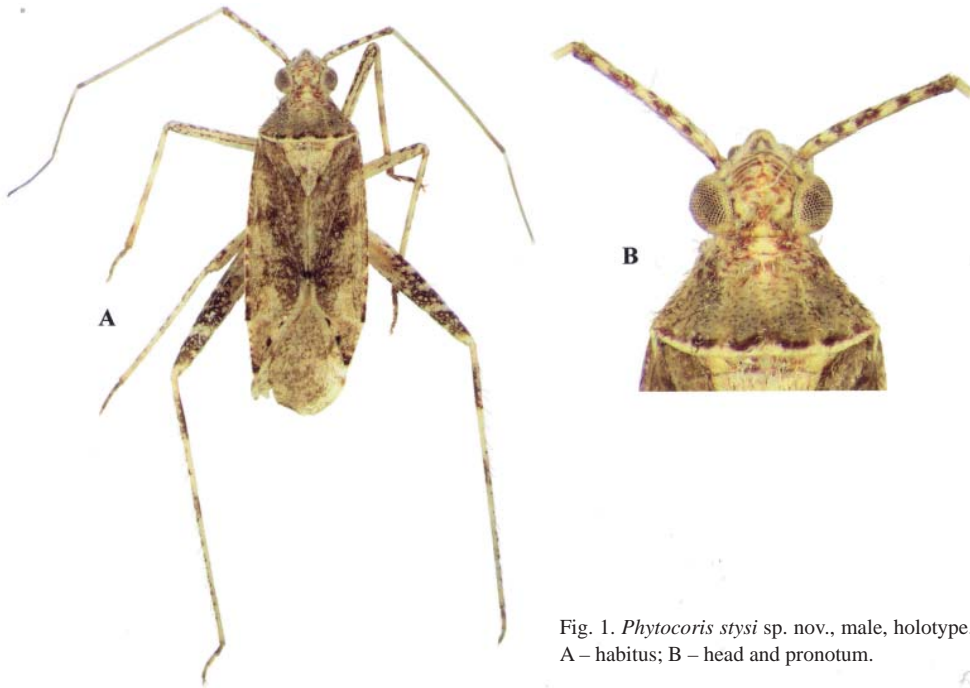


Fig. 1. *Phytocoris stysi* sp. nov., male, holotype. A – habitus; B – head and pronotum.

with abundant blackish-brown spotting, segment 2 yellowish with pale base and dark extreme apex, other segments dark brown, base of segment 3 whitish. Collar of pronotum with sublateral reddish spots, disk yellow ochraceous, basal margin whitish yellow, bordered with undulating, broken dark brown band. Apex and middle of scutellum with indistinct brownish irroration. Clavus and corium with more or less distinct dark brown irroration, costal margin with numerous dark brown spots; apex and two spots at inner margin of cuneus blackish brown; membrane whitish with brown irroration, veins pale. Propleura with short upper and large lower dark brown band with reddish tinge; mesopleura and mesosternum largely blackish. Venter laterally more or less darkened. Fore femora with abundant blackish mottling, tibiae with two dark brown rings. Middle femora and tibiae with minute dark mottling. Apical part of hind femora dark brown with pale mottling, tibiae with more or less distinct dark rings near base and middle. Tarsi brownish.

Vestiture. Upper surface with short appressed black pubescence and somewhat longer pale hairs. Antennal segment 1 with a few semierect pale spines and dark appressed hair covering; hair covering of other segments very short, appressed and pale. Tibial spines pale.

Structure. Body about 3.7 times as long as broad at base of pronotum. Head about 0.65 times as broad as base of pronotum, in lateral view (Fig. 2A) about as high as long with shallow notch between frons and base of tylus, in apical view about 1.1 times as broad as high; ocular index 1.25-1.35 (male) or 1.5 (female). Proportions between antennal segments equal to 32 : 65 : 37 : 25 (male) or 35 : 70 : 40 : ? (female); 1st segment 1.15-1.33 (male) or 1.34

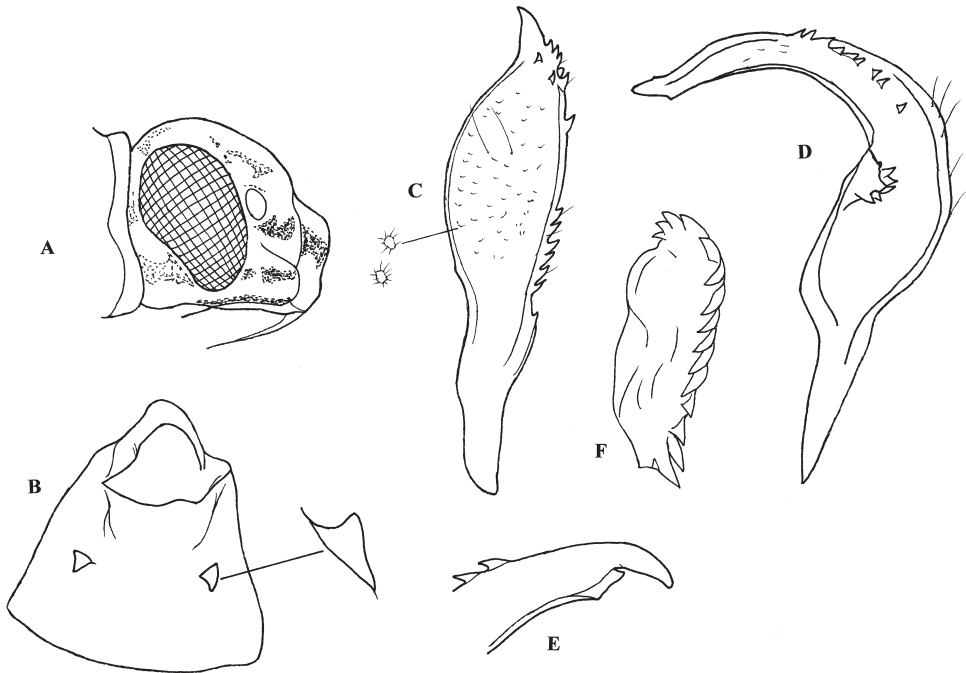


Fig. 2. *Phytocoris stysi* sp. nov. A – male head in lateral view; B – pygophore in dorsal view; C – right style (slide mount); D – left style (slide mount); E – apex of hypophysis of left style (dry mount); F – spiculum (slide mount).

(female) times as long as diatone; 2nd segment 2.50-2.65 (male) or 2.7 (female) times as long as diatone and 1.62-1.81 (male) or 1.75 (female) times as long as basal width of pronotum. Rostrum extending to base of venter. Pronotum in both sexes 1.8-2.0 times as broad basally as long in middle, lateral margins of pronotum shallowly insinuated.

Male genitalia (Fig. 2). Dorsal surface of pygophore with two triangular processes distinctly caudad of base of genital opening. Right style dentate. Left style with small dentate sensory lobe, hypophysis long and slender, dentate. Spiculum with 15 teeth.

Differential diagnosis. The new species belongs to the *amygdali* species-group of the subgenus *Compsocerochoris*, recognized by the shape of the left style with a small rounded sensory lobe and the broadly curved and slender hypophysis. *Phytocoris stysi* sp. nov. is easily distinguished from the remaining species of the group, *P. amygdali* Linnavuori, 1999, and *P. mirzanus* Linnavuori, 2006, by the male genitalia and larger eyes (ocular indices: *P. amygdali* 1.40-1.52 (male) or 1.53-1.74 (female); *P. mirzanus* 1.93-2.14 (male); see LINNAVUORI 1999, 2006).

Etymology. The new species is dedicated to Prof. Pavel Štys for his excellent work on the taxonomy of the Heteroptera.

Bionomics. The species was collected at light in river valleys and closely located hills with deciduous trees and gardens.

Distribution. Southern Iran, Khuzestan province.

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