

A NEW SPECIES OF GENUS *TRUXALIS* FABR. (ACRIDINAE: ACRIDIDAE: ORTHOPTERA) FROM SAUDI ARABIA

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Abstract

Truxalis mazharulhaqi is described as a new species from Saudi Arabia

Key words: Orthoptera, Saudi Arabia, new species.

Introduction

Twenty one species & subspecies were described in the genus *Truxalis* Fabr. by Dirsh (1950). *Truxalis obesa* was added by Bei Bienko (1960) from Iran. The addition of *T. mazharulhaqi* makes a total of 23 species in this genus.

The genus *Truxalis* belongs to subfamily Truxalinae. This subfamily has been very recently synonymized by Jago (1996) under the subfamily Acridinae with this change this new species is described under the subfamily Acridinae.

Truxalis mazharulhaqi, new species

Diagnosis

Closely related to *Truxalis longicornis* (Krauss) but 5mm smaller in size. In *T. longicornis* lateral carinae of pronotum incurved in prozona, the ancorae of epiphallus are very slightly curved and hind wing basally red in colour. In this new species lateral carinae of pronotum in prozona sinuate and parallel, the ancorae of epiphallus are sharply incurved and hind wing basally orange in colour.

Description of holotype male

Of medium size and moderately robust. Antennae little widened, 18 segments, distinctly longer than head and pronotum together. Fastigium of vertex (Fig.1,a), with incurved lateral margins and

narrowed to the apex. Lateral carinae of pronotum (Fig.1,b), in prozona sinuate and parallel; in metazona excurved and divergent. Prozona subcylindrical, metazona slightly raised and almost flat, its posterior margin strongly acuteangulate with incurved sides. Ratio of metazona to prozona 1.4. Mesosternal inter space broad, slightly less than half again as long as broad, with almost straight scarcely incurved sides. Metasternal interspace as long as broad. Tegmina comparatively broad, moderately projecting beyond the hind knee; apex rounded; ratio of length to width 6.1. Hind femur long projecting beyond the apex of abdomen. Hind knee with moderately long and acute lateral lobes, upper lobe relatively longer than lower one. Arolium narrow about half the length of claw. Subgenital plate in profile, short with short sub acute apex and large projection above.

Epiphallus (Fig.1, c), with narrow bridge, ancorae sharply curved inwards and bilobate lophi. The posterior lobe of lophus longer than anterior lobe of the lophus.

General coloration

Brownish. Lateral sides of head with dark brown stripes. Lateral carinae of pronotum light, with a dark broad stripe along the internal side, basal disc of wing orange.

Hind femur above with three dark spots;
hind tibia with light ring in the basal part.

Measurements (mm)

Antennal length 17 . 25
Frons length 9 . 1
Pronotal length 27 . 75
Hind femur length 21 . 75
Total length 30 . 1

Material examined: Saudi Arabia, 1 male
holotype Makka, 26. ii. 2002. (M.S. Wagan)

Female unknown

Etymology

This new species is named in the
honour of Mr. Mazharul Haq Siddiqui,
Vice Chancellor, University of Sindh for
his great contribution to the promotion of
Scientific Research at University of Sindh.

Repository

The type material is deposited in the
Museum, Department of Zoology,
University of Sindh, Jamshoro.

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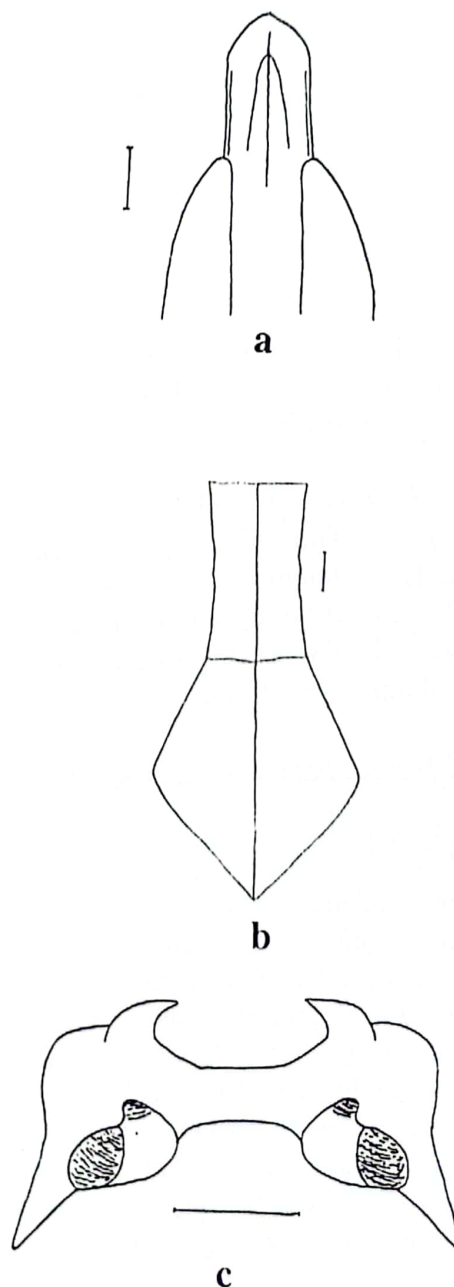


**Fig . 1. *Truxalis mazharulhaqi* new
species, male holotype**

**(a) fastigium of vertex (b) pronotum
(c) ephiphallus
scale line 1mm**