

**A new genus and species of Chilacorini
(Coleoptera : Coccinellidae) from Pakistan***

By RAFIQ AHMAD AND M. A. GHANI

Pakistan Station, Commonwealth Institute of Biological Control, Rawalpindi

SYNOPSIS

A new genus of Chilacorini is erected for one new species described from males and females taken in West Pakistan.

THE new species described in this paper was collected from Shogran in the Kaghan Valley, West Pakistan. It was identified as belonging to the Chilacorini by the Commonwealth Institute of Entomology, London, and Dr. E. A. Chapin of the United States Department of Agriculture subsequently determined it to be a new species either in the genus *Chilocorus* (if reduction in the number of antennal segments of the species is accounted for by assuming the union of the third and fourth segments in *Chilocorus*) or in an undescribed genus closely related to *Chilocorus*. In the opinion of the authors, such characters as the seven-segmented antennae (which are unlike those of *Chilocorus*) and the form of the tarsal claw (which differs from that of all other genera of the tribe) are of generic significance. A new genus is therefore erected for this species.

Simmondsius gen. n.

Referable to the tribe Chilacorini. Body elongate-oval; convex. Head transverse, subquad-rangular; antennae short, 7-segmented, fourth to seventh segments forming a somewhat fusiform club; maxillary palp 4-segmented, second segment longer than first and somewhat club-shaped, terminal segment oblong and obliquely truncate. Pronotum pubescent toward sides, nearly twice as broad as long in the middle, explanate, second marginal line laterally on the base indistinct. Scutellum small and triangular. Elytra convex, wider than pronotum, somewhat rounded at the shoulders; epipleura concave, wide in the basal half. Legs moderately long, tibiae obtusely dentate externally, tarsal claws somewhat falciform. Abdomen with 5 visible sternites. *Male genitalia*: aedeagus symmetrical.

The genus comes close to *Chilocorus* Leach, but differs mainly in the number of antennal segments, shape of the pronotum and form of the tarsal claws.

Type species: *Simmondsius pakistanensis* sp. n.

Simmondsius pakistanensis sp. n. (fig. 1, A-N)

Body elongate-oval; strongly convex. Length 3.6-4.5 mm., breadth 2.9-3.2 mm. Colour greenish-blue with metallic lustre. Head with eyes nearly twice as broad as median length, beset with fine and minute pubescence, almost flat between eyes; eyes black and finely faceted; antenna 0.39-0.42 mm. in length, first segment about twice as long as broad, second segment slightly longer than broad, third segment club-shaped, fourth to seventh segments forming a fusiform club with greatest width at sixth segment; maxillary palp with basal segment small, second segment somewhat club-shaped, terminal segment about twice as long as penultimate. Pronotum almost twice as broad as median length (74 : 38), convex, broadest at anterior angles; shallowly punctured, punctures variable in size, very much smaller than eye facets, each bearing a small fine seta. Prosternum without carinae. Scutellum triangular, slightly broader than long (75 : 66). Elytra convex, broadest at about middle, slightly shorter in length than their greatest combined breadth (53 : 55), slightly narrowed from broadest points to bases, elliptically narrowed from broadest points to apices, greatest height at about greatest breadth; elytral punctures deeper and larger than those of pronotum, but

* This research has been financed in part by a grant made by the United States Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service.

Proc. R. ent. Soc. Lond (B). 35 (1-2). Pp. 9-10, 1 fig. 1966.

smaller than eye facets, more or less evenly distributed, separated by about 3 or more times their own diameter. Metasternum almost as long in mid-line as first abdominal segment. Tarsal claw somewhat falciform, with basal portion broad. Thoracic sternites shining black and abdominal sternites brown.

Male genitalia.—Median lobe fairly wide at the base, gradually tapering to a pointed apex; parameres about as long as median lobe, each provided with over 60 setae of variable length; trapes well developed, a little more than twice as long as median lobe. Siphon fairly stout, moderately long, strongly curved near siphonal capsule, apically somewhat truncate.

Female genitalia.—Receptaculum seminis with appendiculate cornu; sperm duct moderately long.

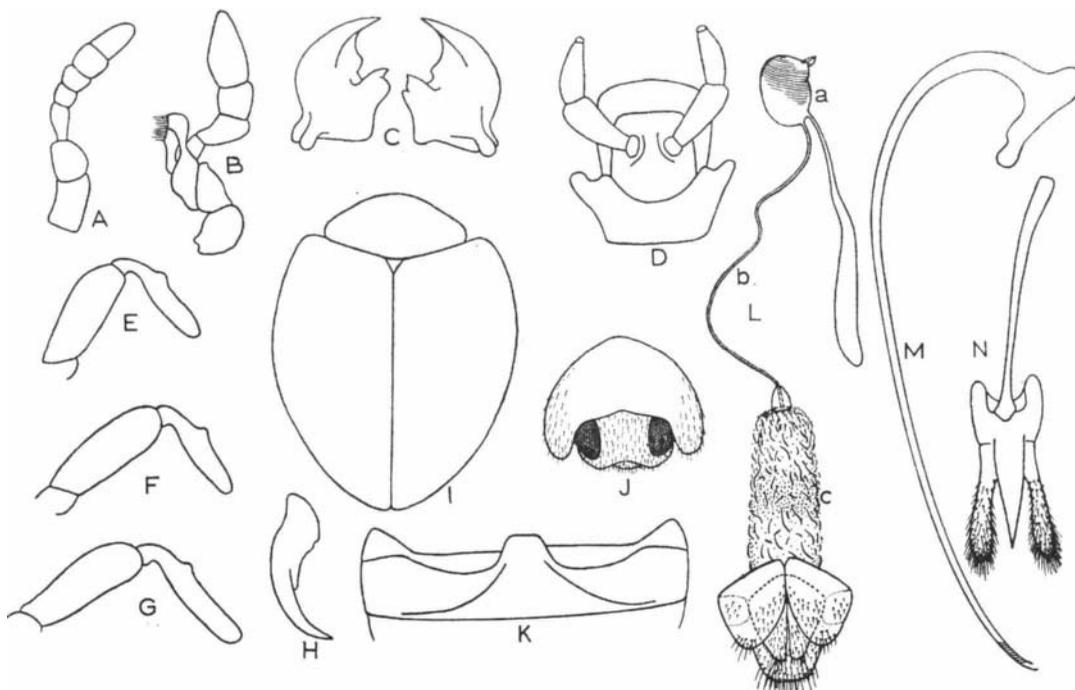


FIG. 1.—*Simmondsius pakistanensis* sp. n. (A) antenna; (B) maxilla; (C) mandibles; (D) labium; (E, F, G) fore, middle and hind legs, showing toothed tibiae; (H) tarsal claw; (I) outline of the beetle; (J) head and prothorax, anterior view; (K) first abdominal sternite, showing coxal arcs; (L) female genitalia (a, receptaculum seminis; b sperm duct; c, bursa copulatrix); (M, N) male genitalia: (M) siphon and (N) tegmen.

Holotype ♂, WEST PAKISTAN: Kaghan Valley, Shogran, 7800 feet, 34° 38' N., 73° 27' E., feeding on *Parlatoria oleae* (Colvee) on *Pinus excelsa*, 5.vi.1964; in the United States National Museum, Washington, D.C.

Paratypes: 1 ♂, 2 ♀ (one the allotype), same data as holotype, in the United States National Museum; 1 ♂, 1 ♀, same data as holotype, in the British Museum (Nat. Hist.), London.

The valuable help rendered by Dr. E. A. Chapin, United States Department of Agriculture, West Medway, Mass., U.S.A., Mr. R. D. Pope, British Museum (Natural History), London and Mr. E. O. Pearson, Director, Commonwealth Institute of Entomology, London, in making these descriptions is gratefully acknowledged.