

A new *Scirtetellus* species from the Karakoram Mts., Pakistan (Heteroptera: Miridae)

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Scirtetellus petrovi sp. n. (Heteroptera: Miridae) is described from the material collected in the Karakoram Mts., Pakistan, during the Bulgarian alpine expedition to Broad Peak in 2001.

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The genus *Scirtetellus* Reuter comprises 15 species from the high mountains of the Caucasus, Tien Shan, Pamirs, Karakoram, Dzhungarsk Alatau, Tarbagatai, Mongol and Gobi Altai (Medvedeva, 1975; Kerzhner & Josifov, 1999; Drapolyuk & Kerzhner, 1999). No species of this genus were recorded from Pakistan previously. A new species is represented in the material collected by Bulgarian arachnologist Boyan Petrov during the Bulgarian alpine expedition to Broad Peak, Karakoram Mts, in 2001. The specimens are kept at the National Museum of Natural History, Sofia, except for 2 paratypes (1 ♂ and 1 ♀) deposited at the Zoological Institute, Russian Academy of Sciences, St.Petersburg.

Scirtetellus petrovi sp. n. (Figs 1-6)

Holotype. ♂, **Pakistan**, *Baltistan Prov.*, Karakoram Mts., Godwin Austen Glacier, 4900 m, Broad Peak base camp, under stones on the glacier, 14.VII.2001, leg. B. Petrov.

Paratypes. **Pakistan**, *Baltistan Prov.*: 2 ♂, 3 ♀, as holotype; 3 ♂, 3 ♀, Karakoram Mts., 5050 m, East Face of Angel Peak (near K2 Peak), under stones near vegetation, 7.VII.2001, leg. B. Petrov.

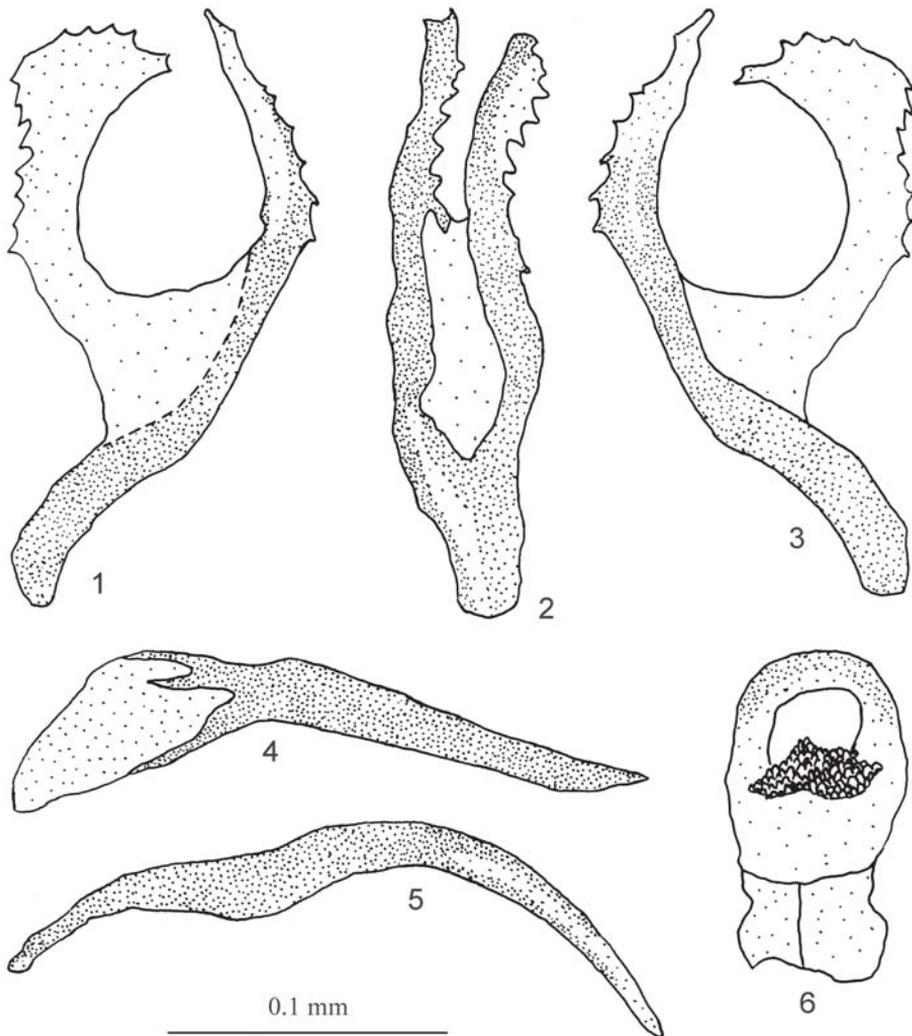
Description. Head black, slightly lucent to matt (except for the noticeably more shining clypeus), broader than long, covered with thin, adpressed, fine hairs. Two spots on inner side of eyes in males, median stripe on frons, lateral margins of clypeus, spots on mandibular and maxillary plates, and stripes around eyes in females yellow or brownish yellow. Antennae black. Second antennal segment very slightly thickened to apex. In males, fourth antennal segment dark brown. In females, second and fourth antennal segment brown. Rostrum reaching to or beyond

the apex of hind coxae. A fine stripe in lower part of bucculae yellow. In males, second and third segment of rostrum brown; in females, first, second and third segments yellow.

Body black and matt, with short silvery hairs like on the head. In males, dorsum shining. Fine lateral stripe on connexivum in pale males, two stripes on inner side of calli, spots medially distributed from basal corners of scutellum, anterior margin of fore wings, spots on propleuron, mesepisternum, mesepimeron and metepisternum, two medial rows of spots on dorsal side of abdomen and lateroproximal spots on connexivum in females brownish yellow. In females, ventral side of abdomen dark brown. Legs black. In males, dorsoapical end of fore and middle femur and sometimes tip of hind one, apical half or entire tibia, tip of coxa and trochanter yellowish brown to dark brown. In females, apical end of femur, tip of coxa and trochanter, and entire tibia, except for its tip and base, yellowish brown. First antennal segment and tibiae with black bristles. Antennae and legs with short black hairs. Males without concavity above genital orifice. Aedeagus with curved spicula and toothed plate of complex shape (Figs 1-5).

Measurements (in mm). Width: head: male 0.85-0.9, female 0.93-1; vertex male 0.4, female 0.45; pronotum male 0.8-0.88, female 0.9-0.95. Length: body: male 2.2-2.35, female 2.7-3.2; pronotum: male 0.4-0.45, female 0.45; antennal segments (I-IV): male 0.4, 0.9-0.98, 0.45, 0.5, female 0.43, 0.9-0.98, 0.4-0.45, 0.48-0.5.

Comparison. The new species is similar in the armament of the aedeagus to *S. micans* Medvedeva and *S. mongolicus* Drapolyuk & Kerzhner, but differs from both in the shape of the toothed plate. In addition, *S. micans* is distinctly smaller (male 1.8-2.1, female 2.6-2.9 mm).



Figs 1-6. *Scirtetellus petrovi* sp. n., armament of aedeagus: **1-3**, plate, various views; **4-5**, curved spicula, various views; **6**, secondary gonopore.

Etymology. The new species is named after Bulgarian arachnologist Boyan Petrov who collected the material.

Note on the distribution. It is not improbable that the record of *S. brevipennis* Reuter from Kashmir (Lindberg, 1939) refers to *S. petrovi* sp. n.

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