ON THE IDENTITY AND SYSTEMATIC POSITION
OF HYSTEROPTERUM PICTIFRONS MELICHAR, 1906
(HOMOPTERA: CICADINA, ISSIDAE)

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INTRODUCTION

Up to now the species name Hysteropterum pictifrons MELICHAR, 1906 was applied incorrectly to Tautoprosopa transscaspia EMELJANOV, 1978 (LINNAVUORI 1952, DLABOLA 1979). In course of the present study the type specimens of H. pictifrons were examined. According to its external characters and structure of genitalia, this species should be placed in the genus Bubastia EMELJANOV, 1975. The genus Verticisium DLABOLA, 1979 is placed in synonymy with the genus Tautoprosopa EMELJANOV, 1978.

This study is based on specimens deposited in the following collections: HNHM – Hungarian Natural History Museum, Budapest, Hungary; ZIN – Zoological Institute, Russian Academy of Sciences, St. Petersburg, Russia.

Bubastia pictifrons (MELICHAR, 1906), comb. n.
(Figs 1–8)

Hysteropterum pictifrons MELICHAR, 1906: 140 (non LINNAVUORI, 1952; DLABOLA, 1979, 1982).
Bubastia kulikiana LOGVINENKO, 1977: 63–64, Fig. 3, syn. n.


Hungarian Natural History Museum, Budapest


Description. Coryphe transverse, its anterior margin straight, hind margin concave. Metope with median and sublateral keels. Median keel continued on clypeus. Sublateral keels weakened in distal part of metope. Fore wings without hypocostal lobe; R bifurcate; M trifurcate; CuA not branched. Hind wings vestigial. Hind tibia with 2 lateral teeth; its apex with 8–10 setae. First segment of hind tarsus with 4 apical setae.

General coloration yellowish brown. Dark brown stripes and spots sometimes present on fore wings and legs.


Body length. Male: 3.1–3.4 mm; female: 3.4–3.8 mm.

Distribution. S Armenia and E Turkey (Kulp).

Comparison. Based on the structure of the male genitalia, B. pictifrons is closely related to B. midica LOGVINENKO, 1975 from the Nakhichevan Republic and other regions of Azerbaijan, and to B. karabachica LOGVINENKO, 1975 from the Karabakh Range in Azerbaijan (LOGVINENKO 1975). The synonymy of B. kulikiana LOGVINENKO, 1977, described from environs of Yerevan, is based on examination of the original description.

Discussion. MELICHAR (1906: 140) described Hysteropterum pictifrons from Armenia and stated that a pair of specimens is deposited in the Hungarian Natural History Museum. For the first time H. pictifrons was used by HORVÁTH (1899) as nomen nudum for specimens collected in Kulp (Turkey). Probably, HORVÁTH gave the material of the new species from Kulp to MELICHAR for description and MELICHAR retained the species name proposed by HORVÁTH in 1899. MELICHAR described the coloration of fore wings as follows: “Deckflügel beim bräunlichgelb, beim häufig mit schwarzer Zeichnung”. The use of the word “häufig” [often] shows that he examined at least 3 females, and in fact, of the 3 females from HNHM two have a black pattern. I suspect therefore that the material examined by MELICHAR comprised 3 pairs (not one), which corresponds to the number of specimens in HNHM. I consider all 6 specimens deposited in Budapest as type specimens of H. pictifrons.
Figs 1–8. *Bubastia pictifrons* (MELIČHAR), male (lectotype) and female (paralectotype): 1 = male head (ventral view), 2 = male head (dorsal view), 3 = penis (ventral view), 4 = penis (lateral view), 5 = male anal tube (dorsal view), 6 = male anal tube (lateral view), 7 = female anal tube (dorsal view), 8 = stylus (ventral view)


Type species now fixed (under Article 70.3 of the Code) as *Tautoprosopa transcaspia* EMELJANOV, 1978, misidentified as *Hysteropterum pictifrons* MELICHAR, 1906 in the original designation by DLABOLA (1979).

Comparison of the type material of *Tautoprosopa transcaspia* EMELJANOV, 1978 with the description and figures in the paper by DLABOLA (1979) shows that DLABOLA had to do with this species, and not with *Hysteropterum pictifrons* MELICHAR, 1906.

**Tautoprosopa transcaspia** EMELJANOV, 1978

*Brachyprosopa* (Tautoprosopa) transcaspia EMELJANOV, 1978: 332, Fig. 33.

*Hysteropterum pictifrons* (non MELICHAR, 1906): LINNAVUORI, 1952: 191, Fig. 4, F-J.


**Material examined.** ZIN: male (holotype); 9 males and 3 females (paratypes).

**Distribution.** SW Kazakhstan, W Turkmenia, N Iran (Mazandaran).

**Discussion.** LINNAVUORI (1952) based on examination of material from “Transcaspia” misidentified *T. transcaspia* EM as *H. pictifrons* MEL. DLABOLA (1979) based on figures of *H. pictifrons* (non MELICHAR, 1906) in the paper by LINNAVUORI recorded this species from North Iran.

**Latilica maculipes** (Melichar, 1906)

*Hysteropterum maculipes* MELICHAR, 1906: 141.


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REFERENCES


