A NEW GENUS AND SPECIES IN VELOCIPEDIDAE
(HETEROPTERA)

by

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With two text-figures
Dedicated to Dr. H. C. Blöte on the occasion of his 70th birthday.

In the collection of the Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie at Leiden, the author found a peculiar and most interesting specimen belonging to the Heteropterous family Velocipedidae. It appears to be quite different from the representatives of Scotomedes Stål, 1873, the only genus hitherto known is this family. The specimen is not in a very good state of preservation, but complete enough to serve as the basis for the following description.

Bloetomedes nov. gen.

Typus: B. borneensis nov. spec.

Distinguishable from Scotomedes by the following characters: head longer, more cylindrical, underside without a median keel; first antennal segment extending far beyond apex of head, its length more than half of second segment; lateral margin of pronotum produced at lateral callus, posterior margin only slightly concave; posterior lobe of pronotum with two sublateral tubercles near posterior margin; seventh sternite of female medially only slightly narrowed; visible part of 1st gonocoxa (VIII) short and very broad, its width more than three times its length.

Body oblong-oval. Head long and slender, its length almost 2½ times the width behind the eyes; eyes hemispherical, situated at about 1/3 from base of head; bucculae large, fused medially; gula without a medial, longitudinal keel; antenniferous tubercle about half-way eye and apex of head;
first antennal segment reaching far beyond apex of head; second segment long and slender, with a conspicuous seta beyond middle; rostrum long and slender, reaching the hind coxae, second segment incrassate proximally.

Thorax. Pronotum convex, trapezoid, width of posterior margin about 3 times that of anterior margin; collar well-developed, lateral margin edged, anterior lobe shorter than posterior, sulcate medially, with dorsal and lateral calli well-developed; dorsal calli anteriorly separated from crescent-shaped anterior calli by curved sulci; posterior lobe convex, with a longitudinal concavity medially, on both sides limited by a longitudinal rise ending posteriorly in a tubercle; scutellum large, triangular, obliquely depressed behind the middle and just before the apex strongly convex; forewings large, extending beyond end of abdomen; exocorium laterally strongly dilated, costal margin proximally strongly dorsally recurved; membrane with closed cells basally. Propleurae with a ridge posteriorly of the collar, a deep, transverse sulcus posteriorly of the ridge, and well-developed epicoxal lobes, cleft between lobes long and closed; mesopleura short, posterior pleural border rather broad, epicoxal lobes less developed, cleft widely open. Metapleura anteriorly with a distinct lobe against the middle coxa, ostiole of scent apparatus well-developed, medially and ventrally covered by a ligula, ostiolar peritremes laterally extended and fused. Metasternum membraneous (in appearance) with a longitudinal keel medially and an obtuse projection posteriorly.

Abdomen broadly rounded; first visible sternite on either side with a narrow, but distinct ridge against the hind coxa, posterior margin somewhat upturned forming a sulcus against the following segment; seventh sternite only a little narrowed medially, its posterior margin slightly concave; visible part of first gonocoxite oblong.

Bloetomedes borneensis nov. spec. (figs. 1, 2)

♀ (holotype). — Head brown, shining, sparsely punctate, set with long, curved, yellow hairs, somewhat obliquely wrinkled on upper side, underside stronger so; tylus long, somewhat laterally compressed at proximal ¾, jugum finely ridged against tylus; buccula large, convex, almost semicircular in shape; first antennal segment light brown, distal half darkened, somewhat club-shaped, length about 2/3 of width over eyes or 3 1/5 times the width of its thickest part; second segment very slender, about 35 times its own width of base or 2 1/5 times the length of first segment, curved downwards, brown, distal part (1/6 to 1/4) yellowish white, covered with white hairs, seta situated at 3/14 from apex; rostrum brown, first segment short, second very long and third short (4: 37: 5.5).
Figs. 1, 2. Bloeteomedes borneensis nov. spec., female holotype, dorsal (1) and lateral (2) aspects. W. C. G. Gertenaar del.
Thorax. — Pronotal collar shining black, anterior pronotal lobe dark brown, shining, except for an irregular dull pattern on dorsal calli, finely and sparsely punctate; anterior pronotal corner produced, lateral ridge roundly produced at lateral callus; posterior lobe brown, darker anteriorly, dull, densely provided with deep, blackish punctures, subdorsal posterior tubercles densely but finely punctured, lateral margin concave, posterior corner rounded with upturned ridge, posterior margin smoothly excavated medially; pronotum set with long, curved, yellow hairs; scutellum dark reddish brown, dull, remotely provided with black punctures; forewings dull, brown, with dense rows of deep, black punctures and curved yellow hairs, deeply sulcate along the proximal part of the media; exocorium and cuneus remotely provided with fine, inconspicuous punctures, the exocorium with a lighter patch before the middle and one near its apex. Prosternum and propleura piceous to black, rather dull, medial carina between procoxae, epicoxal lobes, and postero-lateral corner brown, lateral callus against lateral margin shining, glabrous; epicoxal lobes and posterior part of propleura except postero-lateral corner, deeply punctate. Mesosternum shining brown, set with long hairs; mesopleura black, rather dull, carinae anteriorly, provided with deep punctures; posterior flange brown, dull, deeply but remotely punctured. Metasternum dull reddish brown, set with long, yellow hairs, posterior border marginate, medial projection obtuse and sulcate; metapleura piceous to brown medially, with texture of microgranules, deeply punctate; orifical peritremes reddish brown, fused medially, the covering ligula yellowish brown. Fore leg and coxae of other legs shining light brown.

Abdomen. — Underside reddish brown, rather dull, set with short curved hairs, spiraculæ whitely rimmed, ovivalvula small, triangular; exposed part of first gonocoxite (VIII) short and broad (about 1:4), separated from VIIIth laterotergite by a (posterior) projection of the posterior margin of the VIIth sternite, with a row of setae near the posterior margin. Tergites red, shining, I-VIII with yellowish posterior borders, tergites II-V with fine, oblique wrinkles, lateral parts of II-IV and posterior half of V-VIII, except for a narrow posterior margin, dull; tergite IX feebly convex, lateral margins a little, posterior margin deeply excavated.

Measurements (in mm). — Length to apex of forewings: 13.0; length of body: 10.5; width of head over eyes: 1.6; width of pronotum: 4.2; greatest width: 5.7; length of first antennal segment: 1.15; length of second segment: 2.6.

Type locality. — Borneo, Nanga Raoeng, Upper Kapoeas River (± 0°38'N, 113°10'E). March to May 1894, J. Büttikofer, Dutch Scientific Expedition to Central Borneo.