

## On the taxonomic position of the genus *Siebererella* (Homoptera: Fulgoroidea: Achilidae)

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*Siebererella* Schmidt, 1926 is placed in synonymy under *Errada* Walker, 1870 and transferred from the Issidae to the Achilidae.

**Key words:** Homoptera, Fulgoroidea, Achilidae, Rhotalini, *Errada*, *Siebererella*, new synonymy, new combination

### INTRODUCTION

*Siebererella* Schmidt, 1926 was described as monotypical genus with the type species, *Siebererella backhoffi* Schmidt, 1926, in the family Tropicuchidae (Schmidt, 1926). Schmidt stated in his paper that *Siebererella* is closely related to the genus *Rhotala* Walker, 1857 which was erected in the “subtribe Cixioides” (Walker, 1857). Later on Fennah (1982) has transferred the *Siebererella* to the family Issidae with no argumentation. Our examination of the photos of syntypes of *S. backhoffi* from the Museum and Institute of Zoology of Polish Academy of Sciences (Warszawa, Poland) shows that *S. backhoffi* belongs to the tribe Rhotalini Fennah, 1950 of the family Achilidae. Initially the tribe Rhotalini was erected only for the genus *Rhotala* (Fennah, 1950). According to our study the genus *Siebererella* is closely related to the genera *Chiotasa* Melichar, 1914 and *Hebrotasa* Melichar, 1914. Two last genera and *Rhotala* were placed by Melichar (1914) in the family Tropicuchidae. Noteworthy that Metcalf (1954) has placed *Siebererella*, *Chiotasa*, and *Hebrotasa* in a row in his catalogue of world Tropicuchidae. Finally Fennah (1982) has transferred *Chiotasa* and *Hebrotasa* from the Tropicuchidae to the Achilidae.

The genus *Siebererella* is placed in the tribe Rhotalini according to characteristic 3-branched cubitus anterior of fore wing and

special venation of postclaval part of fore wing membrane, with hind branch of cubitus anterior running at acute angle to hind margin of the wing (Fig. 1) (Emeljanov, 2005). *Siebererella* Schmidt, 1926 is placed in synonymy under *Errada* Walker, 1870 according to the shape of metope.

### MATERIAL AND METHODS

The present paper is based on a study of two specimens from the collection of the Museum and Institute of Zoology of Polish Academy of Sciences, Warszawa, Poland (ZMPA).

### TAXONOMY

#### Family ACHILIDAE Stål, 1866

#### Tribe Rhotalini Fennah, 1950

#### Genus *Errada* Walker, 1870

*Errada* Walker, 1870: 116. Type species *Errada funesta* Walker, 1870.

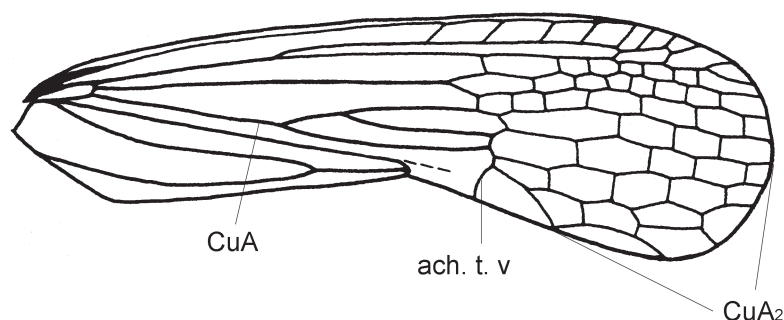
*Siebererella* Schmidt, 1926: 233, new synonym. Type species *Siebererella backhoffi* Schmidt, 1926.

#### *Errada backhoffi* (Schmidt, 1926), new combination

(Fig. 1)

*Siebererella backhoffi* Schmidt, 1926: 234.

*Material examined.* Syntypes (after photos only). Male & female; **Indonesia**, *Buru*, Station 17; 1921; coll. L.J. Toxopeus; ZMPA.



**Fig. 1.** *Errada backhoffi* (Schmidt, 1926), syntype, fore wing in dorsal view. CuA, cubitus anterior; CuA<sub>2</sub>, second branch of cubitus anterior; ach. t. v., “achilid” transverse vein.

*Note.* *Errada backhoffi* differs from other species of the genus by second branch of cubitus anterior with small number of branches behind of “achilid” transverse vein on fore wing membrane (Fig. 1).

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We thank Adam Stroiński (Warszawa, Poland) for his photos of syntypes of *Siebererella backhoffi*. Authors were financially supported by the Russian Foundation for Basic Research (08-04-00134).

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Received 10 September 2009 / Accepted 20 November 2009.