

On the identity of *Dysis excellens* Crotch (Coleoptera: Coccinellidae: Coccinellini), a little known Oriental lady beetle

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Abstract

Dysis excellens Crotch (Coleoptera: Coccinellidae), a little known Oriental species, is transferred to *Oenopia* Mulsant (**comb. nov.**) and redescribed in detail with illustrations of the male and female genitalia. A lectotype is designated. This species is recorded for the first time from India (Nagaland).

Key words: *Dysis excellens*, new combination, *Oenopia excellens*, redescription, Coccinellidae, lectotype designation

Introduction

Dysis excellens Crotch (1874) (Coleoptera: Coccinellidae: Coccinellini) is an obscure Oriental species known only from the original description. There is only a single syntype of this species from the Fry collection in the Natural History Museum (BMNH), London. This species is not represented in the Crotch collection in the University Museum of Zoology, Cambridge, UK, except for an illustration on a pin (Gordon, 1987).

The genus *Dysis* Mulsant (1850) itself appears to be very poorly known and comprises species distributed mainly in Africa and the Malagassy regions. Korschefsky (1932) listed 16 species, including *D. excellens* in his catalogue. Very little recent information is available on this genus. This genus is not included by Iablokoff-Khnzorian (1982) in his revision of Oriental and Palaearctic Coccinellini.

While preparing a description of what appeared to be a new species of *Oenopia* Mulsant (1850) from the northeastern Indian state of Nagaland, we had the occasion to compare the Indian material with the sole syntype of *D. excellens* in BMNH in view of their