



Rediscovery of *Pristepyris* Kieffer (Hymenoptera, Bethyridae), a new synonym of *Acrepyris* Kieffer

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Abstract

The Epyrinae genus *Pristepyris* Kieffer is revised. The genus has four species. *Pristepyris rugicollis* Kieffer from Malaysia and *P. levicollis* Kieffer from Madagascar are rediscovered. Their adult male holotypes are redescribed and illustrated. Specimens of *Pristepyris agragensis* Kurian and *P. flavicornis* Kieffer were unavailable and reassigned based on their original descriptions. All species are considered to be Pristocerinae, because they have the metanotum well developed medially. *Pristepyris rugicollis* is transferred to *Acrepyris* Westwood because it has the aedeagus divided in three valvae, *P. agragensis* is transferred to *Acrepyris*, because it has an undivided hypopygium; and *P. levicollis* and *P. flavicornis* are transferred to *Pristocera* Klug, because they have a hypopygium that is deeply divided into two lobes. *Pristepyris* is considered junior synonym of *Acrepyris*, because *Pristepyris rugicollis* is its type-species.

Key words: Epyrinae, Epyrini, Pristocerinae, *Pristocera*, new combination, Afrotropical region, Oriental region

Introduction

Kieffer (1905) created *Pristepyris* to accommodate two species, *P. rugicollis* from Malaysia and *P. levicollis* from Madagascar, which have the pronotal disc divided by a narrow and deep transverse groove, and have the claws trifold. Later, two more species, *P. flavicornis* from Cameroon and *P. agragensis* from India, were described by Kieffer (1910) and Kurian (1952), respectively.

Pristepyris is currently placed in Epyrinae (Epyrini), and its species have never been studied since the time of their original descriptions. According to Gordh & Móczár (1990), their holotypes were supposed to be lost, but in recent visit to the Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle we were able to find the types of *P. rugicollis* Kieffer and *P. levicollis* Kieffer. However a first look at these species called our attention for the fact that *Pristepyris* clearly belongs to Pristocerinae rather than Epyrinae. We also realized that these two species are not congeneric.

Given this scenario the aim of this work is to revise *Pristepyris*, properly allocate their species in Pristocerinae, and provide the redescription of *P. rugicollis* Kieffer and *P. levicollis*.

Material and methods

We were able to find the material of *Pristepyris rugicollis* and *P. levicollis* Kieffer deposited at Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle (MNHN), which were kindly loaned by C. Villemant for this study. For these two species, we provided a full description, including the genitalia as well as the illustration. The extended focus images of external body were generated using the EntoVision (GTVision, Hagerstown, Maryland, U.S.A.) and the drawing of genitalia were obtained using camera lucida attached to stereoscopic microscopy MZ8 (Leica, Heerbrugg, Switzerland).