



## A review of *Rhynchortalia* Crotch (Coleoptera: Coccinellidae: Ortaliinae)

J. POORANI<sup>1</sup> & ADAM ŚLIPIŃSKI<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>National Bureau of Agriculturally Important Insects, PB No 2491, HA Farm post, Bellary Road, Hebbal, Bangalore 560 024, Karnataka, India. E-mail: pooranij@gmail.com

<sup>2</sup>CSIRO Entomology, Black Mountain Laboratories, Canberra ACT. E-mail: Adam.Slipinski@csiro.edu

### Abstract

The endemic Australasian genus *Rhynchortalia* Crotch (1874) is reviewed. Twelve species are described, keyed and illustrated, including the type species, *R. insueta* Crotch, and eleven new species (*Rhynchortalia australis*, *R. viridis*, *R. wau*, *R. papuana*, *R. iongai*, *R. purpurea*, *R. similis*, *R. riedeli*, *R. anupama*, *R. iba*, and *R. moresby*, **spp. n.**).

**Key words:** *Rhynchortalia*, Coccinellidae, Coleoptera, revision, new species, key to species

### Introduction

*Rhynchortalia* Crotch (1874) is a small genus mainly distributed in New Guinea and also Australia and the Philippines. Until now, only a single species, *R. insueta* Crotch (1874) has been recognized. The second included species, *R. wallacii* Crotch (1874) is now placed in *Apolinus* Pope & Lawrence (1990). The lectotype female of this species (University of Cambridge, Crotch Collections (UCCC)) has been found to belong to *Apolinus* as it possesses a non-rostrate head, prominent prosternal intercoxal process with carinae, complete abdominal postcoxal lines, and appendiculate tarsal claws characteristic of *Apolinus*. This species is dealt with in detail in Poorani and Ślipiński (2009). Ślipiński (2007) provided a detailed description of *Rhynchortalia* based on an undescribed species from Queensland, Australia.

*Rhynchortalia* belongs within the tribe Ortaliini, which was included in Scymninae by earlier workers such as Sasaji (1971); however, Kovář (1996) proposed the new subfamily Ortaliinae to include Ortalinii and Noviini, defined the characters of the subfamily, and transferred *Scymnodes* Blackburn (1889) from Scymnini to Ortaliini. Although there is no widely accepted phylogenetic classification of the subfamilies and tribes of Coccinellidae at present, Kovář's classification is followed here.

Members of *Rhynchortalia* have a rather uniform external appearance with a yellowish or luteous yellow head and pronotum, and brilliantly colored, iridescent elytra with yellowish or testaceous apices. *Rhynchortalia* can be distinguished from other genera by the hypognathous and somewhat rostrate head bearing prominent eyes, transverse and projecting procoxae, shallow or apparently absent abdominal postcoxal lines, and long legs with bifid tarsal claws in both sexes. In this paper, the species of the genus are reviewed, illustrated and keyed. The species key provided should enable correct identification of most species, however due to external variability and a limited number of apparent external characters, these identifications should be treated as tentative until male genitalia are examined and compared.

### Abbreviations:

The following abbreviations are used to refer to all specimen depositories, including types:

ANIC      Australian National Insect Collection, Canberra  
BMNH      The Natural History Museum, London