



Occurrence of *Conocephalus (Conocephalus) bambusanus* Ingrish (Orthoptera: Tettigoniidae: Conocephalinae) in southern India

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ABSTRACT: *Conocephalus (Conocephalus) bambusanus* Ingrish (Orthoptera: Tettigoniidae: Conocephalinae) is reported from southern India for the first time. It was observed in large numbers in Kodagu District of Karnataka of south India. © 2015 Association for Advancement of Entomology

KEY WORDS: *Conocephalus (Conocephalus) bambusanus*, First report, southern India

The cosmopolitan genus *Conocephalus* Thunberg, comprising 156 species (Naskrecki and Otte, 1999), is recognized by the following characters: vertex more or less laterally flat; apex of vertex round, does not surpass the frontal fastigium, and usually higher than head in lateral view; lateral lobes of pronotum oblique triangular shaped, with a translucent gibbons' area near hind margin above auditory organ; tegmina and hind wings developed or shortened; fore and mid femora usually lack spines on ventral side; hind femora with two spines on knees; fore and mid tibiae without dorsal spurs, with short ventral spurs; tympanum on fore tibiae closed; prosternum with or without two spines; male cercus with inside teeth; ovipositor sword-shaped, brim smooth or with tiny teeth (Zhou *et al.*, 2010). *Conocephalus (Conocephalus) bambusanus* Ingrish (Figs. A and B) can be recognized by the following characters: large body (35-45mm with wings spread); mid femora with ventral spines; hind tibiae with two pairs of ventral apical spurs.

The species is distributed in China, Vietnam, Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia and so far has been known only from a single female specimen from Darjeeling (Ingrish, 2002).

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Female



Male



***Fig. C. Conocephalus bambusanus*Ingrisch - Dead tettigonids**

Occurrence of *Conocephalus (Conocephalus) bambosanus* Ingrisch (Orthoptera: Tettigoniidae: Conocephalinae) in large numbers was observed in Kodagu district of Karnataka during July 2010. It was noted in more than 500 hectares in Ponnampet, Gonikoppa, Virajpet, Thithimathi, Mandalpet, Galibeedu, Polibetta, Kotabetta, Chettahalli, Suntikoppa, Kushalnagar and Madikeri areas of the District. They were found resting on banana, rose, *Hibiscus*, *Duranta*, *Euphorbia*, curry leaves, bamboo, grasses, china aster, chrysanthemum, Polyalthia, cinnamon, coffee, arecanut, jatropa, lantana, *Erythrina*, and *Ixora*, but no feeding was observed. The grasshoppers were preyed upon by myna, crows and dogs during the day, in the field. The population decreased gradually as most of the hoppers, attracted to light, was found dead (Fig. C).

Specimens of *C. (C.) bambosanus* are deposited in the collections of the Department of Entomology, University of Agricultural Sciences, GKVK, Bangalore.

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