

A new species of the cicada genus *Cicadatra* from Pakistan

(Hemiptera: Cicadoidea: Cicadidae)

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Abstract. *Cicadatra karachiensis* sp. n. is described from Karachi, Pakistan. The species is illustrated and notes on the biology of the species are presented. Uncorrected genetic distances between *C. karachiensis* and *C. atra* (Olivier) (the type species of the genus) were approximately 15%.

Key words. Taxonomy, DNA sequencing, new species, Pakistan.

Introduction

The genus *Cicadatra* Kolenati has a wide geographic distribution across Europe, North Africa, the Middle East, Central Asia, Pakistan and India (METCALF 1963a, b, c, DUFFELS & VAN DER LAAN 1985, DLABOLA 1981, MOZAFFARIAN & SANBORN 2010, AHMED & SANBORN 2010, MOZAFFARIAN et al. 2010). However, most species of the genus show geographic variability in their morphology which has meant that the taxonomy of the 41 currently described species within the genus leaves much to be desired (e.g. KARTAL & ZEYBEKOĞLU 1999).

Studies on *Cicadatra* comprising the fauna of Middle Eastern countries have been carried out sporadically, particularly in Israel, Iran and Afghanistan (DLABOLA 1960, 1970, 1979, 1981, DLABOLA & HELLER 1962, LINNAVOURI 1962, BOULARD 1977, MIRZAYANS 1995, MOZAFFARIAN & SANBORN 2010, MOZAFFARIAN et al. 2010). Recent faunal analyses of Iran (MOZAFFARIAN and SANBORN 2010) and Pakistan (AHMED & SANBORN, 2010) have elaborated on the distributions and composition of species within this region of the Middle East and Asia including the description of new species. Species of the genus *Cicadatra* represent a significant portion of the cicada fauna of these countries, comprising 41% of the cicada fauna of Iran (MOZAFFARIAN & SANBORN 2010, MOZAFFARIAN et al. 2010) and 26.7% of the Pakistani cicada fauna (AHMED & SANBORN 2010) with the addition of the new species here.

The present taxon is described from Pakistan as new to science. It was located as part of a larger project to determine the cicada fauna of Pakistan (AHMED & SANBORN 2010), and is known only from the city of Karachi. Mitochondrial DNA sequences from four individuals are compared to sequence from the type species of the genus [*C. atra* (Olivier)]. We also give notes on the biology of this new species.

Material and methods

Specimens were collected either by net or with hands in Karachi. Body measurements were made with a Wild Heerbrugg 120340 microscope binocular. Type material is deposited in the collection