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The identity of *Silvatares excelsus* NAVÁS, 1931 (Trichoptera: Pisuliidae)

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Abstract

The type specimen of *Silvatares excelsus* NAVÁS 1931 is redescribed and reillustrated. The species, formerly placed in Calamoceratidae, was found to be congeneric with species of *Dyschimus* BARNARD 1934, in the family Pisuliidae. *Dyschimus* is thus a junior subjective synonym of *Silvatares*.

Key words: Trichoptera, Calamoceratidae, Pisuliidae, *Silvatares*, *Dyschimus*, new synonym, Kongo, Ruwenzori Range

Introduction

In the course of examining calamoceratid taxa for a review of generic relationships, we had the opportunity to examine the holotype of *Silvatares excelsus* NAVÁS, 1931. NAVÁS placed *Silvatares* in Calamoceratidae, stating that it was similar to the genus *Anisocentropus* MCLACHLAN, 1863. We were not able to locate any additional material of *Silvatares excelsus*, but the type is in excellent condition. Examination revealed that *Silvatares* is, in fact, a pisuliid, not a calamoceratid, and *Silvatares excelsus* is congeneric with species in the genus *Dyschimus* BARNARD, 1934. STOLTZE (1989) provided a thorough revision of *Dyschimus* in his work on the family Pisuliidae, with complete descriptions of all known species. We compared *Silvatares excelsus* with species of *Dyschimus*; it is not conspecific with any species placed in *Dyschimus*. *Silvatares* is the older name. Therefore, according to the Principle of Priority, *Dyschimus* is a junior synonym of *Silvatares*.

Genus *Silvatares* NAVÁS

Silvatares NAVÁS, 1931: 129 [type species: *Silvatares excelsus* NAVÁS, 1931, original designation].
Dyschimus BARNARD, 1934: 303 [type species: *Dyschimus thrymmifer* BARNARD, 1934, original designation], **syn. n.**

Silvatares excelsus NAVÁS

Silvatares excelsus NAVÁS, 1931: 129-130, fig. 65a-c [Type locality: Ruwenzori, zone des forêts, Kichouchou (3,000 m); Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris; ♂].

Description

Wings (Fig. 1): Forewing length (male) 12 mm. Wings uniformly brown. Forewing with forks I, II, III, and V present; discoidal cell closed; thyridium present; Cu_2 fused to A_1 before reaching wing margin; A_2 complete, extending to wing margin; A_3 incomplete, ending blindly before A_2. Hindwing with fork II present; discoidal cell closed; base of Cu_2 fused to base of A_1.

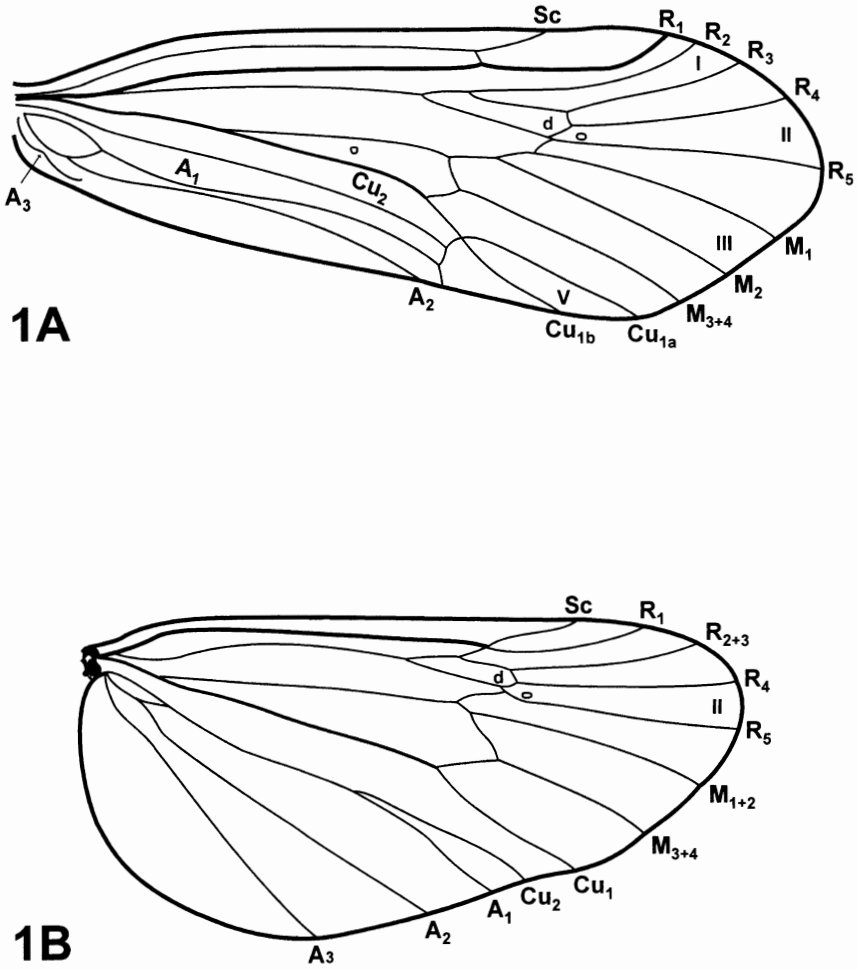

Fig. 1. *Silvatares excelsus*, wings: A, forewing; B, hindwing.

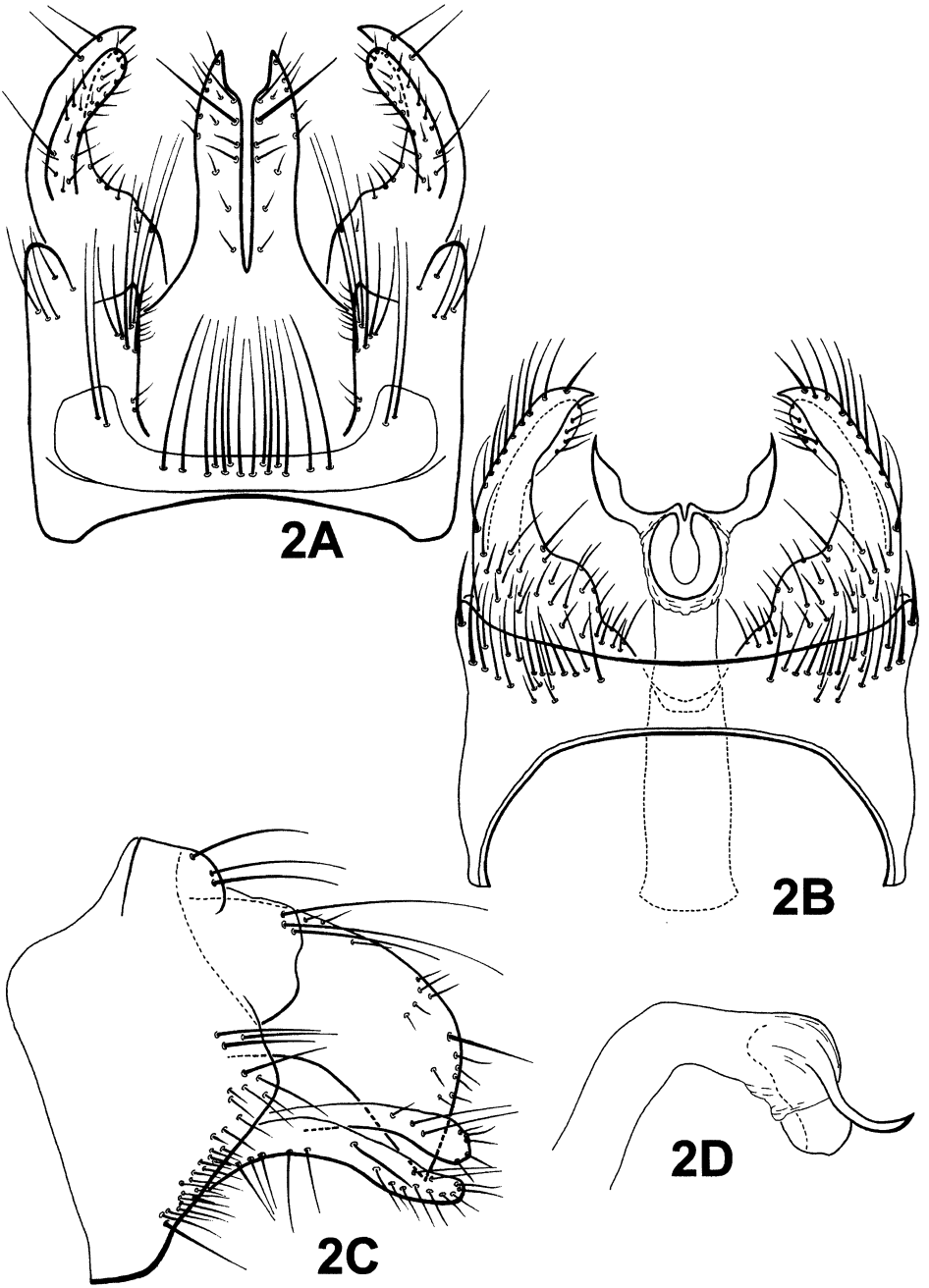

Fig. 2. *Silvatares excelsus*, male terminalia: A, dorsal view; B, ventral view; C, lateral view; D, phallus, lateral view.

Terminalia (Fig. 2): Segment IX wide midlaterally; narrow dorsally, with suture demarcating elongate area of thinner cuticle or setal wart; dorsolaterally with rounded setose projections, appearing acute when viewed dorsally; narrow ventrally, with deep U-shaped anterior excision. Tergum X in lateral view broad, apex acute and down-turned; in dorsal view with deep mesal cleft, producing two setose lobes, each lobe bearing pair of prominent stout setae on mesal margins. Inferior appendages one-segmented, with digitate ventral and dorsal setose processes; ventral process, in ventral view, acute apically, turned mesad. Phallus stout, apex bearing pair of blade-like, apically acute upturned processes.

Female: Unknown.

Larva: Unknown.

Distribution: Ruwenzori Range [Democratic Republic of the Congo (formerly Zaïre), Uganda].

It is possible that *Silvatares excelsus* and *Dyschimus furcifer* MARLIER, 1952 are conspecific. *Dyschimus furcifer* is known only from females collected in eastern Zaïre, near the type locality of *S. excelsus*.

Silvatares excelsus is most similar to *D. ornithocephalus* STOLTZE, 1989 and *D. thrymmifer* BARNARD, 1934. The inferior appendages of *D. ornithocephalus* bear a third dorsal lobe, and the phallus bears two pairs of strong spines; both characters are absent in the other two species. The ventral process of the inferior appendage in *S. excelsus* is less acutely tapered and bears setae apically. Segment X in *S. excelsus* and *D. ornithocephalus* is broad and down-turned, but shorter and straight in *D. thrymmifer*.

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