Abstract. The praying mantis genus *Citharomantis* Rehn, 1909 is a monotypic genus known only from Sumatra and Borneo. The species is easy to recognise but, until a single record was published in 2007, there were no specific locality records for Borneo. It is recorded here from five new localities: two in Sabah, one in Sarawak, one in Peninsular Malaysia, and one in Sumatra. The characteristics of the genus are briefly outlined and illustrations are provided to distinguish it from the related genus *Acromantis* Saussure, 1870. The female of *Citharomantis falcata* Rehn, 1909 is illustrated for the first time.

Keywords: Acromantinae, Borneo, *Citharomantis*, distribution, Hymenopodidae, Mantodea, Peninsular Malaysia, Sumatra

INTRODUCTION

While carrying out research for a book on the praying mantids of Borneo (Bragg, in prep.), I found the Natural History Museum, London (BMNH) contains four specimens of *Citharomantis* Rehn, 1909, from Sabah and one from Sumatra. Initially the genus appeared to be new to Borneo, so the specimens were borrowed for a more detailed examination. Further checks in the literature showed *Citharomantis falcata* Rehn, 1909 had been recorded from Borneo, but that this had been overlooked in Ehrmann’s recent (2002) catalogue of world species. This record for Borneo (Giglio-Tos 1915) does not give any information about the locality, apart from “Borneo”. In 2007, a second specimen was recorded from Borneo (Helmkampf et al. 2007). The species is one of the most recognisable of the smaller mantids in Borneo because of the unusual size and shape of the wings. After this paper was submitted, one of the referees provided photographs and data on three specimens in the Forest Research Institute, Malaysia (FRIM).
THE MANTIS

Citharomantis Rehn, 1909

Citharomantis Rehn, 1909: 184; Giglio-Tos, 1915: 8; Giglio-Tos, 1927: 528; Ehrmann, 2002: 105; Otte & Spearman, 2005: 75. Type species by original designation: Citharomantis falcata Rehn, 1909.

The genus Citharomantis is very closely related to Acromantis Saussure, 1870, but differs by having a triangular lobe on the dorsal surface of the fore femur (Figure 1) and by the shape of the wings at rest: those of Citharomantis are clearly emarginate (Figures 4 & 5), those of Acromantis are more or less straight (Figures 2 & 3). The shape of the wings at rest is due to the unusual shape of the hind wings: they curve forward at the apex (Figure 6), causing them to project sideways when folded. The genus contains only one species, Citharomantis falcata Rehn, 1909, which was described from Sumatra; it was subsequently recorded from Borneo (Giglio-Tos 1915).

Citharomantis falcata Rehn, 1909

Citharomantis falcata Rehn, 1909: 185, figs 8 (♂) & 9 (♀); Giglio-Tos, 1915: 8; Giglio-Tos, 1927: 528; Ehrmann, 2002: 105; Otte & Spearman, 2005: 75; Helmkampf et al., 2007: 13, pl. 2. (♂). Holotype ♂ (ANSP), Sumatra, Bah Soemboe. R. Weber.

Material examined


SARAWAK: ♂ (BMNH, BM 1978-206) Gunung Mulu Nat. Park, RGS Exped. 1977-8; J.D. Holloway et al.; Site 16 March, Long Pala (Base) 70m. 324450 Alluv./second.for. MV-on batu-Canopy.

Photographic material examined

SABAH, Danum Valley (N04°58′07″ E117°50′7″, 340m), ♂ (Christian Schwarz collection) Helmkampf et al., ii-iii.2003.

DISCUSSION

Giglio-Tos (1915) recorded measurements for the female, and listed Borneo as a locality. However, Ehrmann (2002) overlooked Giglio-Tos’s record for Borneo and listed Sumatra as the only locality. Giglio-Tos (1915) does not give any data for the specimens he examined, except to say there is a female from “Borneo” in the Sarawak Museum (SMSM), and a male from Sumatra in Berlin Museum (ZMHB).

Measurements of length for the body, pronotum, and tegmina are given in Table 1 for all the examined specimens. In addition I have included Rehn’s measurements for the holotype and Giglio-Tos’s measurements of the female in the Sarawak Museum. The body lengths are clearly subject to great variation because of shrinkage when the specimen dries. The lengths of the pronotum and tegmina are a more reliable measurement.

Table 1. Measurements (millimetres) for Citharomantis falcata.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specimen</th>
<th>Body</th>
<th>Pronotum</th>
<th>Tegmina</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>♂ Holotype – Sumatra</td>
<td>20.5</td>
<td>6.5</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>♂ BMNH – Sumatra</td>
<td>22.1</td>
<td>6.4</td>
<td>15.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>♂ BMNH – Mulu</td>
<td>20.8</td>
<td>6.6</td>
<td>17.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>♀ SMSM – “Borneo”</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>9.5</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>♀ BMNH – Rumidi</td>
<td>30.1</td>
<td>8.8</td>
<td>21.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>♀ BMNH – Ulu Dusun</td>
<td>28.9</td>
<td>9.0</td>
<td>22.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>♀ BMNH – Ulu Dusun</td>
<td>29.3</td>
<td>9.1</td>
<td>22.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Citharomantis is rare in comparison to the related Acromantis: my personal collection of Bornean mantids contains 11 specimens of Acromantis but no Citharomantis. The data presented here, including the recently published record for Danum Valley (Helmkampf et al. 2007), represent the only specific locality records for Borneo. The distribution map (Figure 7) shows the four known localities are all from North-East Borneo (Rumidi Estate plotted at E117°30' N05°45'). The large wings in both sexes suggest good flight capability for females. It is likely that the distribution extends over the whole of Borneo. The specimens in FRIM are the first records for Peninsular Malaysia.

The BMNH specimen collected by Pruett has been mistakenly labelled 14-31.ix.1973; presumably it should read 14-30.ix.1973.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I thank Dr George Beccaloni (BMNH) for the loan of the specimens of Citharomantis falcata, Dr Arthur Chung (Forest Research Centre, Sabah) for providing the latitude and longitude of the Rumidi Estate, and Martin Stiewe for providing some of the literature. Thanks to Dr Laurence Kirton (FRIM), and to Dr Jan Beck (University of Basel) for providing data and photographs.
REFERENCES


Figure 1. Right fore femur: (left) female *Citharomantis*, (right) female *Acromantis*.
Scale line = 1 cm on Figures 2-6

**Figure 2.** *Acromantis moultoni* Giglio-Tos, 1915. Male.

**Figure 3.** *Acromantis moultoni* Giglio-Tos, 1915. Female.
Figure 4. *Citharomantis falcata* Rehn, 1909. Male from Mulu.

Figure 5. *Citharomantis falcata* Rehn, 1909. Female from Rumidi Estate.
Figure 6. *Citharomantis falcata* Rehn, 1909.
Male from Sumatra.

Figure 7. Distribution of *Citharomantis falcata* within Borneo.