

## NOTA / NOTE

New record of *Aconurella erebus* (Distant 1908) for Pakistan  
(Hemiptera: Cicadellidae).Sapna Menghwar<sup>1,6</sup>, Imran Khatri<sup>2</sup>, Maqsood Anwar Rustamani<sup>3</sup>, Riffat Sultana<sup>4</sup>,  
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**Abstract:** *Aconurella erebus* (Distant 1908) (Hemiptera: Cicadellidae) is recorded for the first time from Pakistan. Pictures of the adult and genitalia, and also a distributional map of the species are provided.

**Key words:** Hemiptera, Cicadellidae, *Aconurella erebus*, first record, Pakistan.

**Resumen:** Nueva cita de *Aconurella erebus* (Distant 1908) para Pakistán (Hemiptera: Cicadellidae). Se cita por primera vez *Aconurella erebus* (Distant 1908) (Hemiptera: Cicadellidae) de Pakistán. Se aportan fotos de adulto y genitalia, y también un mapa de distribución.

**Palabras clave:** Hemiptera, Cicadellidae, *Aconurella erebus*, primera cita, Pakistán.

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## Introduction

The Tribe Chiasmini (Hemiptera: Cicadellidae, Deltocephalinae) consists of 21 genera and 317 species (Zahniser & Dietrich 2013). The Old World genus *Aconurella* was erected by Ribaut (1948) (with the type species *Thamnotettix prolixa* Lethierry, 1885). Vilbaste (1965) provided a worldwide checklist of 10 species and Zahniser (2008) updated it with 24 species of *Aconurella*. From Pakistan Khatri & Webb (2010) listed 8 species belonging to the tribe Chiasmini, being only one species within the genus *Aconurella*, *A. prolixa* (Lethierry, 1985), previously recorded, while four species are synonymized under: *Chiasmus karachiensis* (Ahmed, Qadeer & Malik, 1988), *Chiasmus lobata* (Ahmed & Qadeer, 1988), *Aconurella neosolana* (Rao & Ramakrishnan, 1990) and *Cicadula indica* (Pruthi, 1930).

*A. erebus* (Distant 1908) is a new country record presented here with figures of habitus and genitalia (Fig. 1), and a distributional map (Map 1). For identification, aedeagus of this species is less helpful than other genital parts. Duan & Zhang (2012) reviewed the genus from China and provided features for its identification: The pygofer margin of male with darkly thickened portion and spines on posteroventral margin, subgenital plate with concave lateral margin and attenuated apex, marginal row with few macro setae, the shaft of aedeagus is movably articulated with base (as in other genera of the tribe), constricted apex and subgenital plate with concave lateral margin.

## Material and methods

Leafhoppers were collected in Mirpurkhas, province of Sindh, Pakistan, using a light trap. Collection was made with the help of aerial net and killed in jar containing potassium cyanide. For the study of male genitalia abdomen was put in potassium hydroxide overnight and then was examined under microscope. The images of the adult have been taken using a camera Canon Power Shot SX510 HS and the images of genitalia using an USB camera fitted to microscopes a) Labomed CSM2 (20X and 40X), b) Kyowa Medilux 20.

## Results and discussion

### Family Cicadellidae Latreille 1802

### Subfamily Deltocephalinae Fieber 1869

### Tribe Chiasmini Distant 1908

### Genus *Aconurella* Ribaut 1948

#### *Aconurella erebus* (Distant 1908)

*Deltocephalus erebus* Distant, 1908: 385

**Description.** Size 3.1 mm. Vertex black with yellow markings at apex at each side with posterior border yellow, pronotum shiny black, scutellum shiny black with posterior brown margins. Eyes grey with yellow posterior margins. Forewing black and shiny, the costal margin and apical area light yellow. Face black and shiny, clypeus black with yellow spots. Well-developed style claw, the both of the processes are wide apart, pair of spinular bunches near the anal tube base. At apex aedeagus is slightly expanded.

**Material examined.** Pakistan: Sindh Prov., Mirpurkhas, 13.VII.2014, 1♂, light trap (Sapna Menghwar leg.).

**Type material information** (According to Ghauri 1974). ♀ with circular red margined 'Type' label *Deltocephalus erebus* label 28X27' hand written by Distant at Matiana in Simla hills at the height of 8000 ft. A printed label 1911-383 by Distant Coll, here labelled as lectotype and designated as *Aconurella erebus* (Distant). 1 female here is provided with proper labels and with the same as Type female here labelled as (mixed with others) paralectotype. India: 1♂ on clover SS-11 (Central Potato Research Institute, Simla), IV.1972 (mixed with others) in Commonwealth Institute of Entomology Coll. no. A5534, in British Museum of Natural History.

**Remarks.** Previously known from Simla Hills, India. New record for Pakistan. According to Ghauri (1974), this species is similar to *Cicadula (Deltocephalus) montanus* Pruthi, 1930. Posterodorsal angle similar to *Aconurella japonica* (Matsumura, 1914) but differs from it by the existence of a bunch of spinules near the anal tube base.

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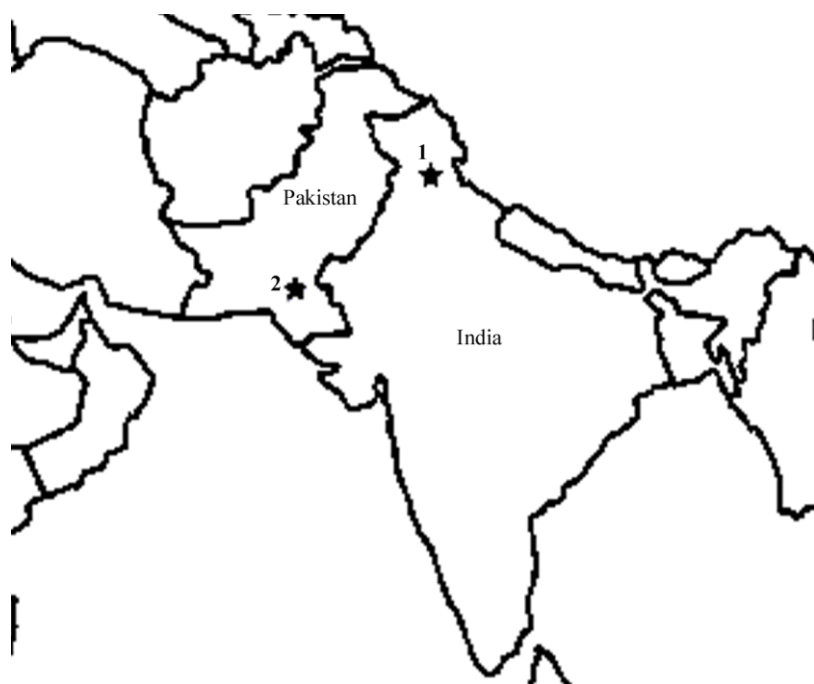
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**Map 1.** - Distributional map of *Aconurella erebus* (Distant, 1908).

1.- Location of Holotype 2.- Location for new country record for Pakistan.



**Fig. 1.** - *Aconurella erebus* (Distant 1908):

**a.** - Habitus. **b.** - Face. **c,d.** - Pygofer lateral and dorsal view respectively. **e.** - Valve, subgenital plate, style, connective dorsal view. **f.** - style. **g.** - Aedeagus lateral view. **h.** - Aedeagus dorsal view