Notes on *Argyrodes xiphias* THORELL, 1887 (Araneae: Theridiidae) from South East Asia

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吉田 備1)：東南アジア産 *Argyrodes xiphias* THORELL, 1887
（クモ目：ヒメガモ科）について

Abstract The Southeast Asian species of the family Theridiidae, *Argyrodes xiphias* THORELL, 1887, is recorded for the first time from Japan, Taiwan and Indonesia. *Argyrodes carnicobarensis* TIKADER, 1977 and *A. levii* ZHU et SONG, 1991 are synonymized with *A. xiphias* THORELL, 1887.

Up to the present, *Argyrodes xiphias* THORELL, 1887 has been known only from Burma and Singapore. Recently Prof. W. NENTWIG, Bern, sent me some Indonesian specimens of this species. I also collected some specimens of the same species from Japan and Taiwan. On the other hand, *Argyrodes carnicobarensis* TIKADER, 1977 was described from the Nicobar Islands, India, and *Argyrodes levii* ZHU et SONG, 1991 was described from Hainan Island, China. In my opinion, these three species are considered to be conspecific. In the present paper, new records and the synonymy of *Argyrodes xiphias* are reported.

Before going further, I wish to express my sincere thanks to Prof. Dr. Wolfgang NENTWIG, Universität Bern, for offering valuable specimens for the present study, and to Dr. Hirotsugu ONO, National Science Museum, Tokyo, for his advice.

*Argyrodes xiphias* THORELL, 1887

(Figs. 1–4)

*Argyrodes xiphias* THORELL, 1887, p. 25; holotype from Burma, not examined.—WORKMAN, 1896, p. 63, pl. 63.

*Argyrodes carnicobarensis* TIKADER, 1977, p. 168, fig. 6; holotype from the Nicobar Islands, India, not examined. Syn. nov.

*Argyrodes levii* ZHU et SONG, 1991, p. 138, fig. 8; holotype from Hainan Island, China, not examined. Syn. nov.

Female total length: 2.0–2.3 mm. Male total length: 2.5–2.8 mm. The male clypeus bears a large projection, dorsally furnished with a brush of short hairs. The abdomen is blackish brown with silver pigments. Of these, a pigment between epigynum and spinnerets is especially large and distinct.
Though I did not examine the type specimens, I considered with the original figures of Tikader (1977) and Zhu and Song (1991) that A. carnicobarensis and A. levii are synonymous with A. xiphias. The large projection on the male clypeus and the large silver pigments on the abdomen are characteristic of this species.


Distribution. Japan (Yaeyama Islands), Taiwan, China (Hainan and Yunnan Provinces), Burma, Singapore, Indonesia (Krakatau Islands) and India (Nicobar Islands).

References

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