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#### PHASMIDA FROM BAKO NATIONAL PARK

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by

P.E. Bragg

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## Key Words

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### Introduction

In December 1987 a few Phasmids were collected in Bako National Park, the results of this have been briefly reported elsewhere (Bragg 1988). During August 1989 a small collection of Phasmids was made at Bako National Park by myself and Mr. Patrick van der Stigchel from the Netherlands. The aim of both collecting trips was to take specimens back to the UK and the Netherlands and attempt to rear them in captivity. In all ten species were collected.

This paper gives details of the eight species collected by myself. In most cases the specimens have been compared with type material, the following codens are used in the text:

NHM Natural History Museum, London.

OXUM Oxford University Museum, Oxford.

NHMW Naturhistorisches Museum Wien, Austria.

A summary of the species collected is given in Table 1, the classification used is that used by Bradley & Galil (1977). Several previously undescribed eggs are described, using the standard terminology (Clark 1976). The plants used for captive rearing in the UK are referred to by their common names in the text; the scientific names are listed in Table 6.

Material collected by Mr. van der Stigchel included most of the listed species, with the notable exception of *Dajaca filiformis*. Mr. van der Stigchel also collected two other species of the subfamily Necrosciinae but I have not had the opportunity to examine these specimens.

Specimens were collected at night, using head torches to search vegetation along several of the Park trails.

### RESULTS

# Heteropteryginae

Epidares nolimetangere (de Haan) 1842. (Fig. 1)

Phasma (Acanthoderus) nolimetangere de Haan, 1842: 135, pl. 14.6 & 14.7.

Acanthoderus nolimetangere (de Haan); Westwood, 1859: 50.

Tisamenus nolimetangere (de Haan); Kirby, 1904: 399.

Dares nolimetangere (de Haan); Redtenbacher, 1906: 54.

Dares nolimetangere (de Haan); Günther, 1935a: 2.

Daris nolimetangere (de Haan); Günther, 1943: 150. [misspelling]

Dares nolimetangere (de Haan); Herbert, 1990: 24-25.

Epidares nolimetangere (de Haan); Bragg, 1991e: 265-267.

1987: 2 dd, 5 QQ. 1989: 3 dd, 2 QQ.

It has recently come to my attention that Bradley & Galil (1977) listed *Epidares* Redtenbacher as a genus, elevating it from the status of a sub-genus which as used by Redtenbacher. No explanation for this elevation was offered by Bradley & Galil so there is a possibility that it was unintentional; there are numerous errors in their paper. However there is no doubt that *Epidares nolimetangere* is quite different from the species of *Dares* with which I am familiar, so it is conceivable that this elevation was intended; I therefore consider it to be a valid genus.

The egg of this species is dark brown and covered in fine hairs which are hooked at the end. The eggs have a length of 3.9mm, height 3.0mm and width 2.6mm. In captivity they are usually found on the ground although occasionally eggs are found on leaves or caught on the sides of the cage.

This species has been found to be very common at two other sites, Mt. Serapi and Kampung Bengoh, both in the First Division of Sarawak. It is usually found within 1m of the ground, on a variety of low growing plants. Specimens from Bako were all of the usual coloration for this species although males from Mt. Serapi have a lot of green on the thorax. This species has proved easy to rear in the U.K., feeding on bramble, dog rose, oak, firethorn, elder and hawthorn. Details of how to rear this species have been given elsewhere (Herbert 1990).

# Datames oileus (Westwood) 1859.

Acanthoderus oileus Westwood, 1859: 53, pl. 26.4.

Acanthoderus gravidus Bates, 1865: 343. [Synonymised by Günther, 1934: 76.] Acanthoderus mouhoti Bates, 1865: 342. [Synonymised by Günther, 1934: 76.]