NOTE ON SYNONYMY IN ASIATIC CERIAGRION SPECIES
(ZYGOPTERA: COENAGRIONIDAE)

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Ceriagrion chaoi Schmidt, 1964 is shown to be a valid species. C. laericium Lieftinck, 1951 is a junior synonym of C. auranticum Fraser, 1922.

ASAHINA (1971) clarified the status of the four Ceriagrion species which were treated as "species incertae sedis" in his revision of Asiatic Ceriagrion (ASAHINA, 1967). One of these was C. auranticum FRASER, 1922, described rather inadequately and without illustrations on the basis of 3 males from Bangkok.

After studying the lectotype of C. auranticum, ASAHINA (1971) considered C. chaoi Schmidt, 1964 to be the same as auranticum and made chaoi a junior synonym. This, however, is incorrect. I have recently compared the lectotype male of auranticum and the holotype male of chaoi. These species are distinct. The penile organs are completely different. Further, in auranticum the abdomen is more slender, with the intermediate segments distinctly less expanded than the basal and terminal ones, whereas in chaoi the abdomen is slightly more cylindrical.

The penile organ of C. chaoi was figured by ASAHINA (1967), who also amended the very short original description of the species. On the other hand, study on the penile organ of the lectotype of C. auranticum revealed that it is identical with the peculiar branched organ of C. laericium Lieftinck, 1951, as figured by ASAHINA (1967). I have also compared the lectotype of auranticum with LIEFTINCK's (1951) original material of latericum from Sumatra (1 ♂ from S.E. Sumatra, Palembang and 1 ♂ from N.E. Sumatra, Deli, Serbalawan) and found them to be similar in all respects. Further, Dr. J. van Tol has kindly studied the penile organ of the holotype of C. latericum from S.E. Sumatra,
which proved to be identical with ASAHINA’s (1967) figure drawn from Thai material. Thus, _C. latericium_ is a junior synonym of _C. auranticum_ and the correct name of its northern subspecies is _C. auranticum ryukyuurnum_ Asahina, 1967.

To summarize the relevant references:

_Ceriagrion latericium_ LIEFTINCK, 1951: 193-196, syn. nov.
_Ceriagrion chaoi_ SCHMIDT, 1964: 152, bona spec.
_Ceriagrion auranticum_, ASAHINA, 1982: 461 [nec FRASER, 1922].

_C. a. auranticum_ is a lowland species and it is known from Thailand, Malaya, Sumatra, Java, Sumba and Vietnam. _C. auranticum ryukyuurnum_ occurs in China, Taiwan and Japan. _C. chaoi_ is known only from Burma, Thailand and Malaya.

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**REFERENCES**