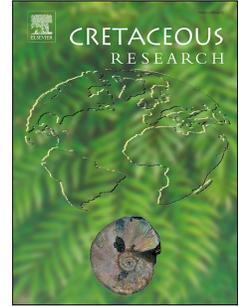


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Chilamnestocoris mixtus gen. et spec. nov., the first burrower bug (Hemiptera: Pentatomoidea: Cydnidae) in Upper Cretaceous Burmese amber

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1 Short communication

2

3 ***Chilamnestocoris mixtus* gen. et spec. nov., the first burrower bug (Hemiptera:**

4 **Pentatomoidea: Cydnidae) in Upper Cretaceous Burmese amber**

5

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13 ABSTRACT

14 A new genus and species of burrower bug, *Chilamnestocoris mixtus* gen. et sp. nov.
15 (Hemiptera: Cydnidae), is described from Upper Cretaceous Myanmar amber. The new genus
16 is characterized by a very long claval commissure and, therefore, is classified within the
17 extant subfamily Amnestinae. It presents a mixture of generic characters relevant to the genus
18 *Chilocoris* Mayr (Cydninae) and the genus *Amnestus* Dallas (Amnestinae), but also has its
19 own autapomorphies, i.e., each cephalic marginal setigerous puncture arises from its own
20 well-developed tubercle, and the middle and posterior tibiae are strongly compressed and
21 flattened.

22
23 **Keywords:**

24 Cydnidae

25 Amnestinae

26 *Chilamnestocoris mixtus* gen. et sp. nov.

27 Myanmar amber

28 Upper Cretaceous

29 Burrower bug fossil

30 **1. Introduction**

31 The Cydnidae, commonly known as Burrower Bugs or Burrowing Bugs, is a pentatomoid
32 family, the monophyly of which is constantly being questioned (Grazia et al., 2008; Pluot-
33 Sigwalt & Lis, 2008; Lis, 2010; Lis et al., 2017). The family includes more than 750 species
34 known from tropical, warm, and temperate regions of the world (Cassis & Gross, 2002;
35 Schwertner & Nardi, 2015; Lis et al., 2017), and is, at present, divided into six subfamilies,
36 i.e., Amaurocorinae, Amnestinae, Cephalocteinae, Cydninae, Garsauriinae, and Sehirinae
37 (Pluot-Sigwalt & Lis, 2008; Lis et al., 2017).

38 The oldest fossil records of Cydnidae are known from the Late Jurassic to Early
39 Cretaceous Yixian Formation of China (Yao et al., 2007, 2010). Fossils of the family
40 Cydnidae are represented by 70 species (Vršanský et al., 2015; palaeobiology database [URL:
41 paleobiodb.org; accessed 7 January 2018]), including only nine species in seven genera of the
42 subfamily Amnestinae (Pinto & Ornellas, 1974; Popov, 1986, 1990; Thomas, 1988, 1994;
43 Popov & Pinto, 2000; Shcherbakov & Popov, 2002; Yao et al., 2007, 2010). Among these,
44 only three species, i.e. *Amnestus guapinolinus* Thomas, 1988, *A. electricus* Thomas, 1994,
45 and *A. priscus* Thomas, 1994, have been described from amber (*A. guapinolinus* from the
46 Oligo-Miocene of Chiapas, Mexico; the remaining two species are from the Dominican
47 Republic).

48 Although 53 species of Hemiptera have been described from Burmese amber (Guo et
49 al., 2017; Ross, 2018), no representative of the family Cydnidae was reported among the
50 Burmite inclusions. In this paper we describe a new genus and species of the subfamily
51 Amnestinae, which is the first Burmite inclusion not only for the family Cydnidae, but also
52 the entire superfamily Pentatomoidea.

53

54 **2. Material and methods**

55 Burmese amber is of Upper Cretaceous age, probably from the Turonian or Cenomanian (90–
56 100 Ma) (Grimaldi et al., 2002). No particular locality of origin in Kachin State in Northern
57 Myanmar is known, and therefore no further stratigraphic information is available, as is the
58 case for Aradidae inclusions described recently in amber pieces originating from the same
59 source (Heiss & Poinar, 2012; Heiss, 2016). However, according to Guo et al. (2017), most
60 known Burmite arthropod inclusions came from the Hukawng Valley, Kachin State in
61 northern Myanmar, where the mining locality is at Noiye Bum, near Tanai Village
62 (26°21'33.41"N, 96°43'11.88"E) (Cruickshank & Ko, 2003; Grimaldi et al., 2002; Bai et al.,
63 2016). The map of Myanmar showing the position of the Hukawng Valley was provided by
64 Dunlop et al. (2015). Detailed investigation of these deposits (Cruickshank & Ko, 2003; Shi et
65 al., 2012) dated them as 97 to 110 Ma (the late Albian of the Early Cretaceous) or 98.8 ± 0.6
66 Ma old (Cenomanian, earliest Late Cretaceous), respectively.

67 This study is based on material permanently deposited in the Tiroler Landesmuseum
68 (CEHI Collection Ernst Heiss), Innsbruck, Austria. All photos were captured with a Moticam
69 1000 digital camera mounted to an Olympus SZX10 microscope using Images Plus 2.0
70 software (Motic Asia, Hong Kong). Multiple focal planes were merged using Helicon Focus
71 6.3.0 software (Helicon Soft Ltd.).

72 The terminology for cephalic chaetotaxy follows that used by Lis & Pluot-Sigwalt
73 (2002), for mesothoracic wing venation that used by Lis (2002), and for pretarsal structures
74 that used by Lis & Ziaja (2010).

75

76 **3. Systematic palaeontology**

77 Order: Hemiptera Linnaeus, 1758

78 Suborder: Heteroptera Latreille, 1810

79 Infraorder: Pentatomomorpha Leston, Pendergast et Southwood, 1954

80 Superfamily: Pentatomoidea Leach, 1815

81 Family: Cydnidae Billberg, 1820

82 Subfamily: Amnestinae Hart, 1919

83

84 Genus *Chilamnestocoris* gen. nov.

85 LSID urn: lsid:zoobank.org:act:CDCF292B-2478-4F57-A0ED-4BF6E6D44D61

86 Type species: *Chilamnestocoris mixtus* sp. nov.

87

88 *Diagnosis.* Head margins bearing both peg-like and hair-like setae; each marginal setigerous
89 puncture arising from its own well-developed tubercle; clypeal submargin with four peg-like
90 setae; eyes large, each with an apical seta; ocelli present; antennae five-segmented, second
91 segment minute. Pronotum almost parallel-sided; pronotal disc with an anterior submarginal
92 line clearly visible, pronotal umbones slightly swollen, not concealing the postero-lateral
93 margins of pronotal disc; lateral margins with setigerous punctures bearing long hair-like
94 setae. Scutellum triangular. Corium with very broad clavus, bearing four rows of coarse
95 punctures; claval commissure present, very long. Costal margins with setigerous punctures
96 bearing hair-like setae. Meso- and metapleuron with large evaporatoria, metapleural peritreme
97 very long and strongly recurved. Tibiae of middle and posterior legs flattened. The coxal
98 combs unseen due to the poor visibility of characters on the ventral side of the specimen.

99

100 *Etymology.* The name is a compilation of two generic names, i.e. *Chilocoris* Mayr, 1865 and
101 *Amnestus* Dallas, 1851, in reference to the fact that several characters are intermediate
102 between these two genera (*Chil-amnest-ocoris*).

103

104 *Chilamnestocoris mixtus* Lis J.A., Lis B. & Heiss, sp. nov.

105 (Figs. 1–3)

106 LSID urn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:5CD2C8A8-E94C-4E39-9E7E-5E4EA760F5D7

107 *Etymology.* The specific epithet refers to a mixture of generic characters relevant to the genus
108 *Chilocoris* (Cydninae) and the genus *Amnestus* (Amnestinae).

109

110 *Holotype female.* The specimen belongs to and is deposited as BUR-CYD-01 in the collection
111 of the second author (EH) at the Tiroler Landesmuseum, Innsbruck, Austria.

112

113 *Type locality.* No particular locality of origin in Kachin State in Northern Myanmar is known
114 for this taxon of the Cydnidae (however, see also the section: “Material and methods”).

115

116 *Diagnosis.* As for the new genus.

117

118 *Description.* Completely preserved female specimen (Figs. 1A–D). Body almost unicolorous,
119 its dorsal side slightly polished; head, pronotum and scutellum dark castaneous; antennae,
120 rostrum, tibiae and tibial spines, costal margins, exocorium and mesocorium, and lateral parts
121 of pronotum brown; the ventral body side castaneous.

122 Head (Figs. 2A–B). Dorsally with clearly visible small punctures, and with slightly

123 developed oblique striae in the posterior part of paraclypei; clypeus as long as paraclypei,

124 broadened in its apical part; clypeal submargin with four (three clearly visible and one torn

125 out) blackish brown, apically more or less sharpened peg-like setae; paraclypei each with a

126 submarginal row of five more or less sharply ended peg-like setae, and three hair-like setae;

127 each marginal setigerous puncture arising from its own well-developed tubercle; eyes large,

128 brown with a silver tinge, each with an apical seta, ocular index about 2.8; ocelli yellowish,
129 interocellar distance about four times greater than a distance between the ocellus and the eye;
130 antennae five segmented with the second segment minute and hardly visible, about nine times
131 shorter than the third (Fig. 2B), the fifth segment longest; rostrum reaching the midcoxae.

132 Thorax. Pronotum (Fig. 1C) almost parallel-sided; pronotal disc with an anterior
133 submarginal line clerally visible, calli impunctate, the area behind calli with a short row of
134 large punctures laterally on each side; anterior lobe almost impunctate, except for setigerous
135 punctures and a few punctures anteriorly and laterally; posterior lobe with clearly visible
136 punctures; pronotal umbones slightly swollen and impunctate, not concealing the postero-
137 lateral margins of the pronotal disc; lateral margins with seven (right side) and eight (left side)
138 setigerous punctures bearing long hair-like setae, two setae present also on the lateral part of
139 the anterior submarginal line on each side; moreover, two additional setae occur on lateral
140 parts of the anterior lobe of the pronotal disc. Propleuron alutaceous; its anterior and posterior
141 convexities impunctate, a median depression with punctures close to the coxae. Scutellum
142 triangular; scutellar disc evenly punctured with large coarse punctures; scutellar tip narrow,
143 elongated. Clavus (Fig. 1D) very broad, with three rows of coarse punctures parallel to
144 scutellum, and a single row of large punctures close to mesocorium; the latter with two rows
145 of coarse punctures paralleling the clavo-corial suture (one complete row, and the second
146 incomplete, visible only basally) and with several well-spaced punctures forming two hardly
147 visible rows; exocorium almost evenly punctured with large shallow punctures; claval
148 commissure present, very long (Fig. 1D). Costal margins paler than the remaining part of the
149 corium, bearing setigerous punctures (two hair-like setae visible on left hemelytron, and
150 several hair-like seta visible close to the costal margin of right hemelytron); membrane almost
151 translucent, slightly embrowned, distinctly surpassing the tip of the abdomen. Mesopleuron
152 and metapleuron with evaporatorium similar to that of the genus *Chilocoris*, with very long

153 and strongly recurved peritreme. Legs brown, tibial spines only a little darker; anterior tibia
154 broadened apically, with four spines at the apical margin; mid- and posterior tibiae strongly
155 flattened, only slightly broadened apically, each bearing numerous long spines at the outer
156 margin and only a few at the inner margin; tarsus of posterior legs with 1st and 2nd segments
157 altogether longer than the third; pretarsal claws long and narrow, pulvilli narrow, slightly
158 recurved and apically somewhat capitate (Fig. 2C–D).

159 Abdomen. Sterna dark brown, alutaceous, laterally with numerous distinct small
160 punctures and whitish shiny semierect hairs; 4th, 5th and 6th visible segments medially with
161 numerous long whitish semierect hairs.

162 Measurements. Female holotype (in mm): body length (from the head apex to the apex
163 of membrane): 2.85; body width (at the widest part of hemelytra): 1.38; head length: 0.46;
164 head width: 0.70; pronotum length: 0.89; pronotum width: 1.30; scutellum length: 0.41;
165 scutellum width: 0.47; antennal segments: 0.17, 0.03, 0.25, 0.26, 0.28.

166

167 **4. Remarks on the palaeohabitat of the new species**

168 Burrower bugs, as suggested by their common family name, mostly live underground and
169 feed on plant roots, although some of them inhabit aboveground plant parts, some may be
170 mycetophagous or cavernicolous, and some are associated with ants (e.g., Froeschner, 1975;
171 Schaefer, 1988; Linnavuori, 1993; Lis, 1994; Lis et al., 2000; Kłys & Lis, 2013; Lis, 2015;
172 Lis & Lis, 2016; Schwertner & Nardi, 2015). Extant species of the subfamily Amnestinae are
173 mostly litter inhabitants in various types of humid forests, but have sometimes been found
174 belowground or in guano in bat caves (Froeschner, 1960; Mayorga & Cervantes, 2001; Eger,
175 2008; Mayorga & Brailovsky, 2012; Mayorga & Cervantes, 2005, 2014; Schwertner & Nardi,
176 2015).

177 Nevertheless, no one has ever attempted to reconstruct the habitat in which species of
178 fossil Amnestinae lived, since no accompanying plant fossils have been described along with
179 amnestine fossil remnants. Fortunately, in the piece of amber studied herein, we noticed
180 several plant syninclusions that can be classified into two groups, i.e., branched hairs (Figs.
181 3A–D) and star-shaped structures (Figs. 3E–F).

182 The star-shaped structures found in the studied amber piece (Figs. 3E–F) are similar to
183 the structure described by Grimaldi et al. (2002) as an isolated archegoniophore of a
184 *Marchantia*-like liverwort (Hepatopsida: Marchantiaceae) in Burmese amber (Fig. 3F), and
185 by Schmidt et al. (2010) as “stellate hairs” in Cretaceous African amber, resembling those of
186 modern representatives of the tree-fern family Cyatheaceae (Fig. 3E). Several branched hairs
187 (Figs. 3A–D) accompanying our amnestine specimen are known to be quite common in
188 Burmese amber (Heinrichs et al., 2017). The same branched hairs were also recorded in
189 Cretaceous amber from New Jersey and Lebanon, and in Tertiary Baltic amber (Gifford and
190 Foster, 1987; Hall and Burke, 1974; Jones, 1998; Peñalver et al., 2007), and were regarded as
191 originating possibly from a fern or conifer. Similar hairs in Early Cretaceous amber from
192 Spain have been assigned to the fern family Gleicheniaceae (Pérez de la Fuente et al., 2012).
193 Recently, this type of branched hair was found as syninclusions to *Frullania pinnata*, the
194 newly described mid-Cretaceous Burmese amber species of leafy liverwort (Heinrichs et al.,
195 2017). Because, “stellate hairs” occur in various amber sites, but are characteristic mainly of
196 the Baltic amber, and regarded as belonging to Fagaceae (Weitschat and Wichard, 2002), their
197 botanical origin in burmites can’t be precisely defined.

198 Taking all the above into account, especially the environmental conditions in which
199 the species of *Frullania* lived (Grimaldi et al., 2002; Heinrichs et al., 2017), we conclude that
200 *C. mixtus* most probably inhabited areas surrounding the conifer tree trunks where ferns and
201 liverwort grew. We are aware that our hypothesis is highly speculative and the presence of the

202 described trichomes can simply show that the habitat could have been arboreal. However, it is
203 consistent with the biology of some extant species of the subfamily Amnestinae, which live in
204 the litter of various types of humid forests (Mayorga & Cervantes, 2001; Eger, 2008;
205 Mayorga & Cervantes, 2014; Schwertner & Nardi, 2015).

206

207 **5. Discussion**

208 The new genus was placed in the family Cydnidae based on the following characters: (1) the
209 presence of cephalic chaetotaxy, including peg-like setae (Figs. 1C, 2A–B), (2) spinose tibiae
210 (Figs. 1A–B, 2C), and (3) margins of pronotum and costal margins of hemelytra with hair-like
211 setae (Figs. 1B–C). It can easily be classified within the subfamily Amnestinae due to the
212 presence of the claval commissure (Figs. 1A–B, D), which is a diagnostic feature of this
213 burrower bug subfamily.

214 This new genus possesses the same characters as those occurring in species of the
215 genus *Amnestus* Dallas, 1851, i.e., clypeus with four apical peg-like setae (Fig. 2A), pretarsal
216 structures with long, slender claws and narrow, slightly recurved and apically somewhat
217 capitate pulvilli (Fig. 2D), and mesothoracic wing venation bearing the vein R entirely
218 coalescent with M, and the vein 2A present and clearly visible (Fig. 1B).

219 However, the new genus also has several characters in common with species of the genus
220 *Chilocoris* Mayr, 1865 (representing tribe Cydnini of the subfamily Cydninae), i.e., clypeus as
221 long as paraclypei and apically bearing peg-like setae similar to those occurring in many
222 species of *Chilocoris* (Fig. 2A) (in Amnestinae the clypeus is distinctly longer than the
223 paraclypei, and usually bears pegs on the clypeus apical margins), metapleural peritreme long
224 and strongly recurved (in Amnestinae it is not as long, and never as strongly apically
225 recurved), and the membranal suture almost straight (Fig. 1B) (in species of *Amnestus* it is
226 deeply emarginated on the inner half, and in species of *Lattinestus* it is almost straight, but

227 this character is connected with the coleopterous form of the hemelytra in all species of the
228 genus).

229 Beside the fact that *Chilamnestocoris mixtus* displays a mixture of characters found in
230 *Chilocoris* and *Amnestus*, it also has its own two autapomorphies, i.e., (1) strongly
231 compressed and flattened middle and posterior tibiae (Fig. 2C) (the middle and posterior
232 tibiae in *Chilocoris* and species of Amnestinae are more or less semicircular in diameter), and
233 (2) each cephalic marginal setigerous puncture arises from its own well-developed tubercle
234 (Fig. 2B). What is most important is that the latter character is unknown elsewhere in the
235 family Cydnidae.

236

237 **6. Concluding remarks**

238 Burrower bugs (Cydnidae) recorded in fossil amber are extremely rare. *Chilamnestocoris*
239 *mixtus* gen. et sp. nov. is the first Burmite inclusion not only for the family Cydnidae, but also
240 the entire superfamily Pentatomoidea. The presence of a very long claval commissure enables
241 to classify this new taxon within the subfamily Amnestinae. However, it presents also several
242 generic characters relevant to the genus *Chilocoris* of the subfamily Cydninae, but also has its
243 own autapomorphies. *C. mixtus* most probably inhabited areas surrounding the conifer tree
244 trunks where ferns and liverwort grew, what is consistent with the biology of some extant
245 species of the subfamily Amnestinae.

246

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249

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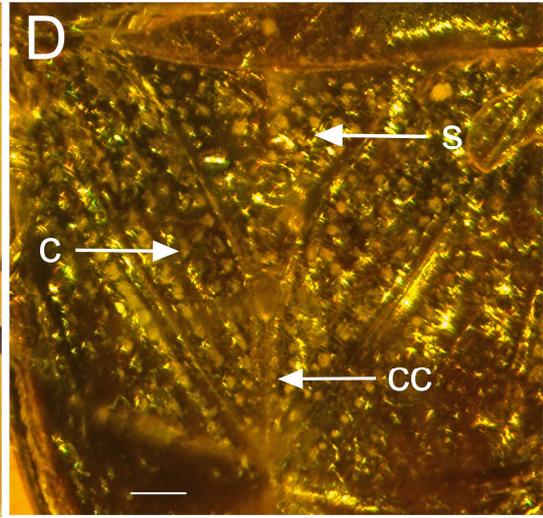
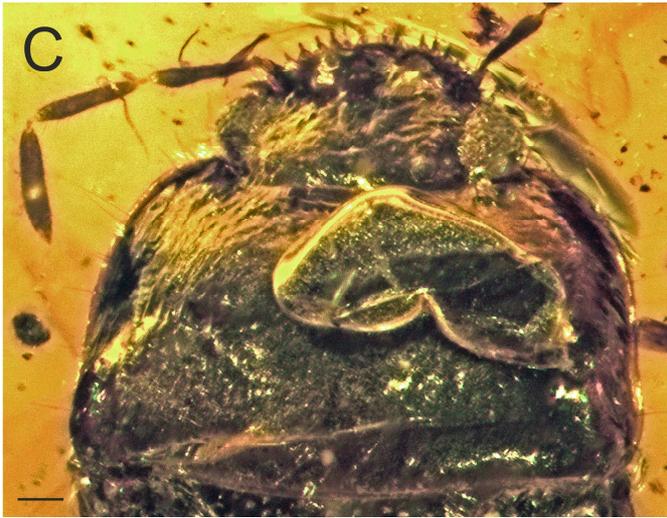
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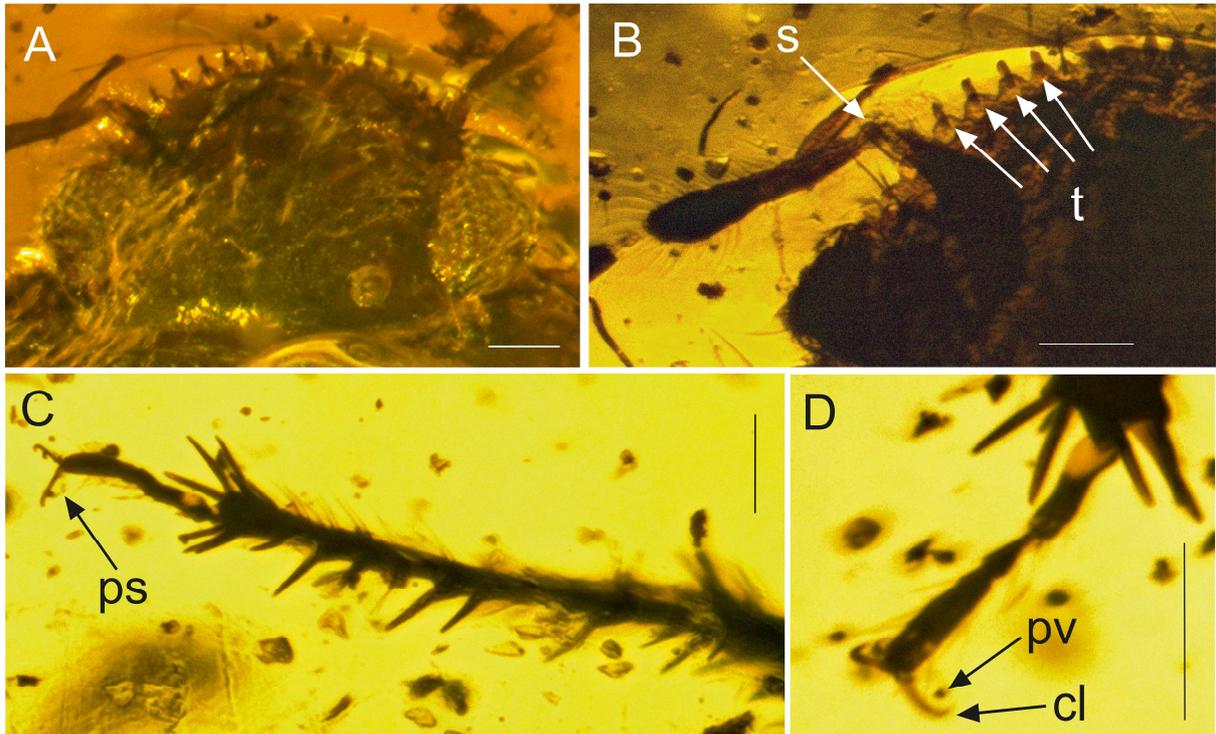
384 FIGURE CAPTIONS

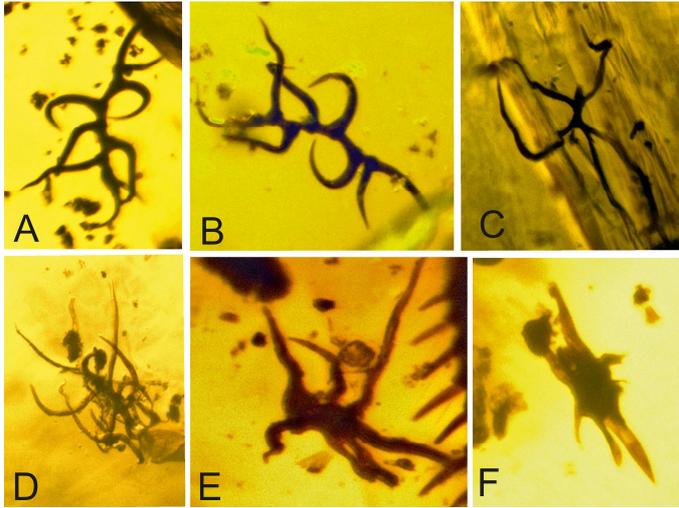
385 **Fig. 1.** Holotype female of *Chilamnestocoris mixtus* gen. et sp. nov. in Burmese amber. A.
386 Dorsal view of entire specimen. Scale bar: 1 mm. B. Reconstruction of specimen. Scale bar =
387 1 mm. C. Head and pronotum. Scale bar: 1 mm. D. Scutellum, clavus and claval commissure
388 (c – clavus, cc – claval commissure, s – scutellum). Scale bar: 0.1 mm.

389 **Fig. 2.** Holotype female of *Chilamnestocoris mixtus* gen. et sp. nov. in Burmese amber. A.
390 Dorsal view of entire head. B. Head dorsal view showing the first three antennal segments and
391 the paraclypeal margin (s – second antennal segment, t – setigerous punctures tubercles). C.
392 Tibia and tarsus of the posterior leg (ps – pretarsal structure). D. Pretarsal structure (cl – claw,
393 pv – pulvillus). Scale bars: 0.1 mm.

394 **Fig. 3.** Plant syninclusions. A–D. Branched hairs. E. Stellate hairs. F. Star-shaped structure.
395 Scale bars: 0.1 mm.







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