

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

A NEW SPECIES OF OTIOCERUS (HOMOPTERA; FULGORIDAE).

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The species made known herein is distinct not only in color from all of the eleven previously described nearctic species of the genus but differs also in at least one important structural detail (from 8 species seen), the head viewed from the side being very obtuse and evenly rounded in front,¹ instead of having the frontal process more or less angulate above. The species belongs to the section of the genus in which the antenna has a single palpiform appendage. The venation is almost precisely as in *O. stollii* Kirby.

Following the custom of dedicating species in this genus to prominent hemipterists, I take pleasure in naming the present form for Dr. E. D. Ball, who has introduced to science numerous interesting Fulgoridae including some of the subfamily (Derbinae) to which *Otiocerus* belongs. It is the hope of hemipterists in general that Dr. Ball may be enabled from time to time to interrupt his administrative duties sufficiently to give us further results of his mature experience in the Homoptera, exemplified by his recent lucid synopsis of the genus *Gypona*.

Otiocerus ballii, new species.

Structural characters as noted above and as consonant with the generic assignment. Male genital segment with a median triangular process rounded apically, claspers widely separated at base, the general trend of their inner margins toward each other, overlapping at apices which are pointed and recurved, each clasper bearing on inner margin at about a third of its length from base a short, broad process, the posterior angle of

¹Fowler describes in the *Biologia Centrali-Americana* some species having this character.

which is produced as an upwardly and anteriorly curved hook; oedeagus narrowed opposite these processes, its apex with two anteriorly directed tapering, curved and acutely pointed processes. Female genital segment broadly triangularly produced.

General color pale yellowish; antennae and a broad vitta along entire side of head, continued over side of thorax onto corium where it narrows and terminates at end of basal third, scarlet; beginning near base of corium, irregular dusky spots nearly fill the cells of remainder of tegmen except clavus, costal cell, the extreme apex, and a few large hyaline areas in disk of the posterior expanded portion; in the clear cells at the apex of tegmen are 3 or 4 more distinct dark spots; veins of the yellowish parts of tegmen concolorous, of the spotted part, red; outer apical angle with several irregular scarlet and one round black spot; hind-wings whitish hyaline, veins red.

Length: 8-9 mm.

Holotype ♂ (Coll. E. D. Ball) and 2 other ♂'s. Glen Echo, Md., August 22, 1922; Allotype, Glen Echo, Md., July 23, 1921, all collected by J. R. Malloch; 2 ♂'s from Uhler collection labelled September 19, and 27, also probably from Maryland (U. S. Nat. Mus.).

The opportunity is taken of presenting a key based chiefly on descriptions of the species of *Otiocerus*. This may prove an aid in identifying these forms, but it is in no sense intended as a contribution to knowledge of the group. This genus like many in the Fulgoridae could well be revised on the basis of genitalic and other structural characters.

TEGMINAL COLORATION OF OTIOCERUS.

- A. Without distinct red or dark markings other than veins.
 - B. Almost entirely dusky (hind-wings also), veins red
 - stollii* Kirby.
 - BB. Lutescent, veins red *schellenbergii* Kirby.
- AA. With distinct red or dark markings other than veins.
 - C. With red markings only, these chiefly in the form of a vitta along claval suture forking at end of clavus, sending one branch along radial margin and another to outer apical angle *coquebertii* Kirby.
 - CC. With dark markings, sometimes red ones also.
 - D. Dark markings chiefly in the form of vittae or bands.
 - E. A faint band from apex of clavus obliquely across to costal margin, and faint clouds at inner apical angle *kirbyii* Fitch.
 - EE. Dark markings more extensive.
 - F. In addition to a vitta, 5 definite dark spots are present in basal half of tegmen.
 - G. Vitta broader, percurrent
 - reaumurii* Kirby.
 - GG. Vitta narrower, broken at apex of clavus *wolfii* Kirby.

GGG. Vitta forked at apex of clavus (as in
coquebertii) *signoretii* Fitch.

(These three may be one species.)

FF. Only one dark spot (that in clavus); a dark
vitta above claval suture to its apex,
thence to outer apical angle; numerous
dark spots on inner apical angle

amyotii Fitch.

DD. Dark markings chiefly in the form of spots.

H. Base of corium without spots.

I. Spots irregular in shape,
aggregated, covering
most of tegmen except
clavus *ballii* n. sp.

II. Spots chiefly round, widely
spaced, one in clavus
abbotii Kirby.

HH. Spots distributed over the
entire tegmen.

J. Spots forming series in
the cells; abdomen
without black spots
degeerii Kirby.

JJ. Spots not in series in
the cells, some of
them grouped in an
oblique vitta; abdo-
men spotted
francilloni Kirby.