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### Notes on Nearctic Hemiptera.

By W. L. McATEE, U. S. Biological Survey, Washington, D. C.

The following notes comprise extensions of knowledge of the range, and other interesting data relating to a variety of nearctic Heteroptera and Homoptera. They result from miscellaneous work on the collection of the U. S. National Museum but do not imply a systematic inspection of the collection for other similar material.

#### PENTATOMIDAE.

*NEZARA VIRIDULA* var. *TORQUATA* Fabricius.—The present note is merely for the purpose of pointing out that this variety is the subject, there unnamed, of an article by Thos. H. Jones, entitled "A peculiarly marked adult of *Nezara viridula* L. (Hemip.)" (Proc. Ent. Soc. Wash. Vol. 22, No. 7, Oct., 1920, pp. 171-172, 1 fig. The specimen Mr. Jones refers to was collected in Louisiana, and the form has been elsewhere recorded from that and other southern States.

*ELASMOSTETHUS ATRICORNIS* Van Duzee.—Found breeding on *Aralia spinosa* at Mt. Calvert, Maryland, September, 1920, by Messrs. H. S. Barber and William Palmer. The species has been recorded from Quebec, New York and Indiana, a range to which the present record adds a considerable southward extension. It is worthy of note that at this most southern point in its known range, the insect was found feeding on a plant which there approaches its northern limit.

*ALCAEORRHYNCHUS GRANDIS* Dallas.—Brownsville, Texas, Jan. 16, 1923, T. C. Barber. Previously recorded from Florida.

#### COREIDAE.

*LEPTOGLOSSUS GONAGRA* Fabricius.—Brownsville, Texas, Aug. 10, 1922, T. C. Barber. Previously recorded from Florida.

*SAVIUS JURGIOSUS* Stal.—Brownsville, Texas, Jan. 18, 1923, T. C. Barber. Hitherto unrecorded from the United States.

*LEPTOCORIS TRIVITTATUS* Say.—In further illustration of the



eastward trend of this species, it may be noted that in recent years several specimens have been collected in the district of Columbia and vicinity.

#### THAUMASTOTHERIIDAE.

Apparently the genus *Thaumastocoris* should be known as *Thaumastotherium*. Kirkaldy proposed<sup>1</sup> the latter name on pages 777-778 of the article in which it appears and used it in combination with that of the genotype, *Thaumastotherium australicum* new species (p. 778, Bundaberg, Queensland). The illustrations (Pl. 43, figs. 1-3) of the insect, however, are labelled *Thaumastocoris australicus*, and an inserted slip of Corrigenda makes a corresponding correction to the text. *Thaumastotherium* does not seem to be preoccupied, the description has page priority over the Plate, and the Corrigenda necessarily are subsequent to the pages they are intended to correct. Since the International Code provides: "Art. 32.—A generic or a specific name, once published, can not be rejected, even by its author, because of inappropriateness," it would appear that Kirkaldy did not take effective steps to change the name and that *Thaumastotherium* should stand.

The only known nearctic representative of the family is *Xylastodoris luteolus* Barber<sup>2</sup> described from Cuba. A record for the insect in the United States has been published<sup>3</sup> but in a place where it is very likely to be overlooked. The locality at which numerous specimens were collected is Coconut Grove, Florida.

#### PYRRHOCORIDAE.

*DYSDERCUS OBSCURATUS* Distant.—Brownsville, Texas, Jan. 18, 1923, T. C. Barber. There seems to be no previous definite record for the United States.

#### NABIDAE.

*METATROPIPHORUS BELFRAGII* Reuter.—This species seems rare and previous reports have all pertained to the Gulf States.

<sup>1</sup>Kirkaldy, G. W., Memoir on a few Heteropterous Hemiptera from Eastern Australia, Proc. Linn. Soc. New South Wales, Vol. 32 (1907), March 11, 1908.

<sup>2</sup>Bul. Brooklyn Ent. Soc. 15, No. 4, Oct. 1920, pp. 100-102.

<sup>3</sup>Moznette, G. F., Notes on the Royal Palm Bug, Quart. Bul. State Plant Bd. Fla., VI, No. 1, Oct. 1921, pp. 10-15.



Material examined at the National Museum, however, shows that the species ranges north to Maryland and Illinois.

#### MEMBRACIDAE.

*CERESA BOREALIS* Fairmaire.—Oregon, Baker Collection; Yakima, Washington, M. A. Yothers. These collections extend northwesterly the recorded distribution of this species.

*CERESA VITULUS* Fabricius.—A specimen from the Ashmead Collection is labelled Jacksonville, Florida. It seems probable that something is wrong here; however, as noted under subsequent species there is evidence for the occurrence of neotropical membracids in Florida, that at least demands further careful investigation.

*ATYMNA CASTANEA* Fitch.—Received from Knox Dale, Pennsylvania, with the notation, "destroying leaves of maple and apple trees." This indicates what we may expect of this species that has been so largely deprived of its customary food plant by the chestnut blight.

*MEMBRACIS MEXICANA* Guerin.—Two specimens from Ashmead Collection, labelled Key West, Florida. Previously recorded from California.

*AETHALION QUADRATUM* Fowler.—A specimen from the Ashmead Collection ticketed Jacksonville is also labelled, Type, *Polydontoscelis cinctifrons* Ashmead. In the description of the latter (*Psyche*, 8, pp. 387-388, July, 1899), the type locality is given as St. Nicholas, Florida. Regardless of possible errors in the locality labels, the specimen here cited doubtless serves to fix the identity of *Polydontoscelis cinctifrons* Ashmead, which the author compares with *Aethalion* in the original description.

*CALLICENTRUS AURIFASCIA* Walker.—Florida, Snow Collection. This record from a different collection lends some support to the Ashmeadian records of neotropical Membracids from Florida. The probability that they may be verified is further indicated by the accepted Florida records of such species as *Ceresa patruelis* Stal, *Antianthe expansa* Germar, and *Umbonia crassicornis* Amyot et Serville. Investigation of the status of these various forms as well as rediscovery of the



Walker species from St. John River, are interesting lines of field research for Florida collectors. Dr. W. D. Funkhouser writes me "I see no reason to question the Florida record (Snow Coll.) for *Callicentrus aurifascia* Walker. This species was described from Jamaica, is found in Cuba, and I should think might well be in Florida."

#### CICADELLIDAE.

*EUSCELIS STACTOGALUS* Fieber.—The taxonomic wanderings of this species have been discussed by Chris E. Olsen (Bul. Brooklyn Ent. Soc., 16, No. 2, April, 1921, pp. 33-37) who mentions its occurrence in California, Texas, Missouri, New York and New Jersey. There may now be added Tempe, Arizona, May 24, 1923, E. V. Walter and M. Martinez; and Botanical Garden, Brooklyn, New York, July 12, 1921, S. E. Griffith.

#### FULGORIDAE.

*ASARCOPUS PALMARUM* Horvath.—Dr. F. S. Stickney sent in from Indio, California, May, 1923, ample material of all stages of an insect attacking the crown leaves of the date palm. It was recognized as an Issine of the tribe Caliscelini, and by good luck the description\* of *Asarcopus palmarum* from crown of the date palm, Cairo, Egypt, was found. Our insect is undoubtedly the same thing introduced with the host plant. How long it may have been established in this country is not known, but probably it was thriving here prior to the date it was first scientifically described from its native land.

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#### A Collecting Trip for South American Lepidoptera.

Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Porter and Mrs. Emma Young, Mrs. Porter's mother, were to leave Decorah, Iowa, on November 10, and New York on November 21, for Rio de Janeiro, where they should arrive December 3. After a month there they plan to go to Sao Paulo, where Dr. Bruno Pohl will meet them, thence to Santos, thence to Montevideo where they expect to be met by Dr. Florentino Felippone. About June 20, 1926, they hope to be at Buenos Aires. Their further itinerary includes Mendoza, Santiago and Valparaiso, La Paz, Lima, Bogota and other points in Colombia. Mr. Porter expects to return to New York in April, 1927, the ladies having preceded him.

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\*Bul. Soc. d'Hist. Nat. de l'Afrique du Nord, 12, 1921, pp. 179-180.