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Neotropical Pachygronthinae in the American Museum of Natural History (Hemiptera, Lygaeidae)

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Through the courtesy of Drs. Mont A. Cazier and Herbert Ruckes I have recently had opportunity to examine the Pachygronthinae present in the American Museum collections. This material contains a number of interesting Neotropical species, including a new species of *Oedancala* from British Guiana.

Oedancala acuminata, new species

General coloration pale yellowish, lightly marked with reddish brown on claval commissure, terminal tarsal segment, mesal portion of mesosternum, under side of head and on abdomen as obscure longitudinal vittae; corial margin lacking spots; glabrous above except lateral area of head, this area and ventral surface of body clothed with appressed sericeous pubescence; rather coarsely punctured on pronotum and scutellum, weakly so on clavus and corium.

Head very elongate and tapering, little declivent, length head 1.00 mm. (0.98–1.05 mm.); pronotum broad and short, moderately tapering cephalad, lateral margins straight, length, 1.17 mm. (1.15–1.20 mm.), width, 1.66 mm. (1.63–1.72 mm.); scutellum with obsolescent median carina and prominent basal depression, length, 0.90 mm. (0.85–0.95 mm.); hemelytra with lateral margins of corium slightly expanded near apex

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of scutellum, membrane usually slightly exceeding apex of abdomen, distance apex clavus to apex corium 1.08 mm. (1.03–1.10 mm.), distance apex corium to apex membrane 1.40 mm. (1.33–1.45 mm.); labium very long, extending caudad to apices of mesocoxae, first segment reaching compound eyes, second segment exceeding base of head by one-half of its length; fore femora strongly incrassate, armed below with four major spines, length, 1.42 mm. (1.35–1.45 mm.); antennae slender, lightly incrassate, length, I, 0.94 mm. (0.85–1.00 mm.); II, 0.76 mm. (0.70–0.80 mm.); III, 0.78 mm. (0.75–0.80 mm.); IV, 0.70 mm. (0.70–0.72 mm.). Total length, 5.96 mm. (5.80–6.20 mm.).

TYPE MATERIAL: Holotype, male, Kaieteur, British Guiana, August 5, 1911, in the American Museum of Natural History. Paratypes, six males, one female, same data as the holotype, in the American Museum of Natural History (four males), the United States National Museum (one male), and the author's collection (one male, one female).

This species is very closely related to the Brazilian *Oedancala longirostris* Slater. It resembles *longirostris* in having an elongate labium, a long head, a lack of corial color spots and in its general habitus. *Oedancala acuminata* runs to couplet 5 in my 1955 key to *Oedancala*. From the North American *dorsalis* this new species may readily be separated by its uniformly pale scutellum and its more elongate head. From *longirostris* it may be separated by the following couplet:

Length of pronotum more than one and one-third times as great as distance across eyes (1.40–1.50 mm.); first antennal segment longer than length of head. Larger species, over 6.25 mm. . . . . *longirostris* Slater

Length of pronotum less than one and one-third times as great as distance across eyes (1.20–1.26 mm.); first antennal segment shorter than head length or subequal. Smaller species, usually 6.00 mm. or less . . *acuminata*, new species

Oedancala crassimana (Fabricius)

Lygaeus crassimanus FABRICIUS, 1803, Systema Rhyngota, p. 122.

Cuban specimens of this variable species show a definite tendency towards loss of color spots along the apical margin of the corium. Of 17 specimens examined, 10 completely lack spotting, and five of the remaining seven have the color spot much reduced. As with the mainland population there is great variation in size present in the Cuban series, but no reliable characters appear to be present to warrant belief that more than a single species is represented in the material. Certainly a critical population analysis of this wide-ranging and variable species would appear to be most desirable.

MATERIAL EXAMINED: Nine males and eight females. Cuba: *Oriente:*

San Carlos estate, Guantanamo (one female); *Pinar del Rio:* Guane (one female); north of Vinales (one male, one female); south of Pinar del Rio (seven males, five females). United States: *Florida:* Archbold Biological Station at Lake Placid (one male).

Cuban specimens that lack a corial color spot will run to couplet 6 in my 1955 generic key. These specimens may be separated from *meridionalis* Stål and *cubana* Stål, the two species that key out at couplet 6, as follows:

1. First antennal segment much shorter than length of pronotum and much shorter than antennal segments 2 and 3 combined . . *meridionalis* Stål
   First antennal segment nearly as long as, or longer than, length of pronotum and nearly as long as, or longer than, antennal segments 2 and 3 combined 2
2. First antennal segment considerably more than twice as long as segment 2; males with first antennal segment more than one and one-half times pronotal length; elongate slender species; antennae strongly sexually dimorphic, the antennae of the males much longer than those of females . . . . . *cubana* Stål
   First antennal segment at most very little more than twice the length of segment 2; males with first antennal segment much less than one and one-fourth times as long as pronotal length; relatively short, robust species; antennae showing little or no sexual dimorphism . *crassimana* (Fabricius)

Oedancala notata Stål

Oedancala notata STÅL, 1874, Enumeratio Hemipterorum, no. 4, p. 139.

MATERIAL EXAMINED: Thirty-six males, 36 females. British Guiana: Tumatumari (23 males, 23 females); Rockstone (nine males, six females). Brazil: *Para:* Santarem (one male); Benevides (one female). Nicaragua: Chinandega (three males, six females).

In coloration these specimens show the usual geographic variation, with the British Guiana material possessing extensive rufous markings, while specimens from Nicaragua are nearly uniformly pale and colored much like *crassimana* and *bimaculata.*

Oedancala longirostris Slater

Oedancala longirostris SLATER, 1955, Philippine Jour. Sci., vol. 84, p. 102.

MATERIAL EXAMINED: One male, three females. Brazil: *Goyaz:* Chapada (topotypic).

Oedancala cubana Stål

Oedancala cubana STÅL, 1874, Enumeratio Hemipterorum, no. 4, p. 139.

MATERIAL EXAMINED: Three males, two females. Cuba: *Pinar del Rio:* North of Vinales (one male, one female); Cerro Cebras (one male); Cabanas (one female). *Santa Clara:* Banos de Ciego (one male).

Oedancala bimaculata Distant

Pachygrontha bimaculata DISTANT, 1893, Biologia Centrali-Americana, Heteroptera, vol. 1, p. 393.

MATERIAL EXAMINED: One female from Tepic, Nayarit, Mexico.

Pachygrontha parvula Barber

Pachygrontha parvula BARBER, 1923, Amer. Mus. Novitates, no. 75, p. 4.

At the time of my revisional study of the Pachygronthinae (Slater, 1955) I had not had access to the unique type of *Pachygrontha parvula* Barber from Mona Island in the West Indies. At that time I remarked on the apparently close relationship of this species and *P. compacta* Distant. However, the fact that Barber related *parvula* to *bimaculata,* a member of the genus *Oedancala,* as well as certain differences from *compacta* mentioned in the original description, led me to withhold conclusions as to the correct systematic position of the species. Examination of the holotype specimen shows that *parvula* is a synonym of *Pachygrontha compacta* Distant. *Parvula* was described as having the pronotal length nearly as great as the width. However, in the type specimen the pronotal width is nearly one and one-half times as great as the median length (1.48). The third antennal segment was said to be one-third shorter than segment 2. However, the second segment is actually slightly less than one-fifth longer than segment 3 (ratio 48/58). In the type the length of the pronotum is approximately one-half of the corial length, not much less than one-half as stated in the original description. Thus, the three characters that appear from the description to separate *parvula* from *compacta* do not do so, and the two species are here considered as synonymous.

Pachygrontha minarum Lethierry and Severin

Pachygrontha minarum LETHIERRY AND SEVERIN, 1894, Catalogue général des hémiptères, vol. 2, p. 181.

MATERIAL EXAMINED: One male from Chapada, Goyaz, Brazil.

Pachygrontha oedancalodes oedancalodes Stål

Pachygrontha oedancalodes STÅL, 1874, Enumeratio Hemipterorum, no. 4, p. 139.

MATERIAL EXAMINED: One male, four females. Honduras: *Atlantida:* La Ceiba (one female); Tegucigalpa (one male). Mexico: *Veracruz:* La Buena Ventura (three females).

Pachygrontha oedancalodes carvalhoi Slater

Pachygrontha oedancalodes carvalhoi SLATER, 1955, Philippine Jour. Sci., vol. 84, p. 38.

MATERIAL EXAMINED: One female from Pio Pastaza, Oriente, Ecuador.

Phlegyas annulicrus Stål

Phlegyas annulicrus STÅL, 1869, Berliner Ent. Zeitschr., vol. 13, p. 230.

MATERIAL EXAMINED: Two males, two females. Mexico: *Sonora:* 42 miles south of Hermosillo (one male). *Colima:* Tecolpa (one male, one female). *Nayarit:* South of Tepic (one female).

The specimens from Colima and Nayarit run darker than do specimens of *annulicrus* from the southwestern United States and resemble *abbreviatus* in the extensive development of blackened areas. However, the male claspers are typical of *annulicrus,* and the antennal ratios fall within the usual range for the latter.

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