A NEW SPECIES OF RHINACLOA FROM PALO VERDE AND OCOTILLO IN THE WESTERN U. S.
(HEMIPTERA: MIRIDAE)

A new species of Rhinacloa is being described to provide a name for use in the work of T. F. Halstead in Phoenix, Arizona. Mr. Halstead first noticed this species damaging palo verde, Cercidium microphyllum (Torrey) Rose and Johnston, in Encanto Park and adjacent properties on May 28, 1970. Recently, May 20, 1971, he has collected a long series from the same area on both palo verde and ocotillo, Fouquieria splendens Engelmann. George Buxton in Sacramento, California, reports (in litt.) that he has taken this species twice in California: Indio, Riverside Co., May 18, 1961 and Ocotillo, Imperial Co., February 1, 1965.

Rhinacloa callicrates, n. sp.

♂. Length 2.6 mm., width 1.1 mm. Head: width 32 units (in all measurements, 39 units = 1 mm.), vertex width at base subequal to width between eyes across frons 13: 13. Rostrum: very short, scarcely attaining posterior margins of anterior coxae, yellow, apex brownish black. Antennae: segment II cylindrical, proportion of segments I–IV, 6: 24: 12: 8, uniformly pale, brownish yellow, clothed with fine yellowish pubescence intermixed with conspicuous black setae. Pronotum: proportion of length to width at base 19: 39. Color: head and body pale brownish yellow; hemelytra straw yellow, mostly translucent, embolium and cuneus opaque; membrane uniformly pale fuscous, veins yellowish. Legs pale yellow, hind femora with scattered black spots on ventral surface; tibiae with black spots at bases of spines, tips of tarsi black. Vestiture: dorsum clothed with silvery scalelike pubescence intermixed with conspicuous black simple pubescence; tibiae with black spines; femora with a few black spines near apices.


Holotype, ♂ (USNM type no. 71718), and allotype, ♀, Phoenix, Arizona, May 20, 1971, T. F. Halstead. Paratypes 61 ♂, 52 ♀, same data as above. Material collected from palo verde, Cercidium microphyllum and ocotillo, Fouquieria splendens. Eight paratypes in T. F. Halstead collection, remaining material in USNM.

Rhinacloa callicrates can be separated readily from the other three North American species by its uniformly pale upper surface with the contrasting black pubescence and the very short rostrum, which scarcely reaches the posterior margins of the anterior coxae.—Jon L. Herring, Systematic Entomology Laboratory, Agricultural Research Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, c/o U. S. National Museum, Washington, D. C. 20560.