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Neotropical Miridae, LXIX: A Remarkable New Genus of Phylini (Hemiptera)

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Among the neotropical mirids in the collection of the U. S. National Museum, the author found a remarkable new genus of the tribe Phylini herewith described and figured. This work constitutes a portion of a study concerning Miridae in the U. S. National Museum. I am indebted to Dr. Reece I. Sailer who is in charge of the Heteroptera collection.

HAMBLETONIOLA n. gen.

Phylinae, Phylini. Genus of small size, body slightly ovoid, smooth, covered by very long and erect pubescence intermixed with silvery, flat and remumbent hairs. Head rounded in front, inclined, vertex smooth, convex with posterior margin straight; eyes of median size, sessil, touching the anterior margin of pronotum and reaching distinctly beyond the lateral margins of anterior angles of pronotum, smooth posteriorly; seen from the side, frons noticeably rounded, eyes somewhat compressed, distant from gula by a space about half the height of one eye, clypeus not separated from frons by a suture, vertical; rostrum reaching apex of hind coxae, the first joint noticeably incrassate.

Antennae inserted near the anterior margin of eye, distinctly above the inferior margin of orbita, segment I short, incrassate towards the apex; segment II about three times as long as first and about as thick as the latter, narrowed at extreme apex and base, covered by long, erect and somewhat silky hairs, their length equal to or more than diameter of segment; segment III ovoid, almost globose (female) or ovoid narrowed apically (male), strongly narrowed basally and apically, beset with long, black scale-like or flattened hairs; segment IV short, laminate with a narrow cylindrical base. In the nymph this segment

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shows remarkable variation since it assumes the color and shape which is to be found on the third segment of adults. It bears also a fossa near apex in which there can be found many very fine hairs (Figs. B, C). The third antennal segment on the adults is the thickest of all.

Pronotum somewhat rectangular, without collar or calli, disc flat, posterior margin almost straight, posterior angles rounded, lateral margins blunt, narrowing towards the head, the anterior angles in contact with eyes, smooth, beset with long erect hairs and scale-like recumbent pubescence; mesoscutum broadly uncovered; scutellum moderately convex, provided with long hairs and scale-like pubescence.

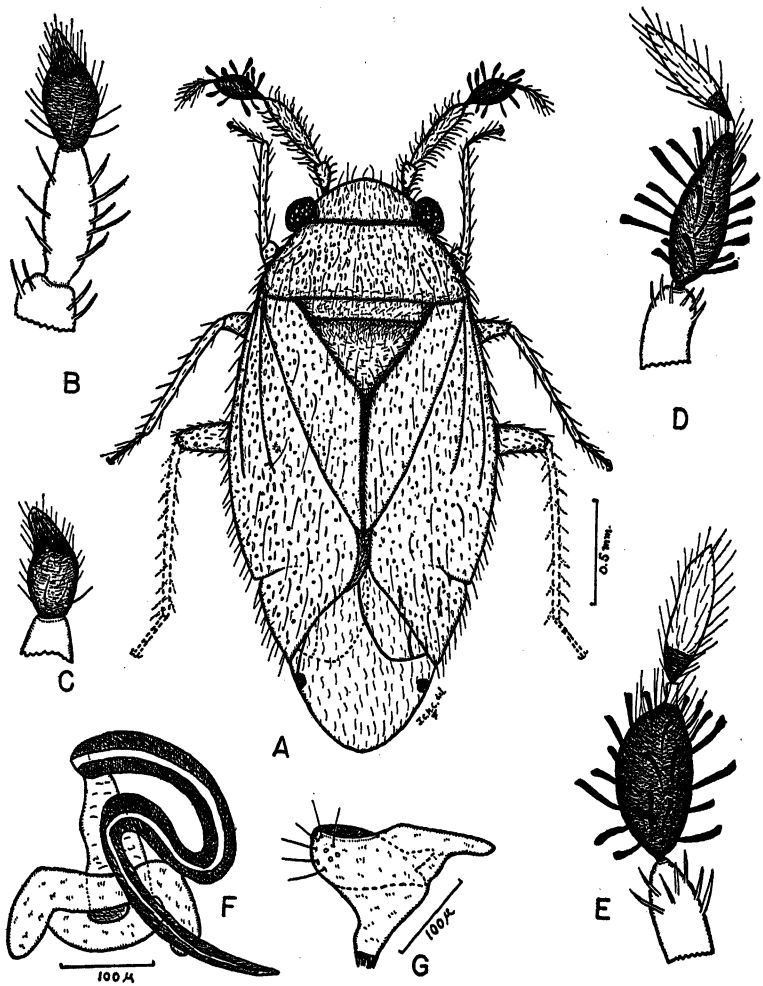
Hemelytra with clavus wider towards the apex, embolium distinct only on basal half, becoming gradually wider and less distinct towards the cuneus, cubital vein distinct on basal half of corium, cuneus about as long as wide at base, cuneal fracture small with distinct incisure, entire surface of hemelytra covered with long erect hairs and flattened, recumbent ones showing silvery reflection under incident light; membrane with two areolae, the apical angle or larger areola widely rounded.

Legs relatively short, femora incrassate, the tibiae beset with long whitish spines, about as long as wide diameter of tibia, intermixed with short and fine hairs, tarsi long, claws with pseudarolia easily visible, reaching beyond middle of claw.

Type of genus: Hambletoniola antennata n. sp.

This genus belongs to the group of Phylini with scale-like pubescence intermixed with common hairs and differs from others due to its very peculiar thickened and ovoid third antennal segment. Besides the antennae it is also characteristized by its long tibial spines, long pubescence of body and type of pseudarolia.

It is with pleasure that I name this genus for Dr. E. H. Hambleton of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, who has contributed greatly to the advancement of neotropical entomology. Dr. Hambleton was also my first teacher in entomology and I am much indebted to him for his direction and encouragement.



EXPLANATION OF FIGURES

A. *Hambletoniola antennata* n. sp., female, holotype. B. Antennal segments III and IV of nymph (dorsal view). C. Antennal segment IV of nymph (front view). D. Antennal segments III and IV of male. E. Antennal segments III and IV of female. F. Phallus. G. Left paramere.

Hambletoniola antennata n. sp. (Figs. A, D, E)

Characterized by its color, structure of antennae and male genitalia.

Male: Length 2.8 mm., width 1.2 mm. *Head:* length 0.2 mm., width 0.8 mm., vertex 0.45 mm. *Antennae:* segment I, length 0.1 mm.; II, 0.4 mm.; III, length 0.25 mm., width 0.14 mm.; IV, 0.2 mm. *Pronotum:* length 0.4 mm., width at base 1.0 mm. *Rostrum:* length 0.85 mm., segment I, length 0.28 mm.; II, 0.28 mm.; III, 0.11 mm.; IV, 0.21 mm.

Color: whitish yellow sprinkled with small roundish brown dots and silvery pubescence; eyes brownish; second antennal segment brownish orange to black, with dark scale-like hairs, third segment black at base; body covered by minute brown spots and silvery flat recumbent hairs, the spots are not to be seen on mesoscutum and extreme base of corium; membrane hyaline with one roundish black spot beyond the apex of cuneus; underside concolorous with brownish spots on the pleural region, more numerous on propleura; femora and tibiae with brown to black spots, more numerous on anterior surface of femora; rostrum dark at apex; base of first antennal segment and sometimes antennal peduncle and portion of gena brownish to orange in color.

Genitalia: Phallus (Fig. F) of the *Phylini* type. Left paramere (Fig. G) also typical for the tribe, with a few dorsal setae and a somewhat two-lobed left branch.

Morphological characters as given for genus.

Female: Identical with male in color and dimensions. Third antennal segment more ovoid, almost globose. In the male this segment is distinctly narrowed towards the apex (Figs. D & E).

Host plant: Leucophylum sp.

Holotype: male, MEXICO (Brownsville, Texas, V. 5. 39, 31903) on *Leucophylum*. *Allotype:* female. *Paratypes:* male, female and nymph, same data as type, in the collections of the United States National Museum and of the author (type USNM No. 61996).