

It is also close to *Mexicomiris* Carvalho & Schaffner, 1974 and from *Nuovoleonina* Schaffner & Carvalho, 1985. These two genera can be distinguished by the length of rostrum, vestiture of the body, especially of the hind tibiae and by the morphology of the vesica of aedeagus. Both genera can be differentiated from *Cyphopelta* by the distance of eyes and anterior margin of pronotum.

Synthlipsis Kirkaldy, 1908

Synthlipsis Kirkaldy, 1908: 786; *id.*, Carvalho, 1957 (as a synonym of *Trilaccus* Horvath, 1902).

This genus was described by Kirkaldy (monobasic) to include the species *chambersi* Kirkaldy, 1908 from Queensland, (Kuranda), Australia. Illustration of head, pronotum and antenna was given. A wide range of color of body (except for legs) has led the author to describe *Trilaccus annulipes* Carvalho, 1953. At the time the types species of *Synthlipsis* was not studied and all indications led the author to judge that both genera were synonyms.

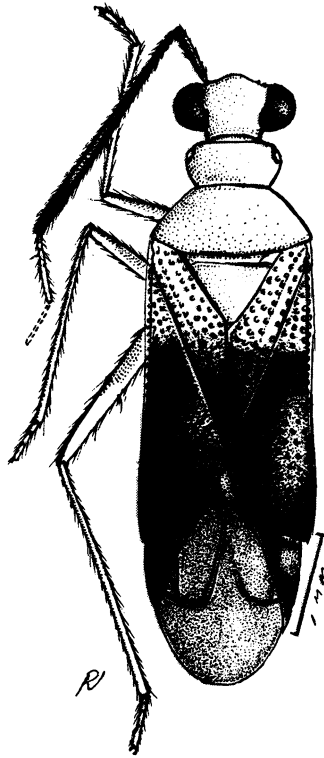


Fig. 23. *Synthlipsis ternatensis* (Distant, 1904): holotype.

Carvalho (1976: 4) treats *annulipes* as *Synthlipsis* and comments about a possible synonymy stating: « a study of a series of topotypes when available may possible indicate synonymy between *annulipes* Carvalho and *chambersi* Kirkaldy ».

Studies undertaken afterwards have proved that *Trilaccus* and *Synthlipsis* are different genera. Horvath genus remains with the species *foveatus* Distant, 1904; *marginatus* Distant, 1904; *nigroruber* Horvat, 1902 and *perversus* (Reuter, 1905).

During a recent stay in the British Museum of Natural History the author was able to study *Mertila ternatensis* Distant, 1904 and to verify that it is a species of *Synthlipsis* Kirkaldy. In the present work *ternatensis* is being treated as such and an illustration is presented to corroborate this affirmative (fig. 23).