

On a New Genus of Mirid from the Biliran Island (Hemiptera)

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(Received April 10, 1956)

Amongst mirids collected by Baker in the Philippine Islands, deposited in the U.S. National Museum, the author found a male specimen representing a new genus herewith described and figured.

Bilirania n. gen.

Orthotylinae, Pilophorini. Species strongly myrmecomorphic with pronotum deeply and narrowly constricted at middle, pubescence short and sparse, body smooth.

Head with vertex strongly depressed, frons somewhat prominent with long and erect pubescence, eyes noticeably compressed, contiguous with anterior margin of pronotum and reaching laterally far beyond the lateral margins of the latter, the ommatidia large and provided with short hairs between their spaces, vertex truncate posteriorly, sharpe but not carinate; seen from side, head noticeably longer than high, eye elongate with inferior margin straight, clypeus flat, gula sulcate medianly. Rostrum slender, short, reaching a little beyond anterior coxae or about the constriction of pronotum, gena with long erect hairs.

Antenna inserted near inferior margin of eye, segment one short, as long as width of vertex, second segment about five times as long as first, noticeably incrassate towards the apex, third and fourth segments very short, dense and shortly pilose.

Pronotum strongly constricted at middle (forming a peduncle between anterior and posterior portions), smooth, with lateral margins rounded, calli and collar not visible, disc convex posteriorly, strongly inclined on both sides towards the median constriction, posterior margin slightly curved inwards in front of mesoscutum which is exposed. Scutellum convex at middle, with flat and pointed apical portion.

Hemelytra smooth, with vestiges of transversal silvery bands (on specimen studied), embolium very narrow, almost absent, clavus very long, cuneus rounded and strongly inclined, cuneal fracture deep and wide, corium

*) This work was undertaken with the help of the National Research Council of Brazil.

with postero-lateral and posterior margins rounded; areola of membrane rounded externally.

Legs fairly long, the anterior coxae visible from above, inserted very near the head, noticeably narrowed apically, tibiae with hairs and spines, claws and arolia of the Orthotyline type.

Type of genus: *Bilirania myrmecoides* n.sp.

This genus is near to *Leucophoroptera* Poppius, from Australia, but differs by the strong pronotal constriction, shape of cuneus and anterior coxae.

Bilirania myrmecoides n.sp.

(Fig. 1)

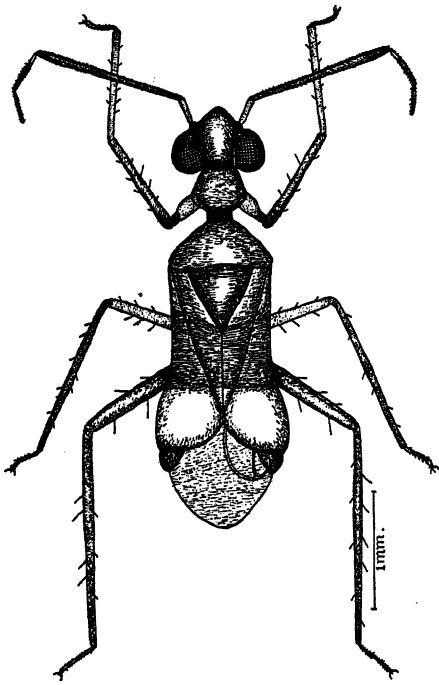


Fig. 1 — *Bilirania myrmecoides* n.sp., male, holotype.

Characterized by its color, shape of pronotum and male genitalia.

Male: length 3.6 mm, width 1.2 mm. *Head*: length 0.8 mm, width 0.8 mm, vertex 0.30 mm.

Antenna: segment I, length 0.2 mm; II, 1.2 mm; III, 0.4 mm; IV 0.2 mm.

Pronotum: length 0.9 mm, width at base 0.8 mm.

Color: castaneous to dark-brown, second antennal segment and femora tending to reddish-brown, base of third antennal segment whitish, basal portion of anterior coxae pale, hemelytra with a darker median transversal area which in fresh specimens may show a silvery color.

Morphological characters as in the description of genus. Genitalia not studied to preserve holotype.

Female: unknown.

Holotype: male, Biliran Isl. Philippines, Baker col., in the Collection of the U.S. National Museum (author's collection presently until safe transportation is found).