

**ORTHOTYLUS TRANSLUCENS: TAXONOMIC STATUS AND
CORRECTION OF PUBLISHED MISIDENTIFICATIONS
(HEMIPTERA: MIRIDAE)¹**

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Abstract.—The type-specimen of *Orthotylus translucens* Tucker 1907 has been examined. Although the condition of the type is poor, we are following Kelton and are regarding Tucker's species as a junior synonym of *Diaphnocoris provancheri* (Burque). Records of *O. translucens* in faunal lists probably should refer to *D. pellucida* (Uhler) and *D. ulmi* (Knight), as well as to *D. provancheri*. Published host records from onion and mesquite refer to *Labopidea allii* Knight and *Orthotylus vigilax* Van Duzee, respectively.

Elbert S. Tucker was F. H. Snow's student and museum assistant at the University of Kansas during the early years of this century (Hyder, 1953). He published a number of papers on economic entomology while employed as a special field agent by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. From extensive spare-time collecting he amassed considerable material from Colorado, Kansas, Louisiana and Texas and helped to catalogue the insects of Kansas. He identified much of his own material but usually had specialists verify his determinations. Tucker felt sufficiently confident to describe several new species of Diptera and Hymenoptera; his taxonomic work in Hemiptera was limited to the 1907 description of a new mirid, *Orthotylus translucens*.

Tucker described *O. translucens* from a male he collected in July 1894 near Colorado Springs, Colorado, which O. Heidemann had noted was most closely related to the European *O. prasinus* (Fallén). Tucker hesitated to describe a new species based on a single specimen but did so "to avoid listing a species as unknown."

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