ON THE SYSTEMATIC POSITION OF CYLLECORIS DISPAR BOHEMAN (HEMIPTERA: MIRIDAE).

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In 1852 Boheman described Cyllecoris dispar, a new species from Sweden. Flor (1860) placed it, along with most Mirids, in the genus Capsus L., but it is noteworthy that he remarked upon the great similarity between the male and that of Capsus (= Mecomma) ambulans Fallén. Fieber (1860) included dispar in the genus Globiceps Lepeletier and Serville, and all subsequent workers have followed him. Oshanin (1906) gives Globiceps subalpinus Strobl as a synonym of G. dispar. Wagner (1952) places G. dispar in the subgenus Kleidocoris Kolenati with G. flavomaculatus Fab. and G. cruciatus Reuter.

The male of Globiceps dispar closely resembles that of Mecomma ambulans and lacks the yellow markings so characteristic of the other members of the subgenus Kleidocoris of Globiceps. In fact, the only superficial character that would appear to support its inclusion in Kleidocoris is the form of the pronotum; this is narrower anteriorly than that of M. ambulans and more like that of G. cruciatus. However, the pronotum of the male of the recently described M. orientalis Carvalho and Southwood is of this type and thus the form of the pronotum cannot be considered a reliable generic character.

Prior to 1955 the female of Globiceps dispar was stated to differ markedly from all known Mecomma females; but when revising this genus Carvalho and Southwood (1955) described a new species, M. mimetica, from British Columbia. The females of this species and those of G. dispar are very similar, except that the second antennal segments of the former are partly pale, whilst in the latter they are entirely dark.

Therefore, the evidence from the coloration and appearance of both the males and females of Globiceps dispar suggests that it is probably closer to Mecomma than to Globiceps; this is supported by the genital structure. The K-structures of the bursa copulatrix of the female of G. dispar (fig. 3) are of the same type as those of M. ambulans (fig. 9) and quite distinct from the indented form found in G. flavomaculatus (fig. 6). The left clasper of the male G. dispar (fig. 1) is of a simple curved form and the right (fig. 2) is somewhat club-shaped. Both these claspers are much closer in structure to those of M. ambulans (figs. 7 and 8) than to those of either G. flavomaculatus (figs. 4 and 5) or the type-species G. sphegiformis (Rossi) (figs. 10 and 11). In the two last-named the left clasper is more or less trifid and the right is T-shaped.

The aedeagus of G. dispar (fig. 12) has the vesica curved upwards before the gonopore and only one vesical appendage; Carvalho and Southwood (1955) have shown that this type of structure is characteristic of the genus Mecomma.

PROC. R. ENT. SOC. LOND. (B) 26. PTS. 1-2. (FEBRUARY, 1957).