

ON THE GENUS *STRONGYLOCORIS* BLANCHARD, 1840
(HEMIPTERA, HETEROPTERA, MIRIDAE)

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The genus *Strongylocoris* Blanchard hitherto has been regarded as Holarctic. There have been recorded 10 species from the Old World and about 12 from America. The American species, however, are not congeneric with the Palaearctic ones. The first to point out this fact was Slater (1950). After having examined the female genitalia of *S. stygicus* (Say) and *S. leucocephalus* (L.), he wrote: "It is interesting to discover that the type species of the genus, *leucocephalus*, is apparently not congeneric with the North American *stygicus*." He concluded from this fact that it seemed to be necessary to ascertain the actual generic limits. The following paper is an essay to show these limits.

FEMALE GENITALIA

In his excellent work Slater (1950) showed the differences between *S. leucocephalus* (L.) and *stygicus* (Say) in the structure of the bursa copulatrix. The sclerotized rings of *S. stygicus* were found to have the typical Orthotylinae infolding of the lateral margin and were very similar to those of *Orthotylus modestus* Van Duzee. The posterior wall is composed of an L- and two J- structures, shows a very distinct K-structure and is suggestive of *O. ornatus* Van Duzee. *S. leucocephalus* has a very complicated form of the sclerotized rings. The posterior wall could not be studied by Slater.

The author has examined the female genitalia of several Nearctic and Palaearctic species. The American species proved to be very similar to *S. stygicus* and showed the Orthotylinae type. The European species, however, were quite different from them. The bursa copulatrix in any case was much smaller. The sclerotized rings showed the same complicated form as those of *S. leucocephalus*. The posterior wall was scarcely half as wide in the European species and showed distinct structures that seemed to be A-structures, E-structures and a B-structure. As Slater states, they appear to approach the Capsinae type.

The examination of some species of *Heterocordylus* Latr. showed a great resemblance to the American species of *Strongylocoris*. These facts seem to be a very good reason to separate the American species from those of Europe.

MALE GENITALIA

The genital segment is conical in the Palaearctic species. It is very broad at its base and the sides converge strongly (figs. 1 and 2). The genital opening is small. With the Nearctic species the genital segment is trapezoidal, broad at its apex and the sides converge slightly (fig. 3). The genital opening is very wide and bears on its left side a blunt process.