

NEW AND LITTLE KNOWN WEST AFRICAN MIRIDAE (CAPSIDAE) (HEMIPTERA HETEROPTERA).

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The following descriptions are based on material collected by Mr. H. E. Box in the Gold Coast, during his work on insect pests of the cocoa plantations, and submitted to me for identification by the Imperial Institute of Entomology. Owing to war-time difficulties in obtaining various scientific journals, it is not always possible to make certain that a species is undescribed, so that although Mr. Box has collected several others which may be new, they have not been described here for that reason. The species now dealt with, however, are of particular interest either from the point of view of new distribution or from remarkable structure or striking colouration. Type specimens are preserved in the British Museum.

Family MIRIDAE.

Subfamily Mirinae.

***Derasocoris ostentans*, Stål, *nigroruber*, var. nov.**

Head shining black with a short longitudinal line in front and a transverse line at base of vertex, yellowish white; antennae fulvous with apex of first segment, whole of second in male and base and apex of second in female, apex of third and whole of fourth segments, black or dark brown, second segment of male distinctly thickened throughout; rostrum black. Pronotum shining black with scattered fine punctures, anterior collar and posterior lateral angles narrowly, whitish. Female with a yellowish white triangular spot anteriorly in middle and a smaller one in middle of posterior margin. Pro-, meso- and meta-sterna and pleura, also coxae, black, the margins of the propleura and prosterna and the metasternal orifices, yellowish white. Scutellum shining black without punctures. Hemelytra shining with scattered punctures becoming evanescent on apical half of corium; clavus and base of corium black; inner apical angle of corium, behind apex of clavus, dark brown, this brown area more extensive in male than in female in which it forms a more or less distinct spot, apex of cuneus dark brown to black; remainder of corium and cuneus bright blood red. Membrane smoky hyaline with the usual brown band along apices of cells and the broader brown arcuate band before apex of membrane. Femora fulvous orange, tibiae yellowish white with extreme base and two rings dark brown to black; tarsi yellowish white with apical segment and claws dark brown. Venter sanguineous with genital segments dark brown to black.

Habitat: GOLD COAST, Tafo, 2♂♂, 2♀♀, 21.xii. 1942 (*H. E. Box*, Coll. No. H. 123).

This very strikingly coloured variety appears at first sight to be a distinct species with a neater, more convex, shining body. There appears to be no doubt, however, that it is specifically identical with *D. ostentans*, Stål, a very variable species widely distributed over the Ethiopian region.

Subfamily Bryocorinae.

This remarkable subfamily contains a number of species of economic importance both in Asia and Africa. The African genera and species were dealt with by Poppius in his "Die Miriden der Äthiopischen Region" 1, 1912, and 2, 1914, in which great