

Description of a New Species of *Plagiognathus* from the Eastern United States (Hem., Miridae.)*

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Plagiognathus ilicis new species.

Distinguished from all described species by the short rostrum and pale tibiae with brownish spines; color nearest that of *blatchleyi* var. *nubilus* Kngt., but scutellum fuscous and size smaller. Distinguished from *Microphyllellus* by the pubescence, shorter head, and more robust form of body.

♂. Length 3.4 mm., width 1.5 mm. Head: width .77 mm., vertex .37 mm.; shorter and more vertical than *obscurus* Uhler. Rostrum, length 1.07 mm., just attaining posterior margins of intermediate coxae, yellowish, apex blackish. Antennae: segment I, length .20 mm.; II, .95 mm.; III, .53 mm.; IV, .31 mm.; greenish yellow, apical half of segment II becoming dusky, last two segments brownish to fuscous. Pronotum: length .63, width at base 1.21 mm.

General coloration yellowish to greenish yellow, anterior and narrow lateral margins of pronotal disk more greenish, basal half of disk fusco-brownish; scutellum fuscous, narrow base and mesoscutum yellow; hemelytra pale yellowish translucent, apical half of corium and embolium pale fuscous to fuscous, apical half of clavus pale fuscous; cuneus yellowish translucent, inner basal angle pale translucent; membrane uniformly light fusco-brownish, nearly clear bordering apex of cuneus, veins nearly concolorous with membrane. Clothed with simple, rather soft, yellowish to golden brown pubescence, becoming fusco-brownish on dark apical area of corium. Ventral surface yellowish to greenish yellow, xyphus pale green. Legs rather uniformly pale yellowish, femora rather obscurely dotted with small, pale fuscous spots; tibiae pale, impunctate, spines yellowish brown, with barely a trace of brownish at base of spines; tarsi pale yellowish, clavus brown. Genitalia distinctive of the species, right clasper and the later-

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ally directed apex of aedeagus very similar to *obscurus* Uhler, but the left clasper broadly projecting laterally, the dorsal surface broadly sulcate and loosely clasping the tip of aedeagus.

♀. Length 3.7 mm., width 1.53 mm. Head: width .77 mm., vertex .41 mm. Antennae: segment II, length .88 mm. Pronotum: length .71 mm., width at base 1.38 mm. More robust than the male and lighter colored; dorsum rather uniformly yellowish, hemelytra paler and sub-translucent, scutellum and a cloud on apical area of corium fusco-brownish; membrane and veins uniformly pale.

Holotype: ♂ July 13, 1920, Ringwood, near Ithaca, New York (H. H. Knight); author's collection. *Allotype*: same data as the type. *Paratypes*: a good series taken with the types on *Ilex verticillata* found growing in the bog at Ringwood near Ithaca; specimens deposited in the Cornell University collection, U. S. National Museum collection, and the Iowa State College collection.

In some respects this species is intermediate between *Plagiognathus* and *Microphyllellus*, while the left genital clasper is of a form quite different from either genus. The general form, color and pubescence is that of *Plagiognathus* while the tibial characters approach *Microphyllellus*; the yellowish brown spines with brownish at base of each which scarcely forms distinct spots, may cause some difficulty in tracing *ilicis* through the generic key.