

DESCRIPTION OF A NEW RENODAEUS FROM TEXAS (Hemiptera, Miridae).¹

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Renodaeus texanus n. sp.

Distinguished from *ficarius* Dist. by the constricted anterior half of prothorax, the strongly convex basal half of pronotum, and the smaller size; in *ficarius* Dist. the pronotal disk is most strongly convex on anterior half.

♀. Length 2.7 mm., width across apical area of hemelytra 1.02 mm. Head: width .77 mm., vertex .45 mm. Rostrum, length 1.03 mm., reaching to near posterior margins of middle coxae. Antennae: segment I, length .20 mm., thickness .06 mm., pale yellowish, a reddish mark on middle; II, .57 mm., slender, thickness .043 mm., abruptly enlarged at apex to a thickness of .085 mm., brown, darker at base; III, .30 mm., slender at base but much thickened (.071 mm. thick) on apical half, dark brown; IV, .34 mm., fusiform, thickness .095 mm., dark brown; clothed with very fine pale pubescence; thus the thickened antennae suggest a relationship with *Ceratocapsus*. Pronotum: length .71 mm., width at base .81 mm., width at anterior angles .60 mm.; anterior two-fifths of prothorax narrower than head, rather distinctly constricted just before the flaring and strongly convex basal half of pronotal disk, the basal margin convexly arcuate, but distinctly impressed at a point just inside of the line where claval suture meets pronotum, the basal angles thus set off and sharply rounded; as viewed from above the lateral margins of disk strongly concave, appearing constricted at middle and having a diameter slightly less than anterior angles; as viewed in profile the anterior two-fifths of pronotum is about level with base of head, but behind that point very strongly convex, then curving down to basal margin which is on a horizontal plane with the hemelytra, and if projected this plane would strike at a point only a little above middle of eyes. Pronotum and head moderately shining, clothed with pale yellowish simple pubescence. Scutellum small, triangular, flat, smooth or somewhat alutaceous, the mesoscutum and the basal margin of scutellum covered by the abruptly arched basal lobe of pronotum.

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Hemelytra with embolar margins sinuate, slightly constricted on basal half; corium longitudinally convex, the clavus more nearly flat, the membrane short, scarcely covering apex of abdomen; color fusco-brownish, inner apical angles of corium darker, cuneus dark brown, shining; clavus and corium set with many erect, black bristle-like hairs, the length of many equal to width of scutellum, with two bristles at least on base of scutellum, the cuneus clothed only with recumbent, golden yellow pubescence; apical margin of corium and extending across to near apex of clavus provided with a band composed of thickly set silvery scales, also with two short bands or spots of similar scales on basal half of corium, set between radial vein and the much narrowed embolium; clavus with a V-shaped silvery band at middle, the base of the "V" placed against claval commissure, and a second silvery spot set at a point half way toward apex of clavus; membrane fusco-brownish, rather strongly shining bordering cuneus and apex of corium. Sternum brownish translucent, shining; ostiolar peritreme white, projecting more strongly than in the genus *Pilophorus*. Legs broken; coxae pale although more or less brownish at base and apex. Venter reddish to dark brown, shining, more reddish on basal half, broader apically, the ovipositor occupying about two-thirds the length of abdomen.

Holotype: ♀, Brownsville, Texas; Cornell University collection.

The genus *Renodaeus* was originally described by Distant (Biol. Centr.-Amer., Het. I, p. 461, 1893) as an aberrant genus of the family Pyrrhocoridae. My attention was first directed to this genus by Mr. W. E. China, of the British Museum, and Dr. R. F. Hussey, who found that *Renodaeus* belongs to the family Miridae. I am also indebted to Mr. China for sketches and notes which he made of the genotype, *Renodaeus ficarius* Dist., with the aid of which I am able to recognize the present new species from Texas. For some time I had regarded this unusual Mirid as representing an undescribed genus, but fortunately my attention was directed to *Renodaeus* Dist. before I got to the point of describing it. *Renodaeus* has the thickened antennae of a *Ceratocapsus* but with the head and hemelytra of a *Pilophorus*. Since I am unable to place it in either the *Ceratocapsini* or *Pilophorini*, I propose to make the genus *Renodaeus* Dist. the type of a new tribe which may be known as the *Renodaeini* in the subfamily Orthotylinae. Although I am unable to examine the arolia due to the broken legs, I have no doubt but they are similar to those of *Pilophorus* and *Ceratocapsus*.