

1. Introduction

The first comprehensive work on the Ethiopian Orthotylinae (Miridae) was published by Poppius (1914). Very little was done on the subject until Schuh (1974) published a revision of the Orthotylinae of South Africa and Linnavuori (1975) of those of NE Africa. In the present article the previously practically unknown Orthotylinae of West and Central Africa are revised. The species of NE Africa are also included to elucidate the orthotyline fauna of tropical Africa north of the equator.

The main part of the material studied was collected during my field trips to Africa. In 1961–1963 my investigations were concentrated to the Sudan, Ethiopia and northern Somalia. In 1973 I made a similar trip to Nigeria and the Ivory Coast. During the trip, I also collected material from

southern Algeria, the Upper Volta, Niger, Chad, the Central African Republic, Cameroon, Dahomey (now Benin), Togo, and Ghana. Additional material was obtained from the late Dr. R. H. Cobben (Wageningen) and Dr. D. Gillon (Paris) from the Ivory Coast, Prof. J. T. Medler (Honolulu) from Nigeria, Mr. J. Péricart (Montereau) from Chad, Ms. S. Mascherini (Florence) and the late Prof. A. Servadei (Padua) from Somalia and Ethiopia, and Dr. R. T. Schuh (New York) and the late Dr. J. G. Theron (Stellenbosch) from South Africa. To fix the nomenclature, I examined the types of the previously described species preserved in the British Museum of Natural History, the Zoological Museum in Helsinki and the National Museum of Natural History in Paris.

2. Classification

Subfamily Orthotylinae

Claws (Fig. 8a–b): Parempodia fleshy, convergent apically, recurved (lyre-shaped), and flattened laterally; pulvilli present or absent.

Male genitalia: Phallosome fixed to phallosome base. Vesica membranous, inflatable to at least a limited degree, often provided with sclerotized appendages (spiculi). Female genitalia (Fig. 1): posterior wall of bursa copulatrix varying from a simple sclerotized plate to a highly modified form with K-structures; sclerotized rings on dorsal wall ranging from nearly flat to highly involved on lateral margins.

Distribution: Cosmopolitan. Three tribes, the Halticini, Nichomachini and Orthotylini, are known from the Ethiopian Region.

Key to tribes of the subfamily Orthotylinae

1. Ant-mimetic brown or black species. Elytra with transverse whitish fasciae. Pronotum constricted anterior to middle. Apical part of scutellum humped. Male macropterous with costal margins of elytra insinuated. Female strongly brachypterous, elytra very short, covering only base of the greatly enlarged abdomen Nichomachini
- Not as above 2
2. Color in African species black. Upper surface often distinctly punctate. Head usually dorsoventrally elongated (Figs. 2c, 3a, j, 5m–n) with height of gena greater than height of eye. Claws (Figs. 3l, 5s, 8a) without pulvilli (present in the South African genus *Namacapsus* Schuh). Aedeagus small, vesica membranous without spiculi. Posterior wall of bursa copulatrix (Fig. 1a–b) without K-structures Halticini
- Color usually pale. Upper surface rarely punctate. Head shorter. Vesica usually with sclerotized spiculi. Posterior wall of bursa copulatrix (Fig. 1d) with K-structures Orthotylini