

NEW SYNONYMIES AND A NEW COMBINATION IN THE
NORTH AMERICAN MIRIDAE (HEMIPTERA)

THOMAS J. HENRY

Systematic Entomology Laboratory, IIBIII, Agricultural Research Service, USDA, % National Museum of Natural History, Washington, D.C. 20560.

Abstract.—Four species of Miridae (Hemiptera) from the eastern United States are shown to be synonyms: *Phytocoris discoidalis* Henry, 1974 = *P. dreisbachi* Knight, 1974; *Plagiognathus inopinus* Knight, 1926 = *P. albus* Van Duzee, 1915; *Rhinocapsus miniatus* Knight, 1923 = *R. rubricans* Provancher, 1887; and *Texocoris secludis* Schaffner, 1974 = *Parthenicus nigrellus* Knight, 1939. The monotypic genus *Texocoris* Schaffner, 1974 is retained to accommodate *nigrellus* (new combination).

A forthcoming paper on the Miridae associated with ericaceous plants in eastern North America has prompted me to provide information showing that *Rhinocapsus miniatus* Knight is a junior synonym of *R. rubricans* (Provancher). Additional synonymies and a new combination involving three other species from the eastern United States are also presented. Unless otherwise noted, all specimens examined are deposited in the collections of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, Harrisburg, or the National Museum of Natural History, Washington, D.C.

Phytocoris dreisbachi Knight

Phytocoris dreisbachi Knight, 1974: 125; Kelton, 1980: 177.

Phytocoris discoidalis Henry, 1974: 187; Henry, 1979: 9. NEW SYNONYMY.

Knight (1974) described 15 new species of the *Phytocoris junceus* group. That same year I described the new species *discoidalis* (Henry, 1974). Because my species belonged to the *junceus* group, I used Knight's key and found that *discoidalis* runs to couplet 4 with *dreisbachi*. Recently, after examining Knight's type-specimens, I found that *discoidalis* is conspecific with *dreisbachi*. Because Knight's description appeared a few months prior to mine, I must recognize *P. discoidalis* as a junior synonym of *P. dreisbachi*.

Phytocoris dreisbachi, originally described from Michigan, is now known