A NEW GENUS AND SPECIES OF LEAFHOPPER FROM CENTRAL AMERICA RELATED TO ATANUS (HOMOPTERA, CICADELLIDAE)

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A unique white male leafhopper with a brown spot on the disc of the elytra has been the subject of study regarding generic placement for some time. Recently two female specimens were discovered in the National Museum collection through the kindness of Dr. Paul Oman. These three specimens have formed the basis for the description of the following new genus and new species.

ALANUS, new genus

Related to Atanus. The vertex is narrow, bluntly produced, distinctly sloping to apex and rounding to front. The clypeus is a little wider at base than at apex. The cross veins of the apical cells of the elytra form a broken diagonal line extending posteriorly from the apex of the clavus to the posterior portion of the costal margin. The first apical cell is short, the third apical cell is long. The first anteapical cell is short and narrow; the second is decidedly longer and there is no cross vein forming a third. Antennae long, more than half the length of the entire insect.

Genotype: Alanus albidus, new species.

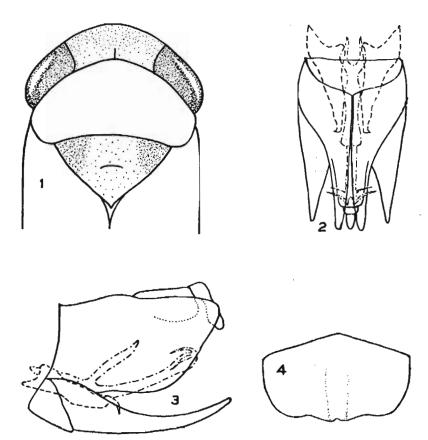
Alanus albidus, n. sp.

A milky white species with an elongate brown spot on the disc of clytron, Length 4.5-5 mm.

Vertex narrow, bluntly produced. Apex blunt, only a little longer at middle than next to eyes; not quite twice as wide between eyes as length at middle.

Color: Vertex and pronotum milky white, unmarked. Scutellum milky white to pale brownish. Elytra milky white with a small, elongate, dark brown spot on elytra, from which a pale brownish band extends obliquely to apex of clavus then along veins of apical cells to costal margin.

Genitalia: Female: Last ventral segment angularly produced to a blunt apex. Male plates triangular, concavely narrowed to long attenuate apices. The styles are elongate, triangular and gradually tapered to narrow apices with a short tooth on the outer margin at apex. The acdeagus is tubular, elongate, with a basal process extending dorsally and caudally. There are two pairs of spine-like processes at the apex. The pair at apex, one on either side of median notch, extend laterally and curve slightly anteriorly. A second pair are more dorsal and are more slender but about as long as the ventral pair.



EXPLANATION OF FIGURES. 1. Dorsal view of head, pronotum and scutellum; 2. ventral view of male genitalia; 3. lateral view of male genitalia; 4. ventral view of female last ventral segment.

Holotype male from Los Mochis, Sinaloa, Mexico (M. F. 1653) collected in May 1930 by Dr. Alfonse Dampf is in the senior author's collection. Allotype female from Cocoli, Panama, Canal Zone collected November 2, 1946 by N. L. H. Krauss and paratype female from Waldeck, Costa Rica collected June 10, 1936 from cacao by S. & C. H. Ballou, in the U. S. National Museum.

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