

THE GENUS *MENOSOMA* (HOMOPTERA, CICADEL-  
LIDAE) AND A NEW GENUS *SPATHANUS*  
(HOMOPTERA, CICADELLIDAE).

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The genus *Menosoma* was described by Ball in 1931<sup>1</sup> to include *stonei* Ball which was described at that time and cited as the genotype, *cincta*, O. & B. var. *binaria* Ball, *tortolita* Ball, also described in the same paper, *Athysanus acuminatus* Baker and *Athysanus litigiosus* Ball. In 1941 the genus *Omanana* was described by the author and *Athysanus litigiosus* Ball was designated as the genotype. *M. tortolita* also belongs to the genus *Omanana*. *A. acuminatus* is definitely not a *Menosoma* and while more closely related apparently to *Omanana* it does not seem to belong to that genus. A new genus, **Spathanus** is therefore being erected at this time to include *A. acuminatus*.

Three species *stonei*, *cincta* and *mexicana*, the latter of which is described at this time are closely related species belonging to *Menosoma*. The vertices are different in length and angle, while the male genitalia are similar in the three species.

*Menosoma stonei* Ball.

*Menosoma stonei* Ball, Fla. Ent., 15: 5, 1931.

The vertex is short and appears almost parallel-margined. This species is more robust than *cincta*. The color is tawny with red veins and without banding. The elytra have several white areolar spots.

The apex of the aedeagus has two parallel blades. In *stonei* the anterior blade is wider and longer, in lateral view, than the posterior blade.

This species is known from Florida only.

*Menosoma cincta* (Osborn & Ball).

*Eutettix cincta* Osborn & Ball, Proc. Dav. Acad. Sci., 7: 97,  
1898.

The vertex is more strongly produced and bluntly angled. About twice as wide between eyes at base as median length.

Color pale brown on vertex, pronotum and scutellum. Elytra white subhyaline, with a brown spot on anterior portion of clavus.

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<sup>1</sup> Florida Ent., 15: 4, 1915.

The posterior half is banded with dark brown except for a few pale spots especially on costal and apical portions.

The apex of the aedeagus has two narrow blades which are about the same in width and of approximately equal length.

It is distributed throughout the eastern United States.

***Menosoma mexicana* n. sp.**

Resembling *cincta* in general appearance and coloration but more robust and with shorter, more bluntly angled vertex. Length 5-6 mm.

Vertex bluntly angled, short, more than two and one-half times as wide between eyes at base as median length.

*Color*: Vertex usually paler on anterior portion. In well-marked specimens with a small spot next each eye and a darker line or band across vertex between anterior margins of eyes. Pronotum with darker mottled spots. Basal angles of scutellum darker. Two small round spots on disc of scutellum. Elytra white, subhyaline with brown markings on anterior portion of clavus. The posterior half marked with brown so as to appear banded. The band is paler than in *cincta* and is sometimes absent. Face dark brown to black.

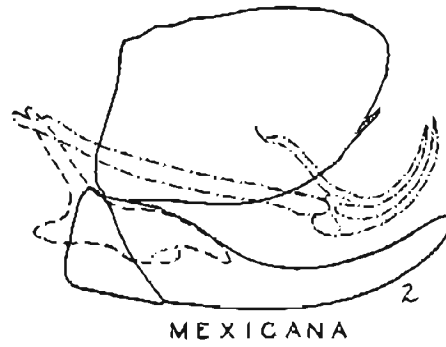
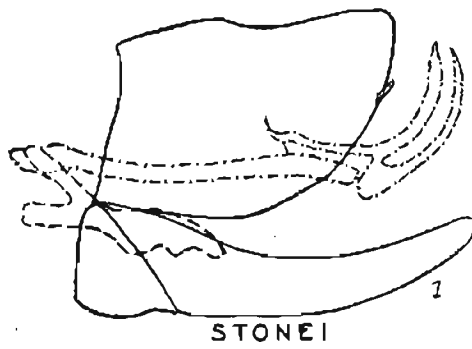
*Genitalia*: Female last ventral segment with lateral angles rounded to posterior margin which slopes gradually to a median produced pointed apex. Male plates long, tapered to acute apices. The plates are more narrowed and appressed on apical portion than in the case of either *cincta* or *stonei*. Style broad at base, abruptly narrowed just before apex forming a narrow finger-like tip. Aedeagus forming a pair of narrow parallel blades at apex. The anterior one is shorter and the two are about equal in width.

Holotype male collected at Tierra Blanca, Ver., July 29, 1932 by Dr. Dampf (M.F. 2655). Allotype female collected at Loma Bonita, Oax., June 8, 1937, by Dr. Dampf (M.F. 6070A). Paratype males and females from same localities, also from Tamazunchale, S.L.P., September 14, 1939, and September 25, 1941, Good and De Long, and Saltenango, Chiap., August 15, 1936, by J. Parra (M.F. 2076).

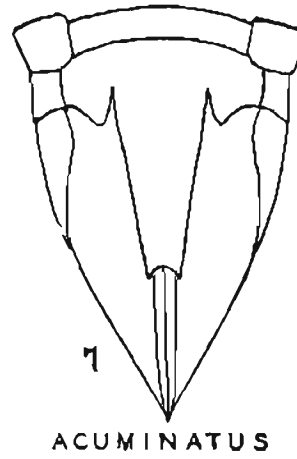
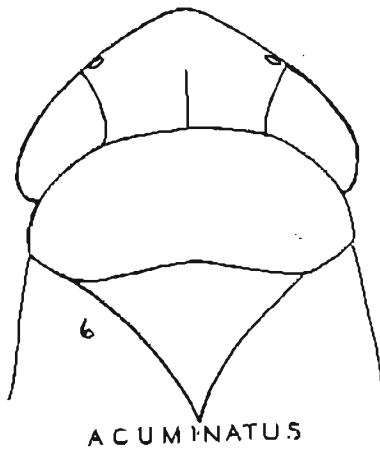
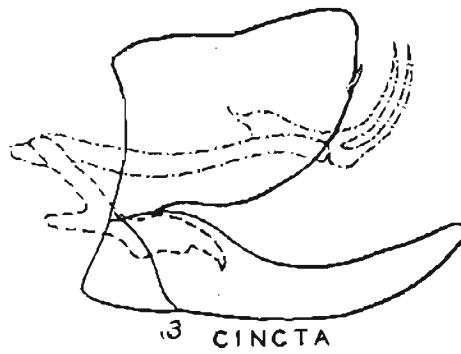
**Genus *Spathanus* nov.**

Related to *Menosoma* and *Omanana*. The vertex is produced and bluntly angled, not much wider between eyes than median length. In both *Menosoma* and *Omanana* the vertex is shorter and quite broad. The venation of the elytra is simple. The second

Plate III



ACUMINATUS ACUMINATUS



anteapical cell is a little longer than the first. The apical portion of the costal margin is marked with pigment lines resembling nervures. The paired ventral processes of the male aedeagus show relationship to *Omanana*, but there is no dorsal process attached by a long petiole. The female genitalia are unique, forming a long broad apical spatulate process.

Genotype *Athysanus acuminatus* Baker.

Oman<sup>2</sup> has placed *acuminatus* in the subgenus *Conosanus*<sup>3</sup> the type of which is *obsoletus* Kirschb. The species of *Conosanus* are more closely related, however, to *Deltocephalus* in general structures and type of genitalia and the genotype as designated above does not show these relationships.

*Spathanus acuminatus* (Baker)

*Athysanus acuminatus* Baker, Psyche, 7: Sup. 1, 25, 1896.

A blunt-headed species with vertex produced and bluntly angled, about one-half wider between eyes at base than median length.

Female last ventral segment with lateral margins sloping to form a bluntly angled lobe either side of a median broad tooth which occupies the central half of the segment and is produced more than twice the length of the segment. This process is broad at apex and concavely emarginate between a pointed tooth on each outer margin. Male plates long, triangular with slender tapered apices. Style broad at base gradually tapered to a sharp pointed apex. Ventral paired processes of aedeagus rather long and robust. The dorsal portion seems fastened, more rigidly to the paired pieces and is without a slender base, as found in the species of *Menosoma*. The dorsal portion forms a broad U-shaped process.

This species is known to occur in the southwestern United States where it has been taken in Arizona.

#### EXPLANATION OF PLATE.

Figs. 1, 2 and 3. Lateral view of male genitalia of species of *Menosoma* as labelled.

Fig. 4. Lateral view of male genital structures of *Spathanus acuminatus*.

Fig. 5. Ventral view of male genitalia of *S. acuminatus*.

Fig. 6. Dorsal view of vertex, pronotum and scutellum of *S. acuminatus*.

Fig. 7. Ventral view of female genitalia of *S. acuminatus*.

<sup>2</sup> Jour. Wash. Acad. Sci., 21: 17, p. 433, 1931.

<sup>3</sup> Ohio Nat., 2, 237, 1902.