

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

NEW GENERA AND SPECIES OF ACOCEPHALINÆ.
[HOMOPTERA.]

BY E. D. BALL.

In collecting along the Pacific coast at different times the writer has taken a number of new species of leaf-hoppers apparently belonging to a closely related group of forms. Most of these insects have been black or dark brown in color with ivory-white markings—a striking color combination and one that is rare in the leaf-hoppers. In working up these forms a general study was made of other black species with the result that it was determined that another black form was incorrectly placed and a new genus is made for it and its South American allies.

Nionia new genus.

Closely resembling *Tartessus* of Stal, but not possessing a supernumerary cell in the wing. Superficially resembling *Pediopsis* in general shape of head and pronotum but with the ocelli near the vertex margin.

Vertex appearing as scarcely more than a line bounding the conically produced anterior margin of the pronotum, except at the apex where it is conically produced and appears to be twice the length next to the eye, anterior margin rounding almost imperceptibly to front. Front broad, convex in both diameters forming with the vertex and pronotum a blunt cone. Ocelli just under the vertex margin, nearly as far from the eye as from the apex of vertex. The lateral margins of front broadly rounding into the vertex margin above and the long narrow clypeus below. Surface especially along the side rather coarsely wrinkled. Pronotum exceptionally long, due to the conically rounding anterior projection, extending over one-half its length into the head. Posterior margin broadly rounding with a slight median emargination. Surface finely wrinkled. Elytra coriaceous, moderately long with narrowly rounding apices. All veins margined with lines of punctures giving a double-veined effect on

clavus. Venation of corium regular, two cross-nervures present, apical cells longer than wide.

Type of genus *Goniagnathus palmeri* V. D.

This genus is apparently closely related to the Old World genus *Tartessus*, but differs in the venation and head characters. It appears to have no close relatives in our fauna, but should be placed between *Memnonia* and *Driotura* on the one hand and *Xestocephalus* on the other. It is apparently a South American group, *N. palmeri* of the southern States and Mexico being the only representatives north of the Isthmus. All the known species are jet black in color. The genus *Goniagnathus* does not occur in America.

***Uhleriella ziczac* n. sp.**

Form of *coquilletti* nearly, intermediate in color pattern between that species and *stygica*. Vertex and pronotum dark with narrow light margins. Length, 4-5 mm.; width, 1.5 mm.

Vertex almost right angled, the apex slightly acute, slightly sloping, depressed before the margin, especially at apex. Venation as in *coquilletti*.

Color dark iridescent brown shading to black on the anterior part of pronotum. Vertex margins and posterior margin of pronotum lined with white or yellowish white. The inner nervure of clavus, the ends of the outer nervure, all transverse veinlets on corium, the apical margin and the inner fork of first nervure lined with ivory white. These markings appear as three slightly oblique bands across the apical half of the elytra, the inner one connected in a right angle with the line on the inner sector. Below dark, face black with a transverse band crossing lower half of front ivory white. Legs dark, the tibia lined with light.

Genitalia: Female segment very slightly emarginate and depressed in the center of the posterior margin. Male plates long-triangular, their apices slightly developed as finger-like processes.

Described from two females and two males from Pasadena, California. Closely related to *stygica* and *coquilletti* from the former of which it can be separated by the angular head and the white lines, and from the latter by the solid dark head and pronotum and the male genitalia.

***Uhleriella pasadena* n. sp.**

Resembling *signata* in form and appearance. Color pattern similar to *coquilletti* except much paler. Length, 5.5 mm.; width, nearly 2 mm.

Vertex slightly broader than in *coquilletti*, slightly roundly right angled, disc sloping with a shallow depression before the margin. Elytra broad, abruptly slightly obliquely truncated posteriorly. Venation similar to *ziczac*, but with one or two cross-nervures between the claval veins and usually two or three reflex veinlets to costa at the apex of the outer antepical cell.

Color rusty straw ornamented with smoky brown and ivory white.

Vertex rusty straw color, a dark band just back of the margin. Pronotum rusty straw with the margin lined with white. Scutellum rusty, a pair of triangular spots just inside the angles and a pair of round dots on disc. Elytra rusty subhyaline with the nervures light, mostly margined with smoky brown. Claval nervures including the transverse veinlets and all transverse nervures on corium broadly ivory white.

Genitalia: Female segment long with a broad and equally deep, black-margined, median excavation.

Described from a single female from the hills back of Pasadena, California. A male from the same locality which probably belongs here is darker and has rather long-triangular plates with bluntly rounded tips. The ivory white markings on elytra will separate this species from *signata*, while the genitalia are quite distinct from that of *coquilletti*.

Drionia new genus.

Resembling *Uhleriella* in color and venation, but differing widely in form of head. Head resembling *Driotura*, but still broader and shorter and with the lower part of face strongly inflated.

Vertex short and broad, a little over one-half as long as the pronotum, anterior margin broadly evenly rounding, one-fourth longer in the middle than against the eye. Surface sloping and rounding over to the inflated front without definite margin except for a slight carina on the median third. Ocelli one-third the distance from the eye to apex. Front inflated, almost vertical for two-thirds of its length, then rounding into the long narrow clypeus. Lorae elongate, strongly transversely convex. Pronotum scarcely twice wider than long, anterior margin broadly rounding, posterior margin very slightly roundly emarginate, surface transversely wrinkled. Elytra short, broad, coriaceous, slightly inflated behind the middle. Venation similar to *Uhleriella*, the second cross-nervure present, antepical cells long, apicals short, veinlets to costa at both extremities of the antepicals reflexed and usually forked or doubled.

Type of genus, *D. nigra* n. sp.

This genus together with *Cochlorhinus* and *Uhleriella* are all peculiar to the Pacific coast region, and while differing widely in head characters, all have the same type of venation and are usually black or dark with ivory ornamentation.

Drionia nigra n. sp.

Resembling the alate form of *Driotura gammaroidea*. Superficially resembling black examples of the genus *Macropsis*. Black, the male with an oblique dash on each elytron. Length, 4 mm.; width, 2 mm.

Vertex sloping, rounding to the front without a definite margin except for a slight carina, one-third longer on middle than against the eye. Front broad, tumid, rounding back to the small slender clypeus. Elytra broad and short, gibbous behind the middle. Venation as in *Uhleriella* except that the outer antepical is not acuminate posteriorly.

Color: Black, a white band across the face crossing the lower third of front and an oblique ivory white dash on the inner branch of the outer sector of the corium. Tibiae rufous.

Genitalia: Female segment short, broadly rounding posteriorly, slightly elevated on the median line giving the appearance of a slight notch. Male valve broadly rounding, plates narrow, triangular, longer than wide, their apices inclined to be finger-like.

Described from two females and two males collected by the writer at Medford, Oregon.