

mounted *Dyscinetus* material, which they greatly resemble superficially. The female has not been described before and I am designating this specimen as the *Allotype*: Very similar to male except that it is a little larger (16 mm), the minute thoracic punctures are entirely absent over most of the center-disc, the apical half of the pygidium is smooth and very sparsely punctate and the

apical half of the sixth sternite is entirely smooth and impunctate. It is interesting that nearly the entire abdomen (except for a single transverse setigerous row on each sternite near sides) and the metasternum (except at sides) are highly polished and entirely impunctate in both sexes. Both specimens remain in the Saylor Collection at the California Academy of Sciences.

ENTOMOLOGY.—*The Herbert H. Smith collection of South American Chalcidoidea described by W. H. Ashmead.*¹ A. B. GAHAN, U. S. Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine. (Communicated by E. A. CHAPIN.)

In his *Classification of the chalcid flies or the superfamily Chalcidoidea* (Mem. Carnegie Mus. 1 (No. 4, pt. 2): 394–551. 1904) W. H. Ashmead published results of his study of the Herbert H. Smith collection of South American chalcidoids, including a bibliographic catalogue of all the known South American species. Many new species were described, most of them based upon material in the Smith collection, but several of the included new species were based upon material in the United States National Museum, collected by Albert Koebele. In the bibliographic catalogue, citations were given for a number of species previously described by Ashmead from material in the Smith collection, these descriptions appearing in *Insect Life* 3: 456. 1891; *Proc. Ent. Soc. Washington* 3: 233. 1895, and 4: 11–14. 1896; and *Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus.* 22: 368–375. 1900. Also included were Ashmead's identifications of a number of species described by Walker, Westwood, Fabricius, Perty, and other authors.

Holotypes of 8 species and duplicate paratypes of 36 additional species, as well as duplicates of some of the determined species, were retained by Ashmead from the Smith collection. The remainder of the collection was returned to the Carnegie Museum, which had acquired it by purchase from the collector. There the collection remained practically undisturbed until 1934, when through the kind cooperation of the late Dr. Hugo Kahl, then curator of the section of entomology at Carnegie Museum, and with the consent of the Museum director, I was permitted to bring the whole

collection to the United States National Museum for study. Though it still remained the property of Carnegie Museum, it has reposed in the National Museum since that date and while being used for reference has been kept, until very recently, in the original boxes and arrangement in which Ashmead left it.

Early in 1947, through collaboration with Dr. George E. Wallace, successor to Dr. Kahl at the Carnegie Museum, and with the approval of the authorities of both the Carnegie Museum and the National Museum, arrangements were completed whereby, in exchange for a representative collection of named North American chalcidoids, the entire Smith collection covered by Ashmead's paper, with the exceptions of one-half the duplicates in any series of paratypes or of determined specimens of any species, became the property of the National Museum. With consummation of the exchange the Carnegie Museum received a named collection of North American material comprising 412 species represented by 1,222 specimens and also a return of 22 paratypes representing 16 species and 84 specimens representing 19 determined species from the South American material. The National Collection acquires named representatives of 248 species made up of 192 holotypes, 79 paratypes (8 of which represent species the holotypes of which were already in the National Museum), and 156 determined specimens representing 48 species. Also included are 122 unidentified specimens, making a total of 549 specimens.

Unfortunately, the unique types of *Parencyrtus brasiliensis* Ashmead, *Pelorotelus coeruleus* Ashmead, *Horismenus corumbae*

¹ Received March 7, 1948.

Ashmead, *Euplectrus brasiliensis* Ashmead, and *Stenomesus dimidiatus* Ashmead have become dislodged from the mounting points and lost. Since the first two species are genotypes, their loss is doubly unfortunate. Also missing from the collection is the specimen (or specimens) of *Idoleupelmus annulicornis* Ashmead recorded from Santarém, Brazil. This species was originally described (Proc. Ent. Soc. Washington 4: 13. 1896) from the Island of St. Vincent, West Indies, and the holotype is presumably in the British Museum.

The material from the Smith collection acquired by the National Museum has now been removed from the original boxes and placed in standard trays and drawers. While making the transfer I made the following notes regarding certain species:

Hemitormus thoracicus Ashmead.—In my opinion this is not a monodontomerine. The type appears to be a typical *Tormus* and the genus *Hemitormus*, therefore, a synonym. New synonymy.

Plesiostigmodes brasiliensis Ashmead.—The unique type is a male, not a female as stated in the description.

Spilochalcis tarsalis Ashmead.—The type is from Corumba instead of Chapada.

Spilochalcis persimilis Ashmead.—Type locality Santarém instead of Chapada.

Spilochalcis bimaculata Ashmead.—Described only in the key to species. The type, a female, is from Trinidad.

Spilochalcis nigropleuralis Ashmead.—The holotype female is from Trinidad. The only male associated with this female in the collection is from Corumba (not Chapada), Brazil, and does not entirely fit the description given of the male. It does not bear a name label and may or may not be the allotype.

Spilochalcis mayri Ashmead.—The type is from Corumba, not Chapada.

Spilochalcis urichi Ashmead.—No male is described, but included among the 12 specimens in the type series is one male. This is colored almost exactly like the females and not easily distinguished.

Spilochalcis lineocoxalis Ashmead.—The unique holotype is a male, not a female.

Spilochalcis chapadensis Ashmead.—In the key to species (p. 427) and on the name label,

the name of this species is *chapadensis*, but heading the formal description (p. 443) it is given as *chapadae*. That the latter spelling is a lapsus is obvious, since the name *chapadae* had already been used for another species of *Spilochalcis* (p. 432). The name *chapadensis* should be retained for the species on p. 443.

Spilochalcis persimilis Ashmead.—The unique holotype is a male instead of a female.

Octosmicra nigromaculata Ashmead.—The locality is Corumba instead of Chapada.

Heptasmicra lineaticoxa Ashmead.—One paratype is from Maruru, the type and 2 paratypes from Santarém.

Metadontia similis Ashmead.—The unique holotype is a female instead of a male.

Pentasmicra brasiliensis Ashmead.—Described only in the key to genera. See article by Hugo Kahl (Ann. Carnegie Mus. 13: 265. 1921).

Axima brevicornis Ashmead.—The male allotype and 4 male paratypes of this species do not appear to be the same species as the female holotype and the female paratype. Instead, these males all seem to me to be *A. koebelei* Ashmead.

Aximopsis morio Ashmead.—The type locality for this genotype species, not recorded by Ashmead, is Santarém, Brazil.

Isomodes brasiliensis Ashmead.—Only 4 of the 5 specimens recorded by Ashmead were found, the specimen from Santarém being missing.

Prodecatoma bruneiventris Ashmead.—The type series consists of 3 females and 1 male. In my opinion the 3 females represent 3 different species. The male allotype is labeled "*Prodecatoma flavescens* Ashmead. ♂ Type," but since no male was described for *flavescens* and since this male specimen agrees with the description of the male as given for *bruneiventris*, it is obvious that the labeling is a lapsus.

Neorilya flavipes Ashmead.—The type series, of which only 9 specimens can be located, is a composite made up of apparently 3 different species.

Rileyia orbitalis Ashmead.—The unique holotype female is from Chapada instead of Santarém. A male in the National Museum collection from Chapada is labeled "*Rileyia orbitalis* ♂, Type No. 8080." Ashmead may have originally associated this with the female holotype, but since no male is mentioned in the

description it should not be considered a paratype. This male is apparently not the same species as the holotype but appears to be identical with *Rileya insularis* Ashmead.

Lelaps affinis Ashmead.—A paratype, U.S.N.M. no. 8087, is not the same species as the holotype but belongs instead to *Lelaps ferruginea* Ashmead.

Chalcedectes annulipes Ashmead.—Holotype from Corumba in May. Paratype from Chapada already in National Museum collection.

Macreupelmus brasiliensis Ashmead.—Only 3 of the 4 specimens mentioned by Ashmead located. U.S.N.M. type, no. 8091.

Anastatus auriceps Ashmead.—Holotype from Corumba. Paratype from Chapada missing from pin.

Trichencyrtus chapadae Ashmead (pp. 291, 392) (= *robustus* Ashmead, p. 495). See comments by Gahan and Peck, Journ. Washington Acad. Sci. 36: 317. 1946; also Gomes, Bol. Soc. Brazil. Agronomia 5: 287. 1942.

Metopon brasiliensis Ashmead.—The holotype female is from Corumba. The 2 paratype females are from Santarém and appear to be not the same species as the type. The allotype male, also from Santarém, is missing from the pin.

Horismenus brasiliensis Ashmead.—A specimen in the National Museum from Chapada labeled "Type No. 8094" is not the same species as the holotype, which is from Rio de

Janeiro. This specimen from Chapada is not mentioned in the description and hence is neither type nor paratype.

Ametallon chapadae Ashmead.—The holotype from the Smith collection is in poor condition. The paratype which was in the National Museum and recorded in the type book under no. 8097 is missing from the pin.

Trichoporus melleus Ashmead.—The holotype acquired with the Smith collection is a female from Santarém. The alleged male described by Ashmead and bearing U.S.N.M. type, no. 8098 is a female from Chapada and is not the same species as the holotype.

Trichoporus viridicyaneus Ashmead.—All 20 specimens of the type series located, 3 of them in the National Museum under type no. 8099. These 3 are the same species as the holotype, but at least 5 of the paratypes in the Smith collection appear to be a different species.

Alophus flavus Ashmead (p. 353, 365) (= *brasiliensis* Ashmead, p. 520). See comments by Gahan and Peck, Journ. Washington Acad. Sci. 36: 314. 1946. Holotype and allotype from Chapada and one paratype from Rio de Janeiro in Smith collection. Holotype and paratype are alike, but the allotype male is a different species. Also two alleged paratypes in the National Museum, type no. 8100, are not the same as the holotype and represent two different species.

ORNITHOLOGY.—Continental races of the bulbul *Pycnonotus dispar* (Horsfield).¹

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Geographical variation in continental populations of *Pycnonotus dispar* ("Otocompsa flaviventris" of the older authors) appears in a tendency to darker coloration of the upperparts, shortening of the crest, and reduced wing length from north and west to east and south. The effects of wear on the plumage are so marked that only fresh-plumaged specimens are suitable for taxonomic study, and the change from one form to another is so gradual that the distinctions between juxtaposed races can be observed only in series. The difficulty of establishing satisfactory limits of range for

the several subspecies is complicated by the appearance of winter-wandering examples of one within the breeding territory of another. Two hundred and one specimens from the Asiatic mainland, brought together in Washington with the kind cooperation of the authorities of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia (A.N.S.P.) and of the Chicago Natural History Museum (C.N.H.M.), enable me to accept the following forms:

1. *Pycnonotus dispar flaviventris* (Tickell)

Vanga Flaviventris Tickell, Journ. Asiat. Soc. Bengal 2: 573. Nov. 1833 (Dampara, "in Dholbhúm"=Singhbhum District, Chota Nagpur Division, Province of Bihar and Orissa, India).

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Gahan, A. B. 1948. "The Herbert H. Smith collection of South American Chalcidoidea described by W. H. Ashmead." *Journal of the Washington Academy of Sciences* 38, 243–245.

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