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ART. X. A NEW SPECIES OF CYMOTHALES
(MYRMELEONIDAE)

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(Plate XIII)

While looking over some West African Neuroptera in the Carnegie Museum, I noted a specimen of *Cymothales* that was unfamiliar to me. Dr. Kahl kindly loaned it for study, and I find it is new.

There are about a dozen species of this fine genus already known from Africa. Navas, not knowing of Gerstaecker's genus, described two species in a new genus, *Mironius*. I have not seen either of his species, but from the figures and descriptions, it may form a section or subgenus, for in those that I have seen there are two sections, readily separated by the condition of the anal veins in the fore wings.

***Cymothales gerstaeckeri* sp. nov.** (Plate XIII)

In general appearance it is similar to *C. johnstoni* (of which *C. regalis* is probably a synonym). It differs in having a large costal spot between the oblique pre-median streak and the apical marks, as well as in various minor points.

The face has a broad, dark brown cross-band on upper part of the clypeus; above the antennae it is brown to top of the vertex where there is a row of darker brown spots, and behind is another row, the laterals adjoining the eyes, the median pair close together and longitudinal. The antennae are black for about six joints beyond the second, then pale, but getting dark toward the black tip. The pronotum has a broad median dark stripe, with a pale narrow stripe on each side, these reaching back over the thorax (as in several other species); on each side on the hind part of pronotum are two oblique dark streaks; pleura pale above, brown below; abdomen dark above, pale on venter except at tip; legs mostly pale, front femora darkened except on base, hind femora with a brown streak on outer side.

Wings hyaline, with the usual brown marks somewhat as in *C. johnstoni*. Fore wing with a subbasal band; before the middle of wing the usual

oblique band, the upper part rather broad and from its tip an oblique line extends back to the hind margin, the lower part of this band is more slender, and basad of it are a few dark spots. A little beyond middle of wing is a large spot reaching from the costa to the first branch of the radial sector; the apical mark is broken up somewhat like *johnstoni*, and shows the longitudinal streak, and several large pale areas, one over stigma, one at apex, and one just beyond rhexma. The small marks along the cubitus are not as distinct as in some species.

In the hind wing the mark from hind margin is very oblique, and from its upper end a line goes down in a curve to the hind margin, along the hind margin and then up in a curve indicating a circle; the apical mark is broken by one large and several small pale spots, somewhat like *C. excentros*; several of the radial cross-veins are bordered with dark.

In structure this species belongs with *C. mirabilis*, *liberiensis*, and *delicata* in which the second anal vein of the fore wing unites for some distance with the third anal (not so in *speciosus*, *excentros*, and *hermosa*). The antennae are longer than usual, reaching to the submedian band. The pronotum is long and slender; the vertex is elevated and straight across on top as in *liberiensis*. The fore wings are broader than in *liberiensis*, the hind wings are much longer than the front ones, and the tip behind is deeply excavate. In the fore wings before the radial sector there are two rows of cells except near base; the radial sector at the post-median costal mark bends upward more than in allied species; there are about ten radial sectors; before the cubital fork none of the cells are crossed.

In the hind wings the venation is much as in *liberiensis*, but the medius and cubitus are further apart. Abdomen is somewhat longer than many species. The legs are very slender, the front femora not thickened nor with the dense black hair, the bristles on femora and tibiae are black.

Length of fore wing 42 mm., width 14 mm.

Length of hind wing 50 mm., width 10 mm.

Type specimen from Lolodorf, Kamerun, collected by J. A. Reis, unique, in collections of Carnegie Museum.



Cymothales gerstaeckeri Banks, sp. nov.
About twice natural size.



Banks, Nathan. 1941. "A new species of Cymothales (Myrmeleonidae)." *Annals of the Carnegie Museum* 28, 187–188. <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.330787>.

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