

PROCEEDINGS
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ANOTHER ANNECTANT GENUS (HEMIPTERA;
CIMICOIDEA).

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Recently the authors described¹ in the genus *Idiotropus* Fieber, a species intermediate between the families Anthocoridae and Microphysidae as currently defined. The present paper brings to notice another genus which serves still further to show the intermeshing relationships of these groups. Study of the new genus and allied forms shows that the character given considerable weight by Reuter in his "*Heteropterensystem*" (1912, pp. 52, 53) as to whether the meso- and meta- sterna are "composite," that is with a longitudinal "suture," varies with the development of wings in the individual. The character is therefore useless for family groupings. The sterna are not "composite" in wingless forms of the families to which Reuter assigns this character, and we are able to trace the mesofurca, or analogues of it, in most of the families in which he states that it is lacking (e.g. Fig. 7). We are impelled to remark therefore, that insect descriptions would be clarified if the term "suture" were used in a more definite manner. It now covers everything from the fundamental divisions between segments of the insect body to the slightest impressed lines on the segments, especially on those of the thorax. When the chitin is translucent the basal edges of the interior sheet-like attachments for muscles can be seen through it, showing as paler or darker lines, and even these have been called sutures. Over a strong muscle attachment the outer surface may show an impressed line, and in more highly developed structures even a deep invagination.² Such dividing lines existing in every stage of development and subject to

¹Bull. Brooklyn Ent. Soc., vol. 19, No. 3, June, 1924, pp. 70-71, pl. 1, figs. 1-3.

²Carinae also arise from related mechanical causes.

modification in the meso- and meta-thoraces correlated with the degree of wing development in individuals of the same species, do not have the importance of the far more stable divisions between segments, and should not bear the same designation. Failure to understand their nature and variability has led to giving them too much weight in taxonomic papers.

In the lack of a pronounced central impressed line on mesosternum and metasternum, and in habitus, the new genus herein described is similar to apterous Microphysids. It agrees, however, with Anthocorids in having 3-segmented tarsi.

The best character amongst those so far advanced for separating Microphysids as a group is the 2-segmented tarsi, but even this, in the light of intergradation of other characters does not seem important enough to warrant recognition of the insects possessing it as a valid family.

Among Anthocorids the new genus may be recognized by the microphysid habitus, and it may be distinguished from the conventional Microphysid by the 3-segmented tarsi.

Coccivora, new genus.

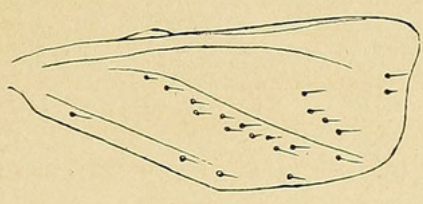
Ventral surface of thorax as in *Myrmedobia*, but the hind margins of mesosternum and metasternum are transverse and flat, without prominent elevations (Fig. 2). The pseudosuture so evident in winged Miridae and Anthocoridae, in the form of a longitudinal impressed line, is almost absent in apterous Microphysids and in the new genus, but is evident at the anterior extremity in cleared examples (Figs. 2, 5). In the structure of the beak we can not distinguish differences in the number of segments in *Myrmedobia*, *Orius* (*Triphleps*), and the new genus. All are 3-segmented if the basal attachment be omitted in counting the segments, or 4-segmented if this is included (Figs. 1, 1a, 1b). The evident differences lie in the lengths of the segments only.

The tarsi are 3-segmented in *Orius* and the new genus, and 2-segmented in *Myrmedobia*; the claws are simple in all three. Antennae in all with four segments, but with additional basal ring segments. Abdomen with seven pairs of spiracles. The male hypopygium in *Coccivora* with a hook bent to one side (Fig. 1), but no long hairs present. Legs without long hairs or bristles. Fore wing as in Figure 4, no distinct membrane evident.

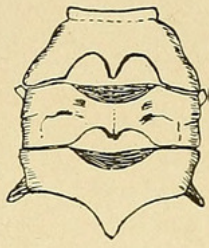
Monobasic, the genotype being

Coccivora californica, new species.

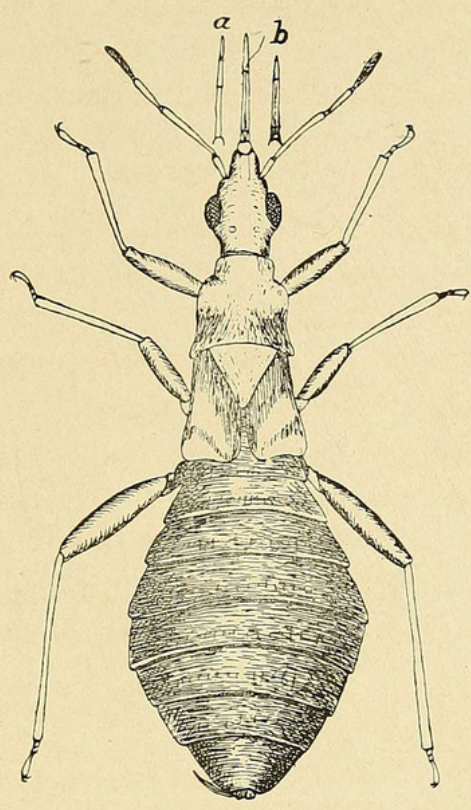
Male and female.—Outline viewed from above racquet-like (Fig. 1), more perfectly so in female; head across eyes as wide as or nearly as wide as thorax at middle, gradually tapered behind eyes, more abruptly nar-



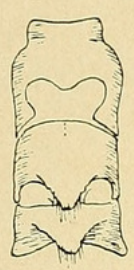
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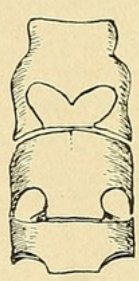
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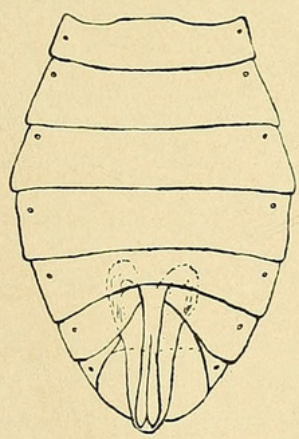
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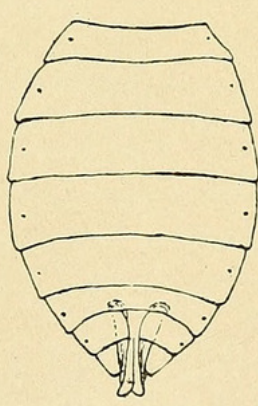
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McAtee and Malloch on *Coccivora californica*.



McAtee, W. L. and Malloch, John Russell. 1925. "Another annectant genus (Hemiptera: Cimicoidea)." *Proceedings of the Biological Society of Washington* 38, 145–147.

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