

Exp. tegm. 62 millim.

This species is allied to *P. tricolor*, White, from which it differs by the longer tegmina and different colour of the same, different colour of the tibiæ, &c.

Cerynia maria.

Pæcilopectera maria, White, Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist. xviii. p. 25, pl. i. f. 3 (1846).

XXII.—On some African Species of the Homopterous Genus *Platypleura*. By W. L. DISTANT.

[Plate II. figs. C & D.]

IN his excellent revision of the Cicadidæ (Hem. Afr. iv.), by which the late Dr. Stål for the first time placed the genera of this interesting family of Homoptera on a scientific basis, and cleared up much of the synonymy relating to the African species, he not unnaturally made some errors. Evidently trusting to the notes made when he visited the British Museum and with so much success rectified a considerable portion of the Rhynchotal work of the late Mr. F. Walker, he subsequently (Hem. Afr. iv. p. 19) stated that the *Tettigonia strumosa*, Fabr., = the *Oxypleura contracta*, Walk., and belonged to the genus *Platypleura*. Mr. Butler, in a list of the species of the genus (Cist. Ent. i. p. 183), in which he uses Stål's revisions, likewise follows him in this course. I have lately, through the kindness of Dr. Aurivillius, been allowed to inspect a typical specimen of the Fabrician species, and find it to be quite distinct from the *P. contracta*, Walk., and that it is the species which I, relying on Stål's identification, had described as *P. ærea*.

The following appears to be the correct synonymy:—

Platypleura strumosa. (Pl. II. fig. C.)

Tettigonia strumosa, Fabr. Syst. Rhyng. p. 34. n. 7 (1830).

Cicada strumosa, Walk. List Hom. i. p. 120. n. 51 (1851).

Platypleura Afzelii, Stål, Öfv. Vet.-Ak. Förh. 1854, p. 241.

Platypleura strumosa, Stål (part.), Hem. Afr. iv. p. 19. n. 12 (1866);

Butl. (part.), Cist. Ent. i. p. 191. n. 33 (1874).


Platypleura ærea, Dist. Trans. Ent. Soc. 1881, p. 632.

It is singular that all the specimens which I have been able to examine are females, and consequently it is impossible at present to describe the male opercula and tympana.

The species appears to be distributed in western tropical Africa from Sierra Leone to Calabar.

I now add the description of an undescribed but closely allied species.

Platypleura Rutherfordi, n. sp. (Pl. II. fig. D.)

Head ochraceous; front with a central subtriangular black spot; vertex with a  black mark before the eyes; area of the ocelli and a central basal spot also black. Pronotum greenish ochraceous, with the following black markings:—a central discal black line, dilated on each side anteriorly, not reaching much beyond centre posteriorly, from which two oblique straight lines extend to behind the eyes; and from near the centre of these a longitudinal black streak is emitted; a curved and somewhat dentate line behind the eyes; a central linear spot; and the lateral dilated margins are also black. Mesonotum with two small obconical black spots on anterior margin, on each side of which is a much larger subobconical spot of the same colour, and a central longitudinal fascia and two small basal spots also black; basal cruciform elevation pale ochraceous. Abdomen greenish ochraceous, with the basal segmental margins black. Body beneath greenish ochraceous, somewhat spotted with black; dilated pronotal margins and anterior and intermediate tarsi black. Tegmina pale hyaline; costal membrane and basal fourth dull ochraceous and opaque; the last with the extreme base, an oblique broad terminal fascia, and claval area pale fuscous; a spot at the extremity of the radial area anastomoses with some small adjacent spots near extremities of second and third ulnar areas, and a double submarginal series of small spots placed on the apices of the veins fuscous. Wings pale hyaline, with the basal third obliquely fuscous and a small spot at extremity of radial area fuscous.

The head, including outer margin of eyes, is about equal in width to the anterior margin of the mesonotum; the lateral margins of the pronotum are amply and subacutely produced; the rostrum (the apex of which is fuscous) extends to the first abdominal segment; the opercula are short, broad, and rounded.

Long. ♂, 24 millim., exp. tegm. 76 millim.

Hab. West Africa, Calabar (*D. G. Rutherford*); Isubu.



Distant, William Lucas. 1883. "XXII.—On some African species of the homopterous genus *Platyleura*." *The Annals and magazine of natural history; zoology, botany, and geology* 11, 172–173.

<https://doi.org/10.1080/00222938309459122>.

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/92742>

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/00222938309459122>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/67901>

Holding Institution

Missouri Botanical Garden, Peter H. Raven Library

Sponsored by

Missouri Botanical Garden

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: Public domain. The BHL considers that this work is no longer under copyright protection.

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.