

A NEW GENUS OF THE GERRIDAE FROM THE
SOLOMON ISLANDSHERBERT B. HUNGERFORD AND RYUICHI MATSUDA¹

In 1954, E. S. Brown collected five specimens of a small gerrid in the Solomon Islands. They have been sent to us for determination by the British Museum. These specimens belong to a new genus and species.

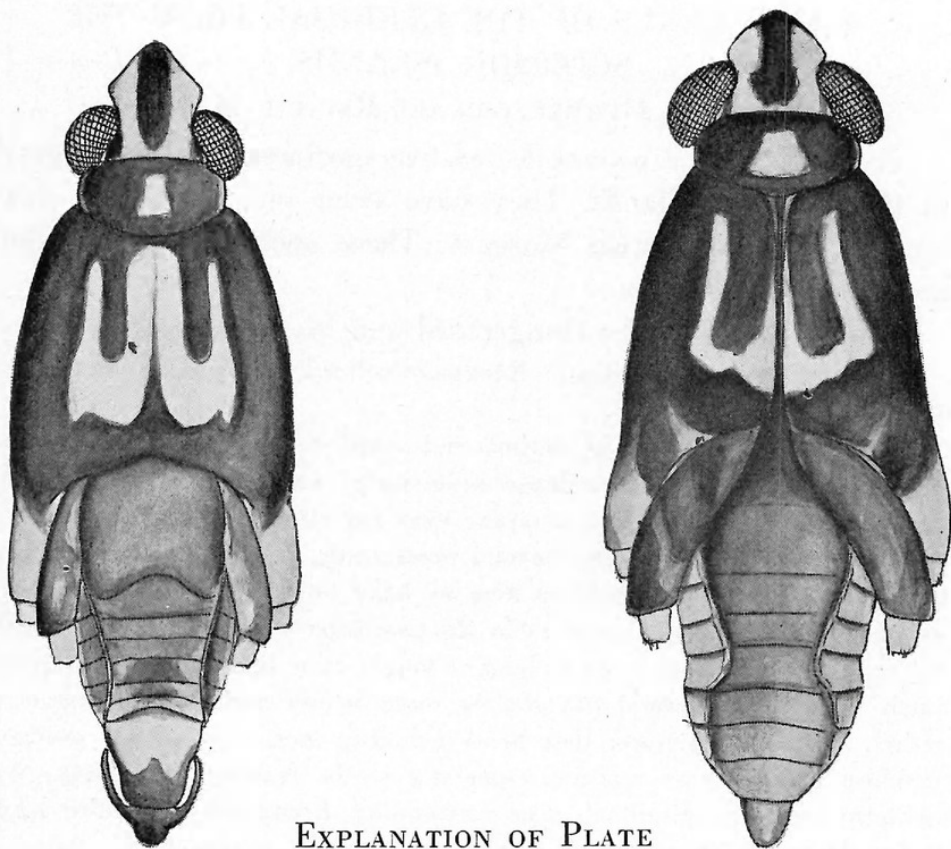
***Rheumatometroides* Hungerford and Matsuda, new genus**

Type species of the genus: *Rheumatometroides browni* Hungerford and Matsuda.

Body elongate, ovate in outline and small, female a little larger than male; head between eyes widened posteriorly; antennal cavity located far anterior to anterior margins of eyes; eyes covering anterolateral angles of pronotum; rostrum extending beyond prosternum, robust, reflexed, first segment long, a little over half as long as head on its ventral surface, third segment thickened and curved as in *Rheumatometra*; antennae slender, first segment with numerous setae as long or longer than diameter of the segment, much longer than second but shorter than second and third segments together. *Pronotum* narrower than head including eyes, more or less produced medially on posterior margin, especially so in female; mesonotum with medially keeled longitudinal groove extending throughout the entire length in female, posterior margin of mesonotum concave; metaacetabula flattened, obliquely converging anteriorly in female; metasternum entire, with omphalium in male; front leg slender, without sexual difference in shape, tibia simply thickened apically, first tarsal segment greatly reduced; middle leg with tibia longer than femur, first tarsal segment a little longer than second segment; hind leg with femur over two and a half times as long as tibia, first tarsal segment shorter than second segment. *Abdomen* with anterior margins of first and second tergites distinct; ninth segment with suranal plate in male with conspicuous spinous process on each side, directed anteriorly; paramere somewhat reduced.

This genus is quite peculiar in the following characters: (1) The first rostral segment is long; (2) In the female the mesonotum is provided with distinct medially keeled longitudinal groove; (3) The omphalium is present in the male; (4) The suranal plate in the male with conspicuous lateral process. In the female of *Rheumatometra philarete* Kirkaldy the mesonotum is also with median longitudinal groove, but only posteriorly. In the genus *Hynesionella* the suranal plate is also with conspicuous process on each side, but this has apparently occurred independently in both genera. The presence of the omphalium is peculiar to this

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EXPLANATION OF PLATE

Plate 1. *Rheumatometroides browni* Hungerford and Matsuda, male left, female right.

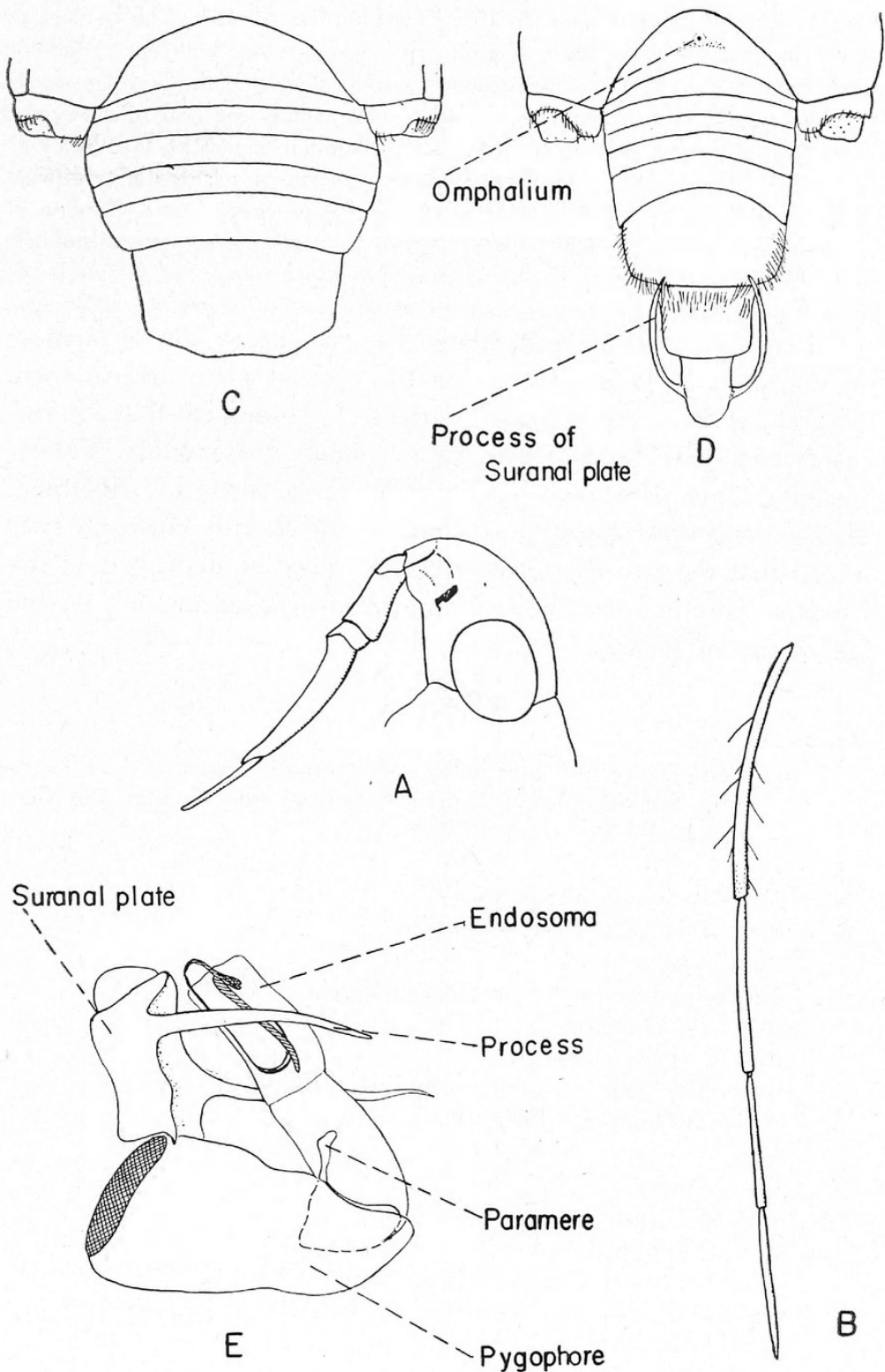
genus, in no other related genera is the omphalium recognizable.

***Rheumatometroides browni* Hungerford and Matsuda, new species**
(Plates 1 and 2)

Size: Apterous male 3.15 mm. long; 1.16 mm. greatest width. Apterous female 3.25 mm. long; 1.26 greatest width. **Color:** Black with testaceous to reddish markings as shown in plate 1; antennae, beak and legs dark except base of anterior femora; mesopleura and metaacetabula with broad black bands, the former with a band of grayish pile superimposed; thoracic venter pale testaceous, abdominal venter more or less embrowned. **Structural characteristics:** Relative length of antennal segments in a male: 1st : 2nd : 3rd : 4th :: 40 : 26 : 21+ : 23-; total antennal length to body length in a male :: 2.6 mm. : 3.15 mm.; rostrum rather stout with third segment extending onto mesosternum; front femur and tibia moderately stout, the former with diameter a little greater than base of middle femur; middle leg

Table 1.—The relative lengths of the leg segments.

	Femur	Tibia	1st tarsal seg.	2nd tarsal seg.	Total tarsal length
Front leg	45	40	5.3	18.7	24
Middle leg	110	132	44.3	38.7	83
Hind leg	120	48	7+	13-	20



EXPLANATION OF PLATE

Plate 2. *Rheumatometroides browni* Hungerford and Matsuda, A) Lateral view of the head, B) The male antenna, C) Ventral view of the female abdomen, D) Ventral view of the male abdomen, E) Lateral view of the male genital segment.

much longer than hind leg (325:188); metasternum of male slightly elevated on its median line and with omphalium well recognizable; first four abdominal sternites very short, the following one a little longer and the last one nearly as long as all that precede it in male; first genital segment of male also long and ventrally depressed, with last abdominal segment together considerably longer than preceding abdominal segments; seventh tergite of male as long as five preceding tergites; lateral process of suranal plate of male as shown in plate 1 and plate 2 figure E; paramere somewhat reduced, as shown in plate 2, figure E; last ventral abdominal segment of female large, longer than three preceding segments together; genital segments withdrawn.

This species stands quite alone. The presence of the omphalium in the male, its large process on the suranal plate and so forth separate it from its nearest relatives. It is described from two males and three females bearing the label "Solomon Is. Kolombangara, Jack Harbour. 1, X 1954, E. S. Brown." Holotype, allotype and three paratypes belong to the British Museum. It is hoped that the two dissected paratypes may be deposited in the Francis Huntington Snow Entomological Collections at the University of Kansas.

ERRATA

MURAYAMA, J. J.

1957. Bark-beetles and pine-hole borers recently imported into Japan with timbers from the United States and other foreign countries. Pan-Pacific Ent., 33(1):35-37.

Page	Line	
36	13	Barboso read Barbosco
"	20	Douglas fir read Spruce & fir
"	25	1951 read 1953
37		Add a line between the lines 8 & 9: Eureka, ", ", 1954
"	10	1943 read 1953
"	15 & 16	1944 read 1954
"		Cancel the lines 18 & 19 (Port, Species, Subfamily & species etc.)
"	21	Eichhorn read Eichhoff
"	23	" read Sandakan
"	25	Apiton read White fir
"	33	St. Muria read St. Maria
"	28	Nsipit read Nasipit, 1951 read 1953, White fir read Lauan
"	29	Camarives read Camarines, Lauan read Apiton
"		Add a line between the lines 29 & 30: Nasipit, Osaka, Lauan, 1953
"	30	Lauan read Paulownia
"	33, 37 & 38	1951 read 1954
"	26	Stroheim read Strohmeyer, Paulonia read Lauan
"		Add a line between the lines 38 & 39: Appari, Osaka, Lauan, 1954
"	39	<i>aleajahi</i> read <i>aleajalis</i> , Cancel Appari
"	40	Basilan read Bislig
"	41	Add ", ", 1952



Hungerford, Herbert B. and Matsuda, Ryuichi. 1958. "A new genus of the Gerridae from the Solomon Islands." *The Pan-Pacific entomologist* 34, 203–206.

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