

NOTES ON THE ONTARIO SPECIES OF SCUDDERIA (*Orthoptera*, *Ensifera*)

By F. A. URQUHART¹



THE SPECIES of *Scudderia* are commonly called "katydids", "narrow-winged katydids", or "bush-katydids". However, the name "katydid" properly belongs to a more southern species, *Pterophylla camellifolia*, the rasping and somewhat guttural sound produced by this species closely resembling a monotonous repetition of the word "katydid".

The so-called "bush-katydids" are abundant in marshes and fields during August and September throughout the greater part of Southern Ontario. The sound produced by the males is very characteristic consisting of a series of distinct rasping notes, "z-z-z-ip z-z-z-ip" terminated by a few sharp clicking sounds, the same theme being repeated incessantly from sunset to sunrise.

The five species of *Scudderia* known to occur in Ontario may be readily identified from the following key and accompanying figures:

KEY TO THE ONTARIO SPECIES OF SCUDDERIA

1. Ultimate tergite of the male not produced into an elongate median process. Arboreal *S. septentrionalis*
 Ultimate tergite of the male produced so as to form an elongate median process . . . 2
2. With a median process between the two lobes of the furcate apex of the male ultimate tergite (fig. 5). Of large size; tegmina long and narrow; inhabiting marshes; ovipositor of the female as in fig. 6 *S. texensis*
 Without a median process between the two lobes of the furcate apex of the male ultimate tergite. Of medium size; tegmina narrow or broad; usually inhabiting shrubs and long grass 3
3. Apex of the male ultimate tergite swollen, the two lobes somewhat oval and widely separated (fig. 7). Tegmina narrow; ovipositor of the female as in fig. 8 *S. furcata furcata*
 Apex of the male ultimate tergite not swollen, the two lobes smaller and somewhat depressed. Tegmina broader 4
4. Lobes of the apex of the male ultimate tergite tapering (fig. 9). Tegmina broad; ovipositor of the female as in fig. 10 *S. pistillata*

Lobes of the apex of the male ultimate tergite decidedly depressed and with distinct marginal flanges (fig. 11). Tegmina narrow; ovipositor of the female as in fig. 12

. *S. curvicauda curvicauda*

Scudderia septentrionalis (Serville). NORTHERN BUSH-KATYDID.—This species is included in the present paper based upon a single male specimen that was apparently taken at Guelph, Ontario and contained in a "student collection". This species probably does occur in the more southern parts of Southern Ontario but, possibly owing to its arboreal habits, it has so far escaped detection.

Scudderia texensis Saussure-Pictet. TEXAN BUSH-KATYDID.—The "texan bush-katydid" is of common occurrence in marsh areas in extreme Southern Ontario. It has not been taken along the north shore of Lake Ontario from Hamilton to Brockville, but it is of common occurrence in marshes from Brockville to Lancaster in eastern Ontario (fig. 1).

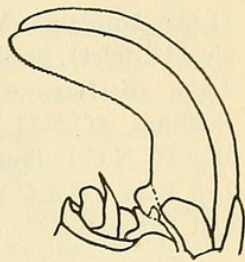
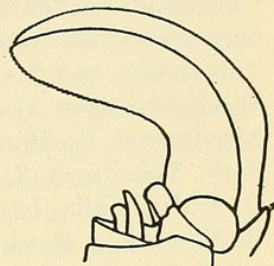
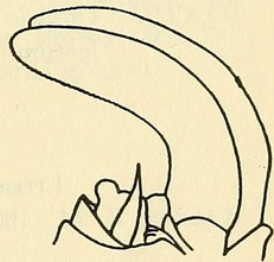
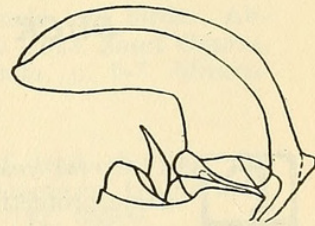
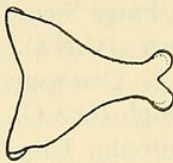
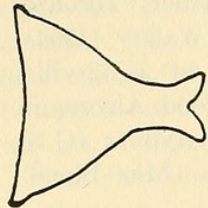
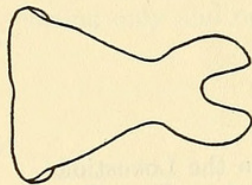
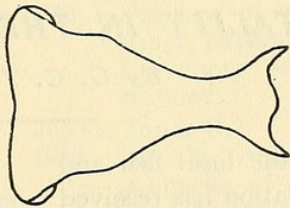
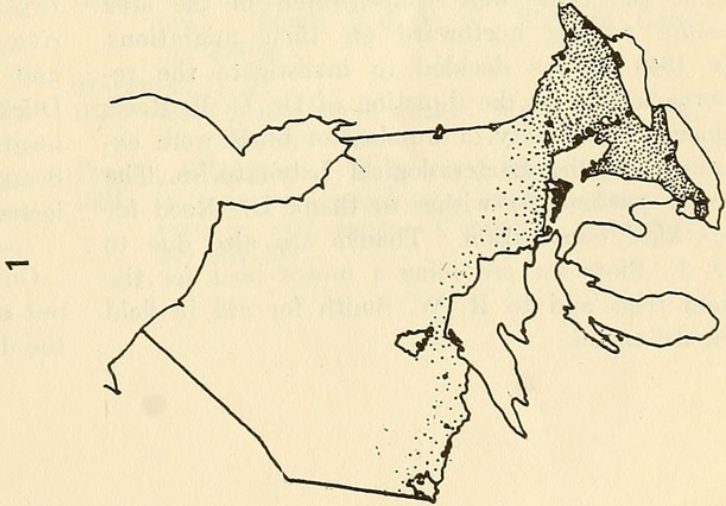
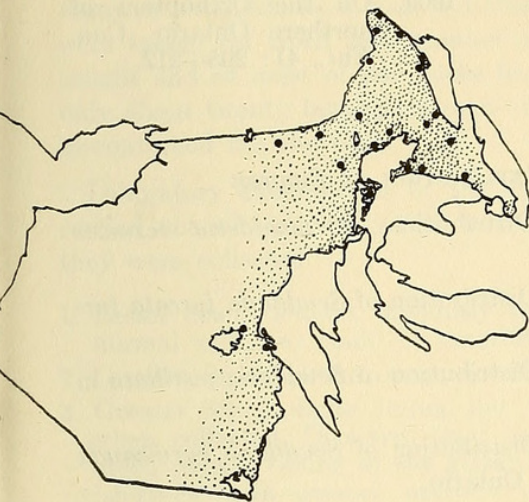
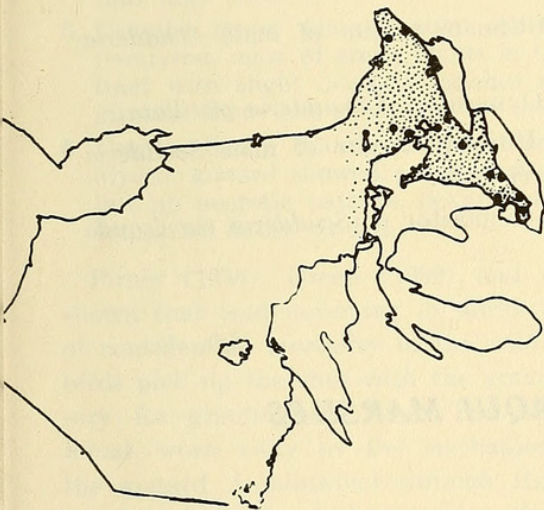
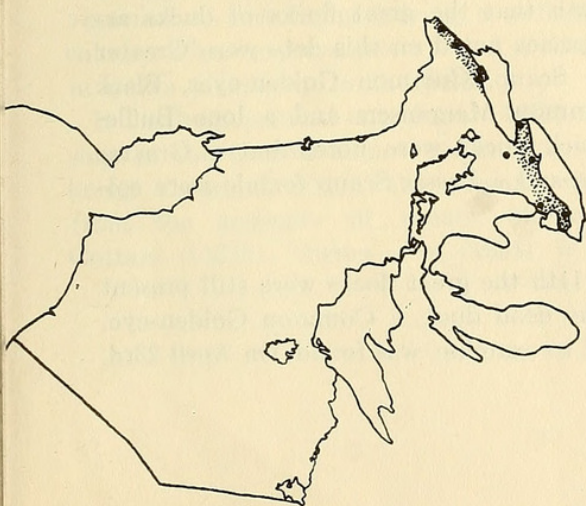
This species has been previously recorded by Walker (1904) from Point Pelee, Arner, Sarnia and Walpole Island. Specimens have also been taken at Kingsville, Port Rowan, MacGregor, Essex, Tecumseh, Amherstburg, La Salle, Malden Centre, Niagara Falls, Colechester, Oxley, Trenton (C.N.C.), Guelph (O.A.C.), Lancaster, and Brockville.

Scudderia furcata furcata Brunner. FORK-TAILED BUSH-KATYDID.—The "fork-tailed bush-katydid" has been previously recorded by Walker (1904) from Point Pelee, Arner, Rondeau, Sarnia, Toronto, Lake Simcoe, Severn River, Dwight, and North Bay. Specimens have also been taken at Kingsville, Go Home Bay, Chatham, Trenton (C.N.C.), Ottawa (C.N.C.), Blackburn (C.N.C.), Ingersoll (C.N.C.), Constance Bay (C.N.C.), Bell's Corners (C.N.C.), Guelph (O.A.C.), Port Stanley (O.A.C.), Brockville, and Bolton

The probable distribution of this species in Ontario is shown in fig. 2.

Scudderia pistillata Brunner. BROAD-WINGED BUSH-KATYDID.—The "broad-winged bush-katydid" has been previously reported from Toronto, Lake Simcoe, Southampton, Burke's Island, Dwight, and Algonquin Park by Walker (1904); and from Fort William and Temagami by the same author (1909). Specimens have also been taken at Grand Bay

¹ Royal Ontario Museum of Zoology.



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(Lake Nipigon), Macdiarmid, East River (Nipissing District), Sesikinika, Rosegrove, Parry Sound, Lake of Bays (C.N.C.), Hawthorn (C.N.C.), Sudbury (C.N.C.), Ottawa (C.N.C.), Constance Bay (C.N.C.), Trenton (O.A.C.), Guelph (O.A.C.), Leg Lake (O.A.C.), Brockville, Manitoulin Island and Lancaster.

The probable distribution of this species in Ontario is shown in fig. 3.

Scudderia curvicauda curvicauda (DeGeer). CURVE-TAILED BUSH-KATYDID.—This species has been previously reported from Arner, Toronto, Tobermory, and Severn River by Walker (1904). Specimens have also been taken at Kingsville, Macdiarmid, Go Home Bay, Inglewood, Algonquin Park, Tobermory, Constance Bay, Aylmer (C.N.C.), Manitoulin Island, Hawthorn (Mer Bleue) (C.N.C.), and Brockville.

The probable distribution of this species in Ontario is shown in fig. 4.

(C.N.C.): Canadian National Collection, Ottawa.

(O.A.C.): Ontario Agricultural College Collection, Guelph.

LITERATURE CITED

- WALKER, E. M., 1904. Notes on the Locustidae of Ontario. *Can. Ent.*, 36: 325—330.

1909. On the Orthoptera of northern Ontario. *Can. Ent.*, 41: 205—212.

EXPLANATION OF FIGURES

Figure 1. Distribution of *Scudderia texensis* in Ontario.

Figure 2. Distribution of *Scudderia furcata furcata* in Ontario.

Figure 3. Distribution of *Scudderia pistillata* in Ontario.

Figure 4. Distribution of *Scudderia curvicauda curvicauda* in Ontario.

Figure 5. Ultimate tergite of male *Scudderia texensis*.

Figure 6. Ovipositor of *Scudderia texensis*.

Figure 7. Ultimate tergite of male *Scudderia furcata furcata*.

Figure 8. Ovipositor of *Scudderia furcata furcata*.

Figure 9. Ultimate tergite of male *Scudderia pistillata*.

Figure 10. Ovipositor of *Scudderia pistillata*.

Figure 11. Ultimate tergite of male *Scudderia curvicauda curvicauda*.

Figure 12. Ovipositor of *Scudderia curvicauda curvicauda*.

DUCK MORTALITY IN THE CATARAQUI MARSHES

By G. C. TONER



FOR several years past the local fish and game protective association has received reports that wild ducks of various species were dying in the marshes of the Cataraqui river, above Kingston, Ontario. This mortality was supposed to occur each spring while the birds were concentrated in the area before passing northward on their migrations. In 1940 it was decided to investigate the reports and under the direction of Dr. G. B. Reed, Queen's University, a number of birds were examined in the Bacteriological Laboratories. The writer particularly wishes to thank Dr. Reed for his kind cooperation. Thanks are also due to D. E. Plotz for providing a motor boat for the field trips and to R. W. Smith for aid in field identification.

On April 3, 1940, the edge of the open channel was carefully examined for sick birds. Many hundreds of ducks were concentrated along the open water, having arrived about April 1st. Part of this channel is ice free throughout the year but it is not until open water extends a mile or two in length that the great flocks of ducks arrive. The species noted on this date were Greater and Lesser Scaup, Common Golden-eyes, Black Ducks, Common Mergansers and a lone Bufflehead. No sick ducks were noted but a Greater Scaup drake and a Lesser Scaup female were collected.

On April 11th the great flocks were still present but only one dead duck, a Common Golden-eye, too decayed to examine, was found. On April 23rd,



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