A NEW GENUS AND SPECIES OF DISCOCEPHALINE PENTATOMID (HETEROPTERA: PENTATOMIDAE)

BY HERBERT RUCKES[1]

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ABSTRACT

Describes **Parantiteuchus hemitholus** from French Guiana as a new genus distinct from *Antiteuchus* Dallas by virtue of the longer head, sinuate anterolateral pronotal margins, gibbous scutellum, crenulated abdominal margin, and ramose veins in the hemelytral membranes.

While sorting an old accumulation of miscellaneous Neotropical Heteroptera which have been residual in the collections of the American Museum for a number of years, the following interesting specimen was discovered. It is sufficiently distinctive to warrant description.

Parantiteuchus, new genus
(Figures 1 and 2)

Ovate, large, 15.0 mm. long; strongly convex above, much less so beneath; glossy, upper surface rough, coarsely punctured and pitted; head and anterior portion of the pronotum decidedly declivous.

Head elongate oval, not quite half again as long as wide between the eyes; margins very obscurely reflexed near the base and obtusely sinuate; from there onward subparallel, the apex entire and evenly rounded; ocelli twice as far apart as distant from the eyes; surface flat. Antennae five-segmented, reaching beyond the middle of the scutellum, segment I not exceeding the apex of the head, segments I and II subequal, segment II much shorter than segment III which is subequal to segment IV; segment V missing.

Pronotum subhexagonal, about two and one-third times as wide across the humeri as long medially; the anterior margin a little wider than the head through the eyes, somewhat thickened and slightly elevated centrally followed by a short, broad transverse groove behind the central excavation, then truncate behind the eyes and terminating laterally in a prominent tubercle; anterolateral margins very narrowly carinate (the carina ending abruptly just before the humerus), subreflexed, and distinctly angularly sinuate at their middles; cicatrices and humeri tumid, the latter subprominent, the humeral angles subrectilinear, rounded. Scutellum stout,

[1] Research Associate, Department of Entomology, the American Museum of Natural History, and Professor Emeritus, the City College of New York. This research was supported by part of grant G-9830 of the National Science Foundation.

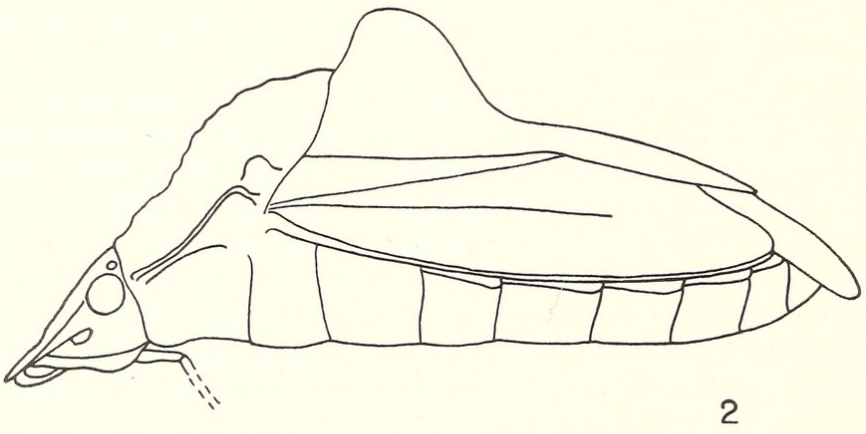

FIG. 1: *Parantiteuchus hemitholus* new genus, new species.
FIG. 2: Left profile view of the body minus antennae and legs.

about one-third longer than wide at the base, the frena surpassing the middle, the postfrenal margins parallel, the apex rather broadly rounded, reaching the base of the seventh abdominal tergite (female), the basal third of the disc strongly gibbous. Hemelytra rather broad, the costal margins slightly ampliate, then weakly sinuate near their bases; the embolium nearly as wide as the corium; coria only slightly longer than the scutellum, their free apical margins straight, their external apical angles subobtusely rounded; membranes distinctly exceeding the abdomen, the veins ramose. Connexivum narrowly exposed, the apical angles of the segments distinctly produced, obtusely rounded, producing an incised or crenated abdominal margin.

Bucculae well developed, feebly increasing in height posteriorly and ending abruptly near the base of the head; buccular canal deep and moderately wide. Rostrum arising from a point in line with the eyes and reaching the second visible abdominal sternite, segment I attaining the procoxae, segment II barely reaching the mesocoxae, segment IV distinctly shorter than segment III. Mesosternum feebly tumid bilaterally, hardly sulcate medially, vaguely carinate on the xyphus. Metasternum almost equilaterally hexagonal, provided with a low, median carina. Mesocoxae and metacoxae mutually equidistant. Median abdominal furrow very well developed, broad, reaching the sixth sternite.

Basal plates of the female genital valves, when taken together, forming a transverse ellipse, their combined apical margins producing a mildly arcuate line across the body, their ental margins contiguous for their entire distance.

Type species **Parantiteuchus hemitholus**, new genus, new species.

Closely allied to *Antiteuchus* Dallas but differs from that genus by having a somewhat longer head, sinuate pronotal margins, gibbous base to the scutellum, produced segmental angles of the connexivum, ramose veins in the hemelytral membranes, more prominent bucculae, and differently shaped genital plates.

Parantiteuchus hemitholus, new species

A robust, large, glossy, strongly convex, and broadly oval species, distinguished by a large hump on the base of the scutellum and the crenated abdominal margin. Bright ochraceous with coarse fuscous and piceous punctures and pits very irregularly distributed and tending to congregate in clusters on the scutellum and hemelytra; abdominal venter castaneous to fuscous, each segment provided with an ental subquadrangular, and a larger ectal suboval ochraceous spot on each side near the lateral margin.

Head about two-thirds the median length of the pronotum and distinctly longer than wide between the eyes; the margins vaguely reflexed, surface flat, the punctures ferruginous for the most part, more regularly distributed than elsewhere, those on the tylus and a cluster between each eye and the

vertex, piceous. Basal two antennal segments fulvous, segments III and IV fuscous, segment V missing; the joints, a central narrow annulus on segment III and the base of segment IV sordid ivory; segmental ratios: 25/25/79/80/—, i.e., segment II subequal to segment I, a little less than one third the length of segment III, and partially connate with it.

Pronotum not quite two and one-half times as wide as long, the surface before the transhumeral diameter declivous, very rough, densely pitted with deep, very coarse, fuscous to piceous punctures arranged in irregular rows and clusters between which are elevated, very glossy, calloused ochraceous areas, the most conspicuous of which is a median, inverted Y-shaped one just behind the center of the anterior margin; anterior margin wider than the head through the eyes, mildly excavated centrally, the anterior apical angles produced into prominent laterally directed ochraceous conical tubercles; anterolateral margins narrowly carinate, weakly reflexed, and angularly sinuate at their middles; the cicatrices moderately tumid, the humeri more strongly so, the latter fuscous on the anterior face, flavescent on the posterior face; the carina of each anterolateral margin ending abruptly just before the humerus, leaving a minute, obscure emargination there; humeral angles rounded, subrectilinear. Scutellum about one-third longer than wide at the base; the basal area elevated into a half-dome shaped transversely oval hump (hense the specific name *hemitholus*), the crest of which is distinctly higher than the surface of the pronotum, the anterior face of which is subvertical, and the posterior face of which is strongly declivous, sloping toward the middle of the shield (Fig. 2); the crest provided with four, transversely placed, partially pitted, prominent, fuscous patches, the declivous posterior face bright ochraceous and very glossy with three or four scattered large fuscous punctures and a pair of irregular, densely punctured fuscous bands on its slope near the midline; dense clusters of fuscous punctures in the vicinity of the area where the frena end, the anteapical discal portion provided with widely spaced fuscous punctures; the middle area of the disc, just behind the basal hump broadly and obtusely keeled; the apex semicircularly rounded. Hemelytra barely longer than the scutellum, glossy pale flavescent with irregular, densely punctured, fuscous areas, the basal portion of the embolium deeply pitted; membranes distinctly exceeding the abdomen, pale, clear yellowish, darkening slightly toward the base, the veins raised, contrastingly darker brown and forming a dendritic design. Connexivum narrowly exposed, coarsely and sparingly punctured, the basal half of each segment fuscous, the apical half ochraceous, the apical angles of the segments obtusely rounded and distinctly produced.

Thoracic pleura and acetabula glossy, ochraceous with coarse, deep fuscous punctures; evaporatorium contrastingly matte, fuscous. Mesosternum fulvous, metasternum piceous, the median carina moderately developed. Legs flavescent, glossy, the femora provided with a broad, apical castaneous annulus and one or two similarly colored spots on the shaft, tibiae with proximal, central and distal castaneous narrow annuli, the proximal and distal segments of the tarsi fuscous, the middle one flavescent. Abdomen as described above; the surface essentially impunctate, glabrous, but coarsely

alutaceous; the pseudosuture behind each spiracle elevated, so as to give the appearance of being carinate.

Basal plates of the female genital valves subtriangularly oval, a little broader than long, and when taken together forming a transverse elliptical figure, with the combined apical margins weakly arcuate to form a curved line.

Described from one specimen.

HOLOTYPE Female. 15.5 mm. long; 9.5 mm. wide across the humeri; 10.5 mm. wide across the greatest abdominal diameter. French Guiana. No date. Deposited in the American Museum of Natural History.

As a new species in a new genus, there is at present no close affiliate. In superficial appearance, size, and color pattern it somewhat resembles *Antiteuchus variolosus* (Westwood); but the prominent elevation on the scutellum and the distinctly produced angles of the abdominal segments immediately differentiate it.