Scoloposcelis discalis Van Duzee, 1914, a Synonym of Anthocoris galactinus Fieber, 1837, and Xylocoris umbrinus Van Duzee, 1921, a Synonym of Piezostethus californicus Reuter, 1884 (Hemiptera: Heteroptera: Anthocoridae)

Scoloposcelis discalis was described by Van Duzee (1914) from Lakeside, San Diego County, California. Van Duzee (1921) placed the species in the genus Xylocoris Dufour (1831). Besides the California location, it has been reported from Arizona (Drake and Harris 1926) and the Hawaiian Islands (Van Duzee 1936). Kelton (1976) designated a lectotype male from the type series. I have examined specimens of Xylocoris discalis from the Hawaiian Islands identified by Van Duzee and a series of specimens collected later there that are identical to those identified by Van Duzee. These specimens are in the collections of the Bishop Museum. The male clasper of the Hawaiian specimens clearly identifies the material as Xylocoris (Proxylocoris) galactinus (Fieber), a European species. It has been introduced into many regions around the world and is commonly found associated in stored grain (Lattin 2000). Van Duzee (1905) first reported X. galactinus from North America. Henry (1988) listed the species from Alberta, British Columbia, California, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Manitoba, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, Ontario, Quebec, and Saskatchewan and I have identified specimens from Oregon. Péricart (1972) provided a detailed treatment of X. galactinus in Europe. Kelton (1978) included this species in his study of the Anthocoridae of Canada and Alaska, and both authors included an illustration of the distinctive male clasper. Adults of this species are known only in the macropterous state.

Scoloposcelis discalis Van Duzee (1914) is here considered to be a synonym of Anthocoris galactinus Fieber (1837) (now Xylocoris (Proxylocoris) galactinus), new synonymy. In addition, Van Duzee (1914) described Piezostethus flaccidus from a macropterous female and a brachypterous female from Descanso and Alpine, California. Kelton (1977) synonymized P. flaccidus Van Duzee with Xylocoris galactinus and designated the macropterous female as the lectotype. Because X. galactinus is known only from macropterous specimens, the identity of the brachypterous female Van Duzee (1914) included in his type series of P. flaccidus remains uncertain. All records of X. discalis from the Hawaiian Islands are here referred to X. (Proxylocoris) galactinus.

Xylocoris umbrinus Van Duzee (1921) was described from a male from Bryson, Monterey County, and a female from Cayton, Shasta County, California. Reuter (1884) described Piezostethus californicus from a single female from Mariposa, Mariposa County, California. Earlier specimens of X. umbrinus in the Oregon State University Collection have been identified by P.D. Ashlock, H.M. Harris, and J.D. Lattin. There was a specimen identified by Harris as X. californicus from Klamath Falls, Oregon. Recently, a review of the species of Xylocoris from western North America included the examination of original descriptions, published literature, and a number of specimens from this region. Reuter’s description of Piezostethus californicus was quite close to that of Xylocoris umbrinus Van Duzee. Ultimately, it was recognized that only one species was involved with Piezostethus californicus Reuter, 1884, having priority over Xylocoris umbrinus Van Duzee. 1921, new synonymy. Details of the similarity follow: size of macropterous P. californicus the same as the type of X.
umbrinus (3 mm); dorsum shiny; hemylytra brown yellow to piceus brown without white areas except hyaline white membrane; rostrum reaching middle coxae, thoracic scent gland with slender basal stem, slightly enlarged at bend, apex of gland not reaching anterior margin of metapleuron, apex acute. Van Duzee (1921) stated that the male type came from Bryson and the female allotype from Cayton, California, and that he had taken X. californicus from Bryson and Cayton, California—both species from the same localities! The species is now known from Alberta, British Columbia, California, Idaho, Manitoba, Oregon, and Saskatchewan (Anderson 1962, Kelton 1978, Henry 1988). I have examined specimens from Washington and Lewis et al. (in press) also reported it from Washington.

Acknowledgments.—My thanks go to A. Ramsdale, Bishop Museum, and R. Baumann, Brigham Young University, for sending their collections of Anthocoridae for study, and to L. Parks for typing of the manuscript.

LITERATURE CITED


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