

NOTES ON SOME LESS COMMON GENERA OF  
TROPICAL CIXIIDAE

(HOMOPTERA)

JOHN S. CALDWELL,  
Circleville, Ohio

*Microledrida* Fowler

This genus was established for *asperata* from Guerrero in Mexico. *Fuscata* Van Duzee from California occurs in adjacent Sonora (M. F. 209, Dampf) and *fulva* Metcalf from Texas has been taken in Tamaulipas (Caldwell).

*Microledrida virida* n. sp.

Length 5 mm. Vertex green with three red incomplete transverse stripes; extreme apex yellow. Eyes with transverse black stripe across center. Pronotum next to vertex red; green caudad. Mesonotum yellowish to gray in center with the lateral compartments fuscous and including a black spot caudad next to the lateral carinae. Elytra clear; infuscate basad; a transverse fuscous stripe present across furcations of main veins; each apical cell with a diffused fuscous spot. Abdomen greenish.

Vertex produced, longer than mesonotum, with prominent median carina. Face extremely flat; no median carina present. Sutural margin of elytra with vertical thin plate-like projection at junction of anal vein.

Female holotype of this large species from Peten Lake, Guatemala, 11-12-25 (M. F. 734. Dampf).

*Micrixia* Fowler

Fowler erected this genus for the unique *costalis* from Mexico. With the addition of another species it becomes necessary to modify the original definition or erect a new genus that differs by veinational characters alone. It is my belief that these characters are more specific than generic in this case and by omitting the statement concerning the freak claval vein entering the suture at about the middle of the clavus accept the original definition which will then include the two species.

*Micrixia nigra* n. sp.

Length 3.2 mm. Black over all with carinae of vertex, all of pronotum, and legs smoky. Face not as narrowed as in *costalis*. Elytra with normal claval veins; medius not branched; two apical cells formed by medius and adjacent veins very long; only two subapical cells present, these formed by cubital and radial veins.

Female holotype from three miles north of Acapulco, Guerrero, 11-22-38 (Caldwell).

*Diastrocixius* n. gen.

Vertex deeply concave, notched caudad, carinate cephalad; sides almost parallel. Lateral carinae of vertex, frons, and clypeus greatly elevated, almost vertical above, oblique below. Frons widened to apex; median carina forked basad forming a transverse carina; median ocellus prominent. Carinae of clypeus evanescent toward apex. Caudal margin of pronotum parallel to caudal margin of vertex. Mesonotum tricarinate. Medius arising from base of subcostal-radial stock. Veins indistinctly punctate; stigma long, narrow. Hind tibiae without prominent spurs. Pygofers of female robust; ovipositor seemingly complete.

Type: *Diastrocixius thelyus* n. sp.

This genus resembles *Bothriocerodes* Fowler in general appearance but in most keys the male will run to *Cixius* from which it differs in having greatly elevated lateral carinae on the head and the two carinae between the crown and forehead are widely separated and not connected by a median carina. Fowler does not mention or show a double carinae on the forehead and in his

illustrations the lateral carinae are not as elevated as in the species before me; therefore I believe *Diastrocixius* is distinct from *Bothriocerodes*. Its true placement is probably in the tribe *Pintaliini* although the elytra are not as steep as in *Pintalia*.

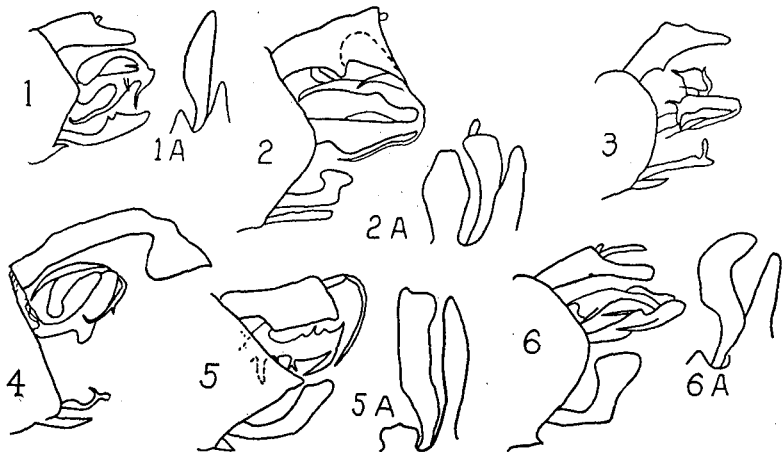
***Diastrocixius thelyus* n. sp.**

(Figs. 1 and 1-A)

Length 6.5-7.5 mm. Eyes black, ocelli red; head and thorax yellow; abdomen sometimes red; legs yellow with apical tarsi smoky; elytra clear with yellow veins.

Median carina of frons short, visible only in basal third. Anal segment of male simple, short. Lateral margins of pygofers broadly obtuse caudad; medio-ventral process short, acute. Styles slender, lanceolate.

Male holotype, female holotype, and paratypes from Vergel, Chiapas, May and June, 1935 (M. F. 4268, 4253 and 4239), male paratype, Elzapote, Chiapas, 9-12-30 (M. F. 1821), and fifty female paratypes, Esmeralda, Chiapas, 11-18-30 (M. F. 1934 and 1937) (Dampf).



1. *Diastrocixius thelyus*. Profile of male genitalia.
- 1-A. Ventral aspect of right forcep and right central portion of male pygofer.
2. *Diastrocixius aurelus*. Same as 1.
- 2-A. Same as 1-A.
3. *Nymphocixia vanduzeei* Muir. Same as 1.
4. *Rhamphixius championi* Fowler. Same as 1.
5. *Diastrocixius apicalus*. Same as 1.
- 5-A. Same as 2-A.
6. *Pachyntheisa concinna* var. *striata*. Same as 1.
- 6-A. Same as 1-A.

***Diastrocixius thelyus* var. *basalis* n. var.**

Length 8 mm. Color as in *thelyus thelyus* except base of elytra fuscous with this color continuing caudad between claval vein and sutural margin.

Holotype female from Finca Belem, Chiapas, 3-2-38, (M. F. 6497, Dampf).

***Diastrocixius aurelus* n. sp.**

(Figs. 2 and 2-A)

Length 6.5 mm. Head and body yellow, elytra clear with yellow veins. Median carina of frons visible in basal two-thirds; basal fork acute.

Anal segment of male with subapical projection on ventral margins; right margin cut away before apex. Lateral margins of pygofers broadly rounded caudad; medio-ventral process extremely large, as long as styles, pyriform.

Male holotype from Bartica, British Guiana, 4-27-01 (Parish), in Osborn collection at Columbus, Ohio.

*Diastrocixius apicatus* n. sp.

(Figs. 5 and 5-A)

Length 6 mm. Vertex and thoracic dorsum orange; abdomen black above, venter yellow. Elytra mostly clear; stigmal spot dark with color extending up onto the disc; smoky band present subapically. Under wing with fuscous apex. Entire face narrow; frons not especially widened apically; median carina interrupted only by median ocellus. Anal segment of male constricted basad. Pygofers greatly produced caudad into acute flaps; medio-ventral process short, very broad. Styles large, long; sides roughly parallel. Aedeagus appears to have perandrium separated from penis except basad.

Holotype male, allotype female, and one male paratype from Coreica, Bolivia, in the H. Osborn collection at Columbus, Ohio; one male paratype in writer's collection.

*Diastrocixius magnus* n. sp.

Length 7.5 mm. Face yellow with lateral carinae broadly fuscous and median carinae of frons fuscous apically. Vertex black caudad and in center. Pronotum yellow with black dash behind either eye. Mesonotum fuscous. Elytra clear with dark veins; apex slightly ipufuscate; sutural margin fuscous to apex of clavus. Legs smoky. Face scarcely narrowed between the eyes; median carinae of frons distinct; basal fork almost flat. Vertex twice as broad as long. Hind tibiae with minute spurs.

Holotype female from Coroico, Bolivia, is in the H. Osborn collection at Columbus, Ohio.

*Rhamphixius* Fowler

Specimens of *championi* Fowler were taken in Chiapas (M. F. 1937) and Quintana Roo (M. F. 622, Dampf), and in Morelos (DeLong & Good) with *Crescenta alata* recorded as host plant.

The male is decidedly smaller than the female and is less highly colored. The illustration in the *Biologia* (Pl. 9, fig. 10) is similar to most males while most of the females have a much heavier and continuous black stripe around the elytra omitting the costal margin. The genital styles are much reduced in the males:

Male allotype and paratypes, Morelos, 19-22-41 (DeLong & Good). (Fig. 4.)

*Nymphocixia* Van Duzee

Ten specimens were collected in the Canal Zone, Panama, May, 1927, by H. Osborn. The coloration of these specimens is close to *unipunctata* Van Duzee in that the elytra are hyaline and fuscous with a fuscous V across the transverse veins. The male genitalia coincides with the description of *vanduzeei* Muir. (Fig. 3.)

*Nymphocixia vanduzeei* var. *floridensis* n. var.

Length 6 mm. Very heavily marked. Elytra mostly fuscous with a milky area extending from the commissural margin across to the stigma where it projects basad forming a somewhat broad V-shaped design. This specimen is larger and darker than *unipunctata* or *vanduzeei vanduzeei*.

Female holotype from Manatee Co., Florida, 1-4-25 (T. H. Hubbell), Osborn collection at Columbus, Ohio.

*Pachyntheisa concinna* var. *striata* n. var.

(Figs. 6 and 6-A)

Length 4-4.5 mm. The central semitransparent band is not interrupted in the middle of each elytra otherwise the color and marking are identical with *concinna concinna* Fowler. The male styles differ in appearance from those shown by Fowler (Pl. IV, fig. 3c), but this may be due to point of view or differences resulting from treatment with caustic.

Male holotype and female allotype from Tenancingo, Mexico, 10-22-33 (Plummer), paratypes from Mexico, D. F., 11-1-39 (DeLong).