

A NEW SPECIES OF *ZERIDONEUS* FROM UTAH¹
(HEMIPTERA: LYGAEIDAE)

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ABSTRACT

A new species of lygaeid insect, *Zeridoneus petersoni*, is described from Utah. This brings to three the number of known species in this genus.

Zeridoneus (Perigines) costalis, described by Van Duzee in 1909, remained the single identified species of the genus until 1948 when Barber described *Z. knulli* from a single Texas specimen. The general range of *Z. costalis* is from New England west to Alberta and Missouri and south to North Carolina. The species herein described was taken by sweeping in dense weed growth along Bear Lake, Utah, about three miles south of the Idaho state line, during August 1952. This brings to three the known species of *Zeridoneus*.

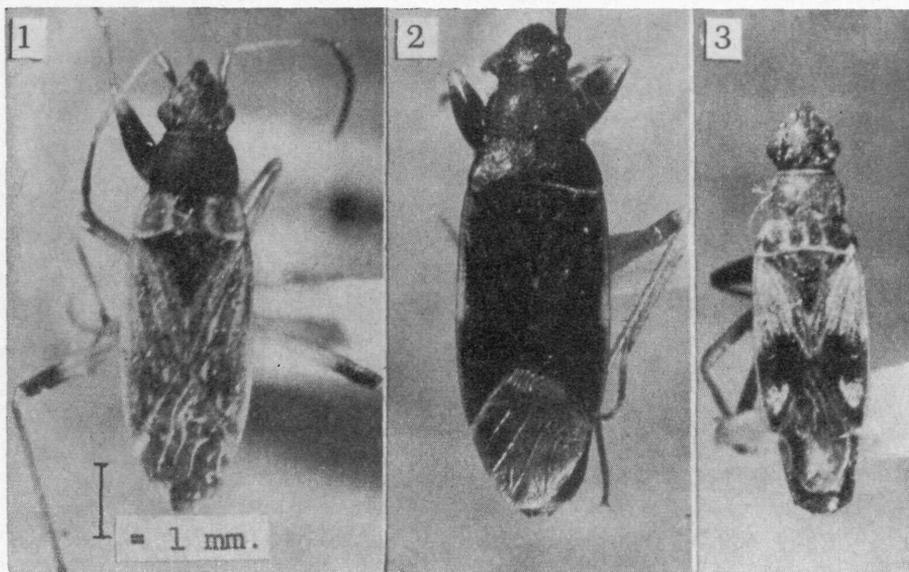


FIGURE 1. Photographs of the three known species of *Zeridoneus*. 1. *Z. costalis* Van Duzee. 2. *Z. knulli* Barber. 3. *Z. petersoni*, n. sp. All photographed at the same magnification (Polaroid MP-3, f/4, 5-element Rodenstock-Eurygon macro lens).

Zeridoneus petersoni sp. n.

Predominant coloration creamy tan. Much more slender and smaller than either *costalis* or *knulli*, but with the same general outline. Frons, light reddish-brown extending medially onto vertex slightly past the middle of the eyes; vertex dark reddish-brown extending diagonally towards base of the antennae; numerous appressed fine hairs; collar light reddish-brown; labium reaching almost to metacoxae, second segment longest, base of III and all of IV dark brown; anterior lobe of pronotum subglobose, dull dark reddish-brown, slightly sericeous, impunctate;

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posterior lobe coarsely punctate, lateral margins and three discal stripes testaceous; scutellum dark brownish-red except margins of apical half to two-thirds which are light yellowish brown; clavus light creamy-tan with three confused rows of coarse fuscous punctures; corium colored as clavus but with a dark brown, almost band-like, blotch extending from inner apical angle to costal margin, and along entire inner apical margin; membrane pale brown, veins lighter, several scattered fuscous blotches not reaching the genital segment; antennae light reddish-brown except apical third of III, fuscous testaceous, IV missing; legs light reddish-brown; inner anterior border of fore femora with dark fuscous slashes; tips of tibiae and tarsi tinged with brown; tarsi thickly clothed with stiff yellowish hairs; pre- and postcoxales of pro- and mesopleura and postcoxale and epimeron of metapleura yellowish-white; remaining pleural parts reddish-brown to dark-brown; ventrals brownish-black, thickly clothed with fine prostrate yellowish hairs.

Slender; head barely longer than wide and slightly declivent, length of head, males, 1.01 mm (1.00-1.02), female, 1.13 mm; width across eyes, males, .97 mm (.96-.98), female, 1.06 mm; interocular space, males, .55 mm (.55-.56), female, .64 mm; anterior lobe of pronotum as wide as eyes, fairly distinct median carina extending to about one-third of posterior lobe, lateral margins of posterior lobe gently rounded from transverse impression and terminating in humeral callosity, length of pronotum, males, .95 mm (.91-.99), female, 1.08 mm; width, males, 1.13 mm (.97-1.29), female, 1.14 mm; scutellum longer than wide, shallow median carina throughout, length, males, .90 mm (.88-.91), female, 1.08 mm; width, males, .615 mm (.61-.62), female, .75 mm; hemelytra barely wider across middle than at base and apex, distance apex clavus-apex corium, males .855 mm (.80-.91), female, 1.08 mm; distance apex corium-apex abdomen, males, 1.21 mm (1.13-1.29), female, 1.26 mm; fore femora moderately incrassate, armed beneath with two to three subapical spines of varying size, the intermediate small spines are more like setae-bearing papillae than spines, only one between the preapical spine and the distal end of the femur; length fore femora, males, 1.40 mm (1.35-1.46), female, 1.47 mm; antennae slender except the stout basal segment, length, males I, .51 mm, II, 1.01 mm, III, .99 mm, IV, missing; female, I, II, III, IV, missing. Total length, males, 5.52 mm (5.22-5.82), female, 6.41 mm.

Holotype—male. Bear Lake, Utah, 4 August 1952, by C. V. Reichart. Holotype and allotype in author's collection.

Paratype—male. Deposited in the Ohio State University collection.

It is a pleasure to name this species after Dr. Alvah Peterson of the Ohio State University in gratitude for many favors to the author, and for his many contributions over the years to our knowledge of larval and egg stages of American insects. The author also expresses his indebtedness to Dr. James A. Slater, University of Connecticut, for helpful suggestions in the preparation of this paper.

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