A New Genus (Tenucephalus) and Species of Mexican Leafhopper Related to Parabolocratus

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A NEW GENUS (TENUCEPHALUS) AND SPECIES OF MEXICAN LEAFHOPPER RELATED TO PARABOLOCRATUS

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Several new and interesting generic forms of Mexican leafhoppers have recently been collected. The genus and species described below is apparently allied to Parabolocratus and Spangbergiella.

Genus Tenucephalus n. g.

In appearance resembling Parabolocratus superficially, but smaller with a short broadly rounded vertex. The vertex is broader than long, with a definite margin, but the margin is not thin or foliaceous. The face is more inflated than in Parabolocratus. The ocelli are on the margin and close to the eyes. The elytra are long and narrow and the venation resembles the Thamnotettix type. In Parabolocratus the first anteaepical cell is almost as long as the second anteaepical and the cross veins just caudal to these cells are in a straight line. The elytron of Tenucephalus differs in having a short first anteaepical cell, a long second anteaepical and a long third apical cell. The cross veins between the second anteaepical and second apical are therefore decidedly more caudal than the other cross veins. The pygofer and ovipositor are extremely long and resemble the Aconuran type.

Genotype Tenucephalus marginellus n. sp.

Tenucephalus marginellus n. sp.

Most closely resembling Parabolocratus viridis but much smaller with a narrow black band just above and another just below the pale marginal band. Length, female 4.5 mm.

Vertex broadly roundedly produced, more than one-third wider between eyes at base than median length. Disc flat. Pronotum one third longer than vertex. Body slender.

Color: Dull grayish-green tinged with yellow. Vertex yellow except for a narrow black marginal line just above the pale marginal band. Another narrow black line is just beneath the marginal band. Anterior half of pronotum yellow, basal portion darker. Scutellum and beneath yellow.

Genitalia: Female last ventral segment with posterior margin broadly, concavely rounded between the produced lateral angles. The central third appears notched either side of a broad sunken tooth due to the brown markings on the segment margin and the transparent condition of the central portion of the margin. The pygofer is long, tapered and together with the ovipositor is longer than all of the abdominal segments combined. Male plates short, broadly rounded at apex. Pygofer twice as long as plates with a spine on either side arising from inner wall and concealed under apical fourth. Aedeagus forming an inverted U with the posterior arm longer and heavier than the anterior arm. At the apex of the posterior arm is a horizontal, less heavily chitinized, elongate lobe which is covered with spines on ventral margin. At the base of the U arises on the ventral side a long slender process which extends almost to apex of pygofer. Style broad at base, the apical half less than half the width of the basal portion, truncate at apex and bent outwardly.

Holotype male, allotype female and female paratypes from Iguala, Guerrero, Mexico, October 25, 1941, collected by E. E. Good and the author. Types in author's collection.
1. Dorsal view of head, thorax and scutellum.
2. Lateral view of head, thorax and scutellum.
3. Ventral view of female abdomen.
4. Lateral view of elytron.
5. Lateral view of male genital structures in situ.
6. Ventral view of male genital structures in situ.