Two New Unique Species of Alconeura from Mexico (Homoptera: Cicadellidae)

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TWO NEW UNIQUE SPECIES OF ALCONEURA FROM MEXICO
(HOMOPTERA: CICADELLIDAE)

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These two species of Alconeura resemble the typical species of the genus in wing venation, body shape, and general appearance, but they are easily differentiated from the others by their unique male genital structures. In both species the pygofers are long and pointed at their apices, the pygofer hooks are long and curved mesad, the plates are slender deeply notched and toothed on the middle of their lateral margins, the shafts of the styles are long with their preapical lobes narrow, the dorsal processes of the aedeagus are fused to the phalicata, and the phalicata is recurved.

The types of these species are in the DeLong collection.

Alconeura rossi n. sp.

Resembling albavulta Ruppel and DeLong in general form and appearance, but with distinctive coloration and genitalia. Length 2.8 mm.

Vertex is produced for about one-half of its length in front of the eyes, its anterior margin rounded, and its median length equal to its basal width between the eyes; the posterior margin of the pronotum noticeably concave.

Color: The vertex is cream with its lateral margins ivory and with a pair of median, orangetan lines extending from its apex to its posterior margin. The face is ivory with its dorsal portion cream. The pronotum is cream with a few spots along its anterior margin, and a pair of lateral, longitudinal, irregular stripes, orange-tan. The scutellum is cream with its basal angles, apex, and a pair of small spots on its disk, orange-tan. The elytra are golden with their apical cells hyaline and with a small, black spot in the basal corner of the posterior apical cell.

Genitalia: The pygofer hooks arise on the dorso-caudal angle of the pygofers, are broad at their bases, taper evenly to sharply-pointed apices, and curve mesad for their entire length. The base of the aedeagus bears a pair of short, straight, ventral processes and a pair of short, lateral processes are closely appressed to the apex of the phalicata.

Holotype male and male paratypes collected at Iguala, G’ro., Oct. 25, 1941 by DeLong, Good, Caldwell, and Plummer.

Named for Dr. Herbert H. Ross for his fine work in the Taxonomy of many groups and especially for his present work in the Erythroneura of Mexico.

Alconeura sigmaforma n. sp.

Resembling rossi in general form and appearance but with the vertex shorter and with distinctive coloration and genitalia. Length 2.6 mm.

Color: The vertex is dull red with its lateral margins, a median spot at its apex, and a spot next each eye ivory. The face is tan with its dorsal portion, genae, lorae and a median, longitudinal line ivory. The pronotum is dull red with the central portion of its anterior margin cream and its posterior margin broadly bordered with ivory. The scutellum is dull red with its margins finely bordered with cream. The elytra are translucent white with the veins of the apical cells embrowned and with a round, black spot in the basal corner of the posterior apical cell. Each clavus is marked with three, transverse, red bands; a narrow band at its base a broad band across its center, and a broad band near its apex. A pair of anastomosing, large spots on the corium along the claval suture, a broad, transverse band across the corium just anterior to the transverse veins, and a broad bar extending from the middle of the costal margin to the center of each elytron are red.

Genitalia: The male genitalia of this species closely resemble those of rossi, but the pygofer

hooks are abruptly curved mesad near their apical third, the ventral processes of the aedeagus are longer and slightly recurved, and the apical processes of the phalicata thinner and curved.


1. Alconeura rossi—head, pronotum, and scutellum; 1a—lateral view of male genital capsule; 1b—dorsal pygofer hook; 1c—lateral view of aedeagus and style; 1d—ventral view of styles and aedeagus. 2. A. sigmaforma—head, pronotum, and scutellum; 2a—lateral view of aedeagus; 2b—dorsal pygofer hook.