

A NEW GENUS, *SORDANA*, FOR THE "GYPONA SORDIDA" COMPLEX HOMOPTERA: CICADELLIDAE¹

DWIGHT M. DeLONG, Department of Entomology, The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio 43210

Abstract. The genus *Sordana* is discussed and a new species *S. sordella* (collected in Bolivia) is described. A key to males of *S. sordida* (Stål), *S. placida* (Spångberg) and *S. sordella* n-sp. is presented. All three species are so similar in form and coloration that they could be placed in the same species except for the differences in male genital structures.

OHIO J. SCI. 76(2): 92, 1976

Sordana sordida Stål (1854) was described in the genus *Gypona*. Later, Osborn (1938) and Metcalf (1962) placed *sordida* in *Prairiana*. *S. sordida* was re-described as *Gypona chilensis* by Spångberg (1881); it is a common species throughout South America and is quite variable in size and coloration. The aedeagus is somewhat variable in length (some being almost twice as long as others) but the apical portion of the aedeagus is similar in each form.

While *sordida* resembles species of *Prairiana* in general form and color, the male aedeagus does not have parameres, which are present in both *Prairiana* and *Curlara*. The genital structures of *sordida* more closely resemble those of *Gypona*, but the characters of the body, forewing and head prevent placing the species in *Gypona*.

A larger dark brown or blackish colored species with the same color pattern and body form as *S. sordida* was described by Spångberg (1883) as *Gypona placida*. It was probably described on the basis of color alone as the inner genital structures were not used at that time for species differentiation.

A third species, *sordella*, which is slightly smaller, has been collected in Bolivia and is described at this time. All three species are so similar in form and coloration that they could be placed under the same species name except for the differences in male genital structures.

¹Manuscript received November 3, 1975, and in revised form February 11, 1976 (#75-67).

Genus Sordana n. gen.

Crown broadly rounded, more than half as long at middle as basal width between the eyes; margin of crown thin, foliaceous, upturned, median third flat longitudinally between margin and base, depressed each side between median portion and eyes. Ocelli on sloping portion, each side and closer to median line than to eyes. Forewings somewhat rugose. Aedeagus simple, without parameres. Known species have same color pattern but with different intensities; normally crown and pronotum are yellow to pale brown, scutellum and forewings are pale to dark brown.

Type-species: *Gypona sordida* Stål

KEY TO SPECIES (MALES)

- 1 Aedeagal shaft bluntly pointed at apex; with two prominent subapical processes. *placida*
- 1' Aedeagal shaft with median notch at apex; with numerous short spines. 2
- 2(1') Style bent dorsally and pointed at apex, without ventroapical processes. *sordida*
- 2' Style with apical fourth of blade bent dorsally, bearing a ventro-caudal curved spine and a dorso-caudal spine. *sordella*

Sordana placida (Spångberg)

(Figs. 1 to 5 and 17)

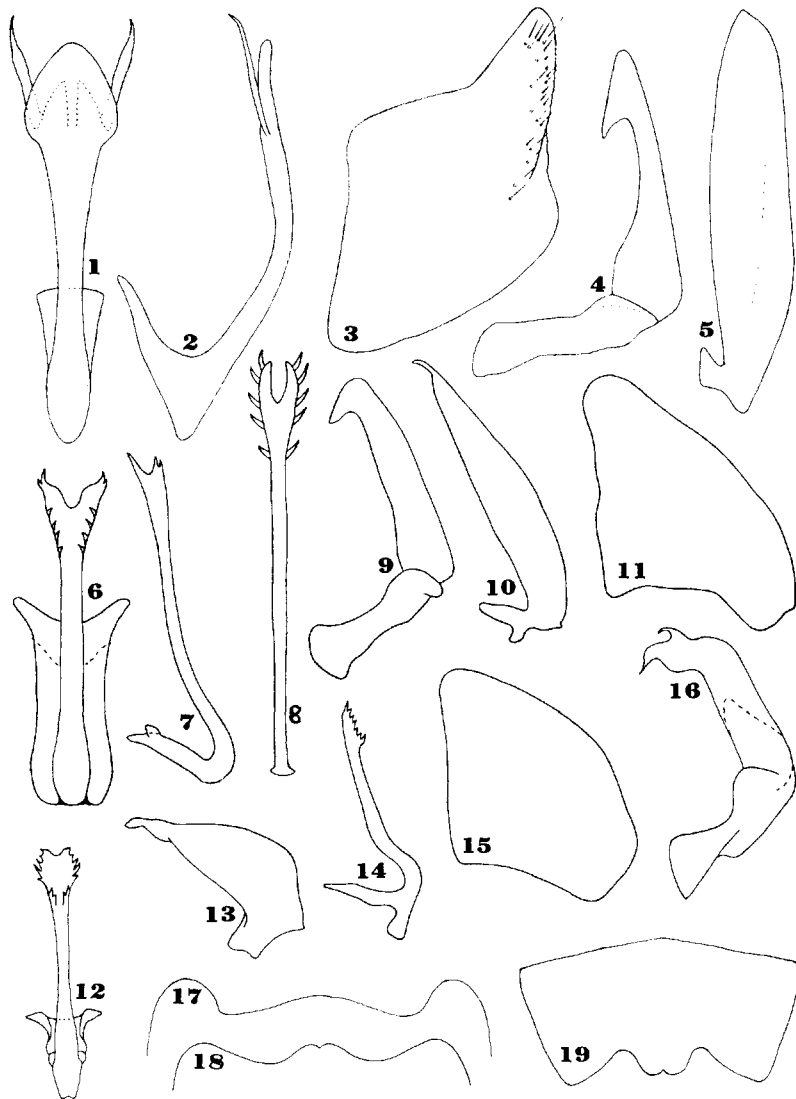
Gypona placida Spångberg 1883 p. 109

Length of male 10 mm, female 10.5 mm. Crown broadly rounded, almost

twice as wide between eyes at base as median length; central posterior portion of crown raised, with ocelli on slope of depression at each side, margin thin. Ocelli nearer to median line than to the eyes. Color: Crown yellow, thickly marked with black punctate

spots. Pronotum yellow with a few black punctate spots and a row of four dark spots across anterior half. Scutellum and forewings dark brown, with white markings between the veins of the disc.

Male genitalia with plate long and



EXPLANATION OF PLATE

FIGS. 1 to 5 and 17. *Sordana placida* (Spångberg) 1. aedeagus, ventrally. 2. aedeagus, laterally. 3. pygofer, laterally. 4. style, laterally. 5. plate, ventrally. 17. ♀ seventh sternite, posterior margin. FIGS. 6 to 11 and 18. *S. sordida* (Stål). 6. aedeagus, ventrally. 7. aedeagus, laterally. 8. aedeagal shaft, ventrally (large specimen). 9. style, laterally. 10. plate ventrally. 11. pygofer, laterally. 18. ♀ sternite posterior margin. FIGS. 12 to 16 and 19. *S. sordella* n.s. sp. 12. aedeagus, ventrally. 13. plate, laterally. 14. aedeagus, laterally. 15. pygofer, laterally. 16. style, laterally. 19. ♀ sternite, posterior margin.

rather narrow, apex tapered and bluntly pointed. Style in lateral view constricted and narrowed before the recurved, hook-like process on the anterior portion of the broadened apex, the tip of which is tapered and blunt. Aedeagal shaft in lateral view appearing long and narrow. In ventral view the apical fourth is broadened, convexly rounded to form a blunt tip; at the base of apical fourth a pair of long slender processes arise, one either side on dorsal portion and extend beyond the apex. The pygofer is narrowed and produced on the dorsoapical margin.

Female genitalia with lateral angles of seventh sternite rounded to posterior margin, between which the posterior margin is excavated about one fifth distance to base with a broad median produced lobe. The lobe is about one-half width of segment and is produced to about the length of the lateral angles.

Type: Holotype ♀ from Brazil in the museum in Vienna. The male allotype, described above, is in the British Museum of Natural History.

Superficially this species resembles *sordida*, with the same color pattern. The genital structures are quite different.

Sordana sordida (Stål) (n. comb.)

(Figs. 6 to 11 and 18)

Gypona sordida Stål 1854b p. 252

Gypona chilensis Spångberg 1881a p. 32
(new synonymy)

Length of male 10.5 mm, female 11.5 mm. Crown broadly rounded, more than half as long at middle as basal width between eyes; margin of crown thin, median third flat longitudinally between margin and base, depressed each side between this portion and the eyes. The ocelli set in the slope on each side and closer to median line than to eyes. Pronotum with a pair of depressed areas just back of anterior margin and posterior to inner margin of each eye. Forewings, rough, rugose. Color: Crown and face yellow with punctate red and brownish spots. Pronotum and scutellum yellow with similar punctate spots. Forewings appearing dark or pale brown.

Male genitalia with long tapering, pointed plates. Style with blade broad at base narrowed to form a slender dor-

sally bent, pointed apex. Aedeagal shaft long, slender to near broadened apex; concave at apex with a long spine on each outer margin extending apically and with short spines on margin of concavity.

Female genitalia with lateral angles of seventh sternite rounded to posterior margin, posterior margin is shallowly excavated on either side of a broad median, slightly produced lobe, about one-third the width of the sternite and slightly longer than lateral angles.

The ♀ type in the museum in Stockholm has been studied and illustrated. The allotype ♂, described above, is in the DeLong Collection.

This is a common species distributed throughout most of South America and was originally described from female specimens.

Sordana sordella n. sp.

(Figs. 12 to 16 and 19)

Length of male 9 mm, female 10 mm. Crown twice as wide at base between eyes as median length, margin thin, foliaceous and turned upward forming an excavated or depressed area on each side of middle area behind margin. Ocelli a little closer to each other than to proximal eye.

Color similar to *sordida*; crown and pronotum yellow to pale brown, a small brown spot on posterior margin half way between each compound eye and median line. Scutellum pale brown, an irregular black band on anterior margin of pronotum and slightly banded on posterior margin. Forewings pale brown, irrorate with pale brown spots; a brown spot at apex of each claval vein and on cross vein of corium.

Male genitalia with plates elongate, triangular, more than three times as long as median width, apices slender, tapered. Style with blade stout, apical fourth bending dorsally bearing a curved spine on ventral margin near apex and an apical spine curved dorsally, tapered and pointed. Aedeagal shaft slender, broadened at apex with spines at base of broadened area and on each lateral margin. Pygofer rounded, blunt at apex.

Female genitalia with lateral angles produced and rounded, posterior margin

angularly excavated almost one-third distance to base with a median rounded lobe; lobe about one-fourth the width of segment, broad at tip, slightly notched at middle and not produced to length of the lateral angles, lobe and the margin of excavation broadly embrowned.

Holotype male, allotype female and female paratype from Santa Cruz, Bolivia (49 km N, 1120 ft. el.) X-2-1959 at black light (R. B. Cummings, Coll.) in the DeLong Collection, The Ohio State University.

LITERATURE CITED

- Metcalf, Z. P. 1962. General Catalogue of the Homoptera Fasc. VI. Cicadelloidea, Part 3 Gyponidae. Agr. Res. Ser. U. S. Dept. Agr. 1962: 1-229.
- Osborn, H. 1938. Neotropical Homoptera of the Carnegie Museum, Art. II. Part 7. Report on the species of the subfamily Gyponinae. Ann. Carnegie Mus. 27: 11-62, pls. 1-5.
- Spångberg, J. 1881. Species novae generis Gyponaeque in Museo Zoologico Caesar. Vindobonensi asservantur descripsit. Entomol. Tidskr 4: 101-109.
- Stål, C. 1954. Nya Hemiptera. Ofv Svenska Vet. Akad. Forh. 11: 231-255.