

NOTES ON SCUTELLEROIDEA FROM VANCOUVER ISLAND.

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During the latter part of the summer of 1913 the writer and Mrs. Stoner spent a few weeks at the Dominion Pacific Coast Biological Station, which is located on Departure Bay some three miles north of the city of Nanaimo on Vancouver Island. The principal object of the trip was to collect and investigate the marine fauna of the region and, due to the kindness of Dr. C. M. Fraser, Director of the Station, this phase of our work was exceedingly profitable. During our stay a few short excursions were made for the purpose of collecting insects. Only general collecting was attempted, and as a result the number of Scutelleroidea taken was not large.

Practically all the collecting was done within a radius of three miles of the Station, which is surrounded on the landward side by a dense growth of lofty coniferous trees. Here and there are more or less open places where the sun penetrates and where blue grass, timothy and clover grow to some extent. Further inland are pastures and open cultivated areas with an occasional marsh or lake.

The purpose of this brief article is simply to make available definite locality records for the species taken.

LIST OF SPECIES.

Family SCUTELLERIDÆ.

Homaemus aeneifrons (Say).

Not a common form in the region, less than a half dozen specimens having been taken on August 26 and September 4.

Eurygaster alternatus (Say).

This seemed to be the commonest scutellerid of the region, and it was found on the high grass around the edges of pastures, August 25 and 26.

Family PENTATOMIDÆ.

Peribalus limbolarius (Stal).

But two specimens of this form were taken on August 26 and September 1.

Chlorochroa uhleri (Stal).

One of the most abundant species of the region. Adults, and nymphs in third and fourth instars were taken between August 25 and September 12. Toward the middle of September these bugs often congregated in numbers upon the blossoms of spiræa (*Spiræa* sp.), and on one occasion twelve individuals were photographed on a single blossom of this plant.

Euschistus euschistoides (Voll.)

Numerous examples were taken between August 28 and September 6 in pastures and from partly-cleared areas in the woods where a little blue grass and clover were making an attempt to gain a foothold.

Euschistus conspersus (Uhler)

A long series of specimens is at hand bearing inclusive dates from August 24 to September 12. This form was common on the long grass in pastures where cattle were feeding and in the high grass around the borders of such fields. The species was also taken on Gabriola Island. This rocky island lies in the Strait of Georgia several miles south of Departure Bay; it is about ten miles in

length, very narrow, and a good deal of its area is covered by pine and eucalyptus trees. Not many insects were taken on the island. This pentatomid was also taken on Brandon Island, a very small rocky island in Departure Bay, and perhaps a hundred yards from the Station. Only a very limited amount of vegetation is supported by the soil, and at high tide the island is pretty well covered by water. The bugs probably do not breed upon these small, rocky islands, of which there are a great many in the region, but are probably blown out or fly out from the main land.

Cosmopepla conspicillaris (Dall)

Several specimens of this species were usually taken on each collecting trip. They were found more commonly in semi-cultivated areas. All the specimens are uniformly marked so far as colour pattern is concerned, but the transverse band across the pronotum varies in intensity from pale yellowish white in some specimens to deep reddish orange in others.

Eysarcoris intergressus (Uhler).

But a single specimen of this species, a female taken September 1, is represented in our material. This specimen is a little darker and has a more bronzed appearance than the other specimens in my collection, which are from Colorado and Washington. I believe that the species has not before been recorded from the latter State.

Thyanta custator (Fabr.).

This was the most abundant pentatomid of the region, and was taken on every collecting excursion between August 26 and September 12. Both pale yellowish and the typical greenish individuals are among the lot, but in none is the sanguineous band across the pronotum well marked, although it is evident in some of the pale forms. This bug was common in open places in the woods near the Station where a little clover and timothy were growing. Two specimens were also taken on Brandon Island September 1.

Banasa dimidiata (Say).

Seven specimens of this species were taken by us between September 1 and 6. All have the general body colour, a reddish brown with the anterior half the pronotum yellowish green. In none of the examples is the second segment of the antennæ more than one-half the length of the third.

Elasmostethus cruciatus (Say).

But one specimen of this species, a typically coloured female was taken on September 1.

Podisus serieventris (Uhler).

One adult female, taken September 1 and a nymph in the fourth instar constitute our only records for the species. The adult example is dark reddish in colour with the tips of the humeri and a spot on each hemelytron black.

A CORRECTION.

In my article entitled "Notes on Thysanoptera from British Columbia," issued in the Canadian Entomologist, Vol. LI, pages 181-190; on page 182 line 28 Plate XVI, fig. 1 should read Plate XVI, fig. 2, and on page 184, line 24 Plate XVI, fig. 2 should read Plate XVI, fig. 1.

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