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Stephanitis hoberlandti – a new West Palaearctic lace-bugs species (Hemiptera: Heteroptera: Tingidae)

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ABSTRACT. *Stephanitis hoberlandti* n. sp. from Iraq and Jordan is described, illustrated, and compared with *S. pyri* (F.).

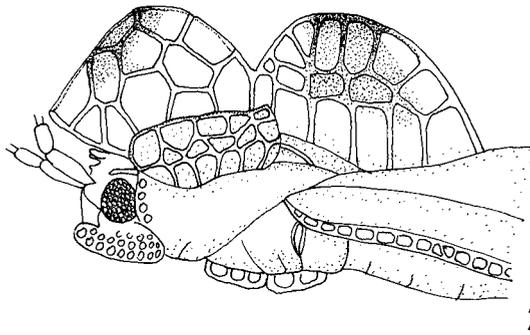
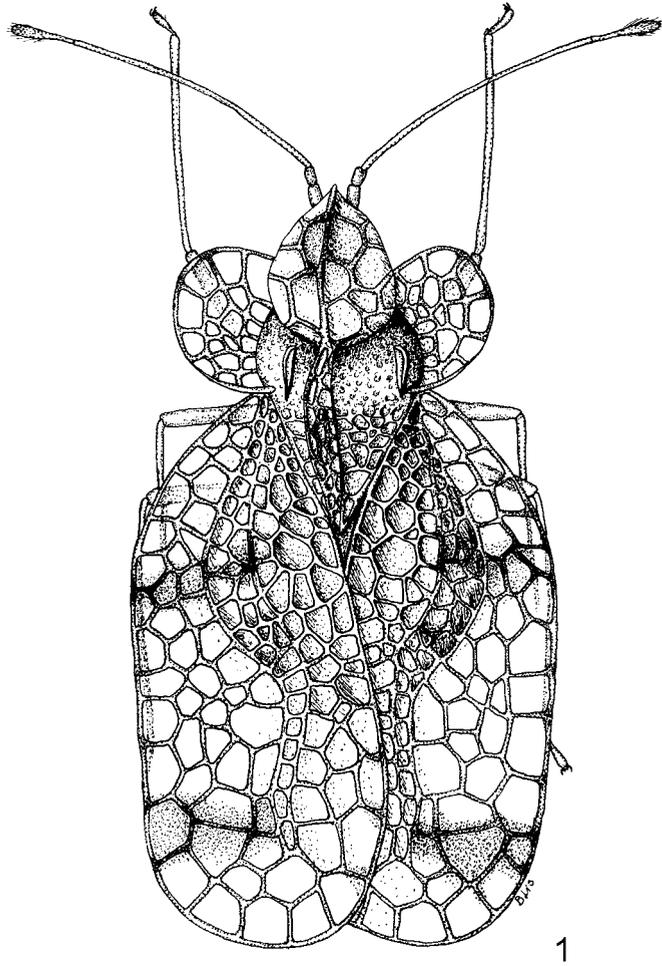
Key words: entomology, taxonomy, new species, Palaearctic, Iraq, Jordan, *Stephanitis*, Tingidae, Heteroptera.

INTRODUCTION

The genus *Stephanitis* STÅL, 1873 is represented by 7 species in the West Palaearctic fauna, but three of them - *S. rhododendri* HORVÁTH 1905, *S. pyrioides* (SCOTT 1874) and *S. takeyai* (DRAKE et MAA 1955) were introduced or imported there with host plants from other regions (PÉRICART 1983, PÉRICART & GOLUB 1996, AUKEMA 2000). *Stephanitis pyri* (FABRICIUS 1775) is the native species of the genus, which is the widest distributed in the West Palaearctic subregion (PÉRICART 1983, PÉRICART & GOLUB 1996).

During my studies on the Palaearctic representatives of the genus *Stephanitis* I had an opportunity to examine many specimens of different species from various countries (e. g. Poland, Hungary, Italy, Jordan and Iraq); moreover, I found that the specimens from the countries of Arabian Peninsula (looking at first sight as *S. pyri*) differed from European specimens of this species in several characters given below, and undoubtedly represented another, hitherto undescribed, species of the genus.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to Dr. V. ŠVIHLA (National Museum of Natural History, Prague, Czech Republic) for the loan of the material of the new species described in this paper.



1-2. *Stephanitis hoberlandti* n. sp.: 1 – dorsal view; 2 – lateral view of the anterior part of the body

DESCRIPTION OF SPECIES

***Stephanitis hoberlandti* n. sp.**

(Figs 1-5, 10, 12)

DIAGNOSIS

This new species resembles *S. pyri* (F.) (Fig. 1) in general appearance, especially in having median pronotal carina composed of three rows of areolae (Fig. 2), but differs from it in several features, namely: hypocoastal lamina generally uniseriate (regularly biseriate in *S. pyri*), subcostal area of hemelytron not angulated with discoidal area, both areas roundly swollen (subcostal area angulated with discoidal area, both areas only slightly swollen in *S. pyri*), shape of peritreme (Figs 5, 8), shape of paramere (Figs 9, 10), and in having body dorsally shiny with almost transparent areolae (in *S. pyri* body is dorsally slightly shiny, and areolae are clouded).

DESCRIPTION

Measurements (in mm) (males and females, respectively): total body length 2.70-2.95, 2.93-3.07; max. body width 1.50-1.64, 1.66-1.80; pronotal length 1.30-1.35, 1.37-1.41; hood length 0.63-0.70, 0.65-0.68; length of hemelytron 2.05-2.15, 2.05-2.17; length of discoidal area 0.78-0.85, 0.82-0.87; length of antennal segments 0.20 : 0.10 : 1.04-1.17 : 0.30, 0.20 : 0.10 : 0.90-0.98 : 0.30.

Body dorsally shiny, its general colour pale yellowish brown; hemelytra pale yellowish white, bearing two transverse pale brown bands - apical and premedian; median carina and hood each with variously developed brown patch. Body ventrally yellowish brown, smooth.

Head short, yellowish brown, dorsally armed with five, yellowish white spines; occipital spines long, digitiform, adjacent to head surface; frontal and dorsomedial spines short, directed forward; clypeus vertically bent downward; eyes dark brown, relatively small, invisible in dorsal view, totally covered by the hood; bucculae areolated, each buccula composed of 1-2 rows of areolae apically and 4 rows of areolae in its widest part (bucculae gradually narrowing from base to apex); rostrum reaching the middle of metasternum.

Antennae slender, pale yellow, 3rd antennal segment indistinctly pilose, 4th antennal segment clavate, apically slightly embrowned and bearing bright hairs.

Pronotal disc distinctly punctate (pitted), pale yellowish brown, shiny, sparsely covered with long, bright, delicate hairs (these hairs can also occur on paranota, median pronotal carina and posterior margin of hood); hood large, pyriform, as high as the median carina (Fig. 2), composed of relatively large areolae; lateral carinae short, median carina high, composed of 3 rows of areolae (basal areolae elongated vertically); paranota broad, distinctly upcurved, their lateral margins rounded, each paranotum composed of 4-5 rows of areolae. Peritreme as in Fig. 5.

Hemelytra broad, their lateral margins almost parallel, areolated (areolae relatively large); costal area composed of 2 rows of areolae in its basal part, 2-3

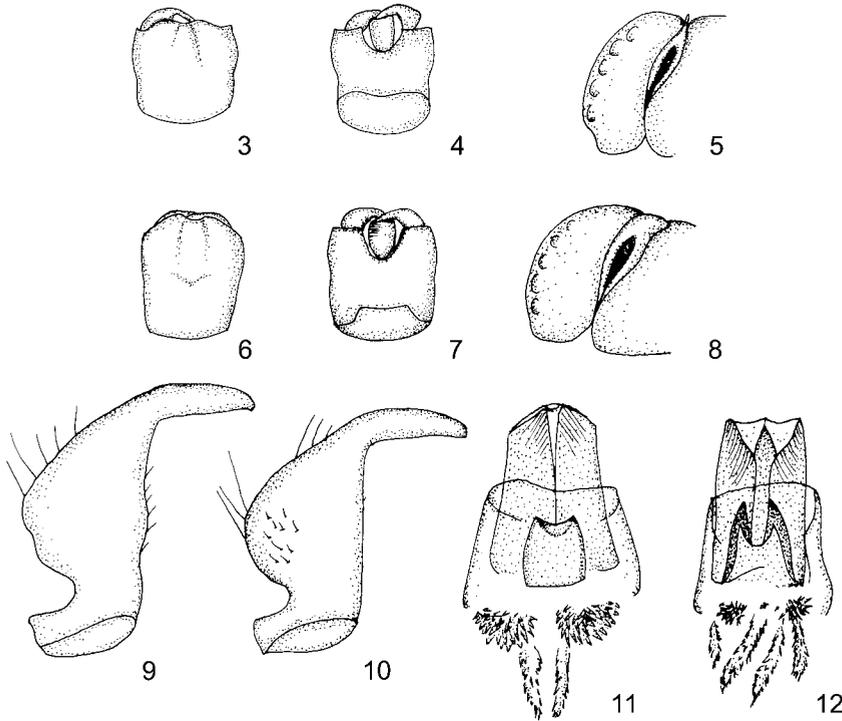
rows of areolae in middle, and 3-4 (very rarely 5) rows of areolae in its widest part; subcostal area composed of 3 rows of areolae in its widest part, roundly swollen and not angulated with discoidal area; discoidal area rather short, roundly swollen, composed of 3-4 rows of areolae in its widest part; sutural area composed of 2-3 rows of areolae in its widest part; hypocostal lamina uniseriate, composed of very regular, nearly quadrate or trapezoid areolae (some areolae are divided by transverse veinlet).

Legs slender, pale yellow, tarsi apically embrowned.

Male genitalia: pygophore as in Figs 3-4, paramere as in Fig. 10, apical part of aedeagus as in Fig. 12.

TYPE MATERIAL

Holotype male: [IRAQ]: Irak, Shaklawa, 24. 8. 1962, K. KHALAF lgt. Paratypes: 13 males, 17 females (the same data as the holotype); Irak, Arbil Liwa, august, 1962, K. KHALAF lgt. 1 female; [JORDAN]: W. Jordan, J. KLAPPERICH, Aroob, b. Hebron, 600 m, 22. 10. 1959, 2 males and 2 females. Holotype and 26 paratypes in the collection of the National Museum of Natural History (Prague, Czech Republic), 9 paratypes in the author's collection at the University of Opole.



3-5, 10, 12. *Stephanitis hoberlandti* n. sp. 6-9, 11. *Stephanitis pyri* (F.): 3, 6 – pygophore, ventral view; 4, 7 – pygophore, dorsal view; 5, 8 – peritreme; 9-10 – paramere; 11-12 – apical part of aedeagus

ETYMOLOGY

The species is named after Dr. L. HOBERLANDT, the eminent heteropterologist, who has contributed a lot to the knowledge of the fauna of Middle East.

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