

parameres that are not arcuate in dorsal view (Figs. 4, 5), 2) tegulae smooth and shining on posterior half (Fig. 6), 3) consistently black thorax and propodeum, 4) long erect hyaline hairs on various parts of the legs and body, and 5) punctures on the occiput slightly more separated.

Both *P. oculata* and *P. simillima* are easily distinguished from males of *P. ocellata* (Blake) by the presence of very dense, long pale hairs beneath the femora of the latter.

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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## AULACOBLISSUS, A NEW GENUS OF MICROPTEROUS BLISSINAE FROM VENEZUELA (HEMIPTERA: LYGAEIDAE)

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#### ABSTRACT

*Aulacoblissus brailovskyi* is described as a new genus and species of Blissinae from the mountains of Venezuela. It is the most micropterous blissine lygaeid known. The relationships of the genus are discussed and it is concluded that it is most closely related to *Heteroblissus* Barber. Distinguishing characters are given. Illustrations include a dorsal view of the insect and details of the pygophore, paramere, and sperm reservoir.

#### RESUMEN

Se describe a *Aulacoblissus brailovskyi* como un nuevo género y especie de Blissinae de las montañas de Venezuela. Es el más conocido micróptero blissine lygaeid. Se discuten las relaciones del género y se concluye que está muy cercamente relacionado a *Heteroblissus* Barber. Se proveen características distintivas. Ilustraciones incluyen una vista dorsal del insecto y detalles de la pygophore, paramere, y del depósito de espermas.

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**Aulacoblissus**, new genus

Body robust, sublinear. Surface completely non-pruinose (except for slight vestiges of pruinosity mesally on thoracic venter), shining or subshining. Metathoracic scent gland auricle large, broadly rounded, ear-like. Fore femora moderately incrassate, each armed below distally with a single small spine. Fore coxal cavities open. Fore tibiae slightly enlarged distally, not fossorial. Ocelli absent. Eyes set on short broad lateral head extensions. Body surface coarsely and deeply crenulate with large foveate punctures.

Paramere (Fig. 5) blade elongate, slender, outer projection prominent and nearly rectangular without a well differentiated inner projection. Sperm reservoir (Figs. 3, 4), small, bulb broadened to a subtruncate distal end; wings slender and strap-like not strongly bent ventrad. Pygophore opening as in Figure 2.

Type species: *Aulacoblissus brailovskyi*, new species.

This genus will run in my (Slater 1979) key to world blissine genera to the South African genus *Macchiademus* to which it is not closely related phylogenetically.

The extreme microptery suggests a possible relationship to such Neotropical genera as *Praetorblissus* Slater and *Heteroblissus* Barber. Both of these genera have open fore coxal cavities but also have multispinose fore femora. Species of *Praetorblissus* also have a derived metathoracic scent gland auricle which curves strongly forward and also usually have spines on the middle and hind femora.

Although it would be interesting to see nymphs and (if they exist) macropters, present evidence suggests that *Heteroblissus* is the sister genus for the following reasons: 1. The body surface of both taxa lacks pruinosity and is crenulate and coarsely punctate. 2. The metathoracic scent gland auricle is broadly rounded and ear-like. 3. The bulb of the sperm reservoir is broadened distally and almost truncate along its distal margin.

*Heteroblissus* has a series of elongate striae on the abdominal venter (presumably stridulatory structures), broadened non-strap-like wings on the sperm reservoir, multi-spined fore femora, more strongly produced eyes and a series of stout spines along the shafts of the fore tibiae. All of these appear to be derived features and will readily serve to distinguish the two genera.

*Aulacoblissus* shows the greatest degree of wing reduction yet known to occur in the Blissinae. It is another striking example of the richness and highly specialized nature of the Neotropical montane lygaeid fauna.

*Aulacoblissus brailovskyi*, new species  
(Fig. 1)

Body above and below nearly uniformly yellowish brown becoming almost black along posterior margin of scutellum and near extreme distal end of each fourth antennal segment. Evaporative area dull gray, strongly contrasting with adjacent shining red brown coloration, extending over inner 2/3 of anterior lobe of metapleuron, onto posterior edge of mesopleuron and completely across metasternum to form a continuous area across venter of body. Punctures on body surface very large and coarse, sometimes anastomosing with the deeply crenulate and striated areas present over most of body surface. A few scattered rather elongate hairs present on dorsal surface and on abdominal venter.

Head non-declivent. Tylus reaching middle of first antennal segment. Vertex slightly convex. Length head 0.70, width 0.94, interocular space 0.62. Lateral margins of pro-

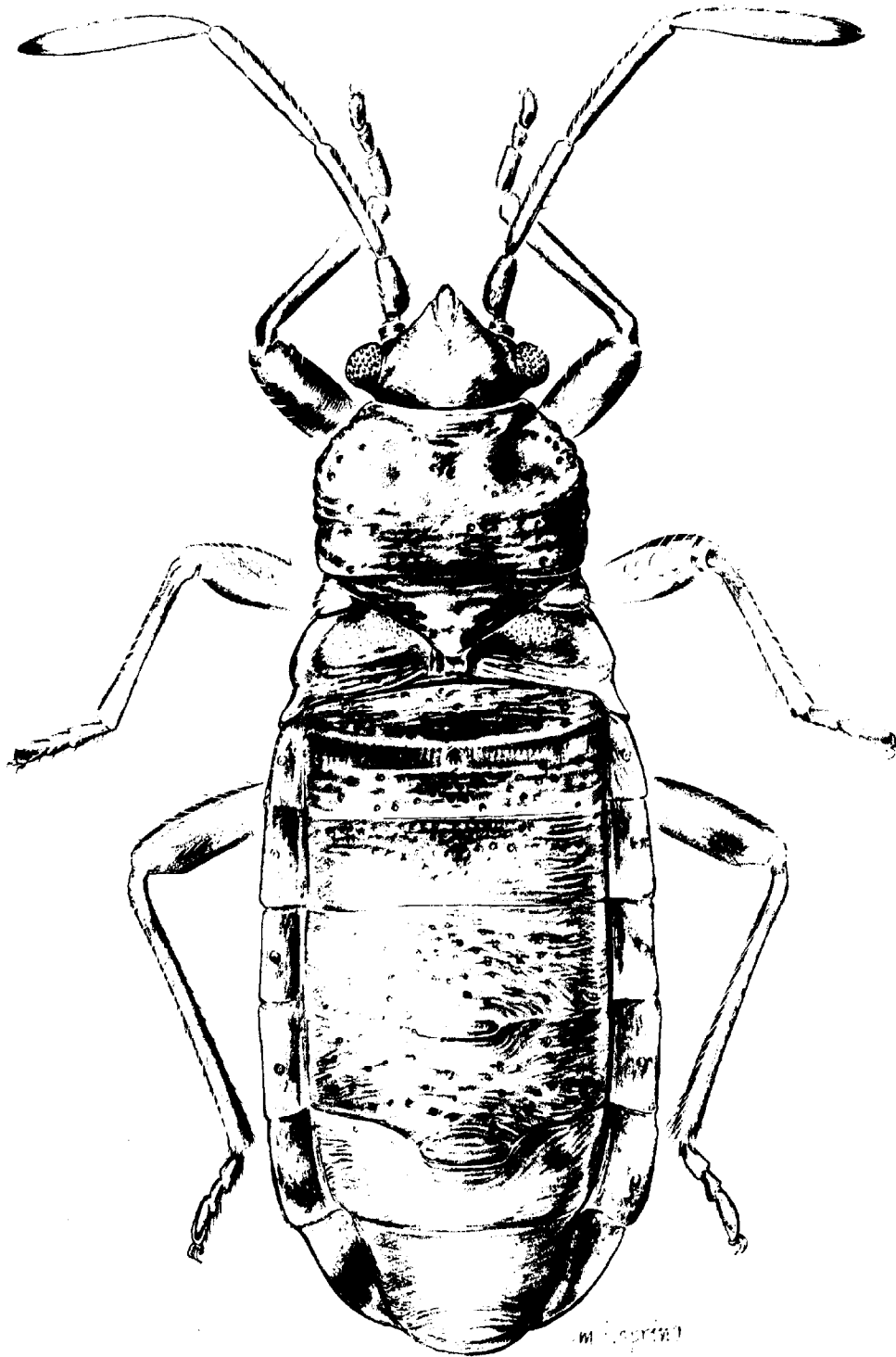


Fig. 1. *Aulacoblissus brailovskyi* Dorsal View.

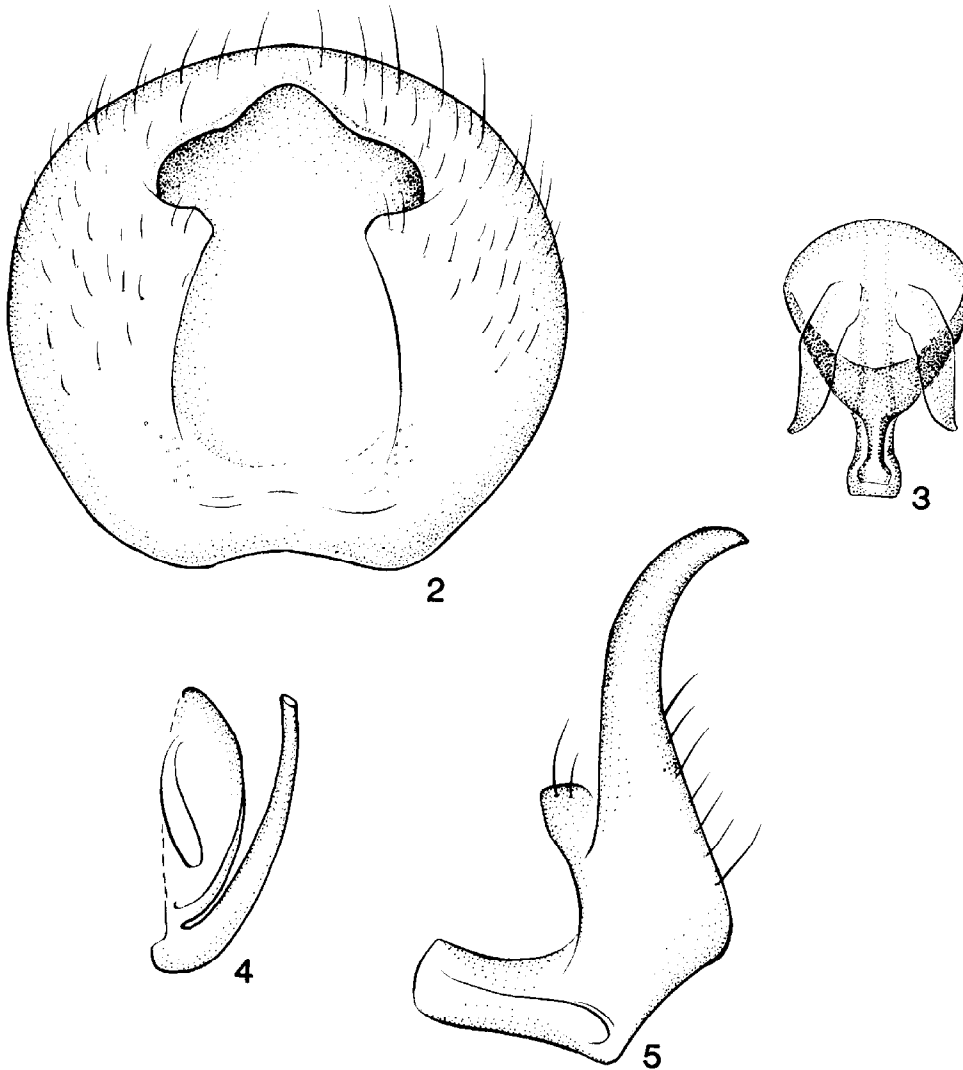


Fig. 2. *Aulacoblissus brailovskyi* Pygophore.

Fig. 3. *Aulacoblissus brailovskyi* Sperm Reservoir Dorsal View.

Fig. 4. *Aulacoblissus brailovskyi* Sperm Reservoir Lateral View.

Fig. 5. *Aulacoblissus brailovskyi* Paramere.

notum evenly convex, broadest at level of calli; posterior margin straight. Calli deeply impressed, appearing almost foveate. Length pronotum 0.76, maximum width 1.30. Scutellum lacking a median elevation. Scutellar length 0.38, width 0.92. Mesothoracic wings reduced to a pair of minute tumid yellow lumps at junction of pronotum, scutellum, and metanotum. Abdomen broad but nearly parallel-sided. Connexivum large with very prominent spiracles placed close to lateral margins of abdomen. Length abdomen 3.12. Labium extending posteriorly to middle of mesosternum, well surpassing fore coxae. Length labial segments I 0.30, II 0.38, III 0.30, IV 0.34. First antennal segment broad and rounded, segments II and III terete, segment IV fusiform. Length antennal segments I 0.30, II 0.60, III 0.70, IV 0.88. Total body length 4.96.

Holotype: male. VENEZUELA: Pmo. de Guaramacal, 3000 m., Bocono, Edo. Trujillo, Bordon 7-VIII-1981. In Instituto Biologia, UNAM, Mexico, D.F.

It is a pleasure to dedicate this striking new species to Dr. Harry Brailovsky who is contributing so much to our knowledge of Neotropical Lygaeidae.

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## CORN RESIDUE AS AN OVERWINTERING SITE FOR SPIDERS AND PREDACEOUS INSECTS IN FLORIDA

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#### ABSTRACT

Corn residue was used as an overwintering site by 24 species of spiders (Araneae) and 25 predaceous Coleoptera, Hemiptera and Dermaptera in northern Florida. The two principal microsites were the cavity formed between the leaf sheath and stem, and between layers of imbricate bracts (husks) of shelled corncobs. Several pest species were also found in these sites: chinch bugs (*Blissus insularis*), false chinch bugs (*Pachybrachius vinctus*) and rice weevils (*Sitophilus oryzae*). When both sites were available, shelled corn cobs were highly preferred by both predators and pests.

#### RESUMEN

En un estudio hecho en el Norte de Florida, se encontró que los residuos del cultivo de maíz son utilizados como lugar de hibernación por 24 especies de arañas (Araneae) y por 25 especies de depredadores pertenecientes a los ordenes Coleóptera, Hemíptera y Dermáptera. Dentro del ecosistema de la planta, los artrópodos se encontraron habitando principalmente la cavidad localizada entre la unión de la hoja y el tallo, así como también entre las diferentes capas brácteas imbricadas de la tusa del maíz. En estos mismos sitios fueron encontrados varias especies de plagas, tales como: chinches (*Blissus insularis*), falsos chinches (*Pachybrachius vinctus*) y gorgojos del arroz

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