

A NEW SPECIES OF MICROVELIA WESTW. FROM CAPE PROVINCE (HETEROPTERA, VELIIDAE).

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Through the courtesy of Mr. I. Lansbury and the Trustees of the Department of Entomology, British Museum (Natural History), London, I have received a numerous material of *Microvelia* from Cape Province. All the specimens belong to one species, which belongs to the subgenus *Pseudovelvia* Hoberlandt 1950. The new species is named *Microvelia (Pseudovelvia) lansburyi* n. sp., and is described below.

The subgenus *Pseudovelvia* Hoberlandt 1950 is allied to the Madagascan subgenus *Anchorinella* Poisson 1952 and was established on the base of antennal characters. All species of the mentioned subgenus show peculiar characters on the ventral side of male eight abdominal segment and therefore I complete the subgeneric characters as follows:

***Microvelia* subgen. *Pseudovelvia* Hoberlandt 1950.**

Great specimens, towards the apex strongly narrowed. First antennal segment longest and only slightly longer than the fourth, second antennal segment shortest and only slightly shorter than the third. Anterior tibiae with the comb composed of 65-75 pegs and occupying 0.4 of the total length of the inner margin. The eighth abdominal segment of the male is characterised by deep excavation of the ventral side with long erect bristles on the posterior part of the margin and in the middle of ventral excavation. Parameres are symmetrical and very small.

***Microvelia (Pseudovelvia) lansburyi* n. sp.**

Male, apterous form. 2—2.17 mm., maximum width 0.8—0.91 mm. Head: length 0.33 mm., width 0.54 mm., vertex 0.27 mm. Antennae: length of segment I, 0.37 mm.; II, 0.23 mm.; III, 0.27 mm.; IV, 0.36 mm. Pronotum: length 0.39 mm., width 0.83 mm.

General colour dark yellowish brown to dark grayish brown or blackish. Antennae rather of paler shade than head, pronotum and tergum, first anten-

nal segment strikingly paler than all other ones, in some specimens yellowish brown with darker apex. Rostrum yellowish brown, apical segment blackish. Eyes reddish brown. Pronotum near to the anterior margin with a yellowish-brown broad stripe, which is broader than the base of the head, and which in some specimens is partly or wholly interrupted by the dark ground colour of the pronotum in the middle; pale stripe in border parts with irregularly located dark dots. Sternum and abdomen brownish black to blackish, in some specimens outer margins of connexivum and posterior margin of 7th and 8th tergites brownish or paler. Ninth abdominal segment paler. Coxae and trochantera pale yellowish brown, femora yellowish brown, towards the apex more or less darkened; tibiae in general darker than femora, often in basal and apical parts darkened, outer margins of tibiae along the whole length distinctly darker. Tarsi yellowish brown, tarsus of anterior legs in distal half darkened, first tarsal segment of middle and hind legs on the apex narrowly dark, second one in distal half darkened. Pubescence of the body yellowish shining, head along the inner margin of eyes, pronotum in the posterior part of the yellowish stripe, metanotum, inner parts of corresponding connexival segments and along the lateral margins of tergites with appressed silvery pubescence.

General shape of the body (fig. 1) broad, 2,3 times longer than broad, across the pronotum broadest, towards the apex of the body strongly narrowed.

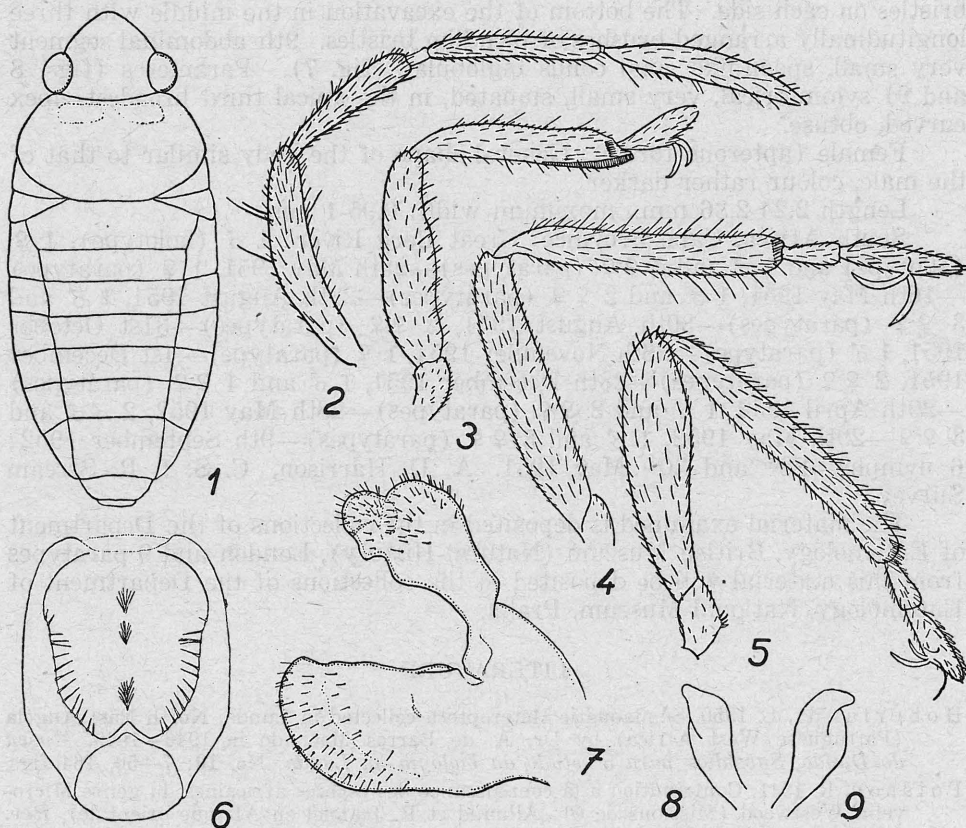
Head across the eyes 1.6 times as broad as long in the middle (44:27), vertex twice as broad as the width of one eye. Surface of the head along the inner margin of the eyes with 3-4 long trichobothria. Rostrum reaches to the middle coxae. Antennae (fig. 2) 1.7 times as long as head and pronotum together. First antennal segment stoutest, club-like widened, strongly curved, longest, slightly longer than the fourth and by one third longer than the second; second antennal segment shortest and by little shorter than the third segment, towards the apex along the whole length slightly widened, third segment linear, fourth spindle-like. Antennae with short appressed pubescence and with numerous longer erect bristles; first antennal segment in distal half with 3 long and strong trichobothria. Relative lengths of antennal segment I : II : III : IV :: 37 : 23 : 27 : 36.

Pronotum transversal, 1.8 times wider than long in the middle, anterior margin regularly deeply concave, posterior margin regularly rounded, united with lateral margins. Disc of the pronotum nearly flat, in the middle along the whole length with finely marked carina; surface of the pronotum with disperse irregular puncturation, which is more striking on the margins of yellow pronotal stripe. Pubescence of the pronotum very dense, short and appressed, the silvery pubescence on posterior margin of yellow drawing rather longer. Meso- and metanotum visible only as small equally long triangular lobes. Tergum moderately arched, towards the apex strongly narrowed, margins straight. First tergite longer than second, 2nd-4th equally long, 5th-7th towards the apex gradually longer. Pubescence of tergum very dense, short appressed, posterior margin of 7th tergite with longer erect hairs. Silvery pubescence on the sides of corresponding tergites rather longer. Connexivum suberected, narrow, broadest across the fourth segment, outer

margin regularly rounded. The pubescence of the connexivum the same as on the tergum, outer margin with some longer and erect bristles. Venter and genital segments with rather longer pubescence.

Anterior leg (fig. 3). Femora in basal third widest, tibiae slightly bent, towards the apex regularly widened. Inner margin of tibiae apically with a comb of 65-75 pegs occupying 0.4 of the whole length of the margin and prolonged into a long spine; tibiae in front of the apex further with a transversal row of short bristles. Surface of the anterior legs with dense short appressed pubescence and on tibiae with some long erect bristles.

Middle leg (fig. 4), long and straight, apex of tibiae with transversal row of stouter bristles. In addition to short dense appressed pubescence with long erect bristles, chiefly on exterior and on apical half of the inner margin of tibiae.



Microvelia (Pseudovelina) lansburyi n. sp., male — fig. 1: general shape; fig. 2: antenna; fig. 3: anterior leg; fig. 4: middle leg; fig. 5: posterior leg; fig. 6: eighth abdominal segment, ventral view; fig. 7: ninth abdominal segment and anal conus, lateral view; figs 8 and 9: parameres.

Posterior leg (fig. 5). Trochantera with four spines. Femora in the apical third widened, tibiae slightly sinuated. In addition to the dense pubescence in apical part of femora and on tibiae with long erect bristles.

Length of legs in hundredths of millimetres:

	Femur	Tibia	Tarsus 1	Tarsus 2
Anterior leg	55	57	23	—
Middle leg	70	84	12	24
Posterior leg	76	74	15	30

Eighth abdominal segment (fig. 6) 1.4 times longer than broad, towards the apex distinctly widened and in apical third conically narrowed; on the ventral side on almost the whole surface with a deep excavation of the shape as in fig. 6. Margins of the excavation in posterior part with 12 long erect bristles on each side. The bottom of the excavation in the middle with three longitudinally arranged brushes of blending bristles. 9th abdominal segment very small, spoon-like, anal conus biglobular (fig. 7). Parameres (figs. 8 and 9) symmetrical, very small, sinuated, in the apical third broadest, apex curved, obtuse.

Female (apterous form). General shape of the body similar to that of the male, colour rather darker.

Length 2.24-2.36 mm., maximum width 0.95-1 mm.

South Africa, Cape Province: Great Berg River: 1 ♂ (holotype), 1 ♀ (allotype) and 1 ♂ and 4 ♀♀ (paratypes)—29th May 1951, 1 ♀ (paratype)—16th May 1951, 1 ♂ and 2 ♀♀ (paratypes)—29th August 1951, 1 ♂ and 3 ♀♀ (paratypes)—30th August 1951, 2 ♀♀ (paratypes)—31st October 1951, 1 ♂ (paratype)—26th November 1951, 1 ♀ (paratype)—1st December 1951, 2 ♀♀ (paratypes)—28th December 1951, 1 ♂ and 4 ♀♀ (paratypes)—29th April 1952, 1 ♂ and 3 ♀♀ (paratypes)—28th May 1952, 2 ♂♂ and 3 ♀♀—29th May 1952, 1 ♂ and 3 ♀♀ (paratypes)—9th September 1952; 6 nymphs—28th and 30th May 1951. A. D. Harrison, C. S. I. R. Stream Survey.

The material examined is deposited in the collections of the Department of Entomology, British Museum (Natural History), London and 9 paratypes from this material will be deposited in the collections of the Department of Entomology, National Museum, Praha.

LITERATURE

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