

**A new species of *Macropes* from Afghanistan with synonymic notes
on other species of the genus
(Hemiptera, Lygaeidae)¹**

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The blissine genus *Macropes* at present is composed of thirty nominal species distributed throughout the old world tropics, but with the majority of species and the greatest diversity found in southern Asia. *Macropes* as presently delimited is polyphyletic and authors have apparently utilized it as a convenient place to describe rather robust shining blissines with strongly incrassate and multispinose fore femora. Even this loose generic concept has not been adhered to as can be seen by the generic position assigned to several species below. Indeed, species pertaining to seven already described genera have been described in *Macropes* and the remaining species may well represent more than a single genus, but they will be analyzed in a later contribution.

The present paper describes a new *Macropes* from Afghanistan made available to us by Dr. Ludvík Hoberlandt during the course of his work upon the Hemiptera of that country. This represents the first Palearctic record for the genus other than that of *obnubilus* Distant from Japan. We also present synonymic notes on several additional species.

***Macropes hoberlandti*, new species**

(Fig. 1)

Large robust; head, pronotum and scutellum black, strongly shining, terminal half of tylus and posterior one-fourth of pronotum, area caudad of transverse impression testaceous to ochraceous; hemelytra testaceous becoming suffused with brown or smoky grey narrowly along claval commissure, broadly along central area of apical corial margin, this broad darkened area narrowing cephalad to terminate before attaining middle of corial disc, membrane suffused with pale brown, the veins conspicuously darker, abdomen dark red-brown; antennae with first segment light tan, segments two and three dark brown, at least the distal three-fourths of segment four black; legs nearly uniformly rich red-brown, tarsi yellowish; clothed sparsely along lateral areas

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of head, pronotum and hemelytra with scattered, moderately elongate upright hairs.

Head subacuminate, elongate, extending well beyond distal end of first antennal segment, completely non-declivent, tylus exceeding juga by nearly half its total length, smooth and polished with a conspicuous transverse furrow at level of apex of juga, the latter strongly punctate and rugulose, eyes set

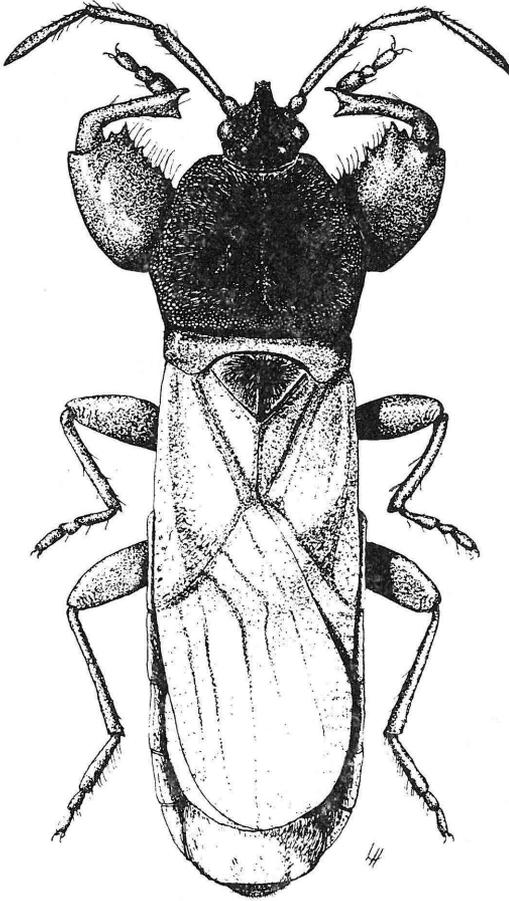


Figure 1. Dorsal view of *Macropes hoberlandti*, n. sp.

slightly away from anterolateral pronotal angles; length head .73 mm., width head .83 mm., interocular space .53 mm.; pronotum broad, short, subelliptical, anterior lobe three times length of posterior, its lateral margin broadly rounded and carinate anteriorly, central area of anterior lobe smooth, polished, glabrous with a shallow fovea on either side of midline, lateral areas deeply, obliquely striate, transverse impression broad and shallow with numerous coarse punctures and scattered upright hairs, posterior lobe smooth across humeral area, caudal margin strongly concave with strongly produced lobes laterad of base of scutellum, length pronotum 1.63 mm., width pronotum 1.67 mm.; scutellum much broader than long, length .53 mm., width .80 mm., coarsely punctate with a prominent median carina, lateral margins carinate; hemelytra with lateral corial margin convex, broadest at level of apex of claval commissure, apical corial margin nearly straight, very slightly concave, membrane extending onto base of seventh abdominal tergum, abdominal connexivum broadly exposed laterad, distance apex clavus — apex corium .99 mm., distance apex corium — apex abdomen 2.92 mm.; labium elongate, considerably exceeding fore coxae, reaching to base of prosternum, length labial segments I .53 mm., II .52 mm., III

.53 mm., IV .38 mm.; fore femora enormously incrassate, multispinose, the dorsal series the larger, consisting of five to six heavy black spines, the distal three to four spines located on a raised flange or tubercle, middle and hind femora mutic; scent gland orifice straight for most of length

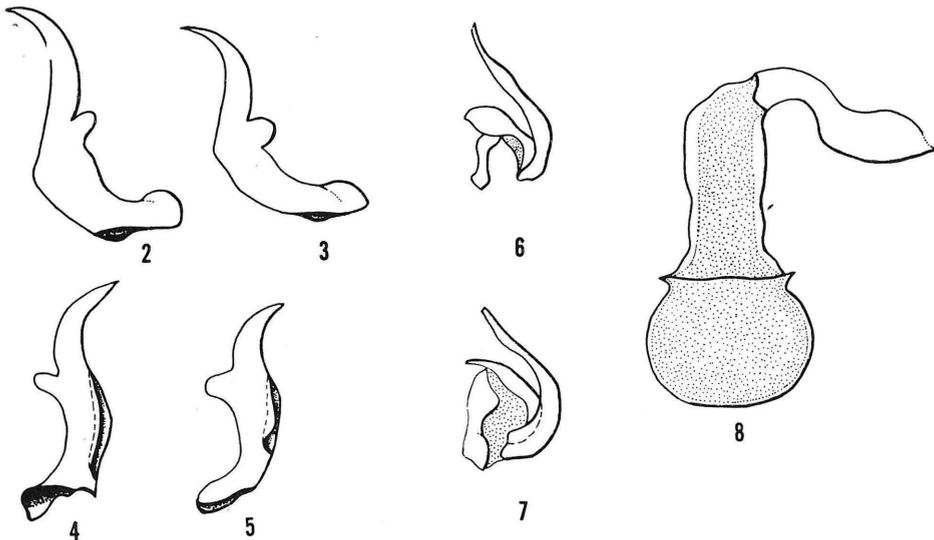
slightly hooked anteriorly at apex; antennae with second and third segments slightly clavate, fourth narrowly fusiform, length antennal segments I .19 mm., II .61 mm., III .58 mm., IV .76 mm.; sperm reservoir with lateral wings strongly diverging from base to apex, dorsal sac slender and tapering strongly from basal attachment (fig. 6); clasper with outer knob projecting at nearly right angles to blade and irregularly acute, inner projection little developed, blade broad and strongly tapering (fig. 3); total length 8.00 mm.

Holotype: male Afghanistan: Kutiau, 1500 m. Nuriostan 5. 5. 53 (J. Klapperich). In Národní Museum, Prague.

Paratypes: 8 males, 3 females, same data as holotype. In Narodni Museum and J. A. Slater collections.

This new species is most closely related to *Macropes rufipes* Distant. These two species together with *consimilis*, *privus*, *uniformis* and *femoralis* have a large heavy anterior pronotal lobe with the transverse impression set very far posteriorly, extremely enlarged, incrassate and multispinose fore femora, pale testaceous or smoky hemelytra which contrasts sharply with the shining black head and pronotum and legs which vary from red-brown to pale yellowish.

Hoberlandti can readily be distinguished from *rufipes*, its closest ally, by its relatively much shorter, broader pronotum. In *rufipes* the pronotal length is much greater than the basal width (male 2.10 mm. — 1.63 mm.) whereas in *hoberlandti* the pronotal length is slightly less than the basal width — length males 1.74 mm. (1.63—1.85), females 1.67 mm., width males 1.79 mm. (1.67—1.88), females 1.88 mm. The labium in *rufipes* does not attain the fore



Figures 2—5. Claspers, outer and inner views. 2, 4. *M. rufipes*; 3, 5. *M. hoberlandti*.

Figures 6—7. Sperm reservoirs, lateral view. 6. *M. hoberlandti*; 7. *M. rufipes*.

Figure 8. Spermatheca. *M. hoberlandti*.

coxae, while considerably exceeding it in *hoberlandti*. The antennae of *rufipes* are relatively shorter, the third antennal segment shorter than the interocular distance (.53 mm. — .55 mm.). In *hoberlandti* antennal segment three is always longer than the interocular distance. In *rufipes* antennal segments two and three are much more strongly swollen distally than is the case in *hoberlandti*. The two species are similar in color, but the type series of *rufipes* has dull yellow rather than red-brown legs. The male genitalia also separates the two species, *hoberlandti* having a clasper with the lateral lobe much more strongly angled from the plane of the shaft (figs. 2—5). The sperm reservoir is also quite distinctive in the two species (figs. 6—7) with *rufipes* having the dorsal sac broadened away from the point of attachment and relatively much smaller lateral wings which lie almost parallel to one another rather than strongly diverging as in *hoberlandti*.

Macropes rufipes was described by Distant (Entomologist 44: 105—6) from „Kurseong, Bengale.“ No type was indicated, but there is a female specimen in the British Museum with a red „type“ label and from the above locality. This specimen is here designated as **lectotype** and an appropriate label to this effect attached. Distant apparently distributed his „type series“ widely, as we have seen specimens of *rufipes* with identical labeling in the Deutsches Entomologische Institut, Hungarian National Museum and United States National Museum. All of these specimens are paratypes, or — if one prefers — paralectotypes.

There is noticeable sexual dimorphism in the shape of the pronotum and the degree of incrassation of the fore femora in *hoberlandti*. Females have the anterior pronotal lobe much less strongly expanded and elliptical than do the males. The fore femora of the females, while incrassate and multispinose, are much less strongly enlarged than are those of the males, and the tendency of the distal spines to form a flaring comb is not evident.

Even in this short series of males there is indication of allometry in the pronotum, the largest males having the pronotum expanded to a greater degree than mere size difference would produce.

It is a pleasure to dedicate this striking species to our friend Dr. Ludvik Hoberlandt of the Narodni Museum for his many important contributions to Hemipterology.

Synonymic notes on *Macropes*

1. *Macropes anthropophagorum* Kirkaldy, 1908.

Through the kindness of Dr. P. D. Ashlock (Bishop Museum, Honolulu) we have recently had the opportunity of examining an excellent color photograph of Kirkaldy's type. To our astonishment this proves to be synonymous with *Heinsius explicatus* Distant 1901. **New Synonymy**,

2. The following species are to be placed in the genus *Ischnodemus* (sensu lato).
 - a. *Macropes leucoderma* Breddin, 1907.
 - b. *Macropes thoracicus* Distant, 1909.
 - c. *Macropes tinctus* Distant, 1904.
3. *Macropes hedini* Lindberg 1934 (1936) was described from Szechuan, China. We have examined the type in the Helsinki Museum and believe it to be syno-

nymous with *Macropes obnubilus* (Distant) from Japan. **New Synonymy.** This latter species is also represented in the Bishop Museum collections by five specimens from the Bonin Islands (Chichi Jima, Omura „Camp Beach“ Apr. 2 — June 9, 1958 F. M. Snyder coll.). It seems quite possible that this represents an introduction from Japan.

4. *Macropes abbreviatus* Distant 1918, represents only a brachypterous specimen of *Macropes privus* Distant 1909. **New Synonymy.**

5. *Macropes consobrinus* Distant 1918, described from South India, is not a *Macropes* but is closely related to *Blissus annulatus* Slater 1964 from Africa.

6. *Macropes chinensis* assigned to Lindberg 1934 on page 494 of the Slater (1964) Catalogue is apparently a complete lapsus as the reference is referable to *Aphanus chinensis* (see Catalogue pg. 1229). There appears to be no such species as *Macropes chinensis* Lindberg.

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