



A nomenclatural note in Cimicidae (Hemiptera) from South America

OSVALDO R. DI IORIO & PAOLA N. TURIENZO

Entomología. Departamento de Biodiversidad y Biología Experimental. Facultad de Ciencias Exactas y Naturales. 4° Piso, Pabellón II, Ciudad Universitaria C1428EHA, Buenos Aires, Argentina. E-mail: megacyllene@yahoo.com.ar

Cordero & Vogelsang (1928) described *Cimex furnarii* found in nests of *Furnarius rufus* [*rufus* (Gmelin, 1788)] (Aves: Furnariidae), from Uruguay. In the same work, *Cimex passerinus*, found once in nests of *Passer domesticus* (L., 1758) [Aves: Ploceidae], was briefly described and illustrated; type-repository and number of specimens were not given. Carvalho (1939) includes *Cimex furnarii* in the genus *Ornithocoris* Pinto, 1927 [type-species: *O. toledo* Pinto, 1927 by monotypy].

Usinger (1966) described a new genus, *Camincimex*, including in it a single species, *Cimex furnarii*. The same author considered that the brief description and the original illustration of *Cimex passerinus* did not provide enough distinctive characters to identify the species, and that the minor differences observed by Cordero & Vogelsang (1928) fall into the range of individual variations; type specimens appear to have been lost. Thus the name *C. passerinus* was synonymized with *C. furnarii* by Usinger (1966). Turienzo & Di Iorio (2007) gave all known hosts and localities for *Camincimex furnarii*.

In 1945, a new genus was described by Del Ponte & Riesel (1945) which also contained a single species, *Cimex furnarii*. Except for Pirán (1946, 1954), this reference has been overlooked until now.

Acanthocrius Del Ponte & Riesel, 1945

Cimex L., 1758 [*partim*]: Cordero & Vogelsang, 1928: 671–676.

Ornithocoris Pinto, 1927 [*partim*]: *fide* Usinger, 1966: 469.

Acanthocrius Del Ponte & Riesel, 1945: 473 [type-species: *Cimex furnarii* Cordero & Vogelsang, 1928].

Camincimex Usinger, 1966: 462 [key], 468 [descr.]; type-species: *Cimex furnarii* Cordero & Vogelsang, 1928]: **syn. nov.**

The short note of Del Ponte & Riesel (1945) says: “Como el nombre primitivamente propuesto estaba ya preocupado (*Acanthocoris*), se cambió por *Acanthocrius*. Este nuevo género se ha creado en base a material coleccionado por Fontana en el Uruguay y por Romaña en Resistencia (Argentina), ambos en nidos de Horneros (*Furnarius rufus* Gm.). Se diferencia de *Ornithocoris* Pinto por la forma de su pronoto y de *Cimex* por la presencia de espinas en las tibiae II y III.”

From this it can be deduced that: 1) both authors understand that a previous work exists, wherein *Cimex furnarii* is transferred to *Acanthocoris*. 2) The genus *Acanthocrius* contains a single species, *Cimex furnarii*, type-species by monotypy. And 3), diagnostic characters, that allows recognition of the genus were given.

A work in which *Cimex furnarii* is transferred to the new genus *Acanthocoris* created by Del Ponte & Riesel has not been located, nor is it mentioned among the very extensive compilations of Argentinian entomological literature by Pirán (1946, 1954, 1961) and De Santis (1992). Riesel was a medical veterinarian who worked in Tigre county at Buenos Aires (Bachmann, A.O., pers. com.), and published only two papers (about fleas) in collaboration with Del Ponte (Pirán 1954, 1961). It is difficult to understand why a work with this nomenclatural change was overlooked by Pirán, who was very knowledgeable about writings on Argentinean Hemiptera (Bachmann, A.O., pers. com.); and also by Wygodzinsky (1959a, 1959b). Curiously, the last two works that mention *Ornithocoris furnarii* were published in a publication edited by Del Ponte himself (together with Bejarano and Orfila). Probably the new combination “*Acanthocoris furnarii* Del Ponte & Riesel” was never published, and someone pointed out to Del Ponte that his new genus *Acanthocoris* (“spiny bug,” referring to the spines on the mid and hind tibiae) was preoccupied by *Acanthocoris* Amyot & Serville, 1843 [Hemiptera: Coreidae]. Apparently neither Del Ponte & Riesel knew that *Cimex furnarii* had previously been transferred to *Ornithocoris* by Carvalho (1939).