

## Article

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# Revision of genus *Repipta* Stål 1859 (Hemiptera: Heteroptera: Reduviidae: Harpactorinae) with new species and distribution data

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## Abstract

A revision was made of *Repipta* Stål, mostly a Neotropical genus with some species in the Neotropics and the Nearctic. Thirteen known species are redescribed: *R. annulipes* Barber, *R. antica* Stål, *R. coccinea* (Herrick-Schaeffer), *R. flavicans* (Amyot & Serville), *R. fuscospinosa* Stål, *R. fuscipes* Stål, *R. lepidula* Stål, *R. mucosa* Champion, *R. nigronotata* Stål, *R. obscuripes* Stål, *R. sexdens* (Fabricius), *R. spinosa* (Fabricius), and *R. taurus* (Fabricius). Twelve new species are described and illustrated, including data on male and female genitalia, new distributional records, and key to the species.

**Key words:** Reduviidae, Harpactorini, Neotropical, Nearctic, morphological characters, new species, distribution.

## Introduction

Reduviidae, also known as “assassin bugs, ambush bugs, or thread-legged bugs,” is one of the most numerous and morphologically diverse predatory families (the exception is the hematophagous Triatominae subfamily) (Froeschner & Kormilev, 1989; Maldonado, 1990; Schuh & Slater, 1995; Bérenger & Pluot-Sigwalt, 1997).

The Harpactorinae is the largest and most poorly studied subfamily in the Reduviidae (Chai & Tomokuni, 2003). Within this subfamily, the tribe Harpactorini is the most diverse (Davis, 1969), with more than 300 genera and 2000 species described worldwide (Putshkov & Putshkov, 1985; Maldonado, 1990).

Described mainly in the Neotropics, *Repipta* was proposed by Stål (1859) for *Zelus taurus* Fabricius (1803), and was cataloged as a valid genus by Stål (1859, 1862a, 1862b, 1866, 1872), Champion (1899), Wygodzinsky (1949), and Maldonado (1990). Beyond catalogs and some articles, *Repipta* spp. has received little mention in the literature, although *R. taurus* (Fabricius) is a well-known species (e.g., Uhler, 1876, 1886; Osborn & Drake, 1915; Van Duzee, 1916; Frost, 1964; Henry & Froeschner, 1988; Gaméz-Virués *et al.* 2003). Stål (1859) described this genus using these traits: head oblong armed with two spines; second rostral segment shorter than first segment; antennae long with the third segment increased in males; anterior lobe of pronotum constricted in the middle; posterior lobe of pronotum armed with four spines, the base truncate; hemelytron longer than abdomen; legs long and slender; femur unarmed at apex; fore femur slightly increased; last two tarsal segments of unequal length.

Based on the literature, we consider that other allied genera include *Zelus* (Fabricius), except it differs in the comparatively short second segment of the rostrum (Champion, 1899; Elgueta & Carpíntero, 2004) and the lack of discal spines (Hart 1972, 1986, 1987). *Rocconota* Stål differs by the third antennal segment, which is slender in both sexes, and the abdomen with one or more basal segments armed with a spine at the outer apical angles; Stål (1859) mentioned the gena with an acute projection in the apex in some specimens, and the anterior lobe of pronotum is sculptured in *Rocconota* (Martin-Park, pers.obs.). *Atrachelus* Amyot & Serville can readily be separated because of the lack of parameres in males; the female sternite VIII extends distally further over sternite IX; and in *Repipta* Stål the head is highly polished covered with sparse, long, erect hairs (lacking in *Atrachelus*) (Elkins, 1954). *Corcia* Stål differs in having long spines on the posterior lobe of the pronotum, and a comparatively