



Revision of the Mesoamerican Genus *Cataractocoris* Usinger (Hemiptera: Heteroptera: Nepomorpha: Naucoridae)

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Abstract

The genus *Cataractocoris* includes large waterfall-inhabiting insects that occur from Mexico to El Salvador and has received very little attention in the literature. Based on extensive field work during the past three years, we have collected saucer bugs (Heteroptera: Naucoridae) from many localities in central and southern Mexico. We here present detailed distributions and diagnostic information of the two described species of *Cataractocoris* and the description of a third species that occurs from Nayarit state in Mexico south to Guatemala. An illustrated taxonomic key to identify the species also is presented.

Key words: *Cataractocoris*, Naucoridae, Mesoamerica, faunistics, new species, aquatic

Introduction

The Mesoamerican genus *Cataractocoris* Usinger includes impressively large but seldom collected saucer bugs that inhabit the near-vertical rock faces of waterfalls, waterfall splash zones, and large rocks in fast current (Usinger 1941, Sites 2004). Usinger (1941) described the genus *Cataractocoris* and into it he transferred *Cryphocriscus macrocephalus* Montandon and described a second species, *C. marginiventris*. The genus is known from Jalisco state in Mexico south to El Salvador (Sites 2004).

We here describe a third species that occurs from Nayarit state in Mexico south to Guatemala and review the two previously described species. Included are a taxonomic key, diagnostic information, detailed distributions, and illustrations of all three species.

Material and methods

Specimens, including types, from various U.S., Mesoamerican, and European museums were examined (see Museum and Collection list below and Acknowledgments). In addition, extensive collecting through southern and central Mexico has provided many fresh specimens for examination. All of these recent Mexican specimens were collected using aquatic nets while brushing the vertical rock face of waterfalls and spillways, and kick-sampling and scouring rocks in streams. Photographs of the collection sites identified as L-numbers are available in a Locality Image Database via a link from the internet site of the Enns Entomology Museum, University of Missouri.

Length and width are given as a mean and range and all measurements are in mm. Length of the body is measured from the anterior margin of the head to the posterior margin of the abdomen, and width across the embolia at the widest point. Abdominal segment numbers generally are expressed as Roman numerals. The holotype of the new species is deposited in the Enns Entomology Museum, University of Missouri. Paratypes will be distributed in the museum collections of CAS, NHMW, UMC, UNAM, and USNM. Unless otherwise noted, specimen repositories in the Material Examined sections are the University of Missouri.