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A new species, new synonymy, and notes on *Neomacrocoris* (Heteroptera: Nepomorpha: Naucoridae)

ROBERT W. SITES

Enns Entomology Museum, Division of Plant Sciences, University of Missouri, Columbia, Missouri 65211, U.S.A.

E-mail: sitesr@missouri.edu

Abstract

Based on borrowed museum specimens and fresh collections from South Africa, Tanzania, and Uganda, many specimens of *Neomacrocoris* Montandon have been made available for study. *Neomacrocoris liberianus* n. sp. is described from Liberia and Sierra Leone based on two museum specimens. *Neomacrocoris bondelaufa* Sites is synonymized with *N. transvaalensis* (Distant) and distribution records for *N. parviceps* Montandon and *N. vuga* Sites are provided.

Key words: Naucoridae, *Neomacrocoris*, new species, synonymy, Africa

Introduction

The aquatic Heteroptera fauna of Africa is diverse and has received little study in the past half century. Specifically for Naucoridae, most of the modern work was given by Poisson from the 1940s through the 1960s (Grassé 1974). These papers largely contributed new species descriptions and distribution records. Recently, the Naucoridae of Tanzania was presented by Mbogho & Sites (2013) and the African endemic genus *Neomacrocoris* was revised by Sites & Mbogho (2012). *Neomacrocoris* now comprises 17 described species and is distributed from Sierra Leone to Sudan and south to South Africa. Most of these species were described between 1895 and the middle of the 20th century, and four additional species were described in the recent revision (Sites & Mbogho 2012).

Presented here is the description of *Neomacrocoris liberianus* Sites, a new species from Liberia and Sierra Leone based on two males. *Neomacrocoris bondelaufa* Sites is synonymized with *N. transvaalensis* (Distant), and distribution records for *N. parviceps* (Montandon) and *N. vuga* Sites are presented.

Materials and methods

Recent collecting in South Africa, Tanzania, and Uganda has made available specimens of several species of *Neomacrocoris* for examination. The specimens were collected from vegetated, muddy margins of streams, the typical habitat for the genus (Sites & Mbogho 2012). All specimens were collected using aquatic nets with the assistance of local colleagues. Photographs of many 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. In addition to fresh collections, museum specimens also were examined. Indication of where *N. liberianus* n.sp. comes out in the key to the species of *Neomacrocoris* (Sites & Mbogho 2012) is provided in the Diagnosis for *N. liberianus*.

All measurements are reported in mm. Length of the body is measured from the anterior margin of the head to the posterior margin of the abdomen and width at the widest point, the embolium. Abdominal segment numbers are expressed as Roman numerals. Body length and width are provided for the holotype and paratype of *N. liberianus*; measurements of other structures pertain to the holotype.

Countries given in brackets here did not appear on the specimen labels or were not provided in publications but