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A NEW SPECIES OF PHYLLOPOD

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Branchinecta occidentalis, new species

Description: Male.—Length 9 mm. Swimming appendages eleven pairs; caudal segments without appendages, nine; caudal stylets a little larger than the combined length of the last two segments. Claspers (2nd antennae) a little longer than the distance between the outside surface of eyes (Fig. 1a); first and second segments of about equal length; first segment stout, its length about twice its thickness, moderately bowed, with concavity inward; this segment bears on its anterior, mesial aspect, near the base, a good sized process, curved like a blunt horn, and bearing on its mesial (convex) surface a number of spines; the two processes are placed with their apices close together, so that the two together make a prominent point between the bases of the appendages. Second segment much more slender than the first, slightly curved and gently tapering; the inner (concave) surface bears numerous small corrugations. An abrupt offset on outer margin marks the joint between the first and second segments.

The two penes (Fig. 1b) are straight, slightly divergent, square in cross section, and extend about to end of second caudal segment. Each bears, on its mesial margin, a stout, curved spine, bearing three or four small teeth on its convex (mesial) margin. These two spines are so placed that a nearly circular area is enclosed between them and the bases of the two penes.

Female.—Length 10 mm. First segment of second antenna about as long as in the male, but more slender, its length being a little more than three times its thickness (Fig. 1c). The segment is nearly straight and tapered somewhat in distal third; it bears on its mesial surface, near the middle, a small thumb-like process extending parallel to the appendage. The second segment is represented by a slightly curved spine, which arises from the inner, distal angle of the first segment. This spine and the thumb-like appendage of the first segment are of about the same size and proportions.

The ovisac is attached to the ventral surface of the elongated second caudal segment, and has the form of a compact sac, extending very little beyond the caudal end of the segment. In 22 specimens examined, it never contained more than six eggs.

In other respects the female closely resembles the male.

Type Specimens: Cat. No. 52030, Museum of Zoology, University of Michigan; Collected on Stanford Campus, Palo Alto, California, by Professor Harold Heath, April 10, 1922.

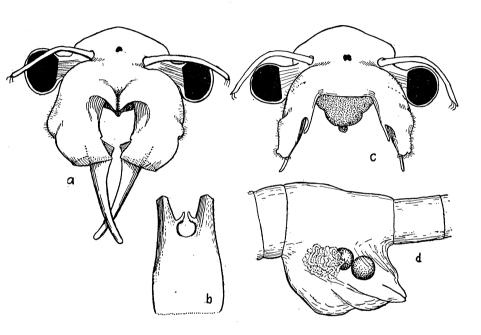


Fig. 1. Branchinecta occidentalis: a, front view of head of male; b, ventral view of penes of male; c, front view of head of female; d, side view of 1st, 2nd and 3rd caudul segments and ovisac of female.

