

OCCASIONAL PAPERS OF THE MUSEUM OF  
ZOOLOGY

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN PRESS

AN UNDESCRIBED SHORE-BUG FROM MEXICO  
(HEMIPTERA: SALDIDAE)

BY CARL J. DRAKE AND ROLAND F. HUSSEY

THROUGH the kindness of Dr. Theodore H. Hubbell, curator of insects, we have received a small collection of saldids for study from the Museum of Zoology of the University of Michigan. This collection contains *Saldula pallipes* (Fabr.) from Tela, Honduras; *Saldula scitilis* (Hodgden) from Progreso, Chiriquí Province, Panama; and a new species of the genus *Saldula* Van Duzee from Mexico. The holotype (male) of the last is deposited in the Museum of Zoology of the University of Michigan.

*Saldula suttoni*, new species

Moderately large, elongate-ovate, deep black, moderately shining, the pronotum and scutellum more strongly so, densely clothed with fine, moderately long, erect, pale testaceous hairs; hemelytra narrowly margined with flavotestaceous, the marginal stripe a little narrower in the male (holotype) than in the female (allotype). Length, male, 4.40 mm.; width, 2.00 mm. The female is a little larger than the male.

Head entirely black (except a small pale flavous spot on each side between ocellus and eye), slightly shining, with a few scattered long hairs, the vertex minutely rugulose; bucculae and clypeus black, clothed with pale pubescence; frons shallowly impressed on the median line, the apical callosities low and black; tylus narrow, ridgelike, black, convex above; labrum brown, becoming dark fuscous apically, sharply rounded in front. Eyes large, brownish, slightly converging anteriorly, the inner margins deeply and roundly notched behind the middle. Ocelli reddish brown, approximated, the diameter of each greater than the distance between them. Rostrum long, testaceous, brownish beneath, extending to the tips of the hind coxae. Antennae moderately long, rather stout, black-fuscous, the basal segment dark ferruginous and more shining than the others; segments II, III, and IV densely

long pilose and also beset with numerous scattered bristly hairs, the pile and hairs brown-fuscous; proportionate lengths of the segments, I:II:III:IV=14:32:22:28. (1 mm.=40 micrometer units.)

Pronotum deep black, quite strongly shining, sparsely hairy, approximately twice as wide as its maximum length (62:30) or two and one-half times as wide as its median length (62:25), the posterior margin deeply and broadly excavated, the lateral margins almost straight, converging anteriorly, the width across the anterior angles of the pronotum distinctly less (36:45) than the width of the head including the eyes; explanate lateral margins fairly wide (5 units), rather densely hairy, especially on the anterior part, the outer margin reflexed to form a low, narrow ridge on the extreme edge; callus large, moderately high, with a large deep discal impression which is not sulcate behind; collar narrow, elevated; the transverse grooves before and behind the callus pitted at the bottom; hind lobe not quite as long as the callus, indistinctly transversely aciculate-rugulose on the disk. Sides of thorax black, densely clothed with pale hairs. Scutellum shining black, subequal in length and width, shallowly transversely impressed at the middle, clothed with pale erect hairs, the posterior disk obsoletely transversely aciculate-rugulose, the sides behind the middle with an extremely narrow flattened margin.

Hemelytra black, slightly tinged with brownish, not as dark as the pronotum and scutellum, the outer margin narrowly bordered with flavous or flavotestaceous from the base almost to the apex of the corium. Clavus dull, opaque, slightly tinged with bluish, the membranous part beyond the commissural vein narrowly oval, black, shining. Corium slightly shining toward the base, becoming alutaceous on the apical half, the apical vein bordering the membrane and the radial vein slightly elevated and shining, the other veins much less distinct; excorium with a row of coarse shallow punctures on the basal half just inside the flavous marginal stripe; a small, oval, subapical flavous spot above the middle of the apical margin, this spot obsolete in the holotype. Hairs of clavus and corium rather dense, pale testaceous, erect or nearly so on the basal parts, nearly horizontal on the apical part of the corium. Membrane opaque, uniformly dark fuscous, without pale or dark spots in any of its four closed cells; veins dark but not prominent. Abdomen beneath brownish black to black, densely clothed with short, pale hairs.

Legs moderately long, moderately stout, clothed with short, pale hairs; femora dark fuscous, the bases and apices testaceous; coxae and

trochanters largely testaceous, with some brownish areas; tibiae testaceous, dark fuscous above; tarsi testaceous, the apical segments blackish; tibiae and tarsi of the hind legs very long (80 and 35 units respectively), the basal tarsal segment minute, the second about one-fourth longer than the third.

Holotype (male) and allotype (female), Michoacán, Mexico, 26 km. south of Pátzcuaro, March 2, 1949, collected by G. M. Sutton. These specimens were found under stones at an elevation of 10,000 feet above sea level. A female from Teziutlán, state of Puebla, appears to be this species but is not treated as a paratype, since its hairy vestiture was removed in cleaning the specimen.

*Saldula suttoni* can be separated from *S. laevis* (Champion) and *S. sulcicollis* (Champion) by its stouter antennae with hairy vestiture, and especially by the pale marginal stripe on the hemelytra. The same characters will also distinguish it from *S. hispida* (Hodgden) and *S. trepidaria* (Hodgden). The concolorous pronotum and the marginal stripe on the corium also serve to separate *S. suttoni* from *S. comata* (Champion) and from other members of the genus *Saldula* Van Duzee which have pale stripes on the pronotal margins.

*Submitted for publication February 15, 1951.*

