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A new subspecies of *Eurygaster austriacus* (SCHRK.)

HEMIPTERA-HETEROPTERA PENTATOMIDAE

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SEPARATA

DAS

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Some time ago while visiting the British Museum Dr. A. F. DE SEABRA of the University of Coimbra showed to me a series of abnormal specimens of *Eurygaster austriacus* (SCHRK.) from Toledo, Spain. These he believed represented a new species. An investigation of the problem has shown that there are intermediate forms both from Spain and N. Africa. It seems best therefore to regard the Toledo form as a subspecies. The genus *Eurygaster* was revised by Prof. J. PÉNEAU, of the University of Angers, in the Bull. Soc. Sci. Nat. l'Ouest France (Nantes) (3), 1, Dec. 1911, since when several new varieties have been described by HORVATH, ROYER, STICHEL and MANCINI. The genus is holarctic in distribution with 14 species mostly feeding on Graminaceae some of which such as *E. integriceps* Put. and *E. austriacus* (SCHRK.) are serious pests of wheat and other cereals.

I have much pleasure in dedicating this new subspecies to Dr. A. F. DE SEABRA who was the first to notice the difference between it and typical *E. austriacus*.

Eurygaster austriacus (SCHRÖK.) *seabrai* subsp. nov.

Colour: More or less uniformly ochreous yellow, uniformly punctate, some of the punctures, sparsely, fuscous and tending to form fuscous markings especially obscure transverse bands across posterior half of each connexival segment; apical half of fourth and whole of fifth (except extreme base), antennal segments, black; two apical segments of rostrum, dorsum, a small spot on each side of base of scutellum, the base and apex of scent-gland canal, some irregular small spots on anterior femora, a row of 6 small black spots down underside of middle and hind femora and a short narrow marginal stripe on ventral side of each segment of connexivum, all black; a rather obscure narrow pale yellow laevigate carina down middle of scutellum; the middle of base of scutellum between the two small black spots pale yellow, rugulose but not distinctly punctate especially at sides adjacent to black spots, no distinct callus-like spot however. Tarsi infuscate.

Structure: A large broad rather flattened form: Head triangular, elongate, more than three quarters as long as pronotum in middle (70:80), the juga contiguous in front of tylus and extending well beyond its apex in two narrow lobes which are suddenly deflexed before their apices; eyes small, ocelli small, less than half as far from eyes as from one another; surface coarsely punctate; rostrum extending to posterior coxae; relative lengths of antennal segments 21:22:16:22:33; the first segment narrowed at base, incrassate along apical half; the second segment distinctly curved, the fourth and fifth more or less fusiform. Pronotum nearly two and a half times broader than long in middle (190:80), lateral margins feebly convex relatively straight, the humeral angles rounded but moderately prominent extending laterally distinctly beyond base of costal margin of elytra; surface densely punctate much more coarsely so, laterally. Scutellum of variable length, slightly elevated at base the raised

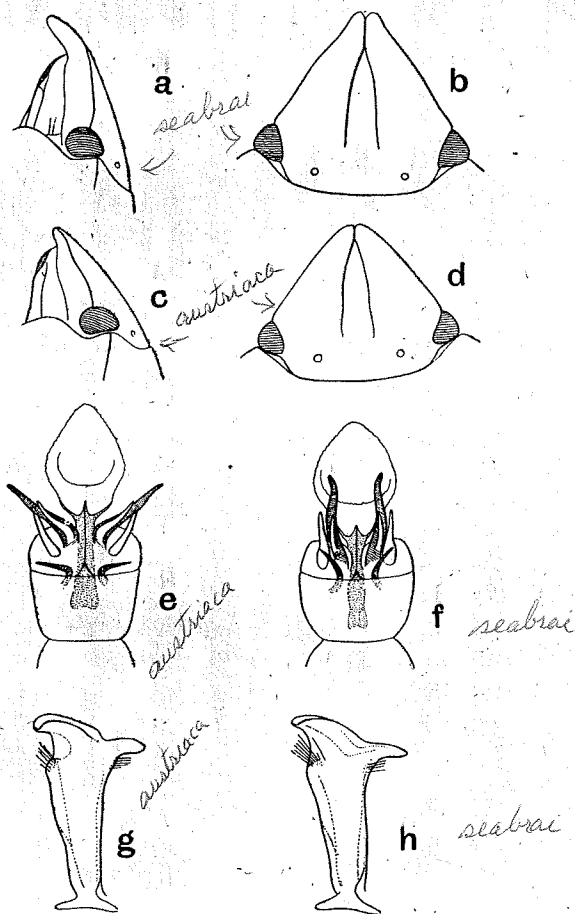
portion transversely rugose, with a feebly elevated laevigate carina down middle; surface densely but finely punctate. Costal area of hemelytra suddenly narrowed near lateral margin of abdomen. Connexivum broad. Venter sparsely and very finely punctate. Aedeagus with conjunctival appendages as in typical *E. austriacus* but with the distal pair less divergent and their attached processes shorter. Parameres seen from side more pointed at extremities and with apical margin less sinuate.

Habitat: — Spain, Toledo, Yébenes 1 ♂ (type in British Museum) 2 ♀♀ (Monsieur DEL CAÑIZO).

This form was at first thought to be a distinct species but it was found that there were intermediate specimens from Spain (Avila, Albarracin, Bejar, Canales Pr. Logrono, Cartagena); Morocco (Benzus Bay) and Greece (Zante) in which the juga were distinctly produced and deflexed (though not so much so as in the typical *seabrai*) but in which the genitalia were identical with the typical *austriacus*.

In the type male of *seabrai* the lateral margins of pronotum are very feebly convex and almost straight and the humeral angles are distinctly prominent but in one of female paratypes these characters are much less marked. It would therefore appear that we have here an example of a species in the making. First the production in various places in the Mediterranean region of a form with elongate and deflexed juga, then in the Iberian peninsula near the original centre of origin of the Mediterranean fauna (derived from the ancient Lusitanian fauna) the appearance of an exaggerated form of the long headed variety in which the genitalia have also become differentiated.

My thanks are due to Dr. SEABRA for his kindness in allowing me to describe this subspecies.



- (a) *Eurygaster austriacus* (Schrk.) *seabrai* subsp. nov. — lateral view of head. (b) same, dorsal view of head. (c) *Eurygaster austriacus austriacus* (Schrk.) — lateral view of head. (d) same, dorsal view of head. (e) *Eurygaster austriacus austriacus* (Schrk.) — aedeagus showing conjunctival appendages. (f) *Eurygaster austriacus* (Schrk.) *seabrai* subsp. nov., aedeagus showing conjunctival appendages. (g) *Eurygaster austriacus austriacus* (Schrk.) — paramere. (h) *Eurygaster austriacus seabrai* subsp. nov. — paramere.