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DESCRIPTION OF THE MALE OF *ACROSTERNUM ISTUM*
(HEMIPTERA: PENTATOMIDAE)

D. A. RIDER
Department of Entomology
Louisiana Agricultural Experiment Station
Louisiana State University Agricultural Center
Baton Rouge, LA 70803

ABSTRACT

Figures and a description are given of the previously unknown male of *Acrosternum istum* Rolston. New locality records from Costa Rica and Panama are listed.

RESUMEN

Se dan figuras y una descripción de los machos anteriormente desconocidos de *Acrosternum istum* Rolston. Los nuevos records de localidad de Costa Rica y Panamá están listados.

In his revision of the New World species of *Acrosternum* Fieber, subgenus *Chinavia* Orian, Rolston (1983) described the species *A. istum* from a single female specimen from Panama. Since that time, a series of 13 males and 5 females from Panama and a single male from Costa Rica have been collected. To further characterize this species, a description of the male is given (numbers in parentheses represent measurements for females), and intraspecific variation is indicated.

Acrosternum (Chinavia) istum Rolston
(Fig. 1-5)

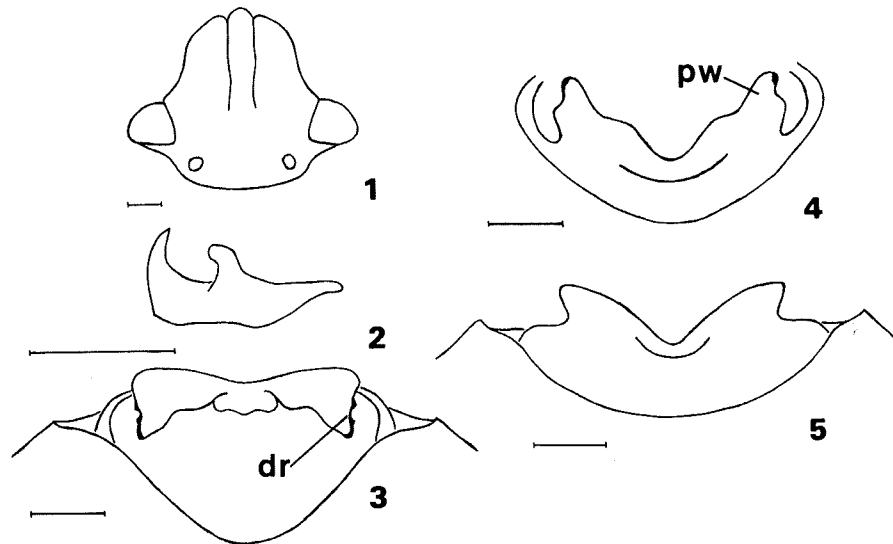
Acrosternum (Chinavia) istum Rolston, 1983: 121-122, fig. 49.

Description. Medium to dark green above; medium green below, usually pale mesially, abdominal spine and surrounding area of supporting abdominal segment often pale to dark brown. Lateral margins of juga, pronotum, connexiva, and bases of coria bordered dorsally and ventrally with yellow-orange. Dorsal punctation dark green, dense on head, less dense on pronotum, scutellum, and coria. Length 12.1-13.8 (13.7-16.2) mm.

Head narrowly rounded apically, jugal margins slightly concave before eyes, nowhere parallel (Fig. 1). Length of head 2.3-2.4 (2.4-2.7) mm, width across eyes 2.9-3.1 (3.0-3.4) mm. Each antenna green, distal one-third of segment 3, distal one-fourth of segment 4, and distal one-half of segment 5 pale fuscous to black; length of segments 1-5 about 0.5-0.6 (0.5-0.7), 1.2-1.4 (1.3-1.4), 1.4-1.7 (1.5-1.8), 1.9-2.2 (2.0-2.2), 1.9-2.1 (2.0-2.2) mm.

Pronotum 7.1-8.1 (7.8-9.5) mm wide at humeri, mesial length 2.4-2.9 (3.0-3.2) mm. Each humeral angle narrowly rounded, slightly produced beyond base of coria. Anterolateral margin of pronotum straight or slightly convex. Cicatrices not marked with black.

Scutellum 4.4-5.2 (5.0-6.0) mm wide at base, mesial length 4.9-5.9 (5.9-6.5) mm; base void of any pale or black markings. Coria rounded apically, reaching beyond middle of sixth (fifth visible) abdominal segment, rarely reaching seventh (sixth visible) abdominal segment. Connexiva with posterolateral angles black, with some black on posterolateral angle of laterotergites.



Figs. 1-5. *A. istum*. Fig. 1. Head. Fig. 2. Paramere. Fig. 3. Genital cup, dorsal view; dorsal rim of posterior wall (dr). Fig. 4. Pygophore, caudal view; posterior wall (pw). Fig. 5. Pygophore, ventral view. Dimensional lines equal to 0.5 mm.

Rostral segments 2-4 about 1.6-1.8 (1.8-1.9), 1.2-1.3 (1.3-1.4), 1.0-1.1 (1.1-1.2) mm long, pale green to pale brown, apex of segment 4 piceous, terminating between metacoxae. Each ostiolar ruga about three-fourths distance from mesial margin of ostiole to lateral thoracic margin. Abdominal spine compressed, usually reaching slightly beyond anterior margin of metacoxae, sometimes not quite reaching anterior margin of metacoxae. Posterolateral angles of sternites black. Each spiracle pale brown, not on callous, sometimes surrounded by small bright green spot. Legs green.

Pygophore with dorsal wall well-developed, expanded dorsolaterally forming a deep v-shaped emargination at each posterolateral angle (Fig. 4-5); posterior margin from ventral view with broad, deep, slightly sinuous, v-shaped emargination mesially (Fig. 5); from caudal view mesial emargination distinctly sinuous, v-shaped (Fig. 4); from dorsal view posterior margin of pygophore slightly emarginate mesially; lateral margin of posterior wall nearly parallel to longitudinal axis of body, dorsal rim black with 2-3 small denticles anteriorly (Fig. 3). Ventral surface of pygophore with semi-circular carina paralleling posterior margin of pygophore. Paramere as in Fig. 2.

Distribution. The holotype has the following locality data: PANAMA: Panamá Province, Altos de Maje, Chepo, 14-15-V-1976, D. Engleman, at lights. The two new locality records are: PANAMA: Coclé Province, Cerro Gaital, 10-12-VI-1985, E. Riley & D. Rider; COSTA RICA: Alejuela Province, San Juan de Grecia, Rio Sarchí, 11-VIII-1981, E. Barrera & H. Brailovsky.

Comments. Specimens of *A. istum* show variability for certain characters, especially the length of the abdominal spine. The length of the abdominal spine is fairly constant in most species of *Acrosternum*; however, in *A. istum* it ranges from reaching the middle of the metacoxae to almost attaining the posterior margin of the mesocoxae. Those specimens in which the abdominal spine does not surpass the anterior margin of the metacoxae will key to *A. marginatum* (Palisot de Beauvois) in the revision by

Rolston (1983). *Acrosternum istum* does seem to be related to *A. marginatum*, as the female genitalia are similar in both species; the basal plates have a posterolateral projection. The male genitalia, however, are distinctive, and in both sexes the dorsal punctation is much less dense in *A. istum* than in *A. marginatum*. The holotype specimen of *A. istum* was examined.

The Panama specimens were collected while beating and sweeping plants in the family Convolvulaceae.

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REFERENCES CITED

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