

A Female Neallotype of *Emesaya incisa* McAtee & Malloch (Hemiptera, Reduviidae)

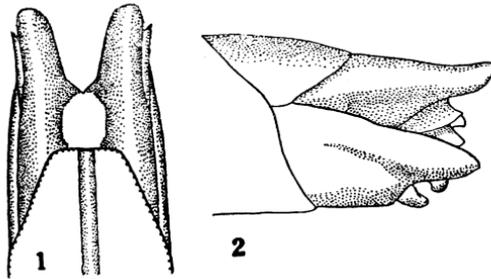
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McAtee & Malloch (1925) described *Emesaya incisa* from the characters of males from: Palm Springs, Calif., Feb. 25, H. G. Hubbard (holotype); Monclova, Mexico, Nov. 23, 1909, E. A. Schwarz (USNM); Higley, Ariz., July 10, 1917, E. G. Holt (U.S. Biological Survey.)

Type and paratype.—Male, Cat. No. 26734, USNM.

The female was unknown.

On Sept. 22, 1950, I found a male *Emesaya incisa* copulating with a female in a mass of flood debris along the Devils River in Val Verde County, Texas. I collected the pair, as well as another female, at this same locality. Later (on Oct. 3, 1950) I collected a female and two males from flood debris along the Pecos River in Reeves County, Texas.



Terminal Abdominal Segments of *Emesaya incisa*. Fig. 1. Dorsal view (x 14.) Fig. 2. Lateral view (x 14.)

To the best of my knowledge this is the first published record of the extended distribution of this species since publication of Readio's monograph (1927).

The genitalia of all three females are identical. Since one female was found *in copulo* with a male *Emesaya incisa*, and the two other females were found in a habitat with males of this species, it seems safe to conclude that they are female *E. incisa*. The female specimen that was found in copulation is designated as a neallotype. The repository for this type will be the American Museum of Natural History, New York City.

The seventh and eighth tergites of the female are here figured and described.

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Description.—Seventh tergite lacking a pair of divergent carinae bounding the disk; eighth tergite with the lateral angles produced well beyond the middle of the hind margin, the hind margin between the processes decidedly angulate; disk of eighth tergite widely depressed along median line; side of eighth tergite angulate posteriorly.

LITERATURE CITED

- MCATEE, W. L. & J. R. MALLOCH. 1925. Revision of the American bugs of the Reduviid subfamily Ploiariinae. *Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus.*, 67 (1), 1-153, w. 9 plates.
READIO, P. A. 1927. Studies on the biology of the Reduviidae of America north of Mexico. *University of Kansas Science Bulletin*, 17 (1), 5-291.

Chagas Disease and Vectors in North Central Texas

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All members of the large hemipterous family Reduviidae are predacious, but only members of the subfamily Triatominae feed exclusively on vertebrate blood. Readio (1927) noted that Mr. J. R. Lembert observed the common Pacific Coast species of *Triatoma* feeding on carrion and excrement. Lutz (1918) reported that *Triatoma sanguisuga* LeConte feeds on insects, including grasshoppers and potato beetles. Apparently neither of the above accounts illustrate normal feeding habits.

Bites of triatomine bugs are relatively painless, although severe systemic reactions result not infrequently in man. These bugs are of medical note since they serve as intermediate hosts for *Trypanosoma cruzi* Chagas, the protozoan causing Chagas' disease or South American trypanosomiasis.

Students of tropical medicine recognize the widespread and serious nature of Chagas' disease. According to Usinger (1944), hundreds of acute cases are on record in Latin America, and active research concerning this disease is now in progress in the United States, Mexico, Argentina, and Brazil. Subclinical cases have been uncovered by xenodiagnosis, and it is suggested that many unrecognized cases exist among the native populations of Latin America.

The bionomics of these insects have been well worked. No less than 24 species of Triatominae have been found infected in nature with *T. cruzi*. Six of these infected species have been found within the United States. Due to the investigations of

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