

DERMAPTERA

BY

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Only ten species are represented in the 200 specimens of *Dermaptera* collected by J. VERBEKE. The bulk of the material consists of two very widely distributed species, *Nala lividipes* (DUFOR) and the cosmopolitan *Labia minor* (L.). Four additional species are well represented and four others only by single examples, two of which cannot be specifically identified.

Three species are particularly associated with the margins of lakes and the banks of rivers (*Nala lividipes*, *Forcipula gariazzoii*, and *Labidura riparia*) and perhaps the finely pubescent vestiture of *Labia minor* may indicate a similar habit, thus accounting for the large number of specimens in the present collection. In my own limited experience of this species it has been captured flying over manure heaps, in wet and decaying vegetable matter, and under seaweed etc. on the sea-coast. The two species of *Diaperasticus* are typical savanna species but of the habitats of the remaining species nothing is known at present.

FAMILY PYGIDICRANIDAE.

Echinosoma sp.

Lac Édouard : Vitshumbi, *ex Euphorbia nyikae*, 1 nymph, 13.VI.1953.

This nymph cannot be identified specifically. Six species of *Echinosoma* are known to occur in the Belgian Congo (HINCKS, 1951, Ann. Mus. Congo Belge, série in-8°, Zool., 8, 41).

FAMILY LABIDURIDAE.

Nala lividipes (DUFOR).

Kasenyi, 23.VI-3.VII.1953; Mwita, près forêt galerie, 22.XII.1953; Bezaha, 19.XII.1953; P.N.A. : Vitshumbi (Sud lac Édouard), 25.III-24.X.1953.

Many specimens of this very widely distributed species were collected by M. J. VERBEKE. It occurs in South Europe, throughout Africa, and is also widely distributed in Asia.

Labidura riparia (PALLÁS).

Kasenyi, 21-29.VI.1953; Ituri : mont Hoyo, 8-9.VII.1953; P.N.A. : Vitshumbi (Sud lac Édouard), 15.I-31.III.1953; Ituri : Sabe (lac Albert), 3.VII.1953, 16.XII.1953; Congo Belge : lac Tanganika, Moniplage, 26.VIII.1953; lac Tanganika : Albertville, riv. Lubuy, 26.VIII.1953; lac Albert : Mahagi-Port, 16.II.1954; lac Albert : emb. Mboge et Kawa, 18.XII.1953.

The specimens from the last two stations are very young nymphs which probably belong to this species. *Labidura riparia* is a cosmopolitan species, widely distributed in all the continents of the world.

Forcipula gariazzoii BORELLI.

Lac Albert : Bezaha, 15.XII.1953; K.E.A. Kivu : Goma base, 3.V.1953, 18-26.XI.1952; Congo Belge : lac Édouard : Katare, emb. Ruindi, 7.II.1953 (on *Phragmites* and *Potamogeton*); lac Tanganika : Rumonge, route Usumbura km 20, 27.VIII.1953; Congo Belge : Kivu : île Idjwi, baie Nord-Ouest, 7.IV.1953; P.N.A. : Vitshumbi (Sud lac Édouard), 25.VI.1953; lac Kivu : île Bugarura, 12.I.1954 (on *Potamogeton*).

A hydrophilous species, widely distributed in West and Central Africa. A local form from Lake Tanganyika has recently been described as v. *tanganyikae* [HINCKS, 1957, Expl. Hydrobiol. Lac Tanganika, 3(6), 42].

FAMILY LABIIDAE.

Spongovostox aloysii-sabaudiae (BORELLI).

Spongiphora aloysii-sabaudiae BORELLI, 1906, Boll. Mus. Zool. Anat. Comp. Torino, 21 (541), 1 (♂♀, Ibanda); 1909, Il Ruwenzori, 1, 10, fig. 2 (sep.).

Congo Belge : Kivu : Rumangabo, 1♂, 5.X.1953.

A little known species originally described from Ibanda. Specimens have been examined from Beni in the Ituri Forest and from West Kivu : Ibanda, the type locality.

Spongovostox eichelbaumi BORELLI.

Spongovostox eichelbaumi BORELLI, 1932, Konowia, 11, 88, 89 fig. (♂), 90 fig. (♀) (♂♀, « Deutsch-Ost-Afrika »). — HINCKS, 1954, Mém. Inst. franç. Afr. Noire, 40 (2), 110, fig. 11 (♂, genitalia).

Kivu : Rumangabo, 1♂, 5.X.1953.

A little known species originally described from « Deutsch-Ost-Afrika » without more exact data. Recently it has been recorded from Kivu : Mts. Nyamukubi and from the Nimba Mts. in French Equatorial Africa (HINCKS, 1954).

Labia minor (L.).

Congo Belge : lac Albert, Kasenyi, 23.VI-3.VII,11-15.XII.1953; Mwita, près forêt galerie, 22.XII.1953; Bezaha, 19.XII.1953; lac Tanganika : Albertville, fauché emb. Lubuy, 27.VIII.1953; lac Tanganika : Albertville, 14.VIII.1953; lac Kivu : Shangugu, pont de la Ruzizi, 11.IV.1953.

A cosmopolitan species distributed throughout Africa.

FAMILY FORFICULIDAE.

Forficula sp.

Kivu : Goma base, 29.XII.1952, a damaged ♀.

This damaged female cannot be identified specifically with certainty. It agrees closely with the female of *Forficula cavallii* (BORELLI), originally described as a member of the genus *Apterygida* WESTW., and well known from the Belgian Congo.

Diaperasticus erythrocephalus (OLIVIER).

Rives lac Albert : Kasenyi, 23-29.VI.1953; rives lac Tanganika : Albertville, fauché emb. Lubuy, 27.VIII.1953; P.N.A. : Vitshumbi (Sud lac Édouard), 24.X.1953.

This very common African species is represented by a number of specimens. It is distributed throughout tropical and South Africa and occurs in Madagascar. It is perhaps the most generally abundant African savanna earwig.

Diaperasticus sansibaricus (KARSCH).

Kivu : Kasenyi, emb. riv. Sebeya (ex *Vossia*), 9.III.1953; Kivu : Sake, 18.III.1954; Kivu : Goma base, 3.V.1953; P.N.A. : Vitshumbi (Sud lac Édouard), 31.III.1953.

A very common species in East and South Africa but apparently less abundant in West Africa than the related *Diaperasticus erythrocephalus* (OL.).

SUMMARY.

Ten species have been recognized among the collected materials of *Dermaptera*, three of which are particularly associated with the margins of lakes and banks of rivers.

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