Notes on the Distribution of Systelloderes biceps (Say) in Oklahoma (Hemiptera: Enicocephalidae)

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Systelloderes biceps (Say) was first collected in Oklahoma by us in the fall of 1959 near Nashoba, Pushmataha County and apparently constitutes the first record of the genus in Oklahoma. The species has now been collected from six additional sites in Oklahoma.

In six of the seven times collected, Systelloderes biceps (Say) was taken from sites that also yielded Zoraptera and termites. Five of the collections were from decaying sawdust piles and one from a rotting log. The remaining collection was that of one adult that was resting on a leaf of a Smilax vine. The collections taken from the sawdust and log were mostly nymphs.

As we were collecting Zoraptera and unique-headed bugs from sawdust it was difficult, due to the nature of the medium, to determine if the two were living together. However, in the rotting log it was readily apparent that the two species were at least sharing the same tunnels, although this could have been brought about by disturbance while collecting.

As with the Zoraptera, the unique-headed bugs were generally collected from sawdust that was from five to ten inches from the outside of the pile. At that point there was usually an area of moist sawdust just between the very dark, well-decayed sawdust of the inner area and the dryer, lighter-colored sawdust of the outer four to six inches of the pile.

All of the material is in the Oklahoma State University insect collection.

LIST OF COLLECTIONS

Nowata County: 6.1 miles E. of Nowata, 26 April 1961, Van Cleave, from sawdust, with Zoraptera.

Rogers County: 5 miles W. of Claremore, 19 July 1961, Van Cleave, from sawdust, with Zoraptera.

Sequoyah County: 9 miles N. of Sallisaw, 29 August 1961, Van Cleave, Nowlin and Goodwin, from sawdust, with Zoraptera.

Latimer County: Robbers' Cave State Park, 6 May 1961, Drew, from rotting log, with Zoraptera.

Pushmataha County: Nashoba, 16 Sept. 1959, Drew and Van Cleave, from sawdust, with Zoraptera.

McCurtain County: Harris, 20 June 1961, Drew and Van Cleave, from sawdust, with Zoraptera; 12 miles S. Broken Bow, 20 June 1961, Drew and Van Cleave, on leaf of Smilax.