

mouth. These factors, along with the fact that the general metabolism of the fish is at a low ebb during winter, may have contributed a good deal to this extraordinary ability. In about 12-15 hours the colour of the parts which had become blood-red at the time of putting the fish in flowing water became normal.

Whether this is an instance of exceptional capacity on the part of the individual or is a characteristic of the species is not clear, but a possible significance of this phenomenon in nature may be found in the ecology of the torrential streams which constitute the natural habitat. It is possible that the rapid current of the streams might some time throw these fishes out of water, or a rock to which they might be attached may suddenly become exposed for some time due to the lowering of the water level or shifting of the current. In such an emergency the ability to survive outside water would be a great advantage in the struggle for existence.

Grateful thanks are due to Dr. V. P. Agrawal, Head of the Zoology Department, D.A.V. College, Muzaffarnagar (U.P.), for providing facilities.

ZOOLOGY DEPARTMENT,  
RAJASTHAN UNIVERSITY,  
JODHPUR,

C. L. MAHAJAN

August 24, 1962.

15. A NEW SPECIES OF *STENOCRANUS* : *S. AJMERENSIS*  
SP. NOV. (ARAEOPIDAE : FULGOROIDAE : HOMOPTERA :  
HETEROPTERA)<sup>1</sup>

(With a plate)

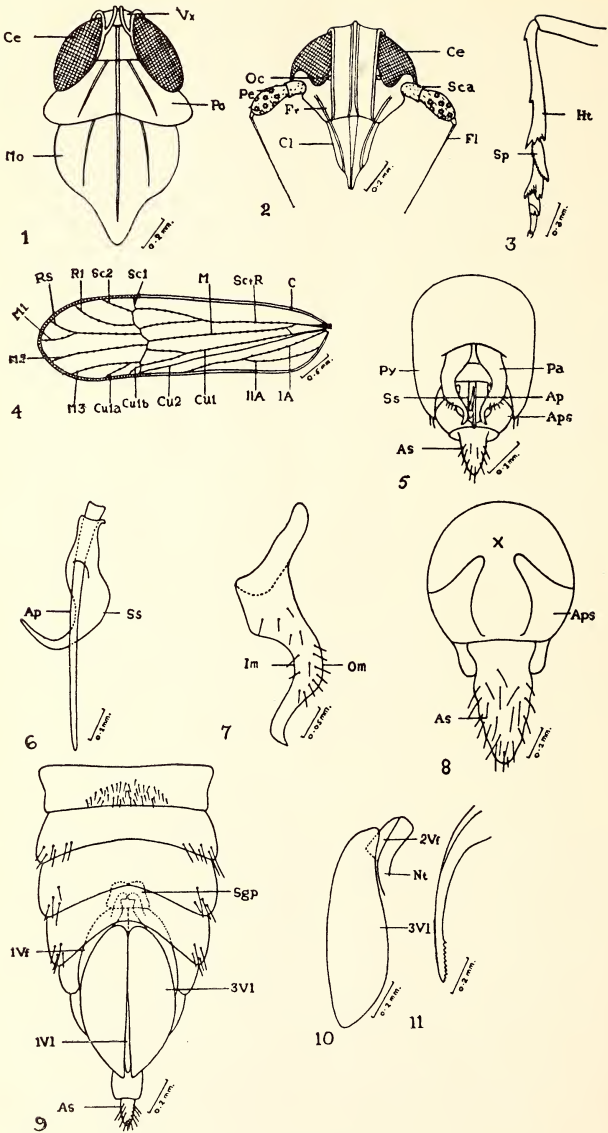
MALE

Length 4.3 mm. (approximate).

Vertex, pronotum and mesonotum stramineous; mesonotum stramineous suffused with ochraceous; the area between the lateral and median carinae of frons dark black; the carinae on the ventral side of head stramineous; the area outer to the lateral carinae and inner to the outer carinae and the clypeus pale brown; the remaining part of the ventral side of head ochraceous. Antennae ochraceous. Ventral side of thorax ochraceous, legs stramineous with castaneous streaks. Tegmen (Plate, fig. 4) subhyaline, distally the veins pale brown. Abdomen ochraceous marked with castaneous.

<sup>1</sup> Communicated by the Principal, Lohia College, Churu, Rajasthan.





*Stenocranus ajmerensis* sp. nov.  
 (For explanations see foot of p. 462)

Spur foliaceous with a few teeth.

Scape longer than half the length of pedicel.

Vertex longer than broad.

Median carina of frons double throughout its course, basally closer; vertex, pronotum and mesonotum tricarinate; the lateral carinae of pronotum diverging posteriorly and not touching the hind margin while the median carina disappears a little in front of the hind border.

Pygofer with a basal constriction, the opening as broad as long, anal angles short, rather rounded and reach up to the base of the tenth segment; diaphragm without armature; aedeagus periandrum tubular, narrowing gradually from the base to the tip; from the aedeagus basal strut arises a sickle-shaped structure with a swollen, cylindrical base which has a hole through which the aedeagus periandrum projects out; parameres hollow, basally swollen and sickle-shaped with the distal end directed dorso-laterally; tenth and eleventh segments large, anal processes short, wide, blunt and directed posteroventrally.

#### FEMALE

Length 5 mm. (approximate).

Agrees more or less very well with the male, but lightly coloured.

Ovipositor extends well beyond the ninth abdominal segment; subgenital plate large; basally the ovipositor roofed over by the posteriorly projecting sixth abdominal sternum; first valvifer basally hook-shaped; serrations of the second valvulae restricted to the distal region, the ventral margins also serrated distally with minute projections; third valvulae highly developed and cover to a greater extent the seventh sternum, most of the eighth sternum, and completely the ventral region of ninth tergum.

The specimens of both the sexes are more or less uniformly coloured as the types, but the ochraceous coloration of the thorax may in some cases be suffused with castaneous markings.

The number of teeth on the spur of this species vary from 12 to 15.

This species was collected for the first time by the author from Ajmer in August 1959. It has been noted subsequently in large numbers in the collections made by Dr. M. G. Ramdas Menon of the Division of Entomology at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute and the types have been selected from this material.

*Stenocranus ajmerensis* sp. nov. differs from all the other species of the genus so far recorded in having the median carinae double along the entire length of frons. As it tallies in all other respects

with the other species of *Stenocranus*<sup>1</sup>, the author does not venture to place this in any different genus.

*Holotype*. Male, gummed on card tag bearing the data: 'inside lamp dome, Delhi, Indian Agricultural Research Institute, R. Menon Collection, June-July, 1958'. Deposited in the National Pusa Collection, Reg. No. Dn/3/62, in the Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi.

*Allotype*. Female, gummed on card tag bearing the same data as the holotype, but collected in September, 1958. Deposited in National Pusa Collection.

*Paratypes*. 1 male and 1 female collected at Ajmer by the author and 4 females bearing the same data as the types and all gummed on card tags. Deposited in National Pusa Collection. Five males and seven females in the personal collection.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY,

LOHIA COLLEGE,

CHURU, RAJASTHAN,

November 29, 1963.

A. N. T. JOSEPH

<sup>1</sup> Fieber (1866): *Verh. Zool. Bot. Ges. Wien.* 16 : 519.

#### Explanation to Plate facing p. 461

##### *Stenocranus ajmerensis* sp. nov.

1. Dorsal view of head, pronotum and mesonotum ; 2. Cephalic view of head ; 3. Distal region of hindleg ; 4. Tegmen ; 5. Ventral view of pygofer ; 6. Aedeagus periandrum ; 7. Ventral view of paramere ; 8. Ventral view of tenth and eleventh male abdominal segments ; 9. Ventral view of female abdomen ; 10. Lateral view of third valvula ; 11. Ventral view of second valvulae.

IA. first anal; IIA. second anal; Ap. aedeagus periandrum; Aps. Anal process ; As. anal style ; C. costa ; Ce. compound eye ; Cl. clypeus ; Cu1. cubitus one ; Cu1a. first branch of cubitus one ; Culb. second branch of cubitus one ; Cu2 cubitus two ; Fl. flagellum ; Fr. frons ; Ht. tibia ; Im. inner margin of paramere ; M. media ; M1. first branch of media ; M2. second branch of media ; M3. third branch of media ; Mo. mesonotum ; Nt. ninth tergum ; Oc. ocellus ; Om. outer margin of paramere ; Pa. paramere ; Pe. pedicel ; Po. pronotum ; Py. pygofer ; Rl. radial one ; Rs. radial sector ; Sca. scape ; Scl. first branch of subcosta ; Sc2. second branch of subcosta ; Sc+R. subcosta plus radius ; Sgp. subgenital plate ; Sp. spur ; Ss. sickle-shaped structure arising from the aedeagus basal strut ; 1Vf. first valvifer ; 2Vf. second valvifer ; 1V1. first valvula ; 2V1. second valvula ; 3V1. third valvula ; Vx. vertex ; X. tenth abdominal segment