The type specimens of Edessa urus Erichson, 1848
(Heteroptera: Pentatomidae)

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Introduction

Erichson (1848: 610) while describing Edessa alces, compared this species with "E. urus Hoffg. (Stoll. fig. 209)". Working in the Berlin Museum, he obviously referred to the three specimens, a male and two females, from Parà [Brazil], Sieber, # 271, one of which bears Von Hoffmannsegg's well-known green label reading: "Urus N. Stoll fig. 209, Parà Sieber". However, this name was never published before Erichson mentioned it in his 1848 paper, comparing the species with his E. alces, thus making the name urus available for Stoll's and for Sieber's specimens. As it is almost sure that those of Stoll do no longer exist, Sieber's specimens in the Berlin Museum are to be regarded as the syntype series of Edessa urus Erichson, 1848. The male specimen, bearing Von Hoffmannsegg's label, is here selected as the lectotype; the two females being paralectotypes.

Edessa urus Erichson, 1848
(figs. 1-8)

Edessa urus Erichson, 1848: 610.
Edessa dentata Dallas, 1851, described from a male specimen from Pará [Brazil]; in The Natural History Museum (formerly British Museum (Natural History)), London. Syn. nov.

Male lectotype (fig. 1).— Length 20 mm, light brown tinged with olive, glossy, except for the hemelytra, underside yellow; lateral angles of pronotum moderately prominent, obtuse; margins of abdomen alternately yellow and black.

Head.— Short and broad with big bulging eyes, width including eyes a little less than width of anterior margin of pronotum. Jugae short, broadly obtuse with beaded margins, anteriorly contiguous medially for some distance and overlapping anterior part of tylus. Antennae rather long, about 0.7 times the total length of the specimen, with first segment short, thick, surpassing anterior margin of head by half its length, rest slender, ratio of the segments roughly: 1:2:2:4.5:5. Bucculae evenly rounded. Ros-

Thorax.— Width of pronotum about 2.7 times its length, lateral angles moderately prominent with the tips rounded, extension index 16 (=percentage of extension with regard to the width of the body just behind the pronotum). Anterior margin straight, angles with a small tooth, posterior margin broadly concave. Dorsal surface rather densely provided with fine, black punctures; along the sides and anterior margin with a dense row of deep, black punctures. Scutellum sharply pointed posteriorly, anterior half a little denser and stronger punctate than on the pronotum, posterior half with much finer, and at the sides denser punctures. Underside: Metasternal protuberance (figs. 3-4) strongly developed, anterior fork high and strongly built, with broadened and obtused ends. Legs normal. Propleurae, mesopleurae and posterior margin of metapleurae, each with a transverse brownish black line, the propleurae in addition each with a shorter one along their anterior margin. Fore wings with a weekly developed but well visible Rs-vein.

Abdomen.— Broad, posterior angles of the sternites spined, anterior and posterior angles of the sternites and paratergites of segments 3-7 black, parts between and rest of venter yellow with an obscure lightbrown longitudinal band medially, and with the posterior margins of the sternites narrowly brown. Paratergites anteriorly and posteriorly with a punctured, shallow impression. Posterior angle of seventh abdominal segment forming a stout spine. Tergites light red.

Posterior margin of genital capsule (fig. 5) broadly concave, with sublateral swellings and with the somewhat inflated posterior angles projecting laterally. Postero-
Figs. 3-8. *Edessa urus* Erichson, 1848. Figs. 3-4, metasternum, ventral and lateral view, respectively; fig. 5, male genital capsule, postero-dorsal view, s = superior lateral process; figs. 6-7, right paramere, lateral and anterior view, respectively; fig. 8, apex of abdomen of female, ventral view.
dorsal part of anal tube (proctiger) at each side with a dense row of long bristles, which rows dorsally are separated by a longitudinal shallow groove and shorter pile. Paramere (figs. 6-7) with a simple stem, apically broadened and flattened, its rim with a dorsolateral shallow indentation. The superior lateral process (s in fig. 5) large, in the shape of an obliquely directed high crest, medioventrally with a narrow and superficial blackish continuation.

Female (fig. 2).— Genital characters as in fig. 8.


In 1903 Breddin described a new species from Ecuador naming it Edessa urus, creating a homonym of Edessa urus Erichson, 1848. However, the location of the holotype specimen remained unknown until the author discovered among the material he had on loan from the Eberswalde Institution a specimen that agrees exactly with Breddin’s description of the species. This specimen bears, except for the locality label, a determination label in Breddin’s handwriting reading: “Edessa urotaurus Bredd. (urus olim)”. So it is very probable that Breddin himself was already aware of the homonymy, although he never published the new name. So Edessa urotaurus nom. nov. is here proposed as the new name for Edessa urus Breddin, 1903. The locality label reads: “Santa Inéz (Equad.) R. Haensch S.”.

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