

STUDIES ON THE FAUNA OF CURAÇAO AND OTHER
CARIBBEAN ISLANDS: No. 53.

THE HETEROPTERA OF THE NETHERLANDS
ANTILLES - IV

DIPSOCORIDAE

by

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The several Dipsocoridae reported from the Caribbean islands include three species of *Cryptostemma*: *smithi* McAtee & Malloch, 1925 (Grenada), *uhleri* McAtee & Malloch, 1925 (St. Vincent), and *pratti* Usinger, 1945 (Puerto Rico). In the present paper an additional Caribbean *Cryptostemma* is described, *cobbeni* sp. n. (Bonaire).

I am grateful to Ir. R. H. COBBEN, of the Landbouwhogeschool at Wageningen, for the opportunity of investigating the interesting material collected by him.

***Cryptostemma cobbeni* sp. nov.**

(Fig. 59-73)

Head castaneous; thorax above and forewings very dark brown; borders of wings stramineous; antennae and legs light yellowish-brown; eyes red.

Pseudomacropterous male - Length to apex of forewings 1.15 mm. Shape similar to that of female (Fig. 59); pronotum somewhat more widened behind. Ocelli large. Rostrum attains hind border of prosternum. Second segment of antennae twice as long as first.

Forewings as in Fig. 65, projecting slightly beyond apex of abdomen. Discal and apical cell separated by a very short trans-

verse vein; cell at base of discal cell lacking. Hind wings small, not functional.

Forelegs moderately incrassate (Fig. 61), mid and hind pair more slender; spiniform setae of femur and tibia of hind pair as in Fig. 62. Coxae of all pairs simple. Tarsal formula 3 : 3 : 3. Tarsi of legs I and II short and stout (Fig. 63), of hind pair elongate (Fig. 64); all without specialized setae.

Abdomen and genitalia as in Fig. 67-72. Chaetotaxy as usual, left-hand extremity of tergite VIII with a group of short stout setae (Fig. 69). Sternite IX (pygophore) extremely large (Fig. 67), the remaining sternites very short, apparently telescoped into one another. 1 + 1 spiracles present on segments IV-VIII. All parasternites simple, with exception of the left-hand parasternite of segment VIII, which is elongate, articulated at base, curved and

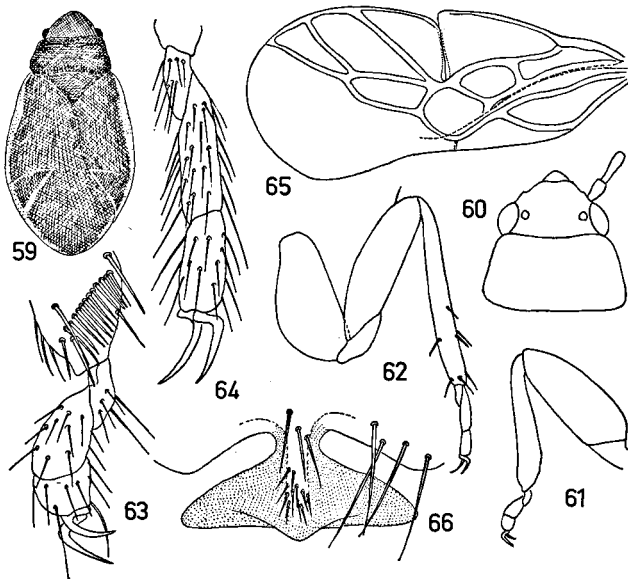


Fig. 59-66. *Cryptostemma cobbeni* sp. n., from Bonaire. - 59, female, shape and colour pattern (schematic). - 60, head and pronotum of male, as seen from above. - 61, outlines in foreleg of male. - 62, outlines in hindleg of male; spiniform setae shown on femur and tibia. - 63, apex of tibia with tarsus of foreleg of male. - 64, tarsus of hindleg of male. - 65, forewing of male. - 66, process of hind border of sternite VII of female.

irregularly bifid apically (Fig. 68–69). Tergites I–VI in shape of transverse, almost symmetrical bands. Tergite VII subdivided diagonally, the left-hand portion (enlarged parasternite?) triangular, smaller than the other. Tergite VIII large, right-hand parasternite completely fused with tergite, left-hand parasternite as described above. Left-hand portion of tergite VIII partly fused with tergite VII (Fig. 68). Hind border of tergite VIII has a slender pointed projection and a very small movable appendage somewhat left of centre (Fig. 68–69). Pygophore from above as in Fig. 68 and 69; parameres as in Figs. 71 and 72, movable appendage of tergite VIII as in Fig. 70, phallus as in Fig. 73.

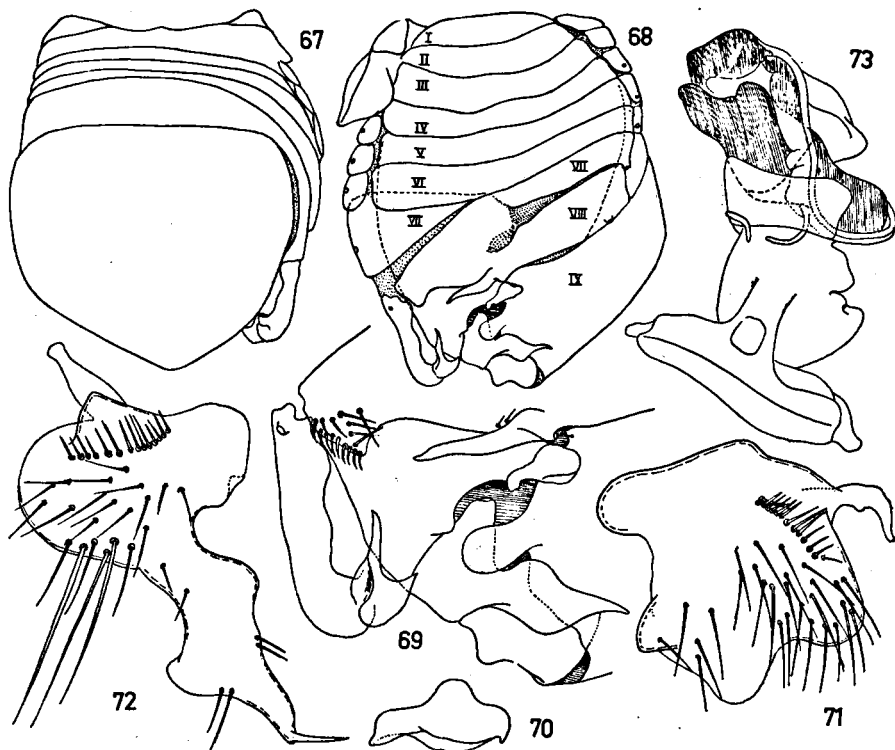


Fig. 67–73. *Cryptostemma cobbeni*, male. — 67, ventral aspect of abdomen. — 68, dorsal view of abdomen. — 69, detail of hind border of tergite VIII, with part of pygophore and appendages. — 70, movable appendage of hind border of tergite VIII. — 71, left-hand paramere. — 72, right-hand paramere. — 73, phallus.

Pseudomacropterous female – Length to apex of forewings 1.25 mm. General characters as in male. Tarsi of fore and mid pair of legs strongly thickened, as in male. Tarsal formula 2 : 2 : 3. Structure of abdomen and shape of spermatheca as in described females of other species. Shield-like lamina of process of hind border of sternite VII broadly triangular (Fig. 66).

BONAIRE: Put Bronswinkel, 31.V.1957, R. H. Cobben coll. (1 ♂ *holotype*, 1 ♀ *allotype*, in the entomological collections of the Landbouwhogeschool at Wageningen; 1 ♂ paratype, in author's collection). – Onima, 2.VI.1957, swept from wet, grassy vegetation by the same collector (1 ♂, in Wageningen, not seen by author).

This new species corresponds with *Cryptostemma usingeri* Wygodzinsky, 1955, and *C. pratti* Usinger, 1945, in the general structure of the male genital region, especially in having the right-hand parasternite VIII completely fused with the tergite VIII, and in the presence posteriorly on the latter of a slender projection and a movable appendage. *C. cobbeni* further corresponds with *usingeri* in the absence of a small cell at the base of the large discal cell of the forewing. *C. cobbeni* differs from *usingeri* in its different colour (stramineous in *usingeri*); the somewhat different shape of the cells of the forewing; the apically bifurcate left-hand parasternite of segment VIII; the differently shaped parameres; and the extraordinarily large size of the pygophore.

C. smithi McAtee & Malloch, 1925, described from females collected on Grenada, is somewhat smaller (1 mm) than *cobbeni*. Its general colour is rubiginous, and the second segment of the antennae is distinctly less than twice as long as the first.

The shape of the very delicate shield-like lamina of the process of sternite VII of the female has been examined in detail only in *C. uhleri* McAtee & Malloch, 1925 (WYGODZINSKY 1948, p. 291). In the species mentioned, the lamina is semicircular in outline – quite different from that of *cobbeni*.

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